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**WEATHER**

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

### Brief Insights

#### BJP Claims Uddhav Blocking Pawar's Rajya Sabha Return

Maharashtra BJP vice president Keshav Upadhye on Tuesday criticised Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray over the latter's alleged unwillingness to leave a Rajya Sabha seat for Sharad Pawar. Thackeray became the chief minister in 2019 only because of Pawar's support, but in politics, self-interest often outweighs gratitude, the BJP

FULL REPORT ON PAGE 4

#### Shinde Arranges Special Flights To Bring Back 164 Stranded In UAE

Shiv Sena chief and Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde has arranged two special aircraft to bring back 164 Maharashtra residents stranded in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) following sudden flight cancellations. The passengers include 84 students from Pune-based Indira School of Business Studies and residents of Thane, Ahilyanagar and Pune. According to the Shiv Sena, all 164 passengers are expected to reach Mumbai safely by night.

FULL REPORT ON PAGE 4



**Owaisi Slams Centre Over 'Selective' Advisory: P2**

**PM Modi Holds Talks with Sultan of Oman, Kuwait's Crown Prince: P4**

**Harish Raodistributes cheques to aid MBBS students: P8**



## Iran Pounds US Allies In Gulf

Trump ready for longer war; Israel troops enter Lebanon; Europe ups defence

**DUBAI**  
Wakeup telangana

Israel stepped up air-strikes against Iranian missile launchers and factories on Tuesday, and Iran retaliated across the Gulf region, including with attacks on Dubai and Abu Dhabi, disrupting energy supplies and travel. While the American embassy in Saudi Arabia came under drone attack, Europe scrambled to defend Cyprus, a day after a drone attack was launched against the British base in the Mediterranean state. Four days into a war, US President Donald Trump said his country has "the capability to go far longer" than its projected four-to-five-week time frame for its military operations against Iran. Speaking from the Oval Office, Trump said someone from within the Iranian regime might be the best choice to take power once the US-Israel campaign is finished. He rejected speculation that the US is willing to install Reza Pahlavi, the exiled crown prince of Iran's last shah, in Iran. "As far as possible leaders inside Iran, the people we had in mind are dead... I guess the worst case would be to



do this, and then somebody takes over who's as bad as the previous person, right? That could happen. We don't want that to happen."

Israel, meanwhile, sent ground troops into southern Lebanon on Tuesday and warned residents of more than 80 villages to evacuate as the Iran-backed militant Hezbollah group said it was ready for an "open war" with Israel. According to reports, the UAE and Qatar are lobbying US allies to help them persuade Trump to reach for an off-ramp that would keep US military operations against Iran short.

CONTINUE ON PAGE 4

## Trump Claims Iran Military 'Knocked Out'

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

US President Donald Trump on Tuesday claimed that joint US-Israeli military strikes had "knocked out" most of Iran's military capabilities, even as he acknowledged uncertainty over Iran's political future and faced criticism over the lack of a clear post-war strategy. Speaking during a meeting with German Chancellor Friedrich Merz at the White House,

Trump said Iran's navy, air force, radar systems and air-defence networks had been largely destroyed in the ongoing conflict that has rapidly escalated across West Asia. The strikes, launched under "Operation Epic Fury," marked one of the region's most significant military confrontations in more than two decades. Trump defended the offensive, stating the United States acted pre-emptively because Iran was alleg-

CONTINUE ON PAGE 4

## Invest With Confidence, PM Modi Tells India Inc

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday called on industry to step up investment and research to scale up domestic manufacturing, stating that India must position itself as a reliable partner in global supply chains. Addressing the second webinar on the Union Budget 2026-27, Modi said policy direction alone would not deliver results without active participation from industry, financial institutions and state governments. He urged stakeholders to focus on expanding manufacturing and production while making cost structures more competitive.

"It will leverage the vast opportunities offered by free trade agreements or FTAs with various nations. The world is now looking for reliable and resilient manufacturing partners, and India has the opportunity to play this role decisively to enhance the country's participation in the global supply chain," he said. Stressing the need for higher research spending and adoption of new technologies, the Prime Minister said quality must align with global standards. "For this, all stakeholders must invest with confidence, adopt new technologies, and increase investment in research — those days of being frugal in research are over. We must ensure quality in line with global standards. As I often say, when opportunities arise to move ahead, we must have only one mantra — quality, quality, quality," he said.

On free trade agreements, Modi said India had entered into FTAs with several countries, creating new opportunities for domestic industry. "In such a situation, our responsibility is that we should never



compromise on quality. If there is one area where we must apply maximum strength, intelligence, and focus, it is quality. Our products must meet global standards," he said. "We need to study the needs and expectations of other countries and conduct thorough research. We must understand the preferences and comfort of consumers in those markets. In today's competitive world, quality is what gives us a golden opportunity. We must create user-friendly pro-

ducts tailored to their needs. Only then, India can truly benefit from the opportunities opened by various free trade agreements, which have created a highway of growth for you," he added. The Prime Minister said manufacturing, logistics, MSMEs, small and cottage industries, and urban centres function as interconnected pillars of the economy, and that the current Budget had strengthened each of them. "Strong manufacturing creates new opportunities and boosts exports. Competitive MSMEs promote flexibility and innovation. Better logistics reduce costs. Well-planned cities attract both investment and talent. This year's budget has strengthened all these pillars significantly," he said.

## India Has A 45-Day Oil Buffer

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Amid the ongoing war in West Asia that threatens global oil supplies, India has a crude oil reserve of about 100 million barrels, which would meet 40-45 days of the country's requirement if flows through the Strait of Hormuz were disrupted, according to Kpler. India imports about 88 per cent of crude oil — the raw material for fuels such as petrol and diesel. Of this, more than 50 per cent is supplied by West Asian countries, passing the narrow Strait of Hormuz, which Tehran has disrupted.

"If crude oil supply from West Asia were to halt for a temporary period, it would affect oil prices globally," said Sumit Ritolia, Lead Research Analyst, Refining & Modeling at Kpler. A closure of the Strait of Hormuz would prompt cargo liftings.

"Refiners typically maintain commercial inventories, and cargoes already on water would continue to arrive, providing some short-term cushioning to the system," he said, adding that in the event of a prolonged disruption, medium-term pressures would build through higher import costs, freight exposure and the need to reroute supplies over longer distances. "The country maintains strategic petroleum reserves alongside commercial inventories held by refiners and oil marketing companies. These buffers are intended to manage temporary supply shocks rather than sustained outages," he said. "Based on Kpler inventory data, commercial crude stocks are around 100 million barrels, including volumes in the strategic petroleum reserve (SPR) facilities at Mangalore, Padur and Visakhapatnam."

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## Aircraft From War-hit Gulf Arrive In Hyderabad

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

An Oman Air flight, the first from the Gulf region after the war broke out, landed at the Shamshabad airport at about 3 pm on Tuesday. It was followed by an Emirates flight at about 8 pm. Family members received the returning passengers with deep emotion. The Oman Air aircraft carried only about 30 passengers, as the fare was said to be very high. Preenithi Kumar and her husband, travelling from London to Hyderabad, said they were stranded during a layover at Dubai airport on Saturday after bombing began. The airline provided accommodation and



food, but they said there was no clear information about flight schedules and customer care and hotel reception did not respond. Their Emirates flight later reached Hyderabad. Earlier in the day, US citizens Mock and Haley, residents of North Carolina, who reached the city via the Oman Air flight, said, "We started on Friday from JFK airport in New York; the layover was at Abu Dhabi. Since the region was bombed, we were in Oman for four days." They praised the people of Oman for being cooperative and helpful

and were happy to arrive in Hyderabad. Another Oman Air passenger Nikhal Kara, who owns a manufacturing unit in Coimbatore and has a contract for automation of machinery in Kuwait, said, "The flight ticket fare for this flight was too expensive. I paid ₹1.5 lakh for this trip. There were around 30 passengers in the flight. The aircraft had to return empty, because no one will be travelling to West Asia now." "The Gulf countries have thousands of Indian workers, earning meagre income. Though they want to return back to the country, they can't afford the ticket fare. The government should help him to come back," he said.

## Drone Strike Hits U.S. Embassy in Riyadh

**RIYADH**  
Wakeup telangana

A drone attack struck the U.S. Embassy in Riyadh early Tuesday, causing a limited fire and minor material damage but no casualties, Saudi Arabia's Defence Ministry said in an initial assessment shared on X. The incident comes amid escalating regional tensions following ongoing Iranian missile and drone strikes targeting Gulf states hosting U.S. military bases after recent U.S. and Israeli attacks on Iran. Two drones reportedly hit the embassy compound in Riyadh's Diplomatic Quarter, where many for-

eign missions are located. Witnesses reported hearing a loud explosion, while flames and black smoke were seen rising above the area. Officials confirmed the fire was minor and quickly contained. No injuries were reported as the embassy building was largely empty during the early morning hours. Following the attack, the U.S. Embassy issued a "shelter in place" advisory for American citizens in Riyadh, Jeddah, and Dhahran, urging them to avoid visiting the embassy until further notice while security assessments continue.

## Revanth Sets 99-Day Action Plan With 10 Governance Priorities

The Telangana Formation Day celebrations on June 2 should be held on a grand scale, Revanth Reddy said

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Tuesday unveiled a structured 99-day Praja Palana-Pragathi Pranalika programme, directing district collectors to implement a result-oriented action plan centred on 10 key governance themes, to be executed in five phases over three months. Addressing a collectors' conference, the Chief Minister stressed measur-

able outcomes and active participation from elected representatives ranging from gram sarpanches to Members of Parliament. A one-day training programme for newly elected local body representatives will be held at district headquarters on March 12 to strengthen grassroots implementation. The 10 priority themes include village-level cleanliness, clearance of pending files, healthcare improvement, road safety under the 'Arrive Alive'



initiative, welfare delivery, child safety and drug-abuse prevention, farmers' welfare and agriculture, education reforms, youth and sports development, women's empowerment, and environmental protection. Senior IAS officers will be appointed as nodal officers in each district to monitor progress through a department-wise 10-week special drive.

Revanth Reddy directed collectors to organise gram sabhas to raise awareness about government initiatives and transparently present village-wise data on welfare scheme expenditure and beneficiaries. Telangana Formation Day celebrations on June 2 should be conducted on a grand scale, he said.

Focusing on education, the Chief Minister instructed officials to ensure textbooks and uniforms are distributed to govern-

ment school students on the first day of the academic year, June 12. He also called for installing solar plants in schools and promoting solar power usage in villages, highlighting income opportunities through grid connectivity and encouraging farmers to adopt solar pump sets.

