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WEATHER

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

Brief Insights

Centre Notifies Solid Waste Rules, 2026

The ministry of environment, forest and climate change has issued the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026, marking a major overhaul of India's waste framework. Published in the Gazette on January 27, the rules take effect from April 1, replacing the 2016 regulations. The revised norms stress circular economy principles and extended pro-

▶ FULL REPORT ON | PAGE 4

Bill on Legal Status of Amaravati Capital to Be Introduced in Parliament Tomorrow

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu has disclosed that the central government is enacting a law to legally validate Amaravati as the sole Capital City of Andhra Pradesh at the national level. "Be proud and convey this message to all the people in the state," Chandrababu Naidu told Telugu Desam MPs, MLAs, party in-charges, and grassroots workers during a teleconference with them on Tuesday. The AP CM lashed out at the previous ruler of AP for playing what he called a "three-capital game" that left the state without a

▶ CONTINUE ON | PAGE 4

CPI-Maoist in throes of extinction on Amit Shah's D-Day

NIZAMABAD Wakeup telangana

Almost in keeping with the declaration of union Home minister Amit Shah that the CPI-Maoist Party will be exterminated in the country, 95 per cent of the cadre of outlawed group are either dead or have surrendered. Significantly, the entire Maoist leadership that had shifted to Chhattisgarh hailed from Telangana. Now, they exercise no in-

fluence, whether in Chhattisgarh, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Jharkhand, Odisha, Maharashtra, or Madhya Pradesh. For five decades, the well-armed outlawed party had been at the zenith in these states. It has now reached its nadir. Speaking to Deccan Chronicle, Multi Zone-1 Hyderabad IGP S. Chandrasekhar Reddy said that CPI-Maoist party activities had harmed the country. But the concerted

national-level operations launched against the Maoists as part of Operation Kagar have wiped them out. The concerted action taken up a decade ago by the Andhra Pradesh government had forced Naxalites to move camp to Chhattisgarh. "The new generation in Telangana does not know what Naxalism is," the IGP declared, saying left-wing extremism has been wiped out in the state.

▶ CONTINUE ON | PAGE 4

BJP Takes Welfare Way To Win Kerala Elections

The BJP promised ₹3,000 a month pensions for women and vulnerable groups, a ₹2,500 per month grocery and health-care 'recharge card' for poor households, as well as two free LPG cylinder in a year, and the establishment of the state's first AIIMS, in its manifesto for the Kerala Assembly elections. The party also pledged to order a CBI probe into the Sabarimala gold theft. Titled 'Vikisita Kera lam', the document outlines the BJP's vision for the 2026-31 period. Unveiling the manifesto, BJP president Nitin Nabin said

▶ CONTINUE ON | PAGE 4

Five Kashmir Himalayan Glacial Lakes Face Severe GLOF Threat

KARIMNAGAR Wakeup telangana

Five major glacial lakes in the Kashmir Himalayas have been identified as having "very high susceptibility" to glacial lake outburst floods (GLOFs), signalling a serious emerging hazard for downstream communities and infrastructure. The lakes—Bransar, Chirsar, Nundkol, Gangabal, and

Bhagsar — were highlighted as particularly vulnerable to potential outburst events triggered by factors such as rapid snowmelt, intense rainfall, seismic activity, or moraine dam failure. Announcing the findings in the Legislative Assembly, currently in its Budget Session in winter capital Jammu, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah said that although these

lakes are not considered immediately unstable, their physical characteristics and surrounding terrain place them in a category that demands urgent scientific scrutiny and long-term monitoring. The Chief Minister explained that the assessment stems from a preliminary geospatial study conducted by the University of Kashmir and published in the Jour-

nal of Glaciology. The study evaluated 155 glacial lakes using hydro-geomorphic indicators, including lake expansion patterns, the stability of natural moraine dams, and the configuration of surrounding slopes. It also mapped downstream exposure zones, identifying habitations and critical infrastructure

▶ CONTINUE ON | PAGE 4

Next Days Will Be Decisive: Hegseth as US Drops Bomb on Isfahan

US attacks Iranian nuclear site while Tehran hits oil tanker off the Dubai coast

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

The next days of the Iran war will be "decisive," Pentagon chief Pete Hegseth -- who revealed he had visited US troops in the Middle East over the weekend -- said Tuesday. "The upcoming days will be decisive. Iran knows that, and there's almost nothing they can militarily do about it," Hegseth told a news conference, his first in nearly two weeks.

The video of a massive explosion shared without comment early Tuesday by U.S. President Donald Trump appears to be of a major strike conducted outside of the central Iranian city of Isfahan. The Baluch advocacy group HalVash shared the same video and others from the ground outside of Isfahan. Fire-tracking satellites from NASA suggest the explosions happened near Mount Soffeh, an area believed to have



military positions. The videos show massive fireballs and secondary explosions common with ammunition igniting in a blaze. Iran has not formally acknowledged the

attack. Isfahan is home to one of three uranium enrichment sites bombed by the U.S. in the 12-day between Iran and Israel in June. A portion of Iran's highly enriched uranium

is believed to be entombed there — something America has suggested it could seize with ground forces. A likely strike by the United States hit the central Iranian city of Isfahan early Tuesday, sending a massive fireball into the sky, and Tehran struck a fully loaded Kuwaiti oil tanker in the Persian Gulf. Authorities brought the fire under control and extinguished it, the Dubai Media Office said. All 24

crew members are safe, and no injuries have been reported, the office said. The United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations center, run by the British military, reported the strike, saying the vessel was 31 nautical miles (57 kilometers) northwest of Dubai. The attacks were testament to the intensity of the monthlong war the U.S. and Israel launched against Iran, which has maintained its chokehold



Harish Rao Slams 'Undemocratic' Assembly Functioning: P8

China, Pakistan Push Peace Plan, Urge Immediate End To War: P4

Revanth Gives 'Lifesaver' Shiva ₹5 Lakh, 2BHK: P2



Strikes To Begin Today: Iran Warns Tech Firms Over US' Killing Of Leaders

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

Iran's Revolutionary Guards said that they would target 18 leading US technology firms such as Apple, Google, Meta, IBM, Tesla and Boeing starting April 1. In a statement on Tuesday, the Guards alleged that the companies were complicit in the "targeted assassination" of officials. "These companies, starting from 8:00 pm (1630

GMT) Tehran time on Wednesday, April 1, should expect the destruction of their relevant units in exchange for every assassination in Iran," the statement read. In a warning to the employees, it added, "We advise the employees of these institutions to immediately leave their workplaces to preserve their lives."

The companies include -- Apple, Meta, Google, Microsoft, Intel, IBM, Dell,

Tesla, Nvidia, Boeing, HP, Cisco, Oracle, Planter, J.P. Morgan, GE, Spire Solutions and G42.

They labelled the firms as "terrorist companies" in the statement and asked residents living around these firms to leave the area "within a one-kilometre radius" and to move to a safer place. The threat comes as President Donald Trump says he is conducting diplomacy aimed at putting an end to the conflict while also

threatening to amplify the US-Israeli campaign against the Islamic republic.

The Guards' statement said the US government and tech giants had "ignored our repeated warnings regarding the necessity" of halting operations targeting top Iranian officials, alleging that the tech firms are the "main element in designing and tracking assassination targets".

PM Gives Thumbs Up To India's West Asia Strategy

Modi likens Congress to vultures, inaugurates fab factory

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

Prime Minister Narendra on Tuesday likened the Congress to "political vultures" and accused the Opposition party of attempting to trigger panic among the people over the West Asia war to reap political dividends. Modi asserted that India has managed to effectively contain the impact of the ongoing conflict on domestic fuel prices due to "strong foreign policy and the unity of its people". Addressing a gathering in Gujarat's Vav Tharad district after laying the foundation stone and inaugurating and dedicating multiple development projects worth more than ₹20,000 crore to the nation, Modi said, "At a time when the world is grappling with war, unrest and rising fuel prices, India has managed the situation effectively due to strong foreign policy and the unity of its people." Modi accused the Congress of trying to create panic so that people queue up at fuel stations and gas agencies. He said, adding that certain political parties,



mainly the Congress, are trying to take advantage of the situation by spreading panic and fear, instead of supporting national unity. "Today, the Congress party is busy inciting the people. Like political vultures, it (the Congress) is waiting for the situation to escalate so that it can exploit and reap political dividends," Modi said. The Prime Minister noted that though fuel prices have risen by as much as 10 per cent globally due to the West Asia conflict, the Central government is ensuring that the burden of this impact does not fall upon people. "Congress desires to create an atmosphere of panic in the country, hoping that the people will be forced to queue up at

petrol pumps and gas agencies," Modi said and asserted that India will emerge as a world leader in the renewable energy sector. Continuing his attack on the Opposition, Prime Minister said that they want to spread anarchy. He asserted that the circumstances in West Asia have affected every country, but India managed the situation well. "India is capable of facing any crisis. However, the Congress is trying to instigate people to queue up at fuel pumps and spread disorder," he said. Earlier in the day, after inaugurating Kaynes Semicon's outsourced semiconductor plant in San and, the Prime Minister said that the 21st cen-

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ESTD-1960

ASTORIA HOTEL

Hyderabad Laziz Biryani

ek baar khaoge baar baar aage

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

Drone Academy Launched at PJTAU to Boost Agri-Tech Skills-Saraswathi

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In a forward-looking initiative to strengthen technology adoption in agriculture, the Professor Jayashankar Telangana Agricultural University (PJTAU) inaugurated its Drone Academy at Rajendranagar on Tuesday. The six-day training programme, conducted in collaboration with Marut Drones under a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiative, is designed to provide participants with a blend of theoretical knowledge and



practical exposure to drone applications in agriculture. The curriculum includes classroom sessions, laboratory work, field visits, and hands-on drone flying experience. The inaugural session was presided over

by Ms. Saraswathi, Drone Academy Manager at PJTAU, who extended her best wishes to all participants for a successful learning experience. She emphasised the importance of equipping young professionals and farmers

with modern technological skills to meet the evolving demands of agriculture. Participants from districts including Adilabad and Karimnagar are attending the programme, along with sponsored trainees from Jagityal and Asifabad, reflecting the initiative's inclusive outreach. Distinguished guests at the event included Ag-Hub Managing Director Venkateswarulu, Emanuel from the Casper Team, and Dr. Neelima, GIS Scientist at the Centre for Digital Agriculture. They highlighted the growing role

of drone technology in precision farming, crop health monitoring, and improving agricultural productivity. A group photograph marked the inauguration, with dignitaries, faculty, and trainees gathered under the Centre for Digital Agriculture & Technology signage, symbolising the beginning of an impactful training journey. The PJTAU Drone Academy is poised to become a vital hub for nurturing skills and innovation in the rapidly expanding field of agri-drone technology.

