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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

Study Warns India On Threat From Moist Heat Waves

Large swathes of India are prone to 'moist heatwaves (MHWs)' which in turn could result in the barely talked about wet bulb temperatures that have widespread public health implications, a new study has found. The study, 'Anatomy of moist heatwaves in India during summer monsoon season'

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Rohit Pawar Calls AAIB Report Misleading

Continuing his attack on VSR Ventures and the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) over the plane crash that claimed the life of former deputy chief minister Ajit Pawar, NCP (SP) MLA Rohit Pawar on Wednesday alleged discrepancies in the preliminary report released by the Aircraft Accident Investigation Bureau (AAIB). He also alleged that the VSR Ventures had put the life of Shiv Sena chief Eknath Shinde at risk. Calling the AAIB report 'misleading and unreliable' and questioning its credibility, Rohit claimed that although there are no trees in the vicinity of Baramati airport, the report

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Singur Dam Safety Top Priority, Says Uttam: P2

Real estate slowdown deepens as Congress flip-flops unsettle Hyderabad market: P3

Harish criticises Revanth for harassing officials with frequent transfers: P2



US Sinks Iranian Warship; 87 Dead

IRIS Denarticipated in Milan 26 in Bay of Bengal; Nato shoots missile headed for Turkiye

DUBAI
Wakeup telangana

In a significant escalation of the West Asia crisis, a US submarine on Wednesday torpedoed and sank an Iranian warship in international waters off Sri Lanka's coast when it was returning after participating in the Milan naval exercise, a multilateral wargame hosted by India. IRIS Dena was part of Indian Navy's premier multilateral maritime exercise Milan. The mega exercise last month saw participation of 42 war ships and submarines that included 18 ships from friendly foreign countries. The warship had also featured in the International Fleet Review hosted by the Indian Navy in Visakapatnam last month. US Defence Secretary Pete Hegseth, confirming the strike, said at a Pentagon media briefing that it was the first sinking of an enemy warship by a torpedo since World War II. The Associated Press, quoting Sri Lankan Navy, reported that 87 bodies were recovered and that 32 people



were rescued following sinking of the war ship IRIS Dena. "An American submarine sank an Iranian war ship that thought it was safe in international waters.... Instead, it was sunk by a torpedo," Hegseth said. The incident marks a major escalation of the conflict between the US and Iran outside of the Persian Gulf and throwing up questions relating to maritime security in the Indian Ocean that is largely considered as the backyard of the Indian Navy. The Pentagon has also released a short video of the sinking of the Iranian frigate. The Pentagon has also released a short video of the sinking of the Iranian frigate.

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Israel strikes Tehran and Beirut as Iran vows 'complete destruction' in region

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Israel has carried out a wave of airstrikes on Iranian security targets and Hezbollah in Beirut as Tehran threatened the "complete destruction of the region's military and economic infrastructure" as the rapidly escalating war entered its fifth day and reached as far as the Indian Ocean off Sri Lanka. The Israeli military said it had hit buildings in Iran belonging to the Basij, the volunteer police arm of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards Corps (IRGC), and buildings belonging to internal security forces. Police stations and IRGC

headquarters in the Kurdish regions of north-western Iran were also razed by strikes, Kurdish media reported. Iran's security structures have been instrumental in putting down protest movements in the past, and the US has urged Iranians to overthrow the country's government. Washington has also reportedly been exploring the possibility of using Kurdish separatist groups to invade parts of Iran and establish a safe zone in the predominantly Kurdish groups in the north-west. The regional dimension of the conflict continued to expand, as Iran struck Gulf states and Hezbollah fired on Israel

and Cyprus. Turkey said Nato air defences had intercepted a ballistic missile heading towards its airspace, and the US said it had sunk an Iranian warship in the Indian Ocean. Sri Lankan authorities said at least 80 people had been killed and 23 rescued. There were thought to have been 180 people on board. Drones were also reported near Baghdad airport and explosions heard in Irbil, the capital of Iraqi Kurdistan. The death toll in Iran has soared, as estimates of those killed by strikes in the five days of war rose to between 1,045 and 1,500 people.

1,800 Hyderabad Students Remain Stranded in Iran

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Parents of 1,800 Hyderabad-based youth studying medicine and Islamic studies in Iran are anxious about their wellbeing in the wake of a total communication blackout in the country. After the outbreak of war between Iran and the US, the students moved to safety in the city of Qom, 140 km south of Tehran. However, their evacuation from Iran remains a major challenge for the Indian govern-

ment. The anxiety of parents increased after US-Israel attacks hit one of the buildings in Qom. Some parents who managed to speak to their children were told that the target was a vacant building of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. "There are a lot of students from Hyderabad and India there (in Qom). I spoke to my son Zia Hussain and they are safe. Even in the building that was targeted, no one was present. ▶ CONTINUE ON | PAGE 4

Nitish May Enter RS, Bihar Likely To Get New CM

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

JD(U) president and Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar is likely to enter the Rajya Sabha, party sources said on Wednesday, signalling a possible change in leadership in the state. Sources said Nitish Kumar is expected to file his nomination along with BJP national president Nitin Nabin in the presence of Union home minister Amit Shah. The development comes amid earlier speculation that Nitish Kumar had approved the candidature of his son Nishant Kumar for



the Upper House polls. As discussions gathered pace, senior JD(U) leader and Bihar minister Vijay Chaudhary reached the residence of JD(U) national working president Sanjay Jha in Patna. Nitish Kumar's close aide and JD(U) MLC Sanjay Gandhi was also present at the meeting. Asked

whether Nitish Kumar would step down as chief minister if he moves to the Rajya Sabha, a source in the NDA said the development would take place "in due course of time". Union minister and JD(U) leader Ram Nath Thakur also visited Sanjay Jha's residence amid the speculation. However, Union minister Giriraj Singh dismissed reports that Nitish Kumar might resign and move to the Rajya Sabha. "Today is Holi. Such pranks are common on the occasion. Nitish Kumar ji is the chief minister," 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.

Maoist Ganapathi Likely To Surrender in Delhi

Muppala Lakshmana Rao may lay down arms before Amit Shah

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Muppala Lakshmana Rao alias Ganapathi, the 80-year-old former general secretary of the banned Maoist party who has been underground since 1983, is likely to surrender before the police. Reports suggest the surrender may take place in New Delhi before Union Home Minister Amit Shah, in the presence of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and Te-

langana police. Director General of police B. Shivdhar Reddy and SIB chief B. Sumathi are currently in New Delhi, preparing the ground for Ganapathi's surrender. The development comes days after Maoist leaders Tippari Tirupathi alias Devji, Malla Raji Reddy, and others surrendered before Telangana police. Family members of Ganapathi have also urged him to give up arms and lead a normal life. On Wednesday, reports indicated that

Ganapathi's surrender could mark a final milestone in the Maoist movement. Telangana police have reportedly gathered information on his whereabouts to facilitate the process. Given his stature in the banned organisation, officials are keen to ensure the surrender takes place before Amit Shah in the coming days. The Ministry of Home Affairs has set a March 31 deadline to eliminate the Maoist party under Operation Kagar.

Telangana Demands More IPS Officers to Tackle Rising Crime

CM Revanth Reddy urges Union Home Ministry to boost police strength from 83 to 105 and support Maoist rehabilitation, citing growing administrative and security challenges.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has formally requested Union Home Minister Amit Shah to allocate additional Indian Police Service (IPS) officers to the state, citing growing administrative pressures and evolving security challenges. The discussion took place in New Delhi on Wednesday night. Revanth Reddy noted that the first IPS cadre re-

view after Telangana's formation in 2014 was conducted in 2016. The second review, originally due in 2021, was delayed until 2025 and resulted in the allocation of only seven additional officers. The Chief Minister urged the Union Government to increase the sanctioned strength of IPS officers from the current 83 to 105. He also called for the third cadre review to be conducted as per schedule in 2026. The Chief Minister high-



lighted several emerging threats faced by Telangana, including cyber-crime, drug trafficking, financial and white-collar crimes, and other modern law and order challenges. He emphasized the administrative demands arising from the reorganization of the Hyderabad, Cyberabad, and

Malkajgiri Police Commissionerates, along with the proposed Future City Commissionerate. According to him, a stronger IPS cadre is essential to meet the security requirements of the rapidly expanding population in urban centers like Hyderabad. The meeting also focused on Maoist surrenders and rehabilitation initiatives. Revanth Reddy informed Amit Shah that 591 Maoists have laid down their arms over the past two

years, and several senior Maoist leaders have recently chosen to return to mainstream life. The Telangana government is providing rehabilitation assistance and compensation to ensure their smooth integration into society. In addition to security issues, Revanth Reddy requested central financial support for development projects in backward regions of Telangana, underlining the need for coordinated efforts to

strengthen governance, law enforcement, and socio-economic growth in vulnerable areas. Officials accompanying the Chief Minister included Principal Secretary V. Seshadri, DGP B. Shivdhar Reddy, Intelligence Additional DGP Vijay Kumar, and SIB IGP B. Sumathi. The meeting reflected the state's focus on proactive policing, modern crime management, and inclusive rehabilitation efforts while seeking support

ESTD-1960
ASTORIA HOTEL
Hyderabad Laziz Biryani
ek baar khaoge baar baar aage
5-9-8 / C AG OFFICE ROAD, OPPOSITE TO RBI, HYDERABAD

Harish criticises Revanth for harassing officials with frequent transfers

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BRS Legislature Party Deputy Leader T. Harish Rao on Wednesday criticised Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, alleging that even two years after assuming power, the State government lacked administrative control and stability. He claimed that frequent transfers of senior officials had disrupted governance and paralysed several key departments. Speaking during an informal interaction with reporters, Harish Rao alleged that the Chief Minister and Cabinet Ministers were harassing and blackmailing All India Services officers through repeated transfers, creating uncertainty within the bureaucracy. According to him, more than 140 IAS officers and 20 District Collectors had been transferred since the Congress government assumed office in December 2023. Questioning the frequent reshuffles, he asked how effective

governance could be ensured when officers were shifted every few months, noting that a District Collector typically requires at least six months to fully understand local administrative challenges.

