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**WEATHER**

MAX: 37.0°C  
MIN: 19.2°C  
RH: 23%  
RAINFALL: 0MM  
FORECAST: MAINLY CLEAR SKY  
MAX/MIN temp. 37/19°C

### Brief Insights

#### Hardcore Maoist Killed In Sukma Encounter

A hardcore Maoist, carrying a bounty of Rs five lakh, was on Sunday gunned down in an encounter with the security forces in the jungle of Sukma district under south Bastar in Chhattisgarh. The encounter killing of Muchaki Kailash, identified as section commander of platoon number 31 of

► FULL REPORT ON | PAGE 4

#### Raut Seeks Probe Of Top Leaders In Kharat Case

Senior Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut on Sunday demanded that senior leaders in Maharashtra like Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, NCP state chief Sunil Tatkare and former cabinet minister Deepak Kesarkar should also be questioned in the rape-accused godman Ashok Kharat case. "Kharat is a government man as many prominent leaders in the state were in contact with Ashok Kharat. He has 40 MLAs behind him. Had the government not been shielding Kharat, it would have released the list of

► FULL REPORT ON | PAGE 4

#### Mamata Accuses Shah of Character Assassination

**KOLKATA**  
Wakeup telangana

A day after union home minister Amit Shah accused West Bengal chief minister Mamata Banerjee of playing "victim card politics" before elections to gain sympathy to get votes, the Trinamul Congress supremo came down heavily on him for her "character assassination" in a fierce retaliation. Ms Banerjee, who campaigned for her party candidate Sandhya Rani Tudu at Manbazar in Purulia on Sunday, not only blamed



**Govt jobs for sportspersons under new policy, says Revanth: P8**

**'No Kings' Protests Erupt Across US, Europe Against Trump: P4**

**Harish Rao Dares Revanth, Says Govt Hiding Wrongdoing: P3**



## NDA Will Form Next Govt In Kerala: Modi

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday claimed that the public sentiment in Kerala is "sending a message of change" and that the NDA will form the next government in the state. Leading the BJP charge in the election-bound state ahead of the April 9 polling, Modi pointed at the "tacit understanding" between the Left-led LDF alliance and the Congress-led UDF alliance, accusing them of taking turns to "rule and loot" Kerala. Addressing a massive election rally in Palakkad, Modi spoke about the ongoing war in West Asia and said his government



is working to ensure the crisis in the region has minimal impact on India. He also noted that many people from Kerala are working in conflict-hit regions and stressed that their safety remains a top priority. Accusing the Congress of making "dangerous" remarks that

could risk Indian lives for "political gains", Modi said, "You must also remember the kind of statements the party is making on this sensitive issue -- they are dangerous. The Congress wants the lives of nearly one crore Indians living in Gulf countries to be put at risk so

that it can gain political advantage from it." On the West Asia conflict, Modi said, "Since the outbreak of the conflict, I have been in constant touch with world leaders. The safety of Indians in affected regions is our top priority, with our embassies working round the clock to ensure their well-being. For the BJP-NDA government, the security of every Indian is paramount. However, the kind of statements being made by the Congress on this sensitive issue are dangerous, as they risk the safety of nearly one crore Indians in Gulf countries for political gain."

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## 24 BRS MLAs Suspended From House For 2 Days

Legislative Affairs Minister D. Sridhar Babu moved resolution, accusing BRS members of obstructing smooth conduct of House proceedings

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

High drama unfolded in the Assembly on Sunday as Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar suspended 24 BRS MLAs for two days, until the end of Budget Session, for disrupting proceedings and referred the conduct of BRS Huzarabad MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy to the ethics committee. The suspension of



BRS MLAs, including senior leaders K.T. Rama Rao and T. Harish Rao, came after party members stalled the House for nearly three hours by raising slogans and trooping into the Well. They de-

manded the dismissal of revenue minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy over alleged illegal mining activities linked to Raghava Constructions reportedly associated with his family, and sought the constitution of a House committee to probe the issue. Despite repeated appeals by the Speaker to return to their seats, the BRS members remained defi-

ant. Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy intervened and urge strict action to ensure the smooth conduct of business, particularly with key Bills pending on the last two days of the session. Simultaneously, tensions escalated between Congress and BRS members over the alleged behaviour of Kaushik Reddy towards BRS 'rebel' MLA Kadi-

► CONTINUE ON | PAGE 4

## CM Revanth Reddy Rejects House Probe, Backs CID Inquiry Ready for CBI Probe into Mining: Revanth Reddy

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

A. Revanth Reddy on Sunday announced in the Legislative Assembly that the Telangana government is ready to hand over the alleged illegal mining case to the CBI if the Opposition expresses lack of confidence in the ongoing CID investigation. He asserted that the CID probe, already underway, is comprehensive and covers all mining irregularities from the BRS regime beginning 2014 to the present. Rejecting the Opposition's demand for a House committee, the Chief Minister said such panels are less effective and accused the previous BRS government of misusing them for political purposes. He alleged that three House committees formed earlier yielded no results and were instead used to pressure legislators and engineer defections. Targeting BRS leadership, Revanth Reddy levelled serious allega-



tions against associates of T. Harish Rao, claiming his relatives were involved in land grabbing and threats to industrialists in Balanagar, Mahbubnagar district using the Dharani portal. He said the government is open to forming a House committee specifically to probe these land encroachment allegations if BRS leaders agree. The Chief Minister made it clear that no one would be spared in the mining probe, including Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy or even members of his own family. However, he ruled out the Minister's resignation, stressing that due process would be followed. He also noted that pending mining dues

from Raghava Constructions were successfully recovered in 2025. Revanth Reddy urged BRS leaders, including K. T. Rama Rao, to submit evidence to the CID instead of demanding parallel probes. He reiterated that the government would not form committees for political gain. In a sharp political attack, he accused former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao of being anti-Dalit, alleging he avoided Assembly sessions to escape facing a Dalit Speaker and failed to fulfill his promise of appointing a Dalit Chief Minister. He contrasted this with the current Congress government's representation, highlighting the appointment of Dalit leaders like Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka. The Chief Minister concluded by affirming the government's commitment to a transparent investigation and strict action against all those found guilty in illegal mining activities.

## Indian Navy's Urja Suraksha to Ensure Safety of Indian Ships in Strait of Hormuz

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana



The Indian Navy is coordinating with forces in the Persian Gulf to ensure safe passage of Indian-flagged vessels through the Strait of Hormuz amid ongoing tensions in West Asia. Under Operation "Urja Suraksha" (Energy Security), the Navy has deployed four to five warships in the region to escort Indian merchant

vessels, particularly those carrying critical energy supplies, as they transit the Strait of Hormuz. According to government sources, naval units guide Indian-flagged ships on navigation through the strait and coordinate with other forces in the region

to prevent them from being targeted. The sources did not specify the forces involved. Indian naval warships are currently operating in and around the Gulf of Oman. Officials indicated that India is unlikely to join any US-led naval coalition aimed at securing the Strait of Hormuz. At present, 18 Indian-flagged vessels with 485 Indian seafarers are in the western Persian Gulf re-

gion. Officials noted that similar deployments have been undertaken earlier. The Navy had launched Operation Sankalp in June 2019 in the Arabian Gulf and Gulf of Oman to ensure safe passage of Indian merchant vessels. Indian Navy Armed Security Teams were also deployed onboard ships on request. The Navy continues to carry out anti-piracy operations in the Indian Ocean region.

## Over 70 Protected Monuments Vanish in Telangana

Over 70 State-Protected Monuments Missing in Telangana Due to Urbanisation, Neglect, Poor Monitoring and Severe Heritage Conservation Funding Shortfall Crisis

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

More than 70 state-protected monuments in Telangana have reportedly disappeared on the ground despite continuing to exist in official records, raising serious concerns over heritage conservation in the state. Activists who conducted extensive field visits as part of documentation efforts revealed that several historically significant sites — particularly

prehistoric and megalithic locations — have been destroyed due to rapid urbanisation, infrastructure expansion and agricultural activities. Telangana has a total of 346 state-protected monuments under the Department of Heritage, encompassing a wide range of sites from prehistoric burial grounds and megalithic structures to Buddhist, Jain, Hindu and Islamic religious places, forts and colonial-era con-

Telangana is home to 346 state-protected monuments, ranging from prehistoric burial sites to colonial-era structures, including megalithic burials, Buddhist, Jain, Hindu and Islamic religious sites, forts and British-period monuments. All are under the department of heritage.

structions. However, activists found that many of these protected sites have either been completely erased or severely damaged, with no trace of their original existence in some locations. Key examples of van-

ished sites include megalithic burials at Bizigiri and Jammikunta in Karimnagar district, Vastapur and Raikal in Jagtial district, and several locations in Khammam district such as Madhira, where prehistoric flakes, cores and stone implements once existed dating back to the 10th century BCE. In Bhadradi Kothagudem, sites like Waira, Mallaram and Palvancha have also reportedly lost their historical features. Similarly,

multiple cairn and stone circle sites across districts like Mahbubnagar, Nagarkurnool, Rangareddy and Medchal-Malkajgiri have either been destroyed or encroached upon. Activists highlighted the Kondaparthi cairns site in Hanamkonda district, where only two or three stone circles remain visible after most were removed for agricultural use, with paddy cultivation now occupying the protected land. They

stressed that such incidents reflect a systemic failure in monitoring and preserving heritage assets. At the same time, several important yet under-protected sites — including Pandavula Gutta rock art, Trikuta temple in Mutharam, Nainapaka temple, Adavisomanapally caves and Mylaram caves — continue to await proper conservation measures and official recognition. In response, heritage de-

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ESTD - 1960

### ASTORIA HOTEL

Hyderabad Laziz Biryani

ek baar khaoge baar baar aage

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

## Telangana Passes Law Mandating Support for Elderly Parents

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy announced that the Telangana Legislative Assembly has unanimously passed the Telangana Employees Accountability and Monitoring of Parental Support Bill, 2026, a significant step aimed at ensuring protection and dignity for elderly parents facing neglect. The Bill mandates financial accountability for children, including government employees, private sector workers, and public representatives, who fail to support their aging parents. Under the provisions of the new law, up to 15% of an individual's salary or ₹10,000—whichever is lower—will be deducted and directly



credited to the parents' bank accounts if neglect is established. The Chief Minister described the legislation as a necessary intervention at a time when traditional family support systems are weakening and cases of elderly neglect are on the rise.