Revanth Gives 'Lifesaver' Shiva ₹5 Lakh, 2BHK

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Tuesday sanctioned financial assistance of ₹5 lakh to Shiva, popularly known as "Tank Bund Shiva," in recognition of his service in rescuing people at Hussainsagar. He also directed officials to allot a double-bedroom house to Shiva's family. The Chief Minister handed over a Home Guard appointment letter to Shiva's son, Venumadhav, and directed authorities to provide employment support to the family. He also agreed to examine Shiva's request for the construction of a swimming pool near Tank Bund to create livelihood opportunities. Shiva has spent 27 years around the lake, rescuing more than 100 people from drowning and retrieving over 1,000 bodies. He has also been operating a free ambulance service for the needy. Officials said the assistance was extended after the Chief Minister learned about Shiva's financial difficulties and lack of a stable livelihood. Expressing gratitude, Shiva and his family thanked the government for recognizing his service and extending support during a difficult period. Speaking to Deccan Chronicle, Shiva said he was an orphan who grew up in



shelters, including one in Dilsukhnagar, before moving to a home in Khairatabad where he paid a fee of ₹5 per day. To meet the expense, he took up rag-picking work in the surrounding areas. During the construction of Necklace Road, he learned swimming from enthusiasts there. "I believe I get energy when I am in the water. Water and I are made for each other," Shiva said. He said he first retrieved a body from Hussainsagar after policemen approached him for help while he was waiting for work at a 'labour adda' near the Khairatabad railway crossing. "Along with two elders, I accompanied them. That was the first time I retrieved a body from the lake," Shiva said encouragement from a transgender person he met while collecting waste on Tank Bund motivated him to dedicate himself to helping others. He said he has since helped retrieve more than 1,000 bodies.

Changeable hawk-eagle carries Indian giant squirrel in rare capture in Nallamala forest

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In a rare capture on camera, a Changeable hawk eagle, a bird of prey, was captured carrying an Indian giant squirrel in its talons which was almost equal to its weight. Both the Changeable hawk-eagle and Indian Giant Squirrels weigh between one kg and two kgs de-



pending on their age. Seasoned wildlife photographer Sriram Reddy along with his fellow birder Tulasi went birding

to Umamaheshwaram Temple in Nallamala forest in Nagar Kurnool district, where they captured the rare moment. Since

they were well aware of Changeable hawk eagle's habitat in the forest, they had been roaming around the area for quite some time capturing other birds. Suddenly, the Changeable hawk eagle emerged from the green canopy holding the well-grown Indian giant squirrel in its talons. They watched the bird flying for more than 300 metres before it dis-

appeared into the bushes where it probably had the nest. Sriram Reddy said that it was the first-of-its-kind moment he had ever captured in his more than a decade-long wildlife photography career. He said that the raptor would feed the prey to its chicks. A few years ago, Sriram captured the Changeable hawk-eagle preying on juvenile monitor lizards.

Students Encouraged to Excel in Academics and Activities

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Students should strive to excel in all fields and make the best use of opportunities provided by educational institutions, speakers said at the graduation ceremony of Gowtham Model School, held with enthusiasm and active participation from students, teachers, and dignitaries. Addressing the gathering, ACP B. Krishan Kumar emphasized that in today's fast-changing technological world, students must



equip themselves with knowledge and skills to succeed. He appreciated the school for delivering quality education and shaping responsible citizens. He noted that along with academics, equal importance should be given to sports, cultural activities, and social awareness

for overall development, adding that education forms the foundation for a bright future. Deputy Director Ramalakshmi highlighted the need to nurture creativity and talent, encouraging students to use modern technology effectively. Director G. Sreekanth re-



iterated the institution's commitment to excellence through academics and extracurricular training programs. Principal Shyamala Reddy stressed holistic development. Cultural performances by students, including dances and patriotic songs, captivated the audience.

CBIT, SkillDzire MoU Boosts Student Employability

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Chaitanya Bharathi Institute of Technology (CBIT), Hyderabad, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with SkillDzire to strengthen industry-academia collaboration and enhance student employability through practical, industry-oriented learning initiatives. The partnership focuses on equipping students with real-world skills by offering hands-on exposure through live industrial projects, internships, and industry visits, effectively



bridging the gap between academic knowledge and industry expectations. As part of the agreement, students will receive job-oriented training tailored to core engineering do-

mains, along with placement support by connecting them with companies across India. Additionally, the collaboration enables students to earn industry-recognized certifications

through workshops, Faculty Development Programs (FDPs), and SWAYAM Plus MOOCs, aligned with NEP 2020 guidelines for academic credit integration. SkillDzire will also offer its programs at nearly 60% discounted rates, making skill development more affordable, along with benefits like free exam re-attempts and live interactive sessions. Faculty members will gain from free AICTE-approved FDPs, helping them stay updated with emerging technologies and modern teaching practices.

Grand Felicitation to Mogulla Rajireddy on Appointment as INTUC State Vice President

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In a grand ceremony held at the Water Board Head Office, employees of the Water Board felicitated Mogulla Rajireddy on his appointment as the State Vice President of INTUC. The event was marked by honoring him with floral garlands and ceremonial shawls, reflecting appreciation and support from the employees. Speaking on the occasion, Rajireddy stated that he would always remain at the forefront in fighting for the resolution of workers' issues. He emphasized that the protection of workers' rights is his primary goal and assured that he will raise his voice on every issue faced by employees until justice is achieved. Expressing his gratitude to INTUC National President Dr. G.



Sanjeeva Reddy for placing trust in him, Rajireddy said that he would work towards strengthening the organization by touring all districts across the state. On the same occasion, T.P. Raghavendra Raj, who assumed charge as General Secretary of the Telangana Water Board Employees Union, was also felicitated. Leaders recalled the union's significant role in safeguarding workers' interests, particularly in matters such as general transfers, overtime composition, and promotions. Rajireddy announced that he would

soon undertake visits to all divisions to understand the issues at the ground level and take necessary steps for their resolution. Union leaders expressed confidence that under his leadership, workers would receive better support and justice. They also stressed that unity among workers is their greatest strength and key to achieving stronger results. A large number of union leaders and employees participated in the program and extended their congratulations, making the event a grand success.

Singareni misses coal production target amid market slump

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL), which is running in profits during the last two decades, failed to achieve its production target this time around. SCCL has fixed a target of 72 million tonnes for the financial year 2025-2026. Instead of a fixed target, about 58 million tonnes (81 percent) production was achieved. Though 2.81 lakh tonnes of coal has to be produced every day across the company, only 1.90 lakh tonnes was produced due to various reasons. Except Sattupalli and Bellapally, production has come down in all other areas such as Kothagudem, Yellandu, Manugur, Ramagundam-I, II, III, APA and Bhupalapally. Lack of demand for Singareni coal in the market and delay in commencement of new coal mines are said to be the reasons for not achieving the target.

Anticipating lower production, SCCL authorities reportedly reset the target and reduced production in few areas in the wake of objections from thermal power stations to get Grade-14, 15, 16 variety coal. Grade-15 variety coal is widely being produced across the Singareni. However, there was no market for this variety. Moreover, thermal power stations are denying this variety on the grounds of poor quality.

Telangana Drug Unit Resolves 175 Workers Issues

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In a significant development, 175 workers from various sectors, including construction, medical services, and field operations, received relief after Telangana Bulk Drug Infrastructure Limited (TBDIL) intervened to address their concerns. The issue was brought to the attention of authorities by a local public representative, prompting swift action. Following the complaint, officials reviewed the workers' grievances and facilitated necessary support measures to ensure their welfare and job security. The initiative focused on resolving workplace challenges and improving coordination between workers and management. Sources said the intervention helped streamline operations and restore



confidence among the affected employees. Workers expressed gratitude for the timely response, stating that the action eased their difficulties. The move highlights the government's commitment to safeguarding labor rights and addressing grassroots-level issues effectively.

Dubbak MLA distributes CMRF cheques to 156 beneficiaries



Dubbak MLA Kotha Prabhakar Reddy distributed Chief Minister Relief Fund (CMRF) cheques worth Rs 34 lakh to 156 beneficiaries at his camp office on Tuesday. Speaking on the occasion, the BRS MLA said that they were trying to help those who were in need through CMRF. Reddy called upon the people from his constituency to just walk into his office during office hours to get the application filed.

Arun Appointed BSP District VP

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

G. Arun from Rudrangi has been appointed as the District Vice President of the Bahujan Samaj Party in Rajanna Sircilla district. The party leadership stated that the responsibility was given in recognition of his efforts toward strengthening the party and advocating for the rights of Bahujans. He is expected to play a key role in addressing



public issues across all sections and in taking the party's ideology to the grassroots. Arun ex-

pressed gratitude to State President Ibrahim Shekhar and District President Kommata Ashok, along with other party leaders, for entrusting him with the role. He affirmed his commitment to working towards the ideals of B. R. Ambedkar and Kanshi Ram, and to contributing to the party's success in the district. Party workers and Dalit organization leaders welcomed the appointment.

Surveyors Demand Jobs, Ramesh Elected State President

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Dr. Nagara Ramesh was elected as the State President of the Telangana Licensed Surveyors Association during a key meeting held in Panjagutta. Alongside him, Rangu Shiva was appointed as Vice President and Kommu Shekhar as General Secretary, with a 66-member committee also constituted to lead the association. The meeting primarily focused on pressing issues faced by licensed surveyors across



Telangana. Members highlighted that nearly 6,500 licensed surveyors represent an equal number of families and stressed the urgent need for employment opportunities and financial support in the form of honorariums to sustain their livelihoods. The association reiterated its commitment to

functioning within the legal framework of the Bhu Bharati Act and assured cooperation with the government in implementing policies effectively. Members expressed readiness to work closely with authorities to address farmers' concerns and improve land-related serv-

ices. Appealing to Chief Minister and Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy, the association urged the government to strengthen the licensed surveyor system and make it more accessible to the public, ensuring better welfare for surveyors' families. Speaking after his election, Dr. Nagara Ramesh called for increased job opportunities under the Congress Government and emphasized the need to formally recognize licensed surveyors and provide them with stable employment.

