



Shubman Gill steers Gujarat Titans to five-wicket win over KKR : P7



Delimitation bill debate sees amendments moved by Owaisi: P8

BJP responsible for failure of Women's Reservation Bill, Says KTR: P2



WEATHER
 MAX : 39.0°C
 MIN : 27.0°C
 RH : 23%
 RAINFALL : 0MM
 FORECAST : MAINLY CLEAR SKY
 MAX/MIN temp. 40/28°C

Delimitation Stalls Women's Quota

NEW DELHI
 Wakeup telangana

In a setback to the NDA government, the much-touted women's reservation bill, called the Constitution (One Hundred and Thirty-First Amendment) Bill 2026 was defeated by 54 votes in the Lok Sabha on Friday. Out of 529 MPs present, the government got the support of 298 against the required 352 — two-thirds of the members voting at that time to pass the Constitution bill. In all, 230 Opposition members voted against the bill and forced the government to withdraw the other two Bills — the Delimitation Bill 2026 and the Union Territories Laws (Amendment Bill) 2026. These bills were interconnected with the Constitution amendment Bill. Consequently, these three Bills will not be tabled in the Rajya Sabha now. The ruling NDA strength in the Lok Sabha stands



at 292, while the Opposition parties together have 233. This is the first major setback for the NDA government in Parliament and the first Bill to have fallen in the Lok Sabha ever since the NDA came to power under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership in 2014. While withdrawing the two Bills, minister for parliamentary affairs Kiren Rijiju said the Opposition lost a historic opportunity to honour women, but the Modi government's struggle to give rights to women would continue. The government now plans to turn this defeat to its benefit during the

campaign in the Tamil Nadu and West Bengal polls by portraying the Opposition "anti-women". After the vote, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said: "Bharat saw it. I.N.D.I.A. stopped it," Mr Gandhi said. DMK supremo and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister said Tamil Nadu had defeated Delhi. The government, meanwhile, late on Thursday, issued a notification stating that the Constitution (106th Amendment) Act 2023, also known as the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhinyam 2023, which guarantees a 33 per cent reservation to women in the Lok Sabha

and Assemblies, will come into force from April 16.

As per the 2023 Act, the quota for women will take effect after the delimitation exercise to be carried out after the ongoing 2026 census but on the basis of existing 543 seats.

The Constitution amendment bill proposed to increase the Lok Sabha seats to 850 through delimitation without the ongoing census results. Earlier, countering the government in the House, Rahul Gandhi said if the Prime Minister was serious in providing women reservation, he should implement the 2023 Act, and the Opposition would happily support it. "It was an attack on the Constitution and we defeated that. We clearly said that this was not a women's Bill but an attempt to change India's electoral structure, which we have stopped," Gandhi said.

▶ CONTINUE ON | PAGE 4

Rahul: Bring Back 2023 Women's Law

Opposition leader targets govt, mixes sharp attacks with humor

NEW DELHI
 Wakeup telangana

Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi yet again rattled the treasury benches with a cocktail of metaphors and adjectives and a few choice remarks that were promptly expunged for being "unparliamentary". Amid the verbal sparring, Gandhi also injected a few lighter moments into the proceedings. Reflecting on the importance of a wife in a man's life, he quipped that neither he nor Prime Minister Narendra Modi had the "privilege of knowing that" — a line that sent the House into rare, bipartisan laughter. Not done yet, he added another zinger: "Yesterday, my sister (Priyanka Gandhi Vadra) made home minister Amit Shah smile... I have never been able to do so in my entire political career." Later, amidst uproar, Gandhi went into mystery mode. Referring to the Prime Minister's April 16 speech, he described him



as "broken" and "unable to connect", before tossing a riddle into the mix: "The answer lies in the number 16. If you can solve it, reach out to me." Gandhi lashed out at the government's attempts to bring in the legislation by branding it a "shameful act", and "Manuval over Samvidhan" (Brahmanical order over the Constitution). He also described this as an attempt to "change the electoral map of the country". He said that if the government brought back the 2023 Women's Reservation Act for implementation, the "Opposition will help the government to pass it immediately".

Referring to the contentious legislation, he as-

serted: "We won't allow you to do it. The entire Opposition will defeat this attempt. I want to assure the southern, northeastern and smaller states that we will not allow the government to touch your representation in the Union of India." Gandhi started his speech by talking about his childhood and his fear of darkness. He said: "I remember that when I was a little boy, I was afraid of the dark. We had a huge dog that would often attack my sister and me." He then recalled how his grandmother, Indira Gandhi, made him get rid of the fear by making him stay in their "dark garden" completely alone for a few minutes.

"I watched her walk away, and I didn't have the courage to tell her that I didn't want to stay there. For me, those few minutes felt like two or three hours. I imagined snakes, dogs — everything that could scare me," he narrated. Indira Gandhi returned after a few minutes

▶ CONTINUE ON | PAGE 4

Shah Blasts Congress as Women's Quota Bill Crashes in Lok Sabha

NEW DELHI
 Wakeup telangana

Slamming the Congress and its allies for the defeat of a Constitution amendment bill to implement 33 per cent women's quota in legislative bodies before the 2029 Parliamentary polls, Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday said their mindset is neither in the interest of women, nor the country. The Congress and its allies did not allow the passage of the essential bill, which would have



given 33 per cent reservation to women in Lok Sabha and state/UT assemblies, he said. "Rejecting the bill that would grant 33 per cent reservation to women, celebrating it, and raising

victory cries over it was truly reprehensible and beyond imagination." Shah said in a message on X after the Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill failed to secure two-third majority during voting in the Lok Sabha on Friday night. "Today, a very strange scene unfolded in the Lok Sabha as the Congress, TMC, DMK, and the Samajwadi Party did not allow the passage of the essential Constitution amendment bill, the 'Nari Shakti Vandan Adhinyam'.

India Slips To 6th GDP Rank

NEW DELHI
 Wakeup telangana

India is the now sixth largest economy as per the GDP rankings of International Monetary Fund (IMF) as rupee depreciation brought it down from the fifth place that it occupied in 2024. India will have to wait till 2031 to move up to the third slot in the global ranking. With \$4.15 trillion, India is expected to be the sixth largest economy in 2026, as per the April growth forecast of the IMF. In 2025, it fell from the fifth place, which it occupied in 2024. In 2026, the US

with \$32.38 trillion remains at the top with a wide gap with China in the second slot.

China's GDP stood at \$20.85 trillion, followed by Germany with \$5.45 trillion, Japan with \$4.38 trillion and the UK with \$4.26 trillion.

After India, the seventh position is occupied by France with a nominal GDP of \$3.6 trillion. India was the fifth largest economy in 2024 with GDP of \$3.76 trillion, ahead of the UK with \$3.7 trillion. In the first four slots were the US, China, Germany and Japan.

Strait Of Hormuz "Completely Open" During Ceasefire: Iran

TEHRAN
 Wakeup telangana

Iran's Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi on Friday announced that the Strait of Hormuz will be "completely open" for the remaining period of the ceasefire between Iran and US. In a post on X, he said that the passage will be open for all commercial vessels. "In line with the ceasefire in Lebanon, the passage for all commercial vessels through Strait of Hormuz is de-

Nearly 2,200 people in Lebanon have been killed by Israeli air strikes.

clared completely open for the remaining period of ceasefire, on the co-ordinated route as already announced by Ports and Maritime Organisation of the Islamic Rep. of Iran", Araghchi wrote on X. Israel's defence minister said on Friday that the campaign against the militant group Hezbollah was

not yet complete, just hours after a 10-day ceasefire came into force in Lebanon. "The ground manoeuvre into Lebanon and the strikes on Hezbollah have achieved many gains, but they are still not complete," Defence Minister Israel Katz said in a broadcast statement. A 10-day ceasefire announced by U.S. President Donald Trump and agreed on by Lebanon and Israel went into effect as Friday began.


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ESTD 1960

ASTORIA HOTEL

Hyderabad Laziz Biryani

ek baar khaoge baar baar aoge



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

Revanth Reddy Calls BJP's Defeat A Red-Letter Day

HYDERABAD
 Wakeup telangana

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Friday described the defeat of the Constitution 131st Amendment Bill, 2026, in the Lok Sabha as a "red-letter day in Indian history," and termed the outcome a major victory for democratic forces. The Bill, which sought to enable women's reservation and facilitate delimitation, fell short of the required two-thirds majority in the Lower House. Soon after

the voting, Revanth Reddy took to X to express his happiness, stating that the day would be remembered for averting what he called a "national disaster." He credited the leadership of Rahul Gandhi and Mallikarjun Kharge for uniting Opposition parties and democratic forces to defeat the proposed legislation.

The Chief Minister also thanked leaders of various allied and regional parties who stood united against the Bill, for opposing what he termed "black



bills." He concluded his message with "Jai Hind." Revanth Reddy had opposed the BJP-led Union government's move to introduce the constitutional amendment Bill proposing delimitation and a 50 per

cent increase in Lok Sabha seats on a pro-rata basis. He had also objected to linking 33 per cent women's reservation with delimitation. Addressing a press conference at the Secretariat on April 13, the Chief Minister had expressed anger at the Centre, alleging a "big conspiracy" behind the move. He claimed that the proposed delimitation exercise under the guise of women's quota would weaken southern states politically while favour-

ing northern states. Though the number of seats would increase by 50 per cent across all states, he argued that the gap between northern and southern states would widen, potentially rendering southern states politically irrelevant, with northern states determining which party rules the country.