Addressing the Assembly in an emotional speech, Revanth Reddy said that while caring for parents is a moral and cultural obli-

gation, the government was compelled to legislate due to changing social dynamics. He noted that the law strengthens and goes beyond the existing Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007, which already places responsibility on children but has not fully addressed the issue in practice.

To emphasize the importance of filial duty, the

Chief Minister invoked the example of Shraavan Kumar, symbolizing devotion and sacrifice toward parents. In stark contrast, he cited the case of Vijaypat Singhania, who reportedly faced hardship after transferring his assets to his son and had to seek legal recourse even for personal expenses, as detailed in his autobiography. Revanth Reddy expressed concern over the erosion of family values, stating that many individuals prioritize financial gains and personal comfort over human relationships and responsibilities.

He observed that while children often fight over property after their parents' death, they fail to care for them when they are alive. Quoting a film line, he remarked that

while parents can give birth to children, they cannot shape their mindset, highlighting the emotional disconnect in modern families. The Chief Minister asserted that the new legislation aims to instill accountability and act as a deterrent against neglect. He said it would provide elderly parents with confidence that they would not be left helpless or abandoned. The government, he added, is committed to ensuring that no parent becomes "orphaned" in their final years. Revanth Reddy called upon society to rediscover compassion and uphold the values of respect and care for elders, stressing that the law is not just punitive but also a moral reminder of familial responsibility.

## Side Drain Works Launched in Antargam Village Under CRR Funds

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

In a significant step toward improving rural infrastructure, side drain construction works have been officially launched in Antargam Village with financial support from CRR funds. The project commenced with excavation activities carried out using heavy machinery, marking the beginning of a long-awaited development initiative.

As the work progressed along internal roads between residential areas,



villagers gathered at the site, showing keen interest and closely observing the ongoing operations. Residents expressed optimism that the new drainage system will effectively address persistent

wastewater and sanitation issues, especially during the rainy season.

For years, stagnant water along roadside stretches has been a major concern, affecting both hygiene and daily life. Local sources indicated that the construction is being carried out at a brisk pace, with a focus on timely completion and quality standards. Once completed, the side drains are expected to significantly enhance living conditions and contribute to a cleaner, healthier village environment.

## Employability Skills Awareness for BRAOU Students Held

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

In an era defined by intense competition and rapidly evolving industry demands, an awareness programme on employability skills and career-oriented courses was organised under the aegis of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Open University for first- and second-year degree students. The event was held on Sunday (29th) at the 036 Patancheru Degree College Study Centre. The primary objective of the programme was to sensitise students to the dynamic requirements of the contemporary job market and to equip them with a clear under-



standing of the competencies essential for securing sustainable employment. Experts emphasised that academic qualifications alone are no longer sufficient, and that a robust skill set has become indispensable in today's corporate landscape.

## Devander Emerges as Top Corporator Choice in Bansilalpet

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Koushika Devander is rapidly emerging as a leading contender for the corporator seat in Bansilalpet division, with strong backing from residents who recognize his commitment to public service and healthcare support. His growing popularity reflects a shift among voters seeking a dependable and grass-roots-connected leader. Hailing from Jayanagar Colony in New Boiguda, Secunderabad, De-



vander's journey is rooted in hard work and determination. With an Intermediate qualification and a Diploma in Medical Lab Technology, he established the Talent

Medical Diagnostic Centre, which has become a vital support system for many families in the area. His efforts in providing accessible and affordable medical services, especially during emergencies, have earned him widespread trust.

During the Telangana Movement, Devander actively participated as a youth leader, mobilizing support and building strong connections with the community. He currently serves as General Secretary in the Sanat

Nagar constituency under BRS, strengthening his political profile and organizational reach.

Residents of Bansilalpet view Devander as a leader who understands their needs, particularly in healthcare and basic civic infrastructure. His track record of service, combined with youthful energy and local roots, positions him as a strong candidate capable of delivering meaningful change and addressing long-standing issues in the division.

## SC Fund Cuts Trigger Strong Protest in Telangana

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Mala Welfare Association strongly criticized the Telangana government for allegedly neglecting Scheduled Castes (SCs) by reducing allocations to the SC Special Development Fund in the 2026-27 budget and failing to hold discussions in the Assembly. Addressing a press meet at Basheerbagh Press Club, State President Battula Ram Prasad questioned the reduction of SC fund allocation from 23.04% (₹40,231.62 crore) in



2025-26 to around 20.47% (₹37,741.70 crore) in 2026-27, despite an overall budget increase.

He further alleged that even previously allocated funds were not utilized effectively, claiming that a significant portion of last

year's budget remained unspent. The association also accused the government of failing to provide self-employment loans through the SC Corporation, leaving unemployed SC youth disadvantaged. The leaders expressed concern over the non-im-

plementation of key legislations, including the SC/ST Special Development Fund Act, 2017, and the SC/ST Prevention of Atrocities (Amendment) Act, 2015. They pointed out that mandated committees under these laws have either not been formed or have not convened meetings.

Demanding accountability, the association urged the Chief Minister to convene a special Assembly session to discuss SC/ST fund utilization and legal implementation, warning of future protests if ignored.

## Grand Preparations Begin for Gangamma Thalli Jathara in Hasnabad

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Hasnabad village in Raikode mandal of Sangareddy district is witnessing a vibrant and festive atmosphere as preparations are in full swing for the upcoming Gangamma Thalli Jathara. The annual celebration, deeply rooted in tradition and devotion, is observed with great enthusiasm and participation by the local community. This year, members of the Mudiraj community have taken special initiative to organize the festival on a grand scale. Extensive arrangements are being made to ensure the event



is conducted in a more magnificent and well-coordinated manner than ever before. To ensure large participation, organizers have launched widespread publicity campaigns through posters and pamphlets, inviting not only villagers but also people from surrounding areas, public

representatives, local leaders, and devotees. As part of the invitation drive, community members are personally visiting nearby villages to extend invitations. In this effort, they recently met Srivas Reddy, husband of the Sarpanch of Karchal village, and cordially invited him and his family to attend the festival and offer their blessings. The organizers have announced that the Jathara will feature special puja rituals, traditional cultural programs, and vibrant processions. They also assured that all necessary facilities will be arranged for the convenience of devotees attending the event.

## Ambedkar Mission Marks 160th Gnana Mala



The Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Mission Executive Committee, Lothkunta "X" Road, celebrated the 160th week Gnana Mala programme with grandeur, highlighting social awareness and empowerment. Chief Guest K.A. Laxmi, Vice President of the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar National SC/ST Federation, stressed women's empowerment through education and self-respect, urging them to raise their voices, maintain cleanliness, educate children, and engage in social and political movements. Senior Ambedkarite Suvarna praised B. R. Ambedkar for shaping constitutional rights and empowering marginalized communities. The committee announced plans to submit a memorandum to the Secunderabad Cantonment Board on March 31 seeking repairs of Ambedkar statues ahead of Jayanti. Leaders reiterated commitment to uplift downtrodden communities and continue Ambedkar's legacy.

## Grand Procession Celebrated with Devotion at Sri Vighneshwara Sai Dham Global Experts Gather at ICCET 2026

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The grand procession of Lord Vighneshwara was held with great devotion and enthusiasm on Sunday evening following the Kalyanam ceremony at Sri Vighneshwara Sai Dham in Uppuguda.

The procession moved through Chatrinaka, Gowlipura, and Lalithabagh before returning to the temple, drawing large crowds of devotees. The event featured devotional chants, traditional music, and vibrant celebrations, continu-

ing the temple's cherished annual tradition.

The program was successfully organized under the leadership of Chairman Middela Chandrasekhar Reddy, Vice Chairman Muniganti Sunil Kumar Chari, Treasurer Gundu Srikanth, and Secretary Kampe Mallesh, along with the active participation of all committee members.

The celebration concluded on a spiritually uplifting note, fostering a strong sense of devotion, unity, and community spirit among all attendees.



## Groundbreaking Ceremony Held for Rural Infrastructure Works in Gangojipet

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

In a significant boost to rural infrastructure, development works were formally inaugurated in Gangojipet village of Choutkur mandal, Sangareddy district, with a ceremonial foundation-laying event held under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGA). The initiative follows the sanctioning of Rs 10 lakh by State Minister for Medical, Health and Family Welfare, and Science and Technology, C. Damodar Raja Nar-



simha, aimed at advancing the village's infrastructural landscape. The allocated funds will be utilized for the construction of cement concrete (CC) roads, marking a key step towards improved civic amenities.

The ceremony was attended by a host of local leaders and dignitaries, including Choutkur Con-

gress Party Mandal President Natti Dasharath, ATMA Committee Chairman Mallareddy, Village Sarpanch Sunitha Ashok, former Sarpanch and Village Congress President Bala Goud, Youth President Shraavan, along with the Deputy Sarpanch, ward members, party workers, and respected village elders. Addressing the gathering, leaders underscored the transformative impact of the sanctioned works, noting that the upgraded road infrastructure would significantly enhance mobility and daily convenience for residents.

## Global Experts Gather at ICCET 2026

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The International Conference on Cognitive Informatics Engineering and Technology (ICCET 2026) concluded successfully on March 28 and 29, 2026, after two days of intensive academic engagement. Held in a hybrid format, the conference brought together academicians, researchers, and industry experts from across the globe to discuss advancements in cognitive informatics, engineering, and emerging technologies. Organized by Vidya



Vikas College of Engineering and Technology (Autonomous), Tiruchengode, in collaboration with OSJET, Chennai, and Samarkand State University, Uzbekistan, the event served as a key platform for international research collaboration and knowledge exchange.

The conference featured keynote addresses by Dr. Anteneh Mesfin Yeneneh of Curtin University, Dr. S. Vijaya Kumar of IEEE COMSOC Hyderabad Chapter, and Dr. R. Deeptha of SRM University. Their talks highlighted emerging trends and future directions in technol-

ogy and innovation. More than 100 research papers were presented, showcasing innovative ideas and solutions to current engineering challenges.

Technical sessions were led by eminent academicians, including Dr. G. N. R. Prasad from CBIT, Hyderabad. The conference was guided by Dr. K. Pooranapriya, Principal of VVCET, and Dr. P. Aravinthan, Vice Chairman of OSJET, whose leadership ensured its success. ICCET 2026 fostered global collaboration and academic excellence.

