



Mamata Claims Edge After High Turnout, Targets Modi and Shah: P4



Samson leads Chennai Super Kings to 103-run win over Mumbai Indians: P7

Telangana govt to press CBI for Kaleshwaram probe; CM, Uttam to meet Director: P2



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

Tamil Nadu Records 82.24% Turnout as Assembly Polls Conclude

But for a couple of skirmishes between political workers and a complaint of police personnel entering the polling booth, elections to the Tamil Nadu Assembly on Thursday were a smooth affair that saw several film stars and other celebrities coming out to cast votes despite the blazing heat in Chennai and the final polling figures crossed 84 percent, which is considered a record turnout, all over the State.

In terms of numbers, those who exercised their franchise on Thursday might not be too high when compared to the 2021 elections when the strength of the electorate was 6,29,40,693 as against the present total of 5,73,43,291, post Special Intensive Revision (SIR). Among the 38 districts in the State, Karur recorded

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Revanth sets up GoM to resolve RTC strike

Appeals RTC staff not to take extreme steps, says govt ready to resolve demands

HYDERABAD
 Wakeup telangana

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Thursday constituted a group of ministers (GoM) led by Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka to hold talks with the TGSRTC Joint Action Committee (JAC) on Friday in an effort to resolve their demands and bring an end to the ongoing indefinite strike, which entered its second day on Thursday. Revanth Reddy made a strong emotional appeal to RTC employees not to resort to extreme steps, stressing that the government was making sincere efforts to resolve their issues. His appeal came in the wake of three reported suicide attempts by agitating RTC staff from Warangal, Nalgonda and Khammam districts on Thursday. Observing that "suicide is not a solution," he directed ministers, led by Deputy CM Bhatti, to immediately invite the employee unions for discussions. Two RTC



The employee, identified as Kola Shankar Goud, poured petrol on himself and set himself ablaze in front of the Narsampet bus stand.

staffers were in a critical condition after attempting to die by suicide. Kola Shankar Goud, 57, a resident of Narsampet, who had served the corporation for over 30 years, resorted to the extreme step after an argument over the hiring of temporary drivers. He was taken to a hospital and later shifted to Hyderabad in a critical condition. RTC driver D. Linga Reddy, associated with the Kothagudem RTC depot, attempted to die by suicide in his house at Nayudupeta in Khammam district. His family

members rushed him to a hospital. In Nalgonda, onlookers stopped Ravula Venkanna, a driver with the Miryalaguda depot, from attempting to die by suicide. The Chief Minister was deeply moved by the reports of the suicide attempts even as the Cabinet meeting was in progress. He directed ministers D. Sridhar Babu, Ponnampaluri Prabhakar, Damodar Rajanarasimha and Komati-reddy Venkat Reddy to immediately address a press conference and appeal to RTC staff not to

take extreme steps. The four ministers stepped out of the Cabinet meeting hall, addressed the media at the Secretariat with an appeal for restraint, and later rejoined the Cabinet meeting.

The decision to start talks was taken during the Cabinet meeting chaired by the Chief Minister at the Secretariat, where the RTC strike was discussed at length. The Cabinet appealed to RTC staff to withdraw their strike, assuring that the government was ready to hold talks and resolve their long-pending demands through dialogue. It urged employees to exercise restraint, stating that the government had constituted an official committee with a positive intent to address their concerns, and invited union leaders to attend talks under the leadership of the Deputy Chief Minister on Friday. Addressing the press conference, transport minister Ponnampaluri Prabhakar said the government bore re-

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Jhal Muri's Spice Stings TMC: Modi

"Violence was kept at a minimum in the last 50 years of poll history in Bengal. The information I have received so far makes me certain that this is going to be a mandate for a change," the PM said

KOLKATA
 Wakeup telangana

Elated over the record voters' turnout in the first phase of the West Bengal Assembly elections, Prime Minister Narendra Modi asserted on Thursday that the polling trend had set the "dawn for a change" in the state and would restrict the ruling Trinamul Congress from opening its accounts in some districts in the ongoing polls. Modi, who addressed two campaign rallies for the second phase polling on April 29 and led a roadshow for the BJP candidates, also took a veiled swipe at TMC supremo and Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee for retaliating against him for savouring jhal muri in Jhargram recently. He sarcastically claimed that while he enjoyed the taste of the popular street food of Bengal, "some" felt a "thunderous shock" while their party got stung by the jhal (spice).



WB Polls: Highest-ever Voter Turnout Of 91.58 pc Recorded: P4

Referring to the massive polling in the first phase of the Bengal polls, the Prime Minister, at the Krishnanagar rally in Nadia, said, "This is the first time in the last 50 years that Bengal endured minimum violence during elections. Otherwise, people were hanged, and the deaths were passed off as suicide every week. A goonda raj used to prevail here. I congratulate the Election Commission for re-establishing democracy in Bengal. It is a big

achievement of the EC to have ensured a peaceful polling here."

"I have heard that polling that is underway is breaking all past records of the past. I can see the dawn for a change. This is the dawn for a change. Bhoy (fear) is disappearing. Bharosa (trust) is marching ahead..." Modi said, adding, "There has been so much public anger against TMC ministers, MLAs, local leaders and their syndicates that the TMC accounts will not open in some districts." Taking potshots at Banerjee indirectly over the popular snack in Bengal, Modi quipped with a smile, "I have even heard that jhal muri has given a thunderous shock to some people. While I savoured jhal muri, the TMC was stung by jhal."

"Wherever polling was high, the BJP got a huge victory. In Bengal also, there will be a celebration of the BJP victory on May

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US Military Seizes Iran-Linked Oil Tanker in Indian Ocean

NEW DELHI
 Wakeup telangana

Iran vowed Wednesday not to reopen the Strait of Hormuz so long as a US naval blockade remained in place despite a ceasefire extension, as it announced the seizure of two ships trying to cross the strategic waterway. As the clock ticked for a return to the war that has engulfed the region, US President Donald Trump had said Tuesday he would maintain the truce

The conflict has already sent gas prices skyrocketing far beyond the region and raised the cost of food and a wide array of other products.

to allow more time for Pakistani-brokered peace talks.

Iran said it welcomed the efforts by Pakistan but made no other comment on Trump's announce-

ment. "A complete ceasefire only has meaning if it is not violated through a naval blockade," said Iranian parliament speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, who led Tehran's delegation in the first round of talks in Islamabad. "Reopening the Strait of Hormuz is not possible amid a blatant violation of the ceasefire."

Oil prices, which have soared since Israel and the United States attacked Iran on February 28, kept

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No Post-Poll Fuel Price Hike: Govt Clears Air

NEW DELHI
 Wakeup telangana

Dismissing the rumours on the hike of petrol and diesel prices post assembly elections, the government on Thursday signalled that there is no such proposal under consideration.

The statement of the government comes after there are several reports saying that there is a potential hike of Rs 25-28 per litre in petrol and diesel prices after state assembly polls. Clarifying the reports, the ministry of petroleum and

natural gas (MoPNG) said in a post on X that state-owned fuel retailers are incurring losses of about Rs 20 per litre on petrol, and roughly Rs 100 per litre on diesel as pump prices remain frozen for nearly four years despite a surge in global oil prices. "There is no immediate plan to raise retail fuel rates and no such proposal under consideration by the government," it said. The clarification came after a report by Kotak Institutional Equities hinted of a steep increase in petrol

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Hellhole On The Planet Trump Targets India Over Birthright Citizenship

NEW DELHI
 Wakeup telangana

US President Donald Trump has amplified a provocative critique of birthright citizenship by sharing a video of prominent conservative author and radio host Michael Savage, who claimed the current legal system allows immigrants to exploit American laws by arriving in the "ninth month of their pregnancy". In the footage, Savage argued that such

Trump supports a video by Savage, which says the current legal system allows immigrants to exploit American laws by arriving in the "ninth month of their pregnancy".

practices create a loophole where "a baby here becomes an instant citizen, and then they bring the entire family in from China or India or some other hellhole on the planet." The footage, orig-

inally aired on the Newsmax series The Savage Nation, was highlighted by the "Commentary Donald J. Trump Posts From Truth Social" account, which serves as a platform dedicated to reposting the President's social media activity. In the clip, Savage expressed deep frustration with the judicial process, stating, "Today's brief, abbreviated discussion will be about the arguments that I just listened to before the

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ESTD 1960

ASTORIA HOTEL

Hyderabad Laziz Biryani

ek baar khaoge baar baar aaooge

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

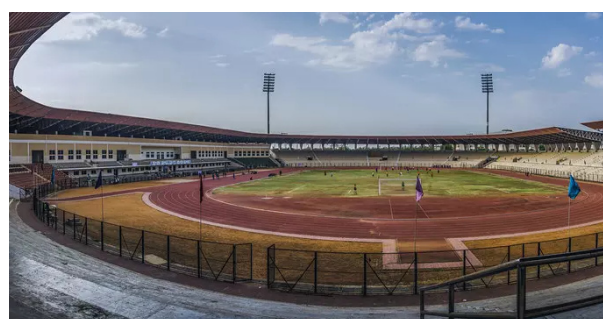
Gachibowli Stadium to Become ₹700 Cr World-Class Facility

HYDERABAD
 Wakeup telangana

The Cabinet at its meeting chaired by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Thursday, approved a proposal to develop the Gachibowli Stadium into a world-class sports facility with 50,000 seats under the public-private partnership (PPP) mode at a cost of ₹700 crore. The decision also covers plans to significantly upgrade infrastructure, expand capacity and promote multi-sport development.

Information and public relations minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, briefing mediapersons on the Cabinet decision, said the project would be taken up across the existing 76-acre stadium premises, of which 64 acres would be developed to create facilities for 21 different sports disciplines.

As part of the expansion, the seating capacity of the outdoor stadium will be increased from 20,000 to 50,000, transforming it into a major venue capable of hosting large-



scale national and international events with international standards to compete for hosting the Olympics in 2034. Srinivas Reddy said the Tata Group had expressed interest to contribute CSR funds for the

development of the stadium, and the government will consider naming it after the late Ratan Tata. The Cabinet also approved enhancement of the swimming pool capacity and the establishment of a

sports university within the stadium premises. The proposed university will focus on providing advanced training, academic programmes and research opportunities in sports sciences. In addition, the project will include residential and training facilities for athletes to ensure comprehensive support for their development. The remaining 12 acres will be allocated to private developers for commercial activities under the PPP model. The revenue generated from these

commercial ventures will be utilised for the maintenance and operation of the sports university, as well as for providing accommodation, training and other facilities for sportspersons. Srinivas Reddy stressed that the integrated development plan aimed to create a sustainable sports ecosystem by combining world-class infrastructure with revenue-generating commercial components, thereby supporting long-term growth of sports and athlete welfare in the state.