Pay property tax by March 31 to avail 90 pc interest waiver: GHMC

The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) has issued a final call to taxpayers to utilize the One-Time Settlement (OTS) scheme before the March 31 deadline. With only one day remaining to claim a 90 percent waiver on interest for outstanding property taxes, GHMC Commissioner R.V. Karnan urged residents on Monday to clear their dues immediately. Under the OTS scheme for the 2025-26 period, the state government is offering a 90 percent discount on interest for those who settle their arrears by the end of this month. Commissioner Karnan clarified that payments will only be accepted through online platforms. Residents can complete their payments via the official portal (www.ghmc.gov.in), the MyGHMC app, Mee Seva centers, or Citizen Service Centers. The Commissioner emphasized that timely tax payments are vital for the city's ongoing development. The Commissioner warned that the Corporation would initiate strict action against defaulters under the GHMC.

BITS Hyderabad Unveils Instant Water-Testing Devices

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Researchers at the Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS), Pilani, Hyderabad campus, have developed portable water-testing devices capable of detecting contaminants within seconds, offering a faster alternative to traditional lab-based testing that can take hours or days. The devices, created at the MEMS, Microfluidics and Nanoelectronics (MMNE) Lab, are designed for on-site water quality assessment and have been published in IEEE journals. One device can measure multiple parameters simultaneously, including nitrate, ammonium, and chloride, overcoming a



major limitation of existing sensors that detect only one parameter at a time. "The idea was to move testing out of labs and make it usable on the ground," said Dr. Ponnalagu R.N. Integrated with a smartphone or cloud system, the device provides readings in about 1 to 2 seconds, allowing real-time access to data. The system also includes automatic temperature compensation, typically found only in high-end industrial instruments, ensuring accurate field measurements. A second device focuses on detecting nitrite, a pollutant linked to industrial waste

and health risks such as reduced oxygen levels in the blood. "Traditional methods require bulky equipment and trained technicians," said Dr. Satish Kumar Dubey. "Our miniaturized sensor is portable, fast, and easy to use on-site." The research team emphasized that the devices combine portability, speed, and sensitivity. "We are detecting contaminants at very low concentrations while keeping the device low-cost and scalable," Dr. Dubey noted. Both systems are suitable for direct use at lakes, pipelines, and taps, eliminating the need to transport water samples to laboratories. They are manufactured using cost-effective and scalable methods, making them

practical for widespread deployment. Prof. Sanket Goel highlighted the broader vision behind the innovation. "This is not just about building a sensor, but creating a system that can continuously monitor water quality at the source," he said. The devices aim to enable early detection of contamination and support real-time monitoring of lakes, groundwater, and drinking water supply points, particularly in areas with limited access to laboratory facilities. These innovations mark a significant step toward faster, accurate, and field-ready water testing, promising enhanced public health safety and environmental monitoring.

Call for Equal Rights for Dalit Christians Gains Momentum - AIUCMER

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The demand for extending Scheduled Caste (SC) status to Dalit Christians has once again come into sharp focus, with the All India United Christians Movement for Equal Rights (AIUCMER) welcoming the support expressed by social activist Manda Krishna. Addressing the media, Bro. Jose Daniel, President of AIUCMER, praised Manda Krishna for raising his voice against what he termed as the continued denial of equal justice to Dalit Christians. He noted that the issue transcends religious boundaries and reflects a deeper structural inequality that persists within society as well as in policy frameworks. "Dalit Christians continue to face the same social discrimination and historical disadvantages as their counterparts in other religions, yet they are excluded from the benefits of Scheduled Caste reservations," he said. AIUCMER leaders pointed out that several prominent national figures, including Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, Babu Jagjivan Ram, Kanshi Ram, Mayawati, and Ram Vilas Pas-

wan, had in the past advocated for equitable treatment of Dalit Christians. According to the organization, their vision of social justice remains incomplete without addressing this long-standing issue. Bishop Veeraji Panta Israel, Secretary of AIUCMER, highlighted that multiple commissions—both at the state and central levels—have examined the matter in detail. These include the Mandal Commission and the Justice Ranganath Misra Commission, both of which acknowledged that Dalit Christians suffer from social disabilities similar to Scheduled Castes of other faiths. "The evidence has been consistent over decades. The exclusion lacks justification in a modern constitutional democracy," he remarked. The core of the debate lies in the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950. AIUCMER leaders argue that Paragraph 3 of the Order, which restricts SC status based on religion, runs contrary to the constitutional principles of equality, non-discrimination, and freedom of religion. Bro. Jose Daniel explained that Article 341 of the Constitution em-

powers the President to identify communities affected by the practice of untouchability. "This mandate was fulfilled under Paragraph 2 of the Order. However, the imposition of a religious condition under Paragraph 3 is not only unnecessary but also unconstitutional," he said. He further argued that such a restriction violates Articles 14, 15, and 25 of the Constitution, which guarantee equality before the law, prohibit discrimination, and ensure freedom of religion. "Linking social justice benefits to religion undermines the very foundation of the Constitution," he added. The recent endorsement by Manda Krishna is seen by AIUCMER as a significant boost to their campaign, which has been gaining traction across various sections of civil society. The organization has reiterated its commitment to pursuing constitutional and democratic means to achieve equal rights for Dalit Christians. As the debate intensifies, the issue is expected to draw greater national attention, raising critical questions about the intersection of caste, religion, and constitutional justice in India.

Kavitha alleges fiscal Collapse in Telangana

seeks urgent support for farmers

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Jagruthi President K. Kavitha has launched a sharp attack on the Congress-led state government, accusing it of pushing Telangana into a severe debt crisis and mismanaging public finances. Referring to the latest CAG report, she said the findings clearly expose what she termed as "financial misgovernance" and an overdependence on borrowings. Kavitha stated that the government has been forced to rely heavily on loans from the Reserve Bank of India to meet even routine expenditures, describing the situation as alarming. She pointed out that during the 2024-25 financial year, the state reportedly borrowed funds almost daily, raising nearly ₹1.30 lakh crore to sustain its operations. According to her, the inability to repay a portion of these loans even after the financial



year ended highlights the gravity of the crisis. She further alleged that despite earning around ₹12,000 crore every month, the government has failed to maintain basic financial stability. The total debt burden, she claimed, has reached approximately ₹8.65 lakh crore, placing a significant liability on the people of the state. Continuing to project a "surplus budget" in such conditions, she said, amounts to misleading the public. Recalling the Congress party's pre-election promises of wealth creation and welfare for the poor, Kavitha said the reality has been starkly different. Instead of strengthening the economy, she searched, the

government has been surviving on borrowings without building sustainable revenue sources. She urged the administration to adopt responsible fiscal policies and ensure transparency in governance. In addition to economic concerns, Kavitha highlighted the plight of farmers affected by recent untimely rains. She noted that several districts, including Jagtial, Karimnagar, Siddipet, and Nirmal, have suffered heavy crop losses at a crucial stage before harvest. Crops such as maize, mango, sesame, turmeric, and paddy were severely damaged, causing distress among farming communities. Calling for immediate action, she urged the government to conduct swift assessments of crop damage and provide adequate compensation to farmers. She emphasized that timely relief is essential to protect farmers from further hardship and to sustain the agricultural sector in the state.

The First Step Towards National Service- Doodala: NCC

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Emphasizing the importance of discipline and patriotism among students, Headmistress Dasari Manjula and NCC Officer Doodala Venkatesh stated that the National Cadet Corps (NCC) serves as the first step towards national defense and service to the nation. Selections for the Army Wing of NCC for the academic year 2026-27 were conducted on Tuesday at the Zilla Parishad High School for Boys in Aleru, under the supervision of



the 10th Telangana NCC Battalion, Warangal. Addressing the students on the occasion, the officials highlighted that NCC plays a vital role in shaping youth by instilling discipline, leadership qualities, and a sense of

national integration. They encouraged students to make the most of such opportunities, stating that participation in NCC can pave the way for a bright and successful future. They further noted that NCC training en-

hances self-confidence and fosters a strong sense of responsibility and commitment towards the nation. It inspires students to aim higher and develop the determination to achieve their goals while contributing to society. The two-year training program includes various components such as drill, parade, weapon training, map reading, health and awareness, national integration, social responsibility, field craft, battle craft, and physical fitness. Officials also mentioned that NCC cadets are eligible for certain re-

servations and benefits in education and employment, which can significantly support their future careers. Out of 67 students who participated in the selection process, 49 were chosen based on their physical fitness and performance. The event was attended by NCC officials including Instructor Azeem Ali and Havildar Uddhav Tan Shetty, along with teaching staff and cadets Vinay, Manoj, Sanjay, Ritwik, Varun, Rachel, Bhargavi, Bhavani, and others.

Congress Protests BJP Remarks, Seeks Apology

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Tensions escalated in the city as Congress leaders staged a protest at Nallakunta Fever Hospital, demanding an unconditional apology from BJP leaders over alleged derogatory remarks against a Telangana udyama neta. Khairatabad DCC President Motha Rohith Mudiraj led the demonstration, where an effigy was burnt condemning what he termed as "arrogance at its peak" by BJP neta. Rohith warned that BJP Union Ministers would not be allowed to tour Telangana if they failed to



apologise. He alleged that insulting remarks made in Parliament against praja gayakudu Gaddar hurt the sentiments of Telangana prajalu, and criticised Union Ministers for remaining silent and even reacting lightly during the incident. Calling it an insult to Telangana udyamakaru and martyrs, he said the Congress party would not tolerate such disrespect.

He cautioned of intensified protests across the rashtram if BJP leaders did not respond with an apology. Rohith also demanded that the road leading to the BJP office be named after Gaddar, urging Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to take appropriate action. Several party leaders, mahilaalu, and kaaryakartalu participated in large numbers.

Sudhakar Felicitated After Bar Association Win



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Advocate Sudhakar, newly elected President of the Secunderabad Bar Association, was felicitated by BJP leaders at his office following his decisive victory. BJP Secunderabad Mahankali District General Secretary Nemali Anand honored him with a shawl, recognizing his achievement and leadership. State Council Member Suresh Rawal, senior leaders

Beeram Narsing Rao, Mysore Madhusudan, Peddi Anil, and Ravikiran were present at the event. Leaders described Sudhakar's victory as a reflection of advocates' aspirations and trust. They emphasized that his commitment to transparency and justice represents strong leadership. Expressing confidence, they stated that under his guidance, the Bar Association will grow stronger and continue to safeguard the rights and interests of advocates.

