



Abhishek Sharma hits 138 as Sunrisers beat DC by 47 runs: P7



Gulf Fears US-Iran Talks May Entrench Iran's Hormuz Grip: P4

Harish Rao slams Revanth Reddy over Kaleshwaram remarks: P2



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

Army Asserts No Tolerance For Terrorism

Ahead of the first anniversary of the Pahalgam terror attack, the Indian Army on Tuesday issued a strong and unequivocal message underscoring the nation's resolve to respond decisively to acts that violate the basic boundaries of humanity. Through a post on social media, the Additional Director General of Public Information (ADG PI) reiterated that India remained united in the face of terrorism and that justice followed when such lines were crossed. "When boundaries of humanity are crossed, the response is decisive. Justice is served. India stands united," the post read, accompanied by a stark poster declaring, "Some boundaries should never be crossed. India does not forget."

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Hyderabad Beats Heat



As temperatures soar in Hyderabad, residents battle the scorching summer heat by turning to cold juices, coconut water, and other refreshing drinks to stay cool. —Photo: Mir Zulfeqar Ali

Kharge Clarifies Terrorist Jibe at PM Modi

NEW DELHI
 Wakeup telangana

Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge courted controversy on the last day of the election campaign in Tamil Nadu. Highlighting opposition unity during the defeat of the Delimitation Bill, which had also been



linked to the passage of the Women's Reservation Bill, the Congress President criticised the AIADMK for supporting the BJP and labelled PM

Modi a 'terrorist who does not believe in equality.' "I also thank the Tamil Nadu people who have given MPs to us, that's why we were able to fight and defeat the bill. This is the land of scientific thinking and ideals of Periyar, Dr. Ambedkar, Annadurai, great Kamaraj and Karunanidhi. These

people stood for this women's reservation, justice, equality, and fraternity. Modi is not for these principles and one more thing I want to tell how this AIADMK people who themselves put the photo of Annadurai, how can they join with Modi who is a terrorist and who

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Trump Warns Iran: Deal or Face Bombing

When asked if he would extend the ceasefire with Iran to allow time for the peace talks to reach a deal to end the war, Trump said, "Well, I don't want to do that."

NEW DELHI
 Wakeup telangana

US President Donald Trump on Tuesday threatened to bomb Iran if they do not agree to a deal before the end of the two-week ceasefire on Wednesday, even as Pakistan urged the two sides to extend the truce and give diplomacy a chance. Trump had indicated that his team of negotiators could reach Islamabad by Monday night for talks, while the Iranian delegation was also expected to travel to Islamabad, but so far, there was no sign of any peace maker in Islamabad.

Pakistan's Information Minister Attaullah Tarrar on Tuesday evening said his country was still waiting for a formal response from Iran regarding its participation in the second round of talks with the US. Underlining that the ceasefire ends at 4:50 am PST Wednesday, he said, "Decision from Iran to attend the talks before the end of the two-week



ceasefire is critical." Trump said that if the ceasefire ends without an agreement, he is prepared to resume attacking Iran. "I expect to be bombing because I think that's a better attitude to go in with," he told CNBC's 'Squawk Box'.

When asked if he would extend the ceasefire with Iran to allow time for the peace talks to reach a deal to end the war, Trump said, "Well, I don't want to do that." "They have to negotiate. And, you know, the one thing I'll say is this: Iran can get themselves on a very good footing. If they make a deal, they can make themselves into a strong nation again, a wonderful nation again," he added. The President said he thinks the US is "going to end up

with a great deal" with Iran to end the week-long war. "I think they have no choice," Trump said when asked about his expectations from the second round of negotiations with Iran. "We've taken out their navy, we've taken out their air force, we've taken out their leaders," he said. "We've taken out their leaders, frankly, which does complicate things in one way, but these leaders are much more rational," Trump said. "It is regime change, no matter what you want to call it, which is not something I said I was going to do, but I've done it indirectly."

The first round of the US-Iran talks held on 11 and 12 April failed to produce the desired results for the parties, leading to a flurry of activities by host Pakistan to cool tempers and raise hopes for another round of dialogue. Amidst uncertainty over the US-Iran talks, Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister Ishaq Dar on Tuesday urged the

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Shah To Fasttrack Gorkhaland State

NEW DELHI
 Wakeup telangana

Assuring the Gorkhas at Darjeeling in West Bengal of fulfilling their long-standing demand for Gorkhaland, Union home minister Amit Shah made clear on Tuesday that a "solution" for the hill community would be a reality within six months of BJP forming government after winning the Assembly polls. Shah, who addressed a poll campaign rally at Kurseong, also asserted that Union home ministry's interlocutor, Pankaj Kumar Singh, a retired IPS officer, would

He later reiterated the withdrawal of false cases, filed by the Trinamul Congress government, on them

prepare a report after finishing his talks with all the Gorkha organisations and the state government. Shah sprang a surprise stating that names of some Gorkhas, which had been deleted in the Election Commission's special intensive revision (SIR), would be added to the voters list after the polls. He later reiterated the withdrawal of false cases,

filed by the Trinamul Congress government, on them. Shah said, "We will find such a solution which will bring smiles on the face of all Gorkhas within six months of BJP forming government here. Congress and TMC did injustice to Darjeeling and Gorkhas earlier. I have been visiting here for nine years. But I promise you today I will solve the decade-old issue of the Gorkhas according to their wish." He added, "I understand you and your problems. Except BJP, no one can solve your problems."

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US Forces Board Sanctioned Tanker in Indo-Pacific: Pentagon

NEW DELHI
 Wakeup telangana

U.S. forces boarded a sanctioned tanker without incident in the Indo-Pacific region as part of its efforts to disrupt vessels providing support to Iran, the Pentagon said in a post on X on Tuesday: The development comes as Iranian state television on Tuesday issued an on-screen alert saying that "no delegation from Iran has visited Islamabad ... so far" as speculation about possible talks with the United States grows. The on-screen alert likely

reflects the internal debate ongoing within Iran's theocracy as it weighs how to respond to the U.S. Navy's seizure of an Iranian container ship over the weekend. Iranian state TV long has been controlled by hard-liners within Iran's theocracy. S President Donald Trump on Monday (local time) claimed that the United States is in a strong position in its ongoing conflict with Iran, asserting that American military actions have weakened Tehran, even as fresh diplomatic talks are set to begin.

T'gana Govt Issues 1st Bhudhaar Card To Resolve Land Issues

HYDERABAD
 Wakeup telangana

The first Bhudhaar card with a unique 14-digit number was issued to a farmer for agricultural land in Khammam district on Tuesday under the newly introduced Bhu Bharati Act. It is designed on the lines of the Aadhaar card issued to individuals and aims to establish clear ownership of land. As part of the land administration reforms, the government

New system links survey maps with a unique ID to ensure clear land ownership

has made it mandatory to attach a survey map for all agricultural land registrations. Revenue minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy said that the government had integrated the revenue, survey, and registration departments through a unified Bhu Bharati portal to streamline property registrations and provide a permanent

solution to land disputes. The integrated portal was launched on a pilot basis last month in five mandals — Kusumanchi in Khammam district, Kosgi in Narayanpet district, Aswaraopeta in Bhadradi Kothagudem district, Amangal in Rangareddy district, and Vatpally in Sangareddy district. The first registration with a survey map was completed on Tuesday in Kusumanchi mandal of Paleru constituency in

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ESTD 1960

ASTORIA HOTEL

Hyderabad Laziz Biryani

ek baar khaoge baar baar aage

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

TGSRTC Strike from Midnight as Govt Talks Fail

HYDERABAD
 Wakeup telangana

TGSRTC will go off the roads across the state from Wednesday, with employees and workers' unions under a joint action committee (JAC) beginning their statewide indefinite strike beginning midnight Tuesday. The decision was taken after four hours of talks between the state government and JAC leaders on Tuesday failed to yield any breakthrough on the

long-pending 32 demands raised by the unions. The strike is set to affect nearly 60 lakh passengers daily, including around 40 lakh women passengers. Following the failed negotiations, the JAC directed all depots to halt buses from the first service on Wednesday, marking the first such major strike in over six-and-a-half years since the 55-day RTC strike in October 2019 during the previous BRS regime. Union leaders said the govern-

The strike is set to affect nearly 60 lakh passengers daily, including around 40 lakh women passengers.

ment failed to provide assurance on even one out of their 32 demands. The JAC reiterated that their demands were not new, but long-standing issues, many of which were included in the Congress party's election manifesto.

They said that despite serving a strike notice on March 13, it took 41 days for the government to invite them for discussions, and that too hours before the deadline. The JAC demanded immediate implementation of promises made to RTC workers, including merger of the corporation with the state government, provision of government pay scales and job security to staff, starting recruitments, conduct of union elections, and handing

over of electric buses to RTC. They also insisted that RTC operations, including buses, should remain under the corporation. The JAC rejected the government's proposal to constitute a high-level committee and four weeks to resolve the issues. The committee, formed earlier on Tuesday, comprises senior IAS officials including the special chief secretary (transport and roads & buildings) as chairperson, along with the special

chief secretary (labour, employment, training and factories), the principal secretary (finance), and vice-chairman and managing director of the TGSRTC. The panel has been tasked with examining all issues and submitting a report within four weeks. JAC leaders termed the formation of the committee as a mere delaying tactic. RTC JAC chairman E. Venkanna alleged that the government was wast-

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Harish Rao slams Revanth Reddy over Kaleshwaram remarks

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BRS deputy floor leader T Harish Rao criticised Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy for terming the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme a failed project earlier and now indirectly acknowledging its utility. He said the Chief Minister lacked technical understanding of irrigation systems and was making irresponsible remarks. Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan on Tuesday, Harish Rao said Revanth Reddy had indirectly admitted that Kaleshwaram remains functional by promising repairs to the Medigadda barrage. "For months, the Congress claimed the project had collapsed. Now they say it can be repaired and used.



