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WEATHER

MAX: 28.8°C
MIN: 19.2°C
RH: 42%
RAINFALL: 0MM
FORECAST: PARTLY CLOUDY SKY
MAX/MIN temp. 29/19°C

Brief Insights

HC Upholds TGPSC Gr-1 Recruitment

The Telangana High Court on Thursday confirmed its interim directions of September 25 last, setting aside a single judge's directions and permitting the Telangana Public Service Commission (TGPSC) Group-I to complete the recruitment of selected candidates. These candidates had been given their appointment letters after the interim order, subject to the court's final order. Thursday's judgment comes as a relief to these candidates.

A division bench comprising Chief Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh and Justice G.M. Mohiuddin pronounced the judgment while disposing of a batch of writ appeals preferred by the commission and

▶ CONTINUE ON | PAGE 5

ECI To Announce Schedule For Polls in Assam, WB, TN, Puducherry, Kerala In March

The Election Commission of India (ECI) on Thursday briefed central observers to be deployed for forthcoming Assembly Elections in five states. The ECI is expected to announce the schedule of elections for Assam, Kerala, Puducherry, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal in March. The ECI will be deploying 1,444 officers, including 714 general observers, 233 Police Observers and 497 Expenditure Observers in these states. Briefing the observers ahead of the polls, Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Gyanesh Kumar said they should ensure free, fair and transparent elections and that their presence will energise the entire election machinery across 824 constituencies where elections are going to be held. Election Commissioner Dr. Vivek Joshi instructed that Voter Information Slips (VIS) should be distributed well in time to the

▶ CONTINUE ON | PAGE 4

Over 3,800 Indians Deported From US In 2025: Govt Tells Parliament

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Over 3,800 Indian nationals were deported from the US in 2025, the government informed the Rajya Sabha on Thursday. The figures include 3,414 Indians deported through Washington till mid-December, according to the data shared in a tabulated form in a written response to a query by Minister of State (MoS) for External Affairs Kirti Vardhan Singh. Congress member Randeep Singh Surjewala asked the number of Indian nationals deported from the United States

WAKE UP



TELANGANA

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Targeting a Community Reflects Political Inability, Says Kavitha: P2

Hate Speech Law Soon, Minority Rights Will Be Protected : P8



Rs.17K Cr Push for Urban Growth

No town will be left behind in development, Says CM Revanth reddy

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana government has set a new benchmark in urban development spending by allocating nearly ₹17,000 crore within two years of assuming office, official sources said on Thursday. A total of ₹17,472.22 crore has been released to 130 municipalities under various schemes, facilitating the execution of 3,994 development works across the State.

The funds have been utilised for a wide range of civic infrastructure projects, including construction and upgradation of roads, flood management and mitigation works, prevention of pollution in tanks and water bodies, provision of basic amenities in colonies and bastis, development of public parks, and strengthening of drinking water supply



and sewerage systems. Since coming to power in December 2023, Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, who also oversees the municipal administration department, has introduced several key reforms aimed at improving ease of administration, ensuring uniform development of towns, enhancing civic services, and strengthening monitoring mechanisms. With a long-term vision to develop cities and towns on the lines of Hyderabad, the Chief Minister personally initiated the preparation of future-oriented urban development plans, sources said.

Officials noted that during the previous BRS government, delays in releasing the State's share of funds had stalled several development projects. However, under the present Congress government, timely release of funds has enabled long-pending works to commence at the ground level.

Under the Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment (SASCI)

scheme, Telangana completed the required reforms, making it eligible for ₹1,698 crore as reform-linked assistance. Of the total allocation over two years, ₹9,387.11 crore was released from the Urban Infrastructure Development Fund for 2,374 works in 130 municipalities. Under the Telangana Urban Finance and Infrastructure Development Authority (TUFIDCO) scheme, ₹1,896.96 crore was sanctioned for 1,166 works in 85 municipalities. Transfer duty funds amounting to ₹462.19 crore were released to 110 municipalities. Additionally, ₹462.19 crore was allocated under the Swachh Bharat Mission for 347 works, while ₹4,729.69 crore was released under the AMRUT scheme for 107 works across 109 municipalities.

India Rejects Claim It Will Halt Russian Oil Imports

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Amid US President Donald Trump's claim that India has agreed to halt purchases of Russian oil, the Ministry of External Affairs on Thursday reiterated that ensuring energy security for its 1.4 billion people remains the top priority for the Government of India, especially amid evolving global energy dynamics. Addressing a press conference in the national capital, MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said India's energy decisions are guided by national interest.

"In so far as India's energy security or sourcing is confirmed, the government has publicly on several occasions, including me here, stated that ensuring the energy secu-

urity of 1.4 billion is the supreme priority of the government," Jaiswal said. He further outlined the government's strategy, adding, "Diversifying our energy sourcing in keeping with objective market conditions and evolving international dynamics is at the core of our strategy to ensure this. All of India's decisions are taken and will be taken with this in mind."

"Trump made the remarks following the announcement of the India-US trade deal, claiming that New Delhi would stop buying Russian oil and shift toward increased purchases from the United States and Venezuela." "We spoke about many things including Trade, and ending the War with Russia and Ukraine agreed to stop buying Russian Oil, and to buy

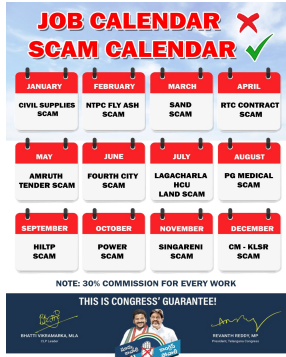
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'No Guarantees, Only Scams' Harish Rao Releases Congress Scam Calendar

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Escalating its attack on the Congress government, the BRS Legislature Party (BRS�P) deputy leader T. Harish Rao on Wednesday released a poster titled 'Congress Scam Calendar', alleging widespread corruption under the Revanth Reddy-led regime.

The calendar-style poster lists month-wise alleged irregularities, claiming that scams have marked every month of the year. According to BRS, the allegations span multiple departments and sectors, including Civil Supplies, NTPC fly ash management, sand mining, RTC contracts, AMRUT works,



the Fourth City project, Lagacherla and HCU land issues, PG medical admissions, the HILT policy, the power sector, Singareni tenders, and KLSR Infra-tech, among others.

The poster also carries a note alleging a "30% commission for every work", in a sharp political swipe at the Congress party's election promises.

Congress weakens unity for political gain: PM Modi

My govt focused on Viksit Bharat, not division, Says PM Modi

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday launched a strong attack on the Congress and other Opposition parties in the Rajya Sabha, accusing them of weakening constitutional institutions, undermining national unity and harming India's global image for political gain. Replying to the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address, Modi said his government remained focused on building a "Viksit Bharat" through reform, performance and transformation.

The Prime Minister sharply criticised the Congress leadership and Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi over remarks made against BJP MP Ravneet Singh Bittu. Referring to an incident



▶ Oppn 'Threat': Speaker Tells Modi To Skip Lok Sabha: PAGE 4

on February 4, Modi alleged that Bittu was labelled a "traitor" because of his Sikh identity, calling the remark divisive and against democratic values. "A respected Member of Parliament of this House was called a traitor by the Congress 'Yuvraj'," Modi said, questioning why political differences were being turned into personal and communal attacks.

Accusing the Congress of hypocrisy, Modi said parties that spoke of promoting love and harmony

were resorting to abusive slogans against him, which he described as an insult to democratic decorum and public morality. He also accused the Opposition of repeatedly placing political interests above national security.

Targeting the Trinamool Congress and other regional parties, Modi alleged attempts to shield illegal infiltrators in West Bengal, claiming such politics deprived youth and tribal communities of opportunities and resources.

The Prime Minister's address was repeatedly disrupted by Opposition members demanding more time to speak. Following remarks directed at Rajya Sabha Leader of Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge, Opposition MPs staged a walkout. Kharge later accused the govern-

▶ CONTINUE ON | PAGE 4

Telangana Set for a Final Winter Chill

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A final spell of winter chill was settling across Telangana on Thursday, with the minimum temperature expected to dip further over three days due to dry northerly winds dominate sweeping over the state. Day temperatures would rise slightly from Thursday due to increased solar heating and lack of cloud cover, IMD scientists told. No cold wave warnings have been issued so far, with most districts remaining under the watch category, early morning and late night hours as the season's last cold spell plays out over the coming days.

Weather officials indicate

that hazy conditions seen in recent days are expected to clear completely, leading to crystal clear skies and dry weather. According to the TGDPS, night temperatures slid into the low teens in several districts. In north and west Telangana, the minimum temperature was expected to hover between 12°C and 14°C, while Hyderabad was likely to see 14°C to 16°C during the same period. In the GHMC limits, the minimum temperature recorded over the last 24 hours ranged from 14.7°C in Malkajgiri to 18.9°C in Khairatabad and Sanathnagar. Forecasts indicated a uniform drop across most circles.

16 Dead, Several Others Feared Trapped After Blast in Illegal Coal Mine

SHILLONG
Wakeup telangana

At least 16 labourers were killed, and several others feared trapped following an explosion at an "illegal" coal mine in Meghalaya's East Jaintia Hills district on Thursday, Director General of Police I Nongrang said. Rescue teams have been engaged in search operations, she said, adding that the incident occurred in the Thangsku area in the morning. "We have recovered 16 bodies so far. The exact number of labourers present inside the mine at the time of the explosion

is yet to be ascertained. More people are feared trapped," she said.

One person who sustained injuries in the blast was initially taken to Sutnga Primary Health Centre before being referred to a Shillong hospital for better treatment, East Jaintia Hills Superintendent of Police Vikash Kumar said. The explosion is suspected to have occurred during coal mining activities at the site, which is believed to be an illegal operation. Asked whether the mine was operating illegally, Kumar said, "Yes, it seems like that." He said

the cause of the explosion is yet to be ascertained, and an inquiry will be conducted. The National Green Tribunal (NGT) had imposed a ban on rat-hole coal mining and other unscientific mining practices in Meghalaya in 2014, citing environmental damage and safety risks, while also restricting illegal transportation of coal extracted through such methods. Rat-hole mining involves digging of narrow tunnels, usually 3-4 feet high, for workers to enter and extract coal. The horizontal tunnels are often termed "rat-holes", as each just about fits.

ESTD - 1960.

ASTORIA HOTEL

Hyderabad Laziz Biryani

ek baar khaoge
baar baar aaooge

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

BRS-BJP Secret Pact is like Veena-Vani bond: CM Revanth

KARIMNAGAR
Wakeup telangana

Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Thursday alleged that the BJP and BRS were maintaining a “Fevicol bond” to protect each other’s interests and accused the BJP-led Centre of deliberately ignoring the Telangana government’s requests for approval of key projects, including national project status to the Palamuru-Rangareddy lift irrigation scheme (PRLIS), funds for the Musi development project and Metro Rail Phase-II.

Addressing a public meeting at Choppadandi in Karimnagar district, the



Chief Minister accused the BJP and BRS with collusive politics, alleging that both parties were shielding corruption cases. He referred to what he described as a “Veena-Vani bond” between the two parties, likening them to the 22-year-old conjoined twins of Hydera-

bad. He reiterated allegations that the BRS had transferred its vote bank to the BJP in the Lok Sabha elections to seek protection from Central agencies and accused the Centre of denying funds for Metro Rail, the Music Riverfront and Future City projects. He chal-

lenged opposition leaders to a face-off at LB Stadium in Hyderabad to debate the government’s performance.