Telangana govt to press CBI for Kaleshwaram probe; CM, Uttam to meet Director

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In a major development, the Telangana High Court declaring key findings of the Justice PC Ghose Commission as “inoperative” has prompted the State government to move ahead with seeking a probe by the Central Bureau of Investigation into alleged irregularities in the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project. Irrigation Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy stated that he, along with Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, will soon meet the CBI Director to formally press for a detailed investigation. The State government intends to submit a series of reports compiled by multiple



agencies, including the Ghose Commission, the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA), the Vigilance department, and the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG). These reports, according to the Minister, contain crucial findings pointing to possible misuse of public funds and procedural lapses in the execution of the project.

The State Cabinet, which held detailed deliberations on the High Court verdict, is also examining various legal options. Among the possibilities under consideration are approaching the Supreme Court of India to challenge aspects of the judgment or extending the tenure of the judicial commission to continue its inquiry. To streamline this pro-

cess, a Cabinet Sub-Committee has been constituted to consult legal experts and recommend the most appropriate course of action. Senior members of the government, including Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, Industries Minister D Sridhar Babu, and Uttam Kumar Reddy, are scheduled to hold consultations with senior advocate and Congress MP Abhishek Singhvi. The Advocate General will also be part of these discussions aimed at finalising the State’s legal strategy in the wake of the court’s observations. The Minister revealed that the Advocate General had already submitted a comprehensive 102-page

analysis of the High Court judgment to the Cabinet, outlining potential legal pathways. He emphasised that the court’s ruling focused only on procedural and technical aspects and did not exonerate any individuals or agencies from responsibility. Criticising the celebrations by leaders of the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), Uttam Kumar Reddy asserted that the High Court order does not in any way prevent a CBI investigation. He further pointed out that despite the State government’s request made nearly nine months ago, the CBI has yet to initiate a probe, suggesting that the reasons behind the delay are evident to the public.

RTC Workers to Get Good News Soon: Mogulla Rajireddy

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

INTUC State Chief Vice President Mogulla Rajireddy stated that the Congress government is working earnestly to resolve the long-pending issues of RTC workers and that they will soon receive good news. On Thursday, he addressed a media conference at Desodddharaka Bhavan, Basheer Bagh, Hyderabad, under the aegis of the TGSRTC INTUC Staff and Workers Union, along with INTUC State General Secretaries R.D. Chandrasekhar and Y. Naganna Goud, and RTC Staff & Workers Union leaders. Rajireddy said it was unfortunate that RTC employees had to resort to strikes under a people-friendly Congress government, adding that INTUC is extending full support and actively participating in the protests. He informed that INTUC leaders have already met



Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, Deputy CM Bhatti Vikramarka, Transport Minister Ponnampalapati Prabhakar, Rajya Sabha MP Vem Narender Reddy, and RTC MD Y. Nagi Reddy to submit a memorandum on workers’ issues. He noted that the government is ready to resolve 29 out of 32 demands, while seeking time on key issues like RTC merger and revival of trade unions. Rajireddy criticized the previous BRS government for ignoring RTC workers during their 55-day strike and accused its leaders of showing double standards now. Highlighting recent measures, he said the Congress government ensured salaries are paid on

the 1st of every month, cleared pending 2017 PRC dues and DA arrears, reduced PF arrears from ₹1,205 crore to ₹600 crore, and CCS arrears from ₹690 crore to ₹300 crore. He added that ₹75 crore is being paid monthly towards PF and CCS. He further stated that recruitment for 4,538 posts will be completed soon, 1,134 compassionate appointments have been given, and around 250 dismissed employees have been reinstated. Rajireddy expressed confidence that the remaining issues will also be resolved soon, bringing relief to RTC workers.

TGSRTC strike intensifies after death, suicide bids by drivers

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

An RTC driver who set himself ablaze, died, while two others tried to end life as the indefinite strike by Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC) employees took a fiery turn on Thursday. The driver, identified as Shankar Goud of Narsampet depot, poured petrol on himself and set himself ablaze, reportedly anguished over what workers described as the government’s indifferent attitude towards their demands. His co-workers at the spot rushed to his rescue and doused the flames. Goud suffered nearly 70 per cent burns and was immediately shifted to MGM Hospital in Warangal. As his condition turned critical, he was being shifted to the DRDO Apollo Hospital at Kanchanbagh in Hyderabad when he succumbed to burns before reaching the hospital. Two other RTC employees D Linga Reddy, aged



around 50 and working at the Bhadrachalam depot in Kothagudem district, reportedly consumed pesticide to end his life, while alert employees thwarted a self-immolation bid by Ravula Venkanna of Miryalguda depot. The agitated RTC driver who was taking part in the strike, doused himself with petrol. His colleagues who noticed this intervened and stopped him from taking the extreme step. These incidents forced the State government to invite the agitating unions for talks with Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy directing Ministers concerned to

hold talks with the RTC unions on Friday. These directions were issued during the Cabinet meeting held here on Thursday. Led by Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, the Ministers have been directed to hold talks with the RTC unions, who are continuing their strike for the second day in the State. Stating that the government was positive towards addressing the concerns of RTC employees, the Chief Minister appealed to them not to take any decisions in haste. “By sacrificing lives, issues will not get addressed. The government

is committed to addressing the unions’ issues,” Revanth Reddy said.

The second day of strike continued to severely impact bus services in Hyderabad and other parts of the State. A large number of buses remained stationed at depots, leaving commuters stranded and struggling to find alternative transport, especially in rural and semi-urban areas. In several places in Hyderabad, private transport operators, including auto-rickshaws and cabs, reportedly charged steep fares, making money on the surge in demand. Passengers faced long waits and overcrowding at major transit points. The strike, which began from Tuesday midnight after talks with the government failed, has seen participation from thousands of RTC employees. With a fleet of over 9,000 buses catering to nearly 55 lakh passengers daily, the disruption has had a widespread impact on public mobility.

AAP Slams Govt After RTC Driver Suicide Attempt

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Telangana has demanded immediate government action following the suicide attempt by RTC driver Shankar Goud in Narsampet, who is currently alive. The party called for an impartial inquiry into the incident and urged authorities to provide justice and adequate financial assistance to the affected family. Addressing a press conference at the party office, Working Convener Burra



Ramu Goud and Convener Hema Jilloju strongly criticized the government, blaming its negligence and ineffective approach for the incident. They stated that RTC workers are facing severe hardships, including low salaries, pending dues, excessive workload, and lack of basic facilities,

pushing them into severe distress. The leaders also condemned the recent actions in Tandur, where police reportedly issued notices discouraging public support for RTC workers’ strike. Additionally, warnings by RTC MD Nagireddy that employees could face termination for

participating in strikes have further escalated tensions, they said. According to AAP, such pressure and intimidation have adversely affected workers’ mental well-being, leading to the suicide attempt in Narsampet. The party warned that failure to address these issues promptly could lead to more such incidents. AAP emphasized that safeguarding the dignity and welfare of workers is the government’s responsibility and must be treated as a priority.

BJP Mahila Aakrosh Rally Held at Indira Park

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Responding to the call given by BJP Telangana State President Sri Ramchander Rao, former Jambagh Corporator Rakesh Jaiswal participated in the “Chalo Indira Park” Mahila Aakrosh Rally held on Friday. The protest was organized against the Congress alliance parties, expressing strong opposition over issues related to women’s representation and the handling of the Mahila Nari Shakti 33% Reservation Bill. A large



number of women party workers from Jambagh Division actively took part in the rally, raising slogans and voicing their concerns. Prominent participants included Rachna Gupta, Damiyanthi Agarwal, Deepa, Sangita, Mahesh Yadav, Shanker, Venkat Reddy, Babu, Sharad, and Ramchander, along with sev-

eral Mahila Karyakartas. The rally highlighted the BJP’s stance on women’s empowerment and aimed to mobilize public opinion against the policies of Congress alliance parties. Leaders emphasized the need for transparent and effective implementation of women-centric legislation.

Foundation Stone Laid for CC Road in R Itikyal Village Under SC Sub-Plan



Development initiatives are gaining momentum in R. Itikyal village of Regode mandal in Medak district, following the directions of Telangana State Health Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha. As part of these efforts, a ceremonial foundation-laying (Bhumi Pujya) was conducted for the construction of a cement concrete (CC) road, sanctioned under the Scheduled Caste (SC) Sub-Plan funds. The project is aimed at improving infrastructure in the SC colony of the village. The event witnessed the participation of key local representatives and community leaders. Sarpanch Vemula Aparna, Deputy Sarpanch Anjaneyulu, along with village elders Venkat Rao Patil and Ishwarappa Mallappa, were present on the occasion. Ward members and several villagers also attended and extended their support, making the program a success. Speaking on the occasion, local representatives expressed confidence that the new CC road would significantly enhance basic infrastructure and improve the quality of life for residents in the colony. The initiative reflects the government’s continued commitment to rural development and inclusive growth, particularly in underserved communities.

Precision Agriculture Webinar Held at CBIT

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Chaitanya Bharathi Institute of Technology (CBIT), through its IETE Student Forum under the Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, successfully hosted an international webinar on “Revolutionizing Precision Agriculture” on April 23, 2026, at the N Block Seminar Hall. The session highlighted emerging technologies transforming modern farming practices. Mr. Raghavendra Sirigade, Senior Manager – Tech-



nology Architecture at Accenture, delivered the keynote address, focusing on advanced seed prescription techniques and the role of cloud infrastructure in building scalable agricultural solutions. He emphasized how data-driven decision-making, IoT, and cloud platforms are en-

hancing productivity and sustainability in agriculture. A special address by Dr. K. Gnaneshwar Rao, GC Member of Institution of Electronics and Telecommunication Engineers, underscored the importance of technological innovation in addressing agricultural challenges.

The session encouraged interdisciplinary learning and innovation. Students actively engaged in discussions, gaining insights into practical applications, industry trends, and career opportunities in precision agriculture. The event was supported by CBIT Principal Prof. C. V. Narasimulu, ECE Head Dr. K. Vasanth, and faculty coordinators, whose guidance ensured its success. The webinar reinforced CBIT’s commitment to industry-oriented education and research-driven learning.

Free Health Camp Benefits 100 Villagers

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A free mega health camp organized by the Rotary Club of Nizamabad in collaboration with the Indian Medical Association successfully served over 100 villagers in Metpally on April 23, 2026, providing much-needed healthcare access to rural residents. Village Sarpanch Birelli Padma Vijaya Rao inaugurated the camp as chief guest, highlighting the importance of accessible medical services in villages and appreciating the organizers’ efforts. The camp offered free general health checkups including blood pressure and diabetes tests, along with specialized consultations in pulmonology, gynecology, dental care, ophthalmology, or-



thopedics, neurosurgery, and psychiatry. Patients also received expert advice and free medicines. Rotary Club and IMA members, along with a dedicated team of doctors, ensured smooth operations. The initiative witnessed strong participation from villagers and local staff, marking it as a successful community welfare effort.

