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Modi's Rajasthan Refinery Dedication Postponed After Fire Incident: P4

Clarity on The Way Forward For Barrage Repairs. Says Revanth: P2



KCR Vows Vows to Scrap HYDRAA if Back in Power

BRS chief Welcomes Jeevan Reddy, names him general secretary



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BRS president and former chief minister K. Chandrashekar Rao on Monday declared war on HYDRAA, and announced that his first signature on reclaiming the Chief Minister's office would be on the file to abolish the agency. Calling HYDRAA a "useless and destructive system," Rao accused Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy of using the environment as a pretext to terrorise the poor, and using HYDRAA as a means to do so. He was addressing the 'Praja Ashirwada Sabha' public meeting in Jagtial where former Congress leader T. Jeevan Reddy

joined the BRS. Rao welcomed him into the party fold, and announced Jeevan Reddy's appointment as "party general secretary with immediate effect." Launching a blistering attack on the Congress government, Rao said the BRS was destined to return to power with a bumper majority. Taking strong exception to "people wishing for his death," a reference to the Chief Minister's remark earlier in the day, Rao said "such personal attacks and death wishes directed at him by Congress leaders, would not deter him. "Even if they take another 1,000 births, they cannot kill me. I will continue to serve the people of Telangana until my



final breath," he said. Dismissing the Congress administration as incompetent, and alleging that it prioritised destruction over development, the BRS chief said while HYDRAA was creating terror, the Musi river rejuvenation project was a conspiracy by Revanth Reddy to grab land in the garb of the project. "We are not opposed to a clean Musi, but what is the rationale behind demolishing 10,000 houses using this project as an excuse," he asked. He also warned the government against extending HYDRAA's operations to other districts. Chandrashekar Rao said the government failed to deliver on its electoral promises,

including gold for brides, scooters, increased pensions and the job calendar, and abandoning welfare schemes like Rythu Bandhu and Dalit Bandhu. "The government even failed to provide urea to farmers," he said, adding that instead of doing actual urea supply, the government was content with creating an app claiming that the fertilizer was being supplied. Recalling the decades of discrimination that Telangana faced before statehood, where even mentioning the word Telangana in the Assembly was once restricted, Rao reminded the cadre that the BRS lost the previous election by a mere 1.7 per cent margin.

Harish, KCR Must Pay For KLIS Botch Up: Revanth

CM Revanth Reddy questions secrecy on Harish Rao's Delhi visit

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Monday said the BRS was running scared that its two top leaders, former chief minister K. Chandrashekar Rao and former minister T Harish Rao, will face action for their roles and actions that ultimately ended in serious damage to the Kaleshwaram barrages, and financial mismanagement of the project. "This is the reason why Harish Rao secretly rushed to Delhi today. They expected action from the government to bring the Kaleshwaram culprits to book and Harish rushed to Delhi to fall at the feet of BJP leaders to save him and KCR. If his visit was to consult lawyers as claimed by the BRS, then where was the need for the secrecy over the visit," Revanth Reddy asked.

He was referring to Harish Rao's visit to Delhi early in the day, reportedly to discuss legal issues arising out of the KLIS case in the High Court, in the process skipping a public meeting of



Chandrashekar Rao in Jagtial district. Addressing a press meet at Medigadda after inspecting ongoing tests at the barrage, Revanth Reddy demanded that Harish Rao reveal who he was meeting with in Delhi. "If it is about meeting lawyers over the case he filed in the High Court challenging the Justice P.C. Ghorse commission report, as is being claimed by his party, then it does not make sense as all the arguments in the case are over and the court reserved its judgment till April 22," he said.

"If Harish does not reveal the details, then I am willing to order a probe - provided Harish agrees - on who he met in Delhi, which RSS leaders he met to influence the Central

government to keep him and KCR out of trouble fine. Whose feet is Harish falling on to save him," Revanth Reddy asked. On the BRS' allegations that he planned his Medigadda visit on Monday to overshadow Chandrashekar Rao's public meeting, Revanth Reddy said "today's Medigadda visit was planned a month ago as it involved planning to ensure all various experts from different agencies to the site at the same time." He said the BRS realised that their wrongdoings would be exposed once he checked the work going on at Medigadda and hastily scheduled a meeting at Jagtial, ostensibly to admit T. Jeevan Reddy into the party. "If the government wanted to create

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Operation Mahadev: Army Avenges Pahalgam Attack

Operation Mahadev, launched by the Indian Army, was a relentless hunt that brought final justice to the victims of the April 22, 2025 Baisaran terror attack in Pahalgam, where 26 innocent tourists were killed. "For the Army and security forces, it was not merely an incident; it was a call to action. Justice had to be delivered," sources said. Within hours of the massacre, Army troops reached the site and pieced together the sequence of events. Eye-witness accounts, including that of an officer present, confirmed the involvement of three Pakistani terrorists. Intelligence fusion through HUMINT, TECHINT and survivor identification established them as Sulaiman Shah, Hamza Afgani and Jibril Bhai of Lashkar-e-Taiba.

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Meitei Civil Society Group Calls For Boycott Of BJP In Manipur

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Amid simmering tension, bandhs and protests, the leading civil society group, the Coordinating Committee on Manipur (Cocomi), has announced a boycott of the ruling BJP. The boycott call came amid the ongoing five-day-long shutdown call by the civil society group, which has affected normal life across the Imphal valley. Cocomi, a

The boycott call has come amid the ongoing five-days long shut down call of the civil society group which has affected the normal life in the Imphal valley

conglomerate of Imphal valley-based Meitei civil society organisations, appealed to people not to participate in any activity of the BJP or its leaders while asking Manipur Chief Minister Yumnam Khemchand Singh to clarify as to why the govern-

ment had not been able to prevent attacks on civilians.

Cocomi senior leader Shanta Nahakpam, told reporters in Imphal: "It's a self-styled government, as he (Mr Singh) is not connected to any civil society organisation of any community in the state. Wherever he has moved, it seems to be very personal. He has forgotten the core agenda of 'narcoterrorists' and militants

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Iran Vows Swift Response After US Seizes Vessel

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Iran's military headquarters says the U.S. attack and seizure of an Iranian-flagged tanker marks a ceasefire violation. Iran's state broadcaster reported that the country's military denounced the U.S. action as "maritime piracy" and said that "Iran will respond soon." The U.S. says it fired on the ship and seized it because it

State broadcaster IRIB on Sunday cited Iranian sources as saying "there are currently no plans to participate in the next round of Iran-US talks".

had crossed the blockade line after ignoring multiple warnings. Iran is not currently planning to attend talks with the United States, state media said, after President Donald Trump ordered US negotiators to travel to

Pakistan on Monday, just days before a ceasefire in the Middle East expires. State broadcaster IRIB on Sunday cited Iranian sources as saying "there are currently no plans to participate in the next round of Iran-US talks". Iran and the United States, along with Israel, are just days away from the end of the two-week ceasefire that halted the Middle East war, ignited

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Didi: PM Staged A Drama With Jhal Muri

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

A day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi bought and tasted jhal muri, a popular Bengali street food, at a shop following his Assembly election campaign at Jhargram in West Bengal, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee accused him of staging a "drama." "It's all drama. How come a camera was present when the PM suddenly made an unscheduled stop during the

campaign? The entire episode was scripted. He was seen carrying a Rs 10 note in his pocket. Is it believable," the Trinamul Congress supreme asked at Muraroi in Birbhum on Monday.

She claimed, "The SPG prepared the jhal muri for him. A microphone was installed in the shop. It was completely a staged event. He goes to meditate in caves during polls. He paid Rs 10 for jhal muri which was already pre-

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ESTD 1960

ASTORIA HOTEL

Hyderabad Laziz Biryani

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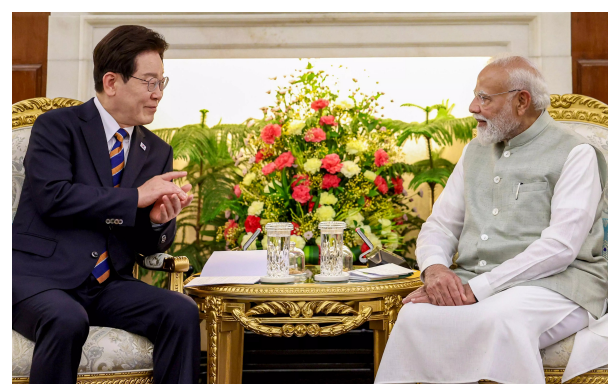
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India, South Korea Aim For \$50b Trade By 2030

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and South Korean President Lee Jae Myung decided to strengthen the Special Strategic Partnership between the two countries and increase bilateral trade from the current \$27 billion to \$50 billion by 2030. The two countries signed 15 pacts, including in sectors such as ports, steel supply chains, SMEs, linking of digital payment platforms, telecom, climate, and cre-

ative industries, among others. In his remarks, the Prime Minister said both countries would increase bilateral trade from the current US\$27 billion to US\$50 billion by 2030. Modi also announced the establishment of an economic security dialogue to strengthen cooperation in critical technologies and supply chains, and the formation of an industrial co-operation committee to increase trade and investment in strategic sectors. The Prime Minister also announced the establish-



ment of Korean industrial townships in India for the entry of Korean SMEs, and the launch of a digital bridge to deepen the partnership in AI, semiconductors, and information

technology. Both nations have also decided to strengthen cultural co-operation through films, gaming, and animation, and take steps for an interface between Korean pop

music and drama and Bollywood, while enhancing Korean learning in India. At a special media briefing, the MEA's Secretary (East) P. Kumaran said the bilateral cooperation in shipbuilding would include joint development, financing, and operation of a greenfield shipyard in southern India, and also a move to build a new dry dock to construct large specialized vessels. The Ministry of External Affairs Secretary (East) said that two phases of supplies of the K9 Vajra

have been completed, while the third phase will involve greater technology transfer. He said India is also looking at other types of South Korean anti-aircraft guns and missile systems, as well as co-development and co-design of new-generation missile systems and procurement of more defense hardware. He said both nations are looking at the development of a "defense accelerator" to support defense start-ups.

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Clarity on The Way Forward For Barrage Repairs: Revanth

Officials must take NDSA's approval for every step of the repair and rehabilitation works of the barrages, he added

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A. Revanth Reddy on Monday directed that repair and rehabilitation works at the Medigadda, Annaram, and Sundilla barrages be undertaken only after a comprehensive understanding of the structural issues, emphasizing strict adherence to guidelines issued by the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA).

Chairing a high-level review meeting at Medigadda along with Irrigation Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy and NDSA Chairman Anil Jain, the Chief Minister said clarity on the prob-



lems was emerging and would guide corrective measures. "Understanding the problems is half the solution," he noted, adding that necessary steps to restore the barrages for use would follow detailed

assessments. Revanth Reddy made it clear that officials must secure NDSA approval at every stage of repair and rehabilitation, ensuring transparency and technical compliance. The meeting was at-

tended by ministers Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, Vivek Venkatswamy, Ponnampati Prabhakar, D. Sridhar Babu, and Vakiti Srihari, along with senior irrigation officials and technical experts. Representatives from

the Central Water and Power Research Station, design consultant AFRY India, and construction firms including Larsen & Toubro, Afcons Infrastructure, and Navayuga Engineering Company also participated in the discussions.