On healthcare, collectors were asked to regularly inspect government hospitals and prevent lapses, warning that negligence

CONTINUE ON PAGE 4

ESTD-1960

## ASTORIA HOTEL

Hyderabad Laziz Biryani

ek baar khaoge baar baar aaooge

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

# Owaisi Slams Centre Over 'Selective' Advisory

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Hyderabad MP and AIMIM President Asaduddin Owaisi has strongly criticised the Union government over its recent advisory directing states to monitor pro-Iran radical preachers following the Israel-US attacks on Iran, accusing the Centre of adopting "double standards" in handling hate speech and communal tensions. Taking to social media platform X on Tuesday, Owaisi alleged that the advisory issued by the Union Home Ministry exposes inconsistency in the Centre's approach toward maintaining communal harmony. He questioned why similar advisories were never issued to curb anti-Muslim hate speeches despite repeated



incidents across the country. According to the advisory circulated to all states and Union Territories on February 28, the Home Ministry asked authorities to closely monitor inflammatory speeches by pro-Iran radical preachers that could potentially trigger violence or disturb public order. The ministry also instructed states to maintain strict vigilance over extremist social media activity and accounts linked

to global terror groups, warning that international developments may create domestic tensions through provocative rhetoric. Reacting sharply, Owaisi said that while the Centre invokes national security concerns in certain situations, it often distances itself from responsibility by stating that law and order is a state subject when incidents of anti-Muslim hate speech occur. In his post, he alleged that individuals ac-

cus of delivering speeches inciting violence against Muslims have repeatedly violated bail conditions without strong action.

He further claimed that conferences allegedly promoting unconstitutional ideas had received government support, arguing that selective action undermines constitutional values and equal protection under the law. Owaisi also pointed out what he described as a rise in hate speeches targeting Muslims, particularly in the context of discussions surrounding the Gaza conflict since 2023. The advisory came amid heightened tensions following recent geopolitical developments involving Israel and the United States' military actions against Iran. Several states witnessed protests

on Sunday and Monday condemning the reported killing of Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei during the attacks. Demonstrations were also held in Hyderabad, where participants expressed grief and anger over the incident.

The All India Majlis-e-Itehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) had earlier condemned the killing, with Owaisi describing it as "illegal and immoral." Party MLAs and MLCs joined protest gatherings in Hyderabad, calling for restraint and adherence to international law. The Centre's advisory, meanwhile, emphasised preventive measures, urging states to ensure that no law-and-order disturbances arise due to global developments and related public reactions within India.

# GHMC proposes uni-directional steel flyover at Nagarjuna Circle to ease traffic congestion

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The GHMC has proposed a two-lane unidirectional steel flyover at the NFCL junction, popularly known as Nagarjuna Circle, to ease severe traffic congestion at one of the busiest junctions in the city. The GHMC standing committee has already given the green signal to invite tenders for the project, which features a steel flyover stretching from Road No. 3 to GVK Mall.

In 2022, the then BRS government built the city's first steel bridge on Road No. 3, Banjara Hills, near Chutney's, and decongested traffic coming from the TV9 junction. Now, another one-way steel bridge is set to come up at the junction and span from Road No. 3, Banjara Hills, towards GVK Mall.

"Hundreds of vehicles are caught in traffic jams while proceeding towards Punjagutta Circle and the Punjagutta ramp towards Praja Bhavan, Begumpet and Secunderabad during peak hours. At the same time, traffic from Jalagam Vengal Rao Park, Masab Tank and Mehdiptanam proceeding towards Punjagutta and Praja Bhavan gets accumulated at the NFCL junction, resulting in traffic congestion," a senior GHMC projects wing official told 'Telangana Today'.



The GHMC proposal is to build a steel bridge that will be 8.5 metres wide and include 0.5-metre-wide crash barriers on either side, apart from a 7.5-metre-wide carriageway. The design includes a viaduct to allow traffic beneath the flyover, supported by reinforced earth wall approaches, the official said. Tenders are expected to be floated soon.

The proposed steel flyover will have crash barriers, approach slabs, pier protection measures and anti-carbonation painting on all exposed concrete surfaces to ensure durability and safety, the official explained.

Underpass to ease traffic congestion: Meanwhile, an underpass proposed at TV9 Junction will be two-lane. It will be 10 metres wide with a 7.5-metre carriageway, a footpath or drainage-cum-utility duct of 0.75 metres on the sides, retaining wall approaches and an underground sump of 2 lakh litres capacity.

# Congress Government Committed to Women's Economic Empowerment: MLA Sri Ganesh

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Congress government is focused on strengthening women economically through welfare initiatives, said Cantonment MLA Sri Ganesh. As part of the Sewing Machine Scheme implemented through the Minority Welfare Development Corporation for Muslim minority women, 200 sewing machines were sanctioned for the Cantonment constituency following the MLA's



intervention with department officials. The machines were recently distributed to beneficiaries in the presence of officials.

On Tuesday, beneficiaries from Ward-1 areas including Boinpally, Kadakpur, and Pension Line met the MLA at his camp office in Picket to express their

gratitude for facilitating the scheme. Speaking on the occasion, Sri Ganesh stated that women's empowerment remains a key objective of the Congress government.

He encouraged women to achieve financial independence and contribute to their families' progress through self-employment.

The MLA advised beneficiaries to work collectively, support one another, and grow in the business sector instead of working in isolation. He also assured them of continued assistance, both from the government and personally, whenever required. Sri Ganesh expressed hope that the initiative would help women become self-reliant and improve their economic stability through sustainable livelihood opportunities. ficer: 9643723157

# Sri Datta Foundation to Host 5-Day 'Sankalpa Siddhi Deeksha' Retreat at Amruthavanam Chityal

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Sri Datta Foundation has announced a five-day advanced spiritual retreat titled 'Sankalpa Siddhi Deeksha' to be held from March 11 to 15 at Amruthavanam, near Chityal in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district. Designed as an intensive residential programme, the retreat is exclusively open to practitioners who have completed the foundation's Sankalpa Kriya Yoga training. Organisers said

the initiative aims to deepen inner awareness, strengthen spiritual discipline and facilitate last-minute personal transformation through structured practice under Guru guidance. The five-day camp will feature a series of advanced spiritual processes, including Samskara Shuddhi (inner purification techniques), guided meditation, advanced Kriya practices, Yoga Nidra, Soham meditation, and Samadhi-oriented contemplative disciplines. Participants

will engage in these practices in a Gurukul-style environment intended to harmonise body and mind, activate subtle energy centres (chakras), and cultivate emotional balance and mental clarity. Founded in Hyderabad and inspired by the teachings of Lord Dattatreya, the organisation—formerly known as Dhyana Foundation—was relaunched as Sri Datta Foundation in January 2025 with the blessings of Brahmarshi Srinivasa Bangarayya Sharma. The

foundation conducts free yoga and meditation sessions, spiritual awareness programmes, and social service initiatives across the Telugu states. According to representatives, the retreat is envisioned not merely as a training camp but as a transformative spiritual journey fostering disciplined living and inner peace. The serene natural setting of Amruthavanam is expected to support deeper meditation and introspection. Participation is limited.

# BJP Targets Revanth Reddy, Calls Rahul PM Claim 'Political Daydream'

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) on Tuesday launched a sharp attack on Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy over his remarks projecting Congress leader Rahul Gandhi as the country's next Prime Minister, with BJP leaders calling the statement politically motivated and disconnected from ground realities. Addressing the media, BJP Telangana Chief Spokesperson and Media Incharge N. V. Subash questioned the basis of the Chief Minister's claim, asking where the Prime Minister's post was vacant and asserting that Prime Minister Narendra Modi continues to enjoy strong public support. He said the BJP believes the current leadership mandate would remain intact until 2047, dismissing Congress projections as an attempt to divert attention from governance failures in Telangana. Subash alleged that instead of reviewing the implementation of election promises and guarantees, the Chief Minister was attempting to impress the party high



command through exaggerated political statements. With Telangana having only 17 Lok Sabha seats, he termed such declarations unrealistic and reflective of "political daydreaming."

Drawing parallels with past political developments, he claimed similar assurances were made before the 2009 elections by former Chief Minister Y. S. Rajasekhara Reddy, suggesting that dynastic politics continues within the Congress. He further alleged that the Chief Minister's remarks were aimed at protecting his position amid internal differences within the party, citing political instability seen in Congress-ruled states like Karnataka. Questioning Rahul Gandhi's leadership credentials, Subash said projecting him for the country's top post was premature, alleging that repeated political relaunches and

criticism of constitutional institutions had weakened the Congress' credibility.

The BJP leader also opposed the reported proposal to restructure the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC), claiming it would create administrative confusion in civic services, taxation, and property-related matters while allegedly serving pensioners and students in Hyderabad, Subash said public dissatisfaction with the state government was increasing and urged the administration to prioritize governance and accountability, including clarifying the utilization of ₹650 crore in central funds and the status of the promised ₹2 crore allocation to each municipal division.

# Grand Preparations Underway for Mallareddy's Golden Jubilee Wedding Anniversary Celebrations



Elaborate arrangements are being made to celebrate the 50th wedding anniversary (Golden Jubilee) of former Minister and current Medchal MLA, Chamkura Mallareddy. The celebrations are being planned on a grand scale with active public participation, announced Chamkura Bhadra Reddy. A preparatory meeting was convened under the leadership of Bhadra Reddy at the local MLA camp office in Ghatkesar to discuss the series of events scheduled across the united mandal. It was resolved to conduct the Golden Jubilee celebrations as a people's festival, incorporating service activities and sports competitions to encourage youth participation. Cricket Tournament as a Special Attraction As part of the festivities, a large-scale cricket tournament will be organized from March 10 to March 17 at Kachavani Singaram and Narappally Central Grounds. The organizers stated that the tournament aims to promote sportsmanship and foster enthusiasm among the youth in the region. The inaugural ceremony of the cricket tournament on March 10 is expected to be graced by K. T. Rama Rao as the Chief Guest. Several prominent leaders and party workers from the united mandal attended the preparatory meeting and assured their full cooperation to ensure the grand success.

# Rapolu Madhuri: From Banker to Grassroots Community Leader

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Rapolu Madhuri, a former banking professional turned social activist and political leader, has emerged as a prominent grassroots figure known for her community-focused initiatives and civic service in Secunderabad. With a strong emphasis on women's empowerment, child welfare, and development of backward areas, she continues to work toward inclusive local progress. An MBA postgraduate from Sainikpuri, Madhuri began her career as a Credit Manager in the banking sector, gaining administrative and financial expertise that later shaped her approach to pub-



lic service. She entered public life in 2016 as a GHMC Ward Member under the mentorship of late MLA G. Sayanna, marking the beginning of her active political and social journey. Her leadership became most visible during the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, when she

worked extensively at the grassroots level, assisting vulnerable communities and coordinating relief efforts in underserved localities.

Madhuri has also contributed to cultural and social institutions, serving as a member of the Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC). Within the BJP, she held roles including Ex-Vice President of Mahila Morcha (Mahankali District) and Ex-In-Charge of Sanath Nagar. Additionally, she serves as State Vice President (Women's Wing) in a human rights and social justice NGO. Known for her humble leadership style, Madhuri continues to focus on sustainable community development and civic empowerment.

# One injured as speeding car rams into truck, bursts into flames in Hyderabad

A speeding car created panic on the Bairamalguda flyover in LB Nagar after crashing into a goods vehicle and catching fire on Sunday midnight. No casualties were reported.

The incident occurred when the car reportedly travelled at high speed and rammed into the rear of a DCM truck.

Following the impact, the vehicle lost control and hit the road divider, triggering a sudden blaze that engulfed the car within minutes. Locals who witnessed the accident immediately alerted the police and the fire department.