**Dr. Jyotsna Jain Appointed
General Secretary of
Doctor's Cell – Medical &
Health Wing.**



In a significant development aimed at strengthening the medical outreach and organizational framework, Dr. Jyotsna Jain has been appointed as the General Secretary of the Doctor's Cell – Medical & Health Wing. The appointment ceremony took place at Gandhi Bhavan, where the appointment letter was formally handed over by State Chairman Dr. M. Rajeev in the presence of party members and medical professionals. The Doctor's Cell plays a crucial role in bridging the gap between healthcare professionals and public health initiatives, focusing on policy support, medical awareness, and community health services across the state. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Jyotsna Jain expressed her deep gratitude to Revanth Reddy, Damodar Rajanarasimha, and Mahesh Kumar Goud for their confidence in her leadership. She described the appointment as both an honour and a responsibility.

Warangal RTC driver succumbs to burns as TGSRTC strike enters second day

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The second day of the indefinite strike by Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC) employees took a tragic turn after a bus driver allegedly died by suicide by self-immolation at the Narsampet bus stand in Warangal district on Thursday.

The driver, identified as Shankar Goud, is said to have poured petrol on himself and set himself ablaze, reportedly anguished over what workers describe as the government's indifferent attitude towards their demands.

His co-workers at the spot responded swiftly, rushed to his rescue and doused the flames. Goud suffered nearly 70 percent burns and was immediately shifted to MGM Hospital in Warangal, where his condition was said to be critical.

Based on doctors' advice, he was being shifted to the DRDO Apollo Hospital



at Kanchanbagh. However, he succumbed to his burns on the way near Karmanghat, before reaching the hospital. The second day of the strike continued to severely impact bus services in Hyderabad and across the State. A large number of buses remained stationed at depots, leaving commuters stranded and struggling to find alternative transport, especially in rural and semi-urban areas.

In several places in Hyderabad, private transport operators, including auto-rickshaws and cabs, reportedly charged steep fares, making money on the surge in demand. Pas-

sengers faced long waits and overcrowding at major transit points.

The strike, which began at Tuesday midnight after talks with the government failed, has seen participation from thousands of RTC employees. With a fleet of over 9,000 buses catering to nearly 55 lakh passengers daily, the disruption has had a wide-spread impact on public mobility.

Stepping up the agitation, the JAC had called for a 'Maha Dharna' at bus depots and workshops across the State on the second day. JAC Chairman E Venkanna urged workers to continue the protest until their demands

were met.

Union leaders alleged that the government and RTC management have adopted an insensitive and rigid approach towards the agitation, ignoring the concerns of employees. They criticised the official statements claiming that most demands had been addressed, stating that key issues remain unresolved.

They also stated that discussions with the government-appointed committee did not yield concrete results. Key demands include implementation of the 2021 pay revision with the proposed fitment, opposition to the operation of electric buses in Greater Hyderabad, and concerns over recent employee transfers. On the other hand, TGSRTC Managing Director Y Nagi Reddy appealed to employees to withdraw the strike, stating that the management has already responded positively and set up a committee of IAS officers to address the issues.

Establishment of BRC Centres training 3days program in NIPHM Rajendranagar

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Training on Bio-Input Resource Centres Empowers Farmers with Sustainable Practices A three-day training programme on the establishment of Bio-Input Resource Centres (BRCs) was successfully conducted at the National Institute of Plant Health Management (NIPHM), Rajendranagar, Hyderabad. The programme brought together around 40 farmers from Telangana and Andhra Pradesh, aiming to promote sustainable agricultural practices through the use of eco-friendly bio-inputs. The training focused on the importance of reducing dependency on chemical fertilizers and pesticides by adopting locally prepared biological alternatives. Participants were introduced to the concept of BRCs, which serve as decentralized units for the produc-



tion of bio-inputs using readily available farm resources. On the third day, a field visit was organized to the Nadendla Brahmaiah Bio-Input Research Centre (BRC) at Chatanpally village in Shadnagar Mandal. During the visit, Mr. Nadendla Brahmaiah provided an in-depth explanation of the centre's functioning, highlighting the rationale behind its establishment and its role in supporting sustainable farming systems. Participants were given a comprehensive tour of the facility, including the laboratory, raw material collection

units, processing sections, and field application methods. A key component of the training was the demonstration of soil bio-input preparation and usage. Farmers learned to prepare inputs such as Jeevamrutham, Beejamrutham, compost-based microbial cultures, and botanical extracts. These preparations involve the use of natural ingredients like cow dung, cow urine, jaggery, pulse flour, and soil, which are fermented under controlled conditions to enhance beneficial microbial activity.

BRS Slams Govt Over RTC Strike, Farmer Issues

BRS Leaders Slam Congress Government Over RTC Strike, Farmer Distress, Kaleshwaram Delays, Alleged False Cases and Governance Failures

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

At the Mahabnagar BRS party camp office, former minister V. Srinivas Goud launched a sharp attack on the Congress-led state government, accusing it of mishandling multiple public issues, including the ongoing RTC workers' strike and farmers' distress. He alleged that the government is "abusing" RTC workers instead of addressing their concerns. Referring to a reported suicide attempt by a worker in Warangal, he said the government must take full responsibility if any harm comes to the employee.

He also criticized authorities for issuing notices to tent house owners in Tandur who supported RTC workers, stating that such actions are unjustified and demoralizing. "RTC workers are not making new demands; they are only asking the government to fulfill its promises," he said. Srinivas Goud further claimed



that the RTC is owed ₹1,400 crore under the Mahalaxmi free travel scheme and demanded immediate release of pending dues. He accused the government of neglecting farmers by failing to supply urea, ensure proper electricity, and extend Rythu Bandhu benefits. He added that harvested crops are not being procured, leaving farmers in distress.

On irrigation, he criticized delays in the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project, alleging negligence in repairing damaged pillars despite engineers raising concerns. He said farmers

are not receiving adequate water even as sources like Srisailem Dam and Jurala are under pressure. Senior leader Praveen Kumar also accused the government of filing false cases against BRS leaders and workers, citing the arrest of Santosh Reddy. He alleged misuse of police powers and suppression of dissent, adding that the party would expose these issues before the public. The leaders warned that if such practices continue, they would take legal action in the future and intensify their political fight against the government.

Bhagiratha Jayanti Celebrations Held Grandly At Hafeezpet

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Bhagiratha Maharshi Jayanti was celebrated with great enthusiasm at Prakash Nagar Colony in Hafeezpet Division on the occasion of his birth anniversary. The event was organized under the aegis of Sagara Sangham and witnessed active participation from local residents and community members. Balinga Goutham Goud attended the program as the chief guest and paid floral tributes to the portrait of Bhagiratha Maharshi. He also took part in the annadanam (community



meal) arranged as part of the celebrations. Addressing the gathering, Goutham Goud highlighted the significance of Bhagiratha Maharshi as a symbol of determination and unwavering penance. He urged people to remember and follow the

ideals of the sage, who is revered for bringing the sacred Ganga river to Earth through his relentless efforts. Members of Sagara Sangham, colony residents, and supporters participated in large numbers, making the event a grand success.

Press Academy Chairman Gets Warm Nizamabad Welcome



NIZAMABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Press Academy Chairman K. Srinivas Reddy received a warm reception upon his arrival in Nizamabad for the Journalist Family Health Card distribution program, a significant initiative aimed at providing healthcare support to journalists and their families. The welcome ceremony was held at the R&B Guest House, where District Public Relations Officer Mrs. Padma Shri and senior journalist and former State Journalists' Union Executive Committee member Mr. Ahmed Ali Khan felicitated him with a shawl and presented a flower bouquet as a mark of respect and honor. Srinivas Reddy's visit underscores the state's commitment to the welfare of the journalist community, with the health card initiative playing a crucial role in ensuring access to medical services.

The program is expected to benefit numerous journalists and their families by reducing financial burdens associated with healthcare. Several prominent journalist leaders and representatives



attended the event. Among them were PRO Mr. Mohammed Javed Pasha, District Journalists' Union President Mr. Edla Sanjeev, General Secretary Mr. Arvind Balaji, State Council Member Mr. Bobbili Narsaiah, A.S. Sambaiah, and National Council Member Ganga-das. Their presence highlighted the collective support for the initiative. The event reflected strong coordination between the Press Academy and local journalist bodies, emphasizing the importance of welfare-driven programs for media professionals. The distribution of Journalist Family Health Cards is seen as a major step toward strengthening social security measures for journalists across Telangana.

Sarpanch Slams MLA Over Protocol Violation Row

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A controversy over alleged protocol violation has surfaced in Nakkalapalli village of Moinabad mandal in Rangareddy district. Sarpanch Mangalaram Yadaiah expressed strong displeasure against Chevella MLA Kale Yadaiah for reportedly conducting a foundation-laying ceremony for internal CC roads and streetlights without prior intimation to the village leadership. The Sarpanch stated that organizing an official program without informing



the elected village head amounts to a violation of constitutional provisions, including Articles 14 and 21, as well as the Panchayati Raj Act, 2018. He emphasized that sidelining the Sarpanch, who is the first citizen of the village, undermines democratic norms. Mangalaram Yadaiah further clarified that

the development funds were mobilized through the efforts of Minister Sridhar Babu, former MP Ranjith Reddy, and Chevella Congress in-charge Bheem Bharat, among other leaders. He criticized the MLA, alleging that no significant contribution was made towards village development dur-

ing the previous BRS government. He also demanded clarity on whether the MLA currently belongs to the Congress party or the BRS, alleging deliberate disregard in the matter. The Sarpanch warned that if an apology is not issued immediately, legal action would be initiated and the issue would be escalated to the Chief Minister. Local leaders, including Youth Congress Mandal president, Deputy Sarpanch Niranjan Goud, and ward members Shrawanthi, Swathi, and Ravinder, were present.

Traffic Police Recover Lost Mobile, Display Honesty

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In a commendable display of honesty and prompt action, the Traffic Police of Begumpet, Trimulgherry Division successfully traced and returned a lost mobile phone to its rightful owner on April 23, 2026.

At around 12:30 PM, Chaitanya, a resident of Mallapur, Nacharam, reported the loss of his mobile phone at Brook Bond Signal. Acting swiftly on the complaint, the traffic police personnel initiated



immediate efforts to track the device. Their timely response led to the successful tracing of the mobile phone at CTO Junction, from where it was recovered and safely handed back to the owner.

The operation highlights the efficiency and dedication of the traffic staff in handling public grievances with urgency and integrity. PC-5527 Thota Suresh and HG-8155 Munder Kumar played a

key role in locating and recovering the lost device. Their alertness and commitment to duty ensured a quick resolution of the issue, earning appreciation from both the department and the public. Recognizing their exemplary service, G. Shanker Raju, Able-I, Traffic Trimulgherry Division, commended the personnel for their honesty and dedication. PC Thota Suresh was also felicitated with a shawl as a mark of appreciation for his sincere efforts and integrity in duty.

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.