Palamuru Leaders Seek Corporator Tickets in City

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Members of the Palamuru Bidda Welfare Association met State Minister Jupally Krishna Rao and submitted a representation seeking the allocation of corporator tickets to people from the Palamuru region in city municipal corporations. They urged that adequate political representation be given to Palamuru residents living in large numbers within the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC), Malkajgiri Municipal Corporation, and Cyberabad Municipal Corporation limits. During the meeting, the minister acknowledged the significant con-



tribution of Palamuru people, especially workers, in the construction and development of Hyderabad. He stated that their role in shaping the city over the decades has been immense and cannot be overlooked. Association members highlighted that a large population of Palamuru residents lives in areas such as Shamsiguda, Allwyn Colony, and

Venkateswara Nagar in Serilingampally constituency; Balanagar in Kukatpally constituency; and Borabanda and Rahmath Nagar divisions in Jubilee Hills constituency. They emphasized that allocating corporator tickets in these areas based on population would provide fair political opportunities to the community. The delegation suggested that such representation would empower Palamuru people politically and recognize their long-standing contributions to the city's growth. The meeting was attended by association leaders K. Devanna, President M.A. Kareem, General Secretary Gopas Ravinder, Vice President Lokesh Reddy, along with Bangari Srinu and Sai Kumar.

Women's Empowerment Key to Nation's Progress: Dr Rao

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The 128th birth anniversary of Mata Ramabai Ambedkar was celebrated with grandeur on National Women's Day by the Mata Ramabai Ambedkar Mahila Mandali, highlighting the importance of women's empowerment in nation-building. Dr. J. Poornachandra Rao, IPS (Retd.), former Director General of Police (CBI), Telangana, attended as chief guest and stressed that empowering women is essential for a stable and progressive society. "A nation's progress is measured by its women. When women are empowered, society becomes harmonious and strong," he said, not-



ing women's growing leadership in education, employment, and social movements. Paying tribute to B. R. Ambedkar, Dr. Rao underscored his role as a champion of women's rights. He recalled that Ambedkar viewed women's progress as the true indicator of national development and worked relentlessly to ensure

gender equality. The program highlighted Ambedkar's landmark effort to pass the Hindu Code Bill aimed at securing equal rights for women and abolishing oppressive practices. Following its failure in 1951, Ambedkar resigned from his ministerial post, reflecting his unwavering commitment to women's emancipation. The event concluded with cultural performances by children, celebrating talent and confidence among young girls. Prizes and certificates were distributed, symbolizing encouragement for future generations inspired by the legacy of Mata Ramabai Ambedkar and Dr. Ambedkar.

China, Pakistan Push Peace Plan, Urge Immediate End To War

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

China and Pakistan on Tuesday put forward a five-point peace proposal to end the West Asia war, including a call for safe passage of ships through the Strait of Hormuz. The peace proposal was put forward after Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi held talks with the Iranian situation with visiting Pakistani Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar. Dar arrived here to brief Wang about his recent talks with the foreign ministers of Türkiye, Egypt and Saudi Arabia to promote talks between the US and Iran to end the ongoing conflict. After Dar-Wang talks, the two countries put forward



five proposals on restoring peace and stability in the Gulf region and West Asia, as well as safe passage through the Strait. The proposals included the immediate cessation of hostilities, initiation of peace talks as soon as possible, ensuring the safety of non-military targets and safety of navigation, and safeguarding the primacy of the UN Charter.

The Strait of Hormuz, together with its adjacent waters, is an important global shipping route for goods and energy, a joint statement issued after their talks said. "China and Pakistan call on the parties to protect the security of ships and crew members stranded in the Strait of Hormuz, allow the early and safe passage of civilian and commercial ships, and restore nor-

mal passage through the Strait as soon as possible," Pakistani media reported, quoting the joint statement.

Earlier, China said three of its ships carrying oil supplies had passed through the Strait of Hormuz and thanked relevant parties for facilitation and coordination. After coordination with relevant parties, three Chinese ships recently transited the Strait of Hormuz. We express appreciation for the assistance of relevant parties, Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning told a media briefing here, without naming Iran, which is currently controlling the movement of oil shipments from the Gulf crossing the Strait. The Strait of Hormuz and

waters nearby are an important route for international goods and energy trade. China calls for an immediate end to hostilities to restore peace and stability in the Gulf, Mao said. This is the first time China, a large importer of Iranian oil for years despite US sanctions, spoke of its ships crossing the Strait of Hormuz amid reports that Iran is permitting Chinese ships to cross the Strait given the close strategic ties. Ever since the US and Israel attacked Iran, China has been calling on all countries to immediately stop military operations. Beijing has also been calling for keeping the Strait of Hormuz open, as its closure resulted in widespread disruption of fuel supplies.

286 Descendants Of Mir Jafar Delisted In WB SIR

BERHAMPORE
Wakeup telangana

In a startling revelation, names of 286 family members of Mir Jafar, the first independent Nawab of Bengal during the British rule, have been deleted from the voters' list in Murshidabad in the last phase of the special intensive revision (SIR) by the Election Commission in West Bengal. The list of 286 names includes Syed Reja Ali Mirza (82), popularly called Chhote Nawab of the dynasty, his son Syed Fahim Mirza, a 16th generation descendant and also a Trinamul Congress councillor of ward no 10 under the Murshidabad Municipality, and his cousin sisters. Belonging to the 15th and 16th generation descendants of Mir Jafar, they were voters of booth

no 121 at Naba Adarsha High School at Lalbagh under Murshidabad assembly constituency but were marked 'adjudicated' for logical discrepancies in the latest SIR. Chhote Nawab informed that he along with his family members had attended the SIR hearing with all the required documents. He said, "I was a long-time voter. My name featured in 2002 SIR. Still I have been delisted."

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His son said, "Booth no 121 had 850 voters including the Nawab family members. But most of them were marked 'adjudicated'. Later 286 names in our family were deleted in the latest supplementary list. The present Nawab, Syed Abbas Ali Mirza and my two cousin sisters are among them." Murshidabad TMC candidate Sayani Singha Roy said, "I strongly oppose these deletions and will fight them at the appellate tribunal." Her rival candidate from BJP and outgoing MLA Gouri Shankar Ghosh however said, "I have heard it but it is the prerogative of the EC. TMC is trying to implicate us falsely."

Centre Notifies Solid Waste Rules, 2026

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The ministry of environment, forest and climate change has issued the Solid Waste Management Rules, 2026, marking a major overhaul of India's waste framework. Published in the Gazette on January 27, the rules take effect from April 1, replacing the 2016 regulations. The revised norms stress circular economy principles and extended producer responsibility, with mandatory four-stream segregation of



waste at source — wet, dry, sanitary and special care. Bulk waste generators must now meet extended responsibility obligations, ensuring proper collection, trans-

port and scientific processing. Transparency measures include a centralised online portal to track waste from collection to disposal. Roles have been

clearly defined for local bodies, state governments and central ministries. Industrial units must increase use of refuse derived fuel from five to 15 per cent over six years. The rules also expedite land allocation for processing facilities, mandate audits, and impose time-bound plans to clear legacy waste. Landfilling restrictions have been tightened, with special provisions for hilly regions and islands. Environmental compensation will be enforced under the polluter pays principle.

Rohit Pawar Alleges Plot To Eliminate Kharat

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

While the Ashok Kharat controversy continues to reverberate across Maharashtra, NCP (SP) leader Rohit Pawar on Tuesday made sensational claims that the self-styled godman will be eliminated by framing it as a suicide. He claimed that Kharat's trail has reached prominent political leaders and he possesses a wealth of sensitive information about several people. "On the one hand, there are discussions about eliminating Kharat — who holds

information on many big leaders — by showing it as a suicide or by other means. On the other hand, there are efforts to save VK Singh, who reportedly has detailed information regarding Ajit Dada's accident, at any cost," said Pawar in his post on X. Pawar emphasised that while the guilty must be punished, it is wrong to take a life or protect someone from charges just to suppress the truth. Such political strategies would not be tolerated by the people of Maharashtra and would erode public trust in the system, he

added. "Why such attempts to hide the truth? Will the truth remain hidden this way? Many seem to have forgotten that no matter how hard one tries, the truth cannot be hidden; it eventually comes out," Pawar further said. Kharat scandal has rocked Maharashtra as he faces charges of sexual exploitation involving several women. A total of 11 cases have been registered against him by the Police — eight related to sexual exploitation and three regarding financial fraud. Rupali Chakankar of the ruling

NCP has already resigned from the post of Chairperson of the State Women's Commission and subsequently as the State President of the NCP Women's Wing due to her alleged links with Kharat. Names of other prominent leaders, including NCP state chief Sunil Tatkare, BJP cabinet minister Chandrakant Patil, former cabinet minister Deepak Kesarkar from Shiv Sena (Shinde group) have also surfaced of having connection with the self-styled godman.

Major IAS Shake-Up In Maharashtra; Bhide Takes Over BMC

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The Maharashtra government on Wednesday effected a major bureaucratic reshuffle involving 10 IAS officers, signalling a strategic administrative realignment across key departments, including Finance, Agriculture, Relief & Rehabilitation (R&R) and the Chief Minister's Office (CMO). The most significant move is the appointment of Ashwini Bhide as Commissioner of the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC), making her the first woman IAS officer to head Asia's richest civic body. Ms. Bhide, 55, is widely credited for pushing forward the Mumbai Metro Line 3 project. Senior IAS officer Lokesh Chandra will replace Ms. Bhide as Additional Chief Secretary (ACS) in the CMO. In other changes, Vikas Chandra Rastogi, ACS (Agriculture), has been moved to the Finance Department as ACS (Financial Reforms), while Parimal Singh has been appointed Secretary, Agriculture. According to sources, top contenders for the BMC Commissioner's post in-



cluded Aseem Gupta (ACS, Urban Development), Milind Mhaikar (ACS, Public Works) and Sanjay Mukherjee (Commissioner, MMRDA). Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis met Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde, who heads the Urban Development Department, earlier this week to finalise the appointment, with incumbent BMC Commissioner Bhusan Gagrani retiring on March 31. Sources said Mr. Fadnavis backed Mrs. Bhide for the post, while Mr. Shinde supported Mr. Gupta. One of the contenders reportedly travelled to New Delhi to meet senior BJP leaders, and two were said to be upset over not being selected. Ms. Bhide assumed charge on Tuesday evening. A 1995-batch officer, she has held several key positions in the state administration, including

ACS to the Chief Minister, and served as Managing Director of the Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation, where she played a pivotal role in the Metro Line 3 and coastal road projects. As per the General Administration Department's transfer list, Mr. Chandra, currently Chairman and Managing Director of MSIEDCL, will hold additional charge of the power utility until further orders. Mr. Rastogi will eventually head the Finance Department after the retirement of ACS O.P. Gupta in August 2026, a senior official said. Vinita Vaid Singal, Principal Secretary, Disaster Management and R&R, has been transferred as Principal Secretary, Soil and Water Conservation — her fourth transfer in 15 months.

