



State to Save Rs.1,000 Cr Via Loan Swap Exercise, Says Revanth: P8



Rajasthan Royals Hand PBKS Their First Defeat of Season: P7

Youth Must Lead Nation's Future, Says KTR: P2



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

PM Seeks Blessings For Women's Quota

The Prime Minister said when a woman was empowered within a household, it strengthened the family, society and the country.

NEW DELHI
 Wakeup telangana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday slammed the Congress, Samajwadi Party (SP), TMC and DMK for stalling the women's reservation Bill in Parliament, and assured women that he would ensure that their right to reservation in legislative bodies was implemented. "I have come to seek blessings from all women for the beginning of a maha yagya," he at a women's conference in his Lok Sabha constituency. "As the parliamentarian from Kashi, as Prime Minister, I need your blessings to achieve a major goal in the national interest — implementing reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and state assemblies."

The Prime Minister hit out at the SP, alleging that it was "difficult for daughters to come out of their houses" during the party's rule in Uttar Pradesh. He said "pariwarwadi" (dynastic) parties like the Congress, SP, Tri-



namool Congress (TMC) and DMK have "betrayed women" once again. "These pariwarwadi parties do not want daughters to reach the Assembly or the Lok Sabha. These parties have applied the brakes on women's reservation for the last 40 years," Modi said, according to PTI.

He said increasing women's participation was also a key consideration behind the construction of the new Parliament building and the first major step taken there was to pass the women's reservation law. He asserted that after a law is enacted, it must be implemented, adding that discussions and legislative measures

were brought in Parliament recently to ensure an early implementation of the law on women's reservation.

Modi said he was satisfied that women across the country had recognised "these intentions" of Opposition parties, citing the high turnout of women voters in the Assembly polls of Assam, Kerala, Puducherry, West Bengal and Tamil Nadu. The Prime Minister said when a woman was empowered within a household, it strengthened the family, society and the country. Referring to past challenges, he said women, including those in Varanasi, had to struggle a lot, facing numerous so-

cial constraints and questions about their capabilities.

Switching briefly to a mix of a regional dialect and Bhojpuri, Modi said women and girls were often told, "What will you achieve by doing all this? You will not be able to do it." At times, he added, they were not even asked but simply told that certain tasks were beyond their capabilities. The Prime Minister said such experiences were not limited to Varanasi but were common across the country and were often accepted as normal. "When I became Chief Minister of Gujarat about 25 years ago, I first tried to change such mindsets," he said. Modi said two major schemes for girls were launched at the time -- one to ensure greater enrolment in schools and prevent dropouts, and another to provide financial assistance through a dedicated fund for girls' education. "Since then, women's welfare has remained a top priority in our policies," he said.

Revanth Open To Add Villages To Future City

CM launches works for police commissionerate

HYDERABAD
 Wakeup telangana



Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Tuesday said several surrounding villages have sought merger with the Future City and the state government would consider their inclusion if the respective gram panchayats passed relevant resolutions and submit them formally. He directed officials to conduct gram sabhas and ensure that villages were brought under the jurisdiction of Future City and its police commissionerate in accordance with the wishes of the residents.

The Chief Minister was speaking after laying the foundation stone for the Future City police commissionerate office at Mirkanpet, and reiterated that Bharat Future City would be developed on par with global cities like Singapore, Tokyo and New York City. He assured farmers that the government would safeguard their interests by offering good compensation for land acquired for

the project, which would enable them to purchase land in surrounding areas.

Appealing to farmers to cooperate in land acquisition, the Chief Minister said the government could complete the project within two years if the process was expedited. He warned that delays in land acquisition would only lead to escalation of project costs. Drawing parallels with earlier infrastructure growth, he noted that land prices around Future City would surge, similar to the rise witnessed after the development of Cyberabad, the Outer Ring Road and the Rajiv Gandhi Inter-

national Airport at Shamshabad.