This exposes their false narrative," he said. The former Irrigation Minister attributed the shift to warnings of a possible drought due to a Super El Nino. He said repair works were delayed despite expert advice and repeated demands by the BRS. Detailing the project's scale, he said Kaleshwaram comprises three barrages, 15 reservoirs, 19 substations, 21 pump houses, 203 km of tunnels and over 1,500 km

of canals, with a storage capacity of 141 TMC ft. "Each component is critical to ensuring irrigation support across Telangana, even during drought," he added. Harish Rao also dismissed claims by the Chief Minister on the Yelalpalli project, asserting that key works were completed during the BRS regime. He said the previous BRS government expanded irrigation coverage and modernised the

Sriram Sagar Project canals, including its long-pending second phase. "Revanth Reddy said I was roaming in my shorts when former Chief Minister YS Rajasekhara Reddy laid the foundation stone. But the fact is that I was a Minister in the YSR Cabinet, while Revanth Reddy himself was roaming in his knickers among my followers," he said, offering to send photographs if Revanth Reddy wanted. The senior BRS leader accused Revanth Reddy of attempting to politically counter BRS chief K Chandrashekhara Rao by holding a parallel public meeting in the same region during the latter's Jagtial rally. "Instead of focusing on governance, he chose competition. The public response made the difference clear," he said, pointing to online viewer-

ship for both the meetings. On agriculture, Harish Rao alleged that the Congress government had failed farmers, citing delays in Rythu Bharosa payments and fertiliser shortages. He said only Rs 2,000 per acre was released in haste ahead of the BRS meeting, leaving dues pending. "Why should farmers wait for political events to receive their dues?" he asked.

He also raised concerns over delays in welfare payments, employment promises and infrastructure works. "The government has failed farmers, youth, employees and the poor," he said, asserting that despite Revanth Reddy's diversion politics, the BRS will return to power.

Women's Reservation Bill: Postcard Signature Campaign Demands Immediate Implementation

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

District Mahila Congress President Neelam Padma Venkataswamy demanded the immediate implementation of the Women's Reservation Bill. A postcard signature campaign was organized with the slogan "Mahila Aarakshan Bill Aaj Karo, Abhi Karo" at Mudiraj Bhavan in Bommalaramam mandal. As part of the program, women signed postcards addressed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi in New Delhi, urging the government to implement women's reservation without delay. The signed postcards were later sent through the post office. Speaking on the occasion, Neelam Padma Venkataswamy alleged that the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) lacks sincerity



regarding the Women's Reservation Bill and is misleading the public. She stated that the bill was already passed unanimously in Parliament in 2023 and questioned why it has not yet been implemented. She criticized the linking of women's reservation with delimitation and the proposal to increase the number of Lok Sabha and Assembly seats. According to her, such steps could negatively impact smaller states and weaken the federal structure. The Congress party is demanding that women's reservation be implemented

immediately based on the current number of constituencies, without linking it to delimitation. She also accused the BJP of using the issue for political purposes and delaying its implementation. Several leaders participated in the program, including State Secretary Pavani, District General Secretary Pushpa Kavitha, DCC spokesperson Tirumala Kavitha, and Mandal leaders Sangeetha, Yanjala Kala, Edama Pushpa, Bhoga Kalpana, Mamatha, B. Kavitha, D. Sunitha, and Rampalli Santoshi, along with many women supporters.

Women and students brace for hardships amid RTC strike

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Tension is mounting across RTC depots as the employees' strike called by RTC Joint Action Committee (JAC) which is set to begin from Tuesday midnight, could disrupt public transport services.



However, the State government is reportedly preparing contingency plans, including deploying private drivers to operate buses. The unions warn that inexperienced drivers navigating the city's busy roads could pose serious safety risks to the public. Past incidents involving less experienced drivers have raised concerns as well. The JAC has issued a strong warning, stating it will block buses from leaving depots if any strike-breaking measures are attempted. In response, the Home Department has reportedly decided to deploy around 5,000 police personnel at key depots to maintain law and order.

With nearly 14.2 lakh women availing free bus travel daily in the city, the strike could significantly impact commuters. If services halt, passengers may be forced to rely on private transport, including cabs, leading to an additional financial burden on the public. As per reports, a recent confidential report from the Transport Department to the government has indicated that regulating auto fares during the strike period may not be feasible. Daily wage workers, women, and students are expected to bear the brunt of the disruption. To minimise inconvenience, authorities

have directed Regional Transport Officers (RTOs) to arrange alternative transport district-wise. Data on private drivers and vehicles are being collected, and efforts are underway to mobilise as many private vehicles as possible within GHMC limits. Monitoring officers are also likely to be appointed to oversee operations. The strike is likely to result in significant revenue losses for the corporation. On average, RTC generates between Rs 13 crore and Rs 16 crore daily, with earnings rising up to Rs 18 crore during peak or festive days. With a fleet of

9,375 buses, each bus contributes roughly Rs 18,000 per day. With RTC services expected to halt, commuter pressure is likely to shift to alternative systems such as Hyderabad Metro Rail and MMTS trains. Authorities anticipate overcrowding, especially during peak hours. Meanwhile, uncertainty remains over how effectively the government can provide alternatives for women commuters who rely heavily on free bus travel. There are also concerns that private transport operators may exploit the situation by charging higher fares. RTC JAC Chairman Venkanna said the strike had become unavoidable and would continue until all 32 demands were resolved. The previous RTC strike was of 52 days long in October 2019, one of the longest labour agitations in the state's history. The strike had severely impacted the public transport services.

Tejaswi Surya Must Apologise to Telangana

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BJP MP Tejasvi Surya has sparked widespread outrage after comparing the formation of Telangana with the Partition of India during a Parliament Special Session. The comment has been condemned as insensitive and factually incorrect, hurting public sentiment across the state. Telangana's formation followed a decades-



long democratic movement rooted in aspirations for self-respect and regional identity. Critics say equating it with the violent and

tragic Partition undermines the sacrifices made during the statehood struggle and disrespects those who laid down their lives. Silence from BJP leaders in Telangana has also drawn criticism, with concerns that party loyalty is being prioritised over the interests of the people. The issue has intensified amid ongoing debates on delimitation and federal balance.

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has proposed a hybrid model for fair representation, while Shashi Tharoor has advocated degressive proportionality. Observers say Surya's remarks reflect disregard for such perspectives and raise concerns about weakening federal principles. There are growing calls for an unconditional apology and withdrawal of the statement.

Power Employees Issues Raised, Minister Assures Action

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Minister Dr. Gaddam Vivek Venkatswami assured prompt action on issues raised by electricity employees during a meeting with Boorugulu Vijayabhaskara Rao, State President of the National Malle Electricity Employees Union, at the Telangana Ambedkar Secretariat. The Minister said he would take up the concerns with the Chief



Minister and ensure appropriate steps are taken soon. The union highlighted key problems, including lack of adequate medical facilities for electricity

staff, pending backlog vacancies for SC, ST, and BC categories, and difficulties faced by artisan employees in the department. Vijayabhaskara Rao also invited the Minister to inaugurate the union's new office in Bhadradri Kothagudem district. Responding positively, the Minister appreciated the union's efforts and assured that employee welfare issues would be addressed on priority.

A Heartfelt Farewell to a Dedicated Educator: Felicitation for HM Pakala Ramanarsaiah

After more than three decades of dedicated service in the field of education, Mr. Pakala Ramanarsaiah, Headmaster of Mandal Parishad Primary School, Pittalagudem, will retire on April 30 upon attaining the age of 61. In recognition of his remarkable contribution to shaping the lives of thousands of students, a grand felicitation ceremony is being organized in his honour. The event will be held on April 22 at Donthiri Somireddy Gardens, Koluupaka Road, Aleru, under the supervision of his friends, colleagues, and well-wishers. A Proud Son of Aleru and an Ideal Teacher Born in Aleru, Mr. Ramanarsaiah completed his primary and secondary education entirely in government institutions. He belongs to the 1980-81 batch of Zilla Parishad High School, Aleru. During his student years, he actively participated in athletics and volleyball and took part in several competitions. A Journey of Determination and Hard Work From a young age, he faced many challenges and hardships, yet he moved forward with determination and strong willpower. Through dedication and commitment, he established himself as a respected teacher and an inspiration to many. A Life Dedicated to Service - Currently serving as Headmaster at Mandal Parishad Primary School, Pittalagudem, in Rajapet Mandal, he is known for his simplicity, friendly nature, and straightforward attitude. His positive approach and sincere commitment have earned him the admiration of both colleagues and students.

Dr. Aravind Sai Kalinga Appointed as Sangareddy Doctor Cell Chairman

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In a significant move aimed at strengthening healthcare services, Dr. Aravind Sai Kalinga has been appointed as the Chairman of the Doctor Cell, Medical and Health Department for Sangareddy district. The appointment is being viewed as a positive step toward enhancing medical infrastructure and public health services in the region. Dr. Aravind Sai Kalinga received his official appointment letter at a special ceremony held at Gandhi Bhavan in Hyderabad.



The letter was handed over by State Doctor Cell and Medical & Health Department Chairman Dr. M. Rajeev. The event was attended by several party leaders, medical pro-

fessionals, and supporters, who extended their congratulations. Following the ceremony, Dr. Aravind Sai Kalinga met with State Minister for Medical, Health, Family Welfare, and Science & Technology C. Damodar Rajanarsimha. The minister

advised him to focus on delivering quality healthcare services to both rural and urban populations. He also emphasized the importance of effectively implementing government health schemes to ensure maximum public benefit. Expressing gratitude, Dr. Aravind Sai Kalinga thanked Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, Health Minister C. Damodar Rajanarsimha, and TPCC President and MLC Mahesh Kumar God for entrusting him with this responsibility. "Along with honor comes responsibility. I consider it a privilege to serve the people. I will work towards improving healthcare services in Sangareddy district, particularly focusing on accessible and affordable care for the poor and rural communities," he stated.

Southern States Urged to Enact Advocates Protection Law

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Association of South Indian Advocates (AISA) has urged southern states to enact laws similar to Telangana's newly passed Advocates' Protection Act, 2026, to ensure the safety of legal professionals. Welcoming Telangana's move, AISA described the legislation as a crucial step in safeguarding advocates from threats, assaults, and professional obstruction. The Association noted that the Act has been widely appreciated by the legal fraternity, with many expressing relief over the



statutory protection now in place. AISA President S. Suman called on the governments of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala to introduce similar measures without delay. He stressed that protecting advocates is essential for

maintaining the integrity of the justice delivery system. Office bearers Aagun Srinivas and Akula Yugender supported the demand, highlighting the need for uniform legal safeguards across southern states.