**Nirmal SP Wins Skoch Award For Police Akka**

Nirmal district SP G. Janaki Sharmila received the Skoch Award in New Delhi on Saturday for the Police Akka programme. She said the scheme's success lay in students overcoming fear and speaking openly about their problems. The initiative aims to support girl students who hesitate to approach police. As part of it, women officers stay overnight in KGBV schools, listening to students' concerns and counselling them on good touch, bad touch, the Pcoso Act and child marriage. More than 7,000 students and women are said to have benefited. Police also conduct village patrols and respond promptly to Dial 100 calls, providing speedy justice. DGP B. Shivadhar Reddy praised the programme, calling it a community policing model that has won nationwide appreciation. "Police Akka stands as an assurance to address complaints of harassment, domestic violence and cyber crimes faced by women and girls," he said.

**Harish Rao Dares Revanth, Says Govt Hiding Wrongdoing**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

BRS deputy leader T Harish Rao on Sunday launched a sharp attack on the ruling Congress, accusing the government of admitting irregularities in Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy's company and attempting to cover them up. Speaking at Telangana Bhavan, he demanded the minister's immediate resignation and called for a House Committee probe, dismissing the government's CB-CID inquiry as a "cover-up." Harish Rao challenged Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy to agree to a judicial or House Committee probe into allegations against both their families. "I am ready for any probe. Is the Chief Minister ready?" he asked, pointing to Revanth Reddy's own references to notices issued to Raghava Constructions that exposed irregularities in the Assembly. He accused the government of piling lies to shield the minister, citing contradictory statements on permitting diesel generators due to electricity meter issues while simultaneously imposing fines for illegal mining. "How could the government permit diesel generators for illegal mining? If it



cluding the Kodangal Lift Irrigation Scheme and the Musi riverfront development, and alleged land-related irregularities through the Bhu Bharati portal. Warning of sustained agitation, Harish Rao said the BRS would continue pressing for a credible and independent investigation. He also criticized the government for referring allegations against BRS MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy to the Ethics Committee, calling it a conspiracy to silence opposition voices. "Instead of answering on illegal mining, they indulge in character assassination," he said, stressing that public resources must be protected and exposing the government's attempts to hide wrongdoing.

**Hyderabad Congress chief condemns US-Israel strikes on Iran, questions Centre's silence**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Hyderabad District Congress Committee (DCC) President Syed Khalid Saifullah on Sunday joined an all-party protest at Charminar, condemning the recent military strikes by the United States and Israel on Iran and questioning the response of the Central government led by Narendra Modi. The protest witnessed participation from various political parties and civil society groups. Hundreds gathered at Charminar before taking out a rally through key areas of the Old City, which concluded at the Exhibition Grounds in Nampally. A public meeting was held there, where several leaders addressed the crowd. Speaking at the gathering, Saifullah strongly criticised the US-Israel strikes, alleging that they resulted in heavy civilian casualties, including the deaths of more than 100 schoolchildren. He termed the situation a serious escalation that could threaten global peace and stability. He also accused the Central government of maintaining silence on civilian deaths while reacting selectively to Iran's response, calling it an inconsistent foreign policy stance. Emphasising India's



global ambitions, he said a nation aspiring to be a "Vishwa Guru" must take a principled and independent stand on international issues. Saifullah highlighted concerns about Indian expatriates in the Gulf region, stating that instability could impact over one crore Indians living there. He stressed the need to prioritise their safety and interests. The protest concluded with demands for peace, accountability, and a clearer stand by India against violence and injustice.

**Kavitha's fiery stand at dharna chowk**

**End Outsourcing Injustice or face mass uprising**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Jagruthi President Kalvakuntla Kavitha delivered a hard-hitting and emotionally charged speech in support of the Telangana State Outsourcing Employees' Joint Action Committee, turning the ongoing protest into a powerful political moment. In a rare and candid admission, Kavitha publicly accepted her share of responsibility for the injustice faced by outsourcing employees during the previous government, stating that despite being in power, she could not ensure the changes workers had hoped for, and sought forgiveness from them. Taking a strong stand against the present government led by Revanth Reddy, she accused it of completely ignoring the plight of nearly five lakh outsourcing employees while continuing to protect private agencies that benefit from the system. She criticized the government for failing to act even when solutions exist that would not impose any financial burden, alleging that the administration is deliberately neglecting workers' welfare. Kavitha emphasized that the outsourcing system is only benefiting a limited number of agencies, while lakhs of employees continue to struggle without job security, fair wages, or basic rights. Issuing a stern warning, she gave the government a 48-hour deadline to address the issue by forming an Outsourcing Employees Corporation and ensuring job security through immediate policy decisions. She cautioned that failure to act would lead to intensified protests and larger



mobilization across the state. Calling for unity and strength, Kavitha urged outsourcing employees to organize a massive march in Hyderabad, asserting that if five lakh workers take to the streets, the government would be compelled to respond instantly. She described the movement as a reflection of the Telangana spirit, where people fight relentlessly until justice is achieved. Highlighting the struggles of women employees, Kavitha pointed out the lack of maternity benefits and the continued exploitation despite their qualifications and contributions, calling the situation deeply unjust. She also expressed disappointment over the silence of prominent intellectuals such as M Kodandaram and Haragopal, stating that their voice is crucial at a time when lakhs of workers are demanding justice. In a significant political signal, Kavitha announced that Telangana Jagruthi is preparing to enter active politics, promising a complete overhaul of the employment system.

**Student donates ₹50,000 to adopt Honey Badger at Nehru Zoological Park**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

A notable act of wildlife conservation support was witnessed at Nehru Zoological Park, where a second-year MBBS student donated ₹50,000 towards the adoption and maintenance of a Honey Badger for six months. J. Rehan Prakash, a student of Gandhi Medical College, marked his 20th birthday by contributing to animal welfare. He visited the zoo along with his parents and friends and handed over the cheque to



Zoo Parks Director Dr. Sunil S. Hiremath (IFS). The contribution will cover feeding and upkeep costs of the animal. Speaking on the occasion, Rehan Prakash said his inspiration to support



wildlife conservation came from his father, a forest officer. He highlighted the challenges involved in maintaining wild animals in conservation centres and zoos, and expressed gratitude to the zoo authorities for providing him an opportunity to contribute towards the care of a Honey Badger. Dr. Sunil S. Hiremath appreciated the gesture, noting that this marks the first instance of a Honey Badger being adopted at the zoo. He acknowledged the efforts of the student and his friends in supporting wildlife conservation.

The Honey Badger, also known as the Ratel, is a nocturnal carnivorous mammal found across India, Africa, and parts of Southwest Asia. At the zoo, it is housed in the nocturnal animal section and is part of the public display aimed at raising awareness about lesser-known species. Zoo officials reiterated that such initiatives play a crucial role in promoting conservation awareness and encouraging public participation in wildlife welfare programs.

**Hyderabad Ophthalmologist Dr. Arjun Srirampur Gains Recognition for Ethical, Patient-First Care**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

At a time when healthcare costs and corporate-driven treatments are under scrutiny, ophthalmologist Dr. Arjun Srirampur is emerging as a notable example of ethical and patient-focused medical practice. Currently serving at Shree Meenakshi Eye Hospital, he specializes in cornea, cataract, and refractive surgeries. Dr. Srirampur recently drew attention after correctly diagnosing a senior journalist, who had previously been advised to



undergo costly cataract surgery. Instead, he identified a different issue and treated it with a minimally invasive retinal injection, restoring the patient's vision at a fraction of the projected cost. An alumnus of Osmania Medical College and Ka-

tiya Medical College, with advanced training from L V Prasad Eye Institute, Dr. Srirampur has also earned international recognition, including awards from the American Academy of Ophthalmology. With over 50 research publications and global patient success stories, including restoring vision to an international patient, Dr. Srirampur continues to advocate for accurate diagnosis and avoiding unnecessary procedures—reinforcing trust in modern medicine through ethical care.

**Tiger Shotokan Karate Tournament Brochure Unveiled in Hyderabad**



**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Tiger Shotokan Karate Academy Tournament brochure was inaugurated by senior masters on March 29, 2026, in Hyderabad at ZB Sports Academy. The event marked the official launch of

the tournament and saw participation from students, trainers, and enthusiasts. Senior masters emphasized discipline, self-defense, and dedication in karate, while appreciating the academy's efforts in promoting martial arts and encouraging young talent to compete.

**Shriya Saran opens SKT Gold store in Jubilee Hills**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Actress Shriya Saran inaugurated the fourth flagship store of SKT Gold & Diamonds at Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad, marking a significant expansion for the premium jewellery brand. The newly launched showroom, located beside Peddamma Thalli Temple, aims to offer a luxurious and refined shopping experience to customers in one of the city's most upscale localities. The grand launch witnessed an enthusiastic response, with the brand



showcasing its exquisite range of gold and diamond jewellery collections. Designed to reflect elegance and superior craftsmanship, the store promises to cater to evolving customer preferences with a blend of tradition and modern aesthetics. On the occasion, actress Shriya Saran expressed her happiness at being part of the launch, stating

that jewellery is more than an accessory—it carries emotional value and personal significance. She appreciated the intricate designs and quality standards upheld by the brand. Directors Dosapati Karthik, Polisetti Prasad, Kalki, and Gandhe Akarsh shared that their vision is to make SKT Gold & Diamonds a trusted household name. They emphasized their commitment to purity, trust, and beauty, while ensuring customers have access to a wide variety of premium collections along with attractive inaugural offers.

**Actress Lavanya Tripathi Launches Sri Venkataramana Jewellery Store**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Renowned actress Lavanya Tripathi inaugurated the flagship store of Sri Venkataramana Gold and Diamonds at RP Road, Secunderabad, marking a grand entry of the premium jewellery brand into the city's retail landscape. The new showroom showcases an extensive range of gold, diamond, silver, and bridal jewellery, blending traditional craftsmanship with contemporary designs. The brand aims to offer customers a personalized shopping experience



rooted in heritage, quality, and innovation. Director Manish stated that the brand focuses on making customers feel at home while delivering exceptional designs inspired by cultural richness. He expressed confidence in serving Hyderabad, known as the City of

Pearls, with dedication and passion. To mark the launch, the brand announced multiple inaugural offers valid from March 29 to April 5, 2026. Customers can avail discounts on gold jewellery, including flat VA rates, along with free gold coins on bulk purchases.

Attractive diamond pricing, silver purchase benefits, and bridal offers such as honeymoon packages to Goa and Dubai add to the appeal. Additionally, shoppers purchasing above specified amounts can receive gifts like televisions, air conditioners, iPhones, and scooters, along with participation in a lucky draw featuring exciting household prizes. Sri Venkataramana Gold and Diamonds aims to redefine jewellery shopping with exclusive designs and customer-centric service in Secunderabad.