He alleged that the BJP, lacking a strong base in southern states, was attempting to consolidate power through this mechanism by relying on its

strength in northern states. Revanth Reddy reiterated that the Congress fully supports 33 per cent reservation for women but opposes linking it with delimitation in a manner he described as biased. Calling for a united stand, he urged southern states to fight the proposed delimitation and suggested a "hybrid model," under which 50 per cent of the increased Lok Sabha seats would be allocated on a pro-rata basis and the remaining 50 per cent based

▶ CONTINUE ON | PAGE 4

BJP responsible for failure of Women's Reservation Bill: KTR

BRS working president KT Rama Rao accused the BJP of deliberately stalling the Women's Reservation Bill by linking it to delimitation, despite broad political support. He also pressed for the long-pending increase in Telangana Assembly seats under the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Friday held the BJP solely responsible for the failure of the Women's Reservation Bill in the Lok Sabha. He accused the party of complicating the issue by deliberately linking it to delimitation and demanded bringing a fresh Bill without further complications, to ensure its implementation in the upcoming elections. Reacting to the Bill's defeat, Rama Rao said there was broad political support for women's reservations, including from the BRS, but the BJP's political strategy ensured it did



not pass. He argued that the reservation could have been implemented immediately within the existing 543 Lok Sabha seats, without additional conditions. "The BJP deliberately tied the Bill to delimitation, creating avoidable hurdles and denying women their rightful representation," he said. He

said the move was politically motivated and aimed at deferring implementation, while attempting to use the issue for political gains. The BRS working president also raised concerns that linking reservations to delimitation could adversely affect southern States. He said several parties raised concerns

over reduced representation for the southern States, which were ignored. "This was a lost opportunity for meaningful women's empowerment," he added. Calling delimitation a sensitive and complex issue, he urged the Centre to hold wider consultations before proceeding further. He said unilateral decisions on such matters could have long-term consequences. He hoped that the developments in Parliament served as a lesson for the BJP against pushing unilateral decisions on sensitive national issues. He demanded that the BJP bring a fresh Women's Reservation Bill without linking it to de-

limitation and ensure its implementation for the next elections. "If the Centre is committed, it should act immediately," he said. On the occasion, Rama Rao also pressed for long-pending assurance to increase Assembly seats in Telangana under the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act. He questioned why similar measures were taken in Jammu and Kashmir and Assam, while ignoring Telangana. He urged the Centre to introduce a separate Bill in the current session to enhance Assembly seats in Telangana before 2028, without linking it to nationwide delimitation.

Amavasya Food Drive Launched in Bowenpally

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Marking the sacred occasion of Vaisakh Amavasya, a large-scale food distribution program was inaugurated at the New Bowenpally Bapujinagar Sri Devi Nalla Pochamma Temple on Friday. The initiative, held at the Chinnathokatta Kattamaisamma temples, served hundreds of underprivileged people, reinforcing the spiritual and social significance of anna daan (food donation). Former Cantonment Board Vice President Jampana Pratap attended as the chief guest and formally launched the program. He performed special pujas to the presiding deities before initiating the distribution of meals to devotees and the needy. The event drew a large gathering of locals



who participated in the rituals and charitable activities associated with the auspicious Amavasya. Speaking on the occasion, Pratap highlighted the importance of charity on Amavasya, stating that food donation on this day holds immense spiritual value. He encouraged donors and philanthropists to contribute actively to such initiatives, emphasizing that acts of compassion strengthen both society and spiritual well-being. The program was organized by temple committees with support from

Human Foundation founder Prakash Bantia. Several committee members and local representatives played key roles in ensuring the smooth execution of the event. Among those present were Durgayya, Prem Mudiraj, Ajith, Kalyan, Putti Narasimha, Srikanth, Rama Rao, Krishna, and local leader Arun Yadav. Representatives from the Kattamaisamma temple, including Kranthi, Vittal Rao, Sai, Vijayalakshmi, Pawan, and Varaprasad, also participated.

Most People From Telangana Prefer To Migrate Abroad

US, UK top choices; education and jobs key drivers

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana Socio-Economic, Educational, Employment, Political and Caste (SEEEPC) Survey of 2024 declared that one per cent of the entire state population has migrated from the state. Of them, more than 75 per cent migrated to other countries. According to the data, one per cent of the population has migrated to either other states or other countries, with Jagtial and Narayanpet districts topping the migration rates with 1.9 per cent each. Additionally, Other Castes (OC) members constituted a majority of migrants, at 1.5 per cent of the total OC populace migrating from Telangana. Out of the migrants, 75.3 per cent of the migrants went abroad to other countries around the world. Nizamabad district had the highest number of international migrants from Telangana with 90.3 per cent. BC-E category



topped the international caste migration charts with 89.4 per cent of its total migrants moving abroad. The United States is one of the most favoured destinations for international migrations among the Telangana populace, with 24 per cent of its migrant population moving there. The United Kingdom came in second with 23.6 per cent of the migrant population, while

Gulf countries had a 17.8 per cent migration. The survey also showed that 40.3 per cent of the total overseas migrations were for higher education, while 31.3 per cent were for employment, 2.1 per cent for business opportunities and 26.2 per cent for other reasons. Suryapet district topped the list of migrations for higher education, with 55.5 per cent of its total inter-

national migrants going to pursue education internationally, with Jayashankar - Bhupalpally district coming close second with 55.3 per cent. Komaram Bheem Asifabad district had the most migrants leave the district for employment, with 48.2 per cent of the total overseas migrants leaving for jobs and employment abroad. Kamareddy district had 46.3 per cent, and Nizamabad district had 45.7 per cent and stood second, respectively. For business opportunities, however, the migration population percentages were low across the state. Nirmal district had 5.3 per cent of its total international migration population move for businesses, while Adilabad had 3.1 per cent and Rajanna Sircilla had 3 per cent. Jayashankar - Bhupalpally district and Jogulamba Gadwal districts had no population migrating internationally for business opportunities.

Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra: A Historic Walk for Unity

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Rahul Gandhi is being hailed for completing two years of the historic Bharat Jodo Yatra, a nationwide foot march that symbolized unity, inclusiveness, and people's connection. Md Jahangir Baba, President of Al Faiz Welfare Society, Mahabubnagar, praised the yatra as a landmark movement in independent India, where a national leader walked thousands of kilometers from Kanyakumari to Kashmir to understand public issues firsthand. Walking nearly 20 kilometers daily through extreme weather, Rahul Gandhi continuously en-



Salute



gaged with citizens across all regions, religions, and age groups. His simplicity—marked by a white T-shirt, calm smile, and direct interaction—sent strong messages of peace, resilience, and health.

During the Telangana leg, observers noted his tireless energy and constant connection with people. The yatra stands out as a rare example of grassroots political engagement, especially at a time when many avoid even short walks. Rahul Gandhi's decision to step away from comfort and dedicate time to public welfare reflects commitment and sacrifice. Jahangir Baba also acknowledged the legacy of the Gandhi family, highlighting their contributions and focus on national unity, social harmony, and equal respect for all communities, languages, and traditions.

Warm Felicitation to TMFC GM Abdul Hameed in Hyderabad

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Abdul Hameed, a native of Choutpally village in Kammerpally mandal of Nizamabad district, who recently earned a promotion as General Manager of the Telangana Minorities Finance Corporation (TMFC), was felicitated in a grand yet graceful manner at the Haj House in Hyderabad. Prominent community leaders and well-wishers gathered to congratulate him on this notable achievement. Kammerpally Masjid Committee President



Ahmed Hussain, along with Mohammed Azeem from Metpally, Baddam Rajareddy from Uploor, and Mohammed from Kammerpally, met Abdul Hameed and conveyed their heartfelt wishes. On the occasion, speakers highlighted Abdul Hameed's journey, dedication, and commitment towards public service,

stating that his elevation to the post of General Manager is a matter of pride not only for his village but for the entire district. They expressed confidence that he would utilize his position to strengthen minority welfare schemes and ensure their effective implementation.

Padma Shri Reddy's Sustainable Farming Talk at CBIT

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Chintala Venkat Reddy delivered an inspiring lecture on "Innovative Eco-friendly Farming for a Sustainable Future" at Chaitanya Bharathi Institute of Technology (CBIT), motivating students to adopt sustainable agricultural practices. Addressing students, faculty, and researchers, he emphasized natural farming, zero-budget cultivation, and chemical-free agriculture as essential solutions for future food security and environmental protection. He highlighted



practical techniques such as drip irrigation, rain-water harvesting, organic manure, composting, and vermiculture to improve soil health and crop productivity. The Padma Shri awardee

also stressed the importance of promoting millets and indigenous crops to build climate-resilient agriculture and ensure nutritional security. Through his farmer training initiatives, he noted, thousands

of farmers across India have successfully transitioned to sustainable practices, improving livelihoods while reducing environmental impact. CBIT Principal C. V. Narasimhulu appreciated the initiative, stating that such sessions bridge the gap between academic learning and real-world agricultural challenges. Organized by the Biotechnology Department under V. Aruna, the program concluded with an interactive session, leaving students inspired to explore eco-friendly innovations in agriculture.

Jagriti Women Leaders Inspect Arrangements for Party Launch

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Ahead of the new political party launch by Telangana Jagruti President Kalvakuntla Kavitha on the 25th, women leaders of the organization reviewed the event arrangements. Led by State Vice President Manchala Varalakshmi, the team visited Advaya Convention Center at Munirabad in Medchal district and held discussions with organizers on the preparations. They assessed key aspects including expected



crowd turnout from across Telangana, vehicle parking, security measures, and special facilities for women attendees. Leaders also emphasized proper coordination and smooth execution to ensure the event is conducted successfully. Those present

during the inspection included Padala Manoja Goud, Meka Lalitha Yadav, K.R. Dharani, T. Sandhya Reddy, Bandari Lavanya, Deshapaka Suchitra, Anumula Swapna, Shantha, and J. Swapna, among others.

BRS alleges deliberate road block to disrupt KCR rally in Jagtial



Balkonda MLA Vemula Prashanth Reddy accused the Congress government and local leaders of orchestrating a deliberate conspiracy to obstruct a public meeting of BRS chief K Chandrashekhar Rao in Jagtial on April 20. He warned of legal action if an alternate diversion road was not created immediately. Inspecting the dug-up stretch of NH-63 along with BRS district president Kalvakuntla Vidya-sagar Rao on Friday, Prashanth Reddy said the road was excavated to block access for party workers travelling from Armoor, Balkonda, Korutla and Metpally to attend the meeting. He said while the road works might appear routine, the timing of excavation works just a couple of days ahead of the BRS meeting at Jagtial raised suspicion. He said despite prior requests to first create a diversion route, the national highway authorities have dug up the road in violation of basic norms. "No National Highway work should proceed without an alternative route."

When Will Water Reach Andole? Farmers Caught Between Scarcity and Sudden Floods

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana



Fields Turning Barren
The impact has been devastating. Large tracts of agricultural land in Pulkal and Andole mandals have remained uncultivated due to lack of irrigation. Over the past two Rabi (Yasangi) seasons, many farmers have been forced to leave their lands fallow, leading to mounting financial losses and growing uncertainty about their livelihoods.

From Drought to Floods Overnight
Ironically, while farmers struggle with water scarcity, sudden and unannounced water releases from the dam have caused flooding in several villages. Areas such as Pocharam, Muddayipet, Pulkal, Mimpur, Isajipet, and Gan-

gojipet witnessed crop submergence affecting hundreds of acres. Farmers claim that no prior warning was issued before the water discharge, leaving them unprepared and vulnerable. Even more concerning is the delay in compensation for the affected farmers, many of whom are still waiting for relief.