Dedicated Teacher Boda Aruna to Retire After Distinguished Service



Ms Boda Aruna, School Assistant (Social), is set to retire on April 30, 2026, upon attaining superannuation, bringing to a close an inspiring teaching career spanning over four decades. Born on April 4, 1965, to B. Ananda Swamy and Vara Laxmi, Aruna hails from a humble background rooted in strong family values. She began her career in education at a young age, receiving her first appointment on April 3, 1984, as a Special Teacher at Primary School, Kesaram, in the Bhongir area. She entered into married life on April 4, 1986, and successfully balanced her personal and professional responsibilities with dedication and grace.

Mancherial Ambedkar study circle cries for attention of officials

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Dr BR Ambedkar study circle, established by the BRS government in Mancherial town and regarded as a reliable destination for aspirants of government jobs, is crying for the attention of officials.

The study circle was created by the Libraries Corporation on the premises of Mancherial district centre's library for the convenience of the aspirants from the district centre and neighbouring Mandamarri, Srirampur, Chennur and Luxettipet towns, spending Rs 60 lakh in 2017. It had become a ray of hope for unemployed people who were forced to go to Hyderabad to prepare for competitive examinations in the past.

The facility was equipped with an AC hall, computers, internet and 600 books meant for aspirants



of government jobs. Experienced and prominent experts were retained to offer quality coaching to aspirants of employment opportunities in the government sector, besides supplying relevant books free of cost. Significantly, the coaching provided at the circle played a vital role in helping 121 candidates from the district crack government jobs so far.

However, the job aspirants said that the circle

lost its sheen over a period of time. They regretted that it was now lacking basic amenities such as toilets, books, chairs, etc. They also expressed concern over the administration of the library which was thrown to the wind due to staff crunch, causing inconvenience. The candidates recalled that the Congress won the mandate of electors by promising to create employment opportunities.

The unemployed candidates stated that the government was showing negligence in operating the study circles set up by the previous government for unknown reasons. They feared that they would be forced again to depend on Hyderabad to find coaching centres if the problems at the facility were not addressed. They urged officials to take steps to revive the glory of the circle by resolving major challenges and improving the administration of the library. When asked, in-charge librarian Murali said that efforts were on to better the amenities by allocating funds. He stated that steps were being taken to improve the administration of the circle. He admitted that the library was understaffed affecting the administration of the circle, irking the visitors and aspirants.

Telangana govt issues orders on employee transfers, census staff left out

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The State government on Tuesday issued orders lifting a ban on transfers of employees. However, the order is not applicable to everyone as employees drafted or appointed for census-related work are ineligible for such transfers.

This clause mentioned in point number 11 has dashed the hopes of many employees, particularly teachers who are drafted into census work. The order specifically mentioned that the transfers should be made from May 1 to 31, 2026. The ban on transfers would come into force effective June 1, 2026.

As per the orders, persons having completed three years in a particular station as on January 1, 2026 are eligible for transfers. However, this condition



need not be followed in respect of transfer requests on spouse grounds. Employees beyond four years of service in a particular station as on December 31, 2025 should not be retained. However, employees who are retiring before May 31, 2027 should not be transferred despite completing four years of service, unless they make a specific request for their transfer, the order stated.

Based on this transfer policy, the Education department would formulate detailed operational

guidelines for transfer of teachers and lecturers. The Police department would frame specific guidelines for transfer of police personnel separately.

All transfers should be effected by the competent authorities as per the existing rules and orders on delegation. They should be effected only with the approval of the committees constituted for the purpose. The government directed that the entire process should be completed as per the schedule of transfers.

Kishan Reddy announces new coal sales mechanism

Union Minister for Coal and Mines, G Kishan Reddy, announced the introduction of a coal exchange to allow consumers to procure coal of their preferred grade. He emphasised the need for government coal companies, including SCCL, to maintain strict quality standards and reduce production costs to remain competitive.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Union Minister for Coal and Mines G. Kishan Reddy has announced that a new coal sale mechanism through a proposed coal exchange is being introduced to allow consumers across India to procure coal of their preferred grade from suppliers of their choice. The initiative aims to create a more competitive and transparent coal market, where pricing and quality will play a decisive role. Speaking during a nationwide review of coal companies held via video conference from New Delhi on Tuesday, the Minister emphasized that maintaining high coal quality will be crucial for public sector coal companies to retain and expand their market share.

He directed all government coal companies to enhance competitiveness by strictly adhering to quality standards while also working towards reducing production costs. Kishan Reddy specifically reviewed the performance of Singareni



Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) and advised the organization to focus on supplying high-quality coal at competitive prices.

He stressed the need for efficient execution of new mining projects and timely achievement of production targets to strengthen SCCL's position in the evolving coal market. During the review, SCCL Chairman and Managing Director Dr. Buddhaprakash Jyoti presented the company's future roadmap through a PowerPoint presentation. He informed that efforts are underway to secure necessary forest and environmental clearances for five new open cast projects this year. These include JK OC at Yellandu, Manuguru Open cast Extension, Ramagundam OC-1

Phase-III, Goleti OC, and RK Open cast Project. Additionally, approvals for non-forest land are required for seven other upcoming projects. The CMD also noted that SCCL is taking steps to improve coal quality and increase dispatches to prevent stock accumulation during the summer season.

He further highlighted that due to the non-availability of Compensatory Afforestation (CA) land, granting CPSU status to SCCL is essential to expedite the grounding of new mining projects. The Minister reiterated that coal companies must adapt to the competitive environment by improving efficiency, reducing costs, and ensuring consistent supply of quality coal to sustain long-term growth.

Ambedkar's Grandson Meets Telangana Youth Leader

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In a key meeting held in Mumbai, Karka Nagaraju, President of the All India Ambedkar Yuvajana Sangham (AIAYS), Greater Hyderabad, met Bhimrao Yashwant Ambedkar, grandson of B. R. Ambedkar, at Ambedkar Bhavan in Dadar.

The interaction took place at the Prabuddha Printing Press office during Nagaraju's movement tour. Accompanied by local Ambedkarite leaders and family members, Nagaraju felicitated Bhimrao



Ambedkar with a shawl as a mark of respect.

During the meeting, Nagaraju explained the on-going Phule-Ambedkar ideological and social welfare activities being conducted in Telangana. Bhimrao Ambedkar appreciated the efforts and encouraged the initiatives,

showing interest in the organization's work. Prominent attendees included Kedas Gurunath Maharaj, L.D. Raghunath Padmashali, Moolnivas Malaji, Karka Lohith Raj, and Karka Karthik Raj, reflecting wider support for the movement.

Karwan MLA Distributes ₹2.04 Cr Cheques in Golconda

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Karwan MLA Kausar Mo-hiuddin distributed 161 Shaadi Mubarak and 43 Kalyana Laxmi scheme cheques to beneficiaries in Golconda Mandal at Rose Function Hall.

The total amount disbursed was ₹2,04,23,664, with each beneficiary receiving ₹1,00,116 under the Telangana government's welfare schemes. The initiative aims to provide financial assistance to economi-



cally weaker families for marriage expenses.

Beneficiaries appreciated the timely support, stating it would ease their financial burden. The programme was attended by Golconda Mandal staff,

AIMIM leaders, former corporator Haroon Farhaan, the Primary Unit President, and party workers, ensuring smooth and transparent distribution.

TGMFC Boosts Minority Welfare Through Awareness Drive

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana Minorities Finance Corporation (TGMFC) intensified its outreach efforts by organizing a large-scale awareness programme at Urdu Maskan, Shahli-banda, under the Praja Palana - Pragathi Pranali 99-Day Programme, focusing on empowering minority communities through welfare schemes and livelihood support. TGMFC Chairman Mohammed Obedullah Kothwal led the



event as Chief Guest, joined by Mohd Zulfekhar and Harichanda Dasari, along with senior officials. Addressing the gathering, Kothwal highlighted the Telangana government's initiatives aimed at improving education, employment, and financial stability among

minorities, urging beneficiaries to actively utilize available schemes. Officials explained key programmes in detail, ensuring clarity on benefits and application processes while bridging awareness gaps at the grassroots level. The event also recog-

nized meritorious Intermediate students from TGMREIS Residential Schools for their academic achievements, showcasing the impact of institutional support. A major highlight was the distribution of sewing machines to minority women, aimed at promoting self-employment and financial independence. Kothwal appreciated the leadership of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy for prioritizing inclusive development.

Sudhakar Slams Centre Over Pahalgam Attack

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Marking one year since the deadly Pahalgam terror attack in Jammu & Kashmir, Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) advisor and chief spokesperson Dr. Diddi Sudhakar on Monday questioned the Central government's failure to apprehend those responsible and demanded greater accountability on national security. Addressing a press conference at the party's Liberty office, Sudhakar said the country continues to grapple with



the impact of the attack, while families of the victims are still waiting for justice. He criticized the Centre for not arresting a single accused linked to the incident and sought answers on how the at-

tackers managed to infiltrate and escape undetected. He also raised concerns over claims that the perpetrators were neutralized, stating that no concrete evidence has been made public.

Referring to the 2019 Pulwama attack, Sudhakar alleged a recurring pattern of unresolved terror cases and accused the government of using such incidents for political advantage rather than ensuring accountability. Questioning the gap between strong political statements

and action, he asked why decisive measures, including reclaiming Pakistan-occupied Kashmir, were not pursued. He called for the immediate arrest of those involved in both the Pahalgam and Pulwama attacks, a transparent report on possible security lapses, and a clearly defined national security strategy. Sudhakar concluded by paying tribute to the civilians and security personnel who lost their lives, emphasizing that their sacrifices must not be forgotten.

Maharashtra To Fast-Track Land Allocation For Data Centres

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on Saturday directed officials to fast-track land allocation for data centre companies, particularly those from Central Asia, that have shown interest in investing in the state. At a meeting held at Sahyadri State Guest House, Mr. Fadnavis stressed that land and key approvals must be provided promptly after agreements are signed. He also instructed authorities to prioritise electricity supply for such projects. The government has asked the City and Industrial Development Corporation (CIDCO) to develop a land bank to position Maharashtra as a major data infrastructure hub. According to a senior official, the proposed projects are expected to generate around 4.5 lakh jobs, including nearly two lakh direct permanent positions.