# 'No Kings' Protests Erupt Across US, Europe Against Trump

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Large crowds protested Saturday against the war in Iran and President Donald Trump's actions in "No Kings" rallies across the U.S. and in Europe. Minnesota took center stage, with thousands of people standing shoulder-to-shoulder to celebrate resistance to Trump's aggressive immigration enforcement. Minnesota's flagship event on the Capitol lawn in St. Paul drew Bruce Springsteen as its headliner. He and other speakers praised the state's people for taking to the streets over the winter in opposition to a surge of U.S. Customs and Immigration Enforcement agents. Springsteen performed



Streets of Minneapolis, "the song he wrote in response to the fatal shootings of Renee Good and Alex Pretti by federal agents. Springsteen lamented Good and Pretti's deaths but said the state's pushback against ICE has given the rest of the country hope. "Your strength and your commitment told

us that this was still America," he said. "And this reactionary nightmare, and these invasions of American cities, will not stand." People rallied from New York City, with almost 8.5 million residents in a solidly blue state, to Driggs, a town of fewer than 2,000 people in eastern

Idaho, a state Trump carried with 66% of the vote in 2024. Big, but mostly peaceful, crowds U.S. organizers have estimated that the first two rounds of No Kings rallies drew more than 5 million people in June and 7 million in October. This week they told reporters they expected 9 million participants Saturday, though it was too early to tell whether those expectations were met. Organizers said more than 3,100 events — 500 more than in October — were registered, in all 50 states. Protests were mostly peaceful, but federal authorities deployed tear gas "due to demonstrators throwing large concrete blocks, bottles and other objects" near a federal detention center in

downtown Los Angeles, police said on the social platform X. LAPD also said protesters were later arrested for failing to disperse. Earlier in Topeka, Kansas, a rally outside the Statehouse had people impersonating a frog king and Trump as a baby. Wendy Wyatt drove with "Cats Against Trump" sign from Lawrence, 20 miles (32 kilometers) to the east, and planned to drive back to her hometown for a later rally there. Wyatt said "there are so many things" about the Trump administration that upset her, but "this is very hopeful to me." GOP officials dismissive of protests White House spokesperson Abigail Jackson characterized them as the product.

# Merger Buzz Back In NCP

**MUMBAI**  
Wakeup telangana

Merger talks within the Nationalist Congress Party (NCP) have resurfaced two months after the death of Ajit Pawar, this time emerging from the Sunetra Pawar-led faction. Speculation grew after NCP MLA Sunil Shelke suggested that a merger between the two factions remained possible if the party united under Ms. Pawar's leadership. Maharashtra NCP president Sunil Tatkare quickly dismissed the remarks, calling them Mr. Shelke's personal views and insisting that no discussions are underway. He also denied any pressure from the BJP and maintained that any final decision lies solely with national president Sunetra Pawar. "The ongoing buzz is purely speculative," he said. The renewed chatter comes against the backdrop of efforts by the

Sharad Pawar-led NCP (SP) to push for a reunification following Ajit Pawar's death in an aircraft crash in Baramati on January 28. Soon after, Maharashtra NCP (SP) chief Shashikant Shinde claimed that Ajit Pawar had been keen on a merger — a claim rejected by some NCP leaders from the Ajit Pawar faction who said they were unaware of such intentions. Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis also denied the assertions, saying Ajit Pawar would have consulted the BJP had he planned a political move of that magnitude. The NCP split in June 2023 after Ajit Pawar, backed by a majority of MLAs, joined the Eknath Shinde-led government and assumed control of the party. Mr. Shelke, who represents the Maval Assembly constituency in Pune district, said bringing the factions together under Sunetra

Pawar's leadership would strengthen the party. "If the leadership of Sunetra Vahini is accepted, both factions should merge. Our party will expand its base and grow stronger," he said. He also claimed that leaders unwilling to accept her leadership may leave the party in the coming days. The MLA's comments sparked fresh political buzz. Responding to the remarks, Mr. Tatkare repeated that he had no information about any merger talks. "Whether Mr. Shelke gave his opinion or whether he has received any information from someone is unclear. The final decision will be taken by Vahini (Sunetra Pawar)," he said. Mr. Tatkare further stressed that the BJP has never exerted pressure regarding a merger. "The BJP's central and state leadership have respected the NCP.

# Raut Seeks Probe Of Top Leaders In Kharat Case

**MUMBAI**  
Wakeup telangana

Senior Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut on Sunday demanded that senior leaders in Maharashtra like Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, NCP state chief Sunil Tatkare and former cabinet minister Deepak Kesarkar should also be questioned in the rape-accused godman Ashok Kharat case. "Kharat is a government man as many prominent leaders in the state were in con-

tact with Ashok Kharat. He has 40 MLAs behind him. Had the government not been shielding Kharat, it would have released the list of the approximately 40 MLAs, MPs and ministers who visited his premises," said Raut. The government should answer about Kharat's wealth. The rulers and politicians who lend credibility to such a fake baba are far greater criminals than the 'godman' himself, the Rajya Sabha MP added. Raut de-

manded that leaders like Eknath Shinde, Sunil Tatkare and Deepak Kesarkar should also be questioned in the Ashok Kharat case. "If the government is not backing this fraudulent 'Baba,' then why are Kesarkar, Chakankar and Eknath Shinde not being investigated?" he asked. "It was Deepak Kesarkar who took Shinde to Ashok Kharat. An inquiry should also be conducted into how Kharat managed to reach a prominent national

leader like Amit Shah. How did he manage to reach the state's Chief minister?" asked Raut. The Sena UBT leader also alleged that Kharat was interfering in the work of several ministers at the Mantralaya. "Kharat was even deciding who would become a minister. He used to determine the transfers and suspensions of education department officials when Kesarkar was in charge of that department," he alleged.

# Hardcore Maoist Killed In Sukma Encounter

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

A hardcore Maoist, carrying a bounty of Rs five lakh, was on Sunday gunned down in an encounter with the security forces in the jungle of Sukma district under south Bastar in Chhattisgarh. The encounter killing of Muchaki Kailash, identified as section commander of platoon number 31 of Naxals, comes two days before the March 31 deadline



fixed by Union home minister Amit Shah to eradicate Naxalism in the country. Acting on specific intel-

ligence inputs on the presence of a group of armed Maoists on a forested hill under the Polampalli police station

area, a search operation involving district reserve guard (DRG), a tribal counterinsurgency wing of Chhattisgarh police, was launched in the area, according to Sukma district superintendent of police Kiran Chavan. An encounter ensued between them when the security forces came under attack by the Maoists, police said. Later, security forces recovered the body of a Naxal along with a weapon at the encounter site.

# Experts Warn Iran Conflict Threatens Global Rule of Law



**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Leading legal, diplomatic, and military experts convened today to examine the ongoing military actions against Iran and their broader implications for international law. The seminar addressed critical issues including the legality of the use of force, protection of civilians, adherence to the laws of war, and the impact of military operations on diplomatic norms. Senior Advocate Sanjay Hegde opened the session by assessing the legality of military actions against Iran under the UN Charter and customary international law. Dr. Fariduddin Faridasr, Cultural Counselor at the Iranian Embassy, explored whether power can override established legal norms, raising concerns about the rule of law bey-

ond borders. Prof. Srinivas Burra, Dean of the School of Law at South Asian University, highlighted the precedent set by the Iran conflict and its implications for the global rules-based order. Retired Major General Bishamber Dayal examined the conduct of hostilities, focusing on civilian protection and adherence to the laws of war, while former diplomat Ambassador Yogendra Kumar addressed the strain on diplomatic norms caused by military actions during ongoing negotiations. Dr. Mohammad Hossein ZiyaeNia, Deputy Representative of Iran's Supreme Leader in Delhi, provided Iran's perspective on sovereignty, security, and international justice. The panel discussion was moderated by Prof. Anumeha Mishra of Delhi University, and the event

was anchored by Saira Mujtaba from All India Radio. The closing session and drafting of the formal resolution were led by Senior Advocate Anas Tanvir, summarizing participants' observations on legality, humanitarian concerns, and diplomatic norms. The seminar concluded with a formal resolution addressing the legality of the use of force, civilian protection, compliance with the laws of war, and the broader impact of these events on the integrity of international legal norms. Experts warned that these developments not only affect Iran but also have profound implications for the credibility of the rules-based global order and the future enforcement of international law in conflicts worldwide.

## 24 BRS MLAs.....

Simultaneously, tensions escalated between Congress and BRS members over the alleged behaviour of Kaushik Reddy towards BRS 'rebel' MLA Kadiyam Srihari. Congress members accused Kaushik Reddy of making threatening gestures in the House and demanded his expulsion, calling his conduct unethical and a violation of Assembly norms. Some legislators also described the behaviour as indicative of "upper caste arrogance" against a senior Dalit leader. The Chief Minister condemned the incident, asserting that members must speak only with the Speaker's permission and stressing that leaders like Srihari, whom he described as being of stature equal to that of former chief minister K. Chandrashekar Rao, deserve respect. While acknowledging demands for Kaushik Reddy's expulsion, the Chief Minister suggested referring the matter to the ethics committee instead of immediate dismissal. "We are not inclined to dismiss Kaushik Reddy's membership at this stage. Let the ethics committee examine his conduct," the Chief Minister said, while reiterating that members disrupting proceedings should face suspension. Following continued disruptions, legislative affairs minister D. Sridhar Babu moved a motion for suspension, which was passed by voice vote. The House subsequently adopted a motion to refer Kaushik Reddy's conduct to the ethics committee.

## 24 BRS MLAs.....

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## FROM FRONT PAGE

of selfish politics — the LDF and the UDF. One is corrupt, the other is more corrupt. One is communal...the other is more communal. Their policies revolve only around votebank politics, with no concern for Kerala's development..." "For years, the LDF and the UDF have taken turns to rule and loot. Now both are targeting the BJP, which shows they fear us. They know that once the BJP comes to power, their corruption will be exposed," said Modi and asserted that when the NDA comes to power in the state, it will investigate all scams and deliver justice to the people of Kerala. Pointing at the Left and the Congress rivalry in Kerala and friendship in other states, Modi said, "The Congress and the Left abuse each other falsely... You must remain cautious of both of them." At the rally, Modi also highlighted that the public sentiment is in favour of change with growing support for the BJP among youth, women, and farmers. At the rally, Modi also highlighted that the public sentiment is in favour of change with growing support for the BJP among youth, women, and farmers. "In Kerala, Team BJP and Team NDA are to form the government. With the blessings of the people of Kerala, with all your support, we will form the government here, and we will leave no stone unturned in serving Kerala," he said. The Prime Minister also alleged misuse of Central funds, saying, "This money belonged to you, but they have looted it." Projecting development, he promised

that an NDA government will recover looted money and accelerate growth in Kerala. In his address, Modi highlighted Kerala's immense potential but lamented the lack of industrial growth and job opportunities, which has led to migration. He cited the initiatives taken by the Centre in Palakkad, including the establishment of an IIT, infrastructure upgrades and plans for a smart industrial city.