# A Helping Hand to the Elderly by Prem Hastham Foundation

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Under the aegis of Prem Hastham Foundation and Charitable Trust, a service initiative was conducted for elderly residents living in old age homes as part of its monthly outreach program. According to the Founder and Chairman, Rev. Dr. Vijay Darla, the Foundation has been organizing service activities during the first week of every month to support senior citizens residing in old age homes in and around Uppal. As part of the initiative, food and tiffin were provided to the



inmates of Sri Krishna Old Age Home. He stated that the program has been continuing consistently for the past one year. Speaking on the occasion, Rev. Dr. Vijay Darla highlighted that many elderly individuals

in old age homes often struggle to meet their basic needs and rely on the support of well-wishers. The Foundation has been extending assistance by providing essential food items and basic necessities such as

bedsheets and other daily-use materials. He further affirmed that similar service activities would continue in various old age homes across the Uppal region during the first week of every month.

The program witnessed the participation of Founder and Chairman Rev. Dr. Vijay Darla, Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Darla, and members CH Nageswara Rao, Parimala, O.J. Moses, T. Roja, K. Rajarao, Ribka Rani, Kola Jaya, Jimmy, Kaushik, Neha, Naomi, Vinay, Suchitha, Naema Hanok, Anush, and others.

### TGGDA Condemns Suspension of Doctors in Jadcherla Incident

The Telangana Government Doctors Association (TGGDA) has condemned the suspension of doctors in connection with the Jadcherla hospital incident where a dog was seen nibbling at a body in the mortuary. It said the maintenance and management of a hospital mortuary was not responsibility of doctors who were accountable only for conducting postmortem examinations. The management, security and supervision of the mortuary fall under the jurisdiction of designated mortuary supervisors and supporting personnel, the statement by TGGDA state president Dr Narahari, general secretary Dr Lalu Prasad Rathod and treasurer Dr M.K. Raouf said. The association demanded immediate revocation of the suspension orders issued against the Jadcherla doctors. According to TGGDA, the mortuary was located in the old building and was in a dilapidated condition, allowing animals such as dogs and rodents to enter easily. The association believes that similar circumstances led to the present incident.

## Irrigation Dept Refutes KTR Sand Mining Claims

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

In a strong rebuttal to allegations made by BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao, the Telangana Irrigation Department has categorically denied claims that sand mining activities at the Annaram barrage were endangering the structure, calling the accusations baseless and misleading.

According to the department, no illegal or commercial sand mining is taking place at the barrage. Officials clarified that the ongoing sand removal is purely technical in nature and is being carried out to facilitate essential scientific examinations of the barrage structure. The works are aimed at enabling geophysical and geotechnical testing required to assess the condition and safety of the infrastructure.

In an official statement, Mahadevur Division-II Executive Engineer Ramesh Babu explained that sand accumulated around the barrage had to be cleared to allow engineers and scientists access to concrete portions buried beneath sediment de-



posits. These tests are being conducted following recommendations from the Central Water and Power Research Station (CWPRS), Pune, a premier national institute specializing in hydraulic and structural research.

The engineer emphasized that all activities were being executed strictly under official supervision. Teams from the Irrigation Department, State Mineral Development Corporation, and the barrage construction contractor are jointly monitoring the process to ensure compliance with technical guidelines and safety norms. Addressing concerns about struc-

tural safety, officials clarified that sand removal is being carried out only within prescribed limits designed to protect the barrage's foundations. The department stated that no excavation is being undertaken below 106 metres on the upstream side and 103.5 metres on the downstream side — levels identified as safe thresholds for maintaining structural stability.

Authorities further explained that significant sand accumulation had covered both upstream and downstream areas, including apron sections of the barrage, making testing impossible without prior clearance. The controlled removal is therefore a necessary preparatory step for conducting detailed scientific evaluations by CWPRS experts.

The irrigation department reiterated that all procedures are being conducted scientifically and transparently, dismissing suggestions that the work posed any threat to the barrage. Officials urged the public not to be misled by unverified claims and assured that safeguarding the structure remains the government's top priority.

## Stray dogs nibble on body: Jadcherla hospital superintendent, three others suspended

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Vaidya Vidhana Parishat Commissioner Ajay Kumar has suspended Government General Hospital, Jadcherla Superintendent Dr. Chandrakala and three others after stray dogs nibbled on a body in the postmortem wing of the hospital on Monday.

Apart from the Superintendent, Duty RMO Dr. Harinath, Duty Medical Officer Munisha and mortuary supporting staff member Ravi Prakash were suspended following outrage from family members and relatives of the deceased, who turned their anger on the hospital staff and demanded that the government initiate stern action.

Ajay Kumar, along with senior officials, visited the Government General Hospital, Jadcherla and inquired into the in-



cident. After issuing the suspension orders, he assured that measures would be initiated to ensure such incidents do not recur.

Meanwhile, former Health Minister C Laxma Reddy, who also visited the hospital, condemned the incident and said it reflected the Congress government's negligence. The mortuary building at the new hospital was completed in June 2024 but was not put to use. Though the hospital management had taken control six months ago, this was the prevailing condition, he said.

"By suspending a few

officials, the Congress government is trying to wash off its hands. Why was the mortuary not shifted and where have the freezer and stretcher vanished from the wing?" he asked.

He further alleged that maintenance of government hospitals was being neglected and that patients and their attendants were struggling to get medicines. The BRS government had constructed new hospital buildings and extended all facilities, but the Congress government had failed to deliver quality treatment to the poor, he added.

## Selective Demolitions Target Poor, Powerful Builders Untouched": Kavitha

Kavitha Leads Narsingi Protest Over Musi River Encroachment

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana  
Santosh chowdary

Telangana Jagruthi president K. Kavitha led a strong protest in Narsingi on Tuesday along with local residents, demanding immediate action against an alleged large-scale real estate encroachment on the Musi River. Accusing the Congress government and HYDRA authorities of selective enforcement, she questioned what she described as "double standards" in protecting water bodies.

Addressing protesters, Kavitha alleged that while homes of poor families are demolished swiftly in the name of protecting river lands, influential real estate ventures are being allowed to continue construction without intervention. She asked whether governance was being carried out fairly or selectively targeting vulnerable sections of society.

The protest focused on alleged encroachments along the Musi River, where residents claimed that massive construction



activity was progressing despite objections. Kavitha criticised officials for failing to act promptly, stating that authorities cited official meetings when contacted, raising concerns about administrative priorities. She questioned whether meetings were more important than safeguarding Telangana's rivers and ensuring justice.

Highlighting previous demolition drives, she pointed out that houses belonging to economically weaker sections in Quthbullapur were removed without delay, while nearly 600 families in Khammam's Velugumatla area reportedly lost their homes during en-

forcement actions. Similarly, several families living along Musi riverbanks had faced demolitions, she said, alleging inconsistency when dealing with influential developers.

Kavitha also raised concerns about residents of long-standing apartment complexes, including Madhu Ridge Apartments, claiming that middle-class families who invested their life savings nearly two decades ago are now facing uncertainty and alleged harassment. She clarified that the movement was not against private individuals but against what she termed selective governance.

## Vibrant Holi Celebrations Unite Community at Bowenpally Playground

Community leaders, residents celebrate Holi promoting unity, tradition, eco-friendly colors

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

The Bowenpally Playground came alive with colors, music, and festive enthusiasm as the Cantonment Sports Association organized grand Holi celebrations, bringing together residents, sports personalities, and community leaders in a vibrant display of unity and tradition. Former Cantonment Board Vice-President Jampana Pratap attended the event as the



chief guest, adding significance to the festivities. Addressing the gathering, Jampana Pratap highlighted the cultural and spiritual importance of

Holi, describing it as a festival symbolizing the victory of good over evil and the strengthening of social harmony. He urged people to celebrate the oc-

casation with joy while preserving its traditional values and deeper meaning. During his interaction with participants, Pratap emphasized the need to return to eco-friendly celebrations. He recalled earlier times when natural colors prepared from turmeric, lemon, saffron, and plant extracts were commonly used, encouraging the younger generation to adopt environmentally safe practices to protect both health and heritage. The celebrations wit-

nessed enthusiastic participation from local residents, sports enthusiasts, and community representatives, reflecting strong communal bonding. Participants exchanged greetings, played with colors, and celebrated the festival in a spirit of inclusivity and togetherness, making the event a memorable occasion that showcased cultural unity in Secunderabad's Cantonment area.

## Garlapati Jitendra Kumar Backs PM Modi's Swift Diplomacy Amid West Asia Tensions

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

Senior BJP leader Garlapati Jitendra Kumar, who has contested as MP from the Nalgonda Parliamentary Constituency on behalf of the Bharatiya Janata Party, has strongly praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his swift diplomatic outreach amid escalating tensions in West Asia.

Jitendra Kumar commended the Prime Minister's high-level discussions with leaders of multiple nations within 48 hours, condemning attacks on sovereign countries and stressing the need for peace and stability. He said the rapid engagement reflects India's growing global influence and responsible leadership during times of crisis.



Highlighting the safety of nearly 10 million Indians residing in Arab nations, the BJP leader stated that the government's priority remains the welfare and protection of the Indian diaspora. He noted that contingency plans are under review and developments are being closely monitored, especially in light of reported missile strikes near Bahrain International Air-

port that raised regional concerns.

On the domestic front, Jitendra Kumar welcomed the Centre's assurance that petrol and diesel prices will not see immediate hikes despite global uncertainties. He emphasized that India's crude oil reserves, sufficient for around 25 days, and efforts to diversify LNG and LPG sourcing demonstrate strong economic planning.

He said the government's dual approach — proactive diplomacy abroad and energy security at home — highlights strategic leadership. According to Jitendra Kumar, India today stands diplomatically engaged, economically stable, and firmly committed to safeguarding its citizens worldwide under Prime Minister Modi's leadership.

## Nellore DCC Kiran Kumar Reddy Chief Meets Rahul Gandhi

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

A proud moment was witnessed during the recent DCC Presidents' training programme as Nellore DCC President Kiran Kumar Reddy alias Karunakar Reddy met senior Congress leader Rahul Gandhi. The multi-day training camp, attended by District Congress Committee presidents from different regions, focused on strengthening party organisation and leadership skills. Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy also participated in the programme, highlighting its



political importance. Leaders, including representatives from Vikarabad, took part in intensive sessions aimed at future party strategy. Supporters expressed pride and conveyed hopes that Kiran Kumar Reddy would rise to become Andhra Pradesh PCC President.

## Jahangir Baba Seeks Rajya Sabha Seat for Muslims

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

AI Faiz Welfare Society President Jahangir Baba has urged the Congress leadership to allocate a Rajya Sabha seat from Telangana to a representative belonging to the Muslim minority community, particularly from Mahbubnagar district, citing the need for social justice and political inclusion.

Speaking at a programme, Jahangir Baba said that a memorandum had been submitted to Congress Lok Sabha Opposition Leader Rahul Gandhi requesting fair



political representation for backward communities of Mahbubnagar, especially Muslims. He stated that the Muslim minority played a significant role in the Congress Party's victory in the Telangana Assembly elections and therefore deserves adequate representation at the national level. He emphasized that pro-

viding a Rajya Sabha opportunity to a Muslim leader from Telangana would strengthen democratic participation and promote inclusive governance. According to him, minorities were at the forefront in supporting the Congress party and contributed decisively to bringing the government to power in the state.

Jahangir Baba also referred to the recommendations of the Sachar Committee, constituted during the previous UPA government, which highlighted the need to enhance political opportunities and rep-

resentation for Muslims across the country. He said implementing such recommendations would help uplift socially and economically backward sections within the minority community.