Revanth Reddy announced that the office of the Future City Development Authority (FCDA) would be inaugurated by June 2 and stated that the government would support farmers whose land is acquired. "Our government will ensure that no one suffers," he said, adding that industry minister D. Sridhar Babu would be available to resolve local grievances. Officials were instructed to address the concerns of the poor and underprivileged with compassion. The government will also conduct regular review

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Religious Freedom Can't Choke Roads: SC

Underscoring that roads cannot be blocked in the name of religious activities, the apex court said a denomination has autonomy in the manner of worship and the court cannot sit in judgment over its religious affairs, but if a secular activity was being affected, the government can interfere with its rights. A nine-judge Constitution bench headed by Chief Justice of India Surya Kant made the observation while hearing pleas related to discrimination against women at religious places, including the Sabarimala Temple in Kerala, and on the ambit and scope of religious freedom practiced by multiple faiths. The hearing will resume on Wednesday.

Besides the CJ, the bench comprises Justice B.V. Nagarathna, Justice M.M. Sundresh, Justice Ahsanuddin Amanullah, Justice Aravind Kumar, Justice Augustine George Masih, Justice Prasanna B. Varale, Justice R. Mahadevan, and Justice Joymalaya Bagchi.

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C.V. Anand Appointed Telangana New DGP

HYDERABAD
 Wakeup telangana

The Telangana Government has appointed C.V. Anand as the new Director General of Police (DGP), issuing official orders on Tuesday. He will succeed the incumbent DGP, Shivdhar Reddy, who is set to retire from service on April 30. The appointment follows the standard selection process, with the



Union Public Service Commission recently sending a panel of eligible IPS officers to the state government.

The panel included senior officers from the 1994 batch—C.V. Anand, Vinayak Prabhakar Apte, and Soumya Mishra. After

evaluating the panel, the government selected Anand, who is the senior-most among the short-listed officers. His appointment adheres to established norms and reflects his vast administrative and policing experience.

Anand's elevation is expected to provide stable leadership and further strengthen policing and public safety mechanisms across Telangana.

Iran Offers to Reopen Hormuz if US Ends Blockade, War

NEW DELHI
 Wakeup telangana

Iran offered to end its chokehold on the Strait of Hormuz if the U.S. lifts its blockade on the country and ends the war in a proposal that would postpone discussions on the Islamic Republic's nuclear program, two regional officials said Monday. U.S. President Donald Trump seems unlikely to accept the offer, which was passed to the Americans

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by Pakistan and would leave unresolved the disagreements that led the U.S. and Israel to go to war on Feb. 28. And U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio appeared to rule out any deal that excludes

Iran's nuclear program.

With a fragile ceasefire in place, the U.S. and Iran are locked in a standoff over the strait, through which a fifth of the world's traded oil and gas passes in peacetime. The U.S. blockade is designed to prevent Iran from selling its oil, depriving it of crucial revenue while also potentially creating a situation where Tehran has to shut off production because it has nowhere to store oil.

Phase 2 Poll Today In TMC Areas Amid Voter Roll Row

KOLKATA
 Wakeup telangana

The second phase of voting for West Bengal's Assembly elections will be held on Wednesday in 142 seats in seven districts, which are known to be the bastion of ruling Trinamul Congress. The polls been hit by the deletion of about 91 lakh voter names as well as nearly 20 lakh unresolved cases in the special intensive revision (SIR). Among the 142 constituencies, TMC had won 123 while BJP bagged only 18 and the

Indian Secular Front one, in 2021. The first phase had seen a record turnout of 93.2 per cent of voters, and the trend is expected to continue amid an unprecedented security blanket provided by 2,321 companies of Central paramilitary forces.

During the day, the Trinamul Congress moved the Calcutta High Court against Central police observer Ajay Pal Sharma, an UP cadre IPS officer, accusing him of threatening party candidate Jahangir Khan at Falta in South

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ESTD - 1960

ASTORIA HOTEL

Hyderabad Laziz Biryani

ek baar khaoge baar baar aoge

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

Naidu Launches 15 Billion Dollar Google Data Centre Project

VISHAKAPATNAM
 Wakeup telangana

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu has declared April 28, 2026, a historic day for India's digital revolution, marking the laying of foundation for Google's 15 billion dollar data centre in Visakhapatnam. He said, "Google, which began as a search engine, will now serve as a growth engine for the Indian economy, with the establishment of the Google Cloud India Artificial Intelligence hub." The