## Over 70 Protected....

They stressed that such incidents reflect a systemic failure in monitoring and preserving heritage assets. At the same time, several important yet under-protected sites — including Pandavula Gutta rock art, Trikuta temple in Mutharam, Nainapaka temple, Adavisomanapally caves and Mylaram caves — continue to await proper conservation measures and official recognition. In response, heritage department officials stated that a memo would be issued to district authorities to verify the status of missing monuments, after which those no longer existing would be de-protected. Officials also acknowledged severe funding constraints, noting that against a proposed ₹175 crore budget for heritage conservation, only ₹3 crore was allocated, which is insufficient even for maintaining a single site effectively. Activists have urged the government to conduct a comprehensive review of the protected monuments list, remove non-existent sites and include deserving ones to ensure accurate documentation.

CRIME

# How Hyderabad Cops Tracked Nepalese Gangs

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

A two-judge bench of the Telangana High Court has taken cognisance of alleged rising pollution levels in the crucial drinking water reservoirs of Himayatsagar Reservoir and Osmansagar Reservoir, directing multiple government departments to submit detailed reports within four weeks.

The bench, comprising Chief Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh and Justice G. M. Mohiuddin, treated a letter based on a news report as a public interest litigation (PIL) and formally admitted it for hearing. The PIL flagged alarming levels of toxic pollution in the two reservoirs, which serve as key

sources of drinking water for Hyderabad and Secunderabad.

According to the petition, the findings of a study conducted by Maulana Azad National Urdu University indicated a significant increase in contamination levels in the reservoirs. The report allegedly pointed to untreated sewage discharge from surrounding villages, industrial effluents, and agricultural runoff as the primary contributors to the pollution.

These factors, the plea warned, pose a serious risk to public health and environmental safety.

Taking a serious view of the issue, the High Court directed the Irrigation and Command Area Development Department, the

Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board, and the Telangana Pollution Control Board to file comprehensive responses. These responses must outline the current extent of pollution, measures undertaken to address it, and steps being implemented to fulfil statutory responsibilities, including the establishment and operation of sewage treatment plants and ensuring safe drinking water supply.

In addition, the bench instructed the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation and the Municipal Administration and Urban Development Department to submit details of actions taken to prevent the inflow of polluted water

from nearby colonies, villages, and industrial units into the reservoirs.

The court emphasised the urgency of coordinated action among all concerned agencies to protect these vital water bodies. Recognising the gravity of the allegations, the bench granted four weeks' time for the authorities to file their reports and adjourned the matter for further hearing. The case underscores growing concerns over environmental degradation and the sustainability of drinking water sources in the Hyderabad region, placing accountability on civic and regulatory bodies to act swiftly and effectively.

## Arbitrary Freezing of Bank Accounts Violates Fundamental Rights: HC

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana High Court has made it clear that although statutes empower investigative agencies to direct banks to freeze accounts during the course of an investigation, such powers cannot be exercised arbitrarily or indefinitely without due process and justification. Justice E. V. Venugopal noted that freezing a bank account in the absence of cogent reasons or a prima facie link to a cognisable offence would amount to a serious infringement of fundamental rights. The court held

that such actions violated the right to livelihood and the freedom to carry on trade and business under Article 19(1)(g), as well as the right to life and personal liberty under Article 21 of the Constitution.

The judge was dealing with a petition filed by Khammam-based Bottle Restaurant and Bar, whose bank account had been frozen following instructions from the cybercrime wing police of Etawah district in Uttar Pradesh. The petitioner establishment contended that it had no connection with the alleged offence under investigation and that its name.

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

A two-judge panel of the Telangana High Court comprising Chief Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh and Justice G.M. Mohiuddin dismissed writ appeals challenging cancellation of allotment of an unfinished residential tower in a housing project at Pocharam. The appeals were filed by Mahandi Builders and several flat purchasers questioning the action of Telangana Rajiv Swagruha Corporation Limited in cancelling the allotment of

a residential tower and forfeiting the amount paid. The corporation allotted the unfinished tower consisting of 120 flats to the builder for about ₹29.51 crore under an "as-is-where-is" condition, requiring payment of 10 per cent of the amount initially and the balance within 120 days. The builder paid the initial amount with a delay and failed to pay the remaining consideration even after extensions were granted. The corporation thereafter cancelled the allotment and forfeited the amount paid.

### Cops arrest fake dentist in Neredmet

A case was registered by Neredmet police against a fake doctor for running a dental clinic without valid licence. Acting on a tip-off, a team conducted a surprise inspection at Anjalika Dental Clinic located in Satya Aditya Towers near Three Temple Street. During the inspection, it was found that the clinic was being operated for more than 10-year without obtaining permissions from the department concerned. Police identified the accused as Gupta Ramesh Kumar, who was found practicing modern dentistry without BDS degree. Officials said the accused was misleading the public by falsely claiming that he was holding a BDS degree and thereby putting the lives of patients at risk.

### Alwal Man Duped In ₹87 Lakh Stock Scam

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

A 36-year-old private employee from Alwal fell victim to an online investment scam, losing ₹87.69 lakh to fraudsters who lured him through a fake stock trading network operated via WhatsApp. According to the victim, he was added to a WhatsApp group named VIP Group Infinity on January 1, 2026. The group, allegedly managed by a person identified as Kautubh and several associates using multiple mobile numbers, regularly shared stock market tips, IPO rec-

ommendations and fabricated profit screenshots to gain credibility. The victim was persuaded to download a mobile application called EPQC, projected as a legitimate trading platform. After completing registration and KYC formalities, he was encouraged to invest with promises of high and guaranteed returns. Initially, he invested ₹25,000 and was allowed to withdraw ₹1,000 as profit, which boosted his confidence. Gradually, the fraudsters convinced him to invest larger amounts.

### Spurious pickle unit busted in Jiyaguda

In a joint operation, the Task Force Golconda team and Kulsumpur police raided manufacturing units in Venkatesh Nagar, Jiyaguda, on Tuesday and arrested one person for producing and supplying spurious pickles. Raw material and property worth ₹3 lakh were seized. Police said K. Ravinder, 62, was manufacturing pickles without a valid licence, using low-quality ingredients in unhygienic conditions. Additional DCP Task Force Ande Srinivas Rao stated that stale mangoes and lemons were being preserved with rock salt and supplied to kirana stores, restaurants, and hotels. Officials warned that consumption of such pickles could pose serious health risks.

## Over 495 drunk driving cases booked in Tri-Commissionerates

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Hyderabad, Cyberabad and Malkajgiri commissionerates booked over 495 cases of drunk driving during checks conducted over the weekend. Police said all offenders would be produced before the respective courts for penalisation and possible jail terms. The Hyderabad traffic police said they had booked 239 motorists, including 190 two-wheeler riders, 18



handling three-wheelers and 31 at the wheel of four-wheelers and other vehicles. Police said in two cases, the BAC was 300, 10 times the legally permissible 30 micrograms of alcohol for 100

ml of blood. In Cyberabad, traffic police apprehended 138 offenders, the majority being two-wheeler riders (121), followed by five three-wheelers, 11 four-wheelers and one heavy

vehicle driver. Seven offenders registered BAC levels between 301 mg/100 ml and 550 mg/100 ml. The Malkajgiri traffic police booked 118 motorists, including 96 two-wheeler riders, four three-wheelers and 18 four-wheelers. Of these, one offender recorded BAC levels above 300 mg/100 ml, while 14 fell in the 201-300 mg/100 ml range. Lorry mishap disrupts traffic near Metro station

EDITORIAL

# PUT PRINCIPLE FIRST OR LOSE STANDING AS PEACEMAKER

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Frankly, I do not care a fig whether a tinpot dictatorship like Pakistan, with a bankrupt economy and a defunct polity, gets a fleeting moment under a dubious sun to play the role of mediator, facilitator or whatever in the ongoing Iran war. That this is a slight to India is ludicrous. Pakistan is a failed state. India, on the other hand, while not without its problems, is the world's largest democracy, a major economy, a nuclear weapon state, a civilisational power and home to 1.4 billion people, with a legitimate claim to sit on the high table of the global community.

My concern, therefore, is about what India did or did not do in this unfortunate war. In this context, a new debate has emerged between so called 'realists' and 'idealists'. At first glance, the argument of the realists appears compelling. The world, they insist, is not a moral classroom but a competitive arena where power, not principle, determines outcomes. In such a world, they argue, the pursuit of immediate economic advantage and transient strategic leverage must override any abstract commitment to ideals. For relatively weaker nations, the logic is to be silent, speak softly, align cleverly, and survive. Idealism, in this view, is not merely naïve — it is a liability. Yet, this perspective, while pragmatic in tone, is impoverished in vision. It reduces nations to transactional entities, devoid of identity, memory or

moral imagination. It assumes that the currency of global respect is power alone, when history suggests a more nuanced truth: that enduring influence often rests on a combination of credibility, consistency, and conviction. For instance, the anti-colonial struggles of the 20th century were not won merely by military strength; they were sustained by moral arguments that exposed the hypocrisy of imperial domination. The articulation of principles — sovereignty, self-determination, equality — became, in time, instruments of power in their own right.

This is not to suggest that foreign policy should be conducted as a sermon. Nations must, of necessity, calibrate their responses to the realities of the world. But calibration is not capitulation. There is a difference between strategic flexibility and moral abdication. A nation that abandons its stated principles at the first hint of inconvenience risks eroding not only its credibility abroad but also its self-respect at home.

The assertion that weaker nations cannot afford a strong voice is, in fact, a deeply internalised form of defeatism. Strength in international relations is not measured solely in military or economic terms, which, of course, we must aspire to. It also resides in the clarity of a nation's positions and the consistency with which they are articulated.