Highlighting the importance of political empowerment, he stressed that increasing minority representation in legislative bodies is essential for balanced development and social equity. AI Faiz Welfare Society Secretary Mohammed Yaqub and several members of the organization participated in the programme and extended their support to the demand.

## Dasoju Shraavan Slams Govt Over OU Exam Row, Education Failures

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

MLC Dasoju Shraavan on behalf of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) extended Holi greetings to the people of Telangana while launching a sharp attack on the State government, accusing it of administrative failures and corruption, particularly in the education sector.

Addressing the media, Shraavan alleged serious irregularities in examinations conducted by Osmania University. He said two separate law courses — a five-year law pro-



gramme and a three-year honours law course — held examinations on February 25 and February 27 respectively. Despite being different courses, he claimed both exams carried identical question papers for subjects relating to Indian legal and constitutional history, calling it clear evidence of negligence and systemic

failure. Targeting Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, Shraavan alleged that such incidents reflect the deterioration of the education system under the current administration. He questioned the government's competence, stating that authorities unable to prepare proper examination papers cannot effectively govern the state. The BRS leader also raised allegations of financial irregularities, claiming a ₹100-crore scam in bunker bed procurement, where items allegedly worth ₹60 crore were purchased for ₹160

crore. He further criticised reported policy decisions, including proposals affecting Gurukul institutions and fee reimbursement schemes, and questioned pending dues to universities. Shraavan accused the government of demolishing houses of the poor, mishandling recruitment examinations, and reversing administrative decisions under public pressure. He alleged that governance had become irresponsible and demanded accountability, urging the Chief Minister to step down if unable to govern effectively.

## West Asia Tensions: PM Modi Holds Talks with Sultan of Oman, Kuwait's Crown Prince

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday intensified India's diplomatic outreach to Gulf nations amid escalating tensions in West Asia, holding telephonic conversations with Sultan Haitham bin Tariq and Sheikh Sabah Al-Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah to express concern over recent attacks and review the safety of Indian nationals in the region. According to officials, the discussions focused primarily on the rapidly deteriorating security situation following ongoing military confrontations across West Asia. Modi conveyed India's deep concern over attacks targeting Oman and Kuwait dur-

ing the unfolding conflict and reiterated New Delhi's support for peace, stability and respect for national sovereignty. The welfare and security of the large Indian diaspora living in both countries formed a key part of the conversations.

The calls come against the backdrop of heightened regional tensions after coordinated strikes by the United States and Israel against Iran, which reportedly resulted in the killing of Iran's Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei. In retaliation, Iran has launched drone and missile attacks targeting Israel, US military installations in the Gulf, and strategic commercial and aviation hubs including Dubai and Doha, raising global security concerns and dis-



rupting regional stability. Officials said the Prime Minister reaffirmed India's commitment to maintaining close coordination with Gulf partners to ensure the safety of expatriate communities and safeguard economic and energy interests linked to the region. Millions of Indians live and work across Gulf nations, making their protection a top diplomatic priority during crises. The latest outreach is

part of a broader series of high-level diplomatic engagements undertaken by Modi over the past two days. He earlier spoke with the King of Bahrain and the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, condemning attacks that violated their sovereignty and territorial integrity while expressing solidarity with their citizens during the crisis. Modi also held discussions with Abdullah II of Jordan, conveying India's deep concern

over the evolving regional situation and emphasizing dialogue and de-escalation. Additionally, he spoke with Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu as part of India's ongoing diplomatic efforts to engage all key stakeholders. Government sources described the conversations as part of India's balanced diplomatic approach aimed at promoting stability while maintaining strong bilateral ties across the region. With tensions continuing to rise, India is closely monitoring developments and coordinating with partner nations to ensure regional peace and the safety of its citizens abroad.

## BJP Claims Uddhav Blocking Pawar's Rajya Sabha Return

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana



Maharashtra BJP vice president Keshav Upadhye on Tuesday criticised Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray over the latter's alleged unwillingness to leave a Rajya Sabha seat for Sharad Pawar. Thackeray became the chief minister in 2019 only because of Pawar's support, but in politics, self-interest often outweighs gratitude, the BJP leader said. "Today Sharad Pawar, on whose insistence Uddhav Thackeray became the Chief Minister, is in trouble in the Rajya Sabha elections. However, Uddhav Thackeray has taken a stand of opposition instead of cooperation," said Upadhye in his post on X. His remarks came after Shiv Sena (UBT) MLA and Uddhav's son Aaditya Thackeray on Monday staked his party's claim on the lone Rajya Sabha seat from Maha-

rashtra, which the opposition Maha Vikas Abhadi (MVA) is expected to win. Given the numbers, the MVA can win only one seat from Maharashtra. "There is no deadlock in talks for the Rajya Sabha, all parties are in communication with each other. We have put forward our claim on the upcoming Rajya Sabha seat, as numerically and in terms of the rotation policy fixed for the MVA, the seat should be contested by the @ShivSenaUBT. This also aligns with all the political stands that we have taken as the INDIA alliance," said Aaditya. The MVA is yet to announce its candidates, with both the Congress and Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena (UBT)

stating claim for the lone seat. This situation has casts doubt on whether NCP (SP) supremo Sharad Pawar will secure another term. Pawar is one of the seven retiring members, whose Rajya Sabha stint from the state is coming to an end in April. Upadhye further said, "In fact, this was an opportunity for Uddhav Thackeray to return the favour (to Pawar). But in politics, this is an example that selfishness is greater than gratitude. Pawar had mentioned his displeasure with Uddhav Thackeray's behavior during the latter's tenure as Chief Minister in his autobiography; and now, during the MP elections, Sharad Pawar is again experiencing Uddhav Thackeray's political games." "It has become clear once again that both friendship and enmity are not permanent in politics. This can be called the latest example of how quickly old favours and relationships are forgotten.

## Raut Advised To 'Call Trump' Over US-Iran Conflict

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Shiv Sena minister Sanjay Shirsat on Monday mocked Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut asking the latter to directly take up his concerns with US President Donald Trump over the ongoing conflict involving Iran. Shirsat alleged that Raut has been assigned the task of defaming PM Modi. "Our PM is strong. Raut should keep out of international issues. Or he should call US President Trump and Israeli PM Netanyahu in connection with the war," Shirsat said in Chhatrapati

Sambhainagar. Earlier, Raut had criticised the BJP-led central government's handling of the situation triggered by the US-Israel attack on Iran, questioning its implications for India's foreign policy and urging a clearer stance. He termed Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Israel last week as a "jolt to India's global policy" and dubbed Khamenei's killing as cruelty and bullying by Israel and the US. The Rajya Sabha MP also urged Modi to intervene in the Iran-Israel conflict and call for an end to the war. He criticised the gov-

ernment's silence over the killing of Iran's Supreme Leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, whom he described as a 'true friend' of India. "When such a leader is assassinated, India should officially express grief," he added. Raut's comments come following a joint missile strike by Israel and the United States on Iran on February 28, known as Operation Roaring Lion/Operation Epic Fury. Both US President Donald Trump and Iranian state media have confirmed that Ayatollah Ali Khamenei was killed in the strikes, along with his daughter, grandchild, daughter-in-law.

during India-Pakistan wars or on the Kashmir issue, Iran always stood with India... When such a leader is assassinated, India should officially express grief," he added. Raut's comments come following a joint missile strike by Israel and the United States on Iran on February 28, known as Operation Roaring Lion/Operation Epic Fury. Both US President Donald Trump and Iranian state media have confirmed that Ayatollah Ali Khamenei was killed in the strikes, along with his daughter, grandchild, daughter-in-law.

## Restrictions To Continue Across Kashmir As Protests Enter Third Day

**SRINAGAR**  
Wakeup telangana

Mourning and protests over the killing of Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Syed Ali Khamenei in joint US-Israeli air strikes continued for the third straight day on Wednesday in various areas of the Kashmir Valley, with demonstrations also reported from parts of Ladakh and Jammu's Pir Panjal region. Against this backdrop, authorities announced that restrictions will remain in force in all districts of the Valley as a precautionary measure, citing the need to maintain

public order amid heightened tensions. Officials said the decision followed continuous assessments of the situation and was aimed at preventing any untoward incidents, noting that Tuesday had largely remained calm despite sporadic protests. The administration also confirmed that prepaid mobile internet services across the Valley will continue to operate at restricted 2G speeds until 8 PM on March 4. According to an order issued by the Home Department, all prepaid mobile data—whether 2G, 3G, or 4G—has been throttled to a

maximum of 128 Kbps, while prepaid mobile services including pre-on-post (JK10) data, voice, and SMS remain temporarily suspended. The order, issued under the Temporary Suspension of Telecommunication Services Rules, 2024, and Section 20 of the Telecommunication Act, 2023, formally upholds the directions earlier passed by the IGP Kashmir Zone, the designated Authorised Officer. The government stated that the continuation of high-speed internet could pose risks to public order and security, and therefore the restric-

tions—effective since 9 AM on March 1—were deemed absolutely necessary to safeguard the sovereignty and integrity of the Union Territory. The Home Department's communication, issued by the Principal Secretary, has been circulated to senior civil and police authorities for immediate compliance. Officials have urged the public to cooperate with the measures, emphasising that the restrictions are temporary and aimed at preserving peace and stability during a sensitive period.

## Shinde Arranges Special Flights To Bring Back 164 Stranded In UAE

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Shiv Sena chief and Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde has arranged two special aircraft to bring back 164 Maharashtra residents stranded in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) following sudden flight cancellations. The passengers include 84 students from Pune-based Indira School of Business Studies and residents of Thane, Ahilyanagar and Pune. According to the Shiv Sena, all 164 passengers are expected to reach Mumbai safely by night. Party legislators Dilip Mama Lande, Murji Patel and Mangesh Kulkarni have been deputed to receive them at Mumbai Airport. Mr. Shinde said the stranded citizens had approached the government over the past two days after abrupt cancellations caused severe hardship. He added that he had personally spoken to several of them to reassure them of assistance. The deputy Chief minister said the



evacuation was coordinated with members of the Maharashtra Mandal in Dubai and Dr. Sanjeev Paithankar. "Yuva Sena's Rahul Kanal is in constant touch with the tourists and students in Dubai. Citizens from Pune, Thane, Murbad, Shahapur, Ahilyanagar and Mumbai are among those being brought back," he said. Mr. Shinde further stated that the state government is working in coordination with the Centre to ensure the safety of Maharashtrian citizens abroad. Referring to steps taken by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, he appealed to citizens not to panic. He also said arrangements had been made with hotel operators in Dubai to ensure that those awaiting evacuation do not face inconvenience.

Meanwhile, Marathi actress Vishakha Subhedar had shared an emotional video on Instagram appealing to Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, Prime Minister Modi, Mr. Shinde and Maharashtra Navnirman Sena chief Raj Thackeray for help. She said her son, Abhinav Subhedar, was travelling to London and had halted in Kuwait for a layover but became stranded there due to the ongoing situation. Taking cognisance of the appeal, the Deputy Chief Minister's Officer on Special Duty, Dr. Rahul Gethe, contacted Abhinav to assess his condition. Mr. Shinde later spoke to Ms. Subhedar and assured her that officials were in touch with her son. "Arrangements have been made for his stay at the hotel where he is currently lodged. Dr. Paithankar from the Maharashtra Mandal has instructed his team to remain in contact with him. As soon as flight services resume, Abhinav will be brought back safely to Mumbai," Mr. Shinde said.

