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WEATHER

MAX : 39.0°C
MIN : 23.2°C
RH : 23%
RAINFALL : 0MM
FORECAST : MAINLY CLEAR SKY
MAX/MIN temp. 40/23°C

Brief Insights

India's Coal Imports Drop 8.5% in Feb on Record Domestic Stockpile

India's coal import dropped 8.5 per cent to 16.55 million tonnes in February on record stockpile of domestic coal and firmness in the sea-borne prices. The country's coal import is poised to maintain a weak trend this month with domestic miners making efforts to liquidate stockpiles. The drop in import comes amid a strategic push for self-re-

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PM: TMC Backs Tukre Gang for Threat To Cut Off Siliguri Corridor

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday accused Trinamul Congress of supporting "Tukre Tukre Gang" for threatening to cut off the strategically important Siliguri Corridor that connects West Bengal with Sikkim, to snap the country's link with its north eastern region. Mr Modi, who addressed a BJP poll campaign rally at Kawakhali in Siliguri, alleged, "A Tukre Tukre Gang exists in the country. It had threatened to cut off the Siliguri Corridor and talked about separating the North East from the country. TMC backs such people from streets to parliament for appeasement."

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Bhatti Announces Panel To Address Power Sector Issues: P2

Telangana faces fiscal strain as revenue falls short of targets: P3

Congress leaders busy with 'loot-and-stash' operation across Telangana, Says KTR: P2



BRS eyes TRS return; KTR to launch 2027 padayatra

BRS Set to Return as TRS to Regain Lost Ground; KTR Announces State-Wide Padayatra

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In a significant development, BRS working president KT Rama Rao has disclosed that the party was examining the issue of reverting the party name to Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) as part of a broader strategy to strengthen the party and reclaim political ground in Telangana.

Rama Rao has also announced plans to undertake a Statewide Padayatra in 2027 to raise public issues. He said the proposed padayatra would serve as a direct outreach to the people, focusing on grievances across sectors. The announcement comes as the party attempts to consolidate its cadre base and regain momentum after electoral setbacks.

In an informal interaction with the media at the residence of former MLA Balka Suman in Kyathapally on Sunday, Rama Rao made it clear that the BRS would contest future elections independently, ruling out alliances.



"We will fight on our own strength. Alliances have not worked for us in the past," he said, asserting that the party would field only winning candidates in constituencies with strong prospects. He indicated that the party might even replace sitting MLAs in certain regions, particularly in the Godavari basin, to improve electoral prospects. He expressed confidence that the induction of senior leader T Jeevan Reddy would further strengthen the party in north Telangana.

Responding to a question, Rama Rao admitted that the rebranding from Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) to Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) diluted the strong Telangana sentiment associated with the

party. He indicated that the party was internally deliberating a possible return to its original name. "We have lost politically due to the name change. The emotional connect people had with TRS and the pink flag is inseparable," he said, adding that reviving the old identity could re-energise party workers. However, he asserted that a final decision will be taken by the party chief K Chandrashekhara Rao.

On the issue of delimitation, the BRS working president said an increase in the Assembly and Parliamentary seats would create new opportunities for the party. He maintained that if the delimitation exercise preserves Telangana's existing proportional share where

South India's current share is around 24 per cent in Parliament, there would be no cause for concern. He argued that a uniform increase in seats would be beneficial for all States. In a candid admission, Rama Rao acknowledged organisational shortcomings during the BRS's decade-long tenure in power. He said the party failed to maintain effective coordination with grassroots leaders, including sarpanches and mandal-level representatives, and lacked a comprehensive policy for workers from Telangana employed in Gulf countries. He said these gaps contributed to a disconnect between the leadership and cadres.

To address this, he announced a membership drive in May and June, along with structured training programmes for party workers. Efforts would also be made to strengthen direct communication with cadres, drawing from best practices of other political parties like TDP, which

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Trump Orders US Navy To Block Hormuz

Threatens to bomb power plants; Iran to trap US in deadly vortex

WASHINGTON
Wakeup telangana

After two days of hope, uncertainty loomed over West Asia after the American and Iranian teams failed to clinch a mutually acceptable deal during 21 hours of negotiations in Islamabad. Though the ceasefire survived failed talks on Sunday, US President Donald Trump escalated tensions by ordering a US naval blockade of the Strait of Hormuz in response to Iran's "unyielding" refusal to abandon its nuclear ambitions and completely open the crucial waterway.

Competing blockades by the US and Iran in the Strait of Hormuz would deprive the world of Gulf oil, which contributes 20 per cent of global crude oil supply, and could increase global crude oil prices. Two Pakistani tankers turned back from Hormuz after Trump's warning. "Any Iranian who fires at us, or at peaceful vessels, will be blown to hell!" Trump suggested that "other countries" would be involved in the blockade ef-



fort, without specifying. Trump also threatened China with "staggering" new tariffs on its goods entering the United States if Beijing provides military assistance to Iran during the West Asia war. In response, Iran's Revolutionary Guards warned they have traffic in the strategic waterway under full control and would trap any enemy who tries to challenge it "in a deadly vortex in the Strait if it makes the wrong move." Iran's parliamentary speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf said his negotiating team "put forward constructive initiatives, but ultimately the other side was unable to gain the trust of the Iranian delegation in this round of negotiations." Iran's former foreign minister Mohammad Javad Zarif, who led his country's delegation at

2015 nuclear talks, said, "No negotiations - at least with Iran - will succeed based on 'our/your terms'. The US must learn: you can't dictate terms to Iran. It's not too late to learn. Yet," added Zarif in a post on X. The US President's latest ultimatum appeared to have been triggered by the failure of talks in Islamabad between high-level American and Iranian delegations to secure a deal to end the six-week-old war, which began when the US and Israel launched strikes on Tehran and killed Iran's supreme leader Ali Khamenei. Iran's refusal to give up its right to a nuclear programme, which Tehran insists is for peaceful civilian purposes, but Western capitals believe conceals a quest for a bomb, frustrated the US delegation. Trump also reiterated his threat to destroy Iran's power plants and other civilian energy infrastructure if no deal is reached to end the conflict. "I could take out Iran in one day," Trump told Fox News.

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Tributes Pour In For Asha Bhosle

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Asha Bhosle, India's beloved singing icon, died on Sunday following multiple organ failure, doctors treating her said. She was 92. "She passed way due to multi organ failure a few minutes ago," Dr Pratit Samdani told PTI. Bhosle was admitted to Breach Candy hospital here on Saturday evening due to chest infection and exhaustion, her granddaughter Zanai Bhosle shared in a media post. With a career spanning



over eight decades, Asha Bhosle, the younger sister of Lata Mangeshkar, was known for her versatility and has sung many memorable melodies, from romantic songs to ghazals to peppy numbers. Among her most popular songs are 'Abhi Na Jao

Chhod Kar', 'In Ankhon Ki Masti', 'Dil Cheez Kya Hai', 'Piya Tu Ab to Aaja', 'Duniya Mein Logon Ko', and 'Zaara Se Jhoom Loon Main', among others. Bhosle recorded over 12,000 songs in different Indian languages and has been the voice for many leading ladies, from Meena Kumari, Madhubala, Zeenat Aman to Kajol, Urmila Matondkar and also South actors like Padmini and Vyjayanthimala. In 2023, she performed at a special concert,

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In Retaliation To PM, Didi Claims BJP Plans To Trifurcate WB In Delimitation

Hitting back at Prime Minister Narendra Modi hours after he accused the Trinamul Congress of backing the "tukde tukde gang", West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee claimed that BJP has started plotting a conspiracy to trifurcate the state through delimitation and repeated the claim at rallies throughout the day. She said at Onda in Bankura, "They are conspiring to break Bengal into three parts through delimitation. Then NRC will be implemented. People will be sent to detention camps. We will never allow it

▶ FULL REPORT ON | PAGE 4

Pass Women's Quota in One Voice For 2029 Polls: Modi

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Ahead of the three-day special sitting of Parliament beginning April 16, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said it was imperative that the 2029 Lok Sabha and Assembly elections be conducted with women's reservation in place and urged all political parties to come together to pass the



amendments to 'Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam' in one voice. The Prime Minister, in a letter to the floor leaders of the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, asserted that any society progressed only

when women had the opportunity to progress, make decisions and, more importantly, lead. He said that for India to realise its vision of becoming a developed nation, it was essential that women play a greater, active role in this journey.

Modi will address a national-level Nari Shakti Vandan Sammelan at Vigyan Bhawan in the national capital on Monday,

organised to reinforce the commitment towards greater participation of women in shaping India's development trajectory. It will also highlight the increasing role of women in governance and leadership from panchayats to Parliament. The Budget Session of Parliament has been extended, and a special three-day sitting has been convened on April

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ESTD - 1960

ASTORIA HOTEL

Hyderabad Laziz Biryani

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Revanth Reddy To Select Team 2028 With Cabinet Rejig

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Ministers in the Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy Cabinet have been putting on a brave face amidst speculation of a reshuffle which may not strip them of their posts but would certainly see a change in their portfolios. Ministers drew confidence about their continuance in the Cabinet from the belief that the Chief Minister would not take any drastic step, but were unsure of retaining their

portfolios which they may have to forgo as part of bargaining. The Chief Minister too, according to party sources, would effect changes, if at all, not out of any sense of insecurity but to go to the electorate in 2028 or 2029 with a team that would ensure that the Congress retained power.

"Revanth Reddy is in a commendable position and his standing is increasing following the party's success in election after election. But, to ensure the Congress stays in



power in 2029, he has to have a team that is formed by taking all permutations and combinations into consideration and a team that will perform better," sources close to the Chief Minister pointed out. The Chief Minister may not have to struggle with the

decision-making to a large extent, because the number of ministers facing axe will be minimal, except while dealing with the increasing demand to create another post of Deputy Chief Minister and appoint a legislator from the Backward Classes community, one more display of party's commitment to BC empowerment. In 2023, Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka insisted on and got approval from the Congress high command to be the lone Deputy Chief Minis-

ter. "Revanth Reddy is enjoying a comfortable position which no other Congress Chief Minister, except Dr Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy in the past. We have completely accepted or rather surrendered to his leadership. Though he is in a commanding position now, we are confident that the CM will not upset the applecart," a minister said. The ministers were of the view that they had not made any move nor uttered a word that would bring down the Chief

Minister's stature in the last two-and-a-half years. The principal opposition Bharata Rashtra Samithi in a methodic approach has been targeting one minister at a time, starting with Jupally Krishna Rao and followed by N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, Danasari 'Seetakka' Anasuya and Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, the latter coming under heavy attack recently. "The BRS, as an opposition party, is doing everything to keep itself afloat.

Congress leaders busy with 'loot-and-stash' operation across Telangana: KTR

HYDERABAD

Wakeup telangana

BRS working president KT Rama Rao charged Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy and his Cabinet colleagues with running a statewide loot-and-stash operation, alleging that corruption has spread across sectors, including the state-owned Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL). He claimed that ministers and MLAs were indulging in large-scale irregularities in every constituency and under various government schemes.