The BRS leader said administrative instability was particularly visible in the power department, where five senior officers had been replaced within two years. Similar changes, he claimed, had taken place in major institutions and departments including Singareni, GHMC, Information and Public Relations, School Education, Aarogyasri, Panchayat Raj, Municipal Administration, IT, Mining, and the National Health Mission. Frequent transfers in departments that require coordination with the Union government were causing operational setbacks and financial losses to the State, he alleged. In Rangareddy district alone, four Collectors had been replaced



during this period.

Harish Rao also criticised the government for granting service extensions to retired IAS, IPS and engineering officials while transferring serving officers. He remarked that Congress leaders who earlier opposed such extensions during the BRS regime were now continuing the same practice and demanded an explanation from the government. Alleging intimidation of officers, he said officials were being threatened with transfers if they failed to comply with political directions, which he

claimed was lowering morale among young Collectors. He cited the transfer of Vikarabad Collector Prateek Jain following the Lagacherla agitation as an example, stating that the officer was shifted after holding discussions with locals and making commitments. The former minister further accused the government of lacking transparency, claiming that nearly 80 per cent of government orders were being kept offline despite court directions mandating online publication. He also raised concerns over public services, citing deteriorating conditions at MGM Hospital in Warangal and the Jagtial Government Hospital, and criticised Assembly functioning, pointing out vacancies in key posts and delays in forming House committees. Harish Rao said his remarks were constructive suggestions aimed at ensuring administrative stability and effective governance.

Celebrations at Osmania University Following Release of Balka Suman

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Celebrations were held at Osmania University on Thursday after former Chennur MLA Balka Suman was released from Adilabad Jail, with members of the BRSV bursting firecrackers and expressing solidarity with the leader. Addressing the gathering, BRSV State Secretary Katam Shiva alleged that the Congress government attempted to prevent the BRS from securing the Chairman post in Kyathapalli Municipality despite having a clear majority. He stated that the BRS had won 10 out of 22 wards and enjoyed the support of four CPI members, taking their strength to 14 members. According to Shiva, the state government, under Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, along with Minister Vivek, made several attempts to block the



party's claim to the Chairman position. He claimed that nearly 400 police personnel were deployed and that Balka Suman was forcibly taken from his residence and shifted to Adilabad Jail, where he remained for sixteen days before being released. Shiva described Balka Suman as a "firebrand leader" and a proud alumnus of Osmania University, stating that attempts to suppress him would not succeed. He recalled Suman's active participation in the Telangana movement under the lead-

ership of K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR), highlighting that he had faced lathi charges, injuries, and multiple cases during the agitation but continued his political struggle. He further alleged that political power and financial influence were used against the BRS leadership but asserted that justice ultimately prevailed. BRSV leaders Kompalli Naresh, Ramakrishna, Nagesh, Nikhil Patel, and several others participated in the celebrations.

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

A Child's Fight for Life: VBIT Youth Rally Behind "Save Aryans" Campaign

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Every life is precious. But for little Aryans, every moment is a battle. Students and faculty of Vignana Bharathi Institute of Technology (VBIT) came together in an emotional show of solidarity under the banner "Save Aryans", organizing a crowdfunding drive to support the child who is bravely fighting Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA) Type-2 — a rare and life-threatening genetic disorder. The fundraising event, held at Aushapur in the Ghatkesar region, was not just a program — it was a movement of compassion. With the powerful message, "Our small help can give a child a new life," students stepped forward, proving that humanity is alive and



strong among today's youth. Addressing the gathering as chief guest, Enugu Sudarshan Reddy shared the painful reality of Aryans' health condition. His voice trembled as he appealed to the public: "When a child is fighting for life, humanity must come before everything else. This is not about politics. This is about saving a little heartbeat." He announced his personal contribution and urged society

to stand united for the child's survival. Aryans requires a life-saving injection that costs approximately ₹1.5 crore — an amount far beyond the reach of an ordinary family. For his parents, every sunrise brings hope, but also fear. Every day of delay reduces precious time. The organizers made a heartfelt appeal to donors, philanthropists, and compassionate citizens: "Not even one rupee is small... it could become the breath of life for a child." The "Save Aryans" initiative is more than a fundraiser — it is a reminder that when society joins hands, miracles become possible. Today, Aryans needs not sympathy, but support. Not words, but action. Not tomorrow, but now. Because somewhere, a child is waiting... for all of us.

Singur Dam Safety Top Priority, Says Uttam

The minister, who chaired a review meeting at the Secretariat on various irrigation projects, assured that no compromises would be made in protecting and rehabilitating the Singur dam, from where drinking water is supplied to Hyderabad and irrigates crop land in other districts.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Irrigation Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Wednesday directed officials to complete all dam safety works at the Singur reservoir on a war footing, stressing that ensuring the structure's safety remains a top priority for the State government.

Chairing a high-level review meeting at the Secretariat on key irrigation projects, the minister made it clear that no compromise would be tolerated in safeguarding and rehabilitating the Singur dam, which plays a crucial role in supplying drinking water to Hyderabad and supporting irrigation across several districts. The meeting was attended by Labour and Employment Minister G. Vivek Venkatswamy and Health Minister C. Damodar Rajanarsimha, along with senior irrigation department officials.

The M. Baga Reddy Singur Project, located in Sangareddy district, has been under close monitoring since mid-2025 after safety inspections detected structural concerns,



including cracks in the embankment, slope erosion, revetment damage and issues related to the plunge pool. The reservoir has a gross storage capacity of 29.91 TMCft and annually supplies around 6 to 7 TMCft of drinking water to Hyderabad, making its stability critical for the city's water security.

During the review, Uttam Kumar Reddy ordered immediate sonar scanning and underwater inspections below the bund level to identify hidden structural damage without further lowering the reservoir's water level. Officials were instructed to submit detailed findings within two to three days so that repair works could proceed without delay.

The minister also announced that he would personally visit the project site to review progress

and ensure strict timelines are followed. He directed engineers to complete all repair and strengthening works within a single agricultural season to prevent crop holidays and minimise disruption to farmers dependent on irrigation from the reservoir.

Following the identification of safety risks, authorities had earlier reduced water levels in the reservoir to safe limits, enabling extensive repair operations. Simultaneously, alternative drinking water arrangements were put in place for Hyderabad and parts of Medak district to avoid supply disruptions.

Emphasising the urgency of the works, Uttam Kumar Reddy said the government was committed to swift and decisive action.

BC Leader Beri Ramachandra Yadav Extends Holi Greetings



Telangana BC Joint Action Committee President Beri Ramachandra Yadav extended Holi greetings to the people of Telangana and the entire nation, wishing prosperity, happiness, and peace for all citizens.

In his message, Ramachandra Yadav hoped that people across the country would live with joy, harmony, and economic well-being while contributing to the nation's sovereignty and development. He urged citizens to celebrate Holi using natural colours instead of chemical-based ones to ensure safety and environmental protection. On the occasion, Telangana State BC Joint Action Committee Organising Secretary Siripuram Harikrishna Chari and Telangana State BC Federation President RK Sayanna Mudiraj also conveyed their Holi wishes, praying for the prosperity and well-being of all people and encouraging everyone to celebrate a joyful and colourful festival responsibly.

PR DEE M.V. Durga Prasad Felicitated retirement on Superannuation

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A grand retirement felicitation ceremony was organized in honour of Sri M.V. Durga Prasad, Deputy Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj Sub Division, Narayankhed, Sangareddy District, on the occasion of his retirement on superannuation. Sri Durga Prasad joined the Panchayat Raj Department on 09-03-1992 and rendered more than three decades of dedicated and committed service. After successfully completing 61 years of age on 28-02-2026, he retired from service on superannuation. The felicitation programme was held on Wednesday at MAA Func-



tion Hall, Banquet Hall, Narayankhed. The event was attended by Sri T. Jagadeeshwar, Superintending Engineer, PR Medak Region, along with staff L. Kurmaiah, Deputy Executive Engineer, G. Deveiah AE, other Deputy Executive Engineers, Assistant Executive Engineers, Division office staff, public

representatives, local leaders, friends, family members, and well-wishers. On the same occasion, the newly elected Municipal Chairperson of Narayankhed, Sri Nagesh Shetkar, was also felicitated by the gathering. The dignitaries congratulated him on his election and extended their best wishes for his successful tenure in serving the people of Narayankhed. Speakers lauded Sri Durga Prasad's sincerity, discipline, and valuable contributions to the department. They appreciated his commitment to public service and extended their heartfelt wishes for a healthy, happy, and peaceful retired life.

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

A speeding car created panic on the Bairamguda 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.

Women's Congress Demands Resignation of Union Mini Hardeep Singh Puri

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Political tensions rose in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri as the District Executive Committee of the Women's Congress, led by District President Neelam Padma, held a signature campaign at the local Congress office. Participants wore white shirts and joined the "Holi with Women" event while collecting signatures demanding action. Speaking at the event, Neelam Padma criticized Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas Hardeep Singh Puri. She referenced the controversial U.S. case involving Jeffrey



Epstein and called for clarification from the minister regarding his alleged links. Padma stated, "The public deserves transparency on matters involving the safety of women and children."