WB Polls: Highest-ever Voter Turnout Of 91.58 pc

KOLKATA
Wakeup telangana

Breaking records, West Bengal on Thursday registered its highest-ever voter turnout at 91.58 per cent in the first phase of the Assembly elections for 152 seats out of the 294 constituencies. The state had witnessed 85 per cent polling in the 2021 Assembly polls and 83.2 per cent in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. Three Opposition candidates and the supporters of others came under attack during the polling. In Murshidabad, Raghunathgunj, Shamsherganj, Bhagabangola and Lal-gola seats witnessed voting above 95 per cent. Although 2,407 companies of Central forces were deployed in Bengal, three Opposition candidates came under attack in a series of stray incidents of violence. Two of them — Shubhendu Sarkar, the



Kumarganj candidate, and Agnimitra Paul, MLA and candidate of Asansol South — are from the BJP. Sarkar was beaten up by a mob when he was walking towards a polling booth. Paul's car was vandalised while she was driving around in her constituency. In Birbhum, Labhpur BJP candidate Debashis Ojha's election agent Bishwajit Mondal suffered head injuries after he was assaulted allegedly by TMC activists. In Murshidabad, the car of Aam Janata Unnayan Party founder Humayun Kabir, who is contesting two seats this time, was vandalised by Trinamul Con-

gress workers during a clash at Nowda. His party workers were also injured. The area was on the boil after Kabir blocked a road in protest of the arrest of his nephew, Raja Sheikh, in an old case of sexual assault. At Kantanagar in Berhampore, a Congress polling agent Manoranjan Sarkar was beaten up allegedly by the TMC men. Hours before the polling, the TMC and the CPM cadres clashed at Domkol on Wednesday night. Four persons including a CPM worker were injured. Three voters, including two women, died after falling ill due to tremendous heat outside polling booths in Birbhum, West Midnapore and Malda. Union home minister Amit Shah, who has been camping in the state, monitored the polls from a BJP war room in Salt Lake. It was also a difficult day for Suprabuddha Sen, grand-

son of the late famous painter Nanda Lal Basu, and his wife Dipa Sen, who cast their votes after they were denied exercising their franchise despite the Supreme Court order. Their names were initially placed under "adjudication" by the EC for logical discrepancies in the special intensive revision but were included in the appellate tribunals' list following the SC order. On Thursday morning, the aged couple went to cast their votes at a booth in Bolpur of Birbhum. They were informed by the polling officials that their names were not on the voters' list. The duo showed the SC order but were refused entry and were told to take written permission from the district election officer at Suri. Harassed and humiliated, the couple returned home. As the news spread, the DEO enquired into it.

Mamata Claims Edge After High Turnout, Targets Modi and Shah

KOLKATA
Wakeup telangana

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Thursday welcomed the high voter turnout in the first phase of the Assembly elections, expressing confidence that the All India Trinamool Congress would maintain its lead. Addressing a rally at Chowringhee in Kolkata, she said the strong participation reflected the people's resolve to safeguard their rights and democratic values. "If I can read the public pulse, we are already in the driver's seat," she remarked. Banerjee also launched sharp criticism against Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah, questioning their presence in the state on polling day. She took exception to Modi's



remarks about the election during voting, saying such statements were inappropriate. "How can you predict victory on polling day? Let the people decide," she said, accusing him of attempting to influence voters. Targeting Amit Shah, the Chief Minister alleged that his extended stay in West Bengal was aimed at exerting pressure on the administration. She claimed that the BJP lacked grass-

roots support in the state and was relying on such strategies instead. Banerjee also questioned the legitimacy of leaders campaigning extensively in regions where they are not voters. Rejecting criticism of her government's performance, Banerjee defended her administration's record, stating that development in West Bengal has been inclusive and focused on all sections of society, not just the affluent.

US Military Seizes Iran-Linked Oil Tanker in Indian Ocean

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Iran vowed Wednesday not to reopen the Strait of Hormuz so long as a US naval blockade remained in place despite a ceasefire extension, as it announced the seizure of two ships trying to cross the strategic waterway. As the clock ticked for a return to the war that has engulfed the region, US President Donald Trump had said Tuesday he would maintain the truce to allow more time for Pakistani-brokered peace talks. Iran said it welcomed the efforts by Pakistan but made no other comment on Trump's announcement. "A complete ceasefire only has meaning if it is not violated through a naval blockade," said Iranian parliament speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, who led Tehran's delegation in the first round of talks in Islamabad. "Reopening the Strait of Hormuz is not possible amid a blatant violation of the ceasefire." Oil prices, which have soared since Israel and the



United States attacked Iran on February 28, kept inching up from the uncertainty on whether war will resume, although US stock prices gained ground. Trump had said he wanted to give time for Iran's "fractured" leadership to come up with a proposal, in what many observers saw as a face-saving way to avoid renewed war. Trump told the New York Post that talks could resume in Pakistan within two to three days, even though Iran has not confirmed participation and Vice President JD Vance put on hold his travel to Islamabad on Tuesday. Trump also claimed that Iran at his request had halted alleged plans to execute eight women arrested over massive anti-government protests

in the weeks before the attack. But Iran's judiciary described his remarks as "false news", saying the women had never faced the death penalty. - Ships seized - Iran's elite Revolutionary Guards said they forced two ships to the Iranian shore from the Strait of Hormuz, the narrow gateway for one-fifth of the world's oil. "The Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps naval force this morning identified and stopped in the Strait of Hormuz two violating ships," the Guards said in a statement. They identified the vessels as the Panama-flagged container ship MSC Francesca and the Liberia-flagged Epaminondas. Panama's foreign ministry confirmed the seizure of the MSC Francesca, calling it a "serious

attack on maritime security" and an "unnecessary escalation". UK-based maritime security monitors confirmed that three commercial vessels had reported incidents involving gunboats in the strait. Among them, a container ship reported being fired upon by a Revolutionary Guards boat 15 nautical miles northeast of Oman, causing damage to the bridge but no casualties, monitor UKMTO said. Under orders from Trump, the US Navy is attempting to block vessels heading to or from Iranian ports, seeking to ramp up pressure on the Iranian economy even without all-out war. In the midst of the blockade, the Pentagon announced Wednesday that the Secretary of the Navy John Phelan would leave "immediately." It gave no reason for his sudden departure, the latest removal of a senior officer under Trump's combative Pentagon chief, Pete Hegseth. Iran in retaliation for being attacked has said that vessels must seek permission to leave or enter the Gulf through the strait.

Tamil Nadu Records 82.24% Turnout as Assembly Polls Conclude

TAMIL NADU
Wakeup telangana

But for a couple of skirmishes between political workers and a complaint of police personnel entering the polling booth, elections to the Tamil Nadu Assembly on Thursday were a smooth affair that saw several film stars and other celebrities coming out to cast votes despite the blazing heat in Chennai and the final polling figures crossed 84 percent, which is considered a record turnout, all over the State. In terms of numbers, those who exercised their franchise on Thursday might not be too high when compared to the 2021 elections when the strength of the electorate was 6,29,40,693 as against the present total of 5,73,43,291, post Special Intensive Revision (SIR). Among the 38 districts in the State, Karur recorded the maximum voting percentage of 91.86 percent on Thursday and Kanyakumari the least percentage of 75.41, while polling was brisk throughout the day when various parties raised complaints



on the polling process. The Director General of Police issued a notification urging the police officers at various levels to ensure that uniformed personnel performed their duty outside the gates of the polling stations and entered premises, if required, only at the behest of the presiding officers. He said he had received complaints of police entry into booths which was not permitted. In a couple of places, including a booth in Chennai's Royapuram, hitches in the Electronic Voting Machines led to the disruption of voting an hour before the machines were set right to resume the process. Adding a romantic touch to the polling process, several couples in the State went to booths straight from their marriage ceremonies in wed-

ding finery, surprising the officials, polling agents and waiting voters in a delightful way. N Raja Ram and V Renuka, whose marriage was solemnized at 4 am went to the booth at Al Ameen School, K Pudur, in Madurai to cast their votes, while another couple turned up at the booth in Tirupattur with the garlands still adorning them. In Chennai, where, too, a lawyer and his bride had not removed the garland when they reached the booth in Kodambakkam straight from the marriage 15 minutes earlier, were in a hurry to leave as they had to reach Kallakurichi to enable the bride to exercise her democratic right. In Chinnakadai area of Ramanathapuram two couples of the same family voted with their garlands on and then

posed for a group photograph displaying the ink mark in their index fingers. Another couple also voted at the K A P Viswanatham Higher Secondary School in Trichy West soon after their marriage ceremony was over. For the Election Commission of India, vignettes of couples in the wedding attire at the booths came as a catchy visual to urge the people to celebrate the 'festival of democracy' as they put one from Chennai in their X page with the slogan, 'Step forward and cast your vote.' Prominent among those who cast their votes in Chennai, drawing the attention of the media, were Chief Minister M K Stalin along with his family members, including Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin, president of the Tamil-laga Vetri Kazhagam Vijay, actor Rajinikanth and actor couple Suriya and Jothika. A robot named Tina, draped in a sari, was a major attraction at the polling booth in the Coimbatore Government Arts College as it welcomed voters to the premises and also distributed toffees to them.

FROM FRONT PAGE

Voter Turnout Makes...

"Wherever polling was high, the BJP got a huge victory. In Bengal also, there will be a celebration of the BJP victory on May 4. Sweets and jhal muri will be distributed," Modi added, referring to the counting day. The Prime Minister also played the CAA card to woo the Matuas with an assurance to fast-track the implementation of the law to placate them. Union home minister Amit Shah, who addressed two rallies in Hooghly and led a roadshow in North 24 Parganas after monitoring voting from a BJP war room in Salt Lake, also warned the TMC-backed miscreants not to step out of their homes during the second and final phase of Bengal polls on April 29. The Union home

minister claimed, "None of Didi's goons dared to raise fingers at the voters in the first phase of the polls. I'm warning them not to step out of their homes on April 29 also. The huge polling today reflects Didi's ouster from power."

Undergoes Surgery..

The BRS leaders demanded that the government immediately fulfill the promises made during the elections and provide comprehensive support to Shankar Goud's family. They warned that the party would stand firmly with the RTC employees and would not tolerate any further high-handedness by the state. In Bhadradi-Kothagudem district, RTC driver D. Linga Reddy attempted to die by suicide at his

house at Nayudupeta in Khammam district. He was working as a driver with RTC depot of Kothagudem. Reports said he went into distress while watching the news about the RTC strike. His family members who noticed him struggling shifted him to a hospital at Khammam for treatment. His condition was said to be serious. At the Nalgonda RTC depot, a driver, Ravula Venkanna, working with Miryalaguda depot, was attempted to die by suicide. Those standing next to him reacted immediately and stopped him. Venkanna said 33 RTC workers died during their 55 days strike in the earlier government. When he saw the harsh reaction of the ministers and state government on the strike of RTC workers in the TV channels, he became frustrated, he

said. His colleagues shifted Venkanna to Government General Hospital of Nalgonda for health checkup. Additional police forces were rushed to the place.

Hellhole On The.....

I was somewhat incensed by listening to the arguments because all I heard was legalese being bandied back and forth." Focusing his criticism on the legal representation involved, Savage remarked that "the person bringing the arguments in favour of flooding America with illegal aliens to change the demographics forever was a Chinese American who looks to me like the classic ACLU attorney. Very smart, very evil, and very devious." Extending his attack to the American Civil Liberties

Union, he asserted, "The ACLU is the head of the snake. They have been forever, and there they were again trying to turn America into a cesspool." Savage argued that the matter transcends technicalities, claiming that "these arguments should not be conducted in the abstract of a courtroom. This is really not about law. This is about public opinion." While acknowledging the difficulty of reform, he noted, "I could start arguing about the Constitution itself, and I'll run into a stone wall with you. We can't modify the Constitution because it's written in stone, and if we do, they'll take away our First and Second amendment, which is what they would do."