Earlier, the Chief Minister inspected ongoing geophysical and geotechnical tests at the barrage, examining core samples extracted from boreholes in the apron. Officials briefed him on testing procedures and preliminary findings, which are expected to shape the final repair strategy.

Joining BRS is a turning point in my career, says Jeevan Reddy

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Senior political leader T Jeevan Reddy has termed his joining the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) as a turning point in his political career. Despite being with Congress for four decades, he said he faced mental agony and discrimination during the last 20 months.

Unable to tolerate discrimination in the Congress, he joined the BRS, but not with a desire for positions or power, he clarified while addressing a public meeting after joining the BRS in the presence of party president K Chandrashekhar Rao at the Praja Ashirvada Sabha held in Jagtial on Monday.

During his emotional speech, Jeevan Reddy explained the reasons for his decision to quit the Congress party. Recalling his long-standing as-



sociation with Chandrashekhar Rao since their student days, he said that the BRS chief had invited him into the party when the TRS was started. However, being a disciplined person, he continued in the Congress.

It was a great opportunity for him to work with Chandrashekhar Rao, who achieved a separate Telangana state after a long struggle. He found fault with the state government for setting aside the welfare schemes in-

roduced by Chandrashekhar Rao and said the Congress was not in a position to implement its poll promises.

The Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, who was not taking up Medigadda pillar repair work, also failed to remove the bodies of eight labourers who died in the SLBC tunnel collapse. He credited KCR's vision for the formation of Jagtial district, the establishment of the Medical College, and the increase in reservations for tribals.

Tourism Department Proposes 12 New Boating Units Across Telangana

Among the key proposals are boating facilities at Inyadramma lake, Buchi Reddy Palem, Madhira; Wyra lake; Paleru lake and Parnashala at Bhadrachalam, all in Khammam; Borancha, Medak; and Gudi Cheruvu in Sircilla.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana Tourism Development Corporation has proposed setting up 12 new boating units across lakes and reservoirs in multiple districts, with Tourism Minister Jupally Krishna Rao directing officials to expedite works and complete them on priority to boost eco-tourism and local recreation. At a high-level review meeting, attended by corporation chairman Patel Ramesh Reddy and senior officials, the minister assessed the progress of tourism infrastructure projects funded by the State government, Central schemes, and public-private partnerships. Officials informed that the proposed works are estimated at ₹274.93 crore, covering a wide network of water bodies and tourist destinations. Among the key locations identified for boating facilities are lakes in Khammam dis-



trict, including Inyadramma lake at Madhira, Wyra lake, Paleru lake, and Parnashala at Bhadrachalam. Additional sites include Borancha in Medak and Gudi Cheruvu in Sircilla. These projects are expected to enhance visitor experience while creating local employment opportunities. Other proposed locations span across the State, including Kokapet lake near Hyderabad, Kondapochamma reservoir at Thurkapally in Siddipet district, Dhoulatabad and Kodangal in Vikarabad district, Nalla Che-

ruvu, Pragathinagar lake at Kukatpally, and the scenic Shamirpet Lake. Some of these projects have already received approvals either in the State Budget or under Central government schemes. The minister emphasized modernization of facilities, suggesting the replacement of traditional boats with advanced and safer alternatives. He also proposed introducing additional boating units at Somasila to expand tourism potential in lesser-explored areas. In a push to diversify tourism offerings, Krishna Rao instructed officials

to study the feasibility of constructing cantilever glass viewpoints at elevated and waterfront locations to attract more visitors. He further called for immediate proposals to build additional cottages near the Ramappa Temple, aiming to improve accommodation infrastructure around heritage sites. Highlighting the importance of promoting local culture, the minister also directed the development of Hampi-style open-air theatres at prominent tourist destinations. These venues are intended to host cultural performances, thereby generating sustainable livelihoods for local artists while enriching the tourist experience. With these initiatives, the government aims to strengthen Telangana's tourism sector by combining natural attractions, modern amenities, and cultural promotion, positioning the State as a key eco-tourism destination.

Poetry-Essay Anthology Released at Ambedkar Open University Study Centre

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A grand farewell function for M.A. Telugu students was held on Sunday at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University Study Centre in Paradise PG College, Secunderabad. On this occasion, students released a poetry and essay anthology titled "Maa Ooru Jeevana Swaram" (Voice of Our Village Life), featuring their original writings. The book was unveiled by Prof. N. Rajani, Head of the Telugu Department.



Akumarthi Nageswara Rao, Head of the Political Science Department at Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Urdu University, attended as chief guest and received the first copy. Durgaprasad par-

ticipated as special guest. Prof. Rajani appreciated the students' creativity, noting it as the fourth anthology after earlier works like Amante, Nanna Kosam, and Gnana Bhaskarudu

Guru. The chief guest highlighted villages as centres of emotional bonding and praised students for documenting rural life. The programme was presided over by Dr. Tirunagari Srinivas. Coordinator Dr. Sudhakar Bhattu said the anthology reflects students' childhood memories and village experiences. Faculty, students, a teacher felicitation ceremony, and cultural programmes marked the event. Senior student Thalka Ushashi contributed a poem and conveyed greetings.

Mallareddy Unveils 'Love Virus' Short Film Poster

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In Hyderabad, Medchal MLA and former minister Mallareddy unveiled the poster of the short film Love Virus, produced under the Sweyamkrushi Creations banner by Aramasa Praveen. The film is directed by senior journalist Syed Numan. The poster and first-look video were released during an event held at Mallareddy's residence on Monday. Speaking on the occasion, Mallareddy appreciated the team for making a film that conveys a meaningful message to society.

He noted that the story, which revolves around the emotions and challenges faced by today's youth in love, is both relevant and commendable. He expressed hope that the team's efforts



would result in the film achieving great success. Director Syed Numan stated that the film aims to portray the true essence of love and the situations modern youth encounter. He added that the short film would offer a fresh and engaging experience to audiences. The event was attended by team members Sri Harsha, Shyam, Bhanu Prakash, Ganapathi, Shiva, DJ Anvesh, and others.

Special Prayers for Kavitha's New Political Party Success

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Special worship ceremonies were conducted at the renowned Shivaganga temple in Maheshwaram constituency, seeking success for Telangana Jagruthi founder Kalvakuntla Kavitha's proposed new political party, set to be announced on April 25 in Medchal.

The rituals were led by Telangana Jagruthi youth leader Karnati Chandrakant, along with state vice presidents Manchala Varalakshmi and Kola Srin-



ivas, district in-charge Tandra Srinivas, and district president Kappati Panduranga Reddy. Devotees performed traditional offerings, including Pan-chamruta Abhishekam,

Bilvachana, and Namakam-Chamakam in Kavitha's name, praying for political change that would benefit the people of Telangana. Speaking on the occa-

sion, leaders expressed confidence that Kavitha's new political initiative would mark a significant turning point in Telangana politics. They emphasized her commitment to the state's identity and public aspirations, stating that the April 25 announcement in Medchal could become a historic moment.

They further added that Kavitha enjoys widespread public support and blessings, which would help her new political journey gain momentum and achieve success.

Telangana Ambedkarite Family Pays Tribute at Historic Mumbai Sites

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A Telangana-based Ambedkarite family led by labour leader Karkana Nagaraju visited the historic sites associated with B. R. Ambedkar in Mumbai on Monday, paying rich tributes and reaffirming their commitment to his ideals. The delegation visited Rajgruha, Ambedkar's former residence, and Chaitya Bhoomi, his final resting place in Dadar. Speaking on the occasion, Nagaraju said the visit strengthened their



resolve to work towards achieving Ambedkar's vision of social justice and equality. He described the sites as powerful symbols of inspiration for marginalized communities.

Local leaders and supporters, including cultural figures and

journalists, welcomed the visiting family and honored them with Buddhist Panchsheel shawls. The interaction highlighted unity among Ambedkarite groups and reinforced the continued relevance of Ambedkar's ideology in present-day social movements.

NIPHM to Host National Training on Bio-Input Centres in Hyderabad

The National Institute of Plant Health Management (NIPHM), located in Rajendranagar, will host a three-day national-level training programme on the "Establishment of Bio-Input Resource Centres (BRCs)" from April 21 to 23, 2026. The initiative is designed to promote sustainable agriculture by encouraging the use of eco-friendly inputs and reducing dependence on chemical-based farming practices. The programme will bring together agricultural officers, scientists, and farmer representatives from across the country, fostering knowledge exchange and collaboration. Scheduled from 9:00 AM to 5:30 PM each day, the training will include intensive technical sessions and field visits at NIPHM's Integrated Biocontrol Laboratory, offering participants both theoretical understanding and practical exposure. Accommodation and meals have been arranged within the campus for the convenience of attendees. The fee has been fixed at ₹1,030 per day per participant, amounting to ₹3,090 for the full three-day course. The training will be led by Dr. O. P. Sharma, Director (Plant Health Management), with coordination by Dr. K. Damodara Chari. The programme aims to equip stakeholders with skills to adopt natural farming practices, enhance soil health, and improve overall agricultural productivity.

Be Vigilant During Voter Roll Revision, RPV Tells Citizens

Speakers stressed on the need for public awareness with regard to the special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls that the Election Commission of India will commence in Telangana. At an event here on Saturday, the Rajyanga Parirakshana Vedika (RPV) noted that officials are required to verify voters through gram sabhas and ward-level meetings to ensure transparency. The programme was organised to make people aware of the intricacies and requirements of the SIR process and ensure all eligible citizens can exercise their vote. The event witnessed participation from people from various professions as well as youngsters. Speakers pointed out that in the states like Bihar and Uttar Pradesh, a large number of voters had been deleted from the lists after the SIR process. This should not be repeated in Telangana, they said. Identification and necessary documents were required to ensure voters stayed

Traffic advisory issued for IPL 2026 matches to be played in Hyderabad

Commuters will face heavy traffic from Nagole to Habsiguda via Uppal Junction and from Boduppal to Amberpet via Uppal Junction and Ramanthapur between 12 noon and 12 midnight on April 21

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

In view of the Indian Premier League (IPL 2026) matches scheduled at the Uppal Stadium (Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium), a traffic advisory has been issued. Three IPL matches have been played in the stadium. The advisory is for the remaining four – April 21, May 3, May 6 and May 22. Commuters will face heavy traffic from Nagole to Habsiguda via Uppal Junction and from Boduppal to Amberpet via Uppal Junction and Ramanthapur between 12 noon and 12 midnight on April 21 when Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH) face Delhi Capitals. Citizens should use alternate routes.