Terming Revanth Reddy as the most corrupt Chief Minister in the country, Rama Rao stated that tenders were being manipulated and contracts awarded to individuals linked to Congress leaders. He made these remarks while addressing party cadres after felicitating newly elected councillors of Kyathanapally municipality in Mancherial district on Sunday. Alleging a nexus between the Congress and the



BJP, the BRS working president said both parties were shielding each other from corruption charges. He pointed out that despite serious allegations in Singareni tenders and even remarks by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on "RR tax," and Union Home Minister Amit Shah describing Telangana as an "ATM" for the Congress, no formal investigations had been initiated. Pointing to alleged irregularities in Singareni, he said individuals linked to the Chief Minister's family were influencing contract allocations through

coercion under the guise of site visitation certificates. Questioning the Centre's inaction despite its 49 per cent stake in SCCL, he demanded a CBI probe into the alleged multi-thousand-crore scam.

Rama Rao contrasted the current situation with the previous BRS regime and stated that policies under former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao strengthened workers' rights and expanded employment opportunities, including succession jobs in Singareni. He demanded the immediate constitution of a medical board and the restoration of employment assurances to Singareni workers.

Warning of intensified agitation, he said the BRS would launch protests across coal belt areas if workers' issues were not addressed, including laying siege to Singareni headquarters.

Referring to the recent Kyathanapally municipal election, the former minister accused the Congress of adopting authoritarian methods, alleging coercion,

arrests and inducements despite the BRS securing a majority. He also cited the alleged unlawful arrest and transfer of former MLA Balka Suman to Adilabad jail despite the availability of a local prison as evidence of political vendetta.

Rama Rao criticised the Congress government over its failure to implement its Six Guarantees even after two years in power, which has resulted in growing discontent among farmers, youth, women and workers. He said irrigation projects lacked planning and financial backing.

He called upon the people to reject the corrupt Congress regime and support the BRS in the upcoming local and Singareni elections. Asserting that a political shift was inevitable in the state, he exuded confidence that the party would regain political ground across the state. "The fight will continue in every coal mine and every constituency," he declared.

Bhatti Announces Panel To Address Power Sector Issues

HYDERABAD

Wakeup telangana

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu announced the formation of a committee with senior officials to resolve longstanding issues faced by power sector employees. The announcement followed a meeting at Praja Bhavan in Hyderabad with leaders of the Electricity Employees' Joint Action Committee (JAC). They raised concerns over speculation that power distribution companies (DISCOMs) would be privatised. The Deputy CM firmly assured them that DISCOMs would not be privatised under any circumstances. He urged the leaders to publicise this commitment widely and counter any false propaganda.



Bhatti reiterated the government's long-term commitment to strengthening the energy sector, pledging all necessary steps. He emphasized that both the employees' JAC and officials share responsibility for bolstering power utilities. He also directed officials to resolve complaints received via the 1912 helpline promptly, making power utilities a byword for efficient service. Additionally, senior power utility officials will dedicate one hour each month to meet employee

unions and address their grievances.

The JAC submitted a memorandum outlining key demands, including establishing a third DISCOM, employee adjustments, implementation of the 2026 pay revision commission (PRC), restoration of the old pension scheme for recruits up to 2004, regular promotions and recruitments, and resolution of artisan-related issues.

The delegation included JAC chairman Saibaba, convener Ratnakar Rao, co-convener B.C. Reddy, and leaders Bhupal Reddy, Sadanandam, Swami, Ramesh, Ashok, Sudhakar Reddy, Karunakar Reddy, Nagaraju, Satyanarayana, Dayanand, Shivashankar, Janapriya, Mallayya, Pramod, and others.

Crackdown Warning on Fake Ambedkar Jayanti

HYDERABAD

Wakeup telangana

As the nation gears up to celebrate the birth anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar on April 14, serious concerns have emerged over illegal fund collections being carried out in the name of Jayanti celebrations. National Ambedkar Sena leader Taluka Rajesh has issued a strong warning against such practices, calling them "criminal extortion." According to Rajesh, sev-



eral unauthorized individuals and groups are approaching shopkeepers and local residents, demanding money while falsely

claiming to represent community organizations.

These collectors are reportedly using pressure and intimidation tactics, creating fear among the public. Taking a firm stand, Rajesh announced that he is preparing to file an official complaint with the Police Commissioner, urging immediate action and arrest of those involved.

He emphasized that misusing Babasaheb's name for personal gain is a direct insult to his

values of justice, equality, and integrity. The National Ambedkar Sena has appealed to citizens not to pay money to anyone without proper authorization or official receipts from registered committees. People are advised to remain vigilant, document such incidents, and report them to the nearest police station. Reiterating zero tolerance, the Sena warned that strict legal action will be pursued against offenders.

Harish Rao Unveils Patra Media Logo, Emphasises Responsible Journalism

HYDERABAD

Wakeup telangana

Former Telangana Minister and Siddipet MLA T. Harish Rao unveiled the official logo of Patra Media and released its poster at a formal event. Addressing the gathering, Harish Rao highlighted the importance of media in a democratic system, stating that it plays a key role in bringing public issues to light and ensuring transparency and accountability in governance. He stressed that emerging media professionals have



greater responsibilities in the digital era, where the rapid spread of information demands accuracy and ethical standards. He

urged journalists to focus on fact-based reporting, avoid misinformation, and uphold the values of responsible journalism.

"Credibility is more important than the speed of news in today's digital age," he said, emphasizing the need for trust and authenticity in the media. Expressing confidence, he said that Patra Media would work with impartiality and integrity, delivering reliable and unbiased news to the public. He also extended his congratulations to the management, including Allam Pawan Reddy and Gottimukkula Varun Reddy, along with the entire team. Young leaders Sai Teja Rao, Netaji, and others attended the event.

Ambedkar Mission Marks 162nd Gnana Mala, Launches Resource Center

HYDERABAD

Wakeup telangana

The Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Mission observed its 162nd weekly Gnana Mala with a rally, office inauguration, and a renewed focus on youth empowerment at Lothkunta. A key highlight was the launch of a Resource Center offering free computer and typing training along with competitive exam coaching. The event began at the statue of B.



R. Ambedkar, followed by a rally promoting equality and constitutional values. Chief guest Gynaprakash, IRS

(Retd.), highlighted the contributions of Ambedkar and Bhagya Reddy Varma, stressing education as a path to dignity and social change. Anantharaj and T. Madhukar urged participants to spread awareness of Ambedkar's ideals and work toward ending caste discrimination. Executive members and Ambedkarites attended in large numbers, reaffirming their commitment to social justice and empowerment.

Telangana Emerges As Leader In Natural Farming, Turmeric Production Prove Huge Success

Telangana has topped the nation with 5.53 lakh hectares under chemical-free practices, according to a recent report submitted in the Lok Sabha. The report also praised Telangana's lead in natural farming. Over 4.52 lakh farmers have embraced this shift, the report said. The government data reveal 489 clusters in the state under the National Mission on Natural Farming, covering 24,736 hectares. In March 2026, kits reached 61,125 new farmers for kharif rollout.

Central funds have remarkably increased from just Rs 17.96 lakh in 2024-25 to Rs 13.23 crore in 2025-26. The state was getting less funds due to poor certification. In natural farming, turmeric shone the brightest. The demos showed that natural yields dip just 9.78 per cent versus crop that had been treated with chemical methods, but organic produce earns farmers more. Bio-inputs like Jeevamrita slashed costs drastically. Natural farming yields 20-25 tonnes per hectare as against 22-28 tonnes by chemical farming, but the latter practice erodes soil health.

Progressive farmer Ramulu from Nizamabad underlined the gains. "I cut chemical costs by thousands last season. My farm got a turmeric yield of 23 tonnes per hectare and sold at premium rates. My farm soil is now teeming with earthworms — it's alive again after decades," he said. Noted agronomist Prof Seeta Mahalaxmi called the change transformative. "Turmeric beats paddy's 20 per cent yield drop. Brinjal loses just three per cent, fruits like mango hold steady.

Uppal MLA Bandari Laxma Reddy Attends Kapra Brahmotsavams

HYDERABAD

Wakeup telangana

Uppal MLA Bandari Laxma Reddy attended the Brahmotsavams at Sri Chennakesava Swamy Temple in Kapra Division as the chief guest, offering prayers and seeking blessings for the well-being of all people. The event drew participation from local leaders, party members, and devotees, reflecting strong community involvement. Speaking on the occa-



sion, the MLA expressed hope that the Lord's blessings would bring prosperity and peace to every household. The religious program was organized with devotion and enthusiasm, marking an important spiritual gath-

ering in the division. Bairi Naveen Goud, Division President, along with BRS party leaders, activists, and residents, actively took part in the celebrations, contributing to the success of the Brahmotsavams.

Intermediate student goes missing in Kishanbagh after failing exam

An intermediate student who had failed in a subject left his house at Kishanbagh and went missing on Sunday. The boy, who is a resident of Kishanbagh under Bahadurpura police station area, had appeared for intermediate second year examination held in March. On Sunday, after the exam results were announced, the boy checked the results and came to know that he failed in a subject. The boy, without informing anyone, left the house. The parents of the boy tried to reach him over phone but found that his mobile phone was switched off and SIM card is suspected to have been removed from the phone.

Wanaparthi Scholar Raj Kumar Earns Ph.D. from Osmania University

HYDERABAD

Wakeup telangana

Vaddeman Raj Kumar, a resident of Chinna Mandadi village in Peddamanadadi mandal of Wanaparthi district, has been awarded a prestigious Ph.D. degree from Osmania University, according to an official press release issued by the university.

Raj Kumar completed his doctoral research in the Department of Environmental Science under the supervision of Professor Kusuma Shailaja. His research, titled "Environmental Sustainability of Agricultural Practices in Selected Areas of Med-



chhal-Malkajgiri District, Telangana," focused on assessing sustainable agricultural methods and their environmental impact. The university's Examination Branch declared the award after a thorough evaluation of his research work. He is the son of Vaddeman Sayanna and Santho-

shamma. His achievement has brought immense pride to his family and his native village, with professors, fellow scholars, friends, and villagers extending heartfelt congratulations.

Speaking on the occasion, Raj Kumar expressed sincere gratitude to his research guide for her continuous guidance and encouragement. He also thanked his parents, family members, and friends for their unwavering support, and affirmed his commitment to contributing towards environmental protection and promoting sustainable agricultural practices in the future.

Sri Ganesh vows Bolarum ground revival

HYDERABAD

Wakeup telangana

Secunderabad Cantonment MLA Sri Ganesh on Sunday pledged comprehensive development of the historic Bolarum Sporting Club Ground, promising upgraded infrastructure and renewed focus on nurturing young sporting talent.

Addressing a gathering after visiting the venue as Chief Guest, the MLA assured full support for modernization of facilities and the Arrangement of regular high-level tournaments to identify and train grassroots athletes. He emphasized that revitalizing the ground would help restore its past glory while cre-



ating opportunities for aspiring sportspersons.

Highlighting the club's legacy, Sri Ganesh noted that the Bolarum Sporting Club has produced several national and international Players, including Olympians, and remains a Important institution in the Canton-

ment's sporting ecosystem.

The event was led by Dr. Narasimhan Kannan, whose leadership continues to steer the club toward modernization while preserving its rich heritage. He welcomed the MLA's assurances, stating that government backing would significantly boost efforts to enhance facilities and support future champions.

The Event witnessed participation from prominent Athletes, local leaders, and community members, turning the occasion into a platform for inspiration and collaboration in advancing sports development in the region.