Gulf Fears US-Iran Talks May Entrench Iran's Hormuz Grip

KOLKATA
Wakeup telangana

A warning by former Russian president Dmitry Medvedev has crystallised fears among Gulf states that reopening the Strait of Hormuz may be the most Iran-U.S. talks can achieve, falling short of the broader de-escalation they regard as vital. Officials and analysts expect the next round of negotiations, due in Islamabad, will focus increasingly not on Iran's missiles or regional proxies but on uranium enrichment limits and how to handle Iran's leverage over the Strait, the world's most critical oil shipping route. Gulf officials warn the approach risks entrenching Iran's grip on Middle East energy supplies by managing rather than dismantling its leverage, prioritising global economic stability even while leaving the countries most exposed to the energy and security consequences



outside formal decision-making. Gulf sources say U.S.-Iran diplomacy is now centered less on rolling back Iran's missile programme and more on enrichment levels and tacitly accepting Tehran's leverage over Hormuz, which carries about a fifth of global oil supplies. Although negotiations remain stalled over enrichment, with Iran rejecting both zero enrichment and demands to ship its stockpiles abroad, Gulf officials say the shift in priorities itself is troubling. "At the end of the day, Hormuz will be the red line," one

Gulf source close to government circles said. "It wasn't an issue before. It is now. The goal posts have moved." There was no immediate response from Gulf Arab governments to requests for comment on the issues raised in this article. Iran's threats to Gulf shipping during the war have broken long-standing taboos around the Strait, making its disruption a realistic lever in negotiations for the first time. Hormuz's central role was bluntly articulated by Medvedev, deputy chairman of Russia's Security Council, in a

post on X on April 8. "It's not clear how the truce between Washington and Tehran will play out," Medvedev said. "But one thing is certain - Iran has tested its nuclear weapons. It is called the Strait of Hormuz. Its potential is inexhaustible." The remark cast Hormuz as leverage enabling Iran to raise costs and shape rules without crossing the nuclear threshold. HORMUZ IS A 'GOLDEN ASSET', SAYS IRANIAN SECURITY SOURCE Iranian security officials privately echo that view, describing the Strait not as a contingency but as a long-prepared instrument of deterrence. "Iran prepared for years for a scenario involving the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, planning every step," said a senior Iranian security source. "Today it is one of Iran's most effective tools - a form of geographic leverage that serves as a powerful deterrent.

Uddhav Backs Mamata, Urges West Bengal To Re-Elect TMC

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

In a show of opposition solidarity, Shiv Sena UBT chief Uddhav Thackeray on Tuesday extended his support to Mamata Banerjee saying the people of West Bengal should vote for Trinamool Congress Party (TMC) and elect her once again. Mamata is fighting alone like a 'brave tigress' against the BJP in Bengal, he said. The former Maharashtra Chief Minister attacked the BJP alleging that the saffron party-led Central Government has deployed over two lakh (Central Reserve Police Force) CRPF personnel in West Bengal to ensure the defeat of Mamata Banerjee and TMC in the assembly polls. "Mamata Banerjee is

fighting like a brave tigress. She must win. To defeat one woman, you are deploying such a large number of central forces - what kind of democracy is this? In such an atmosphere, will voters feel free to step out and vote?" Thackeray asked while addressing the meeting of Bharatiya Kamgar Sena - Shiv Sena (UBT)'s trade wing. Taking a swipe at the BJP, the Sena (UBT) chief said the Central Government has deployed over two lakh CRPF in West Bengal, and on the other hand, when Manipur was burning, there were hardly 30,000 CRPF in Manipur to maintain law and order. "We have never seen such an atmosphere in any state. It shows that the BJP has the sole intention to win the elec-

tion by hook or by crook. BJP has zero respect for democracy and the democratic, free and fair election process. It has undermined all democratic institutions," Thackeray said. Elections to the 294-member West Bengal assembly are scheduled to be held in two phases - on April 23 and 29, while the counting of votes will take place on May 4. Thackeray also raised concerns over delimitation, arguing that states which had effectively implemented family planning could lose representation. "Some states have followed family planning sincerely, others have not. With delimitation, those who did the right thing will lose representation. Are you going to punish them for following policy?" he asked.

Thrissur Pooram Fireworks Unit Explodes: Blasts Go On, Toll Hits 13

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

At least 13 people lost their lives and over 40 were injured in a blast at a fireworks manufacturing and storage facility for Kerala's famous Thrissur Pooram festival in Mundathikkodu, Thalappilly taluk, on Tuesday afternoon. The explosion happened around 3:30 pm at a unit where firecrackers were being prepared for the event. According to the State Disaster Management Authority, five bodies were recovered, along with unidentified remains of three others. District officials confirmed that the unit was assembling fireworks for Thiruvambady Devaswom, one of the two main organisers of the celebrated festival. "I fell off my chair immediately after the huge explosion. We thought it was an earthquake. Once we gathered our composure and stepped outside, people told us about the incident. Several injured individuals were lying in the paddy field. People rushed over and carried them in bed sheets to the



ambulances. The firecrackers from this unit were also meant to be used for a church festival this evening," said Haridasan, who lives near the manufacturing unit. Wilson, a firecracker expert with 48 years of experience, recalled, "I was busy with my work when I suddenly saw a spark and something shooting up. We all ran for our lives as a series of blasts erupted behind us. The heat wave and scorching sun might have been factors in triggering the explosion." Just three hours earlier, a regional TV crew had visited Wilson, who is also known as Vedikettu Wilson, and his team at the manufacturing unit. He even sang a song on camera, and the whole group was in a celebratory

mood. District Collector Shikha Surendran said, "Our immediate priority is to save lives and check if any workers are trapped in the area. We are cordoning it off to keep people away from danger. A magisterial probe has been ordered to look into all aspects of the incident. Arrangements are in place, and explosive department experts are being called to inspect the site and conduct an audit." Thrissur Medical College authorities told the media that 12 bodies had been brought to the hospital, along with some severed parts. Five people are in critical condition, including one with 90 percent burns who is on a ventilator. Most of the injured have burns covering

more than 70 percent of their bodies. A control room has been established at the medical college, with the contact number 8075011853 for updates on the injured. Isolation wards, a burns ward, and isolation zones have been arranged to handle any emergencies. A team of 30 surgeons, including plastic surgeons, is on duty to treat the injured. Authorities estimate that about 30 to 40 workers were in the area at the time of the blast. The incident was first reported by four workers who survived because they had stepped out to get water at a nearby house. Right after the incident, fire tenders and ambulances rushed to the scene. Ongoing blasts made it hard for rescue workers to reach the spot. Despite the challenges, fire officials managed to take the injured to nearby hospitals. Firecrackers were being made in five temporary sheds, and flames broke out in all of them. Rescue efforts are slightly hindered as the explosives remain active and the area is thick with smoke.

Pak Further Extends Airspace Ban on Indian Airlines Till May 24

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Pakistan on Tuesday further extended the ban on Indian aircraft from using its airspace for another month. Pakistan has kept its airspace shut to Indian flights since April 24, 2025, a move that reportedly caused a loss of billions of rupees to the Indian airlines. The



Pakistan Airports Authority said in the Notice to Airmen (NOTAM) that "all Indian-registered, leased, commercial and military aircraft will remain barred from Paki-

stani airspace until 5 am on May 24, 2026". The notice was issued days before the previous one was set to expire on April 24. Pakistan closed its airspace for Indian airlines following tension in the wake of the Pahalgam terror attack, for which New Delhi blamed Islamabad. Pakistan, however, rejected the allegations and also called for a

transparent inquiry. India, in response, also closed its airspace to Pakistani airlines. Pakistan has imposed such restrictions on India for the first time. The ban has hit commercial Indian airlines badly as they used Pakistani airspace to operate most of their flights to and from different Indian cities to Gulf countries in particular.

Army Asserts No Tolerance For Terrorism

SRINAGAR
Wakeup telangana

Ahead of the first anniversary of the Pahalgam terror attack, the Indian Army on Tuesday issued a strong and unequivocal message underscoring the nation's resolve to respond decisively to acts that violate the basic boundaries of humanity. Through a post on social media, the Additional Director General of Public Information (ADG PI) reiterated that India remained united in the face of terrorism and that justice followed when such lines were crossed. "When boundaries of humanity are crossed, the response is decisive. Justice is served. India stands united," the post read, ac-

companied by a stark poster declaring, "Some boundaries should never be crossed. India does not forget." The post, heavily symbolic, also carried a digital poster bearing a silhouetted image of the map of India with the caption "Some boundaries should never be crossed". The 'O' in the word 'crossed' was depicted by a bowl carrying a dash of 'sindoor' (vermillion), and a tagline at the bottom printed in crimson hue, read, "India Does Not Forget" with a red line drawn at the bottom. As a tribute to those who lost their lives in the attack that took place in the meadows of Baisaran valley, a memorial has been erected in the hill resort of Pahalgam. Built of black

marble, it bears the names of the 26 victims - 25 tourists and local pony-wallah Adil Shah - and has been constructed along the banks of the Lidder river. The statement came on the eve of the anniversary of the April 22, 2025 terror attack in Baisaran, a popular meadow near Pahalgam in south Kashmir. In one of the deadliest attacks on civilians in the scenic Himalayan region in recent years, terrorists targeted tourists, killing 26 people, including 25 visitors and a local pony ride operator. The incident sent shockwaves across the country, prompting widespread condemnation and renewed concerns over the

safety of civilians and visitors in the Valley. In the immediate aftermath, security measures across Jammu and Kashmir were intensified, investigations were launched to identify those responsible, and efforts were stepped up to dismantle the networks behind the attack. On May 7, India carried out retaliatory strikes on alleged terror launch pads across the border in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir under "Operation Sindoor," signalling a calibrated but firm response. The operation continued for three days and was followed by a ceasefire announcement on May 11 at 5 pm.