When a country speaks with conviction — even if it cannot enforce its will — it contributes to shaping the normative environment in which global politics

unfolds. Silence, on the other hand, is seldom neutral; it is often read as acquiescence. The critique of idealism as inefficient and counterproductive similarly rests on a narrow understanding of national interest. Economic gains secured at the cost of long-term credibility may prove ephemeral. Nations that are perceived as opportunistic or supine may find themselves taken for granted, or excluded from a meaningful role in geopolitical equations. Conversely, those that demonstrate a principled approach, even when inconvenient, often command a moral authority that amplifies their influence beyond their material capabilities. It is in this broader context that one must examine our role when the US and Israel attacked Iran, and assassinated its head of state.

The violation of sovereignty and the targeted elimination of a national leader raise profound questions about the norms governing international behaviour. India has friendly relations with America and Israel, but also diplomatic and age-old cultural ties with Iran.

Regardless of one's assessment of Iran's policies, the blatant violation of its sovereignty and the targeted elimination of its national leader, should have led a country like India — with its long-standing commitment to the principles of sovereignty, non-interference and the peaceful resolution of disputes — to immediately express deep concern if not outright condemnation.



## Govt caught off guard in handling energy crisis amid West Asia war': Asaduddin Owaisi

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

AIMIM President and Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi delivered a sharp critique of the government at TV9 Network's 'What India Thinks Today Summit 2026', asserting that India has been caught off guard amid the ongoing West Asia conflict, facing acute shortages of fuel, LPG, urea, and crude oil. Owaisi held the BJP-led government responsible, pointing out that it failed to establish strategic petroleum reserves during its 11-year tenure. He warned that petrol and diesel prices are likely to rise sharply after the Assembly elections. The MP questioned India's reliance on the United States for approval to buy Russian oil, asking, "Where has our self-respect gone?" He highlighted lo-



gistical challenges, noting that while China and Russia's vessels move freely through the Strait of Hormuz, India had to formally request Iran to allow passage for its ships, which still don't carry enough fuel to meet demand. On environmental con-

cerns, Owaisi responded to criticism over an iftar party and biryani waste allegedly dumped into the Ganga, pointing out that untreated sewage and cruise waste routinely pollute the river. "Doesn't this hurt religious sentiments?" he asked, arguing that public

outrage is often selectively directed at Muslims while larger pollution issues are ignored. Defending constitutional principles, Owaisi emphasized that Muslims are full citizens of India and condemned what he described as the ruling party's push toward Hindu nationalism. "I don't need a certificate to prove I am Indian," he said, referencing divisive narratives, including claims of celebrating 'Khoon Ki Holi' during Eid in Delhi. Owaisi also criticized Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma for spreading communal hatred through viral videos and discriminatory remarks. He highlighted the NRC exercise, noting that 2.5 lakh Muslims were left out of Assam's citizenship list, compared to 17.5 lakh non-Muslims, questioning the definition

of "infiltrators" and pointing to the bias of the Citizenship Amendment Act. Extending his critique to national security, Owaisi alleged lax border controls and cited reports of foreign agents, including Matthew Aaron VanDyke, entering India with drones and conducting training. Politically, Owaisi touched on AIMIM's expanding presence in West Bengal, particularly in Malda, Murshidabad, and parts of Birbhum, linking it to local issues such as arsenic contamination, which he urged the authorities to address. Owaisi's speech blended energy, environmental, constitutional, and communal concerns, underlining AIMIM's growing focus on governance accountability, minority rights, and national integrity.

## AI Agents Drive Business Success for Indian Sales Teams

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Salesforce, the world's #1 AI CRM, revealed in its latest State of Sales report that 91% of Indian sales professionals consider AI agents mission-critical for business success, highlighting a major shift in how sales teams approach growth in 2026. As teams face ambitious quotas amid stretched bandwidth and rising customer expectations, AI agents are emerging as a top strategy to enhance productivity, reduce administrative bottlenecks, and accelerate results. The report shows that 90% of Indian sales organizations already use AI for tasks like prospecting, forecasting, lead scoring, and drafting emails, with 94% noting that AI deepens customer understanding and 89% saying it reduces work stress. Specifically, 54% of In-



dian sellers have adopted AI agents, while another 43% plan to implement them by 2027; agents are expected to cut prospect research time by 35% and email drafting by 38%, giving sales teams valuable hours back for relationship-building. High-performing sellers are 1.7 times more likely to leverage AI for prospecting than underperformers, addressing the persistent challenge of limited bandwidth for cold outreach.

The study also highlights generational differences: Gen Z reps spend just 35% of their time selling, losing hours to manual data entry, and face limited

mentorship opportunities, while senior reps navigate administrative friction more efficiently. Data quality is critical for AI effectiveness, with 82% of Indian sales professionals investing in data cleansing, standardization, and error correction, and high performers leading with 79% prioritizing data hygiene versus 54% among underperformers. Sangeeta Giri, SVP & COO, South Asia, Salesforce, commented, "AI agents are the great equalizer, removing friction, accelerating learning, and giving teams more time to build trust with customers. Sellers who pair human judgment with AI will win in India's fast-moving market." The report surveyed 4,050 sales professionals globally, including 250 from India, across sales, business development, and operations roles from August to September 2025.

## Mrs. Women Contest Celebrates Talent and Confidence

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

The 'Mrs. Women Contest' organized by Parivarthana Media at Tourism Plaza, Begumpet, highlighted women's talent, confidence, and cultural diversity, with Prasanna emerging as the winner, Ayushi as first runner-up, and Supriya securing second runner-up. A total of 30 finalists participated in the event, presenting vibrant traditions and cultures of different states through an elegant ramp walk in traditional



attire. The contest aimed to provide a platform for women to express themselves and build confidence. Speaking on the occa-

sion, organizer Pooja Choudhary emphasized that women today are excelling in every field and such events play a vital role in inspiring others.

Former Union Minister Venugopala Chari stated that educating women leads to the progress of families and society, while former BC Commission Chairman Vakulabharam Krishnamohan Rao noted that women are now leading and guiding various sectors.

The event witnessed the presence of several dignitaries including Chikoti Praveen, Dr. Venugopal Raju, Dr. Madala Nagoor, Hari Hara Kiran, Jyothi Kumari, P.S. Sharma, along with judges and participants.

## UltraTech Boosts Water Security in Anantapur

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

On World Water Day, UltraTech's Andhra Pradesh Cement Works in Anantapur reaffirmed its commitment to responsible water stewardship through focused management and governance. In 2025, the unit harvested and recharged over 5.5 lakh cubic metres of water, bringing the cumulative total since the project began to over 22 lakh cubic metres. The initiative includes constructing 13 check



dams, water tanks, and sunken ponds, benefiting more than 3,600 local farmers. At the corporate level, UltraTech's FY25 community watershed and conservation initiatives across India resulted in over 16.2 million cubic

metres of water harvested and recharged, strengthening rural livelihoods, improving water access, and boosting agricultural productivity.

Within its operations, the company implements multi-pronged water con-

servation strategies, including converting exhausted mine pits into reservoirs, building rooftop rainwater harvesting structures, using recycled water, and enhancing water-use efficiency. Cumulatively, UltraTech's efforts in FY25 have enabled harvesting, reusing, recycling, and recharging over 120 million cubic metres of water, demonstrating its long-term commitment to sustainable water management both on-site and in surrounding communities.

## Dhriya Gold & Diamonds Opens Flagship Store in Jubilee Hills

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Dhriya Gold & Diamonds has officially launched its flagship store at Road No. 59, Jubilee Hills, marking its entry into the city's premium jewellery retail segment. The store was inaugurated by entrepreneur and philanthropist Sudha Reddy at an exclusive, invite-only event attended by prominent members of Hyderabad's business, social, and cultural circles. The highlight of the



evening was a curated fashion showcase, where professional models presented the brand's gold, diamond, and polki collections. The runway display offered guests a

dynamic view of Dhriya's craftsmanship, blending traditional artistry with contemporary design. Founded by Arun Agarwal, Dhriya Gold & Diamonds builds on a strong

legacy in the jewellery industry. The brand is now led by CEOs Akhil Agarwal and Akshith Agarwal, who aim to position it as a modern luxury destination. Their vision focuses on combining heritage techniques with evolving design sensibilities to meet the preferences of today's customers.

The Jubilee Hills store has been designed to deliver a refined and immersive shopping experience. It features a wide range of jewellery, including bridal, occasion, and every-

day collections, catering to diverse tastes while maintaining a consistent emphasis on quality and elegance. The launch was conceptualised and executed by Amplifying Voices India, which handled communication strategy and experience design for the event. With this flagship outlet, Dhriya Gold & Diamonds sets the foundation for expansion in the premium jewellery market, positioning itself as a brand that bridges tradition with modern luxury.

## Vaarahi Silver Jewellery Launched in Hyderabad with Grand Offers

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Vaarahi Silver Jewellery was grandly launched in Kukatpally, Hyderabad, on March 28, 2026, introducing a premium destination for silver jewellery lovers with exclusive inaugural offers and designer collections. The showroom, located on the first floor of Vaarahi Silks, was inaugurated by popular actors Teja Sajja and Meenakshi Chaudhary, adding glamour to the event attended by business leaders and customers.

Promoted by Manideep Yechuri and Dr. Spandana Maddula, the brand marks their entry into the silver jewellery segment after successfully running Vaarahi Silks with five outlets. With over 15 years of experience in the gold jewellery industry, the founders aim to tap into the growing demand for silver ornaments amid rising gold prices. Vaarahi Silver Jewellery offers a wide range of



collections, including nakshi work with gold polish, Victorian, diamond, and Kundan designs. The store specializes in premium bridal jewellery crafted to deliver a rich, gold-like finish at affordable prices, making luxury accessible to a wider audience.

The launch also brings attractive offers. Customers purchasing jewellery worth ₹1.5 lakh receive a ₹50,000 voucher along with gold and silver coins, while other slabs include vouchers up to ₹30,000,

₹15,000, and ₹7,500 with silver coins. Additionally, a lucky draw offers prizes including a Tata Tiago car, refrigerator, and ₹50,000 Vaarahi Silks coupon. From everyday wear to statement bridal pieces, the showroom caters to diverse preferences, positioning itself as a one-stop destination for high-quality silver jewellery.

With innovative designs, competitive pricing, and grand inaugural benefits, Vaarahi Silver Jewellery is set to redefine silver jewellery shopping in Hyderabad.

## Agrasen Bank Opens 12th Branch in Begum Bazar, Plans Expansion

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Agrasen Co-operative Urban Bank Ltd. expanded its footprint by inaugurating its 12th branch at Begum Bazar on Monday, strengthening its presence in Hyderabad's banking sector. The new branch aims to cater to the growing financial needs of customers in the locality with modern banking facilities.