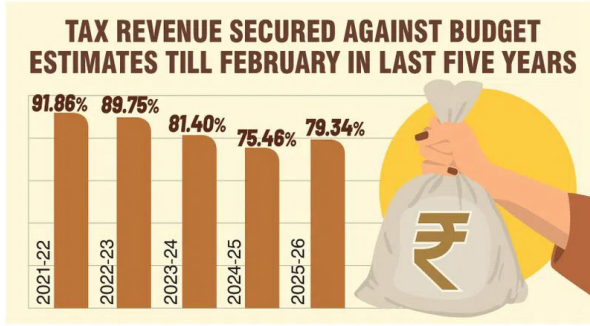
Lakes, Roads, Parks In City Get Facelift

The lakes in Cyberabad Municipal Corporation (CMC) are getting a facelift with tenders floated to remove water hyacinth from all lakes. Ensuring proper functioning of the underground drainage system will also be taken up to prevent pollution. In addition to preventing sewage, solid waste dumping into lakes and drains will also be stopped, according to CMC officials. Other works proposed include addressing potholes and patchwork on the main road connecting Medchal Highway to Ayodhya crossroads, and clearance of litter on both sides of the Medchal Circle stretch along the National Highway. The CMC has also begun identifying large open spaces for the development of outdoor sports complexes and theme parks. An inspection was carried out on Friday with sites in Medchal Circle being examined.

Telangana faces fiscal strain as revenue falls short of targets

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Telangana's fiscal trajectory is showing signs of strain, with the Congress government struggling to translate revenue growth into credible budget performance. According to the latest data in the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) report for 2025-26 up to February, tax revenues have shown a marginal recovery compared to the previous year, while the government fell short of its own projections. Against a budget estimate of Rs 1.75 lakh crore, tax collections stood at Rs 1.39 lakh crore, which is just 79.34 per cent realisation. This marks an improvement over 2024-25 (75.46 per cent), but remains significantly below earlier benchmarks, including 81.4 per cent in 2023-24, 89.75 per cent in 2022-23 and 91.86 per cent in 2021-22.



The gap between projections and actuals has widened concerns over fiscal planning. Except for State excise duties and Stamps and Registration, all other major components of tax revenue fell short of last year's performance. The growth in Stamps and Registration target realisation has almost doubled from 38 per cent last year to 72 per cent during the current fiscal. Non-tax revenue performance is particularly weak, with realisation capped at 28.8 per cent,

indicating limited success in tapping alternative revenue streams. The broader fiscal picture is more worrying. Total receipts were pegged at Rs 2.84 lakh crore, but actual inflows by February reached only Rs 2.31 lakh crore, which is 81.27 per cent of estimates. Of this, a substantial Rs 77,111 crore came from borrowings, pointing to the State government's increasing dependence on debt. This reliance has sharply inflated deficit indicators. The State, which budgeted for a revenue surplus of Rs 2,738 crore,

instead recorded a revenue deficit of Rs 14,364 crore by February. Similarly, the fiscal deficit overshoot projections, touching Rs 77,111 crore, which is 142.77 per cent of the annual estimate. Even as capital expenditure was Rs 1.68 lakh crore, which is 132.67 per cent of projections, much of it is debt-funded, raising sustainability concerns. Meanwhile, central grants remain subdued at 26.95 per cent, adding pressure on State finances. Financial analysts noted that despite incremental growth in tax revenue, the government's inability to meet budget targets, coupled with heavy borrowing, signalled structural weaknesses. Without stronger revenue mobilisation and fiscal discipline, Telangana would be risking deeper financial stress in the coming years.

Leaders from BJP, Congress join BRS in Siddipet



HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Several BJP and Congress leaders joined BRS in the presence of former Minister T Harish Rao in Siddipet on Sunday. BJP district secretary Donthula Suresh and Congress minority cell leader Pasha, along with their respective followers, joined BRS.

Since the municipal elections are approaching in Siddipet municipality, the induction of will boost the confidence of BRS ahead of the elections. Speaking on the occasion, Harish Rao accused Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy of lying about the six guarantees during the Kerala election campaign.

Rao said that Revanth even feared conducting gram sabhas, fearing the opposition from people over the Congress's failure to implement six guarantees. The former minister suggested that voters stay aware of the lies of Congress and the BJP since they may come up with false promises during campaigning.

Hyderabad Zoo Scores Top Marks in National Evaluation

Hyderabad Zoo Excels in National Audit, Sets New Standards in Wildlife Care, Conservation, Visitor Facilities, and Scientific Management Excellence

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Nehru Zoological Park has emerged as a benchmark for wildlife management after a high-level evaluation by the Central Zoo Authority, earning top scores across all parameters under the Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) programme conducted in April 2026. A two-member expert team led by KSSVP Reddy and Vilas S Bardekar carried out a comprehensive four-day inspection from April 8 to April 11. The team assessed six key components: context, planning, inputs, processes, outputs, and overall achievement of conservation objectives. During the evaluation, zoo authorities presented a detailed overview of ongoing conservation efforts, infrastructure development, and animal welfare practices. The team conducted an extensive inspection of animal enclosures, night shelters, hospital and quarantine facilities, breeding centres for mouse deer and



vultures, feed storage, safari operations, butterfly park, vermi-compost unit, and fodder plots. Records related to animal history, veterinary care, rescue and rehabilitation, finances, adoption programmes, CSR funding, and visitor data were thoroughly verified. The evaluation also covered visitor amenities, including battery-operated vehicles, wheelchair access, parking, shelters, drinking water, sanitation facilities, and a dedicated lactation room. Special emphasis was placed on education and outreach initiatives, including awareness programmes, brochures, and digital engagement through mobile apps and social media platforms. The evaluation team expressed strong satisfaction with the zoo's overall management, noting that animal care, hygiene, and operational protocols were maintained at exemplary standards. All documentation was found to be updated and in strict compliance with Central Zoo Authority guidelines. Highlighting the zoo as a model institution, the team commended its consistent focus on wildlife conservation and systematic management practices, stating that it achieved the highest scores in multiple evaluation categories. The final report will be submitted to the Central Zoo Authority later this month, with national rankings of zoos across India expected to be announced in June 2026.

pressed strong satisfaction with the zoo's overall management, noting that animal care, hygiene, and operational protocols were maintained at exemplary standards. All documentation was found to be updated and in strict compliance with Central Zoo Authority guidelines. Highlighting the zoo as a model institution, the team commended its consistent focus on wildlife conservation and systematic management practices, stating that it achieved the highest scores in multiple evaluation categories. The final report will be submitted to the Central Zoo Authority later this month, with national rankings of zoos across India expected to be announced in June 2026.

CBIT to Host International Seminar on Design Thinking Applications

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

The Chaitanya Bharathi Institute of Technology (CBIT) is set to organize a one-day international seminar on "Industrial Applications of Design Thinking" on April 25, 2026, from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM (IST) at the CBIT Seminar Hall. The seminar will be conducted in hybrid mode, enabling participation from both offline attendees and virtual participants across locations. Organized by the School of Management Studies,



the seminar aims to create a comprehensive platform for faculty members, students, research scholars, academic administrators, and industry professionals to explore the practical relevance of design thinking in addressing real-world industrial challenges. The sessions will focus on fostering in-



novation, enhancing analytical and problem-solving skills, and promoting user-centric methodologies across sectors such as technology, healthcare, manufacturing, and services. Renowned academicians will deliver expert lectures during the seminar. Prof. M. Janakirama from

the School of Business & Management, Jindal Global University, Dubai, and Prof. Jaganadh Satyavulu from the University of Louisville, USA, will share insights on global trends and discuss sustainability using design thinking approaches. Their sessions are expected to provide participants with valuable exposure to interdisciplinary applications and emerging innovations. The event is being organized under the leadership of CBIT President N. Subash and Principal Dr. C. V. Narasimhulu. Vice

Principal Prof. P. V. R. Ravindra Reddy will serve as Advisor. Prof. V. Barla, Advisor IIC and Professor at the School of Management Studies, is the Convenor, while Dr. S. Saraswathi, Head of the department, is the Organizer. The seminar is coordinated by Dr. G. N. R. Prasad, Dr. S. Siva Priyanka, Dr. M. Ramesh, and Dr. M. Sangeetha, with support from student coordinators. Interested participants can register by scanning the QR code provided by the organizers.

Twin LPG cylinder explosions shake Sangareddy, four injured

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

LPG gas cylinders exploded at two different places in the district on Sunday, leading to injuries to at least four persons and gutting two huts. Four persons sustained injuries as a cylinder exploded at Kalvakuntla near Sangareddy town. The injured were Sangamesh, Mallamma, Bindu and Chinna. They were rushed to the government hospital in Sangareddy and later to Gandhi Hospital in Secunderabad as they sustained serious burn injuries. Their condition is said to be critical.



The rooftop sheets were blown off due to the intensity of the explosion. Since there were a number of LPG cylinders in this particular house, the police suspect that illegal refilling of gas cylinders may have caused the mishap. However, the probe is still on.

Sangareddy MLA Chintha Prabhakar visited the house and enquired about the status of the injured persons. He also visited the Sangareddy hospital, where he enquired about their condition and suggested that doctors provide the best treatment to the victims. In another incident, two huts were gutted as an LPG cylinder exploded in Pulkal mandal headquarters. The two families lost all their belongings in the incident. No casualties were reported here since all the residents were outside their houses when the cylinder exploded.

BRS leaders inspect venue for KCR public meeting in Jagtial

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

BRS leaders on Saturday inspected the venue for the party president K Chandrashekar Rao's public meeting scheduled to be held in Jagtial on April 20. The BRS has decided to organise a huge public meeting to induct senior political leader T Jeevan Reddy into the party fold in the presence of the party chief K Chandrashekar Rao. The party leaders, including Koppula Eashwar, T Jeevan Reddy, district president K Vid-

hyasagar Rao, MLC L Ramana, MLA K Sanjay, Dava Vasanth and others, examined a place at Mothe. Speaking on the occasion, Eashwar said that a messy situation has prevailed in the State within a span of two years. Not a single poll promise of the ruling party has been implemented, he said. The Jagtial meeting is going to become an eye-opener for the Congress party, he said and hoped that the BRS would strengthen further in north Telangana with the joining of Jeevan Reddy.

Kavitha's New Party Buzz Gains Momentum

Telangana Jagruthi Ranga Reddy district president Panduranga Reddy Urges Massive Turnout for Kavitha Rally

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Support for a new political outfit proposed by Kalvakuntla Kavitha is rapidly building across Telangana, with a massive "Poru Garjana" bike rally held in Kandukur of Maheshwaram constituency on Sunday. The rally was organized ahead of the party's proposed launch at Medchal on April 25, signaling growing grassroots enthusiasm. The event was led by Telangana Jagruthi SC Cell president Rayakanti Jagan and flagged off by Ranga Reddy district president Kapati Panduranga Reddy, along with state secretary Archana Senadhipa-



thi and minority cell president Mohammed Mustafa. Several district leaders and activists participated, drawing large crowds of youth and supporters from nearby villages. Addressing the gathering, Pandu-

ranga Reddy emphasized Kavitha's role in the Telangana movement and her two-decade-long efforts through Telangana Jagruthi to promote culture and social awareness. He stated that the new party aims to achieve social justice and empowerment for women, youth, farmers, and marginalized communities. He criticized past and present governments for failing to deliver on key promises like "Neellu, Nidhulu, Niyamakalu" (water, funds, jobs), and called for a people-centric political alternative. Urging massive participation, he invited citizens to attend the Medchal public meeting, describing it as a historic turning point in Telangana politics.