Govt. Dismisses.....

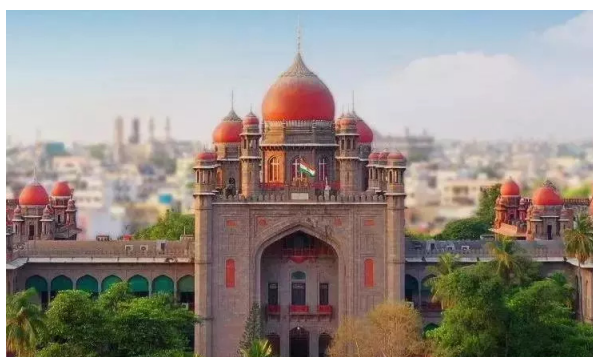
The clarification came after a report by Kotak Institutional Equities hinted of a steep increase in petrol and diesel prices once the polling for assembly elections in states like West Bengal ends on April 29. Kotak projected about Rs 25-28 a litre increase in price based on crude oil staying close to \$120 per barrel. "Such reports are designed to create fear and panic amongst the citizens and are mischievous and misleading," the ministry said. At the media briefing on developments in West Asia, Sujata Sharma, joint secretary in MoPNG, also said that international prices of crude oil in which raw material used to make fuel like petrol and diesel and LPG rates have been very volatile, yet the government.

CRIME

Police Told To Produce Married Woman Following Habeas Corpus Petition By Husband

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A two-judge panel of the Telangana High Court directed the police authorities to produce a woman alleged to be under illegal detention by her own mother within one week, in a plea raising serious concerns over personal liberty and alleged misuse of authority. The panel comprising Justice Moushumi Bhattacharya and Justice Gadi Praveen Kumar is hearing a habeas corpus petition filed by the husband of the detenu. It is the case of the petitioner that his wife, who is a second-year B.Tech (CSE) student at IIT Hyderabad, was illegally apprehended from her educational institution by her mother with the help of police authorities using her power



and influence. The petitioner would contend that the couple entered into a marital relationship in March 2026 and the detenu, a 20-year-old engineering student, voluntarily converted to Islam out of her own free will and subsequently married the petitioner in accordance with Muslim personal law and was duly documented. He would further contend the detenu was allegedly confined at her educational institution

under restrictive conditions and denied communication with the petitioner. Counsel for the petitioner would contend that despite being a major and fully competent to make her own life choices, and that the tensions arose after the marriage was disclosed to the detenu's family, particularly her mother, who is a deputy commissioner of police, Maharashtra. He would further contend that the detenu was subjected

to surveillance, intimidation, and pressure to renounce her marriage. When the detenu refused to renounce the marriage, she was forcefully apprehended. The counsel for the petitioner, expressing apprehension over the safety of the detenu, including fears of an honour-based crime, urged the Court to treat the matter with urgency and secure the presence of the detenu. After hearing the arguments, the panel directed the Station House Officer, Gachibowli Police Station, to produce the detenu before the court within a period of one week to examine the circumstances surrounding the alleged detention. The panel thus adjourned the matter for further hearing.

26-yr-old Woman Dies By Suicide At Kushaiguda

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A 26-year-old woman died allegedly by suicide, Kushaiguda police said on Thursday. The victim's father, Rajender Singh, a resident of Bidar in Karnataka, tried to contact his daughter multiple times but received no response. Growing suspicious, he alerted a neighbour, Bharatesh-



wamma, who visited the house to check on her. Upon entering the residence, the neighbour found the body of the victim, Sonam Thakur in the bedroom. She immediately called emergency services, but the ambulance per-

sonnel who reached the scene and examined Sonam confirmed that she was dead. On receiving information, her husband and other family members rushed to the spot. Based on the complaint lodged by the victim's father, Kushaiguda police registered a case and began an investigation. The reasons behind the suicide are yet to be ascertained.

Minor Booked Under Pocco Act For Deceiving Minor Girl

Vanasthalipuram police booked a minor under the Pocco Act for allegedly deceiving and exploited a minor girl under the pretext of a relationship. During the course of investigation, the accused was apprehended and produced before the Juvenile Justice Board. Authorities subsequently remanded him to a juvenile home as per legal procedure. According to police, the accused, a minor from a Telangana district, had befriended the girl and gained her trust by proferring love.

HC Raps Med Officials Over Mahbubabad Hospital Lapses

The Telangana High Court on Thursday faulted the medical authorities for not filing adequate details in a petition seeking the providing of medical care facilities at the Government Hospital at Mahbubabad. The court was dealing with a PIL filed over the death of a person suffering from kidney and other ailments at the Civil Hospital, Mahbubabad district. The hospital allegedly denied him treatment over not having an Aadhaar card and not being accompanied by any attendant. Officials filed counters submitting that they did not insist the Aadhaar card. Reacting to it, the court expressed anger at the filing of the counter without submitting the details of facilities.

BRS Social Media Leader Krishank Among Nine Arrested

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Kukatpally police arrested BRS social media leader Manne Krishank along with eight others and produced them before a court, which remanded them to judicial custody on Thursday. Police said the incident pertained to allegedly objectionable content and exchanges on social media platforms and that they were acting on a complaint lodged by Congress

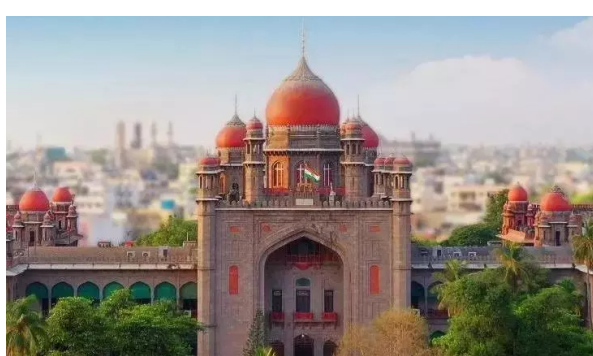
social media coordinator Rajendar. The controversy revolved around a post releasing a picture of a purported Telugu newspaper clipping with the headline claiming that Krishank and his wife were involved in a job scam. Krishank refuted the claims. In response, Krishank lodged a complaint, leading to the registration of a counter case. He alleged that made derogatory and offensive remarks targeting his family were made by

Rajendar, prompting him to seek legal action. Krishank stated that the allegations were false and claimed that no such news article was published in the newspaper. Police officials confirmed that both cases are being investigated simultaneously. They stated that the nature of the social media posts, the intent behind them, and the allegations made by both sides are under scrutiny.

HC Seeks GHMC Report on Illegal Cattle Slaughter

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Justice N.V. Shruvan Kumar of the Telangana High Court directed the Commissioner, GHMC and the Deputy Commissioner, GHMC (Charminar Zone) to submit an action taken report on complaints regarding illegal transportation and slaughter of cattle within city limits. The writ petition is filed by Telangana Goshala Federation. The petitioner sought implementation of various provisions under the GHMC



Act which prohibits keeping of animals in a manner causing nuisance and entry of cattle into the city for human consumption without written permission of the Commissioner. Counsel for the petitioner con-

tended that thousands of cattle were being brought into the city without permission and slaughtered illegally. He would allege that that despite repeated representations, no action was taken, particularly around Bakrid. During the

hearing, the judge questioned whether goshalas require permission to house such cattle if the transport itself is alleged to be illegal. In response, counsel for the petitioner submitted that while goshalas would also require permission, they are being used to house cattle that are rescued by the police. Taking note of the submissions, the judge directed the State to obtain further instructions and to place before the court a brief on the action taken so far.

EDITORIAL

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

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

West Bengal's politics between 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 Maidul 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.

DREAM OF THE RAREBIT FIEND BY SILAS

Panel 1: A doctor examines a man. "YES! HIS CHANCES FOR LIFE. I DON'T THINK HE'LL PULL THROUGH I THINK HE'S DONE FOR. IT'S TOO BAD." "WELL! I'VE REMOVED THE VERMIFORM APPENDIX BUT I THINK I'VE REMOVED HIS -"

Panel 2: The man is in a hospital bed. "YES, HIS PULSE IS AT A STANDSTILL. HE IS A GONER DOC." "WE MIGHT AS WELL NOTIFY HIS WIDOW. FROM WHAT I HEAR SHE WON'T BE SORRY. HE WAS A HIGH LIVER."

Panel 3: The man is in a dream world. "OH! WHY DID YOU DIE WITHOUT LEAVING ME EVEN FIVE CENTS? I'M GLAD YOU'VE GONE. YOU LED ME AN AWFUL LIFE IT WAS COMING TO YOU." "IT'S TOO BAD THAT HE SHOULD GO WITHOUT SOME LITTLE PREPARATION. YES!"

Panel 4: The man is surrounded by people. "THE BOOZE THAT HE HAS PUT AWAY WOULD FLOAT A SHIP." "HE'S HEAVY ISN'T HE?" "OH! I'LL MAKE YOU FORGET HIM. HE WAS NO GOOD. HE WAS A BRUTE. MARY! I LOVE YOU." "I ALWAYS DID THINK MORE OF YOU COME TO THINK OF IT." "HE LOOKS NATURAL BUT WHO WOULDN'T WHO THE ALCOHOL THAT'S IN HIM."

Panel 5: The man is in a dream world. "WELL! AT LAST MY HOPES ARE REALIZED. HE'S WHERE HE BELONGS. HE'LL MAKE GOOD FUEL." "IF I WERE YOU MADAME I SHOULD BUILD A PYRAMID OF STONE ON THIS GRAVE BIGGER THAN CHEOPS OF EGYPT OR HE'LL COME BACK."

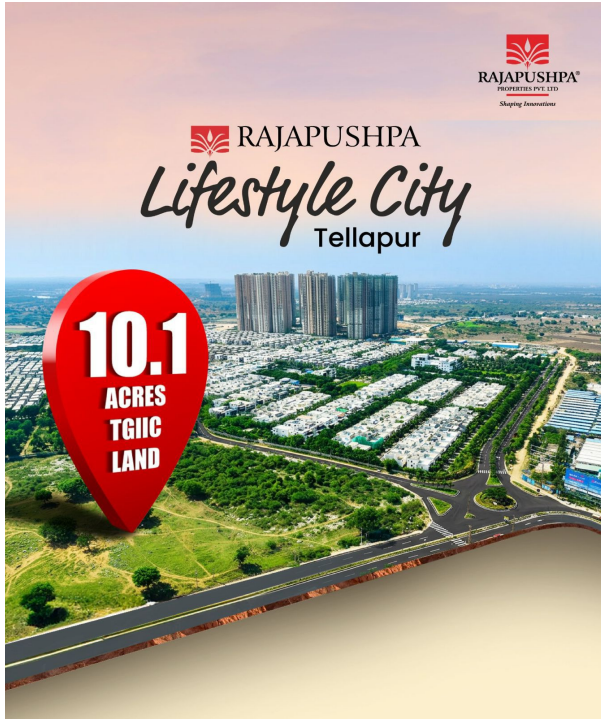
Panel 6: The man is in a dream world. "DUST TO DUST. REQUIRE SCAT IN PACE." "FOR THE LAND O' LIVIN' WHAT AILS YOU NOW? ARE YOU DAFFY?" "OH! OH! MARY! I'LL BE GOOD! I'LL BE GOOD! OH! SHUCKS! IT'S A DREAM. GOOD! I ATE A CHEESE PIE LAST NIGHT. OH OH WHAT A DREAM!"