The branch was inaugurated by Chief Guest D. Joel Davis, IPS, Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic), Hyderabad City. Local corporator G. Shankar Yadav, along with Purshottam Lal Bhageria, Damoder Doba (Damu



Guru), and Avinash Devda, formally launched additional customer services at the facility. Equipped with a 24x7 ATM centre, safe deposit lockers, and a full suite of banking services, the branch is designed to function as a comprehensive financial hub for residents and businesses in the area. Chairman Pramod

Kumar Kedia said the bank now operates 12 branches across the twin cities and has received approval from the RBI and the Co-operative Department to extend its operations across Telangana. He stated that the bank plans to expand into neighbouring districts and potential new areas within Hyderabad.

He further announced that the bank is targeting the opening of four to five new branches in the next financial year and has already applied for licenses to the RBI under its Annual Business Plan (2026-27). Highlighting performance, Kedia noted that Agrasen Bank is on track to achieve over 30% growth in busi-

ness volume during the current financial year. He urged customers to take advantage of the bank's deposit schemes and loan products to be part of its growth journey.

The event was attended by Senior Vice Chairman Naveen Kumar Agarwal, Vice Chairman Suresh Kumar Agarwal, Chairman of the Board of Management Narayan Dutt, along with directors and members of the Board of Management. General Manager and CEO C.V. Rao, DGM Anand Agarwal, Branch Manager Prasad Golegaonker, staff members, and several distinguished guests were also present at the inauguration ceremony.

# Singer Jonita Gandhi Dazzles In Special Song For Dacoit

**Y**oung playback sensation Jonita Gandhi, known for chartbusters like Preet Re (Dhadak 2), Soni Soni (Ishk Rebound), What Jhumka? (Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani), and South hits like Kannukulle and Ma Ma Mahesha (Sarkaru Vaari Paata), is now grabbing attention with a special number in the upcoming Telugu film Dacoit. Jonita has not only lent her voice but also showcased her dancing prowess in the peppy track "Chichu Buddi." Sharing screen space with Adivi Sesh, she impresses with her energetic moves and confident screen presence. Sources reveal that she rehearsed extensively to match Sesh's steps and delivered a performance that lights up the screen. Having already gained popularity through her independent music videos and live performances, Jonita



takes things a notch higher with this appearance. Her chemistry with Adivi Sesh and her ability to balance singing with performance

add a fresh appeal to the song. The source also praised Adivi Sesh, noting that his body language, dialogue delivery, and physique

perfectly suit the rugged "Dacoit" persona. With this number, Jonita joins the league of actresses like Sreeleela, Tamannaah Bhatia, Shruti Haasan, Pooja Hegde, Raashii Khanna, and Samantha Ruth Prabhu, who have set benchmarks with their electrifying performances in peppy Telugu songs. Industry insiders point out that a single hit song today can often generate more buzz than a full-length role, and Jonita seems to be making the most of that opportunity. Dacoit stars Mrunal Thakur as the leading lady, with Anurag Kashyap playing a prominent role. Directed by Shaneil Deo and produced by Supriya Yarlagadda and Suniel Narang, the film boasts high production values and visually rich song sequences. The movie is slated for a worldwide release on April 10.

# Bengali actor Rahul Banerjee dies by drowning in Talsari

**MUMBAI**  
Wakeup telangana

Actor Rahul Arunoday Banerjee, who predominantly worked in Bengali cinema, tragically lost his life after drowning in the sea at Talsari during a shooting assignment. He was 43 years old at the time of his death. Reports indicate that Rahul had traveled to the coastal location to film scenes for an upcoming television serial titled 'Bhole Baba Par Karega'. During the course of the shoot, he reportedly entered the sea, where the unfortunate incident occurred. As per the sources present at the location, Rahul went missing for nearly an hour and a half, prompting an urgent search operation by crew members and local technicians. After an extensive effort, he was



eventually located and pulled out of the water. He was immediately rushed to Digha State General Hospital for emergency medical attention. Despite the efforts to revive him, the doctor on duty at the hospital declared him dead upon arrival. The sudden nature of the incident has left the crew and local community in shock. Police sources have confirmed that his body is being sent to Kanthi Subdivisional Hospital for a post-mortem examination to determine the exact cause and circumstances of his death. His wife, Bengali actor

Priyanka Sarkar, has now reacted to the distressing news and requested privacy in this hour of 'immense grief' in her latest post on social media. His wife, Bengali actor Priyanka Sarkar, took to her Instagram, and requested privacy in this hour of 'immense grief'. She wrote, "This is a time of immense grief and deep despair for us. In this difficult moment, we sincerely request space and privacy". "There is a child, a mother, a family, and loved ones trying to navigate this loss together. We kindly urge our friends and colleagues in the media to respect our boundaries, refrain from intrusion, and allow us the dignity to grieve in peace. Your understanding and support mean more than ever at this time", she added.

# Brahmanandam Launches Golden County Affordable Housing Project Near Kollur



**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Githam Developers officially launched its flagship residential project 'Golden County' and inaugurated its new corporate office at Sandil Towers, Gachibowli, marking a major expansion move in Hyderabad's fast-growing real estate corridor. The launch was led by noted film actor Brahmanandam, who attended as Chief Guest and unveiled the project brochure alongside Managing Director Kavali Pavan

Kumar Yadav. The project, located near Kollur, spans 25 acres and is slated for completion within two years. Positioned as a premium yet affordable villa community, Golden County aims to cater to both homebuyers and investors seeking quality housing with modern infrastructure. The development will feature a one-acre clubhouse along with a range of lifestyle amenities designed to offer comfort and convenience. Addressing the gathering, Brahmanandam high-

lighted the importance of real estate investment as a means of securing long-term financial stability. He commended the developer's vision of delivering quality homes at accessible prices and encouraged potential buyers to personally evaluate the project before making investment decisions. He also expressed confidence in the leadership of Pavan Kumar Yadav, wishing the venture continued success. Managing Director Kavali Pavan Kumar Yadav stated that the project has

been carefully planned to meet the expectations of modern families by combining urban connectivity with a peaceful living environment. He emphasized that Golden County will offer thoughtfully designed infrastructure, ensuring both lifestyle enhancement and long-term value. Githam Developers brings over 15 years of industry experience, having developed more than 500 acres and successfully delivered over 20 projects. The company has built its reputation on transpar-

ency, quality construction, and customer satisfaction, earning the trust of a growing base of homeowners. Golden County is expected to emerge as a landmark residential destination near Kollur, offering a blend of natural surroundings and contemporary living. With increasing demand for well-planned villa communities in Hyderabad's western corridor, the project is strategically positioned to attract both end-users and investors looking for reliable real estate opportunities.

# MI end 13-year drought as Rohit Sharma stars in win

**MUMBAI**  
Wakeup telangana

Mumbai Indians skipper Hardik Pandya was elated as his team ended a 13-year winless streak in season-openers in the Indian Premier League and hailed his predecessor Rohit Sharma for his majestic knock that set up their six-wicket victory over Kolkata Knight Riders on Sunday. Rohit Sharma hammered a fine 78 and shared a 148-run partnership with Ryan Rickelton (81) as Mumbai Indians scored 224/4 in 19.2 overs to overhaul KKR's total of 220/4, built on half-centuries by Ajinkya Rahane (67) and Angkrish Raghuvanshi (51), and win their season-opener for the first time since 2012. "Obviously, it's been a long wait to win the season opener. Every time we wanted to start the season on a high note. The whole group is very glad we were able to do it," Pandya said in the post-match presentation



at the Wankhede Stadium on Sunday. Pandya admitted that chasing big totals is now easier in T20s and said modern cricket and batting-friendly wickets play a key role in that. He gave credit to his bowlers for not letting KKR reach 240 or 250.

"Credit to the bowlers for not letting KKR get to 240 or 250. Those become tough targets, but 220 is always chaseable," he said. Pandya was effusive in praise of Rohit Sharma and Ryan Rickelton for their half-centuries that made the victory pos-

sible. "Rohit and Rickelton were outstanding. Ryan has done very well for us last year. And Quinny (Quinton de Kock) is a top player. He understood that we are backing the player and maintaining continuity. Glad it worked." He hailed his former India and Mumbai Indians captain Rohit Sharma for making batting look easy at this age. "Whenever I see Rohit play some shots, it amazes everyone. Nothing short of excellent, nothing short of outstanding," he said. Pandya said he has backed Shardul Thakur at the franchise, and he has repaid his faith in the first match. Thakur claimed 3-39 to apply the brakes on the KKR innings, which proved decisive in the end. "I told him, enough hopping franchises. You have to be here for the rest of your career. The way he outsmarts batters, the way he bowls, brilliant," said Pandya.

# Senior Football Stars Shine at Jawahar Club Night Match

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

The Jawahar Soccer Club in Secunderabad hosted a spirited friendly football meet for senior players under floodlights, celebrating passion, fitness, and camaraderie among veteran footballers. The high-energy evening brought together seasoned players and notable guests, proving that age is no barrier to the love of the game. The event was attended by distinguished personalities, with Dr. Narsimhan Kannan, former Chairman of TPCC SC Cell and current Chairman of Bolarum Sporting Club, gracing the occasion as Chief Guest. He was joined by Special Invitees including Dr. P. Navin Raj, Vice President of TABBFA and Bolarum Sporting Club, and Mr. Bhagirath Chary, Secretary of Bolarum Sporting Club, adding significance to the gathering. The highlight of the



evening was a friendly yet competitive match between United Friends Club and the host team, Jawahar Soccer Club. Senior players turned back the clock with impressive performances, displaying remarkable skill, coordination, and endurance. Veterans like Madivanan, Vidyarthi, Mohan, and C. Prakash drew applause from spectators for their tactical play and enthusiasm on the field. Organizers

emphasized that such events play a crucial role in promoting physical fitness and mental well-being among senior citizens while strengthening long-standing bonds within the local football community. The match not only rekindled memories of the players' younger days but also inspired younger audiences watching from the sidelines. The evening concluded on a cele-

bratory note, with participants and guests appreciating the initiative. Mr. Mohan delivered the vote of thanks, expressing gratitude to the dignitaries for their presence and to the players for their energetic participation. Overall, the friendly meet stood as a testament to the enduring spirit of football and the importance of staying active, regardless of age.