Heavy vehicle diversion in Hyderabad for IPL matches. Heavy vehicles coming from Ghatkesar to Uppal will be diverted at HMDA Uppal Bhagayath entrance near Mehfil Hotel towards Nagole-LB Nagar. Heavy vehicles travelling from LB Nagar to Uppal will be diverted at Nagole Metro Station towards Nagole U-turn-HMDA Bhagayath-Toyota U-turn-Boduppal-Chengicherla-IOCL Cheralapally-Ghatkesar. Vehicles from Tarnaka to Uppal will be diverted at Habsiguda X Road towards Nacharam-NFC Rotary-IOCL Cheralapally-Ghatkesar. Vehicles from Ramanthapur to Uppal will be diverted at Street No. 8 towards Habsiguda X

Roads-Nacharam-NFC Rotary-IOCL Cheralapally-Ghatkesar. Vehicles from Warangal towards Hyderabad via Uppal should take the ORR at Ghatkesar and proceed through Abdullapurmet-LB Nagar-Dil-sukhnagar. Vehicles travelling from Hyderabad to Warangal via Uppal should proceed through LB Nagar-Hayathnagar and take the ORR at Abdullapurmet. Parking arrangements in Uppal Stadium. For the April 21 match, five major parking locations have been identified, where four are outside the stadium within a 500-metre radius for the general public, while one parking area inside the stadium is reserved for pass holders (VVIP/VIP).

From LB Nagar to Uppal Stadium: Park at DSL open places and Modern Bakers, or on the pavement of the industrial lane from LG Godown Junction to Chemveda Junction on the road towards Ramanthapur. From Habsiguda to Uppal Stadium: Park at Penguin Parking and TG IALA Parking near RGIC Stadium after taking a U-turn at Survey of India and next to EK Minar. From Ramanthapur to Uppal Stadium: After taking a U-turn at DSL Mall towards Ramanthapur, park at DSL open places and Modern Bakers, or on the pavement of the industrial lane from LG Godown Junction to Chemveda Junction. Public are advised to use public transport to avoid getting stuck on the roads.

Massive Tractor Rally Backs Kavitha's Political Entry

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Maheshwaram constituency witnessed a massive tractor rally in strong support of Kavitha's new political journey, as farmers and youth mobilized in large numbers ahead of the proposed party launch on April 25 in Medchal. Organized under the banner of Telangana Jagruti, the rally created significant buzz and showcased growing grassroots momentum. The rally was led by youth leader Karnati Chandrakant and flagged off by Telangana Jagruti State Youth President Kancharla Shivareddy, District President Kappati Panduranga Reddy, State Vice President Manchala Varalakshmi, along with other key leaders including Kola Srinivas, Tandra Srinivas Rao, and Manchireddy Vijay Kiran Reddy. Leaders stated that Kavitha's new political initiative is driven by the goals of social equality, empowerment of marginalized communities, and building an inclusive Telangana. They emphasized that the long-standing aspirations of "Water, Funds, and Jobs" remain unfulfilled, necessitating a new leadership approach under the slogan "Question – Fight – Resolve." Highlight-



ing her two-decade-long role in the Telangana movement and state formation, leaders called on the public to support this new phase of political activism. They urged people from all villages and mandals to participate in large numbers at the Medchal public meeting on April 25. The rally echoed with slogans welcoming Kavitha's leadership, with farmers, women, youth, and Telangana Jagruti activists turning out in huge numbers, signaling strong backing for the upcoming political launch.

Shine Model School Hosts Grand Inauguration, Honours Excellence



HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Shine Model School marked a major milestone with its Grand Inauguration and Annual Prize Distribution Ceremony, highlighting its rapid growth and commitment to academic excellence. The event's key highlight was the inauguration of a modern Kindergarten building, aimed at strengthening early childhood education and providing advanced learning facilities for young students. Chief Guest Muhammad Shabbir Ali, Advisor to the Telangana Government for SC, ST, BC and Minorities Welfare, emphasized the importance of inclusive and quality education in building a progressive society. Joining him as Chief Guest,



Muhammad Junaid Bahelmi, CEO of Bahelmi Boards, reflected the institution's expanding recognition in educational circles. The ceremony was attended by distinguished guests including Omer Baum (MPTC) and Shaker Mohi Uddin, Principal of Shine International School, Babanagar Branch, adding prominence to the occasion. Guest of Honour Dr. Mustafa Sufiyani also graced the event. Prominent attendees included Mir Qurran Ali, Advo-

cate at Telangana High Court, Syed Ameer Uddin Ali Qaid, HOD and General Secretary, and Syed Basheer Uddin Ali Faiz, Education Director and Administrator. A major segment of the program was the Annual Prize Distribution Ceremony, where students and staff were recognised for their achievements and dedication, reinforcing a culture of merit and motivation. The event concluded on an inspiring note, underscoring Shine Model School's vision to continue setting new

Rakesh Jaiswal Leads BJP Protest for Women's Bill

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

BJP leaders and workers led by former corporator Rakesh Jaiswal staged a protest at Gowliguda Bus Station as part of the Jan Aakrosh Rally, condemning the opposition's stance on the Women's Reservation Bill. The demonstration drew participation from several party leaders and karyakartas, including Mahesh Yadav, Shanker, Balaji, Narsingh, Rajitha, and Kalpana. Addressing the gathering, Jaiswal accused the Opposition Alliance of being "anti-women" and ques-



tioned its commitment to women's political empowerment. He said that opposing the Women's Reservation Bill exposes their unwillingness to ensure adequate representation for women in legislative bodies. The protest witnessed slogans and speeches highlighting the importance of the bill in strengthening women's

participation in governance. Party workers expressed strong support for the legislation and demanded that opposition parties reconsider their stand. The BJP leaders reiterated that empowering women politically is essential for inclusive development and urged broader public backing for the bill.

BrandLife PR Wins PRSI Media Relations Award



HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

BrandLife PR has been honoured with the prestigious 'Media Relations' award by the Public Relations Society of India during the National Public Relations Day celebrations themed "Telangana Rising 2047." The recognition highlights the agency's consistent excellence in media relations, strategic communication, and impactful storytelling. BrandLife PR has built a strong reputation for delivering result-driven public relations campaigns that effectively amplify brand narratives while fostering credibility and trust among stakeholders. The award underscores the firm's ability to craft compelling stories that resonate across diverse media platforms, strengthening its position as a trusted communications partner.

Over the years, the agency has successfully maintained meaningful and long-term relationships with media organizations, contributing to its continued growth and recognition in the industry. Reacting to the achievement, co-founders Hari Prasad Gogikar and Supreeth Patthipati said the honour reflects the team's dedication to delivering impactful communication strategies and nurturing strong media partnerships. They reiterated their commitment to elevating brand storytelling and providing measurable value to clients. The PRSI National Public Relations Day celebrations brought together industry leaders, communication professionals, and thought leaders, recognizing innovation and excellence in the field of public relations.

Kausar Mohiuddin Distributes Shadi Mubarak Cheques

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Kausar Mohiuddin distributed 65 Shadi Mubarak Scheme cheques worth a total of Rs 65,07,540 to beneficiaries from Shaikpet mandal at SS Function Hall in Mehraj Colony, Toli-chowki. Each beneficiary received financial assistance of Rs 1,00,116 under the scheme aimed at supporting economically weaker minority families during marriages. The event witnessed the participation of Shaikpet



mandal officials, party leaders, an ex-corporator, primary unit president, and local workers, who extended support in organising the distribution programme. Addressing the gathering, the MLA reiterated the government's commit-

ment to welfare initiatives and assured continued assistance to eligible families. Beneficiaries expressed gratitude for the timely financial support, stating that it would ease the burden of marriage expenses.

Avasan Chakra Promotes Sustainable Farming in Khammam

WARANGAL Wakeup telangana

In a significant step toward promoting sustainable agriculture, Avasan Chakra, an initiative of Kemin Eco Solutions Pvt. Ltd., held a strategic meeting with the District Agriculture Officer and Horticulture Officer in Khammam district to present its innovative farming solutions. The initiative outlined a comprehensive model designed to reduce input costs for farmers while improving productivity and income. Central to the proposal is converting



crop residue into organic fertilizers, enabling farmers to cut waste and generate additional revenue streams. Officials were briefed on how the model aligns with key Government of India programs such as soil health management,

Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs), and the promotion of organic farming. The approach emphasizes chemical-free agriculture, aiming to enhance both environmental sustainability and public health. Avasan Chakra also highlighted its work in

carbon credit generation, offering farmers opportunities to earn through eco-friendly practices. Its digital platform has already connected over 12,000 farmers, providing access to modern tools, training, and market linkages. Through grassroots workshops and awareness programs, the organization is fostering adoption of future-ready farming techniques. The meeting concluded on a positive note, with scope for collaboration to strengthen farmer livelihoods, sustainability, and rural development.

Dhanpal Provides LOC Aid to Poor Patients

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Reaffirming his commitment to support the underprivileged, Urban MLA Dhanpal Suryanarayana Gupta distributed Letters of Credit (LOC) to needy patients at his camp office in Subhash Nagar on Monday. Addressing the gathering, the MLA stated that he remains dedicated to standing by poor patients and ensuring they receive timely medical assistance at Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences (NIMS). He emphasized



that special focus is being given to identify and assist eligible beneficiaries across the constituency. Dhanpal Suryanarayana Gupta further mentioned that he has been bringing the plight of financially distressed

patients to the attention of Revanth Reddy, seeking immediate support for their treatment. Highlighting specific cases, the MLA said that Pentaiah from Gayatri Nagar is suffering from a severe neurological dis-

order, while Sabbani Srinivas is battling a critical kidney-related illness. Considering their medical conditions and financial hardships, LOC assistance worth ₹6 lakh was sanctioned for both patients. The MLA reiterated that saving lives goes beyond political lines and is his foremost responsibility. He also expressed gratitude to the government for its prompt and compassionate response in extending financial aid to the patients in need.

Pakistan Halts \$1.5B Sudan Arms Deal After Saudi Objection

Pakistan has put a \$1.5 billion deal to supply weapons and jets to Sudan on hold after Saudi Arabia asked for the agreement to be terminated and said it would not finance the purchase, two Pakistani security sources and a diplomatic source said. The conflict between Sudan's army and the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces has stoked the world's worst humanitarian crisis for around three years, turning into a flashpoint for competing foreign interests and threatening to break up the Red Sea country, a major gold producer. Reuters first reported a deal was in the final stages in January and had been brokered by Saudi Arabia, but no financing from Riyadh was disclosed at the time. The deal was among several defence sales being negotiated by the Pakistani military after its jets and weapons systems gained prominence.