FROM FRONT PAGE

Conress Is Anti.....-

Vice-chairman Thomas Reddy said their demands were longstanding and based on assurances made in the manifesto, stressing that they were not seeking anything new. Leaders stated that the government did not fully consider their demands and merely heard them out without offering any commitment. They made it clear that there would be no question of calling off the strike without a firm guarantee. Organising secretary Kamalakar Goud said the government delegation neither responded nor assured anything, but only sought four weeks, which the unions rejected outright. The JAC asserted that the strike would continue indefinitely from midnight Tuesday and that

they would not bow to any pressure. They also recalled that their recent protest in February, including a "Chalo Assembly" call at Dharna Chowk, had already highlighted their grievances, which remain unresolved. The TGRTC management on Tuesday appealed to workers and employees to call off their strike and report to duty on Wednesday, keeping in mind the interests of the corporation and the commuting public. The management stated that the state government had taken a positive view towards addressing the employees' demands and is prepared to resolve the issues in a phased manner. In a media statement issued late on Tuesday after talks with unions failed, TGSRTC managing director Y. Nagi Reddy

said the government had responded very positively to the concerns raised by RTC workers. He pointed out that the government had constituted a special committee comprising senior IAS officers to comprehensively examine the workers' demands, and that the panel had also held discussions with representatives of trade unions earlier in the day.

Undergoes Surgery...

Shah said, "We will find such a solution which will bring smiles on the face of all Gorkhas within six months of BJP forming government here. Congress and TMC did injustice to Darjeeling and Gorkhas earlier. I have been visiting here for nine years. But I promise you today I will solve the decade-old

issue of the Gorkhas according to their wish." He added, "I understand you and your problems. Except BJP, no one can solve your problems." Attacking TMC supremo and Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, Shah alleged, "Gorkhas have a rich history. But Mamata Didi tried to destroy it. I called meetings three times in the last six years after becoming union home minister to solve the Gorkha issue. But Mamata's representatives never attended it." He claimed, "We however aren't dependent on you to solve it. We have sent an interlocutor here after you didn't visit Delhi for meetings. The interlocutor meets all Gorkha organisations and state government officials. He will prepare a report. As soon as

BJP forms government, we will provide the solution which has been in the minds of the Gorkhas for long."

India Summons.....

Modi is not for these principles and one more thing I want to tell how this AIADMK people who themselves put the photo of Annadurai, how can they join with Modi who is a terrorist and who won't believe in equality, his party won't believe in equality and justice and these people are joining with them, it means that they are weakening democracy, they are weakening the philosophy of Annadurai, Kamaraj, Periyar and Karunanidhi and Babasaheb Ambedkar. The Congress-DMK alliance will continue to deliver welfare, inclusive growth,

quality education and accessible healthcare," he said. The Congress President also criticised the BJP, alleging that the party is anti-women and had no right to take the moral high ground on the subject. "Now, the Women's Welfare Bill, how ironic that the BJP, RSS, the flag bearers of Manuvadi politics, who treated women as second-class citizens according to their ideology, according to Manuvad, they are talking about women's welfare. There are several examples I can give right from Kerala to Kanyakumari to Jammu and Kashmir, or even UP. We passed the women's reservation bill in 2023. The Prime Minister himself thanked the opposition for its unanimous support, and now PM is lying that the opposition.

CRIME

Cops Book Firms Facilitating Cyber Frauds

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Cyberabad cybercrime police have registered four major cases against individuals and firms accused of facilitating large-scale cyber fraud by allowing their bank accounts to be used as conduits for illegal financial transactions. The cases, initially booked at Madhapur and Narsingi police stations, were later transferred to the cyber-crime wing following directions from Commissioner Dr. M. Ramesh under the special drive "Operation Crackdown-1.0."

In a major breakthrough, investigators uncovered a bank account through which transactions worth a staggering ₹296.96 crore were routed. The account, opened in Oc-

tober 2022 under the name "AV Investment" by Kondapur-based Venugopal Reddy, remained operational until August 2025. Police analysis of 21 complaints registered on the National Cybercrime Reporting Portal revealed that the account was used to channel money collected from hundreds of victims across India, making it a key node in a nationwide fraud network.

Further investigation revealed that at least 38 cases had been registered across the country in connection with the same network, involving fraudulent transactions exceeding ₹310 crore. Based on the findings, police booked cases against 17 individuals. One of the accused has been arrested and re-

manded to judicial custody. Considering the massive scale of financial movement, officials have alerted the Income Tax Department and transferred the case to the Economic Offences Wing (EOW) of Cyberabad police for deeper financial scrutiny.

The crackdown followed detailed data analysis from the National Cybercrime Reporting Portal along with intelligence inputs from the Telangana Cyber Security Bureau. Authorities identified several suspicious accounts that were repeatedly used in fraudulent transactions without any legitimate business activity. These accounts played a crucial role in layering and concealing proceeds of crime, making detection more complex.

In another case, an account belonging to Systima Tech India Private Limited, operated by Nagaraju Bondada and Mukkanti Srinivasa Rao, was linked to 57 cyber fraud complaints from different states, involving transactions exceeding ₹25 lakh. Similarly, Subedhi Travels, run by Prakash Subedhi, was connected to seven interstate complaints with fraud transactions of over ₹31 lakh.

In a separate instance, an account operated by Volati Rajesh in Puppalguda recorded transactions worth ₹1.81 crore and was linked to eight complaints between February 2025 and February 2026. Police said further investigation is underway to trace additional beneficiaries and dismantle the larger.

EDITORIAL

BENGAL'S 5-YEAR THRILLER: DIDI FACES BIGGEST TEST?

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

West Bengal's politics before the last Assembly election in 2021 and the two-phase one that will begin on April 23 has been like an action-packed thriller, albeit a five-year-long series. There has been blood, violence, murder and rape, crimes against women, corruption, intimidation, flirtations and near reconciliations. Now the drama is about to reach its conclusion. The dramatis personae are the usual suspects: Mamata Banerjee as chief minister and founder of Trinamul Congress, the remote-controlled BJP with its local commanders, the Congress, the CPI(M)-led Left Front and new entrants, who have fizzled out even before the cracker went pop like the Aam Janata Unnayan Party of Humayun Kabir, caught on camera in a video he insists was doctored, and the Indian Secular Front, a party launched in 2021 by Nawsad Siddique, its only legislator. There were an abundance of dubious bureaucrats, policemen, doctors and legislators, all adding to the thrills. Plus, there is the Election Commission, that instead of being an independent and



impartial institution delivering a service, that is voting, has become a party in this election; a lot of voters will deliver a verdict on its performance. And then there are the people. They split out into the streets, outraged by a horrifying attack on a junior doctor raped and murdered inside a state-run hospital, that made prime-time news in India and globally. There was a football mess over Lionel Messi's Kolkata visit. The Durga Puja, contrary to the BJP propaganda that its celebration was obstructed by Mamata Banerjee, acquired Unesco's Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity tag and became a money-spinner. The decline and fall of West Bengal, once an industrial leader, and its capital Kolkata, jewel in the British Empire's crown, has not been reversed, despite promises by every government since 1947 that it will be a

destination for overseas investors. Unemployment is bad, though not much worse than anywhere else in India, with joblessness growing and crossing 5.1 per cent for people above 15. The infrastructure is not adequate, but bridges don't collapse nor do new roads or under-construction roads cave in or break up.

There are recruitment scandals and money is allegedly siphoned off to enrich various characters within the ruling establishment. The police, the Opposition claims, works at the behest of local TMC bahubalis; though to their credit, the police isn't trigger-happy. West Bengal is among the exceptions, like most Opposition-ruled states; there are no bulldozers razing down homes of public offenders nor does the Mamata Banerjee government threaten to extract payment for damage to public property.

There is communal polarisation and outbreaks of low-level communal violence, which academics like Maudud Islam see as an emerging pattern in India that signals the BJP's growing presence and ambitions to oust the existing set-up and install itself as the ruling party. However, West Bengal devours fish, meat and eggs, to the point that the BJP, to rid itself of the reputation of imposing vegetarianism wherever it comes to power, has candidates in the 2026 Assembly elections who campaign holding aloft fish to prove their credentials as true-blue Bengalis, or, at least, tolerant about the food preferences of the majority. The first phase of the two-part election in West Bengal will cover 152 constituencies out of the 294 Assembly segments. These seats include the high-altitude constituency of Darjeeling and the seashore-hugging constituencies in East Midnapore. Seven of nine districts that share a border with Bangladesh -- Murshidabad, Malda, Uttar Dinajpur and Dakshin Dinajpur, Cooch Behar, Jalpaiguri and Darjeeling -- will go to the polls on April 23.

Police Rule Out Reel Filming In Nacharam boy's Fall; Call It Accidental

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Nacharam police refuted claims circulating on social media that a 14-year-old boy who died after falling from a building in Nacharam was attempting to film reels, clarifying that the incident was accidental. The deceased, a Class 9 student at a government school, hailed from Bihar. He had lost his parents and was being raised by his uncle in a

basti near Gandhi statue in Mallapur, Nacharam.

According to officials, the teen had gone to a friend's house on the day of the incident. He went up to the penthouse area above the third floor when he accidentally slipped and fell, sustaining severe injuries. He was rushed to a hospital but succumbed during treatment. An official told Deccan Chronicle that preliminary inquiry and

statements from the friend present at the spot confirmed that it was an accidental fall. "There is no evidence to suggest that the boy was filming reels or performing any stunt," the officer said. Police urged the public to refrain from spreading unverified information, especially in sensitive cases involving minors. Further inquiry is underway to rule out any other angles.

Delivery boy held for fake number plate

Hyderabad traffic police, in coordination with Jubilee Hills police, apprehended a 26-year-old delivery worker for using a fake registration plate on his two-wheeler to evade enforcement. V. Suresh Kumar was found using a plate belonging to a vehicle registered in Nellore, Andhra Pradesh. A case was registered under the BNS and warned that misuse of registration plates amounts to impersonation and cheating, causing loss to the government.

Chain-snatching gang busted in Secunderabad

The Secunderabad zone task force, along with OU police, arrested three members of an alleged chain-snatching gang and a receiver. The accused were identified as Pulipati Hemant Kumar, Palle Deepak and Mal Shankuriya as well as receiver Kandkuru Ramachary, a goldsmith. Police seized gold chains weighing 35 grams, two motorcycles and mobile phones from their possession. Officials said the trio, all residents of Amberpet, were allegedly involved in multiple property crimes. They targeted a woman near Habsguda, snatched her gold chain and fled on a motorcycle. The chain was later broken into pieces and sold, with one of the accused purchasing a new bike using the proceeds.