24 BRS MLAs.....

Speaking to Media, Multi Zone-1 Hyderabad IGP S. Chandrasekhar Reddy said that CPI-Maoist party activities had harmed the country. But the concerted national-level operations launched against the Maoists as part of Operation Kagar have wiped them out. The concerted action taken up a decade ago by the Andhra Pradesh government had forced Naxalites to move camp to Chhattisgarh. "The new generation in Telangana does not know what Naxalism is," the IGP declared, saying left-wing extremism has been wiped out in the state. It is said that CPI-Maoist politburo's wrong decisions is the reason for the deaths of several top leaders, including party chief Basavaraj, along with CC, SZC, DVC members, PLGA battalion, company and platoon commanders, and other key members. The politburo itself had acknowledged that the losses had been because the party underestimated the intensity of Operation Kagar. Amid such happenings, the mystery about the whereabouts of CPI Maoist party central leader Muppala Laxmana Rao alias Ganapati is continuing.

PM Gives Thumbs....

Earlier in the day, after inaugurating Kaynes Semicon's outsourced semiconductor plant in San and, the Prime Minister said that the 21st century has brought several conflicts and challenges affecting the global supply chains and emphasised that the government is laying a strong foundation for

24 BRS MLAs.....

technology and energy security in the coming decades. The Prime Minister said that India is strengthening its role as a reliable semiconductor supplier in the global market. "In a sense, a new bridge has emerged today between Sanand and Silicon Valley," he said. The Prime Minister said that India is actively building a robust semiconductor ecosystem and simultaneously making significant efforts to establish a resilient supply chain for raw materials. He noted that when the coronavirus pandemic disrupted supply chains, India had decided to become a hub of semiconductor manufacturing. "India is actively building a robust semiconductor ecosystem and simultaneously making significant efforts to establish a resilient supply chain for raw materials. India's participation in Pax Silica is a testament to this very endeavour. Working in tandem with our global partners, we aim to ensure a secure supply chain," he said.

Five Kashmir.....

It also mapped downstream exposure zones, identifying habitations and critical infrastructure at risk in districts such as Ganderbal, Shopian, and Kulgam. According to the findings, a potential GLOF from one of the high-susceptibility lakes could impact approximately 2,704 buildings, 15 major bridges, extensive road networks, and at least one hydropower project, underscoring the scale of potential

FROM FRONT PAGE

socio-economic disruption. Abdullah noted that while the study provides a crucial baseline for understanding vulnerability, significant gaps remain in accurately estimating risk. The most critical missing element is reliable bathymetric data—precise measurements of lake depth and volume—which are essential for modelling flood magnitude and downstream impact. Most Himalayan lakes lack such data due to their remote locations and challenging environmental conditions. To address this, the department of geo-informatics at the University of Kashmir, with support from the Union ministry of Earth sciences, has procured a high-precision RTK-enabled robotic echo sounding boat. Bathymetric surveys of high-risk lakes in the western Himalaya are planned for 2026, a step expected to greatly enhance hydrodynamic modelling and hazard forecasting.

BJP Takes Welfare...

The party also pledged to order a CBI probe into the Sabarimala gold theft. Titled 'Vikisita Kerala', the document outlines the BJP's vision for the 2026-31 period. Unveiling the manifesto, BJP president Nitin Nabin said the NDA had emerged as a viable alternative in Kerala. "People have seen through the match fixing taking place in Kerala between the LDF and UDF for decades. They are determined to act this time," he said. Key highlights of the manifesto include a ₹3,000 pension welfare initiative for women, promised for women heads of poor house-

holds, widows, and senior citizens above 70. The party has promised to launch a 'Bhakshya Arogya Suraksha Card' for women from poor and BPL families, with a monthly recharge of ₹2,500. Beneficiaries can use the card to purchase groceries and medicines. In addition, the party has promised two free LPG cylinders annually for poor families, to be given during Onam and Christmas. It also pledged to expand Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY to cover every Malayalee and assured a broader safety net during medical emergencies. Another major promise is to provide a free water supply of 20,000 litres per month to households and MSP coverage for all crops that need support. Other promises include a high-speed railway corridor connecting Thiruvananthapuram and Kannur, introducing metro trains in Thiruvananthapuram and Kozhikode.

Bill on Legal Status...

Chandrababu Naidu reiterated that Amaravati is being built on land given voluntarily by the region's farmers. He called on party cadres to counter what he described as "unnecessary criticism" of the YSRC. He asked cadres to remain vigilant against leaders with criminal histories. The Chief Minister promised to empower politically leaders from across communities in proportion to their population. He announced free electricity for weavers—200 units for loom owners and 500 units for powerloom operators—from Wednesday.

CRIME

98-Year-Old Farmer Approaches HC Against Merging Ameenpur Civic Body

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A two-judge panel of the Telangana High Court admitted a writ petition filed by a 98-year-old agriculturist questioning the constitutional validity of the Telangana Municipalities (Amendment) Act, 2026 (Act 3 of 2026) and the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (Second Amendment) Act, 2026 (Act 2 of 2026). The panel comprising Chief Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh and Justice G. M. Mohiuddin was dealing with petition stating that these legislative enactments, which effectively dissolved the Ameenpur municipality and merged its jurisdiction into the GHMC, were arbitrary and violated constitution rights. It was contended that the petitioner, an active agriculturist utilising



his land for farming, was directly affected by the impugned amendments. He contended that the proposed restructuring fundamentally altered the regulatory, fiscal, and developmental regime applicable to his property, including its classification and permissible land use. Counsel for the petitioner argued that the deletion of Ameenpur municipality from Schedule I of the parent Act constituted a "de facto dissolution" without adhering to the mandatory safeguards

under Article 243U, which provides for municipalities (urban local bodies) having a fixed five-year term from their first meeting. It mandates that elections to constitute a new municipality must be completed before the expiration of this term, or within six months if dissolved early, ensuring democratic continuity. He would point out that the action of authorities in first stripping Ameenpur of its municipal status and subsequently absorbing it into the GHMC was a cir-

cumvention of constitutional requirements intended to bypass procedural fairness and the rights of elected representatives and local residents. It was alleged that these changes carry substantial civil consequences. He argued that the absence of procedural fairness rendered the legislative action manifestly arbitrary and constitutionally infirm. The petition also raised concern over the impact of the amendment on democratic representation, stating that the move disrupted the functioning of an elected local body and delayed the conduct of municipal elections, thereby undermining participatory governance. The panel after hearing the arguments observed that the matter was expected to raise significant constitutional.

Arbitrary Freezing of Bank Accounts Violates Fundamental Rights: HC
Flat Building Contractor writ plea dismissed

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

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

that such actions violated the right to livelihood and the freedom to carry on trade and business under Article 19(1)(g), as well as the right to life and personal liberty under Article 21 of the Constitution. The judge was dealing with a petition filed by Khammam-based Bottle Restaurant and Bar, whose bank account had been frozen following instructions from the cybercrime wing police of Etawah district in Uttar Pradesh. The petitioner establishment contended that it had no connection with the alleged offence under investigation and that its name.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

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

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

Cops arrest fake dentist in Neredmet

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

Alwal Man Duped In ₹87 Lakh Stock Scam

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

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

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

Spurious pickle unit busted in Jiyaguda

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

Bail for advocate in road accident case

MAHABUBNAGAR
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana High Court granted bail to an advocate accused of deliberately ramming a motorcycle with a car during a chase. The judge was hearing a criminal petition filed by Marikanti Madhwaraj, who sought bail in connection with a crime registered at Shamshabad police station for offences under various

provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. According to the prosecution, the incident occurred on March 19, when the complainant and his friend allegedly chased a car in which the wife of complainant was travelling. It was pointed out that at Aramgarh crossroads, the car reportedly reversed and rammed into the bike of complainant, causing injuries. The complainant alleged that the act was intentional

and amounted to an attempt to kill. Counsel for the petitioner argued that there was no intention to cause death and that the case was motivated by personal disputes, pointing out that the petitioner is an advocate who represented the wife of complainant in a divorce case. It was also pointed out that the petitioner was in judicial custody since March 19 and that a substantial part of the investigation al-

ready been completed. The state opposed the plea, contending that the offence was serious in nature and that the victim was still undergoing treatment, with medical reports awaited. Taking into account the nature of the allegations, the stage of investigation, and the period of custody, the judge allowed the bail plea, noting that although the investigation is still underway, continued custodial.

EDITORIAL

PUT PRINCIPLE FIRST OR LOSE STANDING AS PEACEMAKER

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Gold, Silver Lead FY26 Gains Despite Late Correction

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Bullion emerged as the top-performing asset class in FY26, with gold and silver delivering exceptional returns despite a late correction triggered by global shocks and liquidity pressures. Gold prices on the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX) surged 61.47 per cent during the financial year, rising from Rs 91,316 per 10 grams at the beginning to Rs 1,47,450 by year-end. The yellow metal had touched a peak of Rs 1,80,779 per 10 grams in January, marking an impressive 97.97 per cent jump from April levels, before correcting by 18.4 per cent in the following



months. Silver outperformed all major asset classes, registering a massive 128 per cent annual gain. Prices climbed from Rs 1,00,398 per kg to a high of Rs 4,20,048 per kg in January, reflecting a steep 318 per cent rally. However, the metal later declined sharply by around 45 per cent, settling at Rs 2,29,000 per kg by the end of FY26. In global markets, gold

prices mirrored the domestic trend, rising from \$3,124 per ounce to \$5,597 in January before easing to \$4,559 by March-end. Silver too witnessed extreme volatility, surging from \$34.08 per ounce to \$121.67 in January, and later correcting to \$72.77. The rally in bullion was largely driven by heightened geopolitical tensions, trade uncertainties, and

shifting macroeconomic conditions. Investors increasingly turned to safe-haven assets as global instability intensified. Key factors supporting the surge included continued central bank buying, de-dollarisation trends, and interest rate cuts by the US Federal Reserve during the early part of the fiscal. Market momentum strengthened notably from July onwards, as global trade disruptions and the prolonged Ukraine conflict created uncertainty across financial markets. However, sentiment reversed sharply following the onset of the Iran war, which triggered widespread panic across asset classes. The sudden volatility led to margin calls

in equity and other markets, forcing investors to liquidate positions in gold and silver to manage losses. Additionally, rising crude oil prices prompted a shift towards dollar accumulation, further pressuring bullion prices. The US Federal Reserve's decision to hike interest rates to combat inflation also strengthened the dollar, adding to the downside in precious metals. Despite the correction, market experts remain optimistic about bullion's outlook. Analysts suggest that once geopolitical tensions ease and crude prices stabilise, investor confidence in gold and silver is likely to return, potentially driving a fresh rebound in prices.