## Iran Pounds US.....

He rejected speculation that the US is willing to install Reza Pahlavi, the exiled crown prince of Iran's last shah, in Iran. "As far as possible leaders inside Iran, the people we had in mind are dead... I guess the worst case would be to do this, and then somebody takes over who's as bad as the previous per son, right? That could happen. We don't want that to happen." Israel, meanwhile, sent ground troops into southern Lebanon on Tuesday and warned residents of more than 80 villages to evacuate as the Iran-backed militant Hezbollah group said it was ready for an "open war" with Israel. According to reports, the UAE and Qatar are lobbying US allies to help them persuade Trump to reach for an off-ramp that would keep US military operations against Iran short. Airstrikes by the United States and Israel have killed at least 787 people in Iran since the start of the war, the Iranian Red Crescent Society said. In its intelligence assessment, the US department of homeland security said Iran and its proxies "probably" pose a threat of targeted attacks on the United States, although a largescale physical attack was unlikely.

## Trump Claims Iran....

The strikes, launched under "Operation Epic Fury," marked one of the region's most significant military confrontations in more than two decades. Trump defended the offensive, stating the United States acted pre-emptively

because Iran was allegedly preparing to attack. He also contradicted earlier remarks by Secretary of State Marco Rubio, asserting that Washington may have pressured Israel into acting sooner rather than being drawn into the conflict by its ally. Despite projecting military success, Trump admitted uncertainty about Iran's future leadership following the reported killing of several figures viewed by Washington as potential successors to slain Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. "Most of the people we had in mind are dead," he said, adding that any replacement leadership could prove equally hostile. He also urged Iranian citizens to delay protests against their government amid the ongoing conflict. Meanwhile, German Chancellor Merz expressed support for the military action but warned that the war was negatively impacting global economies through rising oil and gas prices. Trump, however, predicted energy prices would eventually fall below pre-war levels. The conflict widened further on Tuesday as Israel carried out simultaneous strikes in Tehran and Beirut, targeting military infrastructure and Hezbollah positions. The US Central Command confirmed sustained operations against Iranian military facilities, including Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps command centres, missile launch sites and airfields. Iran claimed retaliation through a large missile and drone attack on a US air base in Bahrain, reportedly damaging fuel facilities. Tehran's UN am-

bassador vowed continued resistance against what Iran described as US-Israeli aggression, signalling the possibility of further escalation across the region.

## SC Flags Trial.....

"The country maintains strategic petroleum reserves alongside commercial inventories held by refiners and oil marketing companies. These buffers are intended to manage temporary supply shocks rather than sustained outages," he said. "Based on Kpler inventory data, commercial crude stocks are around 100 million barrels, including volumes in the strategic petroleum reserve (SPR) facilities at Mangalore, Padur and Visakhapatnam." "With imports via the Strait of Hormuz averaging roughly 2.5 million barrels per day — about half of India's just over 5 million bpd total crude imports — these combined reserves could theoretically cover around 40-45 days of imports in a crude disruption scenario, he said, adding that additional refined product inventories would extend effective coverage further. However, the immediate impact will be on prices. Brent oil price crossed \$80 per barrel, roughly 10 per cent more since the Iran crisis. For India, higher prices mean higher import bills. India spent \$137 billion on crude oil imports in the fiscal year ended March 31, 2025. During April 2025 to January 2026, the first ten months of the current fiscal year, it spent \$100.4 billion on imports of 206.3 million tonnes of crude oil.

## Revanth Endorses...

He also called for installing solar plants in schools and promoting solar power usage in villages, highlighting income opportunities through grid connectivity and encouraging farmers to adopt solar pump sets. On healthcare, collectors were asked to regularly inspect government hospitals and prevent lapses, warning that negligence would not be tolerated. Noting that nearly ₹2,500 crore is spent annually through the Chief Minister's Relief Fund and Aarogyasri, he stressed that public hospitals must deliver quality services. Plans are underway to integrate government hospitals with medical colleges and operationalise facilities such as Tims hospitals at Sanathnagar and Alwal along with the Warangal hospital. The Chief Minister also ordered strict action against irregularities, revealing that around 25,000 bogus outsourcing employees without Aadhaar records were identified among 1.7 lakh workers. Forensic audits and criminal cases will follow against agencies involved. Collectors were further directed to recover ₹3,900 crore worth of rice pending with millers, ensure transparent ration distribution, resolve pending Bhu Bharati applications, and expedite land acquisition for major infrastructure projects including the Regional Ring Road, Future City, and proposed airports. Revanth Reddy said the programme aligns with the Telangana Rising Vision 2047, urging officials to ensure effective execution for improved.

FROM FRONT PAGE

CRIME

Quash petition dismissed by the T HC

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

A detailed press note has been issued by Advocate Naguluri Krishna Kumar Goud, counsel representing Mr. Venkateswara Rao, son of Shri K. Keshava Rao, regarding the dismissal of Criminal Petition No. 1844 of 2026 by the Hon'ble High Court, thereby allowing criminal proceedings to continue in accordance with law. The criminal case originates from a complaint lodged by Mr. Venkateswara Rao alleging serious acts of criminal intimidation and extortion against Mr. Gadila Raghuvver Reddy. According to the complaint, the accused allegedly demanded a sum of ₹3 crores from the complainant, claiming that he possessed the ability to withdraw a pending Public Interest Litigation (PIL) and issue a No Objection Certificate (NOC) connected to the said litigation upon pay-



ment of the demanded amount. The complaint further stated that the accused allegedly made representations suggesting that adverse legal and personal consequences would follow if the demand was not fulfilled. Based on these allegations, the complainant approached the Banjara Hills Police seeking legal action. Acting upon the complaint and the prima facie material placed before them, the Banjara Hills Police registered a First Information Report (FIR) and initiated an investigation in accordance with es-

tablished legal procedures. The investigation was undertaken to examine the allegations and gather evidence relevant to the claims made in the complaint. Subsequently, the accused approached the Hon'ble High Court by filing Criminal Petition No. 1844 of 2026 under the relevant provisions of law, seeking quashing of the FIR and all consequential criminal proceedings initiated pursuant to the complaint. The petitioner contended that the allegations did not warrant continuation of criminal prosecution and sought ju-

dicial intervention to terminate the proceedings at the preliminary stage. The matter was extensively argued before the Hon'ble High Court. Advocate Prateek Reddy and Senior Advocate Uma Maheswara Rao appeared on behalf of the petitioner-accused, advancing arguments in support of quashing the FIR. Representing the de facto complainant, Mr. Venkateswara Rao, Advocate Naguluri Krishna Kumar Goud, along with Senior Advocate Prabhakar Sri-pada, presented detailed submissions opposing the quash petition and emphasizing the seriousness of the allegations and the necessity of a full-fledged investigation. After hearing the submissions of learned counsel on both sides and carefully examining the material placed on record, the Hon'ble High Court declined to interfere at this stage of the proceedings. The Court dismissed the criminal petition, holding

Cheating case accused gets bail

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana High Court granted bail to a businessman accused of luring a woman into investing ₹75 lakh in a real estate venture under the alleged false promise of marriage. The judge was dealing with a criminal petition filed by Kambhammettu Rana Pratap Reddy. According to the prosecution, the de-facto complainant alleged that the accused developed a relationship with her in 2023, promised to marry her, and under that pretext allegedly exploited her physically and induced her to invest ₹75 lakh in a real estate venture. It was alleged that he later refused to

marry her and failed to return the money. Counsel for the petitioner contended that the allegations were false and argued that the complainant herself was not interested in marriage. It was submitted that the petitioner had been in judicial custody since January 7 and that a substantial part of the investigation had been completed. The additional public prosecutor opposed the bail plea, maintaining that the accused received the amount and deceived the complainant under the guise of marriage. The state submitted that the investigation was still ongoing. After considering the rival submissions and examining the material on record.

Bachupally Student's Suicide Bid Exposes Abuse

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

An alleged case of sexual exploitation involving a student of a private engineering college in Bachupally came to light after she reportedly attempted suicide on Saturday, prompting her mother to file a police complaint. According to the complaint, a fellow student, Ashish, befriended the victim nearly a year ago and later subjected her to repeated sexual assault. He allegedly administered intoxicants, procured through the Dark Web, and exploited her both on campus and elsewhere. Another youth, Praveen, was also

named in the complaint for assault. The victim's mother alleged that the accused threatened to circulate nude photographs if she resisted. She claimed the matter had earlier been reported to the college management, but no action was taken. The victim herself stated she was once assaulted inside a classroom, where staff caught them, but the management accepted the accused's explanation. The issue surfaced after the student's suicide attempt. Bachupally police registered a case under charges of rape and criminal intimidation and have initiated an investigation.

Hyderabad man held for using fake number plate

The Langar House Police Station has registered a criminal case and apprehended the accused, Arif Khan, for allegedly using a forged registration plate on his vehicle. According to officials, the legitimate owner of a Honda Activa bearing registration number TS13EX3358 approached the traffic police after receiving illegal traffic challans against his vehicle. During the investigation, authorities found that the accused had replaced his vehicle's original registration number with TS13EX3358 to mislead authorities.

HC to hear plea on medical stipends

WARANGAL  
Wakeup telangana

A two-judge panel of the Telangana High Court took on file a public interest litigation (PIL) concerning allegations of unlawful withdrawals and deductions of stipends payable to medical students in private medical colleges. The panel, comprising Chief Justice Aparsh Kumar Singh and Justice G.M. Mohiuddin, treated as a PIL, a letter seeking an immediate inquiry into the financial irregularities and a direction to compel institutions to refund wrongfully deducted amounts to affected students. The letter contended that despite

submission of multiple representations and complaints to the competent regulatory and governmental authorities highlighting the issue of stipend irregularities, no effective action had been initiated, thereby resulting in continued financial hardship to students. The PIL sought judicial intervention in relation to alleged financial irregularities concerning stipend payments, that several private medical colleges were resorting to unauthorised deductions and withdrawals from stipends that are mandatorily payable to medical students undergoing internship and post-graduate training

Man booked for illegal teak timber storage in Chintapalli

A man was booked for allegedly procuring and storing teak timber illegally in his house at Chintapalli village in Jannaram mandal on Friday. Timber worth over Rs.24,000 was seized from his possession. Jannaram Forest Range Officer Sushma Rao, in a statement, said a case was registered against Muthyam Venkanna from the village for procuring and storing the teak timber at his house. Venkanna was found to have stored the timber logs during a surprise raid conducted by the Forest officials, following a tip-off. The timber was shifted to the office of Jannaram FRO for further inquiry and legal action.

Two Electric Poles Removed at KV Junction to Ease Traffic Flow

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

Traffic movement at KV Junction under the Trimulgherry Traffic Police Station limits has significantly improved after the successful removal of two electric poles that were obstructing vehicular flow. The initiative was undertaken by the Trimulgherry Division Traffic Police as part of ongoing junction development measures aimed at enhancing road safety and



reducing regular traffic movement. The electric poles had long posed a challenge, particularly during peak hours, leading to traffic bottlenecks and inconvenience for

commuters. Officials stated that clearing the obstruction has widened the usable road space, enabling smoother vehicle movement and reducing congestion at the busy junction. The measure is expected to enhance commuter safety and improve overall traffic management in the area. The traffic police reiterated their commitment to implementing infrastructure improvements for safer and more efficient road usage.