Telangana HC Spikes Plea Opposing Consumer Forum Method

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A two-judge panel of the Telangana High Court dismissed a writ plea challenging the procedure followed by the District Consumer Dispute Redressal Commission, Sangareddy, and held it to be devoid of merit. The panel comprising Justice Moushumi Bhattacharya and Justice Gadi Praveen

Kumar was dealing with a writ plea filed by Kesavanurthy Srinivasa Rao contended that the commission adopted a civil court style procedure by taking evidence affidavits and marking documents, contrary to the summary scheme under the Consumer Protection Act, 2019.

The panel ruled that no prejudice was shown in the impugned orders which directed the peti-

tioner, as complainant, to file evidence and appear for marking of documents. It observed that the petitioner stood to gain from continuation of proceedings and failed to justify obtaining a stay. Terming the petition vexatious and an abuse of process, the panel dismissed the writ petition, vacated the previous interim order granting stay, and imposed costs on the petitioner.

Action can go on after retirement

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A two-judge panel of the Telangana High Court ruled that disciplinary proceedings initiated against a government servant before retirement could continue after superannuation and that pensionary benefits may be withheld pending conclusion of such proceedings. The panel comprising Chief Justice Aparesw Kumar Singh and Justice G.M. Mohiuddin was hearing a writ petition filed by Shaik Madar Saheb challenging the prolonged pendency of

disciplinary proceedings and withholding of his retirement benefits.

The petitioner, a retired additional director in the civil supplies department and a former chief executive officer of the erstwhile AP Waqf Board, questioned the charge memo issued in February 2010 and the continued withholding of his full pension and other benefits despite his retirement in June 2011. Counsel for the petitioner contended that no enquiry officer was appointed and no progress was made in the disciplinary proceedings for over a decade, rendering

the action arbitrary and violative of his constitutional rights. It was submitted that the allegations related to the alleged alienation of Waqf land during his tenure.

He contended that a criminal case registered on similar allegations was closed by the competent court and that no civil proceedings were initiated thereafter. It was argued that the petitioner was unjustly deprived of his rightful pension, which constituted a property right. Per contra, the state contended that the charges

were grave in nature and involved alleged misuse of official position resulting in alienation of valuable Waqf property. It was argued that since the charge memo was issued prior to retirement, the proceedings could continue under the applicable pension rules and provisional pension was rightly sanctioned.

The state argued that the delay was attributable to administrative complications arising from bifurcation of the state and issues concerning identification of the competent disciplinary authority.



AESL Telangana Shines in JEE Main 2026



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Students from Aakash Educational Services Limited (AESL) Telangana delivered an impressive performance in JEE Main 2026, with 48 students securing 99 percentile and above, underlining the institute's consistent academic strength. Leading the results, Jayanth Shekhar achieved a

remarkable 99.996952 percentile, securing All India Rank (AIR) 93 and emerging as the top performer from Telangana. Other high achievers include Hanzalah Abdedeen (AIR 189, 99.992 percentile), Shiva Tejanshu A (AIR 366, 99.98 percentile), Alamuri Chaitanya (AIR 523, 99.97 percentile), Rishit Kyatham (AIR 664, 99.96 percentile), and Harish (AIR 1285,

99.92 percentile). AESL attributed the success to structured preparation, expert mentorship, and continuous assessments. Officials highlighted that disciplined study, regular testing, and timely feedback enabled students to strengthen fundamentals and achieve top ranks in the highly competitive exam conducted by the National Testing Agency.

CBIT Startup Drives Innovation

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

On the occasion of World Innovation Day, "Avasan Chakra," a student-led startup from Chaitanya Bharathi Institute of Technology (CBIT), conducted an engaging session to inspire students towards innovation, entrepreneurship, and sustainable thinking. The interactive programme drew strong participation, with students showing keen interest in understanding how ideas can be transformed into impactful ventures. The startup team highlighted their core mission of converting agricultural and organic waste into eco-friendly, value-added products, aiming to promote sustainability while addressing real-world challenges. Founded by final-year engineering students, Avasan Chakra shared insights into its journey from concept to execution. The team discussed the practical challenges faced during the early stages, including resource con-



straints and market validation, while emphasizing persistence and adaptability as key factors behind their progress. A significant focus of the session was on supporting farmers. The startup explained how its solutions help reduce cultivation costs and create additional income streams by repurposing waste materials. This approach not only tackles waste management issues but also contributes to building a circular economy. Students actively interacted with the speakers, raising questions about startup ecosystems, fund-

ing opportunities, and scaling innovative ideas. The session helped bridge the gap between academic learning and practical application, offering a clear perspective on how youth can contribute to solving societal problems. The programme concluded with a positive response, as many attendees expressed interest in pursuing entrepreneurial paths. Avasan Chakra reaffirmed its commitment to encouraging young innovators and promoting a culture of sustainability-driven entrepreneurship among students.

Geopolitical Risks Cloud Nifty Outlook; Target at 27,080

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

PL Capital has projected a target of 27,080 for the Nifty, underpinned by a 15% earnings CAGR over FY26-FY28, while cautioning that rising geopolitical tensions, surging crude oil prices, and global supply disruptions are weighing on near-term growth visibility. The report highlights that the

Nifty has declined 6.6% over the past three months due to sustained foreign institutional investor outflows amid global uncertainty, particularly linked to the West Asia crisis. Although markets have seen a partial recovery, volatility persists due to elevated commodity prices and external risks. Earnings growth for FY26 is expected at a modest 4%, with im-

proved medium-term prospects. India's macroeconomic outlook faces pressure from high crude prices, with the country importing nearly 85% of its oil needs. A spike in oil costs could increase the import bill by over \$70 billion annually, pushing inflation above 5% and potentially slowing GDP growth from 6.5% to around 6%. Additional risks include

supply chain disruptions and a likely El Niño impacting monsoon and rural demand. Despite these challenges, domestic fundamentals remain supportive. Strong demand, resilient rural consumption, and ongoing capital expenditure in sectors like infrastructure, defence, and manufacturing are expected to sustain growth. Banking credit growth

stands at 14.3%, driven by MSMEs and retail lending. Sectorally, PL Capital remains positive on capital goods, banking, healthcare, telecom, and metals, while advising caution on IT services and export-driven sectors. Overall, while structural growth drivers remain intact, near-term risks could influence earnings trajectory and market stability.

Resonance Hyderabad Achieves Outstanding JEE Main 2026 Results

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Resonance Junior Colleges, Hyderabad, has delivered exceptional results in JEE Main 2026, with students achieving top national ranks and high percentiles across all campuses. Leading the performance, Abhinav Chitturi secured an impressive All India Rank (AIR) 12, reinforcing the institute's strong presence in competitive exam success. A total of

94 students scored above the 99 percentile, while 852 students achieved 99 percentile across various subjects, reflecting consistent academic excellence. Notably, Saketh Reddy secured a perfect 100 percentile in Physics, earning a cash award of ₹1 lakh during a felicitation ceremony held at Ashray Conventions, Madhapur. Top performers under AIR 1000 include Buneti Adithya Reddy (AIR 147), Settupalli Anwitha



Sri Purnachandra Rao (Centre), Managing Director, Resonance Educational Institutions, Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, with the top ranking students from Resonance, at the JEE Main 2026 Session 2, today at Ashray Conventions, Madhapur. Reddy (AIR 155), G Pragnesh (AIR 184), and Samridh Bhattacharya (AIR 242), among others. Students also demonstrated balanced subject-wise performance in Physics, Chemistry, and Mathematics, highlighting conceptual clarity and rigorous preparation. Speaking at the felicitation event, Sri Purnachandra Rao, Director, Resonance Educational Institutions (Telangana & Andhra Pradesh), credited the success to students' dedication and faculty support. He stated that

consistent preparation and strong fundamentals are key to cracking national-level exams like JEE Main. He further emphasized that the institute's integrated two-year program, combining intermediate academics with competitive exam coaching, has played a crucial role in achieving these results. He also noted that this year's performance surpasses previous outcomes, indicating a steady upward trend.

The adoption of innovative teaching methodologies and structured academic planning has significantly contributed to improved results. Founded in 2018 with a single campus, Resonance Junior Colleges, Hyderabad, has rapidly expanded its footprint with over 50 campuses across Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. The institution focuses on MPC and BiPC streams, offering integrated coaching for

IIT-JEE, NEET, and other competitive exams. In just seven years, more than 6,100 students from Resonance Hyderabad have secured admissions in prestigious institutions such as IITs, NITs, IIITs, AIIMS, and other top universities. With its continued success in JEE Main 2026, Resonance Hyderabad strengthens its position as a preferred destination for serious IIT-JEE aspirants.

Saloni Konde Secures 97% in Inter First Year, Excels in Academics and Karate



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Saloni Konde, a student of Sarojini Naidu Vanita Mahavidyalaya, secured an impressive 97% in the Intermediate First Year examinations, emerging as the college topper. Principal Dr. K. Radhika praised her dedication and consistent academic performance. Alongside her studies, Saloni excelled in karate, training at Nayak Budokan Karate Academy under Master Ganesh Nayak. With determination and discipline, she progressed from a white belt to earn-

ing her black belt on January 18, 2026. She has won several medals at state and national levels, including gold at the 10th MAMA All India Open National Karate Championships held in December 2025. Her achievements reflect her strong commitment to both academics and sports. Supported by her mother, Rushika Suryavanshi, Saloni balanced studies and training through effective time management. Now a coach at her academy, she inspires young students to pursue education and self-defense with equal passion.

Aurobindo Pharma's Rs 800 cr buyback offer opens on April 23

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Aurobindo Pharma Ltd on Tuesday said it has set April 23 as the opening date for its Rs 800 crore buyback offer. The closing date for the buyback is April 29, Aurobindo Pharma said in a regulatory filing. Earlier on April 6, the company's board had approved buyback of up to 54,23,728 fully paid-up equity shares having a face value of Re 1 each at a price of Rs 1,475 per share for an aggregate amount up to Rs 800 crore on a proportionate basis through the tender offer route. The company has set April 17 as the record date for determining the entitlement and the names of equity shareholders who would be eligible to participate in the buyback. The buyback size constitutes 3.93 per cent and 2.62 per cent of the aggregate of the total paid-up equity share capital and free reserves (including securities premium) of the company as per the audited standalone and consolidated financial statements of the company as of March 31, 2025, respectively, the filing said.