No compromise should be made on such sensitive issues. "She also urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi to intervene and ensure strict action against crimes targeting

women and children. Youth Congress Arrests Condemned The Women's Congress also condemned the recent arrests of Youth Congress National President Uday Bhanu Chib and his team, demanding their immediate release. They criticized what they called a "draconian approach" by the central government. Signature Campaign and Holi Event The event, organized alongside local

women, included participation from state secretaries, block presidents, mandal presidents, town presidents, district committee members, general secretaries, and other party workers. The signature drive aimed to rally public support for demanding the minister's resignation. Political Fallout The allegations have sparked debate in political circles, though official responses from Minister Puri or related authorities are yet to be released. Observers note that verification through proper investigations is essential before drawing conclusions.

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 Lal 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.

Real estate slowdown deepens as Congress flip-flops unsettle Hyderabad market

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Over the last two years, the real estate sector across Telangana, particularly in Hyderabad, has been under pressure. Industry stakeholders say the slowdown in the State has been compounded by administrative decisions and policy reversals of the Congress government, which have unsettled both developers and buyers.

While factors such as the broader economic slowdown, weak demand, uncertainty in the IT sector and global headwinds have affected sales in some other major cities as well, builders argue that in Telangana, governance-related uncertainties have added to the strain. More than two years after the Congress assumed office, the sector is yet to regain the momentum it enjoyed earlier.

From the outset, developers contend, confidence was dented by a series of actions and announcements. The HYDRRAA demolitions in several areas, demolitions along the River Musi banks, land acquisition notifications and the protests that followed created apprehension in the market. Enquiries began to decline and sales slowed, as prospective buyers adopted a cautious



approach.

The cancellation of the proposed Pharma City further added to the uncertainty, with stakeholders claiming that repeated changes in stance kept the market on edge. Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's announcement of constituting a committee on districts reorganisation, followed by a clarification that the government was neither abolishing existing districts nor creating new ones, fuelled confusion. The initial proposal had drawn sharp reactions from various sections, particularly over employment concerns, prompting the subsequent clarification. Soon after, the government announced the division of the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation into three corporations.

The decision triggered opposition and the High Court issued notices to the State government after writ petitions challenged the move. Though such measures may not have an immediate, direct bearing on property transactions, they influence buyer sentiment. "Many prefer a wait-and-watch approach and take decisions only after assessing the implications. Ultimately, transactions slow down," a member of CREDAI Telangana said.

At a time when global conditions were not encouraging, NRIs were deferring investment decisions and IT employees were facing job uncertainty, the government ought to have adopted a proactive and reassuring approach, the member added.

The controversy surrounding the proposed Gandhi Sarovar project and stiff opposition from apartment owners near Madhu Park Bridge is seen by some as reflective of the prevailing uncertainty. The government has proposed establishing a towering statue of Mahatma Gandhi and developing allied facilities by demolishing certain structures and acquiring land, at an estimated cost of Rs.5,000 crore. The project has drawn criticism, including from Mahatma Gandhi's great grandson Tushar Gandhi.

Dairy Unit Selling Spurious Ghee Raided

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Police officials raided an illegal dairy manufacturing unit at Bholanagar in Banjara Hills and arrested its owner, Mohammed Junaid Hussain, for allegedly producing and selling adulterated ghee mixed with palm oil, vanaspati, and other low-quality substances. The operation led to the seizure of adulterated dairy products and equipment worth an estimated ₹18.26 lakh.

According to police, the raid was conducted at the Pride Dairy unit following information about the manufacture of substandard dairy products. During the search, officials seized 460 kg of ghee, 70 kg of mixed ghee, 2,090 kg of cow cream, and 1,170 kg of buffalo cream stored at the premises. Authorities also recovered materials used in



adulteration, including 28 tins of vanaspati oil, several used oil packets, and empty containers. Manufacturing equipment such as two boilers, a pushing and packaging machine, and two weighing machines were confiscated as part of the operation.

In addition, police seized four LPG cylinders, around 70 containers of varying sizes filled with

ghee, 25 empty drums, and packaging covers used for distribution. Officials stated that the unit was allegedly preparing counterfeit dairy products for market supply, posing serious health risks to consumers. A case has been registered against the accused, and further investigation is underway to identify distribution networks and possible links to local markets.

Fee reimbursement scheme under threat in Telangana

The Telangana Education Commission has recommended the State government to scrap the fee reimbursement scheme for private colleges that underperform for more than two years. Student bodies have opposed the move, warning it could affect lakhs of students from economically weaker sections

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

For several years, the fee reimbursement scheme has been a lifeline for students, particularly hailing from economically weaker and marginalised sections, to pursue higher education in the State. Now, this scheme that aided lakhs of students to earn their degrees and career over the years may be scrapped. In its recent Telangana Education Policy report submitted to the State government, the Telangana Education Commission (TEC) recommended scrapping the fee reimbursement scheme for private colleges that underperform for more than two years. If scrapped, students enrolled in such institutions will be forced to pay tuition fees on their own, which will be a burden for economically weaker families.

"No fee reimbursement facility should be extended to private institutions which continuously underperform for more than two years, in order to prevent misuse of the system by private institutions," the Commission



said. Further, the Commission recommended that the government should not charge fees from students studying in government colleges who fall under below poverty line (BPL) category. Students who do not belong to the BPL category may be charged the prescribed fees, it said, adding that the existing fee reimbursement system in government universities, therefore, can be discontinued.

These recommendations did not go down well with student organisations that slammed the Commission, calling it 'anti-student'. They warned that any move to withdraw the scheme will impact lakhs of students who rely on it to continue their higher education.

"These are baseless recommendations and we are opposing them. We want the government to continue to extend fee

reimbursement besides providing adequate funds and infrastructure to the public universities. We also want the government to take up staff recruitment in the varsities," said T Nagaraju, general secretary, SFI Telangana. One of the reasons for the Commission's recommendations is the State's poor financial condition. The fee reimbursement dues for private colleges have already crossed Rs 12,000 crore. Although Rs 2,500 crore has to be released annually for the scheme, not even 10 percent of the required funds was released since the Congress government came to power. In fact, managements of private colleges had called for indefinite shutdown of their institutions in September and October 2025. In response, the government released Rs 500 crore.

New Employment Guarantee Works Launched at Nirjapla Gram Panchayat

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

New employment guarantee works were formally inaugurated on Wednesday at Nirjapla Gram Panchayat in Vattapally Mandal of Sangareddy district, Telangana. The programme was launched under the leadership of senior leader M. Veera Reddy of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS). The newly elected Sarpanch, Mohan, officially commenced the works under the government's Employment



Guarantee Scheme, aimed at strengthening rural infrastructure and providing wage employment to local labourers. The initiative is expected

to benefit several economically weaker families in the village by ensuring consistent livelihood opportunities. Speaking on the occasion,

the leaders emphasized that the grant allocated under the Employment Guarantee Scheme would be utilized effectively for developmental activities such as rural road improvement, drainage works, water conservation structures, and other essential public assets. They stated that transparent implementation and community participation would remain key priorities.

Among those present at the event were Deputy Sarpanch Kishitayya,

Panchayat Secretary Jayanthi, Narendra Reddy, Kummari Gopal, Yadaiah, and several village residents. The gathering highlighted the importance of collective efforts in accelerating grassroots development. The leaders reiterated that the grant sanctioned for the village would not only generate employment but also contribute significantly to long-term rural development and infrastructure strengthening in Nirjapla Gram Panchayat.

Bhoomi Pooja and Infrastructure Developments at Mator Village by Sarpanch Janne

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In Mator Village, Motakondur Mandal, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District, the borewell drilling ceremony (Bhoomi Pooja) was conducted under the guidance of Sarpanch Janne Siddulu along with the village elders. This initiative is part of ongoing efforts to enhance local water resources.

Recently, the foundation stone for a new electrical substation was laid by Sri Komati Reddy Venkat Reddy, Hon'ble Minister for Roads and Buildings, Ciniyatography Telangana State, along with repre-



sentatives, Sri Beerla Ilaiah Aleru MLA, and Government WIP government officials. In this context, a new borewell has been sanctioned specifically for the upcoming electricity substation at Mator Village. The Bhoomi Pooja for the

borewell was performed by the Sarpanch and local elders, with the participation of public representatives and villagers, reflecting strong community involvement in these developmental projects.

Holi Celebrations Held Grandly by ZPHS Alumni Association

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Holi celebrations were held with great enthusiasm under the aegis of the Zilla Parishad High School (ZPHS) Alumni Association at Vasavi Towers in the Ghatkesar Municipal limits of Medchal district. The event, organized under the leadership of Alumni Association President Arjun, witnessed active participation from youth, elders, and families alike. Participants celebrated the festival in high spirits, dancing to DJ music and joyfully applying colors to one another. The vibrant hues and cheerful laughter created a festive and lively atmosphere at the venue.

Speaking on the occasion, former Director of the Ghat-



kesar Cooperative Bank, Resu Laxma Reddy, conveyed his warm wishes to the public. He expressed hope that the festival of Holi would bring happiness, prosperity, and harmony to all. He urged people to celebrate the festival in a spirit of unity and togetherness and extended heartfelt greetings to everyone, their families, friends, and well-wishers.

Former Councillor Baddam Mamatha Jaganmohan Reddy Presents 'Neti Stree' to Senior Journalists

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Former Councillor of Pocharam Municipality in Medchal district, Baddam Mamatha (Lasya) Jaganmohan Reddy, formally presented copies of her book "Neti Stree" (Today's Woman) to senior journalists Talka Ramulu and A. Bhagyalakshmi on Tuesday.