Lokesh Mudiraj Bags World Record for Training Youth

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

In a proud moment for Telangana, Arige Lokesh Mudiraj from Gambhirapur village in Dubbak mandal of Siddipet district has earned a place in the prestigious Cholan Book of World Records for his remarkable contribution to training unemployed youth for armed forces careers. Lokesh Mudiraj founded the 'Sainika Group' to guide aspirants aiming to join the Army and paramilitary forces. Through



this initiative, he has provided free study material and online coaching to over 9,000 candidates via WhatsApp, organized free medical camps for Army

aspirants, and conducted a 60-day intensive physical training programme in Sangareddy district with the support of retired servicemen. His efforts

have helped 175 candidates secure jobs in central defence sectors. The award was presented by State Minister Wakiti Srihari Mudiraj, who praised Lokesh's dedication to youth empowerment. Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy also appreciated the initiative and assured government support. The achievement has brought immense pride to residents of Gambhirapur and inspired youth across the region to pursue careers in national service.

US And Iran End Ceasefire Talks, leaving Uncertainty

ISLAMAAD
Wakeup telangana

The United States and Iran failed to reach an agreement at the end of historic, face-to-face talks after the U.S. said Tehran refused to commit to not developing a nuclear weapon, leaving uncertainty over a fragile, two-week ceasefire. Vice President JD Vance, who led the U.S. delegation, said the talks lasted 21 hours in Pakistan's capital Islamabad but in the end they did not see "an affirmative commitment" from Iran "that they will not seek a nuclear weapon." Vance's comments did not indicate what will happen after the 14-day ceasefire initially agreed to by the U.S., Iran and Israel, but Pakistani mediators called on the U.S. and Iran to maintain the ceasefire. "It is imperative that the parties continue to uphold their commitment



to ceasefire," Pakistan Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar said, adding that his country will try to facilitate a new dialogue between Iran and the U.S. in the coming days. In one of the first reactions from Iran, foreign ministry spokesman Esmaeil Baghaei said the talks fell apart over a "gap between our opinions over two or three important issues." He told Iran's state TV that the Strait of Hor-

muz was among the topics discussed by negotiators, but he did not mention nuclear weapons. The discussions in Islamabad began Saturday, a few days after the fragile ceasefire was announced as the war that has killed thousands of people and shaken global markets entered its seventh week. Vance said he remained in constant communication with U.S. President Donald Trump and others

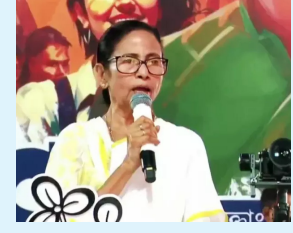
in the administration during the negotiations. "But the simple fact is that we need to see an affirmative commitment that they will not seek a nuclear weapon, and they will not seek the tools that would enable them to quickly achieve a nuclear weapon," Vance told reporters. "That is the core goal of the president of the United States. And that's what we've tried to achieve through these negotiations." The vice president said he spoke with Trump "a half dozen times, a dozen times, over the past 21 hours" and also spoke with Secretary of State Marco Rubio, Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent and Adm. Brad Cooper, head of the United States Central Command. "We were negotiating in good faith," Vance said, speaking at a podium in front of a pair of American flags with special envoys Steve Witkoff

and Jared Kushner to his side. "And we leave here, and we leave here with a very simple proposal, a method of understanding that is our final and best offer. We'll see if the Iranians accept it." US says its destroyers moved through the Strait of Hormuz while the talks were being conducted in Islamabad, the U.S. military said two destroyers transited the Iran-gripped Strait of Hormuz ahead of mine-clearing work, a first since the war began. Iran's state media, however, said the joint military command denied that. "We're sweeping the strait. Whether we make a deal or not makes no difference to me," Trump told journalists as talks continued and the time approached 2 a.m. in Islamabad. He called negotiations "very deep." Iranian state TV noted what it called "serious" differences.

In Retaliation To PM, Didi Claims BJP Plans To Trifurcate WB In Delimitation

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Hitting back at Prime Minister Narendra Modi hours after he accused the Trinamul Congress of backing the "tukde tukde gang", West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee claimed that BJP has started plotting a conspiracy to trifurcate the state through delimitation and repeated the claim at rallies throughout the day. She said at Onda in Bankura, "They are conspiring to break Bengal into three parts through delimitation. Then NRC will be implemented. People will be sent to detention camps. We will never allow it here." At Chhatna of the district, Banerjee pointed out, "Through delimitation, they might merge



some districts of Bengal with Bihar and Odisha. Our people will be tortured even more." She said at Khandagosh in Burdwan East that the Delimitation Bill would be brought on April 15. "Do you know what it means? They want to divide Bengal for their own gains. They do not understand that people may worry about many things. Even if you do all this, in 2026 the BJP government will be toppled. All are saying this. All of BJP's harsh laws will be overturned. We will avenge it all through democratic means and

through votes." Banerjee also took a swipe at Modi and Union home minister Amit Shah for calling the videos, which showed Aam Janata Unnayan Party founder Humayun Kabir asking for ₹1,000 crore from BJP to split Muslim votes in the polls, AI generated. She argued, "You saw how a ₹1,000-crore deal was made to divide Hindus and Muslims. But 'Amodi-Prמודি' Babus have taken to the streets, calling the videos AI-generated. The person in the video is however saying it is real. So why are they trying to defend him? How will this be covered up now?" The CM also slammed the Central forces personnel, on poll duty, for excess in the name of searching women.

Rahul Gandhi to kickstart Bengal campaign from Malda

KOLKATA
Wakeup telangana

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi is all set to campaign for the party in West Bengal for the Assembly elections, said party leaders on Sunday. He will start the campaigning from Malda district, which was once the unassailable base of the Congress. With the changing political equation of the state, the Congress is desperate to regain that lost ground. With that aim, Rahul Gandhi is entering the field with a message of turning

around. He is going to set foot in Malda district after a long seven years. His election rally will be held at the Kalambagan ground in Chanchal on April 14. On Sunday afternoon, top Congress leaders and police administration officials visited the Kalambagan ground in Chanchal for inspection. The security of the meeting venue, infrastructure and preparations for the public gathering were inspected. Party leaders claimed that at least one lakh people may gather on that day.



Rahul Gandhi has a long-standing close relationship with the Gani Khan Choudhury family in Malda. He is giving special importance to these two constituencies, Chanchal and Sujapur. It is learnt that just as he will hold a rally in sup-

port of Malatipur constituency candidate Mausam Noor, he is also scheduled to hold a public rally in Sujapur. Rahul will campaign in support of four Congress candidates at the meeting on April 14. They are - Mausam Noor of Malatipur, Asif Mehboob of Chanchal, Mostaq Alam of Harishchandrapur and Mottakin Alam of Ratusa. As a result, this meeting has created an opportunity to show the strength of the Congress in four important centres of the district.

Israel Seeks Lasting Peace Deal with Lebanon: Netanyahu

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has said that Israel is open to entering into a "real" and enduring peace agreement with Lebanon, even as he intensified his criticism of Iran and its regional proxies. He asserted that his government will continue military operations against what he termed a "terrorist regime." In a post on X, Netanyahu wrote, "Under my leadership, Israel will continue to fight against Iran's terrorist regime and its proxies, in contrast to Er-

dogan who aids them and even slaughters his Kurdish citizens." According to reports by Al Jazeera, Israel has agreed to begin formal negotiations with Lebanon next week following weeks of intense cross-border hostilities and a ground incursion into parts of Lebanese territory. Netanyahu reiterated that Israel seeks an enduring peace arrangement with Lebanon, while maintaining that such an agreement must ensure long-term security guarantees. In a video address, Netanyahu said Israel is open to a peace deal with

Lebanon, but only if it is long-lasting and conditional upon the "dismantling" of Hezbollah's military capabilities. "Lebanon has approached us. In the past month, it has reached out several times to begin direct peace talks," he said. "I have given my approval, but on two conditions: We want the dismantling of Hezbollah's weapons, and we want a real peace agreement that will last for generations," he added. Netanyahu's comments came as the first phase of in-person talks between the United States and Iran

concluded in Islamabad late Saturday night after several hours of negotiations involving multiple stakeholders. The talks marked a significant development in ongoing diplomatic efforts aimed at de-escalating tensions in West Asia. Meanwhile, the Israeli military claimed that its forces targeted more than "200 Hezbollah sites" across Lebanon over the past 24 hours. In a post on X, the military stated that its air force would continue to strike "Hezbollah infrastructure" in southern Lebanon as part of its ongoing campaign.

PM: TMC Backs Tukre Tukre Gang for Threat To Cut Off Siliguri Corridor

KOLKATA
Wakeup telangana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday accused Trinamul Congress of supporting "Tukre Tukre Gang" for threatening to cut off the strategically important Siliguri Corridor that connects West Bengal with Sikkim, to snap the country's link with its north eastern region. Mr Modi, who addressed a BJP poll campaign rally at Kawakhali in Siliguri, alleged, "A Tukre Tukre Gang exists in the country. It had threatened to cut off the Siliguri Corridor and talked about separating the North East from the country. TMC backs such people from streets to parliament for appeasement." He claimed, "This is the real face of TMC. To BJP, Siliguri Corridor is a corridor of national security and progress. We are putting our all efforts continuously to strengthen it. The Sevak-Rangpo railway project is a good example of this. Thus, Sikkim will be connected to Siliguri and the rest of the country." Mr Modi pointed out, "The work is progressing at a fast pace. It will boost Bengal-Sik-



kim connectivity, trade and tourism here and benefit the youth of Darjeeling." He also blamed Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's party for undertaking no development deliberately in North Bengal a day after leading a 15-km roadshow in the town. "Nirmam Sarkar of TMC was holding a celebration when a heavy rain triggered a flash flood and affected people in North Bengal. TMC is an anti-North Bengal party, anti-tribal, anti-tea garden party. It is also against women and youth," the PM said in his blistering attack. He added, "Siliguri is the gateway of North Bengal. But TMC made no development in infrastructure, connectivity and industry here. You were deprived in all sectors. Syndicate ate the funds Centre had sent. Rs 6,000 crores were allocated for

madrasa while no budget for North Bengal Development! This shows that the TMC government is only focused on appeasement politics for a particular community." That is why, the PM observed, "A call for change is reverberating everywhere." He further argued that infiltration has caused a demographic change in some North Bengal districts and highlighted his party's promise of a crackdown on the illegal immigrants if voted to power this time. "Kamal Khilao, Ghupetia Bhagao (Bloom Lotus, Drive out Infiltrators)," Mr Modi told the crowd. He then declared himself a BJP candidate in all the seats to compete with the TMC supremo who has already projected herself as the face of her party everywhere. "All of you are Modi for me. All these candidates are also Modi. So give a chance to Modi," the PM said. Though Gorkha Janmukti Morcha chief Bimal Gurung and his deputy Roshan Giri also shared the dais with the PM at his rally, there was no word from Mr Modi for a permanent political solution on the Gorkhaland issue.

Trump Orders US....