Referring to Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s earlier remark that Kaleshwaram had become an “ATM” for Chandrashekar Rao, Revanth Reddy asked why no inquiry had been ordered so far. He said Modi for not acceding to the state’s request for a CBI inquiry into the Kaleshwaram project and for not ordering further investigation into the Formula E race case. He said the Telangana Assembly had passed a resolution seeking a CBI probe into the

Kaleshwaram issue and questioned why no action had been taken even after six months. He said the state government had also written to the Centre seeking permission to proceed against an IAS officer in the Formula E case, but there had been no response. If the BJP and BRS had no understanding, Revanth Reddy dared the Centre to arrest Chandrashekar Rao and former irrigation minister T Harish Rao in the Kaleshwaram scam, and former municipal minister K.T. Rama Rao in the Formula E race case. He also demanded a CBI probe into the cases.

₹500 Crore Promise for Municipal Development if BJP Wins: Bandi Sanjay

HUZARABAD
Wakeup telangana

Union Minister of State for Home Affairs and BJP leader Bandi Sanjay Kumar on Tuesday asserted that massive central funds would flow into Telangana if the BJP is given an opportunity in the municipal elections. Addressing a public meeting in Huzurabad town as part of the municipal poll campaign, he promised to bring ₹500 crore to the State and ensure rapid development of municipalities in the Karimnagar Parliamentary constituency.

Bandi Sanjay said that due to the completion of Gram Panchayat elections, the Centre had recently released ₹259 crore to panchayats and claimed that the funds were sanc-



tioned because of the initiative taken by himself and Union Minister G. Kishan Reddy. He criticised the Congress government, alleging that in two years of its rule it had failed to provide meaningful funds to municipalities, remarking that it had given them “nothing but an empty promise.”

Stating that the BJP does not believe in false assurances, he said the party delivers what it promises, unlike the Congress and BRS. He assured that if the Huzurabad Municipal Chairman post is handed over to the BJP, he would personally approach Delhi

and bring substantial funds to transform the town’s infrastructure and appearance.

The Union Minister highlighted the central government’s contribution to Huzurabad’s development, noting that a detailed booklet had been printed and distributed door-to-door listing the funds sanctioned and works executed. He said ₹19.57 crore was released under the 14th and 15th Finance Commissions, ₹1.10 crore under Swachh Bharat, ₹16.25 crore under AMRUT, ₹7.63 crore to 4,377 beneficiaries under SVANidhi, and ₹36 crore under the Urban Infrastructure Development Fund (UIDF). He said roads, drainage, street lighting and crematorium works were all taken up with central funds.

Czech Baby’s Vision Restored in Hyderabad

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A 3-month-old Czech infant, Baby Imad, born with severe bilateral Peters’ anomaly—a rare condition causing dense corneal opacity—has regained meaningful vision following advanced pediatric corneal care at L V Prasad Eye Institute (LVPEI), Hyderabad.

Both eyes were affected, with the left eye complicated by glaucoma.

After detailed evaluation and counselling, Baby Imad underwent bilateral full-



thickness corneal transplantation, followed by intensive postoperative care and

a strict medication regimen. Glaucoma in the left eye was successfully managed with medications and transscleral cyclophotocoagulation (TSCPC). On follow-up, the infant displayed improved visual behaviors, including eye fixation and visual engagement, marking early functional vision development.

“Outcomes in syndromic Peters’ anomaly can be unpredictable, but timely intervention and meticulous follow-up help establish a clear visual axis during a critical window of visual

maturation,” said Dr. Muralidhar Ramappa, pediatric cornea specialist at LVPEI.

The parents said, “When your child makes eye contact for the first time and smiles, it is indescribable. LVPEI supported us medically and emotionally throughout.”

Established in 1987, LVPEI is a WHO Collaborating Centre for the Prevention of Blindness, providing advanced eye care with over 50% of services at no cost and conducting world-leading research.

MLA Sri Ganesh Hands Out 200 Sewing Machines to Women

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Secunderabad Cantonment MLA Sri Ganesh distributed 200 sewing machines to women on Thursday at Lee Palace, boosting economic independence and home-based livelihoods. The machines were sanctioned through the Minority Corporation to support self-reliance.

Speaking at the event, Sri



Ganesh said, “When a woman is empowered, the entire household progresses.” He highlighted the Congress government’s goal of making one crore women mil-

lionaires across the state. The ceremony was attended by Jampana Pratap (Former Cantonment Board VP), Ilyas Ahmed (District Minority Welfare Officer), Bhavani

(Women’s Congress President), and Muppidi Madhukar (Constituency Congress Leader). The initiative is part of the Minority Welfare Department’s effort to bridge economic gaps and encourage micro-entrepreneurship. By providing technical tools for home businesses, the program aims to increase household income and strengthen local economies.

Targeting a Community Reflects Political Inability, Says Kavitha

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Jagruthi President Kalvakuntla Kavitha strongly criticised Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, alleging that his recent remarks crossed all limits of decorum and amounted to targeting a particular community for political reasons.

Speaking to the media, Kavitha said that the Chief Minister spoke irresponsibly, making derogatory comments against the Velama community. She reminded that while taking oath as Chief Minister, Revanth Reddy had sworn on the Constitution to treat all citizens equally and to uphold dignity without any discrimination.

“He made a solemn promise to the people of Telangana by taking oath on the Constitution. Forgetting that responsibility



and targeting a single community is highly inappropriate and unacceptable,” she said.

Kavitha alleged that the Chief Minister was resorting to such statements because of his inability to politically confront opponents. “Lacking the courage to face political challenges, he is instead spreading venom against

an entire community,” she remarked, demanding that the Chief Minister immediately change his attitude.

Referring to the Jagtiala MLA Sanjay Kumar, Kavitha pointed out that he had formally joined the Congress party under the leadership of the Chief Minister. “It is well known that Sanjay joined

Congress in the presence of the Chief Minister, attended official meetings at Gandhi Bhavan, and Congress B-Forms were issued to 30 municipal candidates in Jagtiala,” she said.

In this context, Kavitha questioned the Speaker’s decision to grant a “clean chit” to the Jagtiala MLA. “Giving a clean chit in such circumstances amounts to an insult to the Constitution,” she alleged.

She further stated that if Sanjay truly believed in ethics and integrity, he should resign from his MLA post. “Trampling constitutional values step by step is not good for future generations,” Kavitha warned. Demanding immediate corrective action, Kavitha urged the Speaker to withdraw the decision at once, asserting that constitutional principles must be protected at all costs.

Tributes Paid to K. S. Tandri Krishna Goud



Jagadishwar Goud, TPCC State General Secretary and Congress In-Charge of Serilingampally Constituency, along with constituency leaders, participated in the Dashadin Karma program honoring K. S. Tandri Krishna Goud, father of Tandri Ramchander Goud and Tandri Mahipal Goud, who are vice presidents of the Congress party for Miyapur Division in Serilingampally. The event saw leaders paying floral tributes to Krishna Goud’s portrait, commemorating his legacy. Prominent attendees included Yalamanchili Uday Kiran, Mannepalli Sambasiva Rao, Dornala Ravikumar Goud, Kudumuntla Rambabu, Suresh, Sathyaraj, Kamineni Vasu, Satti Reddy, Krishna Goud, Uriti Venkat Rao, Mohan Mudiraj, and Ellanki Srinivas Goud. Journalists Mallani Ashok and Bandi Ramakrishna Goud, along with other notable figures from the region, also offered flowers and paid respects, making the event a grand and heartfelt tribute.

Welfare Party Backs Independent Candidate Owais in Sangareddy

SANGAREDDY
Wakeup telangana

The Welfare Party of India has officially extended its support to Advocate Owais, who is contesting as an independent candidate from Ward No.6 of Sangareddy Municipality. A high-level delegation led by Syed Kamal Athar, State President, along with State General Secretary Mohammed Waseem, Patancheru In-charge Abdul Jabbar (Gazi), and High Court advocate Abubakar, visited Sangareddy to review Owais’s legal and social work.

The leaders closely observed Owais’s active court practice and his public service initiatives. They also interacted with



local residents and praised his dedication to justice, welfare, and community problem-solving. Initially, the Welfare Party intended to extend support through a B-Form, but procedural delays prevented its completion. Despite this, the party has now formally announced its full backing and urged members and supporters to assist Owais in the election. Political analysts

believe this endorsement will boost Owais’s chances in Ward No.6, reflecting increasing public trust in independent candidates who prioritize service-oriented leadership at the municipal level. The move is seen as a significant step in strengthening grassroots democracy and encouraging leaders focused on legal expertise and community welfare.

CBITMUN Wins Best Delegation at KEYMUN 2026

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Chaitanya Bharathi Institute of Technology (CBIT), Gandipet, marked an important academic milestone with the release of the poster for SUDHEE 2026 – TECHEON, a National Level Students’ Technical Fest, by its Principal Prof. C. V. Narasimulu on Tuesday. The prestigious two-day technical event is being organised by the Department of Master of Computer



Applications (MCA) and will be held on February 17 and 18, 2026, at the CBIT campus.

SUDHEE 2026 is themed “Innovation Meets Technology” and is designed to serve as a dynamic and

interactive platform for students from various institutions to exhibit their technical knowledge, creative thinking, and analytical problem-solving skills. The fest aims to foster innovation, encour-

age teamwork, and provide experiential learning opportunities that go beyond classroom education.

The technical fest will host a diverse range of competitive and engaging events, including Poster Presentation, Paper Presentation, Ideathon, Tech Matrix, Code Cipher, Sound Engineering, Memory Masters, and Guess the Flick. These events are curated to test participants’ conceptual clarity, coding skills, innovation, creativity, and technical

aptitude, while also promoting collaboration and healthy competition among students.

The organisation of SUDHEE 2026 is being led by Mr. P. Krishna Prasad and Mr. B. Srinivasa SP Kumar, faculty members of the MCA department. They are being actively supported by student coordinators Adep Ajay and Kaipu Tejaswi, along with other student volunteers, ensuring smooth planning and execution of the event.

The Telangana state office of the Right to Information (RTI) Act Implementation Committee was inaugurated in Meerpet by Information Commissioner Desala Bhopal, along with the committee’s founding national president, Dr. Chanti Mudiraj. The initiative aims to strengthen transparency and accountability in government.

Speaking at the event, Commissioner Bhopal emphasized that the RTI Act, introduced in 2005,



ensures citizens’ access to information and mandates that every government office display a citizen charter. He highlighted the importance of using the Act responsibly and urged officials to provide information promptly

without fear. Bhopal noted that pending RTI cases are being addressed through district-level visits and that India ranks 8th globally in RTI implementation, with efforts underway to achieve the top position.

Telangana state president Surasravanti, national general secretary Mallam Venkatesham, vice-presidents Gopinathan Kattakola, state secretary Kadamanchi Ajay, and several district leaders including Muchcharla Mallesh and P. Raju Goud participated in the launch.

All Major Parties Allot 50% Tickets To BC Candidates



The Congress, BRS and the BJP have allotted over 50 per cent of their tickets to Backward Class (BC) community candidates for the municipal elections scheduled on February 11. This is against the 28.21 per cent of the total wards in 121 municipalities and 35.24 per cent in 10 municipal corporations allotted to the community quota set aside for the community for the polls, and the failed attempt of the government to ensure 42 per cent reservations. Data from the three parties show that the ruling Congress allotted 1,580 tickets, or 52.98 per cent, while the BJP allotted 1,493 tickets, amounting to 50.07 per cent. Under the reservation policy notified by the government, reservations for the BC, Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe communities are capped at 50 per cent. With parties fielding BC candidates even in unreserved wards, candidates from general categories accounted for less than half of the tickets. The Congress allotted 20 per cent of its tickets to general category candidates, the BRS 21 per cent and the BJP 28 per cent, with the remaining seats going to SC and ST community candidates.