Key Demands Placed Before the Government
In response to the crisis, Chanti Kranti Kiran has urged the administration to take immediate corrective measures: Announce a "crop holiday" or provide adequate compensation to farmers Expedite repair works of canals and the dam Ensure assured irrigation

supply to Andole from the next cropping season Provide immediate financial assistance to farmers who suffered flood losses A Larger Question of Governance

The Andole situation underscores a larger systemic issue — not merely of water availability, but of governance and planning. Experts point out that inefficiencies in canal maintenance, lack of timely communication, and poor coordination between departments are aggravating the crisis.

For farmers, water is not just a resource — it is the foundation of survival. The ongoing crisis in Andole reflects the urgent need for equitable distribution, transparent management, and timely intervention. Unless swift action is taken, the region risks deeper agrarian distress, leaving farmers caught in a cycle of uncertainty — waiting for water that either never comes, or arrives only to destroy.

Dalit Politics Row: Sena Warns Leaders

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana



Tensions within Dalit politics have intensified after the National Ambedkar Sena issued a sharp warning to Mala community leaders, accusing them of opportunistic politics and fueling internal divisions. In a strongly worded statement, the Sena urged Madiga leaders to stop relying on major political parties and instead contest elections independently under the "Madiga Maha Shakti" banner to secure genuine representation and power.

The controversy stems from an open letter circulated by Sena activists, which questioned the credibility and consistency of certain Mala leaders. The letter challenged them to justify repeated electoral successes, asking whether they could have won without broader

community support. It further criticized their continued dependence on parties like Congress and BJP, despite claims of advocating for Madiga empowerment. The Sena emphasized that true progress for marginalized communities can only come through self-representation. It called on leaders to secure positions such as MLAs, MPs, and other key posts independently, rather than relying on "gifted" tickets. The statement also warned against spreading hatred between sub-

castes, asserting that such divisions weaken the larger struggle for social justice. Political observers note that the development reflects growing dissatisfaction among sections of the Madiga community, particularly after recent elections where expectations of increased representation were not met. The Sena also recalled earlier political appeals urging Madigas to align with national parties, which did not translate into significant electoral victories.

Minister Seethakka urges citizens to avoid peak summer hours amid rising heat

Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Minister D Anasuya on Tuesday appealed to people to avoid venturing outdoors during peak summer hours in view of the rising temperatures, and directed officials to set up drinking water kiosks in major Gram Panchayats and mandal headquarters. In an appeal, the Minister said the State has been witnessing an intense rise in temperatures over the past few days. She urged citizens to take necessary precautions to prevent heat-related illnesses. "People should refrain from stepping out between 11 am and 3 pm. Instead, complete daily activities between 6 am and 10 am and remain indoors thereafter," Anasuya said. In unavoidable situations, she said, people stepping out should cover their heads with caps, towels, or cloth to protect themselves from the heat. She cautioned that failure to take precautions could lead to sunstroke and other serious health complications.

Senior Congress Leaders Express Concern Over Lack of Recognition; Memorandum Submitted to CM Revanth Reddy

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana



In a significant political development, nearly 150 senior Congress leaders from the Jagitil Division, led by senior Congress leader Shaikh Chand Pasha, visited the residence of A. Revanth Reddy in Hyderabad to express their dissatisfaction over the lack of representation for senior party workers in nominated government posts, particularly in the recently constituted NRI Board. The delegation submitted a written memorandum after they were unable to secure a direct meeting with the Chief Minister. The delegation consisted of long-time Congress leaders and grassroots workers who have been associated with the party for decades. They expressed concern that despite their continued dedication and contribution to the party, several senior leaders have not been given nominated positions. They also pointed out that some individuals who have not actively worked for the party or contributed to public issues were given important posts, while senior

leaders who have worked continuously for years were overlooked. This, they said, has created dissatisfaction among senior party workers. Senior Congress leader Shaikh Chand Pasha, who has been actively working in the NRI Cell (TPCC) for nearly 30 years, stated that he has consistently raised issues related to Gulf workers and NRI welfare. He mentioned that he joined the Congress party in 2004 following encouragement from senior leaders including P. Jeevan Reddy and former Nizamabad MP Madhu Yaskhi Goud. Since then, he has been working full-time for the Congress party, focusing primarily on the welfare of Gulf migrant workers. During the tenure of former Chief Minister Y. S. Rajasekhara

Reddy, several initiatives were introduced for Gulf migrants. These included the formation of an NRI Board, ₹1 lakh financial assistance to Gulf victims under GO No. 256, helpline services in district collector offices, expansion of passport services, and strict action against fraudulent travel agencies. Awareness programs were conducted at district levels, and overseas employment training programs were also introduced. Overseas and NRI affairs were strengthened during this period under the leadership of D. Sridhar Babu. Shaikh Chand Pasha stated that he was promised a position in the NRI Board during that time, but the sudden demise of Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy in 2009 prevented this opportunity.

Major Relief for Telangana Water Board Employees: Government Resolves 7 Pivotal Demands

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana



In a major boost to employee welfare, the Telangana Water Board Employees' Union has lauded Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and Water Board Managing Director K. Ashok Reddy for their decisive intervention in resolving long-pending workers' issues. Following persistent efforts by the union, led by President Mogulla Raji Reddy, the Water Board has issued official proceedings addressing 7 out of the 10 demands raised by employees. These were formally handed over to the union representatives on Friday at the Board's office. The resolved demands include important employee benefits such as surrender leave encashment, special cash incen-

tives announced during the foundation day celebrations, provision of uniforms, overtime compensation, smooth and employee-friendly transfer processes, promotions for eligible staff, and financial relief measures to ease the burden caused by inactive PAN-Aadhaar issues affecting lower-income workers. Addressing the gathering, Mogulla Raji Reddy stated that the remaining three demands are also in progress.

Kashetty Kumar Slams Opposition Over Women's Reservation Bill, Calls It a "Missed Historic Opportunity"

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana



Senior BJP leader and prominent BC community representative Kashetty Kumar has strongly criticized opposition parties for their stance on the Women's Reservation Bill, also known as the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhinyam, terming it a setback to women's empowerment in India. Addressing the media, Kashetty Kumar expressed disappointment over what he described as a lack of genuine commitment from opposition leaders toward advancing

women's rights. He stated that while opposition parties often speak about gender equality on public platforms, their actions in Parliament tell a different story. The bill, championed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, proposes 33% reservation for women in legislative bodies and has been widely regarded by the ruling alliance as a

landmark reform aimed at ensuring greater political participation for women. Kashetty Kumar emphasized that this initiative reflects a long-overdue step toward inclusive governance, noting that women make up nearly half of India's population and deserve proportional representation in decision-making institutions. He further pointed out that despite detailed clarifications provided by Union Home Minister Amit Shah and other senior leaders during parliamentary debates, opposition parties continued to raise objections.

₹20L Nala Slab Works Begin in Turkapally



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A ₹20 lakh infrastructure project to cover an open nala with CC slabs and install protective fencing has begun in Division 190, bringing long-awaited relief to residents of Sanjeev Reddy Gardens and Shivam Bhavi colonies. The initiative aims to improve safety, sanitation, and overall living conditions in the area. The project involves laying concrete slabs over the nala stretch connecting both colonies, along with the installation of interlinked aluminum mesh fencing to prevent accidents and curb health risks caused by open drainage. Residents have long faced issues such as waterlogging, foul odor, and stray animal movement, which are expected to be resolved through this de-

velopment. Colony RWA members, led by President Ramachandhar, attended the launch along with several residents, reflecting strong community backing. Senior Congress leaders and local representatives were also present, underlining the political leadership's focus on grassroots infrastructure improvements. Ex-Corporator and Division Incharge Raj Jethender Nath is supervising the execution of the project. Residents expressed optimism that the initiative will significantly enhance safety, especially for children and elderly citizens. Officials stated that further updates regarding the project timeline and completion schedule will be shared in due course, as work progresses at a steady pace.

Goutham Goud Focuses on Crematorium Development

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana



Congress leader Goutham Goud inspected the Prakash Nagar crematorium in Hafeezpet Division on Friday, prioritizing its urgent development and directing officials to take immediate action. Acting on requests from the Prakash Nagar Welfare Association, Sagar Sangam, and members of the Christian community, he personally reviewed the site's current condition and infrastructure gaps.

During the visit, Assistant Engineer Pratap and Work Inspector Mallesh accompanied him and briefed him on the existing facilities. After assessing the situation,

Goutham Goud held discussions with officials and emphasized the need for swift implementation of essential development works to improve the crematorium.

He assured local residents that their concerns would be addressed without delay and necessary upgrades would be undertaken to ensure better amenities. The visit was attended by Prakash Nagar Colony President Chintakindi Pawan Goud, along with Srinivas Goud, Parameshwar Mudiraj, Banerjee, Rajaram, Anjaneyulu, and several colony residents, who expressed their support and highlighted key issues requiring attention.

Review BC Muslim Census Now: MD Shabbir

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana



Alleging serious discrepancies in the Telangana government's recently released BC caste population data, MD Shabbir, Founder and State Working President of the Telangana State Nomadic Muslim Tribes Association (BC-E 1-14), has demanded an immediate review, claiming that nomadic Muslim communities have been drastically undercounted. Shabbir stated that sev-

eral sub-castes under the BC-E category were either shown with extremely low population figures or completely omitted. He pointed out that communities like Fakirs, Garadi Muslims, and

Turka Kasha, which he claims number in lakhs, have been recorded only in tens of thousands. In some cases, sub-castes with thousands of members in a single district were reflected as having only a few hundred individuals statewide. He also alleged that many diverse sub-groups were broadly categorized under "Shaik," inflating its numbers while masking the actual population of smaller, marginalized communities. According to him, this flawed enumeration could deprive

these groups of rightful welfare benefits and reservation opportunities. Citing government 'scores', Shabbir said nomadic Muslims rank among the most backward in education, economy, and social indicators. He demanded a scientific re-evaluation of the data, special welfare measures for the most backward nomadic Muslim tribes, and resolution of issues related to caste certification. He warned of statewide protests if corrective steps are not taken.