EDITORIAL

SAFETY FIRST FOR MAKE IN INDIA

NEW DELHI  
Wakeup telangana

Two devastating industrial explosions within two days — February 28 and March 1 — in two of India's most industrially advanced States have once again exposed the alarming gaps in safety regulation governing hazardous manufacturing units. The twin tragedies, which together claimed more than 40 lives, underline a persistent pattern of negligence, weak enforcement and systemic complacency in industries dealing with explosive and chemical materials.

The first incident occurred at the Suryashree Fire Works factory in Vetlapalem, Andhra Pradesh, where a powerful blast reportedly took place while workers were manually mixing chemicals used in fireworks production. Such processes, known to be highly volatile, demand strict adherence to safety standards, specialised equipment and trained personnel. Preliminary reports suggest that basic precautions may not have been adequately followed, raising serious questions about monitoring mechanisms and compliance checks.

Barely a day later, another deadly explosion struck the SBL Energy Limited facility at Raulgaon in Maharashtra's Nagpur district. The company manufactures mining and industrial explosives, making it a high-risk operation requiring rigorous oversight. While the exact cause of the blast is yet to be determined, the recurrence of such

accidents points less to coincidence and more to deep-rooted structural failures in safety governance across the sector.

Data from the Directorate General Factory Advice Service and Labour Institutes (DGFASLI) paints a disturbing picture. Between 2017 and 2020, industrial accidents resulted in an average of three deaths and eleven injuries every single day across the country. The situation appears to have worsened in recent years, with over 250 major explosions reported between 2023 and 2025. States such as Gujarat, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana — home to a large concentration of chemical and explosive manufacturing units — account for a significant share of these incidents.

Investigations into previous explosions reveal recurring causes that are both predictable and preventable. Manual mixing of hazardous chemicals remains common despite safer automated alternatives. The use of cheap and highly reactive aluminium powder increases volatility, while poorly ventilated workspaces allow combustible dust to accumulate, turning factories into potential death traps. Compounding these risks are inadequately trained workers and the illegal storage of explosive materials beyond permissible limits, often driven by cost-cutting measures or production pressures.

What makes these tragedies particularly distressing is that most of the triggers are well

known to regulators and manufacturers alike. Lives could have been saved if due safety processes were strictly implemented or if regulatory authorities had conducted frequent and meaningful inspections. Instead, the familiar cycle repeats itself: outrage follows an accident, governments announce compensation for victims, inquiries are ordered, and public attention gradually fades without structural reform.

The consequences extend beyond immediate loss of life. Unsafe working conditions contribute to a growing perception that manufacturing jobs are dangerous and undesirable compared to employment in the service sector. This perception undermines India's broader economic ambitions. Initiatives aimed at strengthening domestic manufacturing and creating large-scale employment cannot succeed if workers fear for their safety.

For India's manufacturing sector to truly thrive, safety must become a non-negotiable priority rather than an afterthought. Stronger enforcement of regulations, adoption of modern safety technologies, mandatory worker training, and strict penalties for violations are essential. Without transforming factory floors into secure workplaces, policy slogans and investment drives alone will not attract skilled talent or sustain industrial growth. The recent explosions serve as a tragic reminder that economic progress cannot come at the cost of human lives.



## Escorts Kubota Launches 'South Special' Powertrac Shaurya Paddy Tractor Series

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Escorts Kubota Limited has launched the Powertrac Shaurya, a new 'South Special' tractor series designed exclusively for paddy cultivation and wetland farming across Southern India. The newly introduced range, comprising five variants between 39 HP and 52 HP, marks the first dedicated paddy-focused tractor lineup under the company's Powertrac brand, targeting key agricultural markets such as Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. The launch strengthens Escorts Kubota's strategy to expand mechanization solutions tailored to region-specific farming requirements. The Shaurya series has been engineered



specifically for water-logged and wetland field conditions commonly found in paddy cultivation, offering improved durability, maneuverability and operational efficiency. Designed for demanding farm environments, the tractors feature cassette-type sealing across critical aggregates to prevent water and mud ingress during operations. A sharp turning radius of 3.1 metres allows easy movement in small and medium-sized fields, while a fully constant mesh gearbox with 8 forward and 2 reverse gears ensures smooth performance. The tractors also come equipped with Sensi-1 hydraulic lift capacity ranging between 1600 kg and 2000 kg de-

pending on the variant. To support diverse paddy applications, the series includes an independent PTO lever with a double clutch configuration, enabling precise implement control and compatibility with advanced equipment such as balers. Dual PTO options of 540/1000 RPM along with reverse PTO further enhance operational versatility. Additional features include a perforated elevated platform suited for wetland farming, protected wiring harness routing inside the fender channel, and an adjustable slider seat with anti-slippery pads for operator comfort during long working hours. Escorts Kubota operates three tractor brands in India — Kubota, Farmtrac and Powertrac — addressing premium, entry-premium and value segments

respectively, with Powertrac serving the mass and value-focused agricultural market. Chairman and Managing Director Nikhil Nanda stated that Southern India remains central to the company's next growth phase, emphasizing application-led products tailored to regional needs. Deputy Managing Director Akira Kato highlighted that the Shaurya range was developed based on real field conditions rather than standard platforms. Company leaders also noted that the launch strengthens Escorts Kubota's presence in the growing paddy mechanization segment. The Powertrac Shaurya series will be available through authorised Powertrac dealerships across Southern India.

## India Has 100 Million Barrels in Reserve, Can Cushion 40-45 Days of Hormuz Disruption: Kpler

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Amid the ongoing tension in the Middle East, India holds about 100 million barrels of commercial crude oil stocks in storage tanks, underground strategic reserves and on ships voyaging towards the country which could cover roughly 40-45 days of its requirement if flows through the Strait of Hormuz are disrupted, according to Kpler. As far as India is concerned, it imports about 88 per cent of the crude oil it needs — the raw material for fuels such as petrol and diesel — with more than 50 per cent supplied by Middle Eastern countries and transiting the narrow Strait of Hormuz, flows from which have been disrupted amid the Iran crisis. If Middle Eastern crude supply were to halt com-

pletely for a temporary period, the immediate impact would be logistical and price-driven, with supply risks intensifying if movement through the Strait of Hormuz is disrupted for longer," said Sumit Ritolia, Lead Research Analyst, Refining & Modeling at Kpler. A closure of Strait of Hormuz would at first impact prompt cargo liftings. "However, refiners typically maintain commercial inventories, and cargoes already on water would continue to arrive, providing some short-term cushioning to the system," he said adding in the event of a prolonged disruption, medium-term pressures would build through higher import costs, freight exposure and the need to reroute supplies over longer distances. "The country maintains strategic petroleum re-

serves alongside commercial inventories held by refiners and oil marketing companies. These buffers are intended to manage temporary supply shocks rather than sustained outages," he said. "Based on Kpler inventory data, commercial crude stocks are around 100 million barrels, including volumes in the strategic petroleum reserve (SPR) facilities at Mangalore, Padur and Visakhapatnam." "With imports via the Strait of Hormuz averaging roughly 2.5 million barrels per day - about half of India's just over 5 million bpd total crude imports - these combined reserves could theoretically cover around 40-45 days of imports in a crude disruption scenario, he said, adding that additional refined product inventories would extend effective coverage further.

## Dow drops 1,200 as stocks sell off around world, oil prices leap even higher on war worries

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

A sell-off for stocks wrapped around the world and is slamming into Wall Street Tuesday, as oil prices leap even higher on worries that the widening war with Iran may do more sustained damage to the economy than feared. The S&P 500 dropped 2.4% in morning trading and was heading toward its worst day since October. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was

down 1,232 points, or 2.5%, as of 10:30 am Eastern time, and the Nasdaq composite was 2.7% lower. It was just a day ago that US stocks opened with sharp losses, only to recover all of them and end the day with slight gains. But that was with the caveat that oil prices did not jump too high, like to more than \$100 per barrel. On Tuesday, oil prices soared again and raised more alarms. The price for a barrel of Brent



crude, the international standard, leaped another 7.8% to \$83.84. That's up from close to \$70 less than a week ago. A barrel of benchmark US crude, meanwhile, rose 8.8% to \$77.52. Oil prices made the jump as Iran struck

the US Embassy in Saudi Arabia, part of a widening of targets that also includes areas critical to the world's oil and natural gas production. Worries are particularly high about the Strait of Hormuz off the coast of

Iran, a narrow passage-way where roughly a fifth of the world's oil passes. That makes it crucial for the global flow of crude. "The Strait of Hormuz is closed," declared Iranian Brig Gen Ebrahim Jabbari, an adviser to the paramilitary Revolutionary Guard, vowing that any ships that passed through it would be set on fire. Making things uncertain for markets are rising questions about how long this war may continue.

A major attack by the United States and Israel has already killed Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, but President Donald Trump said late Monday night on his social media network, "Wars can be fought forever," and very successfully" with the supply of munitions that the United States possesses. The jump for oil prices will worsen inflation, which has remained too high for nearly everyone, and put more pressure on

US households and businesses by raising bills for gasoline and to ship products. The average price for a gallon of gasoline in the US jumped 11 cents overnight to about \$3.11, according to data from motor club AAA. That has the damage in stock markets so far centering on countries and companies that use a lot of oil, natural gas and petroleum-based fuels. In South Korea, a big energy importer, the Kospi stock index plunged 7.2% for its

worst day since two summers ago as markets reopened after a holiday on Monday. It had been setting records recently. Japan's Nikkei 225 dropped 3.1%, even as analysts say Japan has a sizable stockpile lasting more than 200 days. In Europe, where prices for natural gas have soared because of the war, Germany's DAX lost 3.9%. On Wall Street, airlines continued to sink on worries about rising fuel bills.

## Upasana Inaugurates 1000th Apollo Pharmacy Store

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Strengthening access to affordable and quality healthcare across Telangana, Upasana Kamineni Konidela inaugurated the 1,000th Apollo Pharmacy store in the state, marking a major milestone in the expansion of Apollo Hospitals' retail healthcare network. With this achievement, Apollo Pharmacy now has a presence across all 33 districts of Telangana, reinforcing its position as India's largest pharmacy chain.



The pharmacy network currently provides access to more than 50,000 genuine medicines and wellness products, ensuring

round-the-clock availability supported by fast delivery services in both urban and semi-urban regions. Apollo Pharmacy handles over 1.65 lakh medicine orders daily, reflecting the growing reliance on organised healthcare retail and digital health solutions across the state. The expansion has also generated significant employment opportunities, with more than 10,000 people working across Apollo's retail outlets, digital platforms, and supply chain ecosystem in Telangana. The company announced plans to further strengthen its footprint by launching over 200 additional pharmacy

stores in the next three years, aiming to improve last-mile healthcare accessibility. Speaking on the occasion, Upasana Kamineni Konidela emphasised that the milestone represents more than business growth. She highlighted Apollo's commitment to inclusive employment, particularly empowering women through stable careers, leadership roles, and financial independence, enabling broader social and community development.