Speaking on the occasion, Mamatha Jaganmohan Reddy said the book is dedicated to every woman who has endured hardships yet continues to carry a smile; to every mother who lights up her family's world each morning; to every young woman striving to achieve her dreams; and to every wife who silently upholds patience, love, and strength in her heart. She emphasized that a woman's life extends far beyond the traditional roles of mother,



wife, or sister. "A woman is not just defined by relationships—she is a source of inspiration and strength. From the day she discovers her true self, her courage, the value she places on relationships, her hidden potential, her physical and mental well-being, and her ability to spread joy to the world come to light. That is the essence of Neti Stree," she explained. Mamatha also expressed

heartfelt gratitude to her husband, Jaganmohan Reddy, for his constant encouragement during the writing process. "Behind every woman stands a silent pillar of strength. Whenever I was afraid, he reassured me saying, 'I am here.' When I faltered, he encouraged me to move forward."

I owe him special thanks for being my unwavering support," she said. Senior journalist Ramulu lauded the author for her thoughtful and patient effort in bringing out a book that serves as an awakening for women in society. He also appreciated the support extended by Jaganmohan Reddy in making the publication possible. The event marked a meaningful gesture celebrating women's empowerment and literary contribution from Medchal district.

CBIT Organises Two-Day Program on Management in AI Age

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The School of Management Studies at Chaitanya Bharathi Institute of Technology (CBIT) inaugurated a two-day academic program titled "Management in the Age of AI: From Decisions to Intelligent Systems" on Wednesday, aimed at equipping MBA second-semester students with practical knowledge of artificial intelligence in business management. The initiative is being conducted under the IIC 8.0 Activity as part of the AI-focused initiative supported by All India Council for Technical Education and the Ministry of Education. The program focuses on how artificial intelligence is transforming key



management domains such as marketing, finance, and strategic decision-making. Sessions are designed to help students understand data-driven business practices and the growing integration of intelligent systems in corporate environments. CBIT Principal Prof. C. V. Narasimulu attended the inaugural session and appreciated the department for organizing a timely academic initiative that prepares management students to adapt to rapidly evolving

technological trends. Dr. S. Saraswathi, Head of the School of Management Studies, highlighted the need to integrate AI applications into management education, stressing that future managers must be equipped with analytical and technology-driven decision-making skills. The sessions are being led by Mr. Uma Desu, Chief Artificial Intelligence Officer and GenAI pioneer, who is serving as the resource person. He is delivering expert lectures on AI-driven marketing and customer targeting, business strategy and decision-making using AI, financial forecasting and risk analysis, prompt engineering for managers, and real-world industry applications of artificial intelligence.

US Stocks Rebound After Strong Economic Updates And An Easing Of Oil Prices

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The U.S. stock market is rebounding Wednesday from two days of punishing swings after oil prices stopped spiking and reports gave encouraging updates on the economy. The S&P 500 rose 1% and is on track to erase all of its loss since the war with Iran began. The Dow Jones Industrial Average was up 319 points, or 0.7%, with an hour remaining in trading, and the Nasdaq composite was 1.5% higher. The strength followed a scary start to Wednesday, when South Korea's Kospi stock index plunged 12.1% for its worst loss in history. Uncertainty about the war has sent prices in financial markets careening up and down

hour by hour this week, with most taking their cues from what the price of oil is doing. Oil prices moderated as trading moved westward from Asia to Europe and across the Atlantic. After briefly topping \$84 per barrel, the price for a barrel of Brent crude, the international standard, settled at \$81.40, back to where it was a day earlier. A barrel of benchmark U.S. crude rose 0.1% to \$74.66. Stocks also got a boost from signs of strength for the U.S. economy. One report said growth for U.S. businesses in the real estate, finance and other services industries accelerated last month at the fastest pace since the summer of 2022. Encouragingly for inflation, it also said prices for such busi-



nesses are increasing at a slower rate, at least before the war with Iran began. A second report suggested U.S. employers outside of the government picked up their hiring last month. That could be a hopeful signal for the more comprehensive report coming Friday from the U.S. government about the overall job market. In financial markets, worries are centered on how long the war with Iran could last, how

high inflation will go because of more expensive oil and how much corporate profits will sink because of it. The U.S. stock market has a history of shaking off military conflicts in the Middle East relatively quickly, though that comes with a caveat that oil prices don't jump too high. That has some professional investors suggesting patience through the volatility, at least when it comes to financial markets. Not everyone

is optimistic. "I think the Iran situation is getting out of hand, and I think that U.S. President Donald Trump miscalculated enormously," said Francis Lun, CEO of Venturesmart Asia. "The situation is very grim." On Wall Street, a mix of companies helped drive Wednesday's rise. Stocks enmeshed in the crypto industry climbed as bitcoin's price rebounded back toward \$74,000. Coinbase Global jumped 15.3%, and Robinhood Markets rallied 8.3%. Retailers and travel companies strengthened with hopes that a solid economy and an easing for jumps in gasoline prices will mean their customers may have more to spend. Ross Stores climbed 7% after reporting.

Crossing All Limits: MK Stalin Accuses Centre Of Hindi Imposition

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana



Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin on Wednesday again accused the Central government of "imposing hindi" in the state, this time under the guise of the "one language, three scripts" approach. Stalin alleged that the Bharatiya Janata Party-led Central government is simply transliterating "unpronounceable" Hindi names in English and Tamil scripts, warning the BJP against its "obsession" with Hindi imposition. "Hindi Imposition by the BJP Government: Unpronounceable names at the very entrance! The BJP is crossing all limits in its obsession with Hindi imposition! The Union BJP government has engaged in the vile act of #Hindi-Imposition by adopting a "one language, three scripts" approach, where Hindi names are simply transliterated into Tamil and English scripts!" he

said in a post on X. Sharing instances of what he believed is to be "hindi imposition," Stalin alleged that at the Tiruchirappalli Railway Divisional Office, the BJP has written 'kartvya dvar' in three scripts. He also objected to using the Bhavishya Nidhi Bhavan name to refer to Employees' Provident Fund (EPFO) offices. "For the new criminal laws as well, they use Sanskrit names written in English script. The name of the Union Ministry of Water Resources has become 'Jal Shakti'. They showed the same behaviour regarding the name change of the Mahatma Gandhi 100-day work scheme (MGNREGA)," he further alleged. Stalin said that a fitting lesson must be taught to the BJP

and asked them to abandon the attempt to impose Hindi. "Their insolence and arrogance are growing. A fitting lesson must be taught to those who are provoking the self-respect of the Tamil people! They must abandon the attempt to impose Hindi through Tamil and English scripts, and proper Tamil names must be placed there immediately. I warn that otherwise, the Union BJP government will have to feel the "heat" (wrath) of the Tamils," he said. Hindi imposition Bjp government Tamil nadu Mk stalin Central government One language Three scripts Tamil Nadu Elections Transliteration Unpronounceable names There has been an ongoing tussle between the state government and the Centre, where the DMK government accuses the BJP of imposing Hindi. Amid this, the state also introduced the State Education Policy, with a two-language formula.

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.

India's Silence On US-Led War Is Incomprehensible: Mehbooba Mufti

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana



PDP president Mehbooba Mufti on Wednesday said India's silence on the US-Israel aggression against Iran was incomprehensible for her, as only Tehran had stood by New Delhi when sanctions were imposed against the latter for nuclear tests. "I fail to understand that we are a democratic country, but neither has our country's leadership condemned it or expressed condolences with the people there (Iran), nor has the leadership here (in Jammu and Kashmir)," the former chief minister told reporters here. She said India has had very strong relations with Iran in the past. "Every Muslim country used to side with Pakistan on the Kashmir issue, except Iran, which took India's side. When sanctions were imposed on India, Iran was the only country that gave us oil. They did not even take the money first, and then

took it later. Despite that, unfortunately, the country's leadership did not condemn it or even express condolences to the people of Iran," she said. Mehbooba Mufti, a former chief minister of the erstwhile state of J-K, burnt the effigies of the US President Donald Trump and Israeli PM Benjamin Netanyahu. "Our hearts are filled with grief, but we cannot protest outside, so at least we burnt the effigies of these satanic forces, be it Trump or Netanyahu. We want to send a message to the world that the people of J-K, especially the people of the valley, stand with the people of Iran and salute their bravery and sacrifices," she added. She also hit out at Pa-

kistan, saying it seems the country's recent pact with Saudi Arabia was not against Israel but Iran. On September 17, 2025, Saudi Arabia and Pakistan signed a Strategic Mutual Defence Agreement (SMDA) in Riyadh. The pact establishes that any aggression against either nation is considered an attack on both. "It seems all the Muslim countries have become lapdogs of the US and Israel and are directly or indirectly involved in this attack. Iran is fighting alone, and so our heart, mind and soul stand with them," Mufti said. She called for the release of the people detained during the protests in the valley against the assassination of Iran's Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. The PDP chief also demanded that the FIR against Srinagar Lok Sabha MP Aga Syed Ruhullah Mehdi and former city mayor Junaid Azim Mattu be withdrawn.

Iran Pounds US.....

The Pentagon has also released a short video of the sinking of the Iranian frigate. The warship IRIS Dena is a Moudge-class frigate and had nearly 180 crew members on board. Sri Lankan officials said a major search and rescue operation was underway to rescue the survivors. Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Vijitha Herath said the military rescued 32 critically wounded sailors. The military of the island nation launched the search and rescue operation after receiving distress signal from the Iranian warship, they said. Former Indian Navy Chief Admiral Arun Prakash described the US action as a "senseless" and "inflammatory act". "Sinking of Iranian war ship, off southern tip of Sri Lanka, with heavy loss of life is a senseless & inflammatory act. A container ship was attacked Wednesday afternoon off the coast of Oman, causing fire in its engine room, an agency of the UK military said. The vessel was transiting eastbound through the Strait of Hormuz, 2 nautical miles north of Oman, when it was hit by an unknown projectile, according to the United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations, UKMTO. Oman, long an intermediary between the West and Iran, has repeatedly come under attack by Iran.