Harish Rao Slams Revanth Reddy for Abusive Politics

Harish Rao criticises Revanth Reddy over remarks, govt failures

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

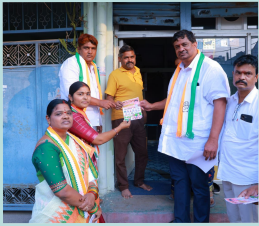
BRS Legislative Party (BRS LP) deputy leader T Harish Rao on Thursday strongly criticised Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, accusing him of lowering the standards of public discourse through abusive remarks and attempting to divert attention from the Congress government's failures over the past two years. He said the Chief Minister's comments made after his recent US visit had shocked civilised society and tarnished Telangana's cultural and political dignity. Addressing a press conference, Harish Rao questioned Revanth Reddy's apparent discomfort over people referring to BRS president and former Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao as the "Father of Telangana." He asserted that KCR not only played a decisive role in achieving statehood but also transformed Telangana through several landmark initiatives during the decade-long BRS rule. He alleged that instead of contributing meaningfully to the State, Revanth Reddy



was attempting to undermine KCR's legacy using derogatory language. The former Minister accused the Congress government of failing to uphold democratic values and urged intellectuals and civil society to condemn remarks that demean the Telangana Statehood movement. He said such language diminished the prestige of the State and reflected the Chief Minister's frustration over governance shortcomings. Harish Rao dismissed the Congress government's claims of trans-

forming the agriculture sector, alleging that key farmer welfare measures such as loan waivers, Rythu Bharosa payments and bonuses for fine paddy varieties had been diluted or delayed. He also claimed that power supply to farmers had been restricted to 12 hours and alleged neglect of critical issues including fee reimbursement, unemployment and pending dues to retired employees. On irrigation, he highlighted the BRS government's record, stating that over 11.5 km of tunnel excavation work

CEO: 1 BLA For Each Polling Station



Chief Electoral Officer C. Sudarshan Reddy urged political parties to appoint at least one booth level agent (BLA) for every polling station ahead of the forthcoming special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. At a meeting, he told representatives of recognised political parties that the BLAs should preferably be drawn from the polling station area and should work in close coordination with booth level officers (BLOs). The CEO said the schedule for SIR for Telangana is expected to be announced in April-May, and preparatory work had commenced in the state. A table-top mapping has been carried out to link electors listed in the 2025 electoral rolls with those covered during the 2002 SIR. This is being followed by field-level mapping, with BLOs undertaking house-to-house visits to identify and verify residences, particularly in urban areas. During the SIR, BLOs are expected to make three to four visits to each polling area. Enumeration forms will be distributed during the first visit, while subsequent visits will cover households that were not available earlier. The CEO clarified that electors who are not mapped during the preparatory phase would still be able to furnish their details during the SIR.

Rakesh Jaiswal Hails India-US Trade Deal

Rakesh Jaiswal Applauds PM Modi's Visionary Leadership, Celebrates Historic India-US Trade Deal



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BJP Corporator Rakesh Jaiswal of Jambagh, along with BJP karyakartas, today performed Palabhishkek to Prime Minister Narendra Modi Ji, marking the celebration of India's landmark trade agreement with the United States. Speaking on the occasion, Rakesh Jaiswal described the trade deal as a shining example of Prime Minister Modi's diplomatic, dynamic, and farsighted global strategy, which has elevated India's standing among world powers. He noted that the agreement would reduce heavy tariffs earlier imposed on India and several other nations to 18 percent, bringing significant relief to traders and manufacturers and opening new avenues for exports, investment, and

job creation. Jaiswal said Prime Minister Modi's strong leadership, firm negotiation skills, and commitment to national interest have ensured that India is treated as an equal partner on the global stage. Praising initiatives like Make in India, Atmanirbhar Bharat, and ease of doing business reforms, Rakesh Jaiswal stated that these policies have strengthened India's economy and boosted global confidence in the country. Terming the achievement resounding, he said that an unstinted, strong, and progressive India is possible only under the visionary leadership of Narendra Modi. BJP karyakartas hailed the moment as a proud chapter in India's growth story and a testament to decisive governance.

Arekapudi Gandhi Inaugurates ₹3.91 Crore Development Projects in Kondapur Colonies



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

P.A.C. Chairman Arekapudi Gandhi inaugurated new development works worth ₹3.91 crore in the Kondapur Division, including CC roads, a community hall, an open gym, and a boundary wall for the

crematorium. Corporate representatives Hameed Patel and Ragam Nageshwar Yadav attended as chief guests. The projects will cover multiple colonies such as Prem Nagar A Block, Rajarajeshwar Colony, Sri Ram Nagar A Block, 8th Battalion, Kothaguda, Golden Tulip, Kavuri

Hills, Patrika Nagar, and Gafur Nagar. Chairman Gandhi highlighted that these initiatives aim to enhance public welfare, provide essential facilities, and improve the overall infrastructure of the colonies. He emphasized that the community hall will be useful for residents to organize small gatherings, meetings, and birthday functions. Under the guidance of Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao and with the support of Minister Sridhar Babu, Gandhi assured that the Serilingampally constituency will be developed in all sectors and set as a model constituency.

Kausar Mohiuddin Campaigns in Sadasivpet

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Karwan MLA Kausar Mohiuddin, along with AIMIM Sadasivpet District President Shaik Ghouse Pasha and other AIMIM party candidates, conducted door-to-door municipal election campaigning in Sadasivpet District, covering Wards 5, 15, 17, 18, and 21 in Telangana. Alongside Syed Moin Nanded, they also addressed public meetings in Zaheerabad and Sadasivpet. During the campaign, the MLA appealed to the public to cast their valuable votes in favor of AIMIM.



Minister Ponnam Prabhakar Drives Auto in Husnabad Poll Campaign

HUSNABAD
Wakeup telangana

Congress party's campaign for the Husnabad Municipal elections has been gaining momentum with each passing day. In a unique and eye-catching move, State Minister Ponnam Prabhakar launched an innovative door-to-door campaign by directly reaching out to the public, sparking fresh political discussion in the town. Setting aside his ministerial status, Ponnam Prabhakar personally drove an auto-rickshaw through the streets of Husnabad as part of the election campaign. His unusual outreach has now become a major talking point among voters and political circles in the municipality. The campaign was conducted from Peddamma Temple to Ellamma Temple, covering several localities, including the 6th ward of Husnabad. With the sole objective of ensuring the victory of Con-



gress candidates in the municipal elections, the minister personally interacted with residents, conveying the party's message to every household. During the campaign, Ponnam Prabhakar took time to listen to local issues raised by residents and explained the welfare schemes and development programmes being implemented by the Congress government. His direct engagement with the public was widely appreciated. Residents and party workers were visibly enthusiastic on seeing the minister drive the auto-rickshaw himself.

Traffic Awareness Programme Conducted for Airtel Employees at Begumpet

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A Traffic Awareness Programme was conducted for Airtel employees at the Airtel Building, Begumpet, under the jurisdiction of Traffic Police Station Begumpet. The initiative aimed to promote responsible road behaviour and enhance road safety by sensitising employees about strict adherence to traffic rules and regulations. The session covered crucial topics including the dangers of overspeeding, drunk driving, and wrong-side driving, along with



the mandatory use of helmets and seat belts, safe mobile phone practices while driving, adherence to traffic signals, and maintaining lane discipline. G. Shankar Raju, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Traffic, Trimulgherry Division, addressed the programme, stressing that

disciplined driving is essential to prevent accidents and save lives. He urged employees to become ambassadors of road safety by following traffic rules and encouraging others to do the same. The programme was attended by Mr. Sadiq and Mr. Praveen (Manager) of Hero Motors, Ajay Ananth

Padmanabhan, CEO of Airtel, Smt. Geetha, Nodal Head, and Mr. Santosh, Nodal Officer. It was also broadcast via Zoom, allowing around 2,000 Airtel employees from Telangana and Andhra Pradesh to participate and benefit from the awareness session. The interactive programme received an enthusiastic response, with participants actively engaging, raising questions, and clarifying doubts, reinforcing the importance of a strong road safety culture and responsible driving practices in the city.

CBIT Principal Releases Poster of SUDHEE 2026 Tech Fest

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Chaitanya Bharathi Institute of Technology (CBIT), Gandipet, marked an important academic milestone with the release of the poster for SUDHEE 2026 – TECHEON, a National Level Students' Technical Fest, by its Principal Prof. C. V. Narasimulu on Tuesday. The prestigious two-day technical event is being organised by the Department of Master of Computer Applications (MCA) and will be held on February 17 and 18, 2026, at the CBIT campus. SUDHEE 2026 is themed "Innovation Meets Technology" and is designed to serve as a dynamic and



interactive platform for students from various institutions to exhibit their technical knowledge, creative thinking, and analytical problem-solving skills. The fest aims to foster innovation, encourage teamwork, and provide experiential learning opportunities that go beyond classroom education. The technical fest will host a diverse range of competitive and engaging events, including Poster

Presentation, Paper Presentation, Ideathon, Tech Matrix, Code Cipher, Sound Engineering, Memory Masters, and Guess the Flick. These events are curated to test participants' conceptual clarity, coding skills, innovation, creativity, and technical aptitude, while also promoting collaboration and healthy competition among students. The organisation of SUD-

HEE 2026 is being led by Mr. P. Krishna Prasad and Mr. B. Srinivasa SP Kumar, faculty members of the MCA department. They are being actively supported by student coordinators Adep Ajay and Kaipu Tejaswi, along with other student volunteers, ensuring smooth planning and execution of the event. Speaking on the occasion, Prof. C. V. Narasimulu encouraged students to make the most of the opportunity by actively participating in the fest and showcasing their talents. He expressed confidence that SUDHEE 2026 would emerge as a significant platform for nurturing technical excellence.

Oppn ‘Threat’: Speaker Tells Modi To Skip LS

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on Thursday said he had requested Prime Minister Narendra Modi not to come to the House on Wednesday, citing a possible security concern arising from the conduct of some Opposition members. Making a statement in the House, the Speaker said he had received “concrete information” that several Congress MPs could carry out an “unexpected act” by approaching the seat where the Prime Minister sits.

"When the Leader of the House was to reply (to the debate on the motion of thanks on the President's address), I had concrete information that many members of the Congress could carry out an unexpected act by reaching

the spot where the prime minister sits," Birla said. He said that to prevent any untoward incident and to uphold the dignity of the House, he had asked the Prime Minister to avoid attending the sitting.

“If this incident had taken place, it would have left the democratic traditions of the country in shreds,” Birla said, adding that Modi had agreed to his request. The Speaker said the conduct of some Opposition members inside the House and later in his office on Wednesday was inappropriate and unprecedented. Describing it as a “black spot”, he warned that if members brought posters and pamphlets into the House, proceedings would not be allowed to function.

"Never in history have political differences been dragged to the House. The



conduct of the Opposition members in the office of the Speaker was not appropriate, and in fact it was like a black spot," he said. The Lok Sabha witnessed disorderly scenes on Wednesday when Opposition MPs, including women members, moved towards the Prime Minister's seat holding banners ahead of his scheduled reply to the Motion of Thanks on the President's address. Modi was not present in the House at the time. BJP member P.P. Chaudhary was speaking when Opposition members entered

the Well, forcing adjournment of proceedings. The Prime Minister's reply to the Motion of Thanks was deferred amid protests by the Opposition over references to former Army chief General M.M. Naravane's unpublished book and the Chair's refusal to allow Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi to speak. Reacting to the Speaker's remarks, Congress general secretary and Lok Sabha MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra rejected the allegation, calling it “an absolute lie”. Speaking to reporters in the Parliament complex, she said there was no plan to harm the Prime Minister and accused the government of shielding itself behind the Speaker. “It is an absolute lie. There is no question of anybody raising hands on the prime minister, trying to hurt him or any such

thing,” she said. "But if you are going to allow your members to quote books, talk nonsense, the Opposition benches are going to protest. I am sorry, the Prime Minister is hiding behind the Speaker. They are making the Speaker say all this because yesterday he did not have the guts to come in the House. Because three women were standing before his bench, what nonsense is this," the Congress MP said.