Iran's refusal to give up its right to a nuclear programme, which Tehran insists is for peaceful civilian purposes, but Western capitals believe conceals a quest for a bomb, frustrated the US delegation. Trump also reiterated his threat to destroy Iran's power plants and other civilian energy infrastructure if no deal is reached to end the conflict. "I could take out Iran in one day," Trump told Fox News. "I could have their entire energy, everything, every one of their plants, their electric generating plants, which is a big deal." The failure of the talks will raise concerns that a return to fighting could drive world energy prices higher and further damage shipping and oil and gas facilities in the Gulf, while civilians in the region were concerned that air strikes could resume with no political endgame in sight. Global leaders, however, urged the United States and Iran to keep negotiating. UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer called the Sultan of Oman, Haitham bin Tariq, and both leaders agreed it "was vital there was a continuation of the ceasefire, and that all parties avoided any further escalation." An EU spokesman said diplomacy would be "essential" to securing peace and hailed Pakistan's mediation efforts, while Russia's President Vladimir Putin called Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian to offer his services to the diplomatic effort.

Tributes Pour In.....

In 2023, she performed at a spe-

cial concert, 'ASHA@90: Live in concert', in Dubai to celebrate her 90th birthday. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said, "I am deeply saddened by the passing of Asha Bhosle, one of India's most renowned and versatile voices. "Her unique musical journey spanning decades has enriched our cultural heritage and touched the hearts of countless people around the world. From soulful melodies to spirited compositions, her voice carried a timeless brilliance. I will forever cherish the memories of my conversations with her," he said. "My heartfelt condolences to her family, fans, and music lovers. She will continue to inspire future generations, and her songs will forever resonate in people's lives," he said.

BRS may revert to....

On Singareni, the BRS working president said workers were facing uncertainty due to expanding open-cast mining and shrinking employment opportunities. He announced plans to restructure the Telangana Boggu Gani Karmika Sangham (TBGKS) to bring in new leadership and address workers' concerns. Dismissing speculation of internal rifts, he asserted that the party remains united under the leadership of former Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao. "Everyone in the party works for KCR. His word is final," he reaffirmed, adding that he would continue to function as a loyal soldier executing the party chief's directives. Rama Rao offered a restrained

FROM FRONT PAGE

but pointed response to remarks by his sister and Telangana Jagruthi founder K Kavitha, stating that personal actions should not cause distress to family members especially parents. He maintained that while anyone is free to float a political outfit, public support remains the ultimate test. He exuded confidence that the BRS would stage a strong comeback, with public sentiment rapidly shifting against the ruling Congress. "We have played the roles of a movement, a ruling party, and now a responsible opposition. We will reconnect with the people and return stronger," he said.

Pass Women's.....

Modi will address a national-level Nari Shakti Vandan Sammelan at Vigyan Bhawan in the national capital on Monday, organised to reinforce the commitment towards greater participation of women in shaping India's development trajectory. It will also highlight the increasing role of women in governance and leadership from pan-chayats to Parliament. The Budget Session of Parliament has been extended, and a special three-day sitting has been convened on April 16 to 18. The women's reservation Act will ensure an increase in the number of Lok Sabha seats to 816, of which 273 will be reserved for women. "After extensive deliberations, we have reached the conclusion that the time has now come to implement the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam in its true spirit across the country. It is impera-

tive that the 2029 Lok Sabha elections and Assembly elections are conducted with women's reservation in place," Modi said the letter dated April 11. Noting that the implementation of the women's reservation Act in 2029 would infuse new energy into India's democratic institutions and strengthen public trust, Modi said that it would also ensure greater participation and representation in governance. "I am writing this letter so that we may all come together in one voice to pass this amendment," he wrote.

India's Coal Imports..

The drop in import comes amid a strategic push for self-reliance in coal production under the self-reliance initiative. "A record high stockpile of domestic coal and firm seaborne prices resulted in a drop in thermal coal imports. With the domestic miners endeavouring to liquidate stocks, the weak trend in imports is expected to continue during the current month," mjunction MD & CEO Vinaya Varma said. Mjunction Services is a B2B e-commerce platform and joint venture between Tata Steel and Steel Authority of India. The import in February 2024-25 stood at 18.10 (MT), according to data compiled by mjunction services limited. On a month-on-month basis, coal import in February was almost flat as against 16.64 MT in January 2026. Of the total imports in February, non-cooking coal imports stood at 9.80 MT, lower than 11.08 MT imported in February 2024-25.

CRIME

Language Barrier in Police Stations Raises Serious Concerns Over Fair Justice

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana



In a democratic society governed by the rule of law, police stations serve as the first point of access to justice. However, a growing and deeply concerning practice in several police stations is beginning to undermine this fundamental principle. Complainants who submit written complaints in English are often discouraged or outright refused, and instead directed to narrate their grievances to a station writer. These statements are then recorded only in Telugu, regardless of whether the complainant understands the language. In many cases, individuals are compelled to sign these statements without proper translation or explanation, while their original English complaints are ig-

nored. At first glance, this may seem like an administrative convenience, but in reality, it strikes at the core of procedural fairness. The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita does not impose any restriction on the language of complaints. What the law requires is that the information provided must be recorded accurately, read over, and clearly explained before obtaining the complainant's signature. The focus is on clarity and understanding—not lan-

guage. When a complaint is recorded in a language unfamiliar to the complainant, it creates a significant risk of distortion, omission, or misrepresentation of facts. The First Information Report (FIR) is not merely a procedural formality but the foundation upon which the entire criminal case is built. Any inaccuracy at this stage can weaken the prosecution and ultimately result in a failure of justice during trial. Forcing a complainant to sign a document they do not understand is not just an irregularity; it is a violation of fundamental rights. The right to fair procedure is an essential part of Article 21 of the Constitution of India. Denying a citizen the ability to understand their own complaint directly infringes upon this constitu-

tional guarantee. The consequences extend beyond individual cases. Distorted complaints can lead to defective investigations, weak prosecution, and eventual acquittals, eroding public trust in the criminal justice system. Over time, such practices create a perception that access to justice is conditional rather than a guaranteed right. Recognizing the seriousness of the issue, Syed Waheed Ali, Advocate at the High Court of Telangana, has submitted formal representations to senior authorities, urging immediate reforms. He has called for acceptance of complaints in any language and strict accountability for violations. The response of authorities will now be crucial in ensuring that justice is not lost in translation.

Three injured in explosion at Jalavihar RO water plant

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Three persons were injured in a major explosion which occurred at a water supply RO (Reverse Osmosis) plant in Jalavihar on PVNR Marg on Wednesday. According to information available, the blast took place inside the RO plant that supplies drinking water. The impact of the explosion was so severe that equipment at the facility was blown apart and heavily damaged. Three staff members identified as Appulu Naidu,

Anji and Laxman working at the plant suffered serious injuries and co-workers immediately rushed them to nearby hospitals for treatment. While Appulu Naidu and Anji were shifted to Gandhi Hospital, Laxman was admitted to a private hospital in Somajiguda. Doctors have reportedly stated that one of the injured was in critical condition. On receiving information, the police officials reached the spot and they suspect that excessive pressure buildup in the RO filter or compressor unit may have caused the explosion.

Lokayukta Flags Illegal Floor at Niloufer Chat Property

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana Lokayukta has taken a serious view of the lack of action of GHMC Jubilee Hills officials, alleging that they were in cahoots with those carrying out unauthorised constructions and allowing the work to continue despite status quo orders issued by the Telangana High Court. Upa Lokayukta Jagjeevan Kumar directed the civic authorities to submit the report over the alleged unauthorised construction of

a terrace floor at property bearing 8-2-685/P2, Road No. 12, Banjara Hills, in which 'Niloufer Chath', a multi-cuisine restaurant, was run by the Café Niloufer group. The Upa Lokayukta was dealing with a complaint filed by U. Chandra Shekar against the inaction of the deputy commissioner of GHMC, assistant city planner of the town planning section of Jubilee Hills circle in allowing the construction despite of the status quo orders by the High Court and allowing for commercial

Tenant farmer ends life over debt

A 25-year-old tenant farmer, who had taken land on lease, died by suicide at Mandapally in Dammappeta mandal of Bhadradi-Kothagudem district on Sunday, reportedly due to financial distress. The victim, Adapa Narsimha Rao alias Chanti, had leased 130 acres to cultivate maize. Police said he suffered heavy losses as the crop yield fell below expectations. Struggling with debt and depression, he took the extreme step at his home in the early hours of Sunday. He leaves behind a wife and two children. Dammappeta police rushed to the spot and shifted the body to the government hospital at Aswaraopeta for post-mortem.

Nalgonda police foil 'WAVE' fraud

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Nalgonda rural police on Sunday foiled an attempt by representatives of a group of companies to launch an alleged financial fraud under the name of "WAVE". The group had earlier allegedly duped people of hundreds of crores of rupees. Ten agents were arrested, including Kanala Lakshminarayana Rao of Vanasthalipuram, Hyderabad; Punnam Balakrishna of Marroor; Uyyala Srinivas of Elikatte; Kurakula Ramesh and Madagoni

Saidulu of Nalgonda city; Gajula Mahesh of Dorepalli; Kola Kushalayya of Kakula Kondaram; Mudusu Uma Shankar of Munukuntla; Oruganti Shankar of Appajipeta; and Gudapuri Lingaswamy of Kattangur. The key accused — VIPS Group CEO Vinod Tukaram Khute and directors Sumit Purank, Kalyan Chakravarthy, Gummala Satyanarayana and Gummula Abhinash — remain absconding. Presenting the arrested persons at a media conference, additional superintendent of police G. Ramesh said

Khute and his agents had cheated people by offering high returns and cash-back schemes. In 2025, a case was filed against them under the BNS, Prize Chits and Money Circulation Schemes (Banning) Act; and the Protection of Interests of Depositors (in Financial Establishments) Act, 1999. Police said the group had conspired to relaunch fraudulent schemes under the "WAVE" brand, promising high returns. Acting on information, officers arrested 10 agents.

ATM Cash Filling Agents Steal ₹1.2 Crore Cash

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In a major cash misappropriation case, two custodians of a private firm responsible for ATM cash replenishment have allegedly fled with ₹1.2 crore within the SR Nagar police station limits. Police have registered a case and launched a search operation to trace the accused. The complaint was lodged by Naveen, branch manager of CMS Info Systems Limited, Secunderabad. Accord-

ing to police, the firm is entrusted with collecting cash from banks and refilling ATMs based on their capacity across various locations. The fraud came to light during a routine audit of 31 ATMs located in SR Nagar, Ameerpet, and nearby areas. Officials discovered discrepancies in eight machines, where cash was found to be missing. Subsequent verification revealed a total shortfall of ₹1,20,98,500, as reflected in the company's inward data records. A

police officer confirmed the financial mismatch and stated that suspicion has fallen on two custodians who were responsible for handling and transporting the cash. The duo has reportedly gone absconding, as they have neither reported to duty nor responded to repeated calls from the company. During the course of investigation, police examined CCTV footage collected by IT teams, which showed the involvement of three individuals. These persons have re-

portedly been detained for questioning to ascertain their role and connection to the absconding custodians. Police believe the custodians may have diverted the funds during the cash replenishment process. Efforts are underway to track their whereabouts and recover the stolen amount. Further investigation is in progress, and officials are also probing whether additional individuals or internal lapses contributed to the incident.