Trump Claims Iran....

The anxiety of parents increased after US-Israel attacks hit one of the buildings in Qom. Some parents who managed to speak to

their children were told that the target was a vacant building of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps. "There are a lot of students from Hyderabad and India there (in Qom). I spoke to my son Zia Hussain and they are safe. Even in the building that was targeted, no one was present. I urge parents not to panic," said a visibly shaken Syed Jaffer Hussain, editor of the city-based Urdu paper Sada-e-Hussaini. Of the 1,800 students stranded in Iran, 1,200 are medical students, while the remaining are pursuing Islamic studies. Apart from the students, around 100 pilgrims also remain stranded in the city of Mashhad, which is 750 km east of Tehran. The parents have urged the state and Union governments to rescue them through a "green channel." "When Iran was targeted earlier, we were able to rescue those stranded in the country through Azerbaijan. We hope the government helps in airlifting them by securing a green channel from the warring nations through any bordering country. If not Azerbaijan, the government can seek Turkmenistan's help. We have been urging the state government to establish a helpline or help desk in Hyderabad for those stranded in Iran," said advocate Syed Ali Jaffry, secretary of the Shia Companions Organisation.

Study Warns.....

The study, 'Anatomy of moist heatwaves in India during summer monsoon season' has shown for the very first time that

India's monsoon season not only brings rain to the land, but the phenomenon of moist heatwaves. Unlike ordinary heatwaves, moist heatwaves are driven by humidity as much as temperature, resulting in what is known as wet bulb temperatures. These conditions occur when the air is already humid, resulting in a situation where sweat cannot evaporate from skin, which in turn reduces the ability of the human body to cool itself. Lack of awareness of these weather conditions can result in heat exhaustion and even fatal heatstroke within hours, especially to those involved in physical labour. "We have shown for the first time that India's summer monsoon actively controls the location and timing of moist heatwaves in the country," Dr Akshay Deoras, a research scientist at the National Centre for Atmospheric Science & Department of Meteorology, University of Reading, UK, the lead author, told.

Rohit Pawar.....

Calling the AAIB report 'misleading and unreliable' and questioning its credibility, Rohit claimed that although there are no trees in the vicinity of Bara-mati airport, the report stated that the aircraft had collided with trees. "The AAIB report said that the aircraft collided with trees but there were no trees in the vicinity except some bushes that are far from the accident spot. The aircraft didn't even touch them. The observation made by them is completely wrong," Rohit said. "The report claims the plane

banked to the right, but the footage clearly shows it tilting to the left. If they can't even get the direction of the fall right, how can we trust the rest of the report," he asked. Rohit displayed photographs of the aircraft's black box, allegedly from the crashed plane, asserting that it appeared undamaged. According to him, DGCA deputy director Ramachandran had signed a document at the Bara-mati police station stating that the black box was intact. He said that the same DGCA is now claiming that the black box sustained damage, suspecting cover-ups and attempts to manipulate the probe to protect VSR Ventures and interests of influential individuals who have invested in the charter operating firm. The MLA claimed that the VSR company made a major negligence during Eknath Shinde's Davos tour in 2023 that put his life at risk. "In international travel, a flight plan has to be given, and permission from other countries has to be obtained. If a plane enters that country without permission, it can even be shot down, and something similar happened in the case of Eknath Shinde Saheb," he claimed. Pawar alleged that after refuelling the plane, it went through Iranian territory while on its way to Zurich. The Iranian authorities then warned to shoot down the plane if it didn't turn back. The plane then flew over the Iraqi territory, where the same thing happened, Pawar alleged, adding that Shinde himself was on the plane. "As the fuel was running low, the plane was brought back.

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-

established 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

NRI Architect's Family Blackmailed By Driver

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A 52-year-old NRI architect from Washington, USA, who had come to Hyderabad to attend his father-in-law's funeral, faced a disturbing ordeal when his daughter was harassed and blackmailed by a car driver. The accused, Vinay Kanchugatla, allegedly extorted more than ₹12 lakh from the family by threatening to misuse her photographs. According to the complaint lodged at Punjagutta police station, Vinay obtained the contact details of the complainant's daughter during March 2025, when he was hired as a driver. He befriended her online, posing as

a family acquaintance, and persuaded her to send him money under false pretences such as medical emergencies and business investments. Between April and August 2025, she transferred USD 13,357 (₹12,05,469) through Western Union and other channels. In August 2025, the father noticed irregularities and confronted his daughter. When questioned, Vinay fled Hyderabad to the Suryapet area. Even after absconding, he continued to intimidate her, claiming he possessed her photographs. He threatened to release them publicly unless she maintained contact with him and complied with his demands.

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.

Cybercriminals Cheat Victims of Rs.88 Lakh

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Hyderabad Cyber Crime Police have registered multiple cases after victims were cheated by fraudsters on the pretext of trading and online job offers. In the first case, a 79-year-old businessman was duped of ₹55 lakh after being introduced to one Anish Mathew by Aarvi Reddy on social media. Mathew sent the victim a link to download an app and persuaded him to transfer funds for trading. The victim was also asked to recruit new customers with a promise of 30 per cent commission. When he demanded his money back, the accused switched off their phones.

In another case, a 49-year-old private school teacher was lured by a WhatsApp message from Preeti Sharma, who offered high-paying work promoting products online. After attending training sessions, the victim was asked to pay for registrations and clearances. She eventually lost ₹5 lakh before the accused stopped responding. A third case involved a 36-year-old private employee who was added to a WhatsApp group called 5 Nifty Core Capital Group. A man identifying himself as Vijay Lodha promised returns of up to 500 per cent within three months through Indian and US stock trading. The victim transferred ₹8.5 lakh and was cheated.

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 Muthyram 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.

HC Notice to Govt on Delay in Compensation

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana High Court has directed the state government to file its counter-affidavit within two weeks in a writ petition filed by families displaced by the Sripadasagar Yellampalli Project, who allege that compensation has not been paid for nearly two decades. The petitioners stated that the erstwhile government of undivided Andhra Pradesh had acquired the entire Che-gyam village in

Velgatoor mandal of Jagtial district, then part of Karimnagar district, for the project. According to the petition, around 126 families lost their village due to the land acquisition. The government had initially issued a Government Order sanctioning Rs 58 crore as compensation for the affected families. However, the petitioners contended that the amount was later reduced to Rs 28 crore and was not released. Counsel for the petitioners, advocate Dunna

Ambedkar, submitted that the Telangana government, in August 2023, issued another order sanctioning Rs 18 crore as compensation under various token numbers. The displaced families opposed the reduced amount and made representations seeking cancellation of the Rs 18 crore sanction and release of the originally sanctioned Rs 58 crore, along with interest from the date of acquisition. The petitioners also stated that they approached the Chief Min-

ister's Office through the Prajavani grievance platform on August 29, 2024, seeking payment of compensation as per the earlier Government Order. The representation was later forwarded by the CMO to the Jagtial district collector for necessary action. After hearing the submissions, the High Court noted the delay in payment of compensation to the displaced families and directed the state government to file its counter-affidavit within two weeks.

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.



Russia Ready to Divert Oil to India: Sources

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Russia is ready to divert oil to India to offset Middle East supply disruptions, with about 9.5 million barrels of Russian crude in vessels near Indian waters and able to arrive within weeks, an industry source with direct knowledge told Reuters. The source declined to say where the non-Russian fleet cargoes were originally headed but said they could deliver to India within weeks, giving refiners rapid relief.

India is vulnerable to supply shocks, with crude stocks covering only about 25 days of demand, while refiners hold similarly limited inventories of gasoil, gasoline and liquefied petroleum gas. An Indian government source said New Delhi was scouting for alternative supply to prepare for continuing conflict in the Middle East beyond 10-15 days.



The disruption has immediate market consequences, with about 40% of India's crude imports moving through the Strait of Hormuz, the world's most vital oil export route, the source said, and the near-closure of the route has compelled the No.3 oil consumer to seek alternatives.

Indian refiners process about 5.6 million barrels per day of crude. The Strait has become inaccessible after vessels were struck by Iranian attacks that followed U.S. and Israeli strikes on Iran-based targets that commenced on Saturday. The industry

source, speaking on condition of anonymity, said Russia was ready to help India meet up to 40% of its crude needs. India's imports of Russian crude fell to about 1.1 million barrels per day in January, the lowest since November 2022, as New Delhi sought relief from U.S. tariffs, pushing Moscow's share of overall oil imports down to 21.2%, industry data showed. The source said the share climbed back to around 30% in February.

Indian refiners are in regular contact with traders selling Russian crude, but any increase in intake

from Moscow would depend on guidance from the government as trade talks with the United States continue, two refining sources said. U.S. President Donald Trump last month agreed to drop punitive tariffs levied on imports from India over its purchase of Russian oil, saying New Delhi had agreed to "stop buying Russian oil." India has not done so, insisting its strategy was to diversify supply in line with market conditions and "evolving international dynamics." India's foreign and oil ministries, as well as the Russian embassy in New Delhi, did not immediately respond to a request for comment on any higher purchases from Russia. An Indian source said days before the Iran war that Indian companies had not been told to shun Russian oil. While Russian oil has been sold at a discount to global prices since the country invaded Ukraine in 2022, that will now narrow as

"it's become a sellers' market," the industry source with knowledge of Russian oil trade said. The source said Russia was also ready to sell liquefied natural gas to India after top supplier Qatar halted production on Monday as the conflict widened. Indian companies have reduced gas supplies to some industrial customers to manage the shortfall, Reuters has reported. Both China and India, Asia's biggest energy consumers, source about half their crude imports from the Middle East, but India holds far less in storage than China and is more exposed to regional supply shocks as Russian purchases fell under U.S. pressure. Trump said on Tuesday the U.S. Navy could escort oil tankers through the Strait of Hormuz if necessary, and ordered the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation to provide political risk insurance and guarantees for Gulf shipping.