SILAS

Rajapushpa Bags 10-Acre Osman Nagar Plot at TGIC Auction

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Leading real estate developer Rajapushpa has secured a prime 10.09-acre land parcel at the auction conducted by the Telangana State Industrial Infrastructure Corporation in Osman Nagar, reinforcing its expansion strategy in one of Hyderabad's fastest-growing corridors. The company emerged as the highest bidder for Plot No. 1, with the acquisition valued at approximately ₹517 crore, translating to about ₹51.25 crore per acre. The auction included multiple parcels, notably Plots 1 and 6, but Rajapushpa's successful bid for Plot 1 stands out due to its strategic proximity to the firm's flag-



ship project, Rajapushpa Lifestyle City — a sprawling 400+ acre integrated township. This adjacency is expected to significantly enhance

connectivity and overall development synergy within the region. According to Bharath Raj Reddy, Director of Rajapushpa, who leads the

residential vertical, the newly acquired land will play a pivotal role in the company's long-term vision.

He stated that the parcel is planned as a key gateway to the township and will host a thoughtfully designed mixed-use development. The proposed project will include a premium retail mall alongside a gated residential community, aimed at elevating the lifestyle ecosystem of the broader township. The development aligns with Rajapushpa's broader focus on creating large-scale, integrated urban destinations that combine residential, retail, and lifestyle components within a single ecosystem.

By expanding its foot-

print in Osman Nagar, the company is positioning itself to capitalize on rising demand for high-quality, self-sustained communities in Hyderabad's western growth corridor. Osman Nagar has increasingly attracted attention from developers and investors due to its infrastructure growth, proximity to IT hubs, and emerging residential demand. Rajapushpa's latest acquisition underscores confidence in the area's growth potential and signals continued momentum in Hyderabad's real estate sector. This strategic purchase further cements Rajapushpa's reputation as a key player in shaping modern urban living spaces in the city.

Cygnnet.One Launches STRATA for Smarter IT Operations

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Cygnnet.One has unveiled STRATA, a new infrastructure framework designed to transform managed IT services for always-on enterprises by enabling predictive operations, stronger security, and consistent performance across hybrid environments.

Announced on April 23, 2026, STRATA introduces a six-layer architecture that integrates on-premise systems with cloud platforms, shifting IT operations from reactive support to proactive, intelligence-driven management. Built on AIOps principles, the framework enables real-time monitoring, anomaly detection, and automated remediation to reduce downtime and improve operational efficiency.

At its core, STRATA connects infrastructure components through six layers—SENSE, TRANS-

MIT, REASON, ASSURE, THREATSHIELD, and ADAPT—each addressing a critical aspect of IT performance and resilience. The SENSE layer continuously monitors physical infrastructure using telemetry and AI diagnostics, while TRANSMIT filters and prioritizes operational data to reduce alert fatigue. REASON applies predictive analytics and event correlation to identify root causes before issues escalate.

Performance and uptime are managed through the ASSURE layer, which tracks service-level agreements and triggers automated responses to prevent disruptions. Security is handled by THREATSHIELD, which uses behavioral analysis and threat intelligence to detect and respond to cyber risks, including zero-day vulnerabilities. The ADAPT layer focuses on long-term optimization, analyzing usage

trends to improve capacity planning, cost efficiency, and system performance. STRATA is part of Cygnnet.One's broader Managed IT Services portfolio, which includes infrastructure and application management, multi-cloud operations across AWS, Azure, and GCP, and cybersecurity solutions. The company also provides governance, risk and compliance services, disaster recovery, and IT consulting.

The framework is designed to support organizations at different growth stages, from foundational infrastructure support for small businesses to advanced AI-driven operations and multi-region disaster recovery for enterprises. With STRATA, Cygnnet.One aims to position managed IT services as a unified, scalable operating model that ensures stability, security, and performance in increasingly complex digital environments.

Women hiring in India stable with 33 pc share in placements: Report

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Nearly one in three candidates placed in CY2025 were women, and overall women's hiring remained stable compared to broader hiring trends, a report said on Thursday. The report from CareerNet said entry-level roles accounted for the largest share of women's placements at 36 per cent, while hir-

ing for senior professionals with over 12 years of experience fell to 16 per cent from 19 per cent, underscoring a persistent leadership gap.

Hiring of women with 3-12 years' experience increased by roughly 2 per cent year-on-year, indicating growing demand for experienced women professionals. In CY2025, BFSI GCCs led with 40 per cent, followed by other



GCCs at 38 per cent, indicating strong participation by women in GCC-led roles. Domestic BFSI stood at 31 per cent, making it

the top-performing core sector. IT services remained stable at 29 per cent, while domestic enterprises and product GCC were at 25 per

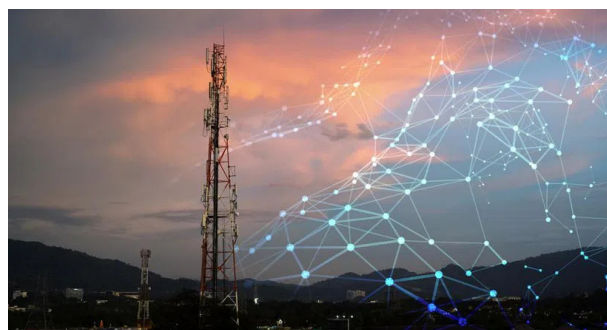
cent and 22 per cent respectively. Chennai (30 per cent) and Bengaluru (29 per cent) led women's placements, while Mumbai (26 per cent) and Delhi/NCR (24 per cent) showed moderate involvement in women's placement. Tier-II+ cities remained at 15 per cent, marking a dip by roughly 3 per cent from CY2024, highlighting the continued yet limited concentration of women's

employment opportunities in major urban centres. "With one in three placements being women and strong momentum in BFSI GCCs hiring, along with gains at the mid-career level, targeted interventions are clearly delivering results," said Neelabh Shukla, Chief Business Officer, CareerNet. As hiring becomes more selective, women

are increasingly represented in roles that demand experience and continuity, he added. Another report by TeamLease Degree Apprenticeship and GAN Global said that a significant gender gap persists in specialised IT and tech roles. Women account for 35-38 per cent of overall IT professionals, but there remains a 20-25 per cent shortfall in job-ready women for niche

technical skills. Women represent 14 per cent to 16 per cent of niche technical roles, including Java, Python, Cloud, Cybersecurity, and AI/ML. Women make up 43 per cent of STEM graduates but their share falls below 20 per cent in core engineering disciplines such as mechanical, electrical, and civil verticals, it said.

Airtel, Jio drive telecom growth as India adds 93 lakh subscribers in March 2026



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telecom companies added 92.7 lakh customers to over 133 crore subscribers in March, with Bharti Airtel leading the chart, sector regulator Trai said in its latest report.

The SIM used by retail subscribers dominated the segment with 114.1 crore connections, followed by M2M SIMs, used in machines, with 12.38 crore connections, fixed wireless access 1.66 crore, and wireline connections were 4.82 crore.

"The number of total telephone subscribers in India increased from 1,321.31 million at the end of February 2026 to 1,330.58 million at the end of March 2026, thereby showing a monthly growth rate of 0.7 per cent," Trai's monthly subscriber report

for March 2026 said. Airtel led the growth in retail mobile subscriber base, with the net addition of 50.94 lakh customers. The company also led the M2M segment with a total connection base of 7.69 crore, followed by Reliance Jio 2.32 crore connections, Vodafone Idea (Vi) 1.95 crore and BSNL 40.7 lakh. Reliance Jio followed Bharti Airtel in mobile connections with net addition of 32.27 lakh customers as it continued to dominate the segment with 39.21 per cent share. Debt-ridden Vi showed improvement in the mobile subscriber segment with a net addition of over 1 lakh connections in March. BSNL added 17,095 connections, while its sister concern MTNL lost 9,065 mobile connections.

14 Indian ships exit Strait of Hormuz safely: MEA

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Thursday said that 14 Indian ships have exited the Strait of Hormuz safely in the past few weeks, while 14 remain in the Persian Gulf.

"We have 10 Indian ships that have exited the Strait of Hormuz safely in the last few weeks. We have 14 Indian ships which are still in the Persian Gulf," said MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal while addressing a weekly media briefing in New Delhi on Thursday. Tensions continue in and around the Strait of Hormuz, the narrow waterway through which about one-fifth of global oil trade passes, ever since the conflict erupted in West Asia.

On Wednesday, Iran attacked a ship in the Strait of Hormuz that was on its way to Mundra Port in India. The attack came hours after US President Donald Trump had announced an indefinite ceasefire.

It was one of the two ships that the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps Navy (IRGC-N) announced it had attacked and taken over, according to the Iranian government-run Press TV.

Sri Comforts Opens New Experience Centre in Hyderabad

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

South India's largest authorized dealer of Daikin Airconditioning India Pvt. Ltd., Sri Comfort Air Products & Services, marked its Silver Jubilee with the launch of a state-of-the-art Experience Centre in Banjara Hills, Hyderabad. The new facility underscores the company's 25-year journey and its continued focus on delivering advanced air conditioning and HVAC solutions across the region.

The Experience Centre was inaugurated by Sanjay Goyal, Director and Senior Vice President of Daikin India, in the presence of key leadership including B. Kalyanaraman, CEO, and P. Vasundara. Senior executives from Daikin India, including N. Kutumba Rao and K. Ganesh Rao, also attended the event.

Founded in 2001, the company has built a strong presence across South India, executing



Sri Comfort Air Products & Services Pvt. Ltd. (SCAP) inaugurated its new Experience Centre in Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, on Thursday. The event was attended by Sanjay Goyal, Director and Senior Vice President of Daikin India, and other key executives. The new facility is a state-of-the-art Experience Centre for Daikin Airconditioning India Pvt. Ltd. (DAIKIN) in Hyderabad. The new facility is a state-of-the-art Experience Centre for Daikin Airconditioning India Pvt. Ltd. (DAIKIN) in Hyderabad. The new facility is a state-of-the-art Experience Centre for Daikin Airconditioning India Pvt. Ltd. (DAIKIN) in Hyderabad.

major HVAC projects including over 1,10,000 HP VRV systems, 17,000 tons of ducted air conditioning, and more than 35,000 split AC installations. Its services span sectors such as manufacturing, healthcare, government, education, and residential infrastructure.