Amid continued protests, the Lok Sabha on Thursday passed the Motion of Thanks on the President's address without the customary reply by the Prime Minister. Amendments moved by the opposition were put to vote by the Speaker and rejected. The House was adjourned multiple times during the day due to sloganeering and protests.

Gas Tanker Accident Chokes Mumbai-Pune Expressway

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

It was a literally nightmare experience to thousands of commuters, who were stuck for more than 24 hours at the Mumbai-Pune Expressway after a CNG tanker overturned in the middle of the road, triggering a massive traffic jam that stretched to almost 25 kilometres. The majority of commuters were left stranded on the Expressway since Tuesday evening, forcing them to spend the whole night in their cars without food and water. Help came only in the afternoon when Police distributed water and food to them.

According to officials, the incident occurred near the Adoshi tunnel in Raigad district at around 5 pm on Tuesday when the tanker, allegedly travelling at high speed, lost control due to the slope near the Adoshi Tunnel on the Mumbai-bound route and overturned. Soon after the accident, gas was found leaking from the tanker, causing panic among motorists. The tanker was carrying propylene gas, which is highly flammable. Due to the high risk of a



gas leak and potential explosion, authorities immediately suspended all vehicular movement on the Mumbai-bound lane, resulting in a gridlock that stretched for over 25 kilometers. “A potentially dangerous situation developed because the tanker was transporting propylene, which is extremely flammable. As soon as the leakage was confirmed, we implemented full emergency protocols,” a senior highway police officer said. The chaos left hundreds of vehicles stranded and caused massive congestion on both carriageways. The vehicular movement in both directions came to a complete halt, with passengers - including women and children - deprived of food, water and toilet facilities.

Opposition Stir Puts Off Modi’s LS Speech

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's proposed reply to the Motion of Thanks on the President's Address in the Lok Sabha did not take place on Wednesday despite indications from official sources, with the House adjourned for the day amid sustained Opposition disruptions. The Prime Minister was not present in the House when proceedings resumed, and BJP member P.P. Chaudhary was speaking when Opposition members entered the Well of the House and moved towards the Treasury benches. Women MPs from Opposition parties, led by Congress member Varsha Gaikwad, protested and marched towards the Prime Minister's chair. Sandhya Rai, who was



in the Chair, adjourned the House for the day within minutes of re-assembly at 5 pm. The Lok Sabha had earlier been adjourned till 5 pm following uproar over remarks by BJP MP Nishikant Dubey targeting the Gandhi family. The ruling party later claimed that Opposition members ignored repeated appeals by senior ministers to return to their seats. The Prime Minister is now expected to reply to the Motion of Thanks in the Rajya Sabha on Thursday at 5 pm, during which he is likely to touch upon recently concluded trade agreements with the Euro-

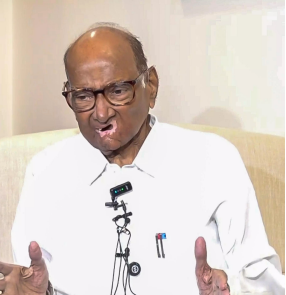
pean Union and the United States. Commenting on the Prime Minister's absence, Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi said he was “scared” and alleged that Union railway minister Ashwini Vaishnaw and Dubey “ran away like a bullet train”. Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi said the Prime Minister did not want to face the truth and reiterated the charge in a post on X. Earlier in the day, the House witnessed repeated adjournments over Dubey's remarks and references to books critical of the Gandhi family. Presiding officer Krishna Prasad Tenneti cautioned Dubey that such references were not permitted, citing Rule 349, which bars members from reading from books or documents not connected with the

business of the House. As protests intensified and Dubey continued, the House was adjourned till 5 pm. Congress MPs later met Speaker Om Birla, objecting to the Chair allowing Dubey to speak while denying a similar opportunity to the Leader of the Opposition. Sources said the Congress conveyed that it would not allow the Prime Minister to speak unless Dubey was suspended. The Lok Sabha saw multiple adjournments during the day, at 11 am, noon and 2 pm, amid Opposition protests over references to a former Army chief's unpublished book and the India-US trade deal. Government sources had earlier indicated that the Prime Minister would reply to the debate at 5 pm, but the House could not function due to continued disruptions.

Fadnavis Has No Right To Comment on NCP Merger Talks: Sharad Pawar

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) founder Sharad Pawar on Wednesday reiterated that the late Ajit Pawar had been keen on a merger of the two NCP factions, asserting that Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis had “no right” to comment on the issue. Mr. Pawar said Ajit Pawar had held discussions with senior leader Jayant Patil, countering Mr. Fadnavis's claim that the former Deputy Chief Minister would have taken him into confidence had any such move been imminent. After Ajit Pawar's death, leaders of the Sharad Pawar-led faction had claimed that merger talks were at an advanced stage and that



February 12 had been finalised to announce the reunification. Dismissing the claims, Mr. Fadnavis had said Ajit Pawar never informed him of any such plan. “If the discussions had reached any final stage, Ajit Dada would have told us (BJP). Had any date been fixed, he would have informed us. He was part of our government; could he take such a decision without sharing these matters with us? I have no idea what talk he had with Sharad Pawar. As far as

we are concerned, we have no information regarding any such date,” the Chief Minister had said earlier. Responding to the remarks, Mr. Pawar said, “I don't think the Chief Minister has any right to mention me. He was nowhere in the merger discussions. My colleagues, Jayant Patil and Ajit Pawar, were discussing it. There is nothing more to it than that.” The former Union minister said this was not the time to engage in political discussions. “Right now is the time to support family members. We are not discussing political issues with anyone,” he said. Earlier in the day, Mr. Pawar held a closed-door meeting with Ajit Pawar's sons, Parth and Jay, at Vidya Pratish-

than, an educational institution in Baramati. The meeting lasted about one and a half hours. Reports suggested that the discussion revolved around a proposal to build Ajit Pawar's memorial on the Vidya Pratishthan premises. However, Mr. Pawar dismissed the speculation. “I am not aware of any memorial for Ajit Pawar being built in Baramati. I am the chairman of the institution whose land is being discussed; at the very least, I should have been informed. No such discussion has taken place. We will sit together and decide what needs to be done, but it is not appropriate to comment on something that does not exist,” he said.

J&K Parties and Farmers Welcome Centre’s Move To Halt Proposed Railway Lines

JAMMU
Wakeup telangana

Political parties, farmer groups, and orchard-dependent communities across Jammu and Kashmir have warmly welcomed the Centre's decision to pause three proposed railway projects in the Valley. The move follows sustained objections from local residents, apple growers, and elected representatives, who warned that large-scale land acquisition would devastate orchards and threaten the livelihoods of thousands of families. Apple orchardist Abdul Razzak Wani, speaking over the phone from Shopian—one of the areas where vast stretches of farmland have been earmarked for acquisition—said the announcement brought immense relief. “All I can say is that we are finally breathing easier. For weeks we lived in anxiety, unsure about our future and that of our children. This decision has lifted a heavy burden from our minds,” he said. Union Railway Minister



Ashwini Vaishnaw explained earlier in the day that although there had been a demand for additional railway lines beyond the existing Srinagar-Baramulla route, concerns raised by the J&K government and Members of Parliament prompted a reconsideration. They argued that the proposed alignments would cut through vast stretches of apple orchards—an economic backbone for south Kashmir. Acknowledging these objections, the Centre decided to place the projects on hold. The announcement comes after months of protests in Pulwama, Shopian, and Anantnag, where residents feared the loss of agricultural land, destruction of orchards, and potential

displacement. Throughout the past several months, villagers, growers, and civil society groups held demonstrations demanding that the government rethink the proposed routes. Many insisted on transparent consultations, fair compensation, and alternative alignments that would not jeopardise Kashmir's horticultural economy. Their message was consistent- development must not come at the cost of fertile land and generational livelihoods. Former chief minister and PDP president Mehbooba Mufti welcomed the Centre's decision, calling it a much-needed relief for Kashmir's agrarian sector. In a post on 'X', she said, ““The decision to put the Pahalgam and Shopian railway lines on hold brings much needed relief to Kashmir's agrarian economy. These projects threatened to destroy scarce fertile land and push over a million rural families into uncertainty. Development that uproots farmers is not progress.

Rahul Shows.....

Kharge later accused the government of denying the Opposition a chance to speak. On foreign policy, Modi said India had emerged as a strong voice of the Global South and cited recent trade agreements, including with the European Union and the US, as evidence of growing global confidence. Meanwhile, Rahul Gandhi criticised Modi's speech, alleging the Prime Minister avoided key issues and repeated falsehoods. Referring to former Army chief M.M. Naravane's unpublished memoir, Gandhi reiterated his claim that the government deflected responsibility during the 2020 India-China standoff.

ECI To Announce.....

Election Commissioner Dr. Vivek Joshi instructed that Voter Information Slips (VIS) should be distributed well in time to the voters so that they are not inconvenienced on poll day. The Commission also interacted with the observers in a doubt-clearing session and senior officials of the ECI briefed the observers on various aspects of preparation of Electoral Rolls and the Conduct of Elections in the five poll-

bound States/UTs. The observers were also briefed on the IT applications and platforms, and media related matters. As the Commission's 'eyes and ears', the central observers were asked to familiarise themselves with all the election laws, rules, guidelines and ensure their strict and impartial compliance. The observers were instructed to remain fully accessible to political parties, candidates, and the grievances of voters are redressed in a timely manner. They were also instructed to visit polling stations and ensure the implementation of the recent initiatives taken by the Commission for the convenience of the voters, especially ensuring the provision of Assured Minimum Facilities (AMFs).

Over 3,800.....

The tabulated data also included locations of Indian consulates in the US and the corresponding number of deportations in 2025, viz., consulates of India in New York (47), Atlanta (31), Houston (234), San Francisco (49) and Seattle (31). Singh said the government of India works in close coordination with the US and other foreign governments on all matters pertaining to deportation of Indian

citizens. "Such deportations are subject to an unambiguous verification of their Indian nationality," he said. The government is in constant dialogue with the US government regarding the need for "humane treatment" of Indian nationals during such deportation operations. "We have registered our concerns with the US authorities, particularly with respect to use of restraints on the deportees, especially women and children," the MoS said. Based on the accounts and testimonies given by returning deportees, the central and respective state governments along with the relevant law enforcement agencies have registered a number of cases, and investigations as well as actions are ongoing against several illegal recruitment agents, criminal facilitators and human trafficking syndicates that run these rackets, the government said. The government accords utmost priority to the safety, security and well-being of Indian nationals proceeding for employment abroad. According to The Emigration Act 1983, no person or agency can function as a recruiting agent (RA) without a valid licence issued by the registering authority who is the Protector General of

Emigrants.

SIR Row: Didi.....

This will help THE WAR in Ukraine, which is taking place right now, with thousands of people dying each and every week!" Trump wrote on his Truth Social post earlier this week. The trade deal was later confirmed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, though no statement was made regarding stopping Russian oil imports. Responding to questions on Venezuela, Jaiswal said India remains open to sourcing oil based on commercial considerations. "India's stand is clear. We have long-standing partnership with Venezuela. And we remain open to buying oil from Venezuela or other places depending on its commercial viability," he said. The bilateral trade agreement between India and the United States was announced on Monday, with tariffs on Indian goods reduced from 50 per cent to 18 per cent. In a press conference on Tuesday, Union Commerce Minister Piyush Goyal said the final agreement is in its last stages, a view echoed by US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer, who stated the deal is "still being papered."