Cleantech Hiring up 56 pc in Two Years

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

With the country moving towards Net Zero goal, the hiring by the Clean-Tech sector has gone up by 56.6 per cent over the past two years. Companies in the renewable energy space, energy efficiency products and processes like smart grids and efficient building materials, green transportation, including EVs, water and wastewater treatment technologies, solid waste management, air quality control and carbon capture and utilization companies are on a hiring mode, finds a study by CIEL HR Services. Based on workforce data from 55 cleantech companies and national job portal trends, the study finds demand consistently outstripping supply across entry, mid and senior

levels. While India produces over a million engineering graduates annually, traditional colleges are not equipped to teach solar, wind and other renewable technologies. The demand for skilled professionals far exceeds current supply.

Talent demand has surged across all levels -skilled graduates, engineers, mid-level managers and CXOs. Talent scarcity is increasingly driving compensation inflation across the sector, with 48 per cent of positions offering annual salaries of Rs 10 lakh and above, compared to 40 per cent in IT. Engineering and project execution roles such as design engineers, process engineers and mechatronics engineers remain central to hiring, while digital and data expertise, including data analysts, AI-driven performance specialists

and enterprise architects, is rising steadily. At the same time, regulatory and sustainability enterprise and stakeholder management skills are gaining prominence as companies scale projects across regions.

Delhi-NCR commands 44 per cent of total job openings, with Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities emerging as the second-largest hiring hubs. The study further revealed a stark gender imbalance, with women accounting for just 11 per cent of the workforce and 15 per cent of leadership roles. "India's cleantech sector stands at a transformative juncture, poised to become a powerful economic engine that can shape India's next phase of development. While growth is unprecedented, talent scarcity, skill gaps and underrepresentation of women.

Global tensions and rising oil prices drag Indian markets sharply lower

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Benchmark indices tumble over 1% amid global market rout, rising oil prices India's benchmark stock indices, the BSE Sensex and NSE Nifty 50, plunged sharply on Wednesday, extending their losing streak as escalating tensions in West Asia triggered a global sell-off and pushed crude oil prices higher. The 30-share Sensex dropped 1,122.66 points

or 1.40 per cent to close at 79,116.19, marking its fourth consecutive session of losses. During intraday trade, the index crashed as much as 1,795.65 points, or 2.23 per cent, to hit a low of 78,443.20 before recovering partially in the latter half of the session. Similarly, the 50-share Nifty declined 385.20 points, or 1.55 per cent, to settle at 24,480.50. The benchmark registered its third straight day of decline and



recorded its lowest closing level in nearly six months. Earlier in the day, the index had plunged 560.3 points, or 2.25 per cent, to 24,305.40 amid heavy

selling pressure. Market sentiment remained weak as geopolitical tensions intensified following continued military exchanges involving Iran, Israel and the

United States. Rising uncertainty drove global crude prices higher, with Brent crude climbing 3.08 per cent to USD 83.91 per barrel, raising concerns over inflationary pressures and economic stability. Heavy selling was witnessed across several sectors. Among Sensex constituents, Tata Steel emerged as the biggest loser, tumbling 6.76 per cent, followed by Larsen & Toubro, which declined 4.53 per cent.

Bajaj Finance, UltraTech Cement, NTPC, Inter-Globe Aviation, Bajaj Finserv and Kotak Mahindra Bank also ended lower. In contrast, Bharti Airtel, Infosys and Tech Mahindra managed to close in positive territory, offering limited support to the markets. Global cues further weighed on investor sentiment. Asian markets ended sharply lower, with South Korea's Kospi witnessing steep losses, while Japan's Nikkei

225, China's Shanghai SSE Composite and Hong Kong's Hang Seng index also closed significantly down. European markets, however, traded in positive territory, even as US markets had ended Tuesday's session in the red. Foreign Institutional Investors continued their selling trend, offloading equities worth ₹3,295.64 crore on Monday, according to exchange data. Domestic Institutional Investors provided some

cushion by purchasing shares worth ₹8,593.87 crore during the same period. Indian equity markets had remained closed on Tuesday on account of the Holi. In the previous session on Monday, the Sensex had fallen 1,048.34 points to end at 80,238.85, while the Nifty declined 312.95 points to close at 24,865.70, signalling continued volatility ahead.

India's LNG supplies disrupted as Qatar halts production amid West Asia crisis

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Qatar has halted liquefied natural gas (LNG) production after its facilities came under attack amid the ongoing West Asia conflict, disrupting supplies to India and squeezing feedstock availability for key domestic sectors.

India, which depends on long-term LNG contracts with Qatar for a significant share of its gas needs, has seen a temporary suspension of cargoes, leading to supply cuts up to 40 per cent for a range of industrial consumers and city gas distribution (CGD) companies. While some industrial users can switch to alternative — though costlier — fuels, the CNG-retailing city gas sector has warned of severe stress. CGD operators said replacing contracted Qatari volumes with spot LNG priced at more than double the contracted rate could erode CNG's price advantage and result in a permanent shift of customers to electric ve-



hicles. Petronet LNG Ltd, India's largest LNG importer, hasn't been able to send ships to Qatar to ferry LNG as the Strait of Hormuz — a narrow shipping route through which West Asian countries, including Qatar, export most of their oil and gas — is all but closed.

Additionally, Qatar has shut down liquefied natural gas production at the world's largest export facility — which also supplied gas to India — after it was targeted in an Iranian drone attack. In a stock exchange filing, Petronet said it has sent force majeure notice to Qatari supplier, QatarEnergy for inability to send ships.

QatarEnergy too has served a force majeure

notice for inability to serve its buyer — Petronet LNG — due to hostilities in the region. "In light of the recent and ongoing war in the Middle East region involving Iran and Israel, vessels are presently unable to safely transit through the Strait of Hormuz to reach Ras Laffan, the loading port of QatarEnergy," Petronet said.

"Considering the prevailing security situation and the material risks posed to maritime navigation, the company (Petronet) has issued a force majeure notice to QatarEnergy in respect of its LNG tankers, namely Disha, Raahi, and Aseem. Petronet said it has, in turn, issued corresponding force majeure notices to its downstream

off-takers. Qatar supplies 40 per cent of the 27 million tonnes a year of LNG that India imports annually. The supply cuts have also been effected on city gas firms, which have written to government-owned gas utility GAIL, expressing concerns over the availability of domestic gas and LNG to meet the requirements of CNG for automobiles and piped cooking gas for households.

The Association of CGD Entities (ACE) in a March 3 letter to GAIL chairman and managing director said the reduction in supply of low-priced gas to 60 per cent and restriction of spot or current market supply to zero "are likely to have a significant impact on gas availability to the sector, which may adversely affect the priority segments.

"We request clarity and confirmation regarding the sustained availability of gas to the city gas sector so that the sector can continue to serve the aspirations and objectives set by the Government of

India for providing a reliable and sustained energy to smaller customer segments in the remotest corners of the country," it said.

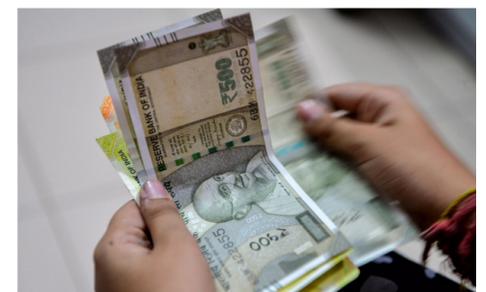
Stating that the association members remain committed to supplying energy to households, CNG customers, small industries and commercial consumers, it sought "continued visibility and guidance on gas supply to the CGD sector during the crisis period. "A line of confirmation about continuity of gas supply to the city gas sector during the crisis period will be helpful," it added.

While domestically produced natural gas meets just about half of the demand, India meets the rest through LNG imports. LNG is a gas that has been cooled far below freezing point into liquid form to allow storage and transport over long distances. Petronet LNG imports such liquid gas and then regasifies it (back to gas) at its R-LNG terminals in Dahej in Gujarat, and Kochi in Kerala.

Rupee Slumps 69 Paise To All-time Low of 92.18 Against US Dollar

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Rupee slumped 69 paise to an all-time low of 92.18 against the US dollar in early trade on Wednesday, as a sharp spike in crude oil prices amid geopolitical tensions following the escalation of the US-Iran conflict weighed on investor sentiment. Forex traders said the domestic currency is under severe pressure due to a sharp spike in crude oil prices, with Brent Crude crossing the USD 82 per barrel level in futures trade in the wake of the Iran crisis, which dented investor sentiments. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 92.05, then fell to an early low of 92.18 against the American currency, registering a fall of 69 paise from its previous close. On Monday, the rupee had settled at 91.49 against the US dollar. The forex Market was



closed on Tuesday on account of Holi. Traders said the USD/INR pair remains under pressure as investors are moving toward safe-haven assets. Moreover, persistent foreign capital outflow from the equities, and fears grow that expensive imports will hurt the trade balance.

Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.03 per cent higher at 99.08. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, was up 1.01 per cent at USD 82.22 per barrel in futures trade, following

the escalation of the US-Iran crisis. Experts say that India faces the risk of a sharp increase in its import bill with the rising crude prices in the international market, as the country's 85 per cent fuel requirement is met through imports. On the domestic equity market front, the Sensex tumbled 1,671.39 points or 2.08 per cent to 78,567.46, while Nifty tanked 502.35 points or 2.02 per cent to 24,363.35 in early trade. On Monday, foreign institutional investors off-loaded equities worth Rs 3,295.64 crore, according to exchange data.