India Flags Strait of Hormuz Shipping Threats at UN

India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambassador Harish P, on Thursday raised serious concerns over threats to commercial shipping in the Strait of Hormuz, urging the immediate restoration of safe navigation and calling for restraint amid escalating tensions in the Middle East. Speaking at the UN General Assembly debate under the Veto Initiative on "The Situation in the Middle East," Harish P underscored the importance of maritime security for India's energy and economic interests. He said India was deeply concerned that commercial vessels had been targeted during the ongoing conflict. He also highlighted the human cost, noting that Indian seafarers have lost their lives in recent incidents. India strongly condemned attacks on civilian maritime activity, stressing that targeting commercial.

Lok Sabha Clashes Over Delimitation

Opposition Fears 'Assault on Federalism' As Government Pushes Amendment

KOLKATA
Wakeup telangana

The Opposition parties, including the DMK, the Congress, the Trinamul Congress, the Samajwadi Party and the Shiromani Akali Dal, on Friday fiercely opposed the three Bills introduced in the Lok Sabha for amendments in the women's quota law and setting up a delimitation commission on the grounds that they are linked to delimitation. Andhra Pradesh's ruling Telugu Desam and the Opposition YSRC as well as Karnataka's JD(S) supported the Bills. DMK MP Kanimozhi led the Opposition's charge on the amendment to the women's reservation law and termed the Bills as "the single greatest assault on the federal system" of the country. Kanimozhi charged the Union government for using the women's quota Bill as a 'human shield' for its political objective of delimitation and described as "audacious" the timing of bringing the

bills when her state, Tamil Nadu, was heading to the polls. The DMK member from Thoothukudi in Tamil Nadu alleged that the southern states were being penalised for controlling and lowering population and fertility rates. "The three Bills have been called in haste. I rise to oppose the Bills," she said, adding that compliance by southern states with the national policy of controlling the population should "not cost them their political voice". Kanimozhi stated that Uttar Pradesh's population had risen 120 per cent since 1971, while Tamil Nadu's population had risen by only 15 per cent since then. She also questioned whether the 2011 census or Union Home Minister Amit Shah's assurance that the Lok Sabha share of every state will rise by 50 per cent will be the basis for delimitation. The DMK leader said that Parliament should not rush through the bills without consulting the states and said these

should first be referred to a parliamentary committee for deliberations. Congress MP Shashi Tharoor from Kerala said the delimitation will turn out to be "political demonetisation", while slamming the government for linking women's reservation with the expansion of Parliament. He said the move can strain "Federalism and tear its fabric". He claimed that "delimitation based on population will penalise states that contribute the most". Tharoor said linking women's reservation with delimitation was meant to hold the aspirations of Indian women hostage to "one of the most contentious and complex" administrative exercises in the country's history. TMC MP Kalyan Banerjee termed the three Bills a "political gimmick and drama" and pointed to the BJP's low percentages of women's representation among its Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha members in contrast to the high percentages of women's

representation of his party in Parliament. Slamming the Centre, Banerjee said the "original plan" of the NDA government is delimitation and termed it an "attack on democracy". He said it was his party that had given the highest share of representation to women leaders, including in Parliament. "You (the government) have begun the census but want to go by the 2011 census," Banerjee charged. He also accused the BJP of being "anti-women" and objected to the timing, pointing out West Bengal is going to the polls. "There will be no Parliament session when Gujarat, Rajasthan and UP will go to the polls," the TMC MP said, attacking the BJP. He challenged the government to reserve half the seats in the Lok Sabha for women without increasing the numerical strength of the House and said such a move will be supported by the TMC without any problems but added that the NDA government.

I-T Raids Didi's Nomination Proposer

VIJAYAWADA
Wakeup telangana

Barely a week before the Assembly Election in West Bengal, the Income Tax (I-T) department raided and searched the residence of Miraj Shah who is one of the four proposers of Trinamul Congress supreme and chief minister Mamata Banerjee's candidature at Bhowanipore seat. Mr Shah is the vice chairman of the governing body of Bhawanipur Education Society College and a tax professional. He was present during the nomination filing by Ms Banerjee at Survey Building in Alipore on April 9. On Friday, an I-T team raided Mr Shah's house on Elgin Road in Bhowanipore and searched it apart



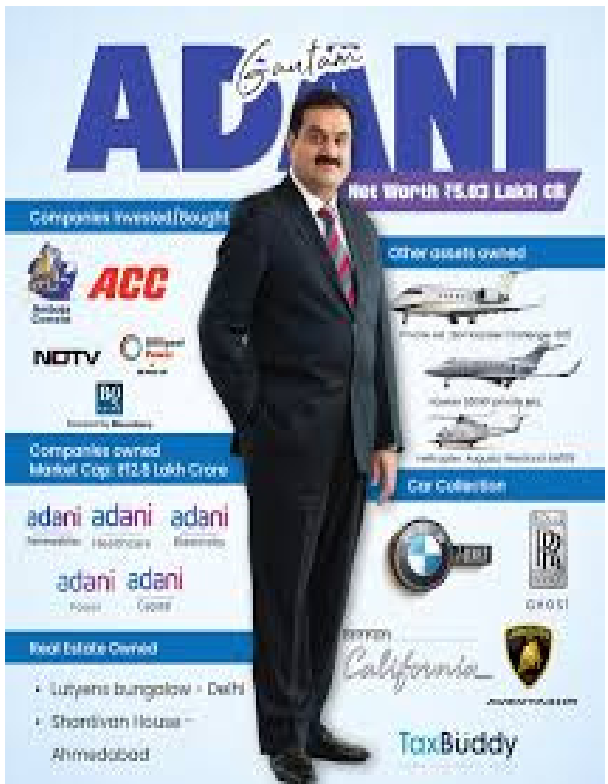
from quizzing him. The purpose behind the I-T raid was not clear however. The central agency also raided the residence and party office of outgoing Rasbhari TMC MLA, Debashis Kumar, who is contesting at the same seat against Swapan Dasgupta of BJP this time, and his in-laws among others. At around 5 am, I-T officers along with central forces personnel trooped into Mr Kumar's house on Monoharpur Road, his party office on Motilal Nehru Road and

his mother-in-law's flat in the vicinity. The TMC candidate was questioned for house. As soon as TMC workers came to know about the raid, they gathered in front of his house and protested it. They also wore masks bearing Mr Kumar's photo. In the evening, some of the I-T officers came out from Mr Kumar's house with a bag and a suitcase in the evening. The I-T raid on Mr Kumar who is also a Member, Mayor-in-Council at Kolkata Municipal Corporation, came days after the Enforcement Directorate summoned and questioned him three times in a land grab case following the announcement of the polls.

Gautam Adani Become Asia's Richest Person

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Gautam Adani has overtaken Mukesh Ambani to become Asia's richest person, according to the latest data from the Bloomberg Billionaires Index. As per the rankings released on Friday, Gautam Adani, Founder and Chairman of the Adani Group, now ranks 19th globally with a net worth of USD 92.6 billion. In comparison, Mukesh Ambani, Chairman of Reliance Industries, stands at the 20th position with a net worth of USD 90.8 billion. The development comes as Adani's net worth witnessed a surge, helping him move ahead of Ambani in the global wealth rankings. Globally, Elon Musk continues to lead the richest person list, holding the top position with a net worth of USD 656 billion. He is followed by Larry Page (Co-founder and board member, Alphabet) at USD 286 billion and Jeff



Bezos (Amazon) at USD 269 billion. Other prominent names in the global rankings include Mark Zuckerberg (Meta) and Larry Ellison (Co-founder of software giant Oracle), reflecting the continued dominance of technology entrepreneurs among the world's richest individuals.

Adani Group, led by Gautam Adani, is India's largest integrated infrastructure group and has been expanding its footprint across multiple sectors. Traditionally focused on B2B segments, the group is increasingly entering B2C businesses. The group's diversified portfolio includes trans-

port logistics, integrated energy infrastructure spanning generation, transmission and distribution, natural resources, airports, defence and aerospace, data centres, cement, media, roads, rail, metro, real estate, urban redevelopment, food FMCG, digital platforms and business incubation. According to the Adani Group, Gautam Adani is India's first founder and first-generation entrepreneur to lead a business group to a market capitalisation of over USD 200 billion. He is contributing USD 7 billion to help upgrade healthcare, education, and skill development in rural India. He has also committed USD 70 billion to facilitate India's green energy transition. With a combined current market cap of over USD 150 billion, the Adani Group is a portfolio of twelve publicly traded companies that follow the synergetic philosophies of Nation Building and Growth with Goodness.

Kabir At Calcutta HC For Probe Into Deal Videos On Him

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Aam Janata Unnyan Party (AJUP) founder Humayun Kabir moved the Calcutta High Court on Friday, seeking a probe into the viral videos of a sting operation which purportedly showed him asking for ₹1,000 crore from the BJP in a deal to split Muslim votes. The impact led to the collapse of his outfit's alliance with the AIMIM. Kabir filed his petition before Justice



Sougata Bhattacharya. The plea may come up for hearing on April 22, a day before the first phase of the polls. It alleges that the videos were part of a conspiracy against the AJUP founder to tar-

nish his image in the polls. Kabir, who is contesting at Rejinagar and Nowda seats in Murshidabad, said, "We will teach those conspirators a befitting lesson of justice and

show them what legal consequences can be of this planned political conspiracy with fabricated video clippings. Our lawyers have taken the necessary steps in the matter." He added, "Action will be taken against those who were behind this." On April 8, Trinamul Congress leaked the two video clippings which triggered such a huge controversy that AIMIM snapped its alliance with AJUP within a day for belittling Muslims in the state.

Trekking Without Nature Guide Won't Be Allowed In Karnataka

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Karnataka Forest Minister Eshwar Khandre on Friday said that trekking will no longer be permitted on any approved trekking routes under the forest department, without a certified nature guide equipped with GPS-enabled walkie-talkies. Speaking after releasing the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) formulated for the safety of trekkers, he said that there will be one local nature guide for every 10 trek-

kers. A maximum of 150 trekkers will be allowed per batch on any trekking route. According to him, online registration for trekking is mandatory. Even if a single individual registers for a particular day, a guide will still be provided, and trekking without a guide will not be allowed. He said the SOP was introduced following recent incidents, including a woman from Kerala who went missing for three days in the forests during a trek at Tadiandamol hill in Kodagu, and a minor

girl who went missing and was later found dead near Manikyadhara in Chikkamagaluru, which is outside forest jurisdiction. In a statement, the Khandre's office said that nature guides will be mandatorily equipped with GPS-enabled walkie-talkies on all trekking routes. "Additionally, a mobile app containing trekking route maps will be installed on trekkers' phones. This will help locate trekkers if they lose their way", it said. As per the SOP, before the trek begins, trekkers will be

briefed about the distance, duration, and local conditions. "Instructions on how to respond if wildlife is encountered will also be provided. Loud devices, sharp metal objects, weapons, and campfires are strictly prohibited on trekking routes," it said. The SOP further stated that separate toilets for men and women and drinking water facilities will be provided at base camps. Directional arrow markings will guide trekkers along the route, and rest points will be created.