EDITORIAL

THE BEGINNING OF THE END OF THE AMERICAN EMPIRE

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

It has been called a "war of choice". It may well be remembered as the tipping point. The war that defined the limits to American power. Naked aggression and the use of overwhelming power, including nuclear weapons, may still enable the United States to assert its dominance, but the era in which large parts of the world regarded the US as the natural leader of the international community has ended. Nothing captured better the decline of a great nation than the language of its President. When the leader "on the hill", resident of that hallowed home, the White House, asked leaders of other nations to "kiss his arse" and tweeted the F-word, it was clear that the barbarians were not at the gate but had entered the epicentre of Western power. President Donald Trump threatened to wipe out an "entire civilisation" that has lived for thousands of years in a land that has come to be known as the "cradle of civilisations". Instead, he merely signalled the end of civilisation in his own homeland. President Trump has come to symbolise all that is ugly about a flailing giant, pinned down like Gulliver by the threads of lesser powers. A quarter century ago the government in Beijing authorised the production of a 12-part television series ti-

led "The Rise of Great Powers". Released for airing in 2006, the series offered the Chinese people and the world a tour de force explaining the rise and fall of great powers. Beginning with Portugal, the TV series recorded the history of all great European powers as well as that of the United States, Japan and Russia. Interestingly, the series recorded an interview with Paul Kennedy, the author of The Rise and Fall of Great Powers, and concluded with the thesis that the time had come for the next transition - the decline of the US and the rise of China. In 2007, preparing for his meeting with the Chinese leadership, Prime Minister Manmohan Singh sat down for a tutorial on China with Singapore's founder Lee Kuan Yew. Mr Lee spoke at length about the "great powers" TV series. Everyone in China had watched the entire series, Mr Lee informed Dr Singh. It was perhaps the first time that a nation had not only been taught history on television but had been primed to understand what is expected of it. Mr Lee suggested that the Chinese TV series should be shown on Indian television for an Indian audience to understand how China views the world and its place in it. However, that never came to pass. Perhaps two decades ago it was felt that the series was making tall claims for China. Few imagined then

that the decline of American influence would be so rapid and the rise of China so steep. The first turning point was what I have always referred to as the "trans-Atlantic financial crisis", which the Western media pompously refers to as a "global financial crisis", in 2008-09. China came out of that crisis relatively unscathed and underlined its relevance for the global economic system. Over the next decade and a half, China took off, increasing the distance between itself and the world. Even so, till the return of President Trump for his second term in office, few around the world imagined that history would move at the pace it did in this past year. Mr Trump's bombastic claims for American power and his naked use of force have only convinced the international community that we are living through the throes of a transition. While nothing is inevitable in human history, the logic of circumstances shapes its course. The more aggressive the US is in the deployment and the use of force, the less influential would it become. The last time the world had witnessed anti-American protests across continents, from Paris to Tokyo, and anti-war demonstrations inside the US, was in the 1970s. The Vietnam war mobilised global public opinion as well as domestic opinion in the US against war. The combination of ex-

trémist Zionism and Christian bigotry masquerading as the "forces of good against evil" have once again mobilised world opinion against the hegemon. In the past, US Presidents used to refer to the alliance of Iraq, Iran and North Korea as the "axis of evil". The "axis of evil" more recently has been defined to include China, Russia, Iran and North Korea. Given the events of the past two years, the genocide in Gaza and the unprovoked bombing of Iran, it is now clear as crystal that the new "axis of evil" is the coalition of Israel and the US. It has a few willing recruits ready to join like Argentina. What is ironic is that out of all this mess, China has emerged as a responsible power. Considering the fact that President Trump has close to three more years in office, one should expect that the decline of the US will proceed apace. There is no evidence to suggest that Mr Trump may change his ways and become a more responsible leader. If he decides to target Cuba and continues to deploy American hard power, he will further accelerate the decline of American soft power. All that China has to do over the next few years is to continue to behave like a responsible power, not threatening its neighbours but keeping the US under check, and the transition from an American era to an Asian era, with China leading.



Resonance Colleges Shine in Telangana Inter Results 2026

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Resonance Junior Colleges, Hyderabad, recorded outstanding results in the Telangana Intermediate Public Examinations 2026, with students securing top ranks and achieving remarkable scores across MPC and BiPC streams. Demonstrating academic excellence, 345 students secured positions in the State Top 5 marks category, while 780 students ranked within the State Top 10. Several students also achieved 100% marks in core subjects, reflecting the institution's consistent focus on strong fundamentals and competitive readiness. In the Junior MPC stream, 17 students scored a perfect 468 marks, in-



Sri Purnachandra Rao (2nd from right), Director, Resonance Hyderabad Centres, felicitating the state top ranker in the Telangana Intermediate Results 2026, from Resonance, and their mother, today at the Ashraya Conventions, Medhapur. Resonance is experts in JEE (Main + Advanced) & other Engineering/Medical/Commerce/Law entrance examinations for the last 25 years with our presence across the country.

cluding Kavyashree Savarad, Mirza Ibrahim Ahmed, Kanukula Sasya Reddy, and A Naga Sai Himesh, among others. Similarly, in the Junior BiPC stream, eight students secured the top score of 437 marks, led by Akula Sai Siva Laasya and Gedda Dheeraj Kumar.

At the senior level, Revanth Vangala emerged as

the top performer in MPC with 994 marks, while Shaik Aira Jasia topped the BiPC stream with an impressive 995 marks.

Managing Director Purna Chandra Rao Narra attributed the success to the dedication of students, experienced faculty, and the trust of parents. He emphasized that Resonance's integrated academic system ensures equal focus

on board examinations and competitive exams like IIT-JEE and NEET, enabling holistic student development.

Founded in 2018, Resonance Junior Colleges has rapidly grown from a single campus to over 50 campuses across Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. In the past seven years, more than 6,100 students have secured admissions in premier institutions such as IITs, NITs, IIITs, and AIIMS, underscoring its strong track record in delivering quality education and results.

"The government must recognize that right to life comes before right to documentation. A special concession for destitutes waiving the usual documentary requirements is not a favour but a constitutional duty," Dr Mathai

said. He also called upon the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and the National Human Rights Commission to issue directives to all district authorities to conduct regular Aadhaar camps at shelter homes for the sick and abandoned. "No human being, especially the one already abandoned by family and society, should be denied care for lack of any document," Dr. Mathai said. He said the conscience of civil society will be judged "by how we treat the most vulnerable. If we do not act now to ensure that every destitute person receives identity documents and medical care, we will have failed the most basic test of our shared humanity," Dr Mathai added.

Avinash College Students Dominate IPE 2026 with 92 in State Top 5

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Avinash College of Commerce delivered a stellar performance in the Intermediate Public Examinations (IPE) 2026, with over 92 students securing ranks within the State Top 5, marking a significant academic milestone for the institution.

Leading the achievements, Dasari Nishika Reddy created history by scoring 992/1000 in MEC second-year results—the highest-ever score recorded by the college. In the first-year MEC stream, Taadi Sahithi Sivapriya Sai and Velidhandla Dharani Datta secured the State 1st rank with 496/500. In the CEC stream, Rushda Hasan Ansari and Bandaru Choditha also topped the state with 495/500.

The results were announced during a press conference held at the Secunderabad branch, where Chairman Dr. Avinash Brahmavar, along with principals from 11



branches, celebrated the achievement. Recognizing merit, the institution awarded scholarships worth ₹25 lakh, with individual cheques ranging from ₹10,000 to ₹50,000 presented to top performers.

Dr. Avinash Brahmavar attributed the success to disciplined preparation, strategic academic planning, and consistent effort by students, while also acknowledging the crucial support of parents and faculty.

With over a decade of academic excellence, Avinash College of

Commerce continues to strengthen its reputation in Telangana's education sector. The institution offers more than 25 commerce career pathways, supported by a faculty strength exceeding 750 members across 11 branches, serving over 20,000 students.

The college reaffirmed its commitment to nurturing future leaders by equipping students with industry-relevant knowledge and skills, aiming to sustain its record of outstanding academic outcomes in the years ahead.

Payal Wins Big at Bangkok Asian Oceania Open, Brings Glory to India

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Payal, a para powerlifter from Haryana trained at the Aditya Mehta Foundation, delivered an outstanding performance at the Bangkok Asian Oceania Open Championship, securing multiple medals and bringing pride to the nation. Competing in the highly competitive 67

kg Junior category, Payal stood out among six athletes representing five countries. She clinched two gold medals in the individual category and added two silver medals in total lift, showcasing exceptional strength, determination, and consistency on the international stage.

Her remarkable achievement underscores not only her personal dedication but



also the impact of structured training and sustained support. Identified and nurtured from the grassroots level by the Aditya Mehta Foundation, Payal's journey reflects the importance of early talent recognition and professional guidance in shaping world-class athletes.

Officials from the foundation hailed her performance as a significant milestone, em-

phasizing that such victories reinforce their mission of transforming promising para-athletes into global champions.

Over the years, the foundation has been instrumental in providing specialized coaching, modern infrastructure, and holistic development programs tailored to the unique needs of para-sportspersons.

Payal's success also

highlights the growing prominence of Indian athletes in international para sports competitions.

Her medal haul is expected to inspire many young aspirants, particularly those from underrepresented backgrounds, to pursue excellence in sports despite challenges.

The foundation expressed gratitude to its key supporters, including Gmmco, Invesco,

NTT Data, and Alcon, whose continued backing has played a crucial role in enabling such achievements.

The Aditya Mehta Foundation remains committed to empowering para-athletes through world-class training and resources, aiming to build champions who can represent India with pride on global platforms.

Disha Book Signing at Hyderabad's Inorbit Mall

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Vaddeman Raj Kumar, hailing from Chinna Mandadi village of Peddamanandi mandal in Wanaparthy district, has been awarded a prestigious Ph.D. degree from Osmania University, as officially announced through a press release issued by the university's Examination Branch. Raj Kumar pursued his doctoral research in the Department of Environmental Science under the esteemed guidance of Pro-



fessor Kusuma Shailaja. His research work, titled "Environmental Sustainability of Agricultural Practices in Selected Areas of Medchal-Malkajiri District, Telangana," focused on evaluating the environmental impact of existing

agricultural methods and identifying sustainable practices suitable for long-term ecological balance. The study underwent rigorous academic scrutiny before being approved for the award of the doctorate. He is the son of Vadde-

man Sayanna and Santhoshamma, and his academic accomplishment has brought pride and recognition to his family as well as his native village. On this occasion, professors, fellow researchers, friends, and local residents expressed their happiness and extended heartfelt congratulations to him for achieving this significant milestone.

Speaking after receiving the honour, Raj Kumar expressed deep gratitude to his Ph.D. supervisor, Professor K. Shailaja, for her constant support,

guidance, and encouragement throughout his research journey. He also conveyed his thanks to his parents, family members, and friends who stood by him at every step and motivated him to achieve his goal.

Raj Kumar further stated that he is committed to contributing towards environmental protection and aims to work dedicatedly in promoting sustainable agricultural practices and environmental conservation for the benefit of society.

Malabar Unveils Luxury Artistry Store in Hyderabad



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Malabar Gold & Diamonds has unveiled its exclusive Artistry Store at Jubilee Hills Road No. 10, marking a major shift towards personalised, high-end jewellery retail in India. The store aims to redefine luxury buying through craftsmanship, exclusivity and consultation-driven experiences. The showroom was inaugurated by Kareena Kapoor Khan in the presence of Chairman M. P. Ahammad and senior leadership. Spread across 16,000 sq. ft., the store offers a private, immersive environment tailored for discerning customers seeking bespoke and relationship-led engage-

ment. Positioned as a first-of-its-kind concept, the Artistry Store showcases rare, narrative-driven jewellery blending heritage techniques with contemporary design. Signature collections include Vintage, Viraaaz, Temple Jewellery and Victorian Reverie—featuring distinctive creations like a four-way convertible diamond set designed for Alia Bhatt at Cannes 2025.