What to Know as Iran War Ceasefire Hangs in Balance

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The ceasefire in the Iran war hangs in the balance as Pakistan's capital stands prepared for possible new talks between Tehran and Washington. As of right now, the two-week ceasefire will expire at 0000 GMT Wednesday (8 pm ET Tuesday.) But the truce between Iran, Israel and the United States started after multiple deadlines posed by US President Donald Trump that threatened Iran's very "civilisation" at one point. Further delays or sudden changes are likely to be the norm leading up to the deadline. Serious challenges face the talks that may be held in Islamabad ahead of the ceasefire's expiration about the future of the Strait of Hormuz, Iran's nuclear programme and other issues. Meanwhile, Iran targeted ships in the Strait over the weekend. The US also attacked and



boarded one Iranian vessel that tried to outrun the American naval blockade in the strait - signalling that the situation remains volatile and a resumption of the war isn't out of the question. The ceasefire in the war began on April 8, though Iranian attacks targeted Gulf Arab states and Israel after it had started. Another mysterious attack struck an Iranian oil refinery on an island as well that afternoon. However, it has been broadly held. The two-week deadline means it will expire on

April 22 without any extension agreed to by the parties, either overtly through public messaging or through allowing it to pass without directly resuming hostilities. An earlier round of negotiations between Iran and the US was held in Pakistan from April 11 into the early morning of the following day. US Vice President JD Vance took part in the highest-level talks between America and Iran since the 1979 Islamic Revolution, which ended without an agreement. Since this weekend, au-

thorities in Islamabad have made preparations similar to those that accompanied the first talks, suggesting another round loomed. But so far, neither Iran nor the US have sent a delegation to Pakistan. The Strait of Hormuz, the narrow mouth of the Persian Gulf through which 20 per cent of all natural gas and oil passes, remains effectively closed over Iranian attacks in the waterway. That included some attacks on Saturday. There's also a fear that Iran mined a portion of the strait used by transiting ships during peacetime. Since the war, Iran reportedly has been charging as much as USD 2 million a vessel to allow them to pass. Opening the Strait remains a key focus of negotiations and Tehran's strongest leverage against Washington, particularly as countries around the world have begun rationing energy and warning of shortages of jet fuel.

Modi's Rajasthan Refinery Dedication Postponed After Fire Incident; Probe Launched

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The scheduled dedication of the Refinery-cum-Petrochemical Complex at Pachpadra in Rajasthan's Balotra district by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been postponed following a fire incident in the vicinity of the Crude Distillation Unit on Monday. PM Modi was to inaugurate the Pachpadra Refinery on April 21, but the programme has now been postponed due to the fire incident. While the fire was promptly brought under control and no casualties have been reported, the incident has prompted an investigation and raised serious political questions just a day before the scheduled launch. The Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas posted on X, "Due to an



unfortunate fire incident today in the vicinity of the Crude Distillation Unit at the HRRL refinery, the scheduled dedication of the refinery by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 21.04.2026 has been postponed. The fire has been brought under control. There are no reports of any casualties. An investigation has been initiated to ascertain the cause(s) of the incident and to undertake necessary remedial measures. A revised date for the dedication will be announced in due course." Meanwhile, reacting to the incident, former Ra-

asthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot expressed deep concern, noting the significance of the project to the state. "I was deeply concerned to hear the news of the fire breaking out at the refinery in Pachpadra, Balotra. The refinery is a matter of pride for all Rajasthanis, a project whose inauguration is scheduled for tomorrow. Such an incident at this time is extremely unfortunate," Gehlot stated in an X post. Congress leader Sachin Pilot also highlighted the gravity of the situation, urging for the safety of those on-site. "The news of the fire at the refinery in Rajasthan's Balotra district is extremely worrying. This is a long-term and important project, whose inauguration is scheduled for tomorrow.

TN Polls: 18% Candidates Have Criminal Cases, 1 in 4 Are Crorepatis

TAMIL NADU
Wakeup telangana

Around 18 per cent of the candidates in fray in the Tamil Nadu Assembly elections have declared criminal cases against themselves, while 25 per cent have assets worth more than Rs one crore, a report by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) said on Monday. According to the report, out of the 3992 candidates analysed, 722 (18 per cent) candidates have declared criminal cases against themselves. Of these, 404 (10 per cent) have declared serious criminal cases. In the 2021 Assembly elections, out of 3559 candidates analysed, 466 (13 per cent) had declared criminal cases against themselves, and 207 (6 per cent) had declared serious criminal cases against themselves. Among the major parties, 118 (69 per cent) out of 170 candidates analysed from the AIADMK, 92 (40 per cent) out of 231 candidates from the Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam, 70 (40 per cent) out of 175 candidates analysed from



the DMK, 16 (48 per cent) out of 33 from the BJP, 14 (50 per cent) out of 28 candidates analysed from the INC, nine (50 per cent) out of 18 candidates analysed from the Pattali Makkal Katchi, five (50 per cent) out of 10 candidates analysed from the Desiya Murpokku Dravida Kazhagam, three (60 per cent) out of five candidates analysed from the CPI and four (80 per cent) out of five candidates analysed from the CPI(M) have declared criminal cases against themselves in their affidavits. At the same time, 60 (35 per cent) out of 170 candidates analysed from the AIADMK, 43 (19 per cent) out of 231 candidates analysed from the Tamilaga Vettri Kazha-

gam, 32 (18 per cent) out of 175 candidates analysed from the DMK, nine (27 per cent) out of 33 candidates analysed from the BJP, five (18 per cent) out of 28 candidates analysed from the INC, six (33 per cent) out of 18 candidates analysed from the Pattali Makkal Katchi, one (10 per cent) out of 10 candidates analysed from the Desiya Murpokku Dravida Kazhagam and one (20 per cent) out of five candidates analysed from the CPI have declared serious criminal cases against themselves in their affidavits. Out of the candidates analysed, 981 (25 per cent) are crorepatris, while 22 (0.55%) are billionaires, meaning they have assets worth Rs 100 crore. Among the major parties,

two (seven per cent) out of 28 candidates analysed from the INC, seven (four per cent) out of 175 candidates analysed from the DMK, three (two per cent) out of 170 candidates analysed from the AIADMK, one (6 per cent) out of 18 candidates analysed from the Pattali Makkal Katchi, one (nine per cent) out of 11 candidates analysed from the Amma Makkal Munnettra Kazhagam and eight (three per cent) out of 231 candidates analysed from the Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam have declared assets valued more than Rs 100 crore. Meanwhile, 27 (96 per cent) out of 28 candidates analysed from the INC, 170 (97 per cent) out of 175 candidates analysed from the DMK, 160 (94 per cent) out of 170 candidates analysed from the AIADMK, 31 (94 per cent) out of 33 candidates analysed from the BJP, 16 (89 per cent) out of 18 candidates analysed from the Pattali Makkal Katchi, 10 out of 10 candidates analysed from the DMKD, 156 (68 per cent) out of 231 candidates analysed.

Didi: PM Staged A Drama With Jhal Muri

KOLKATA
Wakeup telangana

A day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi bought and tasted jhal muri, a popular Bengali street food, at a shop following his Assembly election campaign at Jhargram in West Bengal, Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee accused him of staging a "drama." "It's all drama. How come a camera was present when the PM suddenly made an unscheduled stop during the campaign? The entire epi-



sode was scripted. He was seen carrying a Rs 10 note in his pocket. Is it believable," the Trinamul Congress supremo asked at Muraroi in Birbhum on Monday. She claimed, "The SPG prepared the jhal muri for him. A microphone was installed in the shop. It was completely a staged

event. He goes to meditate in caves during polls. He paid Rs 10 for jhal muri which was already prepared. Had it been a spontaneous act, then how were cameras fitted inside the shop?" The CM then pointed to independent candidates contesting the polls to split votes. "I have heard that some are fighting as independents after betraying their party and taking money from the BJP. They have tried to commodify their religion and caste. In my area, the traitors from

Malda and Murshidabad have fielded their candidates. Never forgive those who betray their community," she said. Banerjee, who also campaigned at Khardaha in North 24 Parganas and Beliaghata and Manicktala in Kolkata, argued, "Those who are still aligning themselves with the BJP must realise that they will not be able to defeat us anywhere." She also suspected BJP of planning to arrest many TMC leaders before the polls. "We have got the list.

Operation Mahadev: Army Avenges Pahalgam Attack

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Operation Mahadev, launched by the Indian Army, was a relentless hunt that brought final justice to the victims of the April 22, 2025 Baisaran terror attack in Pahalgam, where 26 innocent tourists were killed. "For the Army and security forces, it was not merely an incident; it was a call to action. Justice had to be delivered," sources said. Within hours of the massacre, Army troops reached the site and



pieced together the sequence of events. Eyewitness accounts, including that of an officer present, confirmed the involvement of three Pakistani terrorists. Intelligence fusion through HUMINT, TECHINT and survivor iden-

tification established them as Sulaiman Shah, Hamza Afgani and Jibran Bhai of Lashkar-e-Taiba. The initial response sealed escape routes to prevent exfiltration. As inputs evolved, the terrorists were tracked moving through Hapatnar, Bug-

mar and Tral, gravitating towards the dense forests of Dachhigam along the Mahadeo Ridge. The terrain offered cover but restricted movement for both sides. By the end of May, with the Amarnath Yatra approaching, the threat was deemed grave. The operation was expanded, inducting elite PARA (Special Forces) units. Over weeks, a multi-agency effort unfolded, with the Army, J&K Police, CAPFs and intelligence agencies working in seamless coordination.

FROM FRONT PAGE

Harish, KCR Must.....

He said the BRS realised that their wrongdoings would be exposed once he checked the work going on at Medigadda and hastily scheduled a meeting at Jagtial, ostensibly to admit T. Jeevan Reddy into the party. "If the government wanted to create hurdles or intended to make things difficult for BRS, why would all the permissions for their public meeting be granted," Revanth Reddy asked. Meanwhile, the BRS explained that there was no secret behind Harish Rao's Delhi visit, but some in the party admitted that the Delhi trip should have been announced in advance as it was pre-planned. Party leaders said there are some apprehensions within the BRS

leadership that in the event of the High Court's verdict coming in a manner which does not dismiss the Justice Ghose commission report, then Harish Rao and Chandrashekar Rao could face 'some immediate action' from the government. The meetings with lawyers in Delhi were said to be to figure out what they could do in such an event, party sources said. The meetings were also meant to explore the BRS' push to have the 10 MLAs who won on its tickets but are no longer aligned with it but have been given a clean chit as not defected by the Speaker, be disqualified from the Assembly, the party leaders said.

Meitei Civil Society...

Nahakpam said that, in the opinion

of Cocomi and the people of the state, everyone in the BJP was responsible for failing to secure a response from the Central government on the "proxy war" against the indigenous population. Nahakpam, in a hard-hitting statement, said: "The Chief Minister, the present government and the previous government have not been able to provide any answers on the proxy war. Therefore, Cocomi and the people of Manipur announce the boycott of any activity of the BJP in Manipur. We appeal to everyone not to participate in any kind of activity of the BJP or any of its elected members and leaders." Meanwhile, state home minister, Govindas Konhoujam, in a statement, urged the organisations to withdraw the shutdown in

the interest of public welfare and the normal functioning. In a separate development, Manipur's apex Naga organisation, the United Naga Council (UNC), announced a three-day shutdown in Naga areas from midnight of April 20 to midnight of April 23 to mourn Saturday's killings of two Naga individuals and "as a collective expression of condemnation". The two victims, including a retired Army jawan, were killed in a suspected sniper attack while they were travelling from Imphal to Ukhrul.