India bars sale of non-certified imported CCTV's from April 1

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

India's CCTV market will only sell made-in-India products, as the government has barred the sale of non-certified imported units from April 1, a senior official said on Tuesday.

The Ministry of Electronics and IT had barred the sale of CCTV units without Standardisation Testing and Quality Certification (STQC) from April 9, 2025, onwards, but allowed traders to exhaust imported inventories by March 31, 2026.

"The order to bar non-certified STQC was effective from April 9 onwards. The order does not impact any manufacturer in India," the government official, who did not wish to be named, said.

CCTV traders said that the move has impacted Chinese CCTV companies like Hikvision and TP-



Link. They said STQC has not certified CCTV products of any Chinese company.

Aditya Infotech, which makes CP Plus brand CCTVs, said the STQC compliance regime, implemented by the government in April 2025, represents a significant shift for the surveillance industry as it has accelerated the adoption of trusted and locally aligned solutions, creating a more level playing field for Indian manufacturers.

"With growing focus on security compliance and reliability, customer preferences are expected to increasingly favour such solutions. The govern-

ment's follow-through actions, including the prohibition of sales of non-STQC products across all levels of the value chain, will further accelerate and consolidate this process," CP PLUS (Aditya Infotech Limited), Managing Director, Aditya Khemka said.

All Delhi Computer Traders Association (ADCTA) General Secretary Swaran Singh said the price of CCTV products has gone up in the range of 15-20 per cent with STQC certification and ban on imported units, which came mostly from China. "Domestic players will need to develop their own technology, especially chips and motherboards, to keep quality and price under control," Singh said. Odymax Technologies Director Sanjay Mittal said CCTV has huge demand in India and only 5 per cent of the market requirement.

India Diesel Exports to SE Asia Hit 7-Year High in March Amid Iran War: Data

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

India's diesel exports to Southeast Asia surged to a more than seven-year high in March, driven by strong Asian demand and supply disruptions linked to the U.S.-Israeli war with Iran. According to shipping data, around 1 million metric tons (7.45 million barrels) of diesel were routed to Southeast Asia, with

nearly half heading to Singapore, highlighting a major shift in trade flows. The surge comes as traders redirected supplies to cover short positions while refiners capitalized on higher regional margins. Indian refiners, particularly Reliance Industries, played a dominant role, accounting for nearly 90% of the shipments. The company, which operates the world's largest

refining complex, benefited from elevated profits in Asia and access to discounted crude.

This export boom was supported by India's increased purchases of prompt Russian crude, which helped offset supply disruptions from the Middle East. The ongoing conflict has constrained crude availability in Asia, forcing several refineries to cut output. At the same



time, China's restrictions on refined fuel exports further tightened regional supply, pushing buyers toward alternative sources like India. Analysts say

India's position as a "swing supplier" in global oil markets has enabled it to quickly pivot between Europe and Asia depending on profitability. In this

case, narrowing east-west price spreads made exports to Asian markets more attractive. Data indicates that front-month price spreads averaged a discount of about \$20 per ton in late March—well below the \$40 threshold that typically encourages shipments through eastern markets.

Industry experts believe this trend could continue in the near term. Despite the Indian

government reinstating export taxes on diesel, favorable arbitrage opportunities and sustained demand from Southeast Asia and Australia are expected to keep flows strong. Analysts at Sparta Commodities suggest shipments could remain viable through at least August. Additionally, the U.S. has issued temporary waivers allowing continued trade of Russian and Iranian oil

cargoes at sea, easing global supply concerns and indirectly supporting India's refining activity. This has enabled Indian refiners to maintain high capacity utilization and continue supplying international markets. Overall, the surge in diesel exports is expected to ease supply tightness in Asia heading into April, while boosting spot margins for Indian refiners.

Govt cancels auction of 11 critical, strategic mineral blocks

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The government has cancelled the auction of 11 critical and strategic mineral blocks which were put on sale in the sixth round on account of poor investor response and lack of qualified bidders.

The development comes as a setback to the government's efforts to ramp up domestic exploration and production of critical minerals amid global supply chain disruptions.

In an annulment notice, the mines ministry said that the auction process for 5 mineral blocks



was cancelled since no bids were received.

The notice further said the auction process of five other mineral blocks was annulled as there were less than three technically-qualified bidders. Besides, auction process for Baku Rare Metal Block, West Bengal was also an-

nulled.

The mines ministry had in September last year launched the sixth tranche of auction for 23 critical mineral blocks spread across 13 states. The auction included 19 composite licence (CL) blocks and four mining lease (ML) blocks in Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan, Telangana, and West Bengal.

The blocks contain strategic minerals including lithium, cobalt, rare earth elements, niobium, tantalum, and vanadium.

So far, six rounds of auctions have been completed, with 46 critical and strategic mineral

blocks already sold, according to the mines ministry.

Critical minerals are pivotal for the country's economic development and mineral security.

The global transition towards clean energy and advanced technologies has significantly increased the demand for minerals such as lithium, graphite, rare earth elements (REE), tungsten, vanadium, titanium and other rare metals.

Their limited availability and geographical concentration pose challenges to resilient supply chains worldwide. The government has cancelled the auction of many critical minerals in the previous rounds of auction.

IndiGo Names IATA Head Willie Walsh as New CEO

HYDERBAD
Wakeup telangana

IndiGo on Tuesday announced the appointment of Mr William Walsh as the Chief Executive Officer of the airlines. Mr Walsh, who is current chief of the global airlines' grouping IATA, awaits regulatory approvals like security clearance etc from the Indian government before he takes charge. Mr Walsh's tenure at IATA comes to end on July 31 and he is expected to join by August 3. Popularly known as 'Willie', Mr Walsh currently the Director General of IATA (International Air Transport Association) and was formerly CEO of



British Airways and IAG (International Airlines Group, a holding company which owns Aer Lingus, British Airways, Iberia, Level and Vueling).

As IndiGo CEO, Mr Walsh will be responsible for the overall management and strategic direction of the airline with a focus on transformational initiatives to

strengthen the operational performance, advance the company's network and commercial strategy while enhancing customer experience. "He will work closely with the board and the leadership team to rightfully position IndiGo as it scales up to the next phase of its growth," the airline said in a statement. He will also be among the few CEOs who are also pilots. Only a handful of people who were pilots have helmed an Indian airline. He will be the third foreign CEO for IndiGo, which started operations in August 2006.

Mr Vikram Singh Mehta, IndiGo's chairman termed Mr Walsh as an exceptional global

aviation leader with a stellar track record of outstanding leadership across several airlines adding his appointment will mark a new chapter for IndiGo. Rahul Bhatia, Managing Director of IndiGo added, "As we enter a new phase of transformation and growth, I am delighted to welcome Willie to IndiGo. He is an iconic and accomplished aviation leader and brings a rare combination of global perspective, operational expertise of having built strong customer-focused airlines, deep industry experience and a values driven leadership, making him exceptionally suited to lead IndiGo at this pivotal cusp of growth."

Centre To Crack Whip on Social Media Content Creators

HYDERBAD
Wakeup telangana

The government proposes to bring social media content creators under the ambit of IT rules, mandating compliance with advisories and guidelines issued by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. Under the current rules, the ministry could issue such notices only to online news platforms. The proposal is part of a draft amendment to the Information Technology (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules, 2021. It seeks to bring independent news and general affairs content creators on platforms such as YouTube, Instagram, Facebook and X (formerly Twitter) under the ambit of the IT rules.

With this amendment, the Centre can issue blocking orders for content hosted on social media platforms or direct users to modify content found to be in violation of norms applicable to news publishers. Ac-



ording to Internet Freedom Foundation (IFF), a collective of digital content creators, the amendment represents a "dangerous expansion of executive power over online speech". "In Rule 3(4), insertion of a new clause mandates intermediary compliance with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology-issued clarifications, advisories, directions, SOPs, codes of practice, and guidelines, making such compliance a condition for retaining safe harbour under Section 79 of the IT Act," it posted in X.

The rules also provide for an oversight mechanism for intermediaries and

users who are not "publishers" and post or share news and current affairs content online. The original Rule 14(2) required the Inter-Departmental Committee to hear "complaints regarding violation or contravention of the Code of Ethics." The amended version removes this requirement. The IDC will hear matters arising out of the grievances relating to the violation of the Code of Ethics by the publishers, in respect of the decisions taken at the Level I or II, including the cases where no such decision is taken within the time specified in the grievance redressal mechanism; or (b) referred to it by the ministry.

I Am Over the Moon

Arjun Rampal Celebrates Response on Dhurandhar 2

Bollywood actor Arjun Rampal expressed his gratitude to all his supporters following the success of "Dhurandhar: The Revenge". The actor went down memory lane and shared a series of throwback pictures on his Instagram handle on Monday, also adding the behind-the-scenes pictures from the sets of "Dhurandhar". Featuring Ranveer Singh in the lead, "Dhurandhar" released in 2025, followed by the release of the latest installment on March 19, both were directed by Aditya Dhar. The first film crossed Rs 1000 crore globally and the second release earned over Rs 1300 crore at the global box office.

"From playing cowboys as kids, to landing my first film #moksha to #Dhurandhar I am blessed to have been



with everyone who was part of the journey.

Thank you my dearest fan family for sticking with me on the ride, thank you to this incredible #Dhurandhar family @adityadharfilms

@vik_now @ojas_gautam for being my pillars and of course mera Babbar sher @ranveersingh #okeshdhar

jiyotideshpande shweta @castingchhabra @actor-maddy @therakeshbedi @duttсанjay @preetisheel smriti this list will keep growing," Rampal wrote in the post.

"I am over the moon. Patience, Perseverance, Passion stick with them and dreams come true. @dhu-

randhartherevenge and of course the mesmerising @shashwatology your music is phenomenal.. the action team the fabulous @dokkaebi530 and @msjoeykim thank you for everything," he added. The latest film, where Rampal essays the role of Major Iqbal, also stars R Madhavan, Arjun Rampal, Sanjay Dutt, Sara Arjun and Rakesh Bedi, who are reprising their roles.