The store is structured into specialised zones. A Bespoke and Design Zone allows customers to co-create jewellery through private consultations, while the Artisan Zone highlights live craftsmanship. The Product Discovery Zone fea-

tures over one lakh designs alongside rare high-value pieces. Premium services such as personal shopping and private luxury lounges further enhance the experience. Chairman M. P. Ahammad stated the launch reflects the brand's evolution towards curated, trust-driven retail, emphasising transparency, certification and long-term value.

Founded in 1993, Malabar Gold & Diamonds operates over 445 showrooms across 14 countries with a turnover of \$9.41 billion. The group also allocates five percent of profits towards social impact initiatives, reinforcing its ESG-led growth strategy.

CBITMUN 2026 Marks 15-Year Legacy with Grand Finale

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The 15th edition of the Chaitanya Bharathi Institute of Technology Model United Nations (CBITMUN 2026) concluded on April 12 with a grand closing ceremony at the Novotel Hyderabad Convention Centre, marking the successful culmination of three days of intense diplomacy and debate.

More than 350 delegates from institutions across India and abroad participated in the conference, engaging in discussions



and policy simulations across six committees—UNGA-DISEC, UNHRC, HCC, IMF, International Press, and the Joint Parli-

mentary Committee. The event provided a dynamic platform for students to deliberate on global issues, negotiate solutions,

and showcase diplomatic skills.

During the closing ceremony, the core committee expressed gratitude to all participants, organizers, and supporters for their contributions. They praised the enthusiasm, intellectual depth, and collaborative spirit displayed by delegates, which played a key role in the success of the conference.

The organizers extended special thanks to Principal Prof. C. V. Narasimhulu for his continued support and encouragement. They

also acknowledged the guidance of Dr. Shagufta Parween and Dr. Rahul for their mentorship in ensuring the smooth execution of the event.

Reflecting on its 15-year journey, the core committee highlighted CBITMUN's growth into a nationally recognized platform for youth diplomacy. Reaffirming their commitment to this legacy, they promised an even stronger return in the coming years, concluding CBITMUN 2026 on a high note.

Asha Bhosle: The Star Who Now Sings for the Moon

The world of Indian music is not merely mourning today; it is nirash—hollowed out, orphaned, and emptied of its most restless fire. Asha Bhosle has passed away. She did not stop, she did not retire, and she certainly did not fade. She simply shed her physical form—like an old, cherished instrument—and embarked upon a new odyssey. This is a journey without the constraints of studios, the pressure of deadlines, or the pangs of earthly hunger. She has ascended to her heavenly abode.

But knowing Asha Ji, she will not rest. She will find the moon and sing to it. She will gather the constellations around her and rehearse them into a celestial choir. She has, at last, become a literal star—the kind you look up at tonight and wonder: Is that her? Is she singing somewhere up there? Yes. She is. She has left behind a legacy that no heaven can reclaim—

thousands of recorded songs, each a masterpiece, each a testament that she lived, suffered, dared, and loved. We, left behind on this quiet earth, will remember her the only way we know how: by playing her music. Tonight, as the sky darkens, millions will step outside and whisper: "That one. That flickering light. That's Asha. She's finally where she belongs—among the eternal lights."

This is not a story of her death, but of her wild, stubborn, and magnificent life.

A Childhood Forged in Hunger
If we talk about her beginning, we must start not with melody, but with loss. Born on September 8, 1933, in Sangli, Maharashtra, Asha was the second daughter of Pandit Deenanath Mangeshkar—a man whose very blood was classical music. While her elder sister, Lata, was being meticulously shaped into a symbol of perfection, little Asha was the restless one—watching, questioning, and re-



fusing to sit still.

Tragedy struck in 1942 when her father died, leaving the family destitute. Asha was only nine. In a 1995 interview, she recalled with a trembling voice:

"After Appa died, there was no money. None. I used to sing in a small studio in Pune for five rupees a song. I was twelve. I didn't know what a raga was; I only knew that if I didn't sing, my brothers and sisters wouldn't eat."

That hunger never left her. Yet, it did not embitter her; it made her fearless. She decided early on that she would not compete with the ethereal perfection of Lata. She would be Asha—the voice for the broken, the bold, and the midnight wanderers.

The "Other Sister" and the Long Struggle
For nearly a decade, the industry relegated Asha to being "the younger sister"—a title that felt less like a compliment and more like a cage. Music directors offered her the "leftovers"—

songs Lata refused, pieces for B-grade films, or tunes destined for obscurity. One composer once told her bluntly that she lacked her sister's voice and would never "make it." Most would have crumbled. Asha went home, practiced for sixteen hours, and returned with a sharper resolve.

"I decided that if I cannot be better than Lata, I will be different," she said years later. "No one can replace her. But no one can replace me either." The breakthrough: A Garden at Night Her metamorphosis began with O.P. Nayyar. In the late 1950s, following a fallout with Lata, Nayyar turned to Asha. The result was "Aaiye Meherbaan" from Howrah Bridge (1958). The moment that song hit the airwaves, Indian music shifted. This wasn't a goddess singing from a pedestal; this was a woman—playful, teasing, and vibrantly alive.

Nayyar famously noted: "Lata is a temple. Asha is a garden at night. You cannot pray in a garden,

but you cannot romance in a temple. Both are beautiful. Both are needed." The Revolution: Redefining Desire
In the 1960s and 70s, as Indian cinema remained modest, Asha Bhosle became its pulse of rebellion. Together with R.D. Burman—the young, eccentric "Pancham"—she redefined the female voice. When she recorded "Piya Tu Ab To Aaja" (Caravan, 1971) in one take, Burman laughed, realizing they had invented "cabaret classical."

Then came "Dum Maro Dum" (Hare Rama Hare Krishna, 1971). Recorded at 3:00 AM after an exhausting day, Burman told her to "sound stoned, sound like you don't care." She closed her eyes and sang the anthem of a generation. Decades later, that same voice would captivate Hollywood audiences, proving her appeal was timeless and borderless.

The Ghazal Queen: Proving the Critics Wrong
Just as the world pigeonholed her as a cabaret singer, Asha pivoted. In Umrao Jaan (1981), composer Khayyam challenged her to capture the soul of a courtesan. When Asha sang "Dil Cheez Kya Hai," the studio fell silent. Khayyam wept, noting that while others might sing it perfectly, Asha lived it. She won her first National Film Award, proving she could master the most rigorous classical ghazals with the same ease as a pop track. Love, Loss, and the Warrior's Spirit
Her life was inextricably linked with R.D. Burman. They were two wounded souls who found a shared language in music. Together they created masterpieces like "Chura Liya Hai Tumne" and "Mera Kuch Sammaan." Of the latter, Gulzar remarked that she didn't just sing the song; she "bled it."

When Pancham died in 1994, part of her voice went silent. But she eventually returned, saying, "Every time I open my mouth, I hear him. He is still

composing somewhere." Her personal tragedies were profound. She outlived two of her children, Hemant and Varsha. Yet, she never sought public pity. She would bury her grief in the recording booth. "In our family, we don't cry in public. We sing," she once explained. "When I sing, the voice has no grief."

A Global Icon
Asha's reach was staggering. In 2011, the Guinness World Records recognized her as the most recorded artist in music history, with over 11,000 songs (some estimates exceeding 12,000). She graced the stages of Royal Albert Hall and Wembley Arena and was honored with the Padma Vibhushan and the Dadasaheb Phalke Award.

The legends who worked with her spoke with a singular reverence: Lata Mangeshkar: "I am a river. She is the sea."

A.R. Rahman: "I asked her if she wanted to do another take. She asked, 'Do you want it better?'"
Gulzar: "You hear a woman who has lost everything and is still standing."

The Eternal Light
On April 12, 2026, the warrior laid down her sword. Asha Bhosle has left the body that carried her through nine decades of hunger, struggle, and triumph. She was more than a singer; she was a survivor.

"Jealous of Lata?" she once laughed. "No. She is a saint. I am a warrior. Saints go to heaven. Warriors keep fighting."

Rest now, Asha Ji. You have earned your silence. But know that every time a young girl dares to sing differently, every time a composer breaks a rule, and every time a broken heart hums a tune at midnight—it is you. It will always be you. Look up tonight—the brightest star isn't just flickering; it's singing.

Salt and Patidar shine as Royal Challengers Bengaluru overpower Mumbai Indians

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Riding on fifties by skipper Rajat Patidar, Phil Salt and Virat Kohli, a dominant Royal Challengers Bengaluru pummeled Mumbai Indians into submission, registering a comprehensive 18-run victory in their Indian Premier League contest here on Sunday.

Top-order trio of Salt (78), Kohli (50) and Patidar (53) along with Tim David's 16-ball 34 not out guided RCB to a mammoth total of 240 for four, to which the star-studded Mumbai Indians responded with 222 for five. MI had impact sub Sherfane Rutherford to thank for averting a heavy defeat as his late and valiant 31-ball 71 not out with a flurry of sixes (9) reduced the margin significantly. Skipper Hardik Pandya made a 22-ball 40, but neither could impose themselves on the game which ended far beyond the regulation time.



Chasing 241, a top-heavy MI had an underwhelming powerplay which yielded 62 runs and by the end of it they also lost Rohit Sharma (19 retired hurt) to a right hamstring injury.

Despite Suryakumar Yadav replacing Rohit, MI were unable to get the launch pad to chase down a huge score. Ryan Rickelton (37 off 22 balls) did well at the top but twin blows in the eighth over from Suyash Sharma (2/47) left Mumbai reel-

ing. Rickelton was beaten by the bounce and a top edge was collected by Bhuvneshwar Kumar at short third man, but much to the host's dismay, Tilak Varma (1) had yet another failure.

Looking to sweep the penultimate delivery, Tilak gave catching practice to Jacob Duffy at short fine leg. Hardik and Suryakumar teamed up but there was no counter-attack. On a benign deck, MI did not

hit a single six between overs 8-13 and despite a flurry of fours from Hardik in between, there wasn't much from the others.

Suryakumar's traditional sweep off Krunal Pandya went high in the air and Rasikh Dar, to his credit, judged the elevation perfectly to collect a regulation grab at deep backward square-leg.

Krunal was the pick among the bowlers for RCB with 4-0-26-1, mixing up his lengths with that occasional quick short ball which the batters tend to leave alone and MI were no different.

The fate of the contest was all but sealed when Hardik perished to Duffy, mishitting one to Romario Shepherd at deep third man.

Earlier, half-centuries from Kohli, Salt and Patidar provided the impetus as RCB finished with a massive 240 for four Salt and Kohli put on 120 for the first wicket while Patidar and David produced rapid knocks.

Buttler Attributes Resurgence To Sessions With Hayden

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Back in form after his struggles in the T20 World Cup, Jos Buttler has attributed the resurgence to his sessions with former Australian opener Matthew Hayden and his decision to take some time off the game. A fine bowling effort, led by seamer Prasad Krishna, and then half-centuries from Shubman Gill and Buttler saw Gujarat Titans register a comfortable win against Lucknow Super Giants in the IPL here on Sunday.