India, South Korea...

At a special media briefing, the MEA's Secretary (East) P. Kumaran said the bilateral cooperation in shipbuilding would include joint

development, financing, and operation of a greenfield shipyard in southern India, and also a move to build a new dry dock to construct large specialized vessels. The Ministry of External Affairs Secretary (East) said that two phases of supplies of the K9 Vajra have been completed, while the third phase will involve greater technology transfer. He said India is also looking at other types of South Korean anti-aircraft guns and missile systems, as well as co-development and co-design of new-generation missile systems and procurement of more defense hardware. He said both nations are looking at the development of a "defense accelerator" to support defense startups.

Iran Vows Swift.....

Iran and the United States, along with Israel, are just days away from the end of the two-week ceasefire that halted the Middle East war, ignited by surprise US-Israeli strikes on Iran on February 28. There has so far been only a single, 21-hour negotiating session held in Islamabad on April 11 that ended inconclusively, though groundwork for fresh talks continued afterwards. The U.S. says it attacked and seized an Iranian-flagged cargo ship near the Strait of Hormuz that tried to pass its naval blockade. Iran's military headquarters says the attack and seizure marks a ceasefire violation.

CRIME

Supreme Court Dismisses Umar Khalid's Bail Review Plea

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana



The Supreme Court has dismissed activist Umar Khalid's plea seeking a review of a verdict denying him bail, while observing that there are reasonable grounds to believe the allegations levelled against him in connection with a conspiracy behind the 2020 Delhi riots. A bench of Justices Aravind Kumar and N V Anjaria also rejected a plea seeking an oral hearing of the review petition. "Having gone through the review petition and also the documents enclosed, we do not find any good ground and reason to review the judgment dated January 5, 2026. Accordingly, the review petition is dismissed," the bench said in its April 16 order. According to the Su-

preme Court's rules, review petitions are considered by judges who delivered a judgment or passed an order in chambers to remedy an apparent error or a resultant grave injustice that was a consequence of an apex court decision. Parties seeking a review can request judges for an open-court hearing to rectify the grave injustice caused due to the decision under review. Besides Khalid, the top court had, on January 5, refused bail to Sharjeel Imam but granted it to five others, saying all the accused did

not stand on the same footing. Khalid and Imam, who have been incarcerated since 2020, can file fresh bail pleas after the examination of the protected witnesses or after a year from the day the order was passed, the court had said, as it rejected their contention of a delay in the trial. There was a prima-facie case against Khalid and Imam under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA), the top court had said, noting that prosecution material suggests that they were involved in the "planning, mobilisation and strategic direction" of the riots. While the two will remain in jail, activists Gul-fisha Fatima, Meeran Haider, Shifa Ur Rehman, Mohammad Saleem Khan and Shadab Ahmad were

given bail by the court, which had imposed 11 conditions and said any misuse of liberty would lead to cancellation of bail. The court had noted that the guarantee of liberty enshrined under Article 21 of the Constitution is of foundational importance, but at the same time, the security of a community, the integrity of a trial process and the preservation of public order are equally legitimate constitutional concerns. Khalid and Imam stood on qualitatively-different footing as compared to the other accused, the court had said. The prosecution had prima facie disclosed "a central and formative role" and "involvement in the level of planning, mobilisation and strategic direction extending beyond episodic and localised.

Telangana HC Gives One Last Chance to Govt to Pay Land Oustees

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Justice N.V. Shraavan Kumar of the Telangana High Court came down heavily on the finance principal secretary over an affidavit stating that payment under the Land Acquisition Act would be made "as per ways and means". The judge found the expression vague and continued non-compliance despite repeated opportunities. The judge observed that land losers

were waiting decades after acquisition. The judge was hearing a contempt petition filed by Kurva Veeresamma and others alleging wilful disobedience of orders of April 2025 directing deposit of about Rs 45 crore, the decretal amount for land acquired, within four months. The petitioners contended that their agricultural land in Jogulamba Gadwal district was acquired for construction of a reservoir under the Jawahar lift irrigation scheme, and that

only `10 crore was paid while the balance remained unpaid. An application was filed seeking dispensation of the personal appearance of the IAS officer, accompanied by the affidavit stating that the remaining payment would be made as per "ways and means". The judge noted that the affidavit did not specify any date for payment and that the respondents were seeking time on multiple occasions on different grounds without complying with the order.

Woman Booked for Making 4-year-old Boy Drink Acid in Hyderabad

A woman has been booked for allegedly making her co-sister's four-year-old son drink acid due to "jealousy" that her in-laws were giving more attention to the boy, rather than her son, police said on Thursday. The accused and the boy's mother are married to brothers and live in a joint family. The boy's mother complained to police on Wednesday, alleging that the accused, with the intention to kill her son, made him drink acid in the kitchen in the pretext of offering him fruit juice on April 9. <

West Bengal Youth Arrested for Duping 500 Women of Rs 2 Cr Across Country

A 35-year-old man donned a bevy of identities — projecting himself as a lawyer or a doctor, or a film producer — to lure as many as 500 women across the country and fleeced them of Rs 2 crore. Delhi southwest DCP Amit Goel said the accused, Anand Kumar, a resident of North 24 Parganas, West Bengal, operated with "a high level of sophistication", using fake profiles on social media, dating and matrimonial platforms to identify and target victims.

Telangana HC Pulls Up State Info Commission for Violating Natural Justice Principles

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana High Court has set aside an order of the Telangana Information Commission (TGIC) that refused to provide information to an applicant regarding the status of his proposal for appointment on compassionate grounds. The court held that the TGIC order was passed in violation of the principles of natural justice. Justice Surepalli Nanda was hear-

ing a writ petition filed by Boddupalli Shankaraiah, who challenged the closure of his complaint under the Right to Information Act, 2005. The petitioner had sought information regarding the status of his proposal for compassionate appointment submitted in 2008. Alleging inaction by the public authority concerned, he approached the TGIC under Section 18(1) of the Act. The commission closed the complaint on the

ground that the requested information had been furnished. It was also recorded that the petitioner was absent during the hearing. Before the High Court, it was brought to light that the notice dated August 19, 2025, requiring the petitioner to appear for a hearing on August 29, was received by him only on September 3, 2025, after the hearing had already taken place.

Telugu Duo Admits H-1B Visa Fraud in California

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Two Telugu men living in California have pleaded guilty to conspiracy in an H-1B visa fraud case, the United States department of justice said. Sampath Rajidi and Sreedhar Mada, both 51 and residents of Dublin, admitted to submitting false information to secure work visas for foreign nationals. Federal prosecutors stated that the fraud ran for nearly three years, between June 2020 and January 2023. During this period, the duo filed mul-

multiple petitions claiming that foreign workers would be employed at the University of California. Investigators found that the jobs listed did not exist. Court documents revealed that Sampath operated two visa services firms — S-Team Software Inc. and Uptrend Technologies LLC — to process applications. Sreedhar, serving as chief information officer at the University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources, allegedly lent credibility to the claims by using his designation,

though he lacked authority to hire H-1B workers. Officials said both men knew the positions were fictitious. Once visas were approved, workers were diverted to private clients instead of the university, giving the accused an unfair edge over legitimate employers and reducing opportunities for genuine applicants. The two now face a maximum sentence of five years in prison and a fine of \$250,000 (over ₹2.3 crore). Sentencing is scheduled for July 30, in a federal court. Community

sources in California described Sampath as a well-known realtor and philanthropist, active in several Telugu organisations. "He was an active member of multiple Telugu associations across the state. Alongside his tech ventures, he worked as a realtor in Dublin," said a member of a Telugu Association. US authorities noted that the case forms part of a wider crackdown on misuse of the H-1B visa programme, which is intended to help companies recruit skilled foreign workers for specialised.

EDITORIAL

OIL SHOCK PUSHES INDIA TO SIXTH ECONOMIC RANK

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana



India's recent slip from the brink of becoming the world's fourth-largest economy to sixth place highlights a recurring and deep-rooted vulnerability: its exposure to external shocks. Chief among these are fluctuations in global crude oil prices and the volatility of international capital flows. Only months ago, India appeared set to overtake Japan, buoyed by strong growth projections and macroeconomic stability. However, escalating geopolitical tensions between the United States and Iran disrupted this trajectory, sending crude oil prices sharply higher and exposing structural weaknesses in India's economic model.

India's heavy dependence on imported crude oil makes it particularly susceptible to such global disruptions. As oil prices surged, the country's import bill expanded significantly, widening the current

account deficit. At the same time, uncertainty in global financial markets triggered an outflow of foreign institutional investments from emerging economies like India. This combination of rising import costs and capital flight put considerable pressure on India's foreign exchange reserves and led to a sharp depreciation of the rupee, which touched a historic low of 95 against the US dollar.

The weakening of the rupee carries far-reaching implications. Beyond increasing the cost of imports, it also diminishes the dollar value of India's GDP, directly af-

fecting its standing in global economic rankings. Consequently, India slipped behind the United Kingdom, demonstrating how exchange rate movements can alter rankings without reflecting a genuine decline in domestic economic activity. While such rankings may not directly impact the everyday functioning of the economy, they hold symbolic importance and influence global perception. India had previously overtaken the UK in 2016 when the pound weakened following Brexit, underscoring how external currency movements can reshape

economic hierarchies. The current reversal mirrors that dynamic, driven more by global volatility than domestic weakness. Despite this setback, India remains one of the fastest-growing major economies in the world, with projected growth rates of 6-7 percent. The country continues to aim for the third position globally by 2028. However, sustaining this growth will require addressing fundamental vulnerabilities. Reducing dependence on imported crude oil is critical. India must accelerate its transition towards renewable energy, invest in domestic energy production, and adopt innovative technologies to enhance efficiency. Strengthening economic resilience against external shocks is essential not just for improving rankings, but for ensuring long-term stability and strategic autonomy in an increasingly uncertain global environment.



Taekwondo League Season 2 Winners Felicitated by 9th Nizam in Hyderabad

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Taekwondo League Season 2 concluded on a high note at The Park Hyderabad, with Ranaq Yar Khan, the 9th Nizam of the Asaf Jahi Dynasty and Honorary Chairman of the league, presenting prizes to the winners in a grand ceremony attended by prominent dignitaries and sports enthusiasts.