Sam celebrates Holi on sets of 'Maa Inti Bangaaram'

Actress Samantha Ruth Prabhu decided to enjoy the festival of Holi on the sets of her forthcoming drama, "Maa Inti Bangaaram".

The fun video dropped by her on her IG showed Samantha first locking in her target and then skillfully launching her attack in a true "Maam Inti Bangaaram" style.

Her pichkari attack was responded to with water balloons. Samantha even involved her director, BV Nandini Reddy, in the fun little celebration.

Wishing everyone on the colour of festivals, she captioned the post, "Dishkiyaon... Happy Holi Bangaaram... From the sets of #MaamIntiBangaaram #MiBonMay15th (sic)"

In February, the "Maa Inti Bangaaram" makers announced that the highly-awaited Tollywood drama will reach the audience on May 15 this year. Sharing the new release date on social media, Samantha penned the caption, "See you in theatres this summer, Bangaaram... #MaamIntiBangaaram Grand Release worldwide on 15th May, 2026 #MiBonMay15th #MiB".

Before that, in January, they treated



the netizens with the first look poster of the drama directed by BV Nandini Reddy.

The photo had Samantha standing inside a bus wearing a simple brown saree. She seemed all ready to pick a fight as the intensity was palpable in her eyes.

"You just keep watching... #MaamIntiBangaaram will be connecting with y'all," she captioned the post.

Shedding light on her next, Samantha revealed that "Maa Inti Bangaaram" enjoys a narrative dedicated to keeping family first.

She shared, "Maa Inti Bangaaram tells the story of a woman whose strength comes as much from her vulnerability as from her courage. Playing this character and nurturing this film as a producer has been an incredibly fulfilling journey for me."

"The world of this film is rooted and emotional with a narrative style dedicated to being family first and slice of life, whilst maintaining its quirky, edgy energy. I'm truly excited for audiences to experience this story and connect with its spirit when it reaches them," Samantha went on to add.

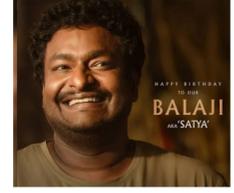
Naga Chaitanya's Vrushakarma: Sathya's Balaji look unveiled on birthday

CHENNAI
Wakeup telangana

A middle-aged man and a young girl, exploring themes of family and emotional connection. The announcement comes as part of the birthday celebrations of actor Sathya.

Using the film's official handle on social media, the makers released the first look poster of Sathya as Balaji and wrote, "Team #Vrushakarma wishes their Balaji aka the super talented actor #Sathya a very Happy Birthday. #Vrushakarma-Glimpse out Tomorrow, MARCH 5th, 2026 at 12:12 PM. Launch Event at Prasad's PCX Screen from 10:30 AM onwards."

It may be recalled that the makers had earlier revealed that actor Jayaram plays a character called Professor Ranganath in the film. The makers of



the film had released the title of the film on Naga Chaitanya's birthday last year. The makers further unveiled the first look poster of Naga Chaitanya from "Vrushakarma".

The poster featured him in a raw and fierce avatar. Naga Chaitanya was seen flaunting his muscular physique, even as he sported an intense expression.

Sharing the first look poster of the film on Instagram, Naga Chaitanya had penned, "#vrushakarma it is for #nc24 (sic)".

The Karthik Dandu directorial is being backed on a massive scale by pro-

ducers BVS N Prasad and Sukumar under the banners of Sri Venkateswara Cine Chitra LLP (SVCC) and Sukumar Writings, respectively. Meenakshi Chowdhury will be seen romancing Naga Chaitanya in the movie, which will also feature Sparsh Srivastava of 'Laapataa Ladies' fame in a crucial role.

The film also boasts of a strong technical team. The story for 'Vrushakarma' has been penned by director Sukumar.

Cinematography for the film is by the talented Neil D Cunha while Ajaneesh Loknath has scored the film's music. The editing department is being headed by the National Award winner Navin Nooli. The Art direction for the forthcoming mythological flick has been done by Sri Nagendra Tangala, who earlier

Nick Jonas shares a throwback pic of 'one of his favourite Holi memories' with Priyanka Chopra



MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Globally famous singer-actor Nick Jonas, on Wednesday, took a trip down memory lane as he shared a special Holi memory with his wife, global icon Priyanka Chopra. Nick Jonas posted a throwback picture from one of his early Holi celebrations with Priyanka, further also giving fans a glimpse into their colourful festivities.

In the picture, Nick and Priyanka are seen soaked in bright colours and 'gula'

while enjoying the festival together. Priyanka, dressed in a traditional outfit, is seen smiling as she leans affectionately toward Nick, hugging him from behind, while he looks at her lovingly.

Sharing the image, Nick captioned the post as, "A little throwback to one of my favorite Holi memories. Happy Holi everyone!" The couple has often celebrated Indian festivals together. In many of his interviews, Nick has often spoken about how much he loves to celebrate Indian festivals, especially upon knowing

that each festival has a specific significance.

The singer has been seen embracing the Indian traditions and festivities with enthusiasm since his wedding with Priyanka in 2018. His positive approach towards India and its traditions, along with his infinite love for his Indian wife, Priyanka Chopra, has won him the adorable title of 'jiju' by all of Priyanka fans in India. The pop star Nick Jonas, recently had been turning into a cheerleader for his wife Priyanka Chopra and lauding her old Bollywood movies in his

fun way. Praising her viral 2005 track 'Teri Dulhan Sajaungi', which also featured actress Bipasha Basu, Nick took to his social media account, to share a fun reel of himself enjoying a dosa. He also shared a text that read, "When they have dosa at the breakfast buffet." The clip showed him grooving to 'Teri Dulhan Sajaungi' from the 2005 film 'Barsaat.' For the caption, he wrote, "This song hits." Earlier too, Nick was seen grooving to many other hits songs of Priyanka, making him win the hearts of fans.

Abhishek's Form and Confidence in Focus As World No. 1 T20 Batter Returns to Happy Hunting

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

It all began with an upset tummy which derailed the juggernaut that Abhishek Sharma had been when this edition of the T20 World Cup got underway. Having finished as the second-highest run-getter in 2025 among top nations, Abhishek was touted to dominate the tournament but the law of averages seemed to be catching up with the world No. 1 T20 batter when he returned to the dugout with three ducks in as many matches.

Irrespective of his high-flying start to international cricket and even the pedigree that he carries, the past few weeks have shown that the game of cricket is replete with uncertainties and even the best in the business can look ordinary at the biggest stage. While he thrived in dominating bowlers from all around the world to rapidly rise to the top of the world rankings in a format as fickle as T20s, Abhishek has been forced to put his all-out approach on the back burner and most importantly, 'give himself some time in the middle'.



Now, not only he refrains from going after the bowlers from the first ball, but even chooses to defend a few -- something that surprised the legendary Sunil Gavaskar. Not long ago, India captain Suryakumar Yadav was stuck in the quagmire of doing all that he could in the nets but hard work behind the scenes not translating in on-field success. By his own admission, a simple process of taking time off the game benefited him and when he did return, giving himself time in the middle resulted in Suryakumar banishing a woeful 2025 in style.

Abhishek seems to be following the same path as he has started to not go all-out from ball one, but he doesn't miss out on cashing in on any opportunity to score. But as he wades his way through the puzzle of what should

be the best approach, it is no exaggeration in saying that one of the country's brightest young stars is caught up in that place where several of other Indian players have been before. It is, of course, the one where all the attention is focussed on him but the going gets as tough as it can get.

So then, is it the case of Abhishek losing his confidence as he has also dropped a few catches of late? "No, I think just sometimes this game can be hard on you, cruel on you. (It is a) similar situation that Sanju (Samson) found himself in, that, in your career, you're going to find moments like this," India's bowling coach Morne Morkel, who addressed the media on the eve of the semifinal, replied to a PTI query. "This is good growth (opportunity); it's good learning for

him. For a young guy finding his feet in international cricket, this will only help him down the line in Indian cricket." The South African was confident that in case of Abhishek, it is always going to be the matter of one ball or two for finding his rhythm.

"Coming back to his form, Abhishek, (with) his way of playing, it's (about) one or two shots that can find him that rhythm, that can give him that confidence back, and that for me is a pleasing sign," Morkel said. "He's not a guy that worries too much about technique. Normally those sort of players take a lot more time to get into confidence," he added. India and England have met twice in the semifinal stage and both the teams have won a game each. In fact, the winner of these contests has eventually gone on to win the T20 World Cup as well. It was exactly a year ago when Abhishek had announced his arrival at the Wankhede Stadium here in T20 Internationals, hammering an English attack, which had some of those bowlers he would face in the semifinal, for 13 sixes and seven fours in a 54-ball 135.

100-day countdown begins for ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The first ball of the ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026 will be bowled at Edgbaston on 12 June, as hosts England take on Sri Lanka -- and today the famous Birmingham venue marked the 100-day countdown by transforming its iconic scoreboard into a huge 100-day countdown, according to an ICC media release on Wednesday.

The moment sparked a wave of scoreboard transformations across the country and around the world, signalling the start of the final run-up to one of the biggest sporting events of the year. England Women captain Nat Sciver-Brunt was joined by teammates Sophia Dunkley and Lauren Filer for the countdown in Birmingham, where fans will witness world-class sport, incredible action and a truly global celebration of women's cricket. Countdown scoreboards also appeared simultaneously at cricket grounds across host cities in the United Kingdom (UK) including Old Trafford Cricket Ground (Manchester), Headingley (Leeds), Hampshire Bowl (Southampton), Bristol



County Ground (Bristol), The Oval (London), and Lord's Cricket Ground (London). Cricket grounds around the world such as Sydney Cricket Ground (Australia), Eden Gardens (India), Merrion Cricket Club (Ireland), The Hague Cricket Club (the Netherlands), Basin Reserve (New Zealand), Gaddafi Stadium (Pakistan), Wanderers Cricket Stadium (South Africa), R. Premadasa Stadium (Colombo) and Kensington Oval (Barbados) also followed suit, transforming their scoreboards with the digital design.