FROM FRONT PAGE

CRIME

GNIT certificate row in HC

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Justice N. Tukaramji of the Telangana High Court ordered notice to Guru Nanak Institutions of Technology (GNIT) in a writ petition filed by 35 engineering students questioning withholding of original certificates to compel recovery of fees. The judge was dealing with a writ petition filed by Narayanadas Sai Vivek and 34 others. The petitioners pointed out that GNIT unlawfully retained vital academic documents, including SSC and Intermediate certificates, semester-wise marks memos, degree certificates, transfer certificates and bonafide

certificates. It was argued that such retention gravely impaired their ability to pursue higher education, seek employment and appear for competitive examinations. It was further contended that the action of the institution was in clear violation of the UGC Regulations, 2018, as well as relevant circulars issued by AICTE and JNTU Hyderabad. Emphasising that the students have been made to suffer for a prolonged period, counsel for the petitioners Narayanasai Vivek sought immediate release of the original certificates. The judge, after hearing preliminary submissions, ordered notice and posted the matter for further.

HC rejects custody habeas petition

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A two-judge panel of the Telangana High Court comprising Justice Moushumi Bhattacharya and Justice Gadi Praveen Kumar dismissed a habeas corpus plea filed by a father seeking production and custody of his minor son. The panel was dealing with a plea filed by Abdul Raheem Uddin, who alleged that the mother was illegally detaining his eight-year-old son, Sheikh Tamim Uddin Thani, denying access and communication, and disobeying a visitation order passed in his favour by

the Family Court. He contended that such continued withholding of custody amounted to unlawful detention warranting habeas corpus relief. On the contrary, the state argued that the petitioner was, in effect, seeking implementation of a Family Court order through a writ of habeas corpus, which was impermissible. He further contended that the petitioner had not even approached the concerned police authorities with a complaint, and that disputed custody issues could not be agitated in a habeas corpus petition before a constitutional court.

Hyderabadis Lose Nearly Rs. 85 lakh in Investment Frauds

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A 33-year-old private employee alleged that fraudsters cheated him of Rs.71.11 lakh through a fake stock trading scheme after luring him into a Telegram group promising high returns. The complainant said he joined the Telegram channel on December 25 after receiving a WhatsApp link linked to a so-called high-profit programme of an MNC financial services firm. Police

said the accused shared what were said to be stock tips, introduced a daily trading plan and created an internal equity account using the victim's Aadhaar details. The victim deposited money for alleged OTC trading, IPOs and DTC investments. Though the accused portal showed a balance of Rs.2.20 crore, the victim was denied withdrawal and was asked to pay additional fees. When he contacted the accused, their phones were switched off, police

said. Similarly, a 30-year-old businessman alleged that he was cheated of Rs.11.20 lakh by a woman he met on a dating app. Police said the accused, identifying herself as Geeta, gained the victim's trust and persuaded him to invest in an online trading scheme by promising profits. After the victim transferred the amount, the accused allegedly blocked him on all social media platforms. In another case, a businessman from Goshamahal

alleged that fraudsters cheated him of Rs.4 lakh on the pretext of a fake financial trade. Police said the victim came across a Facebook advertisement linked to a hardware business network from China and was later added to a WhatsApp group. He was induced to transfer money for materials but received no response after making the payment, prompting him to approach the cyber crime police.

Brother Held For Murder of Advocate Over Land

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A day after advocate Gotike Swapna was murdered in her agricultural land at Kethiredypally in Moinabad, police on Thursday arrested four persons including her brother G. Raju and his associates Errolla Sandeep, Vadde Veeresh and Kavali Shiva Lingam. The murder was said to be the fall-out over a property dispute. Swapna was murdered when she went to the farmland to get the land surveyed with the intention of selling a portion of it for her marriage expenses. Police said she had recently married a man she was in a relationship with through an Arya Samaj ceremony. To raise funds for a traditional marriage, she planned

to sell one acre out of the four acres of land said to be registered in her name. Chevella DCP Yogesh Gautam said she was accompanied her mother Venkatamma, another advocate and a surveyor to the land in Survey No. 339. "Raju knocked down Swapna with his car. When she fell down, his associates attacked her," he alleged. Police said Swapna's father had married Mallamma, who had no children. He later married her younger sister Venkatamma, with whom he had four children: two sons and two daughters including Swapna and Raju. The eldest daughter was married in 2001, while one of the brothers later died in a road accident.

Plea claims GHMC inaction

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Justice Lakshmi Narayan Alishetty of the Telangana High Court took on file a plea alleging inaction on the part of GHMC in preventing alleged illegal and unauthorised constructions by Meridian School at Madhapur, Serilingampally mandal. The judge was dealing with a writ petition filed by Umesh Lunker and another. According to the petition, the petitioners were owners of land in Survey No. 14/1, Madhapur, where Meridian School was allegedly carrying out construction

activities without obtaining a sanctioned building plan from the competent authorities. It was contended that the petitioners submitted a detailed representation requesting the authorities to restrain the school management from proceeding with further construction. Despite the lapse of several years, no action was taken. The petitioner contended that the unauthorised constructions had continued unchecked due to administrative apathy. Counsel appearing for the respondents contended that the school had not deviated from the permissions granted.

High Court Upholds TGPSC Gr-1 Recruitment

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

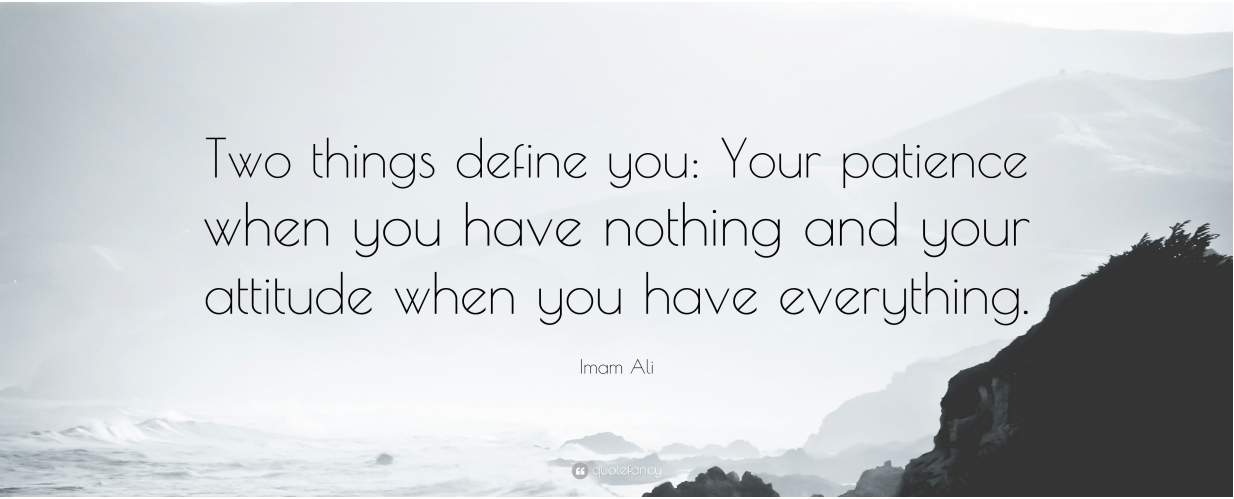
The Telangana High Court on Thursday confirmed its interim directions of September 25 last, setting aside a single judge's directions and permitting the Telangana Public Service Commission (TGPSC) Group-1 to complete the recruitment of selected candidates. These candidates had been given their appointment letters after the interim order, subject to the court's final order. Thursday's judgment comes as a relief to these candidates. A division bench comprising Chief Justice Aparish Kumar Singh and Justice G.M. Mohiuddin pronounced the judgment while disposing of a batch of writ appeals preferred by the commission and several successful candidates, who were aggrieved by the common



order dated 09.09.2025 issued by the single judge. In its detailed judgment, the division bench examined the recruitment process, the method of evaluation adopted by the commission, and the grounds on which the single judge had intervened in the matter. The court observed that there were no allegations of mala fide, fraud, or proven systemic irregularities in the conduct of the examination. It held that in the absence of any demonstrated violation of statutory rules or arbitrariness, the directions to order re-evaluation with moderation or to re-conduct the Mains examination could not be sustained.

The bench noted that the method of evaluation had been uniformly applied in the larger public interest and that no candidate could be said to have been prejudicially affected on that account. After undertaking a detailed analysis of the evaluation procedure and considering the submissions of all parties, the court concluded that the single judge court's reliance on the principles laid down in the 'Sanjay Singh v UP Public Service Commission' case for ordering moderation was misplaced in the facts of the present case. The division bench held that the integrity of an examination conducted by a constitutional body like the PSC could not be doubted on the basis of surmises and unsubstantiated allegations; therefore the alternative direction for re-conduct of the examination was found to be unsustainable. Emphasising

judicial restraint in matters relating to large-scale public recruitment, the division bench observed that intervention in examinations conducted by constitutional bodies should not be undertaken in the absence of proven mala fide, arbitrariness, or systemic irregularities. On these grounds, the division bench concluded that the single judge had erred in directing re-evaluation with moderation or re-conduct of the examination. The controversy arose out of recruitment to Group-I services for 563 posts under a notification dated February 19, 2024. The preliminary examination was conducted in June 2024 and its results were declared in July 2024. Candidates who qualified in the prelims appeared for the Mains held in October 2024 across 46 centres and the results were declared on March 30, 2025.



EDITORIAL

WILL 15% INCREASE IN DEFENCE BUDGET GIVE INDIA MORE BANG FOR THE BUCK?

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Never before since the end of the Second World War has the world been so badly fractured as now, especially since Donald Trump's return to the White House in January 2025. That he, holding the most powerful office in the world, who should have been seriously working to uphold the global rules-based order, is doing just the opposite, has left most nations, including most long-term US allies, seriously worried. It is needless to say that some of his policies also impact India, in more ways than one, including in strategic matters. Overall, as the strategic and security environment worsens the world over, including in South Asia, India needs to factor in its security calculus the manifold existing challenges and the newer ones emerging. Our own Operation Sindoor involvement

highlighted the nuances of a fragile and hostile geopolitical environment in our neighbourhood and the critical imperative of being operationally ready and better militarily prepared against our own adversaries at all times. Unquestionably, adequate resources thus have to be allocated for ensuring security preparedness -- but are we doing it? India's finance minister, Nirmala Sitharaman, in her record ninth consecutive Budget presentation, and the Narendra Modi government's 13th Budget in the Lok Sabha on February 1, has allocated Rs 7.85 lakh crores for the defence budget in FY 2026-2027 -- a satisfying 15 per cent jump from last year's defence budget and which is two per cent of India's GDP. Last year's allocation was Rs 6.58 lakh crores for the defence ministry, which was around just 1.9 per cent of GDP. It may be noted that India's defence spending

currently accounts to around 14.5 per cent of the total Union Budget in 2026-27. Is the budget for this financial year adequate to ensure India's overall security build-up to cater for the formidable two-front threat that India faces from its main adversaries -- China and Pakistan -- both individually and collectively? That deserves serious analysis. India's parliamentary subcommittees have unanimously and consistently recommended that the nation's defence budget be raised to three per cent of GDP is quite well known but has never been implemented by any government of any political hue. In analysing the adequacy or otherwise of the allocations for the forthcoming financial year, it will be worthwhile to take a sharp look at the immediate requirements of our armed forces.



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Historic Culinary Exchange: Bordeaux Masterclass at Regency College

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Regency College of Culinary Arts & Hotel Management, a premier institution for hospitality and culinary education in South India, hosted the Bordeaux Cookery Masterclass & International French Culinary Exchange

Programme, a historic first for the city. This initiative marked a prestigious collaboration between France and India in culinary education.

Organized in partnership with Bordeaux Métropole, Government of Telangana, and Lycée de Gascogne (France), the programme featured three focused master-



Students of Regency with Chef Jean Jacques Berteau (10th from Left), Chef Romain Talbourdeau (13th from Left), Chef Mariou Tamarelle (15th from Left) along with Mr. Hugo Cauvet (seated), at the Bordeaux Cookery Masterclass & an International French Culinary Exchange Program, hosted at the Regency College of Culinary Arts & Hotel Management, Hyderabad, today.

classes on French Cookery, Classical Beverages, and the Art of Dining, offering students a rare opportunity to learn from French Master Chefs.