The Delhi Challengers team emerged as champions of the league, securing the first prize after a series of impressive performances. The team, led by Shyam Patel of Surat, was recognized for its consistency, skill, and competitive spirit throughout the tournament. The prize distribution ceremony marked the culmination of an intense and engaging competition featuring top Taekwondo talent from across the country. Addressing the gathering, Ranaq Yar Khan underscored the growing global significance of Taekwondo, stating that the sport is now practiced in more than 200 countries. He emphasized its increasing popularity in India and lauded initiatives like the Taekwondo League for providing a structured platform to identify and nurture young athletes. According to him, such events play a crucial role in strengthening the sport at both national and international levels



while inspiring the next generation of players. The league attracted participation from several leading teams, each showcasing high levels of discipline, agility, and technical expertise. The matches were marked by intense competition, drawing enthusiastic responses from spectators and adding to the overall energy of the event. Participants demonstrated not only their sporting abilities but also the core values of Taekwondo, including respect, perseverance, and self-control. Organizers highlighted that Season 2 of the league has significantly expanded in scale and reach compared to its inaugural edition. With improved participation and greater audience engagement, the event reflects the growing interest in martial arts in India. The success of the tournament is expected to pave the way for larger editions in the future, with more teams and broader national representation. The presence of distinguished guests and the active involvement of the Honorary Chairman added prestige to the occasion, reinforcing the importance of institutional support in promoting sports. The event concluded with a renewed commitment to further develop Taekwondo and create more opportunities for aspiring athletes across the country.

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SOFTTEL Brings Fresh Flour Grinding Back Home

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

SOFTTEL has introduced a compact ghar ghanti designed to bring fresh flour and spice grinding back into everyday kitchens, combining traditional methods with modern convenience. With over 35 years of manufacturing expertise, the company aims to restore purity, taste, and nutrition in daily cooking through easy, at-home grinding solutions.

The newly launched machine is built to suit contemporary households, offering a space-saving design that fits easily on kitchen platforms while delivering strong performance. It can grind grains, millets, and spices efficiently, with a capacity of 7.5 to 10 kg per hour and energy consumption of just one unit per hour, making it practical for regular use. At the heart of the product is its stone grinding mechanism, which helps retain natural flavor, texture, and nutritional value—qualities often lost in processed flour. This approach reconnects users with traditional food preparation practices without adding complexity or time-consuming effort.

To cater to diverse user preferences, SOFTTEL offers three variants: Fully Automatic, Semi Automatic, and Manual, allowing households to choose based



on their comfort and level of control. Managing Director Anil Kumar Jain emphasized the importance of fresh food, stating that it is fundamental to good health. He noted that grinding ingredients at home is one of the simplest ways to ensure purity and trust in everyday meals. With this launch, SOFTTEL positions itself not just as a product manufacturer but as a promoter of healthier living. By merging heritage techniques with modern efficiency, the company seeks to make fresh, unprocessed food a consistent part of daily life once again.

IHM Hyderabad Celebrates Student Excellence and Record Placements

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Institute of Hotel Management Hyderabad hosted its Annual Awards Ceremony 2025-26 at its DD Colony campus, spotlighting exceptional student achievements, strong placement outcomes, and holistic development. The event brought together leading figures from the hospitality industry, academia, and spiritual

circles, marking a significant milestone for the institute.

The ceremony witnessed the presence of eminent dignitaries including Pradyumna Krishna Dasa, Deep Preet Bindra, Gaurav K. Kumra, Ajit Singh Garcha, Baranirathan Chidambar, Vishal Srivastava, Nagesh Pampati, Krupakar Ravipati, and Principal Sanjay Thakur.

The programme began with a traditional Ga-



nesh Vandana and National Anthem. In his welcome address, Sanjay Thakur reiterated the institute's commitment to producing industry-ready hospitality professionals. A key highlight was the release of the annual magazine CACKLE, showcasing the institu-

tion's academic, creative, and extracurricular milestones.

A major focus of the event was the institute's impressive placement record. Around 40 students secured Management Trainee roles in leading hotel chains, while over 150 students were placed across diverse sectors including QSRs, FMCG, retail, corporate catering, co-working spaces, and airport outlets. Several final-year students are

also progressing toward international placements, underlining the institute's strong industry linkage.

The ceremony also honoured faculty and administrative staff for their dedication to academic excellence. Student achievements formed a central highlight, with toppers across all academic years receiving recognition. Alumni Preeti Chouhan emerged as a standout, securing first rank

along with top honours in Food & Beverage Service and Accommodation Operations.

Other achievers included Hedao Rushil Avinash, Rahil Sharma, Nalla Bipin Teja, Meghana Bhutada, Sattwik Ray, and Akshit Baliyan.

Achievements in sports and creativity were also recognised, including honours at the Yamuna Ranga Rao Trophy Inter-College Sports

Meet and Inter-Collegiate Flower Arrangement Competition. Students excelling in national culinary platforms such as India Skills and Everest Better Kitchen were felicitated.

The event concluded with a vote of thanks by Rachna Agashe, followed by Vande Mataram and a curated lunch, reflecting the institute's hallmark hospitality.

Vibrant Nissan Delivers 100 GRAVITE Units



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Nissan Motor India dealership Vibrant Nissan marked a key milestone by delivering 100 units of the Nissan GRAVITE in Hyderabad, underlining rising customer demand.

The event was attended by Saurabh Vatsa, who graced the occasion as chief guest. The achievement highlights the growing popularity of the GRAVITE, a family-focused 7-seater MPV tailored for Indian buyers. Vibrant Nissan Managing Director Siraj Babu Khan said the quick delivery of 100 units reflects strong customer trust and the dealership's commitment to delivering quality service

and a seamless ownership experience.

The GRAVITE has gained traction for its spacious design, modular seating for up to seven passengers, and emphasis on safety, including six airbags. Its practicality and value-driven features make it an attractive choice for urban families.

The delivery event, celebrated with customers and families, reinforced Vibrant Nissan's focus on long-term relationships and customer satisfaction. With growing momentum and an expanding product roadmap, Nissan Motor India aims to strengthen its footprint in India through innovative and customer-centric mobility solutions.

RBI Roll Backs Some Restrictions On Rupee Trade

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Monday partially rolled back its directives taken earlier this month to curb excessive speculation in rupee. In a notification, the central bank withdrew two key restrictions. First, it has allowed authorised dealers including banks and financial institutions, to once again offer non-deliverable forwards (NDFs) to both Indian residents and overseas users. Secondly, it has also removed the ban on users rebooking foreign exchange derivative contracts that were cancelled after April 1.

However, authorised dealers still cannot enter into rupee-related foreign exchange derivative contracts with their related parties. The only exceptions are cancelling or rolling over contracts that already exist, and transactions done with unrelated non-resident users on a back-to-back basis. These measures were introduced as the rupee breached 95 per cent of the dollar mark for the first time in late March due to a combination of rising crude oil prices, persistent geopolitical tensions, foreign investor outflows, and a strong dollar demand globally.

Musk Skips Paris Prosecutors' Summons Over X, Grok

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Elon Musk did not appear Monday for a voluntary interview with Paris prosecutors, who had summoned the American tech billionaire over a probe into his social media platform X and AI chatbot Grok. Prosecutors told AFP they had "taken note of the absence of the first person summoned," without mentioning Musk's name. The billionaire had dubbed the French authorities "retards" weeks earlier in a French-language X post.

"The presence or absence (of the person summoned) is not an obstacle to continuing the investigation," prosecutors added. They had issued the summons in February as part of an investigation, launched in January 2025, into allegations that X's algorithm was used to interfere in French politics. The probe was later expanded to include dissemination of Holocaust denial and sexual deep-fakes by X's AI chatbot Grok. French prosecutors in February also searched



the Paris offices of X, in what the social media giant -- which has denied any wrongdoing -- slammed as "politicized" raids and an "abusive judicial act". At the time, Paris prosecutors also summoned Musk and then-CEO Linda Yaccarino for voluntary interviews as the "de facto and de jure managers of the X platform at the time of the events", a move Musk called a "political attack". Yaccarino resigned as CEO of X in July last year after two years at the helm of the company.

In February, Paris prosecutor Laure Beccuau said employees of the company had also been summoned to appear between April 20 and 24 "to be heard as witnesses". But whether they turn up for

ing legitimacy as it weaponises criminal investigations to suppress free speech and privacy", read a post on X by Russian-born Durov, who also holds French nationality.

The French investigation comes as part of a broader international backlash against Grok after it emerged that users could sexualise images of women and children using simple text prompts such as "put her in a bikini" or "remove her clothes". It generated an estimated three million sexualised images -- mostly of women, though also 23,000 that appeared to depict children -- in 11 days, the Center for Countering Digital Hate (CCDH), a nonprofit watchdog, said in late January. In a separate investigation, Britain's data regulator in February launched investigations into Musk's X and xAI over "serious concerns" over whether the companies complied with personal data laws when it came to Grok's generation of sexualised deep-fakes.

voluntary questioning would not be "an obstacle to the continuation of the investigation", the Paris prosecutor's office said Saturday. Officials have not offered any details on the location or time of Musk's scheduled interview. The French investigation focuses on several suspected criminal offences, including complicity in possessing child sexual abuse material and denial of crimes against humanity. The social media company in July called the probe "politically motivated". Its complaints were echoed Monday by Telegram co-founder Pavel Durov, himself the subject of a French probe into illegal activity on his platform. President Emmanuel "Macron's France is los-

Rupee Rises 13 Paise to 92.78 Against US Dollar in Early Trade

PUNE
Wakeup telangana

The rupee appreciated 13 paise to 92.78 against the US dollar in early trade on Monday, following a sharp drop in crude oil prices amid hopes of easing geopolitical tension and the impact of the Reserve Bank's measures. Forex traders, however, said the currency is likely to stay range-bound with the situation in West Asia remaining volatile after Iran closed the Strait of Hormuz for shipping.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 92.73 and moved up to 92.70 level before trading at 92.78 against the greenback in early deals, up 13 paise from the previous closing level. The rupee strengthened 28 paise to settle at 92.91 against the US dollar on Friday, a day after gaining 19 paise in the preceding session on Thursday. Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, rose by 0.22 per cent at 98.11. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, was trading 5.34 per cent down at USD 95.21 per barrel in futures trade. Analysts said the crude price bounced back from below the USD 90-a-barrel level reached on Friday, as the geopolitical situation.

Mythology Craze in Film Industry

Days after images of Ranbir Kapoor as Lord Ram in Nitesh Tiwari's Ramayana were released, Maddock Productions unveiled the poster of Mahavata Parushram, starring Vicky Kaushal, on April 19, Parusharam Jayanti. The poster presents Vicky in a fierce avatar, evoking the warrior sage and his spirit. Mahavata will be helmed by Stree director Amar Kaushik.