Beth Barrett-Wild, ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026 Tournament Director said, "In just 100 days, England and Wales will

host the best female cricketers on the planet, for an unmissable sporting spectacle. With over 115,000 tickets already sold, excitement and momentum are building behind a tournament that's ready to capture the hearts and minds of the nation and propel women's cricket firmly into the sporting mainstream."

This summer, fans can expect to see the world's best cricketers talent battle it out across England and Wales, with teams from across the globe competing for the ultimate prize. With fierce rivalries, high-stakes matches and a festival-like atmosphere at every venue, the ICC Women's T20 World Cup is set to be one of the most unmissable sporting moments of the year.

GHMC directs 100% e-waste, bio-medical waste collection

Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) Commissioner RV Karnan has directed officials to ensure 100 per cent collection of e-waste and bio-medical waste across Greater Hyderabad, warning that strict action would be taken against violations of waste management norms. He emphasised that bio-medical waste must never be mixed with municipal solid waste under any circumstances. The directions were issued during a review meeting held on Wednesday as part of the ongoing 99-Day Action Plan aimed at strengthening scientific waste management systems across the jurisdictions of GHMC, Malkajgiri Municipal Corporation (MMC) and Cyberabad Municipal Corporation (CMC). Addressing e-waste recyclers, bio-medical waste treatment facility operators and CSR partners, Karnan stated that negligence in the collection, transportation or disposal of bio-medical waste would not be tolerated. He warned that notices would be issued and stringent action initiated against registered agencies that fail to lift waste as per prescribed regulations. The Commissioner stressed the importance of coordinated efforts between civic bodies, authorised recyclers and private partners to improve compliance and ensure environmentally safe disposal practices. Officials were instructed to closely monitor waste handling mechanisms and strengthen enforcement to prevent health and environmental risks. Earlier, MMC Commissioner T. Vinay Krishna Reddy announced that special e-waste collection centres would be established in every municipal circle to encourage voluntary public participation. He said ward-level collection drives would be organised every Saturday and Sunday across nearly 300 wards within CURE limits to improve accessibility and awareness among citizens. During the meeting, several organisations agreed to provide direct payments through UPI or cash in exchange for collected e-waste, while others committed to distributing redeemable coupons as part of CSR initiatives. Retailers were also advised to share information on households possessing unused electronic waste to facilitate coordinated door-step collection drives. Officials said the initiative aims to boost responsible disposal practices and achieve.

Telangana SSC hall tickets 2026 available from March 5 online and via WhatsApp

Students appearing for the SSC Public Examinations commencing March 14 can download their hall tickets from the website <https://www.bse.telangana.gov.in/> from March 5. For the first time, hall tickets can also be accessed via the WhatsApp number 8096958096 by sending 'Hi' followed by SSC Hall Ticket March - 2026 message. According to Government of Examinations Director PV Srihari, hall tickets have already been dispatched through speed post to the schools concerned and they will be hosted on the website on March 5. A total of 5,28,239 students registered for the examinations, which will be conducted till April 16 at 2,676 centres set up across the State. The exams will be held from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm. A dedicated 24/7 control room has been constituted at the Directorate of Government Examinations for the convenience of students. Students and parents can contact 040-23230942.

35 International Flights Cancelled From Hyderabad

Uncertainty over airline operations continued for the fifth day, with 35 flights from Shamshabad airport getting cancelled on Wednesday as the US-Iran war widened in West Asia. Out of 35 cancelled flights, 19 were international arrivals and 16 departures. However, some special flights have arrived at the airport from West Asia. Passengers with upcoming travel said they were uncertain about their flight schedules. IndiGo issued a travel advisory on Wednesday, stating, "Over the past few days, many of our customers have been navigating uncertainty while waiting to return home or reach places that matter most to them. During this time, we remain firmly by your side, doing everything possible to support your journeys with care, responsibility, and constant attention to safety."

Pista House Haleem Tops Hyderabad This Ramzan

Pista House Haleem Tops Hyderabad's Ramzan Sales Once Again

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

As Ramzan sweeps across the city, Pista House Haleem has emerged as the undisputed leader in haleem sales, drawing long queues every evening, especially during Iftar. Renowned for its authen-

tic taste, premium quality, and stringent hygiene standards, the brand remains Hyderabad's most trusted Ramzan delicacy. Founded by Mohammed Abdul Majeed, Pista House has become synonymous with the city's festive season. "We prepare haleem under strict

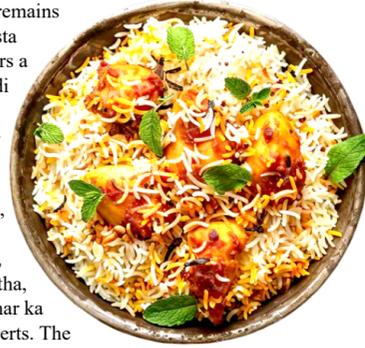
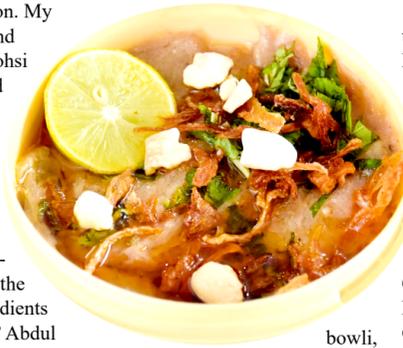
supervision. My sons, Mohd Abdul Mohsi and Mohd Mohiddis Ali, and I personally monitor the process to ensure only the best ingredients are used," Abdul Majeed said.

The brand emphasizes meticulous quality checks. Raw materials are inspected daily, an in-house lab conducts regular tests, and a veterinary doctor examines meat each day. A qualified Hafiz ensures proper zibha (Islamic slaughter) in line with religious guidelines. The signature haleem is slow-cooked with premium wheat, select lentils, tender meat, pure ghee, and a secret blend of traditional spices to achieve its rich texture and authentic Hyderabad flavour.

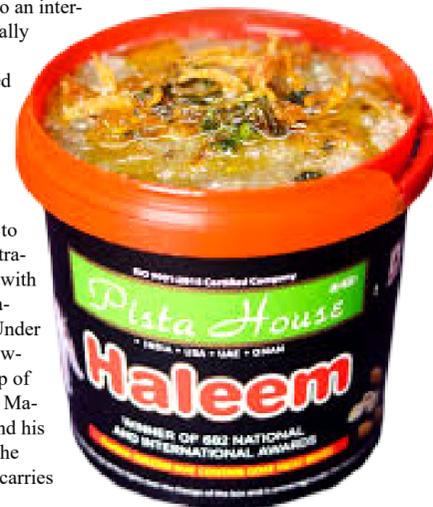
With outlets across Charminar, Tolichowki, Kondapur, Kukatpally, Nampally, Dilukhannagar, Banjara Hills, Gachi-

bowli, and Attapur, Pista House consistently records the highest haleem sales in the city. Its Geographical Indication (GI) tag reinforces the brand's reputation for slow-cooked tradition and premium taste. Expanding beyond Hyderabad, Pista House is opening new branches in Telangana, Oman, Kuwait, and the USA, while also inviting franchise partners. The latest outlets in Kondapur and Pedda Amberpet, along with locations at Rajiv Gandhi International Airport, ensure accessibility for domestic and international customers. Travel packs available online allow fans across India to enjoy the original taste.

Hyderabad's rich gastro-nomic heritage across India and abroad, ensuring every bite tells the city's story.



Pista House has become synonymous with the city's festive season. "We prepare haleem under strict supervision. My sons, **Mohd Abdul Mohsi and Mohd Mohiddis Ali**, and I personally monitor the process to ensure only the best ingredients are used," **Abdul Majeed** said.



Holi Celebrations Paint City in Joyful Hues

City Celebrates Holi in Grand Style as Three-Day Festivities, Eco-Friendly Colours, Music Events and Community Gatherings Turn Streets into Vibrant Hubs of Joy and Celebration

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Holi was celebrated with vibrant enthusiasm across the city, with residents participating in colourful festivities spread over three days. The extended celebrations came after a lunar eclipse shifted traditional observances, pushing post-Holika Dahan festivities to Wednesday and resulting in larger crowds on the following day rather than the main festival day. Major public spaces witnessed lively scenes as revellers gathered in large numbers. Tank Bund turned into a hub of celebration, with youngsters moving between neighbourhoods, playing with colours and capturing festive moments amid blooming bougainvillea. Eco-friendly celebrations stood out this year, with many participants opting for natural colours made from flowers and leaves, reflecting growing envi-

ronmental awareness. A mega Holi event at Jalvihar attracted nearly five to six thousand attendees, where DJs and singers from Mumbai kept the crowd entertained until the afternoon. Organisers said celebrity appearances added glamour and energy to the celebrations. Gated communities across the city hosted organised events featuring music, water drums, and colour play, allowing families to celebrate together. Residents described the gatherings as a welcome stress reliever that strengthened community bonds. Commercial areas also joined the festivities, with traders in Begum Bazaar shutting shops to participate in celebrations. Temporary stalls selling colours, sweets, and toy sprinklers lined streets, while local leaders arranged neighbourhood events, ensuring the festive spirit reached every part of the city.



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