Player of the Match Buttler was asked about his sessions with Hayden at the presentation ceremony. "He just asked actually one of the first few sessions, how well are you watching the ball? It doesn't look like you're tracking it that well. So, you know, great players like him with the most simple advice, which is nice. And yeah, he's been great," Buttler said. "I've really enjoyed spending time with him. Obviously, he's got a big



presence and that aura. So, when he speaks, you listen", the Englishman added.

Buttler endured a disappointing 2026 T20 World Cup, struggling for form with 87 runs in eight innings, contributing to an early exit for England. "Yeah, it's been around for a while. And yeah, nice to be back scoring runs. Obviously had a bit of a lean patch in the last few months. So nice to find some form and contribute to another win. I actually had a little bit of space from the game and time to just kind of think. And

it sort of just came to me," Buttler said.

"I've just been focusing a lot in the weeks I've been here on my setup and my basics. I think a few technical issues maybe crept into my game, which actually allowed me not really seeing the ball that well. "So it's a hard game if you're not picking up the ball well. So I've just been focusing on everything pre delivery and then backing that. As I said, I've played for 15 years. I'll know what to do when I get in." He said having his family around too helped.

"Obviously, you know, the cricket is high intensity and it's busy. So it's nice to have them here and distractions away from the game and getting, you know, spend time with them." GT skipper Gill too was in his element, striking 56 off 40 balls, as his side notched their second successive win after restricting LSG to 164 for eight. "The way we bowled in the powerplay was very impressive and how we kept up the pressure in the middle overs was tremendous," Gill said.

Uttam: Telangana Will Revive K LIS By '28



The state government intends to get the damaged Annaram and Sundilla barrages of the Kaleshwaram lift irrigation scheme (K LIS) by 2028, and the Medigadda barrage a year later. Against this backdrop, irrigation minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Sunday directed officials and design consultants to fast-track the rehabilitation works to restore the project to full operational status under a time bound programme. The minister announced the constitution of a high-powered steering committee with tunnelling expert Col Parikshit Mehra as convener to oversee the implementation of rehabilitation works. The committee will meet twice a week with the minister joining in whenever required to review the progress. An officer will be deployed to monitor the progress daily. Uttam Kumar Reddy, speaking at a review meeting on the rehabilitation of K LIS barrages, told key officials of the department, representatives of the Central Water and Power Research Station (CWPRS), agencies tasked with rehabilitation designs and implementation

Nashik MNC case: Bandi Sanjay urges Telangana DGP to meet IT firm



Union Minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar on Sunday urged the Telangana Director General of Police B Shivadhar Reddy to convene an immediate meeting with heads of major IT companies, especially HR teams, in the wake of allegations of sexual harassment and "forced religious conversion" at the office of an IT firm in Nashik, Maharashtra. The Minister of State for Home said that after the Nashik case, Telangana "cannot remain silent" and wait for a similar incident. Noting that Hyderabad has lakhs of IT employees, he said workplaces must be safe spaces for careers, not sites of coercion, harassment, religious targeting, exploitation or pressure. In a post on X, Sanjay Kumar claimed that many employees were already sharing incidents from offices on social media and urged authorities not to ignore these warning signs. "I urge the Telangana DGP to hold an immediate meeting with all major IT company heads, especially HR teams. Put strict accountability in place. No complaint should be buried. No victim should be isolated. No management should look away," he said. He also urged company heads, HR personnel and managers to prioritise employee safety and dignity, encourage open reporting and address every concern with seriousness and fairness.

Matka Demand Surges in Hyderabad as Summer Heat Intensifies

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

As temperatures rise sharply in Hyderabad, residents are increasingly turning to traditional earthen water pots, or matkas, for naturally cool drinking water. The demand for these clay pots has surged across local markets, with vendors reporting brisk sales in recent weeks. Matkas are valued for their ability to cool water through natural evaporation, offering a refreshing and chemical-free alternative to refrigeration. Many households are also embracing them as an eco-friendly and cost-effective option. Local potters are benefiting from this seasonal demand, with many depending on matka sales for their livelihood. Some artisans have introduced varied designs and sizes to attract modern buyers. With the



As temperatures rise in Hyderabad, people are purchasing traditional earthen water pots, popularly known as 'matkas', with many households returning to the age-old practice of storing drinking water in clay pots.

summer heat expected to intensify further, the age-old practice of storing water in clay pots is witnessing a strong revival in the city.

Man posing as CSR executive dupes Hyderabad firm of Rs 4 crore

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A Hyderabad-based construction firm was allegedly duped out of Rs 4 crore by a man posing as the corporate social responsibility executive for Infosys Technologies in Bengaluru. A complaint regarding this matter was submitted to the Central Crime Station (CCS) of Hyderabad, local reports stated.

The complainant, Mohd Khaja Naseeruddin, a representative of the construction firm, first met the accused, Gagan Deep N, at the Telangana State Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TGIC) office. There, the accused claimed to have links

with Karnataka ministers and said that Infosys had undertaken infrastructure development for new school buildings in rural Karnataka.

He offered Naseeruddin a Rs 150 crore contract for the project and arranged a field visit to nearly 30 government schools in Karnataka in May 2025. Naseeruddin accepted the deal and remitted Rs 3 crore as Earnest Money Deposit (EMD). In June 2025, he attended a meeting with Karnataka government representatives arranged by Gagan Deep, where the project value was increased to Rs 625 crore, citing the inclusion of smart classroom screens in 137 schools.

Telangana aims to be national clean energy model: Minister Sridhar Babu

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Minister for IT and Industries D. Sridhar Babu said that Telangana was pursuing a focused strategy to emerge as a national model in clean energy. Addressing the foundation laying ceremony of a Rs 700-crore compressed bio-gas (CBG) project at Narmetta in Nanganur mandal on Sunday, he said the State government was promoting a circular economy that integrates industrial growth with environmental sustainability while strengthening rural livelihoods. The project, being developed by Juno Joule Bio-



fuels Private Limited, is expected to generate direct employment for around 1,400 people, with women likely to constitute nearly 30 per cent of the workforce. Referring to India's energy profile, Sridhar Babu noted that the country imports nearly 90 per cent of its crude oil requirements and about 60 per cent of its LPG consumption. Reducing dependence on

external energy sources, he said clean energy solutions would play a key role in achieving the goal. The IT Minister underscored the need to transform rural areas into energy production hubs, adding that the State was consciously working to decentralise industrial growth beyond Hyderabad and strengthen the rural economy. Describing the initiative as a para-

digm shift, he said farmers in the region could transform from being food suppliers to energy producers. The project will utilise agricultural residues such as paddy straw, along with cattle dung and poultry waste, to produce biofuel gas, thereby converting waste into wealth. The CBG initiative will be implemented in a cluster model in three phases, comprising 10 plants with a capacity of 100 tonnes per day each. Inviting investments in Telangana's clean energy sector, the Minister said the government would extend necessary support to facilitate such projects.

HYDRAA cannot fence prohibited lands without approvals: HC

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana High Court has ruled that the Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency (HYDRAA) cannot fence land solely on the basis that it is listed under the prohibited category, stressing the need for due process and verification before taking such action.

Justice NV Shruvan Kumar issued these directions while hearing a petition concerning a 1.26-acre land parcel located in Survey No. 55 of Khanamet village in Serilingampally. The petitioner, K Sabitha, approached the court seeking a writ of mandamus, challenging HYDRAA's move to erect fencing and install a signboard on her land. She argued that the agency's actions were illegal, arbitrary, and amounted to unlawful dispossession. After examining the sub-

missions and material on record, the court observed that merely including a property in the prohibited list does not automatically authorize authorities to take coercive steps like fencing. It emphasized that such actions must be backed by proper verification and legal clarity.

The court directed HYDRAA to obtain formal clarification from the concerned district collector before initiating any action in similar cases. Additionally, the Municipal Administration and Urban Development (MA&UD) Department has been instructed to verify whether any legal disputes related to the land are pending before issuing directions to HYDRAA. The matter has been adjourned to April 13 for further hearing, with the court underscoring the importance of safeguarding property rights.

Inter Results Improve to 75.61%; Girls Outshine Boys Again

Pass percentage rises significantly as girls dominate results; over 9.97 lakh students appear, districts show wide performance variations across Telangana exams



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana Intermediate Public Examination results for 2026 recorded a notable improvement, with the overall pass percentage rising to 75.61 per cent, up from 71.43 per cent last year. Continuing their consistent performance, girls outshone boys by a significant margin of 12.79 percentage points. The results, declared on Sunday by the Telangana State Board of Intermediate Education, are available on official websites and through MeeSeva WhatsApp services. Stu-

dents can also apply for recounting at ₹100 per paper or opt for re-verification with a scanned answer script at ₹800 per paper. In the second-year general stream, 4,11,474 students appeared, with an overall pass percentage of 75.61. Girls secured 81.78 per cent, while boys recorded 68.99 per cent. For the first year, 4,41,863 students appeared, with 2,95,780 passing, resulting in a pass percentage of 66.94. Girls again led with 74.43 per cent, compared to 59.21 per cent for boys. In vocational streams, 30,872 out of 42,458 sec-

ond-year students passed, while 28,027 out of 47,260 first-year students cleared the exams. District-wise, Jayashankar Bhupalpalli topped the second-year results with 81.95 per cent, while Rajanna Siricilla recorded the lowest at 55.8 per cent. For first year, Medchal led with 77.02 per cent, and Mahbubabad stood last with 48.1 per cent. A total of 9.97 lakh students appeared for exams conducted between February 25 and March 18 across 1,495 centres. Students can seek help via helpline and mental health support services if needed.

Water tanker demand rises in parts of Hyderabad, HMWSSB urges judicious use

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) has appealed to citizens to use water judiciously in view of the intense summer ahead.

Water Board Managing Director Ashok Reddy held a Zoom meeting with Joint Managing Director Mayank Mittal and other officers on Sunday in Hyderabad.

He inquired about field-level water supply, tanker bookings, and delivery times, among other details. Comparing tanker



bookings to last year, he said the numbers have been lower this year, though some areas, including Manikonda, Banjara Hills, Doyens, Hafeezpet, and Netaji Park, have reported a surge. "Water is a precious resource. Only by valuing every drop can we ensure

water security for future generations," Ashok Reddy noted.

How to conserve water

- Do not use precious drinking water for washing vehicles or cleaning the surroundings of homes
- When brushing, use water from a mug instead of keeping the tap continuously open.
- Water can be saved significantly by reducing shower usage during baths and bathing with a bucket.
- Immediately get repairs done on leaking pipes and taps.
- Avoid storing or wasting water beyond necessity.

Rs 1.20 crore cash missing from Hyderabad ATMs, employees' role suspected

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Two employees of a cash management agency in Hyderabad allegedly fled with Rs 1.20 crore meant for deposit in the ATMs. According to a complaint lodged by CMS Info Systems Limited's Secunderabad branch manager Naveen on Saturday, April

11, the employees Vasireddy and Lateef, who had been assigned the duty to deposit cash in various ATMs in the SR Nagar area, have not reported for duty for two days and are not reachable by phone. He further stated that during a recent internal audit at 31 ATMs in the area, a cash shortfall of Rs 1,20,98,500 was

uncovered in at least 8 ATMs. In light of this, the absence of two custodians from their duty raised a suspicion about their involvement. A case has been registered at the SR Nagar Police Station and police have launched a manhunt for the absconding accused.

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