Recurring Payments Above Rs 15 K Will Require OTP

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has introduced a consolidated "Digital Payments - E-mandate Framework, 2026," bringing significant changes to the processing of recurring digital payments. Under the new guidelines, a transaction limit of ₹15,000 has been set for automatic recurring payments without requiring Additional Factor Authentication (AFA), such as a One-Time Password (OTP). However, higher limits have been permitted for specific categories like insurance premiums, mutual fund subscriptions, and credit card bill payments, where transactions of up to ₹1 lakh can be processed without AFA. The framework simplifies routine payments for customers who opt for the e-mandate facility. To activate this



service, users must complete a one-time registration process, which includes AFA validation along with the standard authentication procedures mandated by the issuer. Once registered, recurring payments within the ₹15,000 threshold can be executed automatically without requiring repeated OTP verification. Transactions exceeding this limit will still need additional authentication to ensure security. These new directions are applicable immediately and extend to all Payment System Providers and Participants handling recurring

transactions through cards, Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs), and Unified Payments Interface (UPI), including both domestic and cross-border payments. The RBI stated that these revised norms are based on feedback received from stakeholders, aiming to strike a balance between user convenience and transaction safety. The framework also mandates that every e-mandate must clearly define its validity period. Customers are given the flexibility to modify or withdraw their mandates at any time, although such changes will require

AFA validation. E-mandates can be set for fixed amounts or variable amounts, with an upper cap defined by the RBI. In the case of variable mandates, users can specify a maximum limit for each recurring transaction. To enhance transparency and customer protection, issuers are required to send pre-transaction notifications at least 24 hours before the debit, along with detailed post-transaction alerts. The guidelines also ensure that e-mandate registration remains free of cost, while strengthening grievance redressal mechanisms and safeguarding customer liability. With these updated norms, the RBI has repealed earlier guidelines and established a unified, streamlined regulatory framework for recurring digital payments across India.

India, South Korea sign pact to boost MSME ties

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

India and South Korea have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to bolster cooperation in the Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises sector as part of efforts to strengthen bilateral economic ties during President Lee Jae Myung's visit to India. The Memorandum of Understanding was signed between India's Ministry of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises and South Korea's Ministry of SMEs and Startups, according to an official statement issued on Tuesday. The Memorandum of Understanding establishes a structured framework for collaboration between the two Ministries, enabling sustained dialogue on key issues related to Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises and facilitating the exploration of mutually beneficial opportunities. It seeks to promote a deeper understanding of each other's Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises ecosystems and enhance engagement between stakeholders, the statement issued by the Micro.

Prime Video drops trailer for 'Citadel Season Two' featuring Chopra and Madden

The makers of Citadel, headlined by Priyanka Chopra Jonas, have officially announced the premiere date for its much-anticipated second season, generating excitement among fans worldwide. The action-packed series will return on Amazon Prime Video on May 6, 2026, with all episodes set to release simultaneously, making it accessible to audiences across more than 240 countries and territories.

Along with the announcement, the makers unveiled an intense and gripping official trailer that hints at a larger, more dangerous mission. Sharing the update on social media, the team teased, "New team. New mission. New season of Citadel. Only on Prime Video May 6," building anticipation for the global spy saga's next chapter. The series follows the journey of elite operatives Mason Kane, played by Richard Madden, Nadia Sinh, portrayed by Priyanka Chopra Jonas, and Bernard Orlick, played by Stanley Tucci. These agents belong to a powerful espionage organization that was destroyed by Manticore, a ruthless syndicate backed by influential global powers.



As the story progresses into season two, a new and formidable threat emerges, forcing the trio back into action. This time, the stakes are even higher. The protagonists must assemble a new team of highly skilled operatives to undertake a globe-spanning mission aimed at preventing a conspiracy that could potentially reshape the future of humanity. The narrative promises high-octane action, emotional

depth, and intricate storytelling that expands the Citadel universe.

Season two will see the return of familiar faces such as Lesley Manville and Ashleigh Cummings, alongside an ensemble cast featuring Jack Reynor, Matt Berry, and Lina El Arabi. The new season also introduces fresh talent, including Merle Dandridge, Gabriel Leone, and Rayna Vallandingham. Backed by Amazon MGM Studios and the

Russo Brothers' AGBO, the series continues to be helmed by a strong creative team. David Weil serves as showrunner, director, and executive producer, while Joe Russo and Anthony Russo contribute as directors and executive producers. With its global scale, gripping narrative, and star-studded cast, "Citadel" season two is poised to deliver another thrilling chapter in the high-stakes world of espionage.

Ram Charan's 'Peddi' shoot to wrap in 6 days, release set for June

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Ram Charan's "Peddi" is one of the most anticipated films of 2026. Adding to the buzz, the makers shared a candid selfie from the sets featuring Ram Charan and director Buchi Babu Sana on Tuesday. Dropping an exciting update on social media, the makers revealed that the entire shoot will be wrapped in just 6 more days. "Mega Power Star @AlwaysRamCharan and

@buchibabu_sana from the sets of #Peddi... The entire shoot will be wrapped in 6 more days... Grand release this June (sic)," they wrote.

The project has been raising anticipation with every update. The film's first single, "Chikiri Chikiri," managed to generate a massive buzz.

Riding on the momentum, the makers followed up with the second track, "Rai Rai Raa Raa," which turned out to be a massive success on social media.

Written and directed by Buchi Babu Sana, "Peddi" stars Ram Charan in the titular role, along with Shiva Rajkumar, Janhvi Kapoor, Divyendu



Sharma, and Jagapathi Babu playing crucial parts.

Backed by Venkata Satish Kilaru under Vriddhi Cinemas, in collaboration with Mythri Movie Makers, the makers recently revealed that the film will release in June, with the exact date to be announced soon.

The team is currently focusing on the post-production work for the drama.

Vriddhi Cinemas issued a statement, saying, "Firstly, thank you all for the wonderful response to our songs and glimpses. We're truly happy to see the love and excitement for 'Peddi'.

The talkie part of the film is complete, and we only have one song left to be shot. We've seen the edit of the film, and we're extremely happy with the output."

"With such great content in our hands, we want to present it in the best possible way. For that, we feel it's important to give our technicians and post-production team a little more time to bring out their best with absolute perfection. It is our duty to give you nothing but the best theatrical experience. So, we've decided to push the release of the film to June," they added.

Ayushi Prajapati Wins Gold, Qualifies for Nationals

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Hyderabad-based powerlifter Ayushi Prajapati clinched the gold medal in the 63 kg category at the Telangana Powerlifting Championship, earning a spot at the upcoming National Powerlifting Championship. Delivering an impressive performance, Ayushi recorded a total lift of 262.5 kg.

Her lifts included 100 kg in squat, 47.5 kg in bench press, and 115 kg in deadlift, securing her the top position in her category. With this victory, she will now represent Telangana at the national-level competition scheduled to be held next month in Amalapuram, Andhra Pradesh. Ayushi's consistent training and discipline have been key to her success. She trains at Actin Fitness Centre in Durganagar, where she has been rigorously preparing to compete at higher levels. Her latest achievement marks a significant milestone in her sporting career and highlights her growing potential in powerlifting.



The Telangana Powerlifting Championship witnessed participation from athletes across the state, making the competition highly competitive. Ayushi's dominant performance not only brought recognition to Hyderabad but also

strengthened Telangana's prospects at the national stage. Her qualification for the nationals is expected to inspire aspiring athletes, especially women, to take up strength sports and pursue excellence.

Abhishek Sharma hits 138 as Sunrisers beat Delhi Capitals by 47 runs

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Riding on the rollicking form of Abhishek Sharma's second IPL century and Eshan Malinga's 4/32, Sunrisers Hyderabad scored back-to-back wins on their home ground, defeating Delhi Capitals by an impressive 47 runs here on Tuesday. Delhi Capitals, who were set a target of 242 by SRH, started badly as they lost their opener Pathum Nissanka c sub (LS Livingstone) to Madushanka in the second over. Nitish Rana joined K L Rahul and both tried to keep Delhi Capitals in the chase. However, a full toss on the legs by Sakib Hussain, which otherwise would have been smacked to the boundary, saw Rahul 37 (23 balls, 1x4; 3x6) whipping it straight to Abhishek Sharma at deep backward square leg. At the halfway mark, Delhi Capitals were 107 for 2, needing 136 from 60 balls. His departure saw DC lose two quick wickets in the tenth over off Malinga. While Rana

was caught by Abhishek running in from long-on and taking a sliding catch, Miller, who walked in, was bamboozled by a delivery which kissed his bat and castled him. Sameer Rizvi and Tristan Stubbs tried to steady the DC innings and reached a 50-run partnership in 30 balls.

However, the rising run rate pressure took its toll, and Stubbs 27 (16 balls, 3x4; 1x6), trying a switch hit, was caught by Sakib Hussain off Malinga, who bagged his third wicket. By the 16th over, DC were 167/5, needing 76 runs from 24 balls. The sixth wicket fell at 186 and thereafter it was just a matter of time before the Sunrisers wrapped up the game.

Earlier, the 36,000-odd crowd at the Uppal Stadium witnessed another Abhishek Sharma special. He was in blistering form as he blasted the Delhi bowlers all over the park, scoring 138 off 68 balls with 10 fours and 10 sixes as SRH posted a mammoth 242/2 in 20 overs after being put into bat by

Delhi Capitals.

SRH's explosive duo of Abhishek and Travis Head began cautiously after Ishan Kishan lost the toss for the third consecutive time before exploding in the fifth over off Nitish Rana, who was hit for 20 runs, including three sixes, two by Abhishek and one by Head. At the end of the powerplay, SRH managed 67.