Both films will be competing with different versions of the same subject. Bhavna Talwar's Valmiki Ramayana, with music composed by Ilaiyaraaja, is slated for an October 2 release, weeks ahead of the Ranbir-Yash starrer. Hombale Films has also announced an animated version of Mahavata Parushram, set to release in 2027 alongside the Vicky Kaushal film. "The surge in mythological films today is a perfect mix of cultural rediscovery and commercial evolution. Stories like Kantara, Ramayana, and Jai



Hanuman tap into deeply rooted beliefs and familiarity, giving filmmakers a powerful emotional connect with audiences across regions. At the same time, advancements in VFX and scale now allow Indian cinema to present these epics as global spectacles, not just devotional stories. In an era where audiences seek both identity and grandeur, mythology offers the rare combination of nostalgia, universality, and blockbuster potential", says film ana-

lyst Ramesh Bala. Adding to the growing slate, Jio Studios has announced its next project, Krishna, directed by Manu Anand, which will be mounted on a native AI model. Vijay Subramaniam, Founder & Group CEO, Collective Artists Network, said, "Krishna is not just about rethinking how films are built, but also about where these stories can go. We're using technology being developed here in India to take our culture and history

to a global audience, at a scale that wasn't possible earlier. For us, this is a long-term priority, building stories that are rooted in who we are, but can travel anywhere in the world." Mythologicals were once a popular vehicle on Indian screens, with legendary stars like Prithviraj Kapoor and N. T. Rama Rao immortalising epics. Over time, however, these stories moved to television, where shows like Ramayana and Mahabharat

turned actors into icons. What is new is the shift back to the big screen — this time led by mainstream stars. From Mahesh Babu reportedly playing an avatar of Lord Ram in SS Rajamouli's time-travel odyssey Varanasi, to Rana Daggubati's home production Hiranyakashyap with the actor in the title role, and Nag Ashwin's sequel to the 2024 hit Kalki 2898 AD, which sees Amitabh Bachchan and Prabhas reprise their roles as the legendary Ashwatthama and Lord Ram, there is a clear trend.

Film stars in India have long enjoyed larger-than-life status, with some even having temples dedicated in their honour. But the recent surge of mainstream stars embracing mythology doesn't seem like a passing phase — it is also a strategic reinvention? "These roles tap into cultural memory and give actors a larger-than-life, almost divine recall value. When stars like Ranbir or Yash step into epics like Ramayana, they aren't just playing.

Chiranjeevi Extends Rs 20 Lakh Aid To makeup artist



MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Megastar Chiranjeevi has once again demonstrated that his greatness goes far beyond the silver screen. His compassion, humility, and willingness to help others continue to set him apart as a true leader in real life. In a deeply thoughtful gesture, he extended financial support of ₹10.5 lakhs to makeup artist Sivanath (Siva) for an urgent heart surgery. He personally ensured that Siva received complete care and emotional support throughout the treatment at Apollo Hospitals. Around the same time, he also came forward to help the family of his

former manager, KV Narasaiah, by contributing ₹9.5 lakhs for his wife's bypass surgery. His timely intervention provided crucial, life-saving assistance when the family needed it the most. Members of the movie unions initially approached the Megastar for help, and he immediately took full responsibility for the situation, stating he would handle everything. Beyond the financial contribution, Chiranjeevi personally intervened by speaking with the hospital authorities to secure a discount on the medical bills. He even went a step further by personally paying the final bill himself. In just one week, Megastar contributed a total of ₹20

lakhs towards medical emergencies, once again proving why he is admired not only as a legendary actor but also as a man with an exceptional sense of humanity and responsibility. This comes soon after he donated the entire prize money of ₹10 lakhs that he received for the NTR Award to various charitable trusts and ₹5 lakhs to the Telugu Film Journalists' Association, continuing his long-standing commitment to giving back to society. Chiranjeevi is not just a force on screen, but he is a shining example of kindness, generosity, and leadership off-screen, inspiring millions with his actions, adds a press release.

Sunrisers Hyderabad look to use home advantage against inconsistent Delhi Capitals

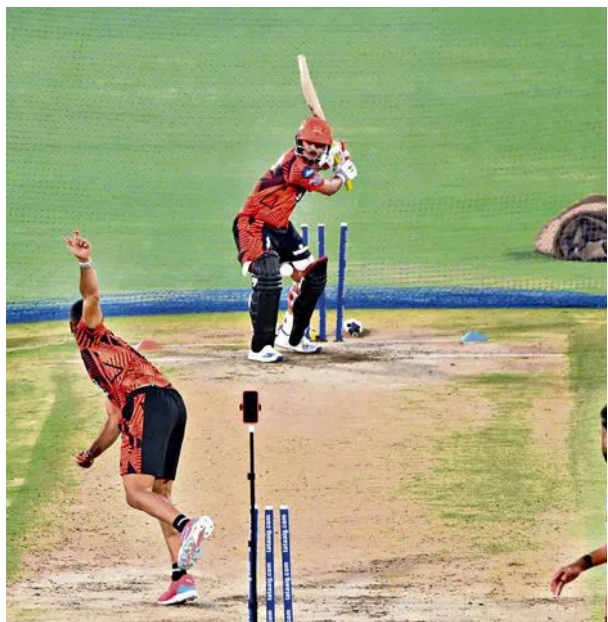
MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Sunrisers Hyderabad will look to make home advantage count when they take on inconsistent Delhi Capitals in a mid-table clash of the Indian Premier League here on Tuesday.

Both teams sit on six points, though fourth-placed Sunrisers Hyderabad are marginally ahead, having played a game more and boasting a superior net run rate.

For SRH, the narrative has been one of gradual correction. In the absence of skipper Pat Cummins, who has linked up with the squad but remains unavailable for this game, their bowling unit initially looked thin.

But over the last two games, a relatively unheralded group has stepped up. Names like Praful Hinge, Sakib Husain and Shivang Kumar have seized their opportunity, injecting both energy and control into the attack. Hinge's standout performance against Rajasthan Royals was followed



by a collective bowling effort, led by Eshan Malinga, against Chennai Super Kings, where SRH delivered a clinical exhibition of death bowling, helping them secure back-to-back wins at home. That resurgence with the ball has been central to their recent momentum. However, the same cannot be said of their batting. SRH's approach remains aggressively high-risk, but the returns have been inconsistent. Openers Travis Head and Abhishek Sharma, along

with stand-in captain Ishan Kishan, have not quite clicked together. The lack of collective starts has repeatedly exposed the middle order. As a result, the burden has largely fallen on Heinrich Klaasen. The South African has often walked in after the fall of quick wickets, forcing him to rebuild before launching. While capable of devastating acceleration, Klaasen has had to curb his natural instincts early, making his job significantly harder.

Tilak Varma's maiden IPL century powers MI to big win over GT

AHMEDABAD
Wakeup telangana

Tilak Varma played a knock for the ages as his maiden IPL century turned the corner for Mumbai Indians, with the five-time champions crushing Gujarat Titans by 99 runs here on Monday. Spurred by skipper Hardik Pandya's 'hard talk', asking him to get a move on during the strategic break after he had scratched his way to 19 off 22 balls, Tilak changed gears in a flash to amass 82 off the next 23 deliveries and end on an unbeaten 101 off 45 balls.

Mumbai Indians' 199 for 5 was good enough as Jasprit Bumrah broke his wicket-less streak of five matches with a first-ball dismissal of Sai Sudharshan, and GT never recovered from there, getting all out for 100 in 15.5 overs.

The introduction of left-arm seamer Ashwani Kumar proved to be decisive as he snared 4 for 24 to run through the Mitchell order along with Mitchell Santner (2 for 16 in 3



overs). The defeat also exposed the chinks in GT armoury, especially their fragile middle order where they have carried two 'non-performing assets' in Rahul Tewatia and M Shahrukh Khan for a long time.

Between them, they played 24 balls and scored only 25 runs, and it is baffling to see head coach Ashish Nehra placing so much faith in the duo. The win, after four straight defeats, took Mumbai Indians to seventh place in the points table, but more importantly, it improved their net run rate significantly

(+0.067). MI looked a different outfit till the 14th over when the second strategic time-out was taken. After that, Tilak did the unthinkable to give the total respectability, which looked improbable after the powerplay, thanks to an intimidating first spell by Kagiso Rabada. At the strategic time-out after the 14th over, TV cameras caught skipper Pandya animatedly telling something to Tilak, who had looked unconvincing till that point and was occasionally booed by the Motera crowd. After that break, one saw

the Tilak everyone knows, as he attacked GT's fastest bowlers. Prasad Krishna went for 19, and new pace sensation Ashok Sharma was taken apart for 26 runs.

Before Monday's innings, Tilak's poor form was one of the talking points as he managed only 43 runs in the previous five outings. In all, he hit eight fours and seven sixes on the day, with a few shots over covers and some hit down the ground.

Pandya (15 off 16 balls) did push Tilak but hardly did anything of note himself in their 81-run stand off 38 balls. The last six

overs yielded 96 runs, largely due to the inconsistent Prasad Krishna (1 for 54 in 4 overs), who gave away 41 in his final two overs.

This was after Rabada (3 for 33 in 4 overs) got the ball to seam quickly as he blew the top order away inside the powerplay to ensure that it would be another day of a below-par total for the five-time champions, who had been looking out of sorts until then.

Rabada, rated as one of the best bowlers of his generation alongside Pat Cummins, Bumrah and Josh Hazlewood, bowled a good length, faster and fuller, and attacked the stumps to take three wickets.

Danish Malewar (2) understood the gulf between domestic and world-class bowling as he could not get his bat down in time and Rabada trapped him plumb in front. Quinton de Kock (13 off 11 balls) played a square cut when Rabada gave him width, but a short ball saw him mistime a pull shot, which the bowler collected.

DGP lauds Nikhat Zareen, Police Athletes

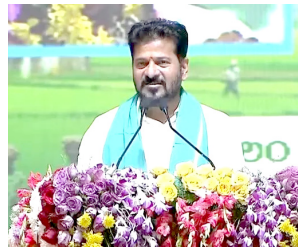


Director-General of Police B. Shivadhar Reddy congratulated DSP Nikhat Zareen for winning a bronze medal at the international boxing championship in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, from April 2 to 12. Felicitating her at his office on Monday, the DGP said she had brought pride and recognition to the police and the state. The DGP also appreciated the performance of state personnel at the 25th All India Police Water Sports Cluster competition in Uttarakhanda. Head constable N. Ramakrishna of 1st Battalion TGSP and constable J. Raju of CAR Siddipet secured a silver medal in the Rowing Coxless Pair (500m) category. Senior officials Mahesh M. Bhagwat and Gajjarao Bhupal, sports officer R.V. Rama Rao and coach P. Krishna Rao were present.