Chef Olivier Lux and Chef Jean Jacques Berteau of Lycée de Gascogne conducted live demonstrations, teaching classical French techniques, precision in

presentation, refined service styles, and guest interaction. The sessions equipped students with international culinary skills and fine-dining practices, preparing them for global hospitality careers.

The event was graced by dignitaries including the Telangana Chef's Association Presidium, Ms. Adeline Leguillier

(Alliance Française Hyderabad), and Mr. Hugo Cauvet (Bordeaux Métropole-Hyderabad). As part of the exchange, Chef Vinay and Chef Harinath of Regency collaborated with French chefs to showcase authentic Telangana dishes, emphasizing cultural significance, indigenous ingredients, and traditional cooking techniques.

Adding a cultural dimension, the delegation visited Radiance Restaurant, where Telangana's culinary evolution—from Stone Age methods to earthenware, brass, copper, and bamboo techniques—was showcased. The experience included immer-

sive kitchen settings, Cheriya and Kolam art, Nizami motifs, and a seven-course regional Telangana menu presented with fine dining finesse.

The programme concluded with the signing of a Cultural Exchange Memorandum by Principal Mr. P. Ramesh Kumar Reddy, formalizing student exchange and academic collaboration. Students expressed gratitude for this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, which broadened their culinary perspective, enhanced professional exposure, and inspired aspirations toward global standards of excellence.

Rupee inches up 7 paise amid trade deal uncertainty, RBI cues awaited

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The Indian rupee traded in a narrow range and strengthened by 7 paise to 90.40 against the US dollar in early trade on Thursday, supported by cautious optimism in the market even as investors awaited official confirmation of the India-US trade deal and cues from the Reserve Bank of India's policy decision. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 90.52 against the dollar and moved up to 90.40, gaining 7 paise from its previous close. On Wednesday, the domestic currency had depreciated 15 paise to settle at 90.47. During early trade on Thursday, it also briefly touched 90.53.

Forex market participants said sentiment remains guarded as neither India



nor the United States has released formal documentation outlining the final terms of the proposed trade agreement. Traders noted that the market mood has shifted from initial optimism to careful verification, limiting further upside for the rupee.

"Market is now waiting for confirmation and finer details before extending the rupee's rally further," said Amit Pabari, Managing Director of CR Forex Advisors. He added that attention has also turned to the RBI's Monetary Policy Committee meeting scheduled for Friday. According to Pabari, markets largely expect the central bank to keep inter-

est rates unchanged, with a growing consensus that rate cuts are unlikely before the end of 2026.

RBI's stance, along with clarity on the trade deal, is expected to influence the rupee's direction in the near term.

Meanwhile, the dollar index, which measures the US currency's strength against a basket of six major currencies, rose 0.18 per cent to 97.79. Global oil prices provided some relief, with Brent crude futures declining 2 per cent to USD 68.07 per barrel. On the domestic equity front, benchmark indices opened lower. The Sensex fell 278.72 points to 83,538.97, while the Nifty declined 94.15 points to 25,681.85. Foreign Institutional Investors bought equities worth Rs 29.79 crore on Wednesday, according to exchange data.

Maori Delegation Visits Malabar Gold & Diamonds Hyderabad Store

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Malabar Gold & Diamonds hosted a visiting Māori cultural delegation at its flagship store in Hyderabad, marking a significant moment in the brand's growing engagement with New Zealand. The visit took place during the delegation's India tour as part of the World & Us: New Zealand Festival – India Chapter, a national initiative celebrating cultural and creative exchange across multiple Indian cities. The interaction highlights Malabar Gold & Diamonds' commitment to fostering cultural understanding as it expands its international footprint. The visit comes shortly after the brand's entry into New Zealand with the launch of its Auckland store in 2025, reinforcing its focus on building meaningful connections beyond commerce. By welcoming the Māori delegation, Malabar Gold



& Diamonds underscored its belief that global business growth is most impactful when rooted in respect for local traditions, communities, and cultural identities. This philosophy remains central to the company's long-term strategy across the diverse markets in which it operates.

Commenting on the occasion, Mr. M.P. Ahammad, Chairman of Malabar Group, said, "At Malabar Gold & Diamonds, we see our stores as spaces that go beyond retail to reflect the cultures and communities we engage with. Hosting the Māori delegation in Hyderabad is especially meaningful as we strengthen our presence in New Zealand. Such exchanges foster mutual re-

spect, learning, and connection—values essential for Indian brands expanding globally."

During the visit, the delegation was welcomed with a curated in-store experience celebrating Hyderabad's cultural heritage. Guests were treated to regional culinary offerings and presented with keepsakes inspired by the traditions of the Telugu states, packaged in Malabar's signature branding. The highlight of the visit was the delegation's performance of the traditional haka within the store, captivating customers and management alike, and creating a powerful, immersive celebration of Māori culture.

CBIT Unveils Poster for National-Level Tech-Fest "Civilizations 2026"



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Department of Civil Engineering, Chaitanya Bharathi Institute of Technology (CBIT), unveiled the poster for Civilizations 2026, a National-Level Technical Fest, on 05 February 2026. The event, organized under the Civil Engineering Association (CEA) as part of SUDHEE 2026, will be held on 17th and 18th February 2026 at the CBIT campus with the theme "Swadesign."

The fest aims to provide a national platform for Civil Engineering students, research scholars, and aca-

demicians to showcase technical skills and innovative ideas through events such as Paper and Poster Presentations, AutoCAD Designing, Revit Speed Build, Workshops, Techno Quiz, Concrete Quest, and Bridge It.

Prof. C. V. Narasimhulu, Principal, CBIT, and Prof. K. Jagannadha Rao, Head of the Department, congratulated the organizers and extended their best wishes. The fest is

expected to attract over 500 participants from across the country and offers opportunities for industry participation.

CBIT ECE Department Organizes Guest Lecture on Core ECE Careers

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, CBIT, organized a guest lecture on "Opportunities and Careers in Core ECE" on 05 February 2026 in association with Makers of India (MOI) and ECE Alumni. Mr. Sai Bharadwaj V. S. M., Solution Engineer I at Synopsys, delivered the lecture, highlighting industry expecta-



tions, essential skills, and career opportunities in VLSI and semiconductor technologies. The session witnessed active participation from ECE students and faculty members.

CBIT to Host 'NEUROVERSE' National-Level AI & ML Event

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

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tive participation from ECE students and faculty members.

Hindalco, KADA Launch Multi-Skills Centre in Kuppam

VISHAKAPATNAM
Wakeup telangana

Bharti Airtel reported a strong financial performance for the quarter, with consolidated revenues reaching Rs 53,982 crore. This represents a robust year-on-year growth of 19.6% and a sequential increase of 3.5%, reflecting sustained operational momentum across its core businesses. The growth was primarily driven by continued strength in the India operations, supported by a solid contribution from the Africa business.

The India business recorded quarterly revenues of Rs 39,226 crore, registering a growth of 13.2% year-on-year and 1.4% quarter-on-quarter. This performance was underpinned by continued premiumisation in the mobile segment, strong traction in the Homes business, and steady ex-

ecution in Airtel Business. India Mobile revenues increased 9.1% YoY, driven by an improvement in average revenue per user (ARPU) and strong growth in smartphone data customers. Rising data consumption and a shift toward higher-value plans continued to support mobile revenue growth.

The Homes segment delivered another quarter of strong performance, with revenues growing 32.6% year-on-year. The business recorded its highest-ever net customer additions of 1,159 thousand during Q3 FY26, supported by deeper network coverage, expansion into new markets, and growing demand for high-speed broadband and digital home solutions.

Airtel Business reported steady sequential growth of 1.5%, reflecting stable demand across enterprise connectivity and digital solutions.

Airtel Posts 19.6% YoY Revenue Growth, Homes Shine

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana



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tal home solutions.

Airtel Business reported steady sequential growth of 1.5%, reflecting stable demand across enterprise connectivity and digital solutions. Its adjacencies continued to show a sustained growth trajectory, contributing positively to overall performance. Digital TV revenues increased marginally by 0.3% on a quarter-on-quarter basis, indicating stable performance in a mature and competitive segment.

Meanwhile, Passive Infrastructure Services revenues declined marginally by 0.5% QoQ.

Overall, Bharti Airtel's diversified business portfolio, focus on premium offerings, disciplined execution, and continued investments in network expansion and customer experience underpinned its strong quarterly performance and positioned the company well for sustained growth.

Sensex, Nifty fall in early trade after three-day rally

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty slipped in early trade on Thursday, snapping a three-day rally, as weak cues from global markets dampened investor sentiment. After opening on a negative note, the 30-share BSE Sensex fell 278.72 points to trade at 83,538.97. The broader NSE Nifty declined 94.15 points to 25,681.85, reflecting selling pressure across key sectors.

Among Sensex constituents, InterGlobe Aviation, Bharat Electronics, Axis Bank, Larsen & Toubro, Tata Steel and Bharti Airtel emerged as the major laggards, dragging the indices lower. In contrast, buying interest was seen in select heavyweights such as Hindustan Unilever, Trent, NTPC, Infosys, Tata Consultancy Services and State Bank



of India, which provided limited support to the market.

The domestic market weakness mirrored negative trends across Asian equities. South Korea's Kospi plunged more than 3 per cent, while Japan's Nikkei 225, Shanghai's SSE Composite and Hong Kong's Hang Seng indices were also trading in the red during early hours. Overnight, US markets ended mostly lower, further weighing on global sentiment. The Nasdaq Composite slumped 1.51 per cent, while the S&P 500 declined 0.51 per cent. The Dow Jones Industrial Average, however, managed to close 0.53 per

cent higher, supported by gains in select industrial stocks.

On the institutional front, foreign institutional investors (FIIs) turned net buyers, purchasing equities worth ₹29.79 crore on Wednesday, according to exchange data. Domestic institutional investors (DIIs) also remained positive, buying shares worth ₹249.54 crore during the previous session.

Meanwhile, crude oil prices softened sharply, offering some relief on the inflation front. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, slipped 2.07 per cent to USD 68.02 per barrel.

In the previous session on Wednesday, the Sensex had ended marginally higher, gaining 78.56 points or 0.09 per cent to close at 83,817.69, while the Nifty rose 48.45 points or 0.19 per cent to settle at 25,776.

‘Mirzapur’ movie to hit theatres on September 4, 2026

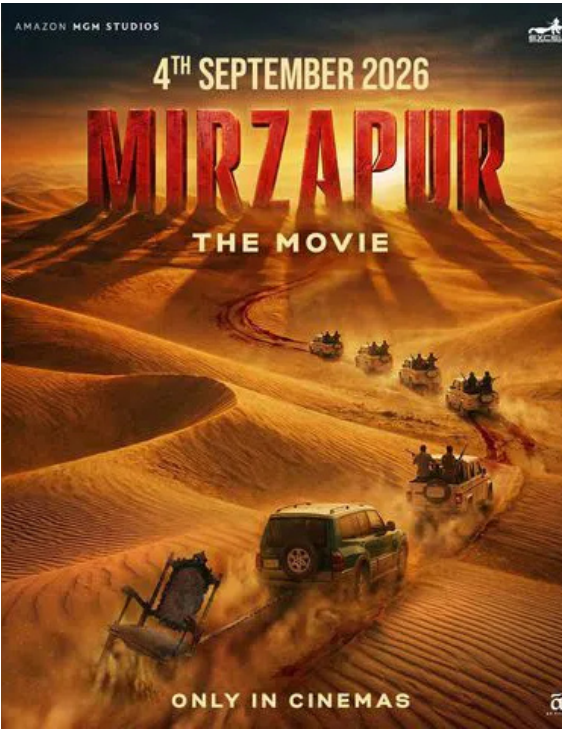
The makers of the much-awaited movie adaptation of the popular web series Mirzapur have announced that the film will release in theatres on September 4, 2026. The announcement was made on Thursday through the official Instagram handle of Excel Entertainment, generating excitement among fans of the crime drama franchise.