FROM FRONT PAGE

No Delimitation.....

Indira Gandhi returned after a few minutes and left with a lesson he would carry for life. "You should not be afraid of the dark, because the truth most often lies in the darkness... If you do not have the courage to face your fears or the darkness, you will never be able to understand or fight for the truth," she told him, Gandhi said. After this, there was chaos as Gandhi's attempts to return to another childhood anecdote involving tricks and magic met with loud resistance from the ruling benches. Even Speaker Om Birla repeatedly intervened, calling the references "inconsistent with the dignity" of the House. Joining in, defence minister Rajnath Singh took strong ex-

ception to Gandhi's metaphors reportedly directed at the Prime Minister. He demanded an apology from Gandhi and asserted that "insulting the Prime Minister is insulting the people of the country, who voted for him". Somewhat unfazed by the attempts to shout him down, Gandhi accused the government of avoiding giving power and representation to OBCs and claimed this was the "real agenda". He said that the government was also trying to ensure that the caste census "was not carried out for the next 15 years". Amid the uproar, Gandhi told the House that the BJP was trying to "rejig the Indian political map" because it was "scared of the erosion of its strength". For Gandhi, what the government was doing "is nothing short of an anti-

national act". Responding to the shouts from the treasury benches over his apparent reference to the Prime Minister in connection with the Balakot strike, demonetisation and Operation Sindoor, Gandhi hit back, saying: "The BJP thinks they are the people of India; they also think that they are the armed forces. You are not the people of India, you are not the armed forces, so you should not hide behind the people and the armed forces."

Delimitation Stalls.....

For the government, which had called a special session in the midst of the ongoing Assembly elections to get these legislations cleared, it was a Herculean task to convince the opposing parties for their support. It had initiated back channel

talks with several MPs for support, but the Opposition managed to keep its flock together to defeat the bills. Several Trinamul Congress and DMK MPs who were busy campaigning in West Bengal and Tamil Nadu, respectively, flew down to New Delhi to vote and then dashed back to states. According to sources, Gandhi called up TMC MP Abhishek Banerjee to thank him for the support and playing a crucial role in defeating the bills. During her poll campaigns, TMC chief Mamata Banerjee said her party supported women's reservation but not the delimitation law associated with it. Both during the debate on the Bills and after the defeat, Gandhi and the I.N.D.I.A. bloc parties made it clear that they were not against reservation but

against the "backdoor" delimitation plans of the government without waiting for the result of the 2026 census.

Revanth Calls.....

Revanth Reddy reiterated that the Congress fully supports 33 per cent reservation for women but opposes linking it with delimitation in a manner he described as biased. Calling for a united stand, he urged southern states to fight the proposed delimitation and suggested a "hybrid model," under which 50 per cent of the increased Lok Sabha seats would be allocated on a pro-rata basis and the remaining 50 per cent based on states' Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP), ensuring fairness to southern states that significantly contribute to the

Strait Of Hormuz.....

The agreement could boost attempts to extend the ceasefire between Iran, the United States and Israel after weeks of devastating war. Israel has not been fighting with Lebanon itself, but rather with the Iranian-backed Hezbollah militant group inside Lebanon. Hezbollah said in a statement that "any ceasefire must be comprehensive across all Lebanese territory and must not allow the Israeli enemy any freedom of movement." Nearly 2,200 people in Lebanon have been killed by Israeli air strikes. - Pakistan's army chief met with Iranian officials in Tehran on Thursday in a bid to ease tensions in the Middle East and arrange a second round.

CRIME

Plea says women's quota not followed

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Justice N. Tukaramji of the Telangana High Court has issued notice in a writ petition challenging the election of an executive member to the Kukatpally Bar Association, raising concerns over non-implementation of reservation for women. The petition was filed by advocate Anupama Kolluri, who alleged that the association failed to follow its own reservation guidelines during the election process. She argued that although two executive



member posts were earmarked for women under the 33 per cent reservation rule, these positions were not filled accordingly. Despite securing the highest number of votes among women candidates, she was not considered for selection. According to the petitioner, the election authorities overlooked her

representation, which sought proper enforcement of reservation norms and a review of the declared results. She contended that the process was arbitrary and violated the association's rules, as a male candidate was elected to a post specifically reserved for women. Highlighting the urgency of the matter, Kolluri informed the court that the tenure of an executive member is only one year and that nearly a month had already passed since the elections were conducted. She requested the court to expedite the proceedings to

ensure timely justice and meaningful relief. During the hearing, Justice Tukaramji acknowledged the concerns raised but remarked that judicial processes require due time for consideration. The court subsequently issued notice to the respondents and adjourned the matter for further hearing. The case has been posted to April 30 for the next hearing, where the court is expected to examine the allegations regarding violation of reservation norms and the legality of the election outcome.

T'gana HC Extends Interim Protection To DIG Abhishek Mohanty; Retains Him In Telangana

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A two-judge bench of the Telangana High Court extended interim protection to Abhishek Mohanty, deputy inspector-general of police, directing his services be retained in the state pending further hearing. A panel of Justice P. Sam Koshy and Justice Narsing Rao Nandikonda admitted a fresh writ plea by Mohanty challenging the orders of the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) concerning his allocation between Telan-

gana and Andhra Pradesh. The petitioner challenged an order of CAT decided on February 12, along with related communications and orders. The dispute traced its origin to the cadre allocation process undertaken pursuant to the AP Reorganisation Act, 2014. It was argued that guidelines framed on the recommendations of the Pratyush Sinha committee were given statutory force, and allocation of All India Service officers had earlier been the subject of extensive litigation before the Central

Administrative Tribunal as well as the High Court. It was the case of the petitioner that allocation was required to be undertaken in accordance with the approved guidelines by considering factors such as option exercised, domicile, seniority and equitable distribution. Earlier judicial rulings upheld the validity of the guidelines while directing reconsideration of individual grievances. It was alleged that the CAT failed to undertake such an exercise while rejecting claim of petitioner.

Threats From Wife's Boss Push Mason to Death

A 41-year-old mason, who had migrated with his wife to Maheshwaram for a better life, ended his life after allegedly being threatened by his wife's employer, who had been sexually harassing her. The victim, Bhukya Ramchand, and his wife, Saritha, were working at a construction site in Rose Garden, Maheshwaram. According to Saritha's complaint lodged with Maheshwaram police, their employer, Ashannagari Kumar (40), had been sexually and mentally harassing her for several days. She did not disclose this to her husband, fearing disputes and distress.

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.

Pre-arrest bail in attack case

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana High Court granted anticipatory bail to a man accused of attacking the father-in-law of sarpanch Guvvala Shirisha in a post-election dispute at Suryapet district. The judge was dealing with a criminal petition filed by Pingali Srinivasa Reddy, accused in a crime registered at Kodad Rural police station. According to the prosecution, dis-

putes arose between rival groups after the election of the daughter-in-law of complainant as sarpanch. It was alleged that on the night of March 31, the complainant was intercepted by the accused persons, chased, dragged out from hiding, and beaten with sticks, causing grievous injuries including a suspected fracture. Counsel for the petitioner contended that he was falsely implicated and was not present at the scene of the offence.

It was argued that the petitioner suffered from serious health issues, having undergone hip replacement surgery in 2022, and was unable to stand on his own. Medical records were placed before the court to substantiate the claim. The prosecution pointed to statement of complainant indicating the presence of the petitioner at the scene. The court taking note of the condition of petitioner granted pre-arrest bail.

ATM Scam: Two Attention Diversion Thieves Arrested in Hyderabad

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Syed Mubeen

Two notorious attention-diversion offenders were arrested by Narayanguda Police under the Khairatabad Zone in Hyderabad for duping people at ATM centres.



The accused — Mohammed Salman (26), a Rapido driver, and Azaan Tauqeel Khan (19), a student — targeted customers at ATM cash deposit machines, particularly at an State Bank of India ATM. They tricked

victims by offering to transfer money via Google Pay in exchange for cash, but instead showed fake "transaction success" screens after reporting payments, then fled with the money.

Police registered multiple cases across Narayanguda, Masab Tank, Sultan Bazar, IS Sadan and Domalguda police station limits under relevant sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).

The breakthrough came after a complaint from a victim who lost ₹20,000 in a similar scam at an ATM near Taj Mahal Hotel. Using CCTV footage and technical tracking, police apprehended the accused near Malakpet. During interrogation, they confessed to involvement in at least five such offences. The arrests were made under the supervision of senior officials of the Khairatabad Zone, with the Narayanguda police team playing a key role in cracking the case.

EDITORIAL

WILL MENSTRUAL LEAVE ACTUALLY HELP WOMEN, OR IS IT TOKENISM?