Abhishek was more dominant, reaching his 50 with five fours and two sixes, while Head was dismissed for 37 (26 balls, 2x4s; 2x6). The opening pair added 97 runs in 8.5 overs. At the end of 10 overs, SRH reached 104/1. The arrival of Ishan Kishan saw the SRH scoreboard galloping, with the captain hitting Kuldeep for a six and a four, and Abhishek following with a six and a four. Kuldeep's over cost him 22 runs. Abhishek scored at will, lofting, driving and pulling the Delhi bowlers despite changes in bowling.

Though he got a reprieve at 86 when dropped by Rana off Natarajan, the



crowd at Uppal Stadium was treated to explosive batting. As he continued his assault, SRH suffered a mild setback when a

straight drive by Abhishek was deflected onto the stumps by Rana, catching Ishan out of the crease in the 14th over.

HMWSSB to recruit volunteers to report water wastage in Hyderabad

The Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) on Tuesday, April 21, launched a 'water volunteer' program to reduce water waste and promote responsible water use.

Volunteers can register through the HMWSSB website by providing their name, address, mobile number, photograph and a valid ID proof. The applications will be reviewed by the Water Board, and only eligible candidates will be selected for the program.

Verified volunteers will be given access to a special mobile application through which they can report water wastage incidents with photo evidence.

Complaints will be verified through OTP and linked to the Consumer Account Number of the concerned user. Subsequently, penalties will be imposed, and information will be sent to the concerned user.

Incentives will also be provided to volunteers who actively participate.

Hyderabad CP Urges RBI to Tighten Curbs on Mule Accounts

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

To further strengthen defences against financial crimes, Hyderabad Police Commissioner V C Sajjanar on Tuesday, April 21, proposed the formation of a Joint Working Group comprising representatives from the RBI, banking institutions, and the police to regularly review the issue of mule bank accounts.

In a letter addressed to RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra, the Commissioner highlighted that "mule accounts" created in the names of unsuspecting individuals have become central to cyber fraud operations.

These findings emerged during the investigation of 'Operation Octopus' conducted by the city police, which exposed sys-



temic vulnerabilities and alleged lapses in KYC verification processes at the branch level, a press release said.

In a move to combat rising cybercrimes, Sajjanar suggested certain critical changes in the banking system, stating that such reforms are necessary to dismantle organised syndicates operating across the country, the release added.

Hyderabad Police said on April 19 that it had dismantled a pan-India cyber fraud network involving bank officials by

arresting 52 accused—32 bank officials, 15 mule account holders, and five middlemen across nine states under 'Operation Octopus 2.0'.

Police said bank officials were found to be in connivance in the opening of mule accounts used to facilitate cyber fraud.

The commissioner urged the RBI to issue strict directives to all commercial banks to fix accountability on branch-level officials and recommended an immediate systemic audit to ensure

proper implementation of KYC guidelines. He expressed concern over instances where bank employees allegedly colluded with cybercriminals, citing a case at a Nashik branch of a private bank in Maharashtra where a KYC verifier allegedly misused a colleague's credentials to create mule accounts for commissions.

Pointing out that such irregularities are predominantly seen in private banks, the letter emphasised the need to address structural flaws and proposed that any official arrested or chargesheeted for aiding cybercrime should be reported to the RBI for possible black-listing. Sajjanar also stressed the importance of banks adopting advanced technology to detect suspicious transactions in real time.

HYDRAA clears encroachments from temple tank in Jagadgirigutta

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency (HYDRAA) on Tuesday, April 21, removed long-standing encroachments from a one-acre pond in Jagadgirigutta, restoring a vital water body that had been neglected for over two decades.

The action came after a video of a temple priest appealing for the protection of the pond went viral on social media, drawing attention to its deteriorating condition. Responding swiftly, HYDRAA officials initiated a clearance and restoration drive at the site.

The pond, locally known as a Koneru (temple tank), once served as an important gathering and water source for several nearby temples. However, over the last 22 years, it had gradually been encroached upon



and eventually converted into a parking space, erasing its ecological and cultural significance.

During the operation, HYDRAA personnel cleared nearly 26 truckloads of waste, garbage, and accumulated silt from the pond area. Officials said the removal of encroachments marks the beginning of a broader restoration effort aimed at reviving the water body and preventing further misuse of public and temple land.

The initiative has been widely appreciated by

local residents and temple authorities. Priest Narahari of the Gowindaraju Swamy temple, who had earlier raised concerns about the encroachment, expressed his gratitude to HYDRAA for acting promptly and restoring the pond. Officials indicated that further steps will be taken to strengthen protection measures and ensure that the rejuvenated Koneru is preserved for future generations as both an ecological asset and a cultural heritage site.

Police Solve Mirchowk Double Murder in a Day



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Mirchowk police have apprehended the accused in a double murder case within 24 hours, recovering the weapon and crucial evidence.

The arrest was carried out under the supervision of senior officials of the Charminar Zone. The case relates to the murder of a couple at their residence in Sultanpura. Police said the accused attacked the victims with a knife, causing fatal injuries, and fled the scene immediately

after the incident. During the investigation, police teams traced and arrested the accused, seizing blood-stained clothes and a mobile phone, while also confirming recovery of the knife used in the crime.

Preliminary findings suggest the motive was a longstanding personal grudge, driven by jealousy, disputes over adoption, and financial disagreements. Senior officials appreciated the Mirchowk police team for their swift action. Further investigation is underway.

Hyderabad Police Nab Escaped Prisoner in 30 Minutes

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In a swift and commendable operation, Hyderabad City Police Commissioner V. C. Sajjanar on Tuesday felicitated the Dabeerpura police patrol team for apprehending an escaped remand prisoner within 30 minutes of his escape. The ceremony was held at the Old Police Commissionerate in Basheerbagh.

Head Constable Javed, Woman Constable Shrivanti, and Home Guard Meer Gayas Ali were honoured with Appreciation Certificates and cash rewards for their alertness and quick response. The Commissioner praised their pro-



fessionalism, stating that such prompt action enhances public trust in the police system.

The incident occurred on Monday evening when a remand pris-

oner, Sagula Naresh, accused in theft cases, escaped by jumping out of a police escort vehicle during a traffic jam near Chanchalguda crossroads. Immediately

after the escape, a wireless alert was issued across patrol units.

Responding without delay, the Dabeerpura patrol team tracked the accused along the Nalgonda route. Their coordinated efforts led to his capture near a roadside hotel within half an hour, preventing any further attempt to flee.

Senior police officials attended the felicitation programme, which highlighted the department's commitment to efficiency and vigilance. The recognition underscores the importance of rapid response and teamwork in maintaining law and order in the city.

HC posts BrahMos DG appointment case to June 15

Justice P Sam Koshy and Justice Narsing Rao Nandikonda of the Telangana High Court posted to June 15 the writ pleas filed by Jaiteerth Joshi challenging the CAT order which had set aside his appointment for the post of Director General of BrahMos Aerospace.

Union of India has also questioned the Tribunal's order dated December 29, 2025. During the hearing, counsel on both sides made preliminary submissions and sought additional time to advance detailed arguments. Taking note of the request, the Bench adjourned the matter for continued hearing. It may be recalled that, Dr Joshi was appointed as Director General of BrahMos Aerospace on November 25, 2024 considering his outstanding service as a scientist at the Defence Research and Development Laboratory. The appointment was challenged before the Hyderabad Bench of the Central Administrative Tribunal by Dr Sivasubramaniam Nambi Naidu, a senior scientist with the Defence Research and Development Organisation, who was among the shortlisted candidates for the post.

The Tribunal, while allowing the plea, held that the selection process suffered from arbitrariness and set aside the appointment. It

Shah Khamosh (R.H) Urs Begins at Nampally with Sandal Procession



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Hundreds of devotees gathered in Hyderabad on the occasion of the 159th annual Urs Shareef celebrations of Hazrat Shah Khamosh (R.H) at Nampally, marking a spiritually significant event with deep-rooted tradition and devotion. The ceremonies began with the sacred sandal (gandham) procession, which commenced from the historic Mecca Masjid, one of the city's most revered religious land-

marks. The procession was led by Maulana Akbar Nizamuddin, the custodian of the Dargah, along with other religious heads and devotees. As the procession moved through the streets, chanting of prayers and religious hymns filled the air, creating a divine and serene atmosphere. Devotees from various parts of the city joined the procession, reflecting unity and deep reverence for the Sufi saint Hazrat Shah Khamosh (R.H), whose teachings continue to inspire spir-

itual harmony and compassion. Upon reaching the Hazrat Shah Khamosh Dargah at Nampally, the rituals were conducted with traditional devotion, including offering of sandal, chadar, and special prayers. The Dargah premises were decorated and witnessed a steady flow of pilgrims throughout the day. The Urs celebrations concluded with prayers for peace, prosperity, and communal harmony, leaving devotees with a profound sense of spiritual fulfillment.

Three-Member Chain Snatching Gang Nabbed, Stolen Gold Recovered

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Secunderabad Zone Task Force, along with OU City Police, arrested a three-member chain snatching gang and a receiver, solving a recent case. Police recovered three pieces of a gold chain weighing about 35 grams, a Honda Unicorn used in the crime, a Pulsar bike bought with stolen money, and two mobile phones.

The accused targeted a woman near Karur Vysya

Bank in Habsiguda, snatching her gold chain and fleeing on a motorcycle.

They later broke the chain and shared it among themselves, using part of the proceeds for personal expenses. Investigations using CCTV footage and technical evidence helped identify and nab the accused.

Police said the gang members are repeat offenders involved in multiple property crimes, while the receiver assisted in disposing of stolen gold.

Afzalgunj Gold Theft Cracked, Accused Arrested

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Afzalgunj police have apprehended a gold ornaments theft offender and recovered approximately 17 tolas of stolen jewellery, successfully detecting a case registered under Crime No.153/2026. The case was reported after a passenger noticed her gold ornaments missing during a private sleeper bus journey from Anantapur to Hyderabad. The theft is suspected to have occurred while passengers were asleep en route. Acting swiftly, the Afzalgunj police launched an investigation, analysing CCTV footage and conducting field inquiries. Their efforts led to the identification and arrest of the accused, who had travelled on the same bus and later attempted to dispose of the



stolen property in Hyderabad. Police recovered items including a long haram, mangalsutra, gold chain with pendant, bangles, and rings.

Investigation revealed the accused targeted sleeping passengers on intercity buses to steal valuables. Officials commended the police team for their prompt detection and recovery.

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