The production house shared a striking poster to mark the release date. Set against a vast golden desert, the visual shows a convoy of rugged SUVs racing through sand dunes, kicking up clouds of dust. A dark trail resembling blood cuts through the landscape, strongly hinting at violence, revenge, and intense power struggles—hallmarks of the Mirzapur universe. The title “MIRZAPUR” appears in bold, cracked red letters, evoking raw aggression, with “The Movie” written just below it. The release date, 4th September 2026, is prominently displayed. The caption read: “Ab dekhiye bhau-kaal bade parde par. Watch #MirzapurTheMovie releasing at your nearest theatres on 4th September.”

Mirzapur chronicles the rise and reign of Akhandanand “Kaleen” Tripathi, a feared crime lord and businessman who rules the Mirzapur district in the Purvanchal region of Uttar Pradesh. The series gained massive popularity for its gritty storytelling, memorable characters, and intense performances. The first season starred Pankaj Tripathi, Ali Fazal, Divyendu Sharma, Vikrant Massey, Shweta Tripathi, Shriya Pilgaonkar, Rasika Dugal, Harshita Gaur, and Kulbhushan Kharbanda. While the second season retained most of the

members such as Pankaj Tripathi, Ali Fazal, Shweta Tripathi, Rasika Dugal, and Divyendu Sharma, while also introducing Jitendra Kumar, Sonal Chauhan, and Ravi Kishan in significant roles. Produced by Excel Entertainment, the film wrapped up shooting on February 1. Actress Shweta Tripathi announced the wrap on social media by sharing a picture of the clapperboard with the caption, “Mirzapur The Film Wrapped.” She later posted a group photograph of the entire cast and crew, writing, “It’s a wrap Mirzapur The Movie.” The film marks Mirzapur’s transition from streaming to the big screen, promising a larger-than-life cinematic experience for fans.

core cast, it introduced new faces including Vijay Varma, Isha Talwar, Priyanshu Painyuli, Anangsha Biswas, Neha Sargam, Lilliput, and Anjum Sharma. The upcoming film adaptation brings back key cast



Tripathi, Ali Fazal, Divyendu Sharma, Vikrant Massey, Shweta Tripathi, Shriya Pilgaonkar, Rasika Dugal, Harshita Gaur, and Kulbhushan Kharbanda. While the second season retained most of the

Rajasekhar plays ‘Bullet’ Sunil in Sharwanand’s ‘Biker’

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

The makers of director Abhilash Reddy Kankara’s high-octane sports-family drama ‘Biker’, featuring actor Sharwanand in the lead, have now disclosed that well-known actor Rajasekhar plays a character called ‘Bullet’ Sunil in the eagerly-awaited sports film.

The disclosure came by way of a glimpse video that the makers chose to release on the occasion of Rajasekhar’s birthday. The glimpse video opens with a voiceover. Former motocross racer Sunil – widely known as ‘Bullet’ Sunil, boasts an extraordinary track record: 18 Indian Championships, 57 South Zone titles, and over 100 race victories. Yet, he remains driven by a mission. Frustrated by the perception that Indian racers are losers, he is determined to change that narrative and prove the

nation’s true potential on the racing circuit. Instead of dwelling on past glory, Sunil now channels his experience into a renewed fight- to rewrite the narrative for Indian talent and push them towards global recognition. The glimpse hints at a character driven more by purpose than pride, with Rajasekhar delivering the perfect mix of intensity, burning desire and emotional depth that elevates Sunil’s journey. Rajasekhar looks fierce and magnetic, bringing a seasoned aura that elevates every frame. Malvika Nair plays the leading lady opposite Sharwa, who portrays a

daring bike racer in the film. Sharwa’s remarkable physical transformation and gripping performance in the teaser have already caught the attention of fans and film buffs. Slated for a worldwide theatrical release on April 3, the film boasts of a top notch technical team. Cinematography for the film has been handled by J Yuvraj while its music has been scored by Ghبران. Editing for the film is by Anil Kumar P and production design by Rajeevan. Apart from Sharwanand, Malvika Nair and Rajasekhar, the film will also feature Brahmaji and Atul Kulkarni in pivotal roles.



Grammys Go Political as Billie Eilish’s Speech Triggers Backlash

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

This year, the Grammy Awards have become an all-out political show rather than an award show. Artists receiving awards were openly criticizing the current US government and the recent deportation actions taken by federal authorities. Be it Bad Bunny, who won Album of the Year, Kehlani for Best R&B Song and Best R&B Performance, or Billie Eilish winning Best Song of the Year, all of them were vocal during their speeches against the current Trump regime. Slogans like ‘F*ck ICE’ and ‘ICE OUT!’ were being shouted during this award show. Billie Eilish’s speech gained

virality, where she was seen saying, “No one is illegal on stolen land.” This was clearly a political statement. After the formation of the new Trump government in 2025, mass de-

portations are taking place, and debates are also happening about who is a real American and who is ethnically American. This statement by Billie Eilish, made while she

received her award, received both appreciation and widespread backlash. Although her speech was clearly pro-immigration and against the idea of ‘White Americans’ being the true ethnic Americans, her own mansion is supposedly built on the land of the Tongva Tribe (a Native American tribe). Billie Eilish has a \$3 million mansion built on ancestral land of the Tongva Tribe. The Tongva Tribe (also known as the Gabrielino) are the Indigenous inhabitants and traditional caretakers of the Los Angeles Basin. Their ancestral territory, known as Tovaangar, spans the greater Los Angeles area, including 4,000 square miles.



Billie Eilish and a man (likely her brother Finneas) on the Grammy Awards stage. Billie is holding a trophy.

Randeep Hooda undergoes major physical transformation for Eetha

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Actor Randeep Hooda has raised the bar for fitness as he shared a mirror selfie showcasing his visibly bulked-up physique for his upcoming film “Eetha” starring Shraddha Kapoor. A source close to the project shared, “Randeep has always been extremely committed to his craft, and physical transformation is something he takes very seriously.”

“If a role demands a certain look or body type, he fully immerses himself into achieving it and with Eetha it’s not different. Right now, he’s focusing on gaining massive strength and bulking up,” added the source.

On January 30, news about Randeep sporting a distinct new look, a thick moustache for his role, did the rounds. According to sources, Randeep’s new look is for his upcoming period biopic drama Eetha, which is currently under production. The film stars Randeep Hooda opposite Shraddha Kapoor and is believed to have been shot across various parts of Maharashtra. Directed by film-

maker Laxman Utekar, Eetha is based on the life of one of India’s earliest Tamsa/Lavni dancers, bringing to the forefront a powerful and culturally rooted story. In other news, Randeep and his wife Lin Laishram are all set to welcome their first bundle of joy. They took to Instagram on November 29 to make the announcement. In a joint post, they wrote: “Two years of love, adventure, and now... a little wild one on the way (Tiger Face, red heart and infinity emojis).” Randeep and Lin first met at veteran star Naseeruddin Shah’s theatre group Motley.



Pakistan skipper Salman Agha says India T20WC game is government’s call

COLOMBO
Wakeup telangana

Pakistan captain Salman Ali Agha on Thursday reiterated that the decision to boycott the high-profile T20 World Cup group match against India was taken by the government and the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB), and was beyond the players’ control. Pakistan officially announced on Sunday that it would not participate in the February 15 group-stage fixture against India, one of the marquee matches of the tournament. However, the Pakistani government has cleared the national team’s participation in the remainder of the T20 World Cup, which begins on February 7 across venues in India and Sri Lanka. Speaking at the captains’ conference ahead of the tournament, Agha said the team would respect and abide by the decisions made by the authorities. “The India game is not in our control. It’s the government’s and the PCB’s decision and we respect that. Whatever they decide, we will follow,” Agha said. The Pakistan skipper added that the same approach

would apply if the two teams were to potentially meet in the knockout stages. “If we face India in the semifinal or final, we will again consult the government and act according to their advice,” he said. Pakistan’s decision to boycott the match has been framed as a political protest following Bangladesh’s removal from the tournament.

The International Cricket Council (ICC) had earlier rejected Bangladesh’s request to shift its matches from India to Sri Lanka, citing security assessments. During the press interaction, Agha was also asked about Pakistan’s shock loss to the United States in the previous edition of the T20 World Cup. “That defeat is in the past. This is a new World Cup, a new team and a new combination,” he said. “It’s my first World Cup as captain, and I’m very excited. My aim is to lead from the front, bring the best out of the players and create an environment where the team can perform at its best.” Pakistan will begin its campaign later this week as it looks to move past past setbacks and focus on the ongoing tournament.



India eye record sixth U19 World Cup title against England

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

India have shown tremendous resolve from the very first group match against the United States. In the semifinal, they decimated a hardened Afghanistan side to maintain a blemish-free record despite chasing a 300-plus target. They now face another unbeaten team in England, who reached this stage after knocking out defending champions Australia. India’s batting prodigy Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, who turns 15 next month, has already struck three half-centuries. A blazing century in the final could be the driving force that propels India to the title. But he will need to be cautious against England’s strong pace battery led by Manny Lumsden, who has been pivotal to their campaign. India’s record in the

nals of the global age-group tournament has been impressive. This marks their 10th appearance in the summit clash. Having beaten England in their only previous final meeting in the 2022 West Indies edition, history is also on their side. The return to form of Mhatre, who broke his half-century drought in the semifinal, has given India plenty to cheer about. Adding more heft is a solid middle order with Vihaan Malhotra contributing fine innings and wicketkeeper-batter Abhigyan Kundera proving his worth with two half-centuries and assured work behind the stumps. India’s pace attack of

Deepesh Devendran, Henil Patel and RS Ambrish has stood up well, but the challenge could be sterner against an England side that thrives on pace. India may therefore lean more on their spin duo of Kanishk Chouhan and Khilan Patel for control, depending on pitch conditions. England will rely heavily on prolific run-getters Ben Mayes, who has scored 399 runs including a highest of 191, and skipper Thomas Rew, who has tallied 299 runs with a century and two unbeaten fifties. Their openers, Ben Dawkins and Joseph Moores, have struggled. On the bowling front,

Lumsden has been incisive with 15 wickets, supported by right-arm quick Sebastian Morgan and left-armer James Minto. England are bidding for their second U19 World Cup title, the first coming in 1998. Teams (from): England: Thomas Rew (c, wk), Ralphie Albert, Ali Farooq, Ben Dawkins, Caleb Falconer, Farhan Ahmed, Alex French, Alex Green, Luke Hands, Isaac Mohammed, Manny Lumsden, Ben Mayes, James Minto, Joseph Moores, Sebastian Morgan. India: Ayush Mhatre (c), Vihaan Malhotra, Aaron George, RS Ambrish, Kanishk Chouhan, Deepesh Devendran, Henil Patel, Khilan Patel, Abhigyan Kundera (wk), Mohamed Enaan, Udhav Mohan, Harvansh Pangalia, Kishan Singh, Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, Vedant Trivedi. Match starts at 1:00 pm.



All Officials in AP Must Understand Cybersecurity: Chief Secretary

Chief Secretary K. Ramakrishna Rao on Thursday said strong policy alignment, administrative readiness, and cross-departmental coordination are crucial to effectively address evolving cyber risks that impact governance, public services, and critical infrastructure. Speaking after inaugurating Shield 2026, a noted initiative by the Telangana Cyber Security Board (TGCSB) to prevent cyber crime, focus on investigation and victim system, the Chief Secretary said cybersecurity must be embedded across all levels of administration to ensure effective and timely responses.

He formally launched key digital initiatives developed by TGCSB, including 1930 Saarthi, an AI-powered multilingual cybercrime reporting and assistance system; Sentinel (Cyber Crime Investigation Tool – CCIT), a rule-based platform for faster and uniform cybercrime investigations; and C-Sight, an AI-enabled system for automated processing and management of digital evidence related to Child Sexual Abuse.