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In November 2025, the state of Karnataka introduced a "menstrual leave" policy. It provides women employees with one paid day off each month, totalling 12 days per year. If not used, the leave cannot be carried over. The policy applies to both the government and the private sector, including IT companies, shops and other workplaces. The Karnataka government's objective in this policy was "to promote women's health, morale and workplace productivity, and as a progressive step towards gender-sensitive employment practices and women's empowerment". Industry bodies have challenged the policy, arguing that mandatory paid leave creates a financial burden and questioning its legality when enforced through an executive notification. Additionally, fifteen women professionals in managerial roles from Bengaluru filed a petition in the Karnataka high court regarding the policy, calling it a case of "benevolent sexism". They argue that mandating menstrual leave could lead employers to view women as less productive or more prone to absence, which might restrict their hiring



and promotion opportunities. It raises concerns under Articles 14 and 21, asserting that disclosing menstrual cycles infringe on privacy and dignity and could expose women to stigma and a hostile work environment. "Benevolent sexism" involves attitudes and beliefs that seem positive or well-intentioned towards women, but ultimately reinforce traditional gender roles and sustain male dominance. It operates under the false appearance of kindness or protection for women. It depicts women as delicate, nurturing, and in need of men's guidance and protection. In a related development, the Supreme Court recently declined to consider a plea for nationwide menstrual leave, noting that the issue falls within the legislative domain and warning that mandatory policies could harm women's careers. Several bills on paid leave have

been introduced over the years. The latest, The Right to Women to Menstrual Leave and Free Access to Menstrual Products Bill 2022, proposed three days of paid leave. It was not enacted. Menstruation in women is a natural process, similar to pregnancy and childbirth. Starting at puberty — usually between ages 8 and 12 — girls experience a menstrual period each month that lasts three to five days. The bleeding occurs when the uterine lining breaks down and sheds, which is normal. This process continues throughout a woman's reproductive years, except during pregnancy. Many women go about their daily routines during their period, although some experience pain and discomfort and may miss activities during this time. In India and other developing countries, there is limited or inaccurate information about women's bodies and how they func-

tion. Women are also often uninformed, and due to stigma and taboos, especially in South Asian cultures, they are seen as unclean during this period. In traditional families and many communities, young women are cautioned about the consequences of unwanted pregnancies. Women feel shame and find it difficult to admit, even to their family members, especially men, that they are on their period. In schools and public places, there are almost no facilities for changing or disposing of sanitary pads. In informal or formal workplaces, it isn't much different. Will menstrual leave as a policy be helpful? Let's examine some countries where menstrual leave has been tried. Several Asian countries, including Japan, Indonesia, South Korea and Taiwan, have policies offering paid and unpaid leave for women during their menstrual periods. Spain is the only country that, in 2023, provided women with 3-5 days of paid leave per year. This is merely tokenism. There are alternatives to mandatory leave policies. In workplaces, government or private institutions can offer hygienic, sanitary facilities for women to change and dispose of menstrual



Ai+ Nova 2 Ultra Sale Kicks Off on Flipkart

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The much-anticipated Nova 2 Ultra smartphone from Ai+ Smartphone goes on sale today, April 17, at 12:00 noon, marking Day 1 of its official launch. The device will be available exclusively on Flipkart and select retail outlets, with another sale scheduled for April 24, offering consumers a second chance to purchase the device.



smartphone users seeking premium features at competitive prices. The Nova 2 Ultra is priced at ₹14,999 for the 6GB + 128GB variant and ₹16,999 for the 8GB + 128GB model. Buyers can also avail an additional ₹2,000 discount through an exchange offer on any smartphone, including damaged devices.

According to Madhav Sheth, CEO of Ai+ Smartphone and Founder of NxtQuantum Shift Technologies, the device aims to redefine expectations in its segment. He emphasized that the Nova 2 Ultra delivers a balance of performance, design, and innovation without forcing users to compromise. On the specifications

front, the smartphone is powered by the MediaTek Dimensity 7400 processor, paired with an octa-core CPU clocked at 2.6GHz and Mali-G615 MC2 GPU. It runs on Android 16 with NxtQuantum OS, offering features like the NxtPrivacy Dashboard for enhanced data transparency. The device sports a 6.78-

inch 1.5K AMOLED display with a 120Hz refresh rate and peak brightness of 1800 nits, ensuring vibrant visuals. Photography is a key highlight, with a 50MP Sony IMX752 primary sensor, supported by an 8MP ultra-wide lens and a 13MP front camera. Additional features include IP68 water and dust resistance, customizable back-panel lighting, action keys for gaming, and expandable storage up to 1TB. The Nova 2 Ultra packs a 6000mAh battery with 40W fast charging. It also comes bundled with free earbuds, charger, USB cable, TPU case, and screen protection film, making it a comprehensive package for buyers.

Manepally Rolls Out Akshaya Tritiya Offers, New Collection Launched

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Manepally Jewellers has announced special festive offers and unveiled a new jewellery collection to mark Akshaya Tritiya, with celebrations running till April 20 across its Hyderabad showrooms.

The highlight of the event was the launch of an exclusive Akshaya Tritiya collection by actress Rithu Chowdhary, who showcased designs blending traditional craftsmanship with contemporary elegance alongside influencers and jewellery enthusiasts.

As part of the limited-period offers, customers can avail up to 35% off on value addition charges on all gold jewellery and 50% off on selected pieces. Diamond jewellery buyers can also



benefit from “buy more, save more” deals, making the festive purchases more rewarding. The company said the initiative aims to encourage customers to invest in gold and diamond jewellery during the auspicious period, traditionally considered ideal for new beginnings and prosperity. Director Gopi Krishna said Akshaya Tritiya holds deep cultural significance and the brand is committed to offering

high-quality designs along with attractive deals. He added that the company’s 135-year legacy continues to be rooted in trust and customer satisfaction. With multiple outlets across Hyderabad, including General Bazar, Punjagutta, Kukatpally, Dil-sukhnagar, Chandanagar and Suchitra Circle, Manepally Jewellers remains a preferred destination for festive jewellery shopping.

ICON 2026 Begins at IFHE Hyderabad with Focus on “Diplomacy Redefined”



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Xth edition of the ICFAI Conference of Nations (ICON 2026), a premier diplomatic simulation hosted by ICFAI Law School, IFHE Hyderabad, was inaugurated on Friday at the IFHE Auditorium, bringing together over 3000 student delegates from across the country. The three-day conference, scheduled from April 17 to 19, is centered on the theme “Diplomacy Redefined,” focusing on global

governance, international relations, and policy engagement. Justice G.V. Seethapathy, Former Judge of the High Court for the State of Andhra Pradesh, graced the inaugural ceremony as Chief Guest. In his address, he emphasized the critical role of diplomacy, legal awareness, and policy understanding in shaping responsible and informed future leaders capable of addressing complex global challenges. Presiding over the event, Prof. (Dr.) T. Koti Reddy,

Vice Chancellor (In-Charge), IFHE Hyderabad, highlighted the importance of academic platforms like ICON in fostering analytical thinking, leadership qualities, and advocacy skills among students. He noted that such initiatives help bridge the gap between theoretical learning and practical application. Earlier, Prof. (Dr.) Pujari Ravisekhararaju, Director, ICFAI Law School, welcomed the dignitaries and participants, setting the tone for the conference.

Prof. (Dr.) Y. Pratap Reddy, Dean (UG, PG & Research), elaborated on the objectives and significance of ICON 2026, stressing its focus on enhancing students’ understanding of diplomacy and international policymaking. Dr. A. Arun Kumar, Assistant Dean (Student Activities), appreciated the dedicated efforts of the organizing team in successfully coordinating a large-scale national event. Ms. Sridevi D. Shet, Assistant Professor and Con-

venor of ICON 2026, remarked that the overwhelming participation reflects the growing relevance of such simulations in preparing future legal professionals and policymakers. The conference will feature simulations of various national and international bodies, offering participants hands-on experience in research, negotiation, and decision-making. The inaugural session concluded with a formal vote of thanks.

Free Water Kiosk Launched in Trimulgherry



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

To provide immediate relief from the intense summer heat, a Free Drinking Water Kiosk (Chalivendram) was inaugurated today at the Office of the Assistant Commissioner of Police, Traffic Trimulgherry Division, Malkajgiri. The initiative is aimed at ensuring access to safe drinking water for commuters, pedestrians, and the general public during peak summer conditions. The kiosk was formally inaugurated by ACP G. Shankar Raju in the presence of Srihari, owner of Hygiene Aqua Solutions, along with representatives of MV Automobiles, who extended their support for the initiative. The facility is expected to benefit a large number of daily

commuters passing through the busy Trimulgherry traffic zone. This public welfare measure comes at a crucial time when rising temperatures are impacting daily life, especially for those who spend extended hours outdoors. By providing free and safe drinking water, the initiative seeks to reduce heat-related stress and promote public health and safety. The project was made possible through the collaborative efforts of MV Automobiles and Hygiene Aqua Solutions, reflecting a shared commitment toward community service and social responsibility. Their contribution highlights the importance of partnerships between public institutions and private entities in addressing civic needs.

BBC to cut 2,000 jobs to slash costs by 10 per cent

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The BBC said Wednesday, April 15, that it plans to cut up to 2,000 jobs to save 10 per cent of its annual budget, 500 million pounds (\$677 million), over the next two years. The layoffs were announced during a call with staff as the biggest in more than a decade at the UK national broadcaster. “I know this creates real uncertainty, but we wanted to be open about the challenge,” interim Director-General Rhodri Talfan Davies said in a staff email. Davies said that the reductions were driven by inflation, pressures to license fee and commercial income and a turbulent global economy. The BBC said earlier this year that it faced “substantial financial pressures” and wanted to cut about a tenth of its budget by 2029. The bulk of the cuts are to be made in the next fiscal year beginning April 1, 2027. The cuts come as former Google executive Matt Brittin is scheduled to take over as director-general next month.

Digital Twin: Transforming Generations

How Virtual Replicas Are Redefining the Future of Industry and Innovation

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Imagine being able to predict the failure of a machine before it happens, redesign an aircraft without building a single prototype, or simulate an entire supply chain without physical risk. What once sounded like science fiction is now a reality—thanks to Digital Twin technology. A digital twin, as defined by IBM, is “a virtual model designed to accurately reflect a physical object.” But in today’s fast-evolving technological landscape, this definition barely scratches the surface. Digital twins have grown into dynamic, data-driven ecosystems that mirror real-world systems in real time—transforming industries and shaping the next generation of innovation. From Concept to Cornerstone of Industry 4.0 Though widely perceived as a modern breakthrough, the roots of digital twin technology trace back over 25 years. Early applications were seen in infrastructure projects such as the London Heathrow Express, where engineers used virtual modeling to monitor foundation construction. Today, advancements in artificial intelligence, edge computing, IoT, and 5G connectivity have elevated digital twins into a critical pillar of Industry 4.0. The global market reflects this transformation—expected to surge from \$3.1 billion in 2020 to nearly \$48 billion by 2026, growing at an extraordinary pace.