With offices in Hyderabad, Chennai, Bengaluru, Pune, Tirupati, Khammam, Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada, and Rajahmundry, the company is supported by a workforce of over 270 engineers. Plans are underway to expand into additional cities including Nizamabad, Karimnagar, Kurnool,

Anantapur, Madurai, and Mangalore. Daikin India leadership highlighted the long-standing partnership, noting that the company recorded a turnover of ₹12,000 crore last financial year and aims to cross ₹20,000 crore by 2030.

The collaboration with Sri Comforts has contributed significantly to delivering several high-profile projects and strengthening market presence.

Over the past two and a half decades, Sri Comforts has executed landmark projects including Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad Metro Rail, a 1,200-bed

TIMS hospital in Sanathnagar, Tech Mahindra, ADP, Qualcomm, and Mahindra University, along with multiple government and private sector developments across Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. Currently a ₹110 crore company, Sri Comforts aims to scale up to ₹350 crore in the near term while expanding its workforce from 250 to 1,000 employees.

The partnership with Daikin is also expected to achieve a combined milestone of ₹500 crore in the near future.

The company also operates a Full Line Daikin Solutions Plaza in Secunderabad, offering a comprehensive range of products. With the new Experience Centre, Sri Comforts reinforces its leadership position and commitment to innovation, energy efficiency, and customer-centric solutions in South India's HVAC sector.

Ship movement via Hormuz halts, global oil prices firm up

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Traffic through the Strait of Hormuz has come to a standstill after Iran seized two ships, including one bound for Kandla port in Gujarat, which has increased uncertainty over the movement of oil and gas as 20 per cent of the world's energy exports transit through the waterway. As a result, oil prices firmed up on Thursday with the benchmark Brent crude trading at over \$103 a barrel.

The bulk of India's LPG imports and 50 per cent of crude imports are sourced from the Persian Gulf, which has been impacted due to the closure of the Strait of Hormuz, even as the government is diversifying imports of crude and increasing domestic production of LPG to enhance energy supplies. Some consumers are also switching to alternative fuels such as natural gas, coal and electric cooktops.

Iran's chief negotiator in talks with the US, Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, said it is "not possible" for the Strait of Hormuz to be opened due to "the blatant violations of the ceasefire"

Twinkle Says Akshay's Advice Is Just "Mat Kar"

Twinkle Khanna has revealed that her husband, Akshay Kumar, plays a minimal—yet memorable—role in her writing journey, joking that his only contribution is telling her "mat kar" (don't do it). Speaking on World Book Day, Twinkle shared that whenever she discusses potential topics for her columns, Akshay often advises her to avoid controversial issues. "Mat kar is basically his only and biggest contribution to my writing career," she said, adding a humorous touch to their dynamic. Despite the light-hearted remark, Twinkle emphasized her commitment to writing that provokes thought and reflection. The author, known for books such as *Mrs Funnybones*, *The Legend of Lakshmi Prasad*, and *Pyjamas Are Forgiving*, explained that her work aims to challenge societal conditioning. She believes many realities remain "visible but unseen" due to in-

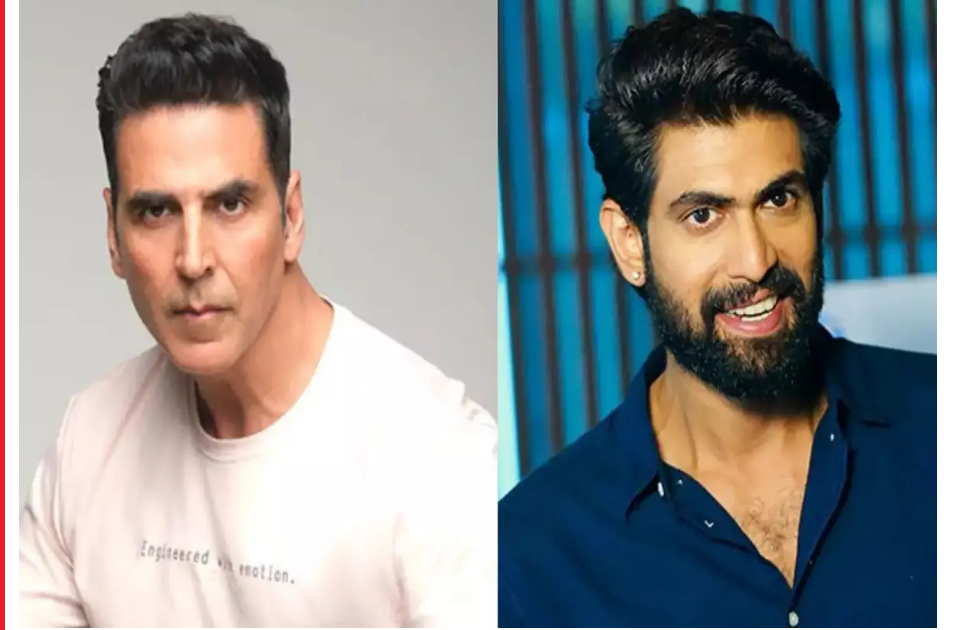


grained biases, and her role is to help readers confront those layers—even if it makes them uncomfortable. Twinkle noted that her writing is deeply influenced by personal experiences, including her early years in cinema, where she observed gender inequalities

that she fully understood only later in life. She said her focus is not just on what she writes, but on what she contributes to the medium itself. Her love for language, she explained, stems partly from her upbringing. She recalled a childhood moment with her father, Rajesh Khanna, whose nu-

anced use of words left a lasting impression. Growing up in a family of readers also shaped her literary inclinations, with her sister Rinkle Khanna being an avid reader. Reflecting on her younger self, Twinkle said she once read far more than she does now. If given the chance to advise her 20-year-old self, she would encourage her to continue reading and to complete a book she started at 18—a project she has revisited three times but never finished. She admitted that the subject may be too personal, making it difficult to translate emotions onto paper. Twinkle also shared some of her favorite reads, including *A Man Called Ove* and *The God of Small Things*, along with works by several acclaimed authors. Standing before her bookshelf, she joked about the endless list, underscoring her lifelong passion for literature.

Rana, Akshay Kumar to Headline Chandoo Mondeti's Pan-India Epic?



MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Amid growing industry buzz, director Chandoo Mondeti is reportedly gearing up for his most ambitious project yet, following the success of *Karthikeya 2* and *Thandel*. The filmmaker is said to be planning a grand, larger-than-life cinematic venture set against a rich historical backdrop, combining scale with layered storytelling. Adding to the excitement, prominent Bollywood filmmaker Karan Johar is expected to bankroll the project under Dharma Productions. This collaboration signals a significant crossover between Telugu

cinema and Bollywood, reflecting the growing trend of pan-India filmmaking. On the casting front, Rana Daggubati is likely to headline the film, while Akshay Kumar is reportedly being considered for a pivotal role, adding considerable star value.

Sources also suggest that discussions are underway for a third lead actor, though an official announcement is still awaited. The film is believed to be set in Ujjain, a location renowned for its deep historical and spiritual significance. The narrative is expected to blend elements of history and suspense, infused with mythological undertones, shaping a gripping

thriller with a unique atmospheric tone.

Designed on a lavish scale, the project is being envisioned as a pan-India release aimed at appealing to audiences across regions. With Dharma Productions backing the venture, it is poised to bridge the narrative sensibilities of Telugu cinema with Bollywood's expansive market reach. If finalized, this film would mark another milestone in the increasing collaboration between the two industries, placing Chandoo Mondeti alongside filmmakers like Vamshi Paidipally and Sandeep Reddy Vanga, who have successfully ventured into cross-industry projects.

Dhoni To Return As Wicket-keeper, Not Just Impact Player; Still Not Fully Fit: Hussey



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Chennai Super Kings batting coach Michael Hussey on Thursday made it clear that whenever MS Dhoni returns from his calf strain, he will resume duties as a wicketkeeper and not feature merely as an impact player. The 44-year-old missed his seventh straight game in IPL 2026 in Thursday's clash against Mumbai Indians at the Wankhede Stadium, as he continues to recover from the injury that ini-

tially ruled him out for two weeks on March 28. There had been speculation that Dhoni could return as a specialist batter using the Impact Player rule, especially with Sanju Samson and Kartik Sharma available as wicketkeeping options. However, Hussey dismissed that possibility, indicating Dhoni would be back in his usual role behind the stumps. "Oh, I'm pretty sure he'll be behind the stumps. The biggest thing for him is that he's had the calf injury, it's just the

running and late in innings, if he comes in, having to scamper those ones and twos, he just needs to make sure the calf is strong enough to withstand that," Hussey told the broadcaster during a mid-match interview. "But certainly from a skill perspective, we know what he can do as a keeper. We know he's batting, he's batting really well, so it's just hopefully getting that confidence in the calf," Hussey said. Dhoni's absence has remained a constan-

Samson leads Chennai Super Kings to 103-run win over Mumbai Indians

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Sanju Samson carried his bat with a splendid 101 not out, while Akeal Hosen's stunning 4/17 powered Chennai Super Kings to a crushing 103-run victory over a listless Mumbai Indians in their Indian Premier League clash here on Thursday. Samson stood tall with a 54-ball 101 (10x4s, 8x6s) in the first half, which took a faltering CSK to a challenging 207/6. In reply, Mumbai Indians endured a horror start, slumping to 11 for three inside the first three overs, and never recovered as they were bowled out for 104 in 19 overs.

Backed by a partisan crowd that made it feel more like Chepauk than the Wankhede Stadium, CSK produced a clinical all-round performance despite the absence of MS Dhoni.

In a season marred by poor returns in the powerplay, Mumbai Indians endured their worst start yet, crawling to 29 for three after six overs following an early burst of wickets.



Danish Malewar (0) fell first in classical fashion, edging a Hosen delivery that gripped and spun away to be caught behind by Samson in the first over.

Mukesh Choudhary (1/31) then struck to dismiss Quinton de Kock (7), who chopped one back onto his stumps, before Hosen returned in the third over to clean up Naman Dhir (0) with a delivery that straightened

and rattled the top of middle stump.

A horror start notwithstanding, MI still had plenty of batting left in the form of last game's centurion Tilak Varma, Suryakumar Yadav and Hardik Pandya, but none could spark a fightback. Tilak and Suryakumar looked more intent on rebuilding than counter-attacking, stitching a 56-ball 73-run stand for the fourth wicket, but the effort only

allowed the asking rate to spiral further out of reach. Suryakumar's 30-ball 35, laced with five fours, was scratchy by his standards, with the India T20I skipper even missing his trademark flick off the pads twice.

On one occasion, he was left writhing in pain after being struck by an Anshul Kamboj delivery, and on the other, he thumped the ground in frustration as his bat slipped out of his hands while attempting the shot.

The floodgates reopened once again when Tilak, who scored 37 off 29 with five fours, played one back onto his stumps to become Hosen's third victim in the 12th over. Hosen then completed a fine spell by dismissing Suryakumar, whose top-edged sweep was safely pouched at deep backward square leg.