Set in Lyari town of Karachi, an area known for its history of gang wars and violent turf battles, "Dhurandhar" revolved around covert intelligence operations against the backdrop of geopolitical and terror events like the Kandahar plane hijack, the 2001 Parliament Attack and the 26/11 Mumbai attacks.

Rishab Unfollows Everyone on Instagram

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Rishab Shetty, best known for the blockbuster Kantara, has reportedly entered a self-imposed "hermit mode" as he prepares for the next phase of his career. The actor has unfollowed nearly everyone on Instagram, keeping only his wife on his list, and has stepped away from social engagements to concentrate fully on his craft. The move comes after the success of Kantara: The First Chapter and ahead of his debut in Tollywood with Jai Hanuman. Currently fluent only in Kannada, Rishab is said to be dedicating significant time and effort to mastering Telugu to ensure authenticity in his performance. According to sources close to the actor, he has hired a professional lin-



guistic and voice coach. His goal is not just to learn the language, but to perfect pronunciation, diction, and emotional inflections. He reportedly believes that even minor flaws in delivery could affect audience connection, especially in a language-driven industry like Telugu cinema. To achieve this level of pre-

cision, Rishab has consciously cut down distractions and is focusing intensely on training. In addition to Telugu, he is also working on improving his Hindi, as he is on the verge of signing his first project in the language. This disciplined approach reflects his commitment to evolving as a pan-Indian actor.

Rs 17 crore gone in 35 days? Inside Hardik Pandya's luxury spree



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Hardik Pandya has once again grabbed headlines during IPL 2026, not only for leading the Mumbai Indians but also for an eye-catching mix of luxury spending and meaningful gestures off the field. In just over a month, Pandya reportedly spent upwards of ₹17 crore on high-end cars and lavish gifts. The most talked-about pur-

chase came on March 15, when he added a Ferrari 12Cilindri worth nearly ₹12 crore to his already impressive collection, reinforcing his passion for elite automobiles.

Earlier, on February 22, Pandya made headlines for gifting his five-year-old son Agastya a Land Rover Defender valued at around ₹4 crore. The grand gesture quickly went viral, drawing both admiration and debate

on social media. Continuing the spree, on March 29, he reportedly gifted a Mercedes-Benz V-Class worth approximately ₹1.7 crore to his girlfriend Mahiika Sharma. This marked his second luxury gift for her within a short span, further fueling online buzz around his personal life. However, beyond the glamour and headlines, Pandya also showcased a thoughtful side. During an IPL 2026 match at

Wankhede Stadium, he presented a cheque of ₹10 lakh to the ground staff. The gesture was widely appreciated, highlighting his recognition of the often-overlooked contributors to the game. Pandya's lavish lifestyle is supported by his strong financial standing. With an estimated net worth of around ₹120 crore, he earns through IPL contracts, BCCI payments, endorsements, and busi-

ness ventures. His car collection alone is believed to exceed ₹40 crore, featuring premium models such as the Rolls-Royce Phantom, Lamborghini Urus, and Mercedes-AMG G63. As the IPL season progresses, Hardik Pandya continues to remain in the spotlight. Whether it is his on-field leadership or off-field lifestyle, he remains one of the most talked-about figures in Indian cricket today.

Connolly Helps Punjab Kings Beat Gujarat Titans By 3 Wickets

MULLANPUR
Wakeup telangana

Young southpaw Cooper Connolly marked his IPL debut with a decisive 44-ball 72 after Yuzvendra Chahal's artistry with the ball to power Punjab Kings to a three-wicket victory over Gujarat Titans here on Tuesday.

After PBKS opted to field first, leg-spinner Chahal (2/28 in 4 overs) brought his years of experience to the fore to stymie GT in the middle overs and limit them to 162/6. Seamer Vijaykumar Vyshak grabbed 3/34 for PBKS. After almost losing their way with the bat due to Prasadh Krishna's (3/29 in 4 overs) excellent bowling, PBKS completed the chase of 163 with five balls to spare. Connolly and Prabhsimran Singh (37 off 24 balls) laid the foundation for the win with a 76-run partnership for the second wicket. Earlier, skipper Shubman Gill (39 off 27 balls) and Jos Buttler (38 off 33 balls) were the chief contributors for GT in an insipid batting display.



PBKS' start was not good as Kagiso Rabada cramped Priyansh Arya for room with his pace and line to dismiss the opener after debutant fast bowler Ashok Sharma went back a few steps to pull off a good catch at midwicket. Connolly and Prabhsimran then meant business as they went about their task in a professional manner to keep their team ahead, the two hitting a flurry of fours and sixes to flatten the GT bowlers.

Rashid Khan gave GT hope with the wicket of Prabhsimran, the batter failing to clear Prasadh Krishna at long-on. Shreyas Iyer pulled Ashok Kumar's short balls over deep square-leg for two sixes but, shortly after

taking a solid hit off his partner Connolly's shot, the PBKS captain flicked a Prasadh Krishna half-volley to Washington Sundar at deep midwicket. Sundar removed Nehal Wadhwa, and Krishna dismissed Shashank Singh and Marcus Stoinis in quick succession to bring GT back into contention.

But Connolly was there to see PBKS home, hitting five sixes and as many fours during his knock. Earlier, sent into bat, Gill dealt in boundaries as the side raced to 35 in three overs. Gill looked in sublime touch as he picked the gaps at will to score at a good clip, forcing PBKS skipper Shreyas Iyer to effect a bowling change and introduce the tall Marco

Jansen (1/20 in 4 overs) into the attack. The move paid dividends straightaway as left-arm pacer Jansen got Sai Sudharsan (13) to slice one straight towards mid-off where Shreyas completed a simple catch. Sudharsan appeared to be attempting to loft the ball over mid-on, giving the PBKS a much-needed breakthrough in the fourth over. That brought Jos Buttler to the crease and the Englishman, coming off a disappointing T20 World Cup campaign, got off the mark in style, caressing Vyshak Vijaykumar through cover for a boundary, the shot giving the batter a lot of confidence moving forward. Buttler employed the cut shot against a short and wide Jansen delivery to get a four through backward point and then struck the game's first six when he lofted Vyshak straight down the ground, as the seamer failed to land his attempted slower ball in the right area. GT ended the powerplay at 54 for one, with PBKS having pulled things back.

Rishabh Pant leads LSG against Delhi Capitals in IPL 2026 opener

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Lucknow Super Giants captain Rishabh Pant will have little room for error in a critical year as his side begins its IPL 2026 campaign against a well-rounded Delhi Capitals here on Wednesday.

Pant could not deliver as a leader and frontline batter in his first year at LSG. Injuries to key players, especially fast bowlers, made his job a lot tougher. Injury prone pace sensation Mayank Yadav has worked hard on his fitness over the past 12 months and LSG would be hoping that he repays the strong faith that franchise had reposed in him.

Pacer Mohsin Khan too is making a comeback from injury while Prince Yadav has also impressed with his medium pace in the nets thus far. Mystery spinner Digvesh Singh Rathi made a name for himself in his debut season and would be looking to build on the massive gains that he made 12 months ago. Compared to the bowling department, the batting has a more settled look with Mitchell Marsh and



Aiden Markram forming one of the most lethal opening pairings in the IPL. Pant, who could not make an impact at number four for majority of last season before slamming a hundred at number three, is set to bat in the top-order with Nicholas Pooran to follow at number four. LSG take on a side that should have made the play-offs last year after a promising beginning. Delhi Capitals tried as many as seven opening combinations last year and this season they are confident of more stability in the top-order.

KL Rahul is certain to open the innings but there is not enough clarity on his part. The options are Prithvi Shaw, Abhishek Porel and Pathum Nissanka.

They have brought in David Miller to add more muscle to the middle order comprising another South African Tristan Stubbs. Delhi Capitals have a potent bowling attack despite the unavailability of Mitchell Starc for the opening game due to an injury.

In captain Axar Patel and Kuldeep Yadav, they have two match winning spinners. The addition of a wily Lungi Ngidi strengthens the pace attack. Ngidi was in top form in the T20 World Cup, foxing the batters with his deceptive change of pace. Left-arm pacer T Natarajan is fully fit after spending last year on the sidelines due to an injury. Squads LSG: Rishabh Pant, Ayush Badoni, Matthew

Breetzke, Aiden Markram, Nicholas Pooran, Arshin Kulkarni, Mitchell Marsh, Shahbaz Ahmed, Akash Maharaj Singh, Avesh Khan, Mohammed Shami, Prince Yadav, Digvesh Singh Rathi, Arjun Sachin Tendulkar, Mayank Prabhu Yadav, Wanindu Hasaranga, Anrich Nortje, Josh Inglis, Abdul Samad, Himmat Singh, Naman Tiwari, Akshat Raghuvanshi, Mohsin Khan, Manimaran Siddharth, Mukul Choudhary.

Delhi Capitals: Abishek Porel, KL Rahul, Nitish Rana, Sameer Rizvi, Tristan Stubbs, Axar Patel, Ashutosh Sharma, Dushmantha Chameera, Kuldeep Yadav, Mukesh Kumar, Vipraj Nigam, Mitchell Starc, Tripurana Vijay, David Miller, Auqib Nabi Dar, Pathum Nissanka, Lungi Ngidi, Prithvi Shaw, Kyle Jamieson, Ajay Jadav Mandal, T Natarajan, Madhav Tiwari, Karun Nair, Sahil Parakh. Match starts 7.30 PM IST. PTI

This season, he has a fully fit squad at his disposal that has been bolstered by the addition of old warhorse Mohammed Shami and Anrich Nortje.

Ministers hail Mahalakshmi scheme; more buses soon



Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka and Ministers Ponnampallam Prabhakar and Dansari Anasuya alias Seethakka on Tuesday, March 31, attended a felicitation programme organised by TGSRTC to mark the success of the Mahalakshmi free bus travel for women scheme.

According to Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC) Vice Chairman and Managing Director Nagireddy, the scheme has saved women Rs 10,000 crore and more than 290 crore free journeys were undertaken since its launch on December 9, 2023.

Speaking on the occasion, Transport Minister Ponnampallam Prabhakar hailed the credited RTC employees, including drivers and conductors, for the successful implementation of the scheme. He also said that the government plans to introduce new buses on 340 new routes in Hyderabad as well as improve connectivity across the state.

On the merger of TGSRTC with the state, the minister said it is under consideration. Minister of Women and Child Welfare Seethakka said that the government has proposed Rs 57,000 crore in loans to women's self-help groups (SHGs) and supported nearly 4.78 lakh women in starting small businesses in the recently concluded Telangana Budget. "We aim to make one crore women financially empowered through various schemes," she said.