Solving Manufacturing’s Toughest Challenges Modern manufacturing faces increasing complexity—ranging from intricate product designs to unpredictable supply chains. Digital twins are emerging as powerful tools to address these challenges: Complex product development with high costs and long timelines Lack of transparency in supply chains Inefficient production systems and hidden defects Reactive maintenance leading to costly downtime Poor coordination between departments Limited real-time customer feedback By creating a virtual replica of systems, digital twins allow industries to test, predict, and optimize operations without physical intervention. Why Digital Twins Matter More Than Ever Consider the cost of physically modifying an oil refinery to meet fluctuating fuel demands—it would be enormous and impractical. Digital twins eliminate such constraints by enabling simulation-based decision-making. They empower organizations to: Optimize processes without physical risk Simulate complex scenarios instantly Improve decision-making using real-time insights In essence, they make the impossible possible—at a fraction of the cost. Transformative Benefits Ac-

ross Industries Digital twins are no longer confined to manufacturing—they are reshaping multiple sectors: Manufacturing Excellence From aircraft design to automotive quality checks, digital twins enable faster development, reduced costs, and improved product quality. Smart Supply Chains Industries like oil and gas use digital twins to predict demand, reduce bottlenecks, and optimize logistics. Predictive Maintenance Instead of reacting to failures, companies can now anticipate them—saving time, money, and resources. Cross-Functional Collaboration Digital twins integrate departments, ensuring seamless coordination and improved efficiency. Customer-Centric Innovation Real-time customer data feeds into product development, creating a continuous improvement loop. Beyond Industry: Expanding Horizons Digital twin technology is making significant inroads into diverse fields: Urban Planning: Smart city models manage traffic, infrastructure, and safety Healthcare: Virtual replicas of organs help predict treatment outcomes Sustainability: Reduced waste and efficient resource utilization The Technology Behind the Twin At its core, a digital twin operates on three key components:

Digital Definition – Created using design tools like CAD and PLM Real-Time Data – Collected through IoT sensors and telemetry Information Model – Dashboards and analytics for decision-making Unlike traditional simulations, digital twins are dynamic and continuously updated, offering a two-way flow of information between the physical and virtual worlds. Leading Platforms Driving Innovation Several global technology leaders are shaping the digital twin ecosystem: IBM Digital Twin Solutions Microsoft Azure IoT Digital Twins Amazon Web Services IoT TwinMaker Hitachi Digital Solutions AVEVA Industrial Twin A Future Built on Virtual Intelligence Digital twins represent more than just a technological advancement—they mark a paradigm shift in how industries operate, innovate, and compete. By bridging the physical and digital worlds, they enable smarter decisions, faster innovation, and sustainable growth. As industries move deeper into the digital era, one thing is clear: digital twins are not just tools—they are the foundation of future-ready enterprises. From factories to cities, from machines to human health, digital twins are quietly but powerfully transforming generations.

Stock markets trade higher in early trade

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty were trading in positive territory in early trade on Friday, April 17, supported by optimism around easing geopolitical tensions and fresh foreign fund inflows. A temporary ceasefire between Israel and Lebanon has added to markets’ optimism, with expectations that this could pave the way for renewed US-Iran negotiations, an expert said. The 30-share BSE Sensex climbed 177.52 points to 78,166.20 in early trade. The 50-share NSE Nifty advanced 37.4 points to 24,234.15. From the 30-Sensex firms, ITC, Adani Ports, Maruti, Trent, Power Grid and Hindustan Unilever were among the major winners. HCL Tech, Tata Steel, Bajaj Finance and ICICI Bank were among the laggards. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, traded 1.23 per cent lower at USD 98.17 per barrel. In Asian markets, South Korea’s benchmark Kospi, Japan’s Nikkei 225 index, Shanghai’s SSE Composite index and Hong Kong’s Hang Seng index were trading lower.

Tom Cruise to return as Pete "Maverick" Mitchell in 'Top Gun 3'

"Top Gun 3" is officially in the making with Tom Cruise set to reprise his role of Pete "Maverick" Mitchell for the third time.

Paramount announced the third film during its CinemaCon Presentation in Las Vegas. Producer Jerry Bruckheimer is also set to return for the aviation drama, which first released in 1986 and became an instant hit. It was directed by late Tony Scott. Paramount came up with a sequel to the film

with director Joseph Kosinski taking over the reins for the 2022 blockbuster "Top Gun: Maverick", which became a blockbuster despite the COVID-19 pandemic and grossed USD 1.5 billion at the global box office, reported Variety.

In the original film, Cruise, 63 played hot shot pilot who gets plagued by doubt but eventually overcomes it to return to the flight school to teach a



new batch of pilots. The sequel featured Cruise with stars like Miles Tellers, Glen Powell, Lewis Pull-

man, Monica Bar- baro, Danny Ramir- rez, Jay Ellis, Greg Tarzan Davis and Manny Jacinto all

played new pilots. Jennifer Connelly, Jon Hamm, Charles Parnell, Ed Harris and Bashir Salahud-

in also starred in the second part with a special appearance by Cruise's original "Top Gun" co-star Val Kilmer, who played Tom "Iceman" Kazansky. Kilmer died in 2025 from throat cancer.

Cruise, who was last seen in the latest "Mission Impossible" movie, was at the CinemaCon just two days ago to present "Digger", his first non-franchise movie in years.

Directed by Oscar-winner Alejandro G. Iñárritu, the movie features Cruise as a beer-bellied, aging, cat loving oil baron, who may end up starting a nuclear war and ecological disaster.

"Today, my dear friend and I had a blast sharing our sneak peek of DIGGER. We cannot wait to share this film with the world in October and to be part of what is going to be such a special year at the movies!" Cruise, one of the most loved action stars of his generation, tweeted recently.

Vijay Varma explores world of vintage cars during 'Matka King' shoot



MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Actor Vijay Varma, who essays the titular role in the recently released streaming series 'Matka King', has spoken about his rendezvous with the fleet of iconic cars used in the show. He said that once he stepped into the world of vintage cars used in the show, he was pulled in by the sheer intensity of his curiosity. He added that there are a lot of scenes of the race course. There were some very fancy cars on the race-track. So, I went and clicked photos of the cars. I asked, where can I see them? The owner came; he was a very distinguished gentleman who had been collecting cars.

There are people who are car enthusiasts who have been saving and restoring these old cars, which have been around for like 100 years. Finding parts for them, importing parts from Germany, from somewhere, they take care of it. He further mentioned, If the oil is different, they ask for oil, and source it from places that no normal human being would be able to go. They themselves repair it enthusiastically. They find the tyres. And there is a community of car enthusiasts who are talking to each other and sharing knowledge and information. I got exposed to the whole world, it was very fascinating.

Earlier, Vijay, who essays the role of a gam-

bling lord in Matka King, said that his love for crunching numbers comes naturally to him given he belongs to the Marwadi community. When asked how comfortable he is with numbers, he earlier mentioned, a little bit, I am Marwadi. So, I can understand numbers. And I have also done graduation in accounting. So, I am a little fond of numbers. But I was more interested in the game. Understanding the game. I got a leaflet of 4 pages, in which the whole game was explained. But to understand 4 pages, it will take at least a month, if you want to understand it properly, he added. Matka King is available to stream on Prime Video.

Shubman Gill steers Gujarat Titans to five-wicket win over Kolkata Knight Riders



AHMEDABAD
Wakeup telangana

Shubman Gill's elegant 86 complemented a probing new-ball spell from Kagiso Rabada and Mohammed Siraj as Gujarat Titans registered a commanding five-wicket win over the laggards Kolkata Knight Riders in the Indian Premier League here on Friday. Gill was in

complete control, firing on all cylinders as he steered the Titans to their third win of the season. This came after the pace duo of Rabada (3/29) and Siraj (2/23) had ripped through the KKR top order, exploiting movement with the new ball to bowl them out for 180. KKR's total was largely propped up by Cameron Green's fighting

79 off 55 balls, his first significant contribution with the bat this season. The former champions continue to remain winless in the ongoing edition. The two powerplays told the tale of the match. While KKR limped to 37 for 3, Gill powered GT to a commanding 71 for 1, seizing early control of the chase. Chasing a below-par total, Gill set the tone from the outset, striking three boundaries, including a pristine straight drive, and a six in the first three overs. He then anchored the innings with poise, pacing his knock to perfection. His innings was peppered with eight fours and four sixes.

While KKR managed to pick up a few wickets, they were never able to stem the flow of runs or apply sustained pressure. When Sai Sudharsan departed, Jos Buttler ensured there was no let-up, announcing his arrival by cracking a boundary off his first ball before following it up with a six and another four in quick succession.

RCB aim to maintain dominance against inconsistent DC

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Almost a month into IPL 2026, Royal Challengers Bengaluru have evolved into the most complete unit in the competition, and they will be eager to strengthen their hold on this tag when they face the struggling Delhi Capitals here on Saturday.

Focus has largely remained on Virat Kohli, and the batting talisman has not disappointed his fans either, holding the Orange Cap for the time being.

But even Kohli would acknowledge that the RCB batting no longer solely depends on him. Skipper Rajat Patidar, Devdutt Padikkal, Phil Salt, and Tim David have all left their indelible marks on RCB's victories



this season with attacking batting efforts, and they will be eager for an encore against DC.

Patidar, in particular, has been impressive with his six-hitting spree, leading the chart with 21 maximums from five matches, three ahead of the marauding Vaibhav Sooryavanshi of Rajasthan Royals.

These efforts have probably freed up Kohli to

pursue his craft, calm in the knowledge that there are more shoulders to carry the side's batting.

In contrast, the Capitals are still searching for capable shoulders to support their batting.

They have some experienced batters such as KL Rahul, Pathum Nissanka, Tristan Stubbs, David Miller, and Nitish Rana, but none of them have been consistent so far, and

even a fifth place on the table with four points looks like an exaggeration at this point.

Young batter Sameer Rizvi alone has shown some fight, scoring two half-centuries, and those general failures have aptly reflected in their defeats in the last two matches.

In fact, their two wins this season have come against Mumbai Indians and Kolkata Knight Riders, both of whom have been struggling more than DC.

Skipper Axar Patel too has been a big letdown this season, managing just three wickets and as many runs across four matches.

Similarly, inconsistency plagues them in bowling too.

Star left-arm wrist spinner Kuldeep Yadav looks totally out of sorts,

having taken just three wickets after leaking nearly 10 runs an over, while pacers Mukesh Kumar and T Natarajan's good moments have been few and far between.

It will be a tough job for them to contain RCB's batting line-up, which is currently firing on all cylinders.

RCB also have a capable bowling unit under Australian quick Josh Hazlewood. They have found the right line and length to be effective at the Chinnaswamy.

Vice-captain Jitesh Sharma hinted as much. "I think this year we are very smart about the wicket, we are adjusting to the wicket, we are tactically working, and I think that's why we are winning all the games at home. I

SRH vs CSK: Dhoni presence adds excitement in Hyderabad

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

This will be a different match altogether! Not just another IPL league match featuring five-time champions Chennai Super Kings and former champions Sunrisers Hyderabad at the Rajiv Gandhi Stadium here on Saturday night. For, the city seems vi-

brant, with fans bursting to the seams with excitement with the arrival of the legend MS Dhoni. The way he walked out of the Hyderabad airport on Thursday had thousands falling over each other to get a glimpse of arguably one of the most inspirational cricketers of this century. So, when the two teams clash, the fans should not be faulted if

loyalties are split. Even the die-hard fans of Sunrisers may not feel disappointed if there is a Dhoni special round the corner. Well, such is the stardom of the former India captain that even if he walks out to face a few balls in the slog overs, that should be enough to raise the decibel levels in the stands.