## MPJ Charts Telangana Strategy, Focuses on SIR Awareness



A key meeting of Movement for Peace and Justice (MPJ) Telangana leaders, chaired by State President Abdul Majeed Shoaib Sahab, was held at the Islamic Center, Lakkadkot, focusing on strategic planning and public outreach. The leadership announced the launch of help desks and volunteer training programmes to guide citizens on the SIR process, ensuring better awareness and access, especially in Narayanpet district. This initiative aims to support people in understanding procedures and availing benefits effectively.

The meeting outlined a roadmap to address civic and social issues across Telangana, with special emphasis on marginalized communities. Leaders reaffirmed their commitment to social justice and equitable development through consistent grassroots engagement. A major highlight was the push for "Tausee-e-Tanzeem" (organizational expansion), with instructions to strengthen the party structure at district and mandal levels. Leaders stressed unity and coordinated efforts to expand MPJ's reach. Representatives from multiple districts, including Mahabubnagar, Narayanpet, Karimnagar, Warangal, and others, attended. Key participants included Khalid Naveed, Mir Shoaib Ali, Kazim Hussain, Sadiq Siddiqui, Mohammed Hussain, and Jalal Ahmed. The meeting concluded with a renewed commitment to advancing peace, justice, and public service across Telangana.

## Mahavir Jayanti Annadanam Held in Bowenpally



On the auspicious occasion of Mahavir Jayanti, the Secunderabad Sojad Jain Youth Association organized a grand Annadanam program at Devi Nalla Pochamma Temple, serving hundreds of devotees and local residents while promoting the core Jain values of compassion and service.

The event was formally inaugurated by Jampana Pratap, former Vice Chairman of the Board, who attended as the Chief Guest upon invitation from community elders. Speaking on the occasion, he lauded the youth for their commitment, stating that such initiatives reflect the true teachings of Lord Mahavir by prioritizing service to the needy. A large number of people gathered at the venue, where volunteers ensured smooth distribution of food to all attendees.

The initiative aimed to reach as many underprivileged individuals as possible in the Bowenpally area, embodying the principles of Ahimsa (non-violence) and compassion central to Jain philosophy. Organizers highlighted that the Annadanam was part of their ongoing efforts toward community welfare and social responsibility. The program was conducted under the leadership of President Rahul Lodha, Secretary Vijay Bora, Chairman Vikas Kataria, Vice President Hads Lodha, and Dharmendra Jain. Community members and volunteers actively participated, contributing to the success of the event. The celebration stood out as a meaningful blend of spirituality and service, reinforcing the importance of giving back to society on significant religious occasions.

# Hyderabad Rallies Against Israel-US War on Iran

A rally was conducted from the Charminar to the Exhibition grounds in Nampally

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana Committee Against War organized a major protest at the Charminar today against Israel and US military actions in Iran. Activists from the Communist Party of India (Marxist), Congress, Majlis Bachao Tehreek, and the Indian Labour Welfare Federation (ILWF) joined the demonstration, calling for an immediate end to hostilities in Iran, Lebanon, and Palestine.

The protest began at the Charminar and progressed in a rally to the Exhibition Grounds in Nampally, with participants holding banners and raising slogans like, "Rok do, Rok do Jung ko rok do (Stop the war)" and "One World, One Voice: Stop the War." Posters demand-

ing peace were prominently displayed throughout the march.

Addressing the media, a CPI(M) member said the protest marked one month since the escalation of the conflict and emphasized the urgent need to halt the violence. "The killing of schoolgirls and innocent civilians is a blot on humanity. This aggression violates the United Nations charter and must stop immediately," he stated.

The demonstration highlighted widespread public concern over foreign aggression and underscored calls for diplomacy and dialogue to resolve tensions. Social activists and community leaders stressed that peaceful resolutions are essential to prevent further humanitarian crises in the region.



A large number of activists, along with leaders from various political parties and NGOs, participated in an all-party protest march against the US-Israel war on Iran, from Charminar to Exhibition Grounds, Nampally. — Photo : Mir Zulfequar Ali



A large number of activists, along with leaders from various political parties and NGOs, participated in an all-party protest march against the US-Israel war on Iran, from Charminar to Exhibition Grounds, Nampally. — Photo : Mir Zulfequar Ali

## Maneka, CM Revanth Discuss Cow Protection

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

A delegation led by animal rights activist and former Union minister Maneka Gandhi called on Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy at the Assembly premises to review and strengthen animal welfare measures across the state. During the meeting, the Chief Minister outlined a roadmap for state-wide cow protection, including the construction of a modern, high-tech Goshala at Yenkapally. Plans were also discussed to establish cow shelters in various regions, particularly near prominent temples, to enhance animal care infrastructure.



Officials briefed Maneka Gandhi on measures being implemented for street dog management and cow protection within municipal limits. They presented details of sterilisation programmes for street dogs through a powerpoint presentation. Maneka Gandhi expressed satisfaction with the government's initiatives and welcomed the steps being taken to improve animal welfare in Telangana.

## Government jobs for sportspersons under new policy, says CM

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Sunday announced that the state government has introduced a policy to provide government jobs to sportspersons who excel in sports.

Speaking after participating in the Telangana Legislators' Sports and Cultural Meet 2026, Reddy said the initiative aims to assure students that excelling in sports can offer them a bright future alongside academics. "We have introduced a sports policy to provide government jobs in addition to cash incentives for sportspersons who achieve excellence in sports," he said. The CM also said the government is developing the Gachibowli Sports Complex at an



estimated cost of Rs 700 crore. Reddy expressed concern over rising substance abuse among students, saying, "Even in universities, some students are falling prey to vices, leaving parents with endless grief." He further criticised some legislators for boycotting the Sports and Cultural Meet, calling it unfortunate, and expressed hope that they would participate in similar events next year.

## Commercial LPG cylinder supply improving in Telangana, says Uttam

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Civil Supplies Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy once again reiterated in the Assembly that there is ample supply of domestic LPG cylinders in Telangana. Speaking in the Assembly on Sunday, March 29, he agreed that a shortage persists in commercial LPG kg cylinders and auto gas due to the ongoing Middle East war. Although supplies dropped by 20 per cent in recent weeks, following coordination between the State, oil marketing companies and the Centre, it has improved to 40 per cent," he said. Reddy said the Srisailem Left Bank Canal tunnel (SLBC) work would be completed by June 2028. The project came to a long halt following the 2025 roof collapse that claimed eight lives. After an intensive search operation, the work has resumed. The government has sanctioned a special package of Rs 5,000 crore for land acquisition, rehabilitation and resettlement across irrigation projects, to be released by June 2, Reddy said. Attacking the BRS yet again, the minister said that KCR's government

had spent nearly Rs 5,000 crore on the Dindi Lift Irrigation Project. "We have finalised the source and headworks and sanctioned Rs 1,800-crore Yadula-to-Dindi link. The work is set to begin soon," he said. The Dindi Lift Irrigation Project is expected to deliver 30 TMC of water to the erstwhile Nalgonda district, covering Munugode and Devarakonda constituencies, with completion targeted within two years. He assured all Krishna Basin irrigation projects will be completed as per schedule, and blamed the delays on the previous BRS government. He alleged that the BRS spent Rs 1.81 lakh crore on irrigation, and a chunk of it was diverted to the now-defunct Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project. "Two special corporations were created to raise Rs 97,000 crore through high-interest, short-term loans, leaving an outstanding burden of Rs 82,000 crore. Of this, Rs 54,000 crore is principal and Rs 27,000 crore is interest that continues to accrue," he said, adding that the Congress government has repaid Rs 41,000 crore in principal and Rs 16,000 crore in interest since it came to power.

## Hate Speech Bill Introduced; 10-Year Jail Proposed

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Congress government in the state on Sunday, March 29, introduced the "Telangana Hate Speech and Hate Crimes (Prevention) Bill, 2026" in the Legislative Assembly, proposing a maximum jail term of 10 years for related offences. If passed, Telangana would become the second state after Karnataka to pass such a law in the Legislature. Legislative Affairs Minister D Sridhar Babu moved

the motion to introduce the Bill on behalf of Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy. Under the Bill, whoever commits a "hate crime" shall be punished with imprisonment of not less than one year, which may extend to seven years, along with a fine of Rs 50,000. Repeated offences will attract a fine of Rs 1 lakh and imprisonment ranging from two years up to ten years. Offences under the new Bill are non-bailable. "The existing legal framework does not compre-

hensively address the evolving nature and manifestation of hate speech, and hate crimes, necessitating dedicated and robust legislation to effectively prevent, regulate and penalise such conduct, while also ensuring protection and redress for affected persons," it said. The Telangana cabinet approved the Bill on March 23, designed to curb speeches that incite riots and conflicts. The government also introduced the Telangana Platform-Based Gig

Workers (Registration, Social Security and Welfare) Act, 2026, for the benefit of approximately 4.2 workers in the state. Under the Bill, worker registration will be implemented, along with establishing a welfare board and a welfare fund. The Bill provides legal recognition, social security, and protection of rights for gig workers through the formation of a welfare board. This Bill, previously approved by the Cabinet, has now been slightly revised to align with the Social Security

## Short circuit in washing machine sparks fire at Hyderabad gated community

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

A short circuit in a washing machine sparked a fire at a gated community in Hyderabad on Sunday, March 29. Fortunately, no casualties or injuries were reported. The incident occurred at Riddhi Grandeur Apartment in Manikonda, Rangareddy. The blaze started at around 6:20 pm in one of the flats on the third floor. On information, three fire tenders from Vattinagulapally, Gachibowli and Langar Houz responded



and doused the fire in less than 10 minutes. "It was a small fire in one of the flats on the third floor. The fire did not spread to any other flats and only damaged a small area of the affected apartment," an official from the Vattinagulapally fire station told.

## Four arrested for murder of 23-year-old in Chandrayangutta

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Four accused have been apprehended on Friday, March 27, in the brutal murder case of a 23-year-old plumber, Mohammed Salman, in Chandrayangutta. While returning from a Ramadan party on March 23, Salman and his friend Irfan were stopped by one of the accused, Abdullah, after which Irfan transferred Rs 200 to Abdullah. The accused allegedly stopped them a second time, where Abdullah initiated a quarrel with Salman over a previous grudge. Abdullah then struck Salman

in the face using a knuckle-duster. Aman hit Salman with a stone on his head, leg and shoulder, while Mateen and Sarver punched Salman repeatedly. The accused fled the scene after locals and the victim's mother intervened, and the police arrived. However, before escaping, Abdullah allegedly threatened to kill Salman and used abusive language. The victim's friend Irfan and his mother Sajeeda Begum filed a police complaint against the four assailants for their unprovoked attack after Salman was shifted to the hospital.

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