## Rapido Emerges as Hyderabad Metro's Go-To First- and Last-Mile Partner

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Rapido, India's largest and most affordable one-stop mobility platform, is increasingly becoming the first- and last-mile layer of Hyderabad's metro ecosystem. It is helping commuters plan and complete end-to-end everyday journeys. Hyderabad currently sees over 1.5 lakh Rapido rides every day linked to metro stations, as commuters use bikes and autos to bridge the first- and last-mile gap. In parallel, around 30,000 metro tickets are being booked daily on the Rapido app, reflecting rising adoption of integrated public transport planning. Pavan Guntupalli, Co-Founder, Rapido, said, "Urban mobility works best when it is seamless. In Hyderabad, we are seeing commuters actively combine metro travel with Rapido



bikes and autos to make their daily journeys faster and more predictable. Our focus is to simplify multi-modal travel through a single platform, so that public transport becomes the default choice for everyday commuting." In total, the city now records over 1 million-total city rides per day-positioning Rapido as one of the most active digital layers supporting Hyderabad's public transport network. This behaviour is being driven by convenience and time savings. Commuters no longer need to switch platforms to manage multi-modal journeys, and in-app

ticketing combined with everyday ride availability is helping make metro-linked travel more habitual. Daily usage trends reinforce this shift. Nearly half of all Rapido rides in Hyderabad take place during peak office and college hours, underscoring the platform's growing role as everyday commute infrastructure rather than occasional transport. As Hyderabad's metro footprint expands, Rapido is increasingly positioning itself as a connective layer linking homes, streets and stations into one continuous commute experience.

## Blenders Pride Launches 'The One And Only' Campaign

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Blenders Pride Packaged Drinking Water has unveiled its latest campaign, 'The One And Only,' reinforcing its vision of celebrating success defined by individuality, confidence, and distinction. The 360-degree integrated campaign is being rolled out across digital and social platforms, front-page newspaper advertisements, outdoor installations in major cities, and during the ongoing ICC T20 World Cup to



maximize nationwide visibility. The campaign highlights a powerful message — in a world crowded with achievements and recognition, true success belongs to those who stand apart. Through this narrative, the brand positions distinction as the ultimate marker of admiration and influence. Featuring three protagonists — Avanti Nagrath, Kirandeep Chahal, and Mahiika Sharma — the

campaign presents diverse expressions of success. Avanti represents fearless confidence and individuality, Kirandeep embodies magnetic charm and bold presence, while Mahiika reflects grace, poise, and quiet admiration. Together, they symbolize an aspirational world where many may succeed, but only a few command lasting attention. Blenders Pride Packaged Drinking Water continues to build on its legacy of shaping aspirational success within modern Indian culture

through innovation, industry-first initiatives, and iconic fashion-led platforms. With 'The One And Only,' the brand aims to connect with a new generation seeking not just recognition but influence and admiration. Debasree Dasgupta, Chief Marketing Officer, Pernod Ricard India, said the campaign redefines success by emphasizing style, stature, and distinction, aligning with the aspirations of India's youth who seek to stand out with confidence and purpose.

# Virat Kohli, Kareena Kapoor, Sachin Tendulkar Extend Holi Greetings

In today's age of social media, virtual greetings on platforms like Instagram and X have become a regular feature whenever an important occasion arises. Indian celebrities also make it a point to extend their wishes online whenever a major event or festival takes place in the country. With Holi here, everyone is immersed in the festivities, and celebrities including Kareena Kapoor Khan, Bobby Deol, Sachin Tendulkar, and Virat Kohli, have shared their greetings with fans on social media. Kareena shared a vibrant Holi greeting on Instagram, writing, "Happy Holi," against a colorful backdrop.

Kohli shared a story on his Instagram that read, "Happy



Holi. May this festival of colours bring success, happiness, and positivity to your life." Here's how Bobby wished his Instagram family on Holi. Cricket legend Sachin Tendulkar added a humorous sporting twist to his Holi greeting. "Happy Holi!

Hope this day brings positivity, good health, and lots of happy moments your way. If you end up completely drenched, consider it a winning performance," he wrote on X.

Holi marks the arrival of spring and the harvest sea-

son. The celebration is deeply rooted in Hindu mythology, symbolising the triumph of good over evil. The festival of Holi begins with the ritual of lighting a bonfire, known as Holika Dahan. The following day marks the more widely celebrated aspect of Holi, when people immerse themselves in joy and togetherness by playing with colours. This year, the celebration of the 'Festival of Colours' is being observed on two separate days. While several states in Western India, including Mumbai and Gujarat, have already begun the festivities today, Tuesday, March 3. North India is set to mark its main celebrations tomorrow, Wednesday, March 4.

# First look of Suriya's family drama "Vishwanath & Sons" unveiled

**CHENNAI**  
Wakeup telangana

Tamil superstar Suriya's upcoming film has been titled "Vishwanath & Sons", the makers announced on Monday. Production banner Si-thara Entertainments unveiled the first look of the project directed by Venky Atluri of "Lucky Baskhar" fame.

The film, which is Suriya's 46th project as a lead actor, is billed as a family drama and is slated to release in theatres in July.

"Power in his presence. Warmth in his embrace. Bringing back the vintage magic of @actorsuriya in a heart-touching family spectacle. #VishwanathAndSons - The biggest family drama of the year arrives this July," the stu-



dio posted on Instagram.

The poster features Suriya carrying a smiling baby in his arms, hinting at an emotional narrative centred around familial bonds.

Actor Mamitha Baiju, known for her work in "Premalu", stars opposite Suriya in the film. The ensemble cast also includes Raveena Tandon, Radhika Sarathkumar, Bhavani Sre and Bjorn Surrao in pivotal roles.

The project is jointly produced by Naga Vamsi and Sai Soujanya. Music for the film is composed by G V Prakash Kumar, while cinematography is handled by Nimish Ravi.

According to media reports, the story is said to revolve around the relationship between a middle-aged man and a young girl, exploring themes of family and emotional connection.

# Nivedhithaa Sathish-starrer 'Oh Butterfly' cleared for release with 'A' certificate

**MUMBAI**  
Wakeup telangana

The Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) has now cleared director Vijay Ranganathan's upcoming romantic crime thriller 'Oh Butterfly', featuring actress Nivedhithaa Sathish in the lead, for release with an 'A' certificate. Taking to its X timeline to make the announcement, production house Anthill Cinema wrote, "A is for Adults with a past. A is for Awkward truths. A is for After midnight conversations. An A-certificate for A-grade tension. In theatres on

March 6 to make you uncomfortable. Decide if you want to come in with your partners or your exes."

The film, which has been produced by Vennky, Anand S Shah, Vijay Ranganathan and Nisha Patial, also features a host of actors including Ciby, Nasser, Lakshmi Priya Chandramouli, Geetha Kailasam and Attul in pivotal roles. The film has triggered huge interest in fans and film buffs after makers released a trailer recently. The trailer begins with a couple arriving at a hill station for their honeymoon. It is evident that the honeymoon is happening after quite a while

and that the husband is glad that it finally happening. However, the wife who is called Gouri (played by Nivedhithaa Sathish) doesn't appear too happy with either the honey moon or the wedding. She refuses to get physically intimate with her husband. As a result, he gets frustrated. We also learn that he has now lost his job and that he is in a restless state ever since. It is under these circumstances that Gouri's husband introduces his college friend Suri to her. The trailer gives the impression that Suri is Gouri's ex-boyfriend and that he tries to get close to her. But then, a series of intense de-



velopments occur. The trailer ends with Gouri saying, "To be

police, to my parents and to everyone else, this might seem like an accident. But it was I who killed him."

The trailer shows Nasser as a Lepidopterist (someone who collects butterflies and moths). He considers them to be God's angels as they can fly. The director looks to emphasise the point of enjoying the present without worrying about the future through his character. When Nasser's character is asked why he chose to have butterflies as his pets as their life span is only 15 days, he replies, "What is important is how happy we are in those 15 days."

On the technical front, the film has music by the talented music director Vaisakh Somanath and cinematography by Vedaraman Sankaran. Editing for the film is by Bhuvanesh Manivannan.

The film has songs penned by three lyricists namely Karthik Netha, Vijay Ranganathan and Vignesh Srikanth. Costumes in the film have been designed by Tina Rosario. The story of the film has been written by director Vijay Ranganathan himself with additional screenplay having been penned by Harish Rajagopal.

# Markram and Santner set for key battle in T20 World Cup semifinal

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

South African skipper Aiden Markram will be asked probing questions by his New Zealand counterpart Mitchell Santner in what promises to be an intriguing battle between two talented captains in the first semifinal of the T20 World Cup here on Wednesday.

Not often do the captains of either side end up being the most prolific performers, and Markram vs Santner will be a contest that keeps the near-capacity crowd at Eden Gardens on the edge of their seats.

The ICC rivalry between New Zealand and South Africa reached its peak during the 50-over World Cup semifinal in 2015 when the Black Caps edged out the Proteas in a nail-biting contest, leaving stars like Dale Steyn and AB de Villiers disappointed.

However, South Africa, under the guidance of Shukri Conrad, has developed into a strong side, having already won the World Test Championship last year and showing steely resolve.

While they have not won a major white-ball trophy



so far, the 'chokers' tag is no longer part of their cricketing dictionary.

At the core of this clash are the two captains, not often the most celebrated or talked about, but tactically and technically better than many others.

Markram, with a strike rate of over 175 and 268 runs, has had a big impact on rival bowlers during the powerplay overs, while Santner, with an economy rate of 6.35, has kept the batters under control.

The Proteas, with a power-hitting line-up comprising Markram, Quinton De Kock, Dewald Brevis, Ryan Rickleton, Tristan Stubbs, David Miller and Marco Jansen, can trouble any team. But Santner will have Rachin Ravindra,

Glenn Phillips and Cole McConechie, who have all performed well in unison.

Save for India, this is among the best spin attacks that the Proteas will face in the tournament, although England, with Liam Dawson and Rehan Ahmed, was also strong. Glenn Phillips and Cole McConechie, who have all performed well in unison. Save for India, this is among the best spin attacks that the Proteas will face in the tournament, although England, with Liam Dawson and Rehan Ahmed, was also strong.

On a good Eden Gardens track, South Africa would prefer to chase against a New Zealand line-up that played its Super Eights games on slow Sri Lankan tracks. The pitch could allow Finn Allen, Tim Seifert, Glenn

Phillips and Daryl Mitchell to aim for a 200-plus total, which may give them a chance to contain the Proteas. One interesting aspect will be how effective Lungi Ngidi's slower deliveries are on this track and whether his wide yorkers and slow leg cutters can keep the Black Caps batters in check.

For New Zealand, Lockie Ferguson's first spell could decide the fate of the clash.

Overall, the first semifinal has all the ingredients for a thriller that will add colour to the 'Holi Day'.