KTR distributes laptops to underprivileged girl students in Hyderabad

BRS working president KT Rama Rao distributed laptops to underprivileged girl students as part of an education initiative led by the Touch A Life Foundation at his residence in Nandina-gar, Banjara Hills on Friday.

Seven students received laptops under the programme. They thanked him for the support, which would help them pursue their studies with confidence. Interacting with the beneficiaries, Rama Rao enquired about their studies and urged them to aim high. He stressed the importance of technology in education and said digital access was key to self-reliance in today's world. "No girl should be deprived of education due to poverty," he said, assuring continued support to such initiatives.

He also lauded the Foundation's grassroots efforts and said such initiatives were vital for building an inclusive society. The programme was coordinated by former corporator Samala Hema, during which the Foundation's founders.

Delimitation bill debate sees amendments moved by Owaisi

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

During the delimitation bill debate, All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) chief and Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi moved several amendments.

On his X handle, he stated that his aim was to make the delimitation process free and fair. However, most of his proposed amendments were not allowed. Owaisi suggested preserving the current proportion of Lok Sabha seats so that northern states do not gain more advantage over southern states.

He also proposed converting women-reserved seats into double-member constituencies. Under this plan, each such constituency would have two MPs, including



one woman, to ensure balanced representation. Another proposal was to reserve 27 percent of seats for OBCs and minority women. He called for transparency in the functioning of the Delimitation Commission and said it should respond to public concerns.

Owaisi also stressed the need to stop gerrymandering, which means changing constituency boundaries to benefit a particular political party. He said such practices should be clearly prohibited.

He further suggested allowing the Supreme Court of India to review unfair delimitations and order fresh ones if needed.

In addition, he proposed that members nominated to the Delimitation Commission should come from different political parties, not just one. He also said that the power of delimitation should rest with Parliament instead of the government. Out of all his proposals, only a few were allowed to be presented in the House for voting.

Following the debate, a Constitution amendment bill related to reservation for women in legislatures from 2029 and increasing the number of Lok Sabha seats was defeated in the Lower House. Out of 528

members who voted, 298 supported the bill, while 230 opposed it. The bill required 352 votes to achieve the required two-thirds majority but failed to reach the mark.

The bill proposed to increase the number of Lok Sabha seats to a maximum of 850 from the current 543 to "operationalise" the women's reservation law before the 2029 parliamentary polls, following a delimitation exercise based on the 2011 Census.

Reacting to it, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said the Constitution amendment bill brought by the government to tweak the women's quota law was an attack on the Constitution, which the opposition has defeated.

Telangana erupts in protest against BJP MP Tejasvi Surya's remarks

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Protests erupted across Telangana on Friday over Karnataka BJP MP Tejasvi Surya comparing the formation of Telangana to the partition of India and Pakistan, triggering sharp backlash from BRS leaders and cadre. Effigies of Surya were burnt in multiple locations, including Hyderabad, where party workers staged protests.

Demonstrators said the remarks insulted the sacrifices of Telangana martyrs and hurt the sentiments of people. Party workers staged protests in Hyderabad, Medchal Malkajgiri, Nizamabad, Kamareddy, Karimnagar, Warangal, Medak, Siddipet, Peddapalli, Nalgonda, Jayashankar Bhupalpally and



several other districts across the State.

They accused the BJP MP of displaying complete ignorance and arrogance about the Telangana statehood movement.

Meanwhile, former Minister V. Srinivas Goud led a delegation that lodged a complaint at the Parliament Street Police Station in New Delhi, seeking legal action against Surya. He said Telangana was achieved after sacrifices by scores of youth and years of struggle under

the leadership of BRS chief K Chandrashekhar Rao. He termed Surya's remarks inappropriate and irresponsible. He demanded that the BJP MP apologise on the floor of Parliament.

BRS leaders also questioned the silence of Telangana MPs during the remarks and warned of intensified agitation if no action was taken. They asserted that they would not tolerate any attempt to undermine Telangana's identity and history.

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Mala Mahanadu Warns Neelima: Apologize or Face Dharna

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Escalating tensions within local Congress circles, Greater Hyderabad Mala Mahanadu President L. Girija Shankar has issued a strong ultimatum to Congress leader Kota Neelima, demanding an immediate public apology to Mahila Congress leader Nasreen over her alleged public humiliation at the Ambedkar statue.

He warned that failure to respond would result in a massive dharna staged directly in front of Neelima's residence. Describing the incident as "shameful" and deeply disrespectful, Girija Shankar ac-



cused Neelima of insulting a minority woman leader who has long served the party at the grassroots level. He condemned the reported act of removing Nasreen from the stage by branding her a "non-local," calling the justification both hypo-

critical and damaging to party unity. Girija Shankar stressed that the Mala Mahanadu would not remain silent in the face of such treatment.

He stated that many party workers may hesitate to speak out due to political pressures, but his organization is prepared to take a firm stand to defend the dignity of committed cadre. The organization has placed a clear demand for a formal apology to Nasreen, who is the Bansilalpet Division Women President. Alongside the warning of protests, the issue has triggered strong reactions at the grassroots level, with more than 100 karyakarthas reportedly extending

their support to Nasreen. Local leaders have framed the controversy as more than an isolated incident, calling it a reflection of growing concerns over respect and recognition for long-serving workers.

The situation has also sparked a broader debate about internal party culture and the treatment of grassroots leaders. "This is not just about Nasreen—it is about the self-respect of every loyal worker who has stood by the party for years," Girija Shankar asserted, signaling that intensified agitation is imminent if the demand for apology is ignored.

Telangana constitutes committee to draft Rohith Vemula legislation

The Telangana government on Friday, April 17, constituted a Cabinet Sub-Committee to draft recommendations for the proposed Rohith Vemula legislation aimed at preventing identity-based discrimination in higher educational institutions.

The panel to be headed by Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, includes ministers D Sridhar Babu, N Uttam Kumar Reddy, Ponnam Prabhakar and C Damodar Rajanarasimha.

"Government hereby constitute a Cabinet Sub-Committee to study and make recommendations/suggestions for making suitable legislation on the Rohith Vemula Telangana (Prevention of Identity Based Discrimination in Higher Education) Bill, 2026," a Government Order (GO) said. The Special Chief Secretary to Government (Scheduled Caste Development Department) will be the Convenor of the Sub-Committee, it said. The Sub-Committee should submit its recommendations at the earliest, the order said. Congress leader Rahul Gandhi had written to CM A Revanth Reddy last year to enact the 'Rohith Vemula Act' to end discrimination.

When Silence Breaks at Noon: Pensioners Rise Across the State

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

At exactly lunchtime—when government offices usually slow down—an unusual wave of resistance gathers momentum across the state. From district headquarters to small mandal offices, pensioners stepped forward, not in anger, but with quiet determination. Their message was simple yet urgent: honor the promises made to those who once served. What began as a coordinated "Lunch hour protest" by the State Government Pensioners' Association quickly evolved into a widespread movement.

In district after district, retired employees assembled outside collectorates and government offices, holding placards, flexy, Banners raising slogans, and demanding long-pending pension benefits. A Statewide Echo of Discontent In Sangareddy, the Collectorate premises turned into a focal point of protest. Senior leaders, including district representatives and association members Gattu Ravinder others, led the demonstration, joined by large numbers of pensioners. Similar scenes unfolded in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri and extended across Medak, Siddipet, Nalgonda, Warangal, Karimnagar, and Mahabubnagar districts. The protests were not confined to urban centers. In rural mandals,



pensioners gathered in front of local administrative offices, underscoring that the issue cuts across geography and affects lives at every level. Notably, women pensioners participated actively, adding both strength and emotional depth to the movement. Employees Step In: A Movement Gains Strength What transformed these protests from routine demonstrations into a significant statewide movement was the visible support from employee unions. Under the banner of joint action platforms, employees and teachers stood shoulder to shoulder with pensioners. Many wore black badges; others joined the sit-in protests, amplifying the message. Their solidarity carried a powerful reminder: today's employees are tomorrow's pensioners. Union leaders were unequivocal in their stance. Delays in pension benefits, they argued, are not just administrative lapses—they reflect a deeper neglect of those who dedicated decades to public service. Their

participation has added momentum, turning the protests into a unified voice of both past and present workforce. The Core Demands At the heart of the agitation are long-standing and unresolved issues: Immediate release of pending Dearness Allowances (DAs) Timely implementation of pension benefits Improved medical reimbursement facilities Addressing the concerns of family pensioners Strengthening welfare measures for retired employees For many pensioners, these are not abstract demands but matters of survival, dignity, and healthcare. A Growing Pressure on the Government The synchronized protests across districts have sent a clear signal to the government: the issue can no longer be deferred. While assurances have been made in the past, pensioners argue that implementation has remained slow and inconsistent. Observers note that the involvement of employee unions has significantly raised the stakes.

Nizam's Grandson Felicitates Hyderabad Police Commissioner

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Nawab Mir Jajaf Ali Khan, grandson of H.E.H Nawab Mir Osman Ali Khan, the VII Nizam of Hyderabad, met Hyderabad Police Commissioner V.C. Sajjanar and conveyed his greetings on assuming charge. He felicitated the Commissioner and presented the book "The Legacy of Nizam" on the occasion. Congratulating Sajjanar, he ex-



pressed confidence in his leadership to ensure effective policing and public safety in the city.

Surya's Telangana Remarks Spark Outrage; Apology Demanded

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BJP MP Tejasvi Surya has triggered a political row after comparing the formation of Telangana with the India-Pakistan partition in Parliament. TPCC Minority Cell Ranga Reddy District Vice Chairman Ayaz Ahmed Khan strongly condemned the remarks, calling them irresponsible and offensive to Telangana's sentiments, and demanded an uncon-



ditional apology. He said the comments were irrelevant to the bill under discussion and questioned why BJP MPs from Telangana failed to object, terming their silence shameful.

Khan alleged that the BJP has consistently taken an anti-Telangana stand, with several leaders undermining the state's formation. He warned that any insult to Telangana's identity would not be tolerated and demanded that Union Ministers Kishan Reddy and Bandi Sanjay respond immediately. He also criticized the BJP's stance on women's issues, calling it hypocritical.

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