Uttam Kumar seeks Centre's help for 1 lakh auto drivers



Telangana Minister for Food and Civil Supplies N Uttam Kumar Reddy has written to Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri seeking urgent intervention to address a severe shortage of auto liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) in the state, warning that the supply crunch is disrupting public transport and threatening the livelihoods of around 1 lakh auto-rickshaw drivers.

In a letter dated March 30, Uttam Kumar said a daily shortfall of around 55 metric tonnes of auto LPG has left a majority of private distribution outlets facing a dry-out, causing widespread disruption to public transport services. The minister said while domestic LPG supply was being maintained at 100 per cent in keeping with the Government of India directives amid the ongoing West Asia crisis, the auto LPG segment had taken a significant hit.

According to the letter, the auto LPG distribution network in Telangana comprises 143 outlets in total. Public sector undertakings (PSU) – Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) – operate 33 of these, accounting for just 20 per cent of the market. The remaining 110 outlets, run by private operators such as Super Gas, Go Gas, Total Energies, Prime Gas, Extra Gas, Aegis Gas and Uni Gas, hold an 80 per cent market share but are bearing the brunt of the shortage. The Civil Supplies Minister flagged that Total Energies alone, which runs 15 auto LPG outlets in the state, sources nearly 80 per cent of its requirement from BPCL and HPCL, with the balance filled through imports. "Disruption in PSU supplies has compounded the crisis across its network," the letter noted.

Harish Rao Slams 'Undemocratic' Assembly Functioning

Govt. wrapped up Assembly session early for poll campaign in Kerala, Says Harish Rao

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

T. Harish Rao, Deputy Floor Leader of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), on Tuesday launched a scathing attack on the Indian National Congress government, accusing it of reducing the Telangana Legislative Assembly to a "directionless exercise" while deliberately stifling the opposition to avoid accountability on key public issues. Addressing a press conference at the Assembly Media Hall, Harish Rao alleged that House proceedings were repeatedly disrupted on trivial grounds, including extended tea breaks, delays in the arrival of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, and Ministers' personal engagements. He termed this a "mockery of legislative functioning," questioning whether the ruling party came prepared for debates. He pointed out that the Assembly failed to begin



on time on any day and that none of the 19 discussion notices submitted by BRS were taken up. Instead, he alleged, the government stretched sessions late into the night to sideline opposition participation and rushed through key business, including bills and budget demands, using guillotine votes without proper debate. Harish Rao further criticised the abrupt curtailment of the session, claiming it was done to facilitate Congress leaders' election campaigning in Kerala. "For this government, Kerala elections matter more than Telangana's people," he remarked. Raising allega-

tions against Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, the BRS leader accused the government of diversion politics. He alleged that BRS MLAs were suspended in a premeditated manner after presenting evidence in the House, in an attempt to shield the Minister. He also took exception to the conduct and language used by the Chief Minister and Congress members, alleging instances of threats and "rowdiness." Questioning the selective enforcement of rules against BRS MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy, he demanded that such remarks be referred to the Ethics Commit-

tee. On governance, Harish Rao accused the government of failing to deliver on its flagship Six Guarantees, citing lack of clarity and allocations in the third budget. He said welfare promises to BCs, SCs, STs, farmers, and unemployed youth remained unfulfilled. Defending the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project, he rejected criticism from both Congress and BJP, calling it politically motivated. Citing water storage at Mallanna Sagar, he questioned claims of project failure and challenged leaders to verify facts on the ground. Alleging a tacit understanding between Congress and BJP to discredit BRS, Harish Rao also criticised the passage of the Hate Speech Bill without discussion. He warned that attempts to suppress opposition voices would fail, asserting that BRS would take the fight to the people if silenced in the Assembly.

Advocate Community Celebrates Passage of Protection Act

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Advocate Mir Qurrum Ali, Chairman of the Society for Civil Legal Aid, extended heartfelt congratulations to advocates across Telangana for their relentless struggle, unity, and dedication that led to the successful passage of the Advocate Protection Act. He praised the unwavering efforts of the legal fraternity, stating that the achievement reflects the strength of collective action and the commitment of advocates towards securing their rights and safety. Advocate Mir Qurrum Ali also expressed sincere gratitude to the Government of Telangana for



enacting the Advocate Protection Act, emphasizing that the legislation is a significant step toward ensuring the safety, dignity, and protection of advocates in their professional duties. "This victory belongs to every advocate who stood united and fought tirelessly. The Act is not just a law, but a shield for the legal community," he said. The Advocate Protection Act is expected to provide much-needed security measures and legal safeguards for advocates, reinforcing confidence within the profession and strengthening the justice delivery system in the state.

Advocates Thank Governor for Protection Act Approval



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana High Court Advocates' Association Committee, led by its President, met at Raj Bhavan in Hyderabad to express gratitude to Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla for approving the Advocates Protection Act Bill. The delegation thanked the Governor for his support in ensuring the safety and dignity of advocates across the state. They stated that the

Act would provide much-needed legal protection against threats, harassment, and attacks faced by legal professionals. The committee also highlighted that the legislation marks a significant step toward strengthening the justice system and boosting the confidence of advocates. The meeting concluded with appreciation for the Governor's prompt action in safeguarding the legal fraternity.

IT rules threaten independent journalism: Owaisi

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) President and Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi on Tuesday, March 31, alleged that the proposed draft amendments to IT rules will allow the government to ban independent journalists' content and prove detrimental to free press in India. "The draft IT rules are proof that the govt is allergic to free press. If notified, these rules will



allow the govt to ban any independent journalist's online content. Indians heavily rely on independent journalists for news that affects them, things that mainstream channels or publications do not necessarily cover. Without independent journalists, there's no way of knowing if a 'toolkit' is being

used to spread fake news or not," the MP wrote in a post on X. He added that the public has a right to information and the proposed rules bypass existing stay orders by courts and violate the Supreme Court's Shreya Singhal judgement.

The government on March 30, proposed draft amendments to IT rules seeking to mandate intermediaries' compliance with IT Ministry-issued clarifications, advisories and guidelines. The Internet Freedom

Foundation (IFF) has raised concerns over these draft provisions, saying the amendment creates a sweeping power for Ministry of Electronics and IT (Meity) to issue binding instruments that are not anchored in law. The draft amendments, among other things, talk of "mandating compliance by intermediaries with the ministry-issued clarifications, advisories, directions, SOPs, codes of practice and guidelines, forming part of due diligence under section 79".

Minister Azharuddin Applauds Harmony at Mahavir Celebrations



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

At the Mahavir Jayanti celebrations held at Exhibition Grounds in Nampally on Tuesday, Telangana Minority Welfare Minister Mohammed Azharuddin highlighted the state's strong tradition of communal harmony across religions and castes, stressing the need to preserve unity in society. Extending greetings to the Jain community, the Minister spoke about the enduring relevance of Lord Mahavir's teachings. He said values such as truth, non-violence, self-discipline, kindness, and forgiveness are crucial for building a peaceful and compassionate society. He noted that Mahavir's life continues to inspire people to follow a path rooted in righteousness and moral integrity. Azharuddin praised the

Jain community for consistently practicing these principles and contributing to social welfare. He said their efforts in helping the needy and promoting harmony strengthen the social fabric and set an example for others to follow. The Minister also lauded the services of Jain Seva Sangh, describing it as a respected institution established in 1960. He appreciated its long-standing commitment to humanitarian service and said the organisation truly reflects the philosophy of "Live and Let Live" through its continued efforts for society. Concluding his address, Azharuddin expressed happiness at being part of the celebrations and thanked the organisers for inviting him to such a meaningful and spiritually enriching event, calling it a memorable and honourable experience.

GHMC seizes Jayalalithaa's house over tax dues

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The GHMC briefly seized a residential building owned by late Tamil Nadu Chief Minister J Jayalalithaa here over unpaid property tax dues, and released it on Tuesday after the caretakers assured to settle the arrears. The G+4 (Ground Plus four floors) building at Srinagar Colony was seized on Monday by the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) officials after its caretakers allegedly failed to respond to multiple notices regarding tax dues pending since 2017, said GHMC officials. "We issued notices for payment of property tax dues, even visiting the



premises several times. We had to seize it as per the rules, as there was no alternative," he said. The property tax payable stood at over Rs 82 lakh after waiver of 90 per cent of interest, offered by GHMC, on the pending property tax. The caretakers have sought vacancy remission as the building remained unoccupied since

Jayalalithaa's death (in 2016). The request for vacancy remission (which provides for a concession in property tax) has been accepted, said officials. The building is in the name of Jayalalithaa, and its ownership would be transferred after the claimants submit the necessary proof. Legal proceedings regarding the property's inheritance are going on. Though it is a residential building, it is now in the commercial category as it was rented out to a company promoted by Vijay Malliya in the past. The company, however, had vacated the premises in 2017, the officials added. give 7 word sheladien

Ice cream parlour in Hyderabad raided for unhygienic food manufacture

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

An ice cream parlour in Hyderabad's Mehdiapatnam area was raided for manufacturing adulterated and unhygienic food, police said on Tuesday, March 31. The owner has been arrested. The Commissioner's Task Force officials, along with Mehdiapatnam police, conducted a surprise check in 'Aliya Ice Cream Parlour' located at Ahmad Nagar, Bada Bazar locality, run by Syed Musharufuddin. Officials discovered large packets of ice candy,

lassi candy, glasses of lassi, curd, sugar, citric acid, sucrose and mango, orange and blueberry crush flavours, worth Rs 5,44,290. One lassi machine, one ice candy machine, several packing machines, covers and six refrigerators were also seized. A case has been registered under section 274 (adulteration of food or drink intended for sale), 275 (sale of noxious food or drink) and 125 (endangering human life) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

After Medaram Jatara protest, CID summons BRS MLA Kaushik Reddy

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana Crime Investigation Department (CID) has issued a notice to Huzurabad MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy, directing him to appear before investigators in connection with an alleged unlawful assembly and obstruction of police personnel during the Sammakka-Saralamma Jatara in January. The notice, issued under Section 35(3) of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), ordered the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) MLA to present him-

self at the CID office in Lakdikapul in Hyderabad by April 4. According to the notice, the case stems from an incident on January 29 at KC Camp Chowrasta in Huzurabad, when police were performing bandobust duties for the Jatara. Kaushik Reddy, along with supporters, allegedly formed an unlawful assembly, sat on the road, obstructed the free flow of traffic and wrongfully restrained vehicles and pedestrians, thereby impeding police personnel in the discharge of their duties.

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