Nizam Would Have 'Hanged' KCR: CM

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Monday launched a scathing attack on BRS chief K. Chandrashekar Rao, stating it would be no sin even if he was 'hanged to death' for wasting Rs 1 lakh crore of public money on the Kaleshwaram project, which collapsed within three years of its inauguration during the previous BRS regime. Revanth Reddy remarked that if it was in the earlier times, like during the Nizam era, Rao would have been hanged for Kaleshwaram scam. He added that in a democratic system governed by the rule of law, the state government had instead ordered a CBI inquiry into the irregularities in the



project. Addressing a public meeting in Kataram mandal of Bhupalpally district after disbursing the second instalment of Rythu Bharosa funds for the ongoing yasangi season, Revanth Reddy threw an open challenge stating that he would ensure that Chandrashekar Rao would lose his current status as Leader of Opposition in the 2029 polls. Revanth Reddy further responded to Rao's claim, at his public meeting earlier, that the BRS "victory march"

would begin from Jagtial, remarking that he would politically "bury" both the BRS and Rao "100 metres deep" in Jagtial in the next elections. Revanth Reddy expressed confidence that the Congress-led "people's government" would secure a second term in 2029 and continue in power until 2034. The Chief Minister announced that over 45 lakh farmers benefited from the Rythu Bharosa second instalment amounting to Rs 2,200 crore. Together with the first instalment of Rs 3,500 crore released last month, a total of Rs 5,700 crore has been disbursed so far. He assured that the government would release the third and final instalment of Rs 3,300 crore in May, taking

the total disbursement under Rythu Bharosa for the season to Rs 9,000 crore. Citing political trends, the Chief Minister said history had shown that parties in the state, between 1994 and 2024, typically remained in power for 10 years, and he was determined to repeat that pattern by leading Congress to consecutive terms in government. The Chief Minister also came down heavily on senior leader T. Jeevan Reddy, who quit the Congress to join the BRS. Accusing him of betrayal, Revanth Reddy said Jeevan Reddy had been given opportunities by the Congress to contest Assembly, Lok Sabha and Council elections 14 times despite repeated defeats.

17 Rescued From Gachibowli Blaze

Firefighters evacuate residents in 22 minutes after a basement fire triggers thick smoke

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Firefighters, swiftly acting under the 'Incident Command', chalked out an evacuation plan within 22 minutes and rescued 17 persons, including an 18-month-old boy, trapped in thick smoke from a G+4 building in TNGOs Colony, Gachibowli, on Monday. Two inmates who panicked and tried to escape sustained severe burns. Over 11 motorbikes and furniture in the basement were gutted, officials said. "We all panicked after thick smoke engulfed our houses. We were hardly able to breathe and screamed for help. Firefighters with sirens and torches reached the first floor and guided us safely to the terrace. They also split into rooms and res-



cued two children trapped in smoke," said Venay Kumar, a resident. The fire broke out in the basement at 7.02 am. Fire tenders from Gachibowli and Madhapur rushed to the scene. "On observing the building's topography, we conducted Incident Command with Khaja Kareemullah as commanding officer. Teams split into three: One extinguished the basement fire, another prepared Fire Bronto machines after tripping the current supply, and the third climbed the staircase to rescue inmates," said leading fire officer N. Balakrishna.

"The Incident Command role is crucial. Even a slight mistake can lead to complications," Balakrishna added. "Our fighters promptly initiated firefighting and rescue operations; unfortunately, two persons sustained severe burn injuries," Kareemullah said. Preliminary observations indicate the fire originated from an electrical panel board in the cellar. The blaze spread to the first floor before being extinguished, causing thick smoke to affect upper floors. N. Rajashekar, an IT company employee, sustained severe burns and was admitted in the ICU of an hospital. Around 13 others were admitted for smoke inhalation, while others were treated as outpatients, police said.

Food adulteration drive: Rs 7.78 lakh worth milk, ghee seized in Hyderabad



HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

In a special drive against milk and ghee adulteration across the state, the Telangana Food Safety Commission seized adulterated dairy products worth Rs 7.78 lakh in Hyderabad alone. On April 16, food safety officials conducted 71 inspections and collected 91 samples to check food adulteration and food hygiene throughout Telangana. Last month, 3,892 kg of adulterated paneer and dairy products worth Rs 11,11,600 were busted in Ganj Bazar, Secunderabad. Six people, operating the retail and wholesale outlets, were also arrested during the

raid. Officials found that the paneer and other dairy items, such as khoa, white cream, ghee and kalakand, were stored under open plastic covers, exposing them to dust, flies, and contaminants. The products also lacked proper labelling, including brand name, manufacturing date, expiry date, and pest control records, indicating serious violations of food safety standards. Inspections also revealed that the milk centers were operating without a valid registration certificate and sold loose packets of milk and ghee. Show cause notices have been issued to the violators, and samples have been sent for laboratory analysis.

Hyderabad citizens demand release of labor activists arrested in Noida

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Several activists and residents of Hyderabad staged a protest on Monday, April 20, demanding the release of those arrested for supporting the labour movement in Noida. Protestors accused the Uttar Pradesh police of adopting "repressive and conspiratorial measures" against workers demanding wage hikes. They said that instead of finding the real cause behind the April 13 vio-



lence, the state government has taken to blaming labour activists, terming them 'urban naxals' and linking them to Pakistan. The protestors said that five labour activ-

ists, Rupesh, Maneesha, Aditya, Akriti and Shrishti, have been arrested and levelled with false charges of inciting violence through WhatsApp groups.

Defending the arrested activists, the protestors said that social activists and independent journalists have come forward with evidence that it was people associated with senior officers of UP police who posted provocative messages in WhatsApp groups, while those accused by the police had only called for a peaceful and non-violent demonstration. They accused the UP Police of undertaking a "witch hunt" of intellectuals and activists supporting the movement on

social media and said that in Lucknow, police raided a progressive bookstore, Janchetna and abducted Satyam Varma, a senior journalist and editor of the collected works of Bhagat Singh in Hindi. Saying that UP is witnessing a fascist repression of basic civil rights, the protestors demanded that the aforementioned intellectuals, activists, and labour supporters must be released unconditionally and all false charges against them be withdrawn immediately.

EV Chargers To Be Mandatory In Apartments

The government will soon issue orders making it mandatory for gated communities and apartment complexes to install EV charging portals. The transport, fire and electricity departments are preparing the notification as sales of electric vehicles have spiked by 22 per cent since the state's EV policy came into effect. Transport commissioner K. Ilambarthi, IAS, told Deccan Chronicle that in the past year the department has introduced several reforms aimed at reducing carbon footprint and road fatalities. "The benefits manufacturers are enjoying under the EV policy must also translate into infrastructure. They should come forward to invest in charging facilities, especially in rural areas where availability is close to zero," he said. Data shows strong public response to the policy. In FY 2024-25, before the policy (April-15 November 2024), 47,730 EVs were registered. After the policy (16 November 2024-March 2025), 29,344 were registered. In FY 2025-26, registrations rose sharply to 91,572, taking the total to 1,68,646. Officials said transformer upgrades will be required in gated communities and apartments to support charging infrastructure, with fire safety also a top priority.

SCB move to collect property tax directly triggers confusion

Secunderabad Cantonment Board's plan to directly collect Transfer of Property Tax from June 1 has sparked confusion, with registration officials citing lack of legal backing. Stakeholders warn the move could disrupt property transactions and create hardship for citizens and developers.

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Secunderabad Cantonment Board's (SCB) decision to directly collect Transfer of Property Tax (TPT) from June 1 has triggered widespread confusion among property owners and developers, as state registration officials claim there is currently no legal provision for such a shift. The uncertainty started when SCB CEO Arvind Kumar Dwivedi issued a public notice following Cantonment Board members' approval on April 6 to begin direct collection of TPT charges. Sub Registrar Officer (SRO) of the Registration and Stamps Department, Syed Sadiq Ali, who oversees registration of properties within the Secunderabad Cantonment, said, "There is no provision for collecting TPT charges by Secunderabad Cantonment directly. The TPT charges have traditionally been processed only through the Reg-



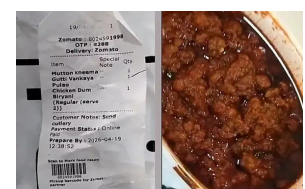
istration and Stamps Department." The SRO said the SCB officials had approached him recently to discuss the issue. "We directed them to contact the Commissioner, Registration and Stamps Department, for taking a final decision. So far, I have not received any official orders from the Commissioner," Sadiq Ali said. According to SCB's public notice, a TPT of 5 per cent on sale consideration or document value will be paid directly to SCB prior to registration of property instead of being paid through the State IGRS portal from June 1. "In case of non-compliance with this procedure and registration without payment or underpayment of the TPT to SCB before registration, it will attract interest at the rate

of 1 per cent per month on the due amount and also a penalty under Section 333 of the Cantonments Act, 2006," the CEO warned. Non-compliant cases may also lead to denial of municipal services, permissions or approvals, and other legal actions as deemed fit. Any registration or transfer carried out without compliance shall be liable for further legal action as per law, said the SCB official. Meanwhile, SCB-based NGO Cantonment Vikas Manch condemned the abrupt decision to shift TPT collection directly to the Cantonment Board from June 1, 2026, without taking the State government agencies into confidence, which would ensure smooth property transactions for the public. "This will create confusion and hardship for citizens, builders and property owners," said Sanki Ravinder Babu, general secretary of the Cantonment Vikas Manch.

Cyberabad DCP orders mutton kheema online, receives rotten curry

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

A Zomato food order turned out to be a nightmare for Cyberabad Deputy Commissioner of Police A Muthyam Reddy when he received stale mutton kheema curry on Sunday, April 19. The officer ordered the curry from an eatery called Telugu Medium Restaurant located on Road No 46 in Jubilee Hills. When the order arrived, the DCP noticed a foul smell from the dish. Based on his complaint,



the Jubilee Hills police registered a case. Soon after, officials raided the restaurant, seized food samples and handed them over to food safety officials for analysis. The case is under investigation. The previous day, a Big Basket warehouse in Kompally was raided to find serious violations, including unhygienic transport of food items.

Power outages disrupt Manjeera water supply in Hyderabad

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

The Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWS&SB) faced disruption to the Manjeera water supply system after frequent dust storms, hailstorms and unseasonal rains caused fallen trees and broken power lines, interrupting power supply and temporarily halting water pumping at Singur and Manjeera. As a result, areas in the city and suburbs including R C Puram, BHEL, Chandanagar, Miyapur, Kukatpally, Erragadda, S R Nagar and Sanathnagar

experienced delays or disruptions in drinking water supply, according to an official statement issued by the HMWS&SB Managing Director, K Ashok Reddy on Monday. "The conditions are negatively impacting the performance of the old Manjeera water supply system. Even short power outages lasting 15 to 30 minutes are significantly affecting the operations of the Manjeera system's pumping stations," he said. Due to a power outage on Sunday, pumping was halted for approximately seven hours, severely affecting scheduled opera-

tions. The official said frequent power supply interruptions halted the pumping process and led to operational inefficiencies, changes in water pressure and delays in providing a steady water supply, affecting supply in several areas. The Water Board official said it was continuously monitoring the situation and taking necessary actions to restore water supply to affected areas, while measures were also being taken to maintain regular water supply in other regions, the water board statement said.

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