GHMC Plans to 30 Multi-Level Car Parkings in City

The GHMC has proposed to construct 30 automated multi-level car parking facilities across the city, modelled on the parking system at KBR Park. Three locations have been shortlisted so far — Indira Park at Domalguda, Chacha Nehru Park at Masab Tank and Khilwat near Charminar, a GHMC official said. The civic body is identifying feasible sites at tourist locations, shopping complexes and other high-traffic zones. The parking facilities will be developed under the public-private partnership (PPP) model, under which the private agency will operate the facility for 10 to 15 years, collect parking charges and later hand it over to the GHMC.

As part of the model, the GHMC will allow the agency to set up advertising spaces and eateries to ensure the project's economic viability, as the corporation will not fund the construction. Officials said the process of setting up the parking facilities in different parts of the city is currently at a preliminary stage. Parking congestion, particularly near parks and high-footfall areas, has led to vehicles being parked on roads, resulting in penalties imposed by traffic police. The issue of parking space shortages in various wards was also raised by corporators at a recent GHMC Council meeting. Several corporators urged the Mayor and the GHMC Commissioner to provide automated multi-level car parking facilities in their respective wards, to which both responded positively.

Sir C.V. Raman Young Genius Awards 2026 Celebrated in Hyderabad



Suchirindia Foundation announced the winners of the 33rd National and State-Level Science Talent Search Examination and the Sir C.V. Raman Young Genius Awards 2026. The awards ceremony was held at Ravindra Bharathi Auditorium, Hyderabad, in the presence of chief guests Ghanta Srinivas Rao, MLA (TDP), Chintamaneni Prabhakar, MLA (TDP), along with Tollywood actors Srikanth and Shrivaji Raja.

This year's examination witnessed participation from over 50,000 students representing more than 500 schools across the state. The awards honoured 20 Gold Medalists, 20 National Rankers, 20 State Rankers, 450 District Rankers, 10 Chattralaya Puraskar awardees, and 11 Guru Brahma Award recipients. The programme also featured a motivational address by psychiatrist and speaker Sudheer Sandra.

Around 2,000 students, parents, educators, and intellectuals attended the event. Suchirindia Foundation, the CSR arm of Suchirindia Infrotech Private Limited, has been working in the fields of education and social development for over three decades. Instituted in 1994, the Sir C.V. Raman Young Genius Awards continue to promote academic excellence, innovation, and a spirit of achievement among young students.

Hate Speech Law Soon, Minority Rights Will Be Protected: Revanth

Congress Will Defend 4% Minority Quota, Says Revanth Reddy

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Thursday announced that the Telangana government will introduce legislation in the upcoming Budget session of the Legislative Assembly to curb hate speech and impose penalties on those who insult religions or communities. He said the proposed law is aimed at maintaining public order and protecting minority rights.

Addressing a consultative meeting of Jamiat Ulama-e-Hind in Hyderabad, the Chief Minister stressed the need for clear legal checks on hate speech, stating that peace and communal harmony are essential for attracting investments and ensuring sustainable development in the State. He reiterated that the Congress government in Telangana was



formed with the support of minorities and assured that their interests would be safeguarded.

Responding to Union Home Minister Amit Shah's remarks that the BJP would abolish the four per cent Muslim reservation in Telangana if voted to power, Revanth Reddy said the Congress would firmly defend the quota introduced during the tenure of former Chief Minister Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy. He noted that the issue is currently before the Supreme Court and

said the State government would place minority population data collected during the caste census before the court to strengthen its case.

The Chief Minister said the Congress has consistently provided opportunities to minority leaders at both national and state levels and fielded minority candidates wherever possible. He pointed out that minority leaders have been appointed as chairpersons in eight corporations and that efforts were made to accommodate

leaders even after electoral defeats.

Stating that no individual could remain in power indefinitely, Revanth Reddy said the country's progress depends on collective efforts from all sections of society. He added that reservations provided by Congress governments had enabled many from minority communities to secure employment and urged minorities to prioritise education.

Referring to Jamiat Ulama-e-Hind, the Chief Minister recalled its role in the freedom struggle and its continued efforts to promote communal harmony. He also acknowledged the organisation's support during his 2019 Lok Sabha election from Malkajgiri, crediting it as part of his political journey from grassroots activism to Parliament.

Ponguleti Questions BRS Ability To Fulfil Civic Poll Promises

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy on Thursday questioned how candidates of the BRS could fulfil promises made to voters in the municipal elections when the party is not in power in the state. Addressing a roadshow in Ashwaraopet municipality of Bhadrachalam-Kothagudem district, he said the Congress government was in office and that funds for urban development would be sanctioned by the state. He said councillors belonging to the ruling party would be able to pursue the government and ministers to secure funds for town development. He asked people to question Opposition candidates on how they would deliver development or resolve ward-level issues when their party was not ruling the state.

Targeting the previous

BRS government, the minister alleged that it had diluted housing schemes, denying the poor the opportunity to own houses. He said there was no response from the gathering when he asked those who had received double-bedroom houses during the BRS's 10-year rule to raise their hands. He alleged that large funds were pumped into the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme with the intention of earning commissions of thousands of crores for leaders of the then ruling party.

Stating that the Congress government was implementing its poll promises, he said the Indiramma housing scheme had been revived and 4.5 lakh houses sanctioned to eligible poor families in the first phase. He added that in the next three phases, houses would be sanctioned to all eligible families across the state.

Telangana inter practical exams hit by mass copying, 16 examiners

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana Board of Intermediate Education (TGBIE) has taken strict action after instances of mass copying were reported during inter practical exams on Wednesday, February 4.

Following the violations, the Board debarred 16 examiners and laboratory assistants from participating in all future examinations.

According to an official order issued by TGBIE, several examiners were caught distributing answer slips to students. The acts were captured through live CCTV surveillance and Central Control

Room (CCR) monitoring. In some cases, examiners deliberately left examination halls unattended to allow students to use external materials during the practical exams.

The Board also observed serious irregularities in the evaluation process. Some examiners were found awarding marks even before the completion of examinations, while others had their evaluation duties carried out by unauthorised individuals.

Additionally, CCTV cameras at certain examination centres were reported to be offline or blinking at the time mass copying occurred during Telangana inter practical exams.

After terrorising villagers near Hyderabad, tiger moves to Jangaon

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The tiger on the prowl since about 20 days ago in Yadadri-Bhuvanagiri district of Telangana, about 60 kms from Hyderabad, has moved to Jangaon district on Thursday, February 5, prompting officials to issue precautions to villagers there. Jangaon



District Forest Officer Kondal Reddy said the tiger's pugmarks were noticed Thursday morning at a village in Lingala Ghanpur mandal.

The tiger appears to have been born in an area surrounded by villages, and it has been moving into habitations, he told PTI.

He said the district administration is issuing precautions to villagers by tom-tomming, advising them not to venture out during night hours and to take care of their domestic animals.

Before reaching Jangaon district, the big cat has given a nightmare to residents since its presence was observed in Yadadri-Bhuvanagiri district on January 17, believed to be a first near Hyderabad in 50 years.

The Yadadri administration had also issued alerts to residents asking them not to move out during the night.

Hyderabad office market to add 19 msf supply: ICRA

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Hyderabad's office market is entering its next growth phase, backed by steady leasing demand, improving vacancy trends, and consistent rental appreciation, according to ICRA. The city is expected to see about 18–19 million square feet of new Grade-A office supply over the late FY2026–

FY2027 period, with nearly a quarter of the upcoming space already pre-leased—an indicator of sustained occupier confidence despite global economic uncertainties. Leasing activity has remained resilient across India through 9M FY2026, and Hyderabad has been among the stronger performers. During the period, the city added 8.4 msf of fresh Grade-A space,

while net absorption stood slightly higher at 8.5 msf, largely driven by continued demand from IT-BPM and BFSI occupiers. As a result, vacancy levels have eased to around 17 per cent as of December 2025, improving from the highs seen a year earlier. ICRA expects market fundamentals to remain stable even as new supply enters. Occu-

pancy levels are projected to hold in the range of 82.5–83 per cent by March 2027, supported by ongoing leasing momentum and a diversified occupier base. Hyderabad's share in India's Grade-A office landscape has also expanded steadily. As of December 2025, the city accounted for roughly 16 per cent of total stock across the top six markets, with Hitec City/Madha-

pur, Gachibowli, and the Financial District continuing to anchor supply and demand dynamics. Limited upcoming supply in Hitec City is likely to keep vacancies contained there, while the other major micro-markets are expected to maintain balanced occupancy trends. Rental growth has remained gradual but consistent. Average rents across key micro-mar-

kets have risen at a 3–4 per cent compound annual pace over the past five years, and a similar year-on-year increase is anticipated through FY2026 and FY2027. Over the longer term, Hyderabad's office stock has grown significantly faster than most peer markets, supported by developer activity and favourable planning policies that have enabled large-scale expansion.

HYDRAA Clears Septic Tank Encroachments, Fences Four Acres of Govt Land in Hyderabad

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

HYDRAA said it had removed encroachments around septic tanks and secured nearly four acres of government land in Shilpa Brundavan Colony, near Alvin Colony Circle in the Kukatpally zone on Thursday. It said encroachers had occupied open spaces earmarked around septic tanks — areas originally meant for planting greenery to reduce odour — by converting them into private plots. Following the introduction of underground drainage systems, such vacant parcels are typically reserved for parks or public use. According to HYDRAA, residents complained that one Y.V. Rao had encroached upon the septic tank area and the adjacent open land. They alleged that in collusion with Shilpa Developers,



unauthorised plots were laid out on adjoining government land under the pretext of private ownership, with roads demarcated and even existing layout boundaries altered. Acting on the complaint, HYDRAA, revenue and GHMC teams conducted a field inspection on the directions of HYDRAA commissioner A.V. Ranganath. The inspection confirmed encroachments spanning about 20 guntas around the septic tank area. On Thursday, HYDRAA erected fencing around the unauthorised layout to prevent further illegal activity.

Advocate Qurram Ali Demands Immediate Implementation of Advocate Protection Act

Telangana Lawyers Protest Over Female Advocate Murder, Demand Immediate Implementation of Advocate Protection Act

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Lawyers across Telangana staged statewide protests on Wednesday, condemning the brutal murder of a woman advocate and alleging lapses in handling the case. They demanded strict action against the accused and the immediate implementation of the Advocate Protection Act to ensure the safety of lawyers and their families.

The protesters said advocates are working without adequate security and expressed concern that, despite repeated incidents, no specific law exists to protect members of the legal profession. Speaking to the media, Advocate Mir Qurram Ali, President of the Society for Civil Legal Aids, urged the state government to respond immedi-



ately to the growing safety concerns of advocates.

“Who is responsible for the lives and safety of advocates and their families?” he asked.

“Doctors, police personnel, government employees, and RTC drivers have protection laws. Why are advocates, who are considered the fourth pillar of democracy, denied similar legal protection?” he questioned.

He demanded that Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy introduce and pass

the Advocate Protection Act Bill in the Telangana Legislative Assembly without delay.

The protests were sparked by the murder of Swapna (34), a practising advocate at the Chevella court. She was brutally killed within the limits of the Moinabad Police Station in Kethireddypally village. According to police, Swapna went to her agricultural land on Wednesday morning to discuss a property dispute. While returning, she was allegedly attacked with an axe

Advocate Mir Qurram Ali by her brother Raju and others, leading to her death on the spot.

Lawyers demanded a fair, transparent investigation into Swapna's murder and severe punishment for all those responsible. They stressed that the implementation of the Advocate Protection Act is essential to prevent such incidents in the future. The protesting advocates warned that if the government fails to respond, they will intensify their agitation across the state.

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