Noor Ahmed then delivered a decisive double-wicket over, removing the out-of-sorts Hardik Pandya (1) and Sherfane Rutherford (0) to virtually seal the contest, leaving Mumbai Indians reeling at 87 for seven.

Earlier, Samson anchored

a faltering Chennai Super Kings with his second century of the season, steering the visitors to a competitive 207 for six.

With wickets falling around him due to poor shot selection and lack of application, the India wicketkeeper-batter held firm, pacing his innings to perfection and playing each delivery on merit to script another memorable knock.

Jasprit Bumrah (1/31) began with a tight opening over, though Samson still managed to pierce the field with a crisp drive through cover-point before flicking Hardik Pandya (0/38) off his pads for a six.

CSK had earlier made a bright start, with skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad (22) and Samson taking 19 runs each off Pandya's first two overs in the powerplay, and despite a couple of early wickets, the visitors were well placed at 73 for two.

Gaikwad looked to be easing back into form, beginning with a heave on the on-side off Pandya before pulling the pacer for a six to take 19 runs from the second over.

Thunderstorms lash Hyderabad, heatwave set to return from Friday

After days of dry scorching heat, Hyderabad had a much-needed respite with thunderstorms, gusty winds and hailstorms lashing different parts of the city on Thursday.

The relief, in the form of a drop in peak temperatures, however, may be short-lived, as weather forecasts indicated temperatures would start rising, paving the way for dry heatwave conditions from Friday.

On Thursday afternoon, traffic in several parts of Secunderabad came to a grinding halt as an intense spell of rain and hail lasted nearly an hour. The sudden downpour provided respite from the summer heat, though the abruptness of the storm caught commuters off guard, forcing them to seek shelter under trees and commercial complexes. Neradmet, Malkajgiri, Kapra, Alwal, Yaprul, Cherlapally, Damraiguda, Trimulgherry, Uppal, Nagole, Musheerabad, Serilingampally, and Telapur, experienced thunderstorms and winds.

Telangana, AP Face Shortage of High-Speed Diesel

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Several fuel stations across Telangana and Andhra Pradesh have reported running dry of high-speed diesel (HSD) due to a sudden disruption in supply, according to the Telangana Petroleum Dealers Association. The association on Thursday alleged that despite assurances from oil marketing companies (OMCs) about sufficient stock availability in the wake of the Iran conflict and global crude volatility, diesel supply to retail dealers has been significantly restricted, leading to widespread shortages. Dealers claimed that state-run OMCs — Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, Hindustan Petroleum



Corporation Limited, and Indian Oil Corporation Limited — have curtailed diesel dispatches to outlets in both states. They said that although they were instructed to deposit advance payments to raise fuel inventories as per revised supply protocols, the actual release of stocks has been delayed even after payments were made. This mismatch, they argue, has caused several retail outlets to run out of diesel, disrupting opera-

tions and causing financial stress to fuel station operators. According to the association, the supply chain begins with crude oil shipments arriving at Visakhapatnam port, which are then processed at nearby refineries. The refined fuel is transported to storage terminals in Vijayawada and further supplied to Telangana, including Hyderabad, through pipeline networks. Dealers said the disruption oc-

curred after oil companies cited a mechanical issue at one of the refineries, affecting the flow of fuel into the distribution system. The association also pointed out that OMCs recently maintained that fuel prices had not been revised despite increased global crude oil costs. However, dealers noted that unverified reports circulating in the market suggested that fuel stocks were being managed cautiously ahead of possible price revisions following elections in five states. Telangana Petroleum Dealers Association president Marri Amarender Reddy said the shortage is primarily due to supply constraints despite claims of sufficient reserves.

Telangana ministers urge TGSRTC staff to end strike, promise talks

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Assuring that the State government would hold talks with the unions, Industries Minister D Sridhar Babu appealed to the TGSRTC employees to exercise restraint and withdraw the strike. He stated that the State cabinet meeting, which met here on Thursday, had discussed at length the ongoing TGSRTC strike, which commenced on Wednesday. Briefing media persons about the cabinet meeting, the Minister urged the RTC employees not to take any extreme steps. "Do not get influenced by a few persuasive forces and sacrifice valuable lives," Sridhar Babu said. The



State government would come up with an action plan to address all the issues in a democratic manner. Talks would be held under the Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka's leadership on Friday, he stated. Health Minister Damodar Rajanarasimha said the cabinet set aside other agendas and had taken up the RTC strike as a priority agenda. Issues can be addressed through deliberations but not with ephemeral rage,

he stressed. The RTC employee was shifted from Narsampet to Hyderabad for treatment at Apollo Hospitals, Kanchanbagh, he said. "Let us discuss. We are all one big family," the Minister appealed. Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar stressed that the State government was committed to address the employees' issues. Admitting that there were a few issues like PRC, merger of RTC with government and others.

Dr. Gorle Prabha Goud Leads Powerful Voice for Women's Rights, Slams Congress

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana



BJP State Leader and Media Panelist Dr. Gorle Prabha Goud emerged as a strong voice for women's empowerment as she sharply criticized the Congress party during the massive "Mahila Aakrosh Yatra" held in Hyderabad. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Gorle Prabha Goud said the huge turnout of women from across the city reflects rising anger against what she described as Congress's long-standing anti-women approach. She stated that the march stands as a symbol of collective resistance against attempts to block women's rightful political representation. She praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for introducing the Women's Reservation Bill, calling it a historic reform aimed at ensuring 33% reservation for women in legislatures. She alleged that despite such progressive ef-

orts, the Congress party has continued to delay and politicize the issue for decades. Targeting Rahul Gandhi and other opposition leaders, Dr. Gorle Prabha Goud accused them of misleading the public and creating unnecessary controversies around key reforms like delimitation. She asserted that women in Telangana are aware of these tactics and will respond strongly.

Calling the yatra a "declaration of Nari Shakti," she emphasized that women are no longer willing to tolerate injustice or political manipulation. She said the movement reflects a new wave of awareness and determination among women to secure their rights and dignity.

Tea Adulteration Racket Busted in Hyderabad

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana



In a major crackdown on food adulteration, the Hyderabad Food Adulteration Surveillance Team (H-FAST) has busted a large-scale tea powder adulteration racket operating across the city, arresting 10 individuals involved in the illegal trade. Acting on credible intelligence, officials carried out simultaneous raids at 15 locations targeting manufacturing units engaged in producing and distributing adulterated tea powder. Investigations revealed

that the accused were mixing synthetic food colours, expired tea powder, and other standard materials to enhance appearance and maximise profits. Authorities seized

around 3,000 kilograms of adulterated tea powder, 1,500 kilograms of expired stock, along with artificial colouring agents and other materials used in the process. The adul-

terated products were reportedly repackaged under different brand names and supplied to vendors while being falsely marketed as genuine. Officials said such practices pose serious health risks, including digestive issues, allergies, and potential long-term complications for consumers. Cases have been registered under relevant provisions of the Food Safety and Standards Act and the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita. The operation was carried out under the supervision of Gaikwad Vaibhav Raghunath, Deputy Com-

Gold ornaments stolen from deceased old woman in Telangana govt hospital

In an alleged incident of theft, unknown persons made away with the gold ear rings of a deceased old woman who was admitted to Jagtial Area hospital attached to the Government Medical College on Thursday, April 23.

According to report of Deccan Chronicle, the deceased, who was a resident of Nachupally village of Kodimal mandal, was admitted to the hospital's Intensive Care Unit (ICU) with chronic illness. She passed away in the wee hours of Thursday. Her family members took her to the village and were about to perform her final rites, when they discovered that her gold ear rings were missing. They returned to the hospital and demanded that the gold ornaments be recovered and the person who stole them be booked. Based on the complaint filed by the family members, Jagtial police booked a case, and have been investigating.

Whether the theft occurred in the ICU, or the mortuary needs to be ascertained. The standard operating procedure of the police in such cases would be to first investigate all the healthcare workers who handled the patient over the last few days.

HYDRAA Commissioner Inspects Works in Ibrahimbagh Lake in Nekkampur

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana



HYDRAA Commissioner A.V. Ranganath on Thursday directed officials to fast-track sewage treatment plant (STP) works and lake restoration measures, stressing that lakes must be protected for long-term sustainability during a review of Ibrahimbagh Lake in Rajendranagar's Nekkampur. He instructed officials to completely remove silt from the lake to curb foul smell and improve groundwater recharge, and warned that any delay in completing STPs could result in untreated sewage flowing back into water bodies. He emphasized that proper restoration quality should not be compromised at any stage of the project.

Officials informed him that sewage treatment plants with a combined capacity of 56 million litres per day are under construction to prevent pollution from entering the lake system. He suggested that treated water should first be routed to a sedimentation pond before being released into the

main lake to ensure better purification. Ranganath also noted that encroachments within the Full Tank Level (FTL) area of the lake have been cleared, and instructed officials to utilize the reclaimed land for structured development activities that enhance the lake's ecosystem. He highlighted that Ibrahimbagh Lake spans nearly 100 acres and receives floodwater from a large catchment area connected to the Musi River. He urged engineers to adopt scientific methods while designing inlets and outlets so that only rainwater enters the lake, while sewage is completely diverted away, ensuring long-term protection of the water body and improved ecological balance in the re-

gion. He further emphasized the importance of timely coordination between civic agencies, irrigation officials and contractors to ensure that all components of the restoration project are completed without delay. He said continuous monitoring of sewage inflow points is necessary to prevent pollution of urban lakes and to safeguard groundwater quality in surrounding habitations. He reiterated that the objective of the restoration works is to revive lake ecosystems and prevent contamination of the Musi river system, thereby ensuring sustainable water management for Hyderabad's future and strengthen long-term urban environmental resilience and sustainability goals going forward.

TPCC Chief asks Rahul Gandhi to push for BC reservation in women's quota

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Congress president B Mahesh Kumar Goud on Thursday, April 23, urged party leader Rahul Gandhi to push for reservation for Backward Classes within the women's quota. During a meeting in Delhi, Goud requested Rahul Gandhi to convene a meeting of the AICC OBC Advisory Council here. Gandhi responded positively to the request, Congress sources said

here. Goud informed the Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha that the Congress government led by CMA Revanth Reddy has recently released the details of the caste survey conducted by it in 2024-25. The state Congress president also briefed Gandhi on the welfare and development schemes being implemented by the state government and the appointment of District Congress Committee (DCC) presidents and other party posts.

Kausar Mohiuddin Reviews Hakeempet Drain Works

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Karwan MLA Kausar Mohiuddin inspected the ongoing box-type drain construction at Hakeempet to ensure completion before the rainy season. Accompanied by officials from the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation and Hyderabad Urban Development Authority, he reviewed works from Jinsi Chowraha Government School to Balkapur Nala. The long-pending project aims to streamline rainwater flow directly into Balkapur Nala, reducing flooding risks in the locality. The MLA instructed officials to expedite the work and avoid delays, stressing the urgency with monsoon approaching.



Officials assured that efforts are being intensified to complete the project on time. Once finished, the drain is expected to improve water flow and provide significant relief to residents of Hakeempet and nearby areas.

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