Squads:  
New Zealand: Mitchell Santner (captain), Finn Allen, Tim Seifert, Rachin Ravindra, Devon Conway, Kyle Jamieson, Jacob Duffy, Glenn Phillips, Daryl Mitchell, Lockie Ferguson, Mark Chapman, Matt Henry, Ish Sodhi, Cole McConechie, James Neesham

South Africa: Aiden Markram (captain), Quinton De Kock, Ryan Rickleton, Dewald Brevis, David Miller, Tristan Stubbs, Marco Jansen, Corbin Bosch, Kagiso Rabada, Keshav Maharaj, Lungi Ngidi, George Linde, Kwena Maphaka, Anrich Nortje, Jason Smith

# Senkoukai Karate: India's First Internationally Recognized Independent Full-Contact Karate Style

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The year 2024 marked a historic milestone in Indian martial arts when Senkoukai Karate, founded in India by Grand Master Shaswat Kumar, was established as a fully independent and international full-contact karate style. Created on Indian soil, Senkoukai Karate is now bringing global recognition and pride to the nation by expanding its presence worldwide. Senkoukai Karate was developed by integrating the technical foundations of Shotokan, Kyokushin, and modern Combat Martial Arts systems. The style emphasizes powerful striking techniques, joint locks, animal-inspired combat movements, and practical street self-defense. A distinctive feature of Senkoukai training is teaching practitioners how to effectively use everyday objects found in real-life situations as defensive tools. Senkoukai Karate operates with complete independence. It does not follow the rules or regulations of any external federation, association, or council. The organization follows its own official syllabus, grading structure, technical framework, and competition system. Senkoukai Karate has developed 20 original katas under its own system. In addition, Senkoukai follows its own independent kumite (sparring) rules. It is an International Full-Contact Karate Style, focusing on realistic combat application, physical endurance, and practical fighting effectiveness. The organization



has rapidly expanded and now operates branches in more than 50 countries worldwide, including India, making it one of the fastest-growing independent karate systems internationally. Founded in India, Senkoukai Karate is now illuminating the name of the country on the global martial arts stage. Senkoukai Karate has been officially recognized as an independent karate style by the following Japanese organizations: International Bujutsu Karate Association Headquarters Japan, New International Karate Kenpoh Do Shieijyuku Yamashiro Headquarters Japan, All Japan Martial Arts Organization Headquarters Japan. These recognitions represent a major international achievement and establish Senkoukai as India's first internationally acknowledged independent karate style. Senkoukai Karate holds the authority to conduct and award Black Belt examinations from 1st Dan to 10th Dan under its independent grading system, making it one of the very few karate organizations in India with full certification au-

thority up to the highest level. Grand Master Shaswat Kumar, founder of Senkoukai Karate, is recognized as India's first karate master to receive the rank of 10th Dan Black Belt from the All Japan Martial Arts Organization Headquarters Japan. The prestigious rank was awarded by its President, Yoshimoto Tanaka, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to martial arts. In 2025, International Bujutsu Karate Association Headquarters Japan and Watanabe Shotokan Karate Federation Founder and 10th Dan Black Belt Masaki Watanabe honored Grand Master Shaswat Kumar with the title of "World Martial Arts Icon." This recognition is considered a proud moment for India and reflects his international contribution and leadership in martial arts. In addition to holding the prestigious titles of Soke, Hanshi, Grand Master, and Supreme Grand Master, he has received numerous international martial arts awards from various countries and holds multiple world records. Japanese Grand Master Yoshio Tanibata also honored him with the distinguished title "The Flash of Karate," recognizing his exceptional speed, technical mastery, and dynamic fighting spirit. With its independent philosophy, 20 original katas, full-contact kumite system, and presence in over 50 countries, Senkoukai Karate continues to grow as a powerful symbol of India's rising influence in the global martial arts community, proudly carrying the nation's name to the world stage.

## Saw missiles in sky Hyderabad's Gulf passengers return amid US-Israel-iran war



For most passengers who landed in Hyderabad on Tuesday evening, March 3, the relief of touching Indian soil only came after days of uncertainty. They watched a conflict spiral around them, scrambled for connecting flights and, in some cases, not made it home with their entire family. Flights from Muscat, Dubai and Abu Dhabi brought back Indian passengers who had been stranded following Tehran's retaliatory strikes after Israel and the United States launched a coordinated military offensive against Iran on February 28, an attack that killed Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei on March 1. Iran responded with drone and missile strikes targeting Israel and US military installations across the Gulf, including Dubai and Abu Dhabi. The first flight from the Gulf region after the war broke out, an Oman Air aircraft, landed at Rajiv Gandhi International Airport in Hyderabad's Shamshabad at around 3 pm on Tuesday, carrying only about 30 passengers. The Emirates flight, scheduled to arrive at 7:45 pm, touched down at 8:30 pm, with passengers clearing immigration and reaching the exit area by 9:30 pm. The Etihad flight, due at 7:30 pm, arrived at 8:40 pm, with passengers emerging around 9:45 pm. Most had been travelling on connecting flights routed through the UAE from Canada and Spain.

## Grand Dawat-E-Iftar Held in Karwan, AIMIM Chief Owaisi Participates



A grand Dawat-e-Iftar was organised at MD Lines in Tolichowki under the Karwan constituency, attended by AIMIM President Asaduddin Owaisi and Karwan MLA Kausar Mohiuddin. The leaders joined local residents and party workers, extending Ramzan greetings and participating in community prayers. The event witnessed large public participation, reflecting communal harmony and justice. Owaisi appreciated the organisers for hosting the gathering, while Kausar Mohiuddin highlighted the importance of social bonding and charity during the holy month of Ramzan.

## Leaders Protest Against Israel-US Over Ayatollah Khamenei Martyrdom



Advocate Mir Qurram Ali, along with BRS senior leader Lateef Sharfan and Maulana Zakir Hussain Khilji, participated in a protest condemning Israel and the United States over the martyrdom of Ayatollah Ali Khamenei.

# Hyderabad Protests Enter Third Day Over Khamenei martyrdom

Hyderabad witnesses peaceful protests expressing grief and political resistance



**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Hundreds of Shia and Sunni Muslims gathered across Hyderabad on Tuesday night to protest against Israel and the United States, condemning the reported martyrdom of Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. The demonstrations marked the third consecutive day of protests in the city, reflecting widespread anger and grief among participants. Two major protest marches were held at different locations, drawing thousands of people, including AIMIM legislators and representatives associated with the Consulate General of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Hyderabad. Participants raised slogans condemning the alleged Israeli-US airstrikes and demanded justice while expressing solidarity with Iran. The first protest march

began at Darbar-e-Husaini and proceeded towards Darul Shifa X Road, where AIMIM legislators joined large crowds in a powerful demonstration. Protesters voiced strong opposition to the attacks and called for global accountability. Another rally organized by Yakutpura youth started from Moula Ka Chilla and concluded at Alawa Bibi in Dabeerpura. The procession witnessed significant participation from local residents, community leaders, and youth groups. Demonstrators said the gatherings symbolized unity between Shia and Sunni communities during what they described as a tense political moment. Slogans echoed throughout the routes as participants expressed grief, solidarity, and resistance. Protests in Hyderabad have continued since reports of Khamenei's martyrdom first surfaced,



with daily demonstrations taking place across parts of the Old City. Organizers stated that the protests were peaceful and aimed at conveying a collective message against the attacks while highlighting communal unity.

## Iran Consulate to Open Condolence Book

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana



The Consulate General of the Islamic Republic of Iran in Hyderabad will open a condolence book on Ayatollah Ali Khamenei on March 5 and 6. According to an announcement from the consulate at Banjara Hills, all communities are invited to visit between 10 am and 4 pm to record their messages of condolence and pay respects. "In

honour of the martyrdom of Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Hosseini Khamenei, supreme leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, a condolence book will be opened on the Consulate premises for people to honour his memory and legacy," the statement said.

## Harish Rao distributes cheques to aid MBBS students



**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

BRS deputy leader T Harish Rao lauded efforts to support aspiring doctors, as financial assistance cheques were distributed to seven MBBS students at his residence on Tuesday. The financial assistance was extended by Uppal MLA Bandari Laxma Reddy under the aegis of the BLR Charitable Trust. Harish Rao congratulated the beneficiaries and described the initiative as an investment in the future health system rather than a mere donation. Pointing out that in the current academic year

alone, 122 medical students have received financial assistance towards their education expenses, he said the primary objective was to encourage talented youth from backward communities and empower them through higher education. The BRS deputy leader also said that under the leadership of former Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao, Telangana witnessed a White Coat Revolution with the establishment of a government medical college in each district, expanding medical education and strengthening public healthcare services. Several BRS leaders and local representatives attended the programme.

## Petrol pumps in Hyderabad witness heavy rush amid rumours

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Petrol pumps across Hyderabad witnessed an unusual surge in customers after rumours about a possible fuel shortage spread widely on social media. The unverified messages claimed that due to Middle East tensions, petrol supplies were running low, triggering panic among residents. Following Taraweeh prayers on the night of Monday, March 2, large numbers of people rushed to nearby petrol pumps to fill the tanks of their vehicles. The sudden spike in demand led to long queues

at several petrol pumps in Hyderabad. Apart from refuelling vehicles, some individuals were also seen collecting petrol in water bottles. International oil prices rose about 9 per cent following US and Israeli attacks on Iran and retaliatory strikes by Tehran, but retail petrol and diesel prices in India are unlikely to be increased in the near term, sources said. Brent crude, the global benchmark, climbed close to USD 80 per barrel, while US-traded crude rose 8.6 per cent to USD 72.79, up from around USD 67 on Friday.

## Rotting Garbage Heap Turns Tarnaka Street Into Health

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

A towering pile of unattended garbage has turned Street 9 in Tarnaka of Secunderabad into a breeding ground for disease, leaving residents outraged and concerned for their safety. The waste dump, located near Narayana Olympiad School in Tarnaka Secunderabad, has been emitting a nauseating stench that has made daily life unbearable for students, hostel residents, and nearby families. Situated beside a men's hostel and it's a education institutions area the rotting heap is attracting stray animals and raising fears of mos-

quito infestation and potential disease outbreaks. Parents and locals say children are forced to walk past the filth every day, exposing them to serious health risks. Residents are now demanding urgent intervention from the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, calling for immediate clearance of the waste, thorough sanitization of the area, and strict monitoring to prevent recurrence. "This is not just about cleanliness—it's about public health and safety," said a concerned local. The community hopes authorities will act swiftly before the situation escalates further.



## Nawab Raunaq Yar Khan Hosts Unity-Focused Holi Celebration

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Nawab Raunaq Yar Khan, Present Custodian and 9th Nizam of the Asaf Jahi Dynasty, hosted a grand Holi celebration at his private estate in Jubilee Hills, promoting communal harmony and cultural awareness. The annual event, organized at his personal expense and open to people of all communities, continued

a tradition followed for over five decades. The celebration was held in memory of His Highness Mir Mahboob Ali Khan, remembered for his generosity and commitment to interfaith harmony. Nawab Raunaq Yar Khan emphasized that preserving such traditions helps strengthen unity and mutual respect in contemporary society. Festivities included Holi Dahan, traditional

rituals, playing with colours, folk and cultural performances, and awareness talks explaining the spiritual significance of Holi. Participants from diverse backgrounds attended the program and later shared a community lunch. The Nawab noted that while the event earlier introduced Indian culture to expatriates, it now focuses on educating Indian youth about the

deeper meaning of traditional festivals. Delivering a message to young people, he encouraged meaningful celebrations free from alcohol. Religious arrangements were coordinated by Shri Ramanamurthy of "Jai Ho," under the "Jai Bharat" organization, promoting secular values. The event concluded peacefully, reinforcing messages of unity, cultural respect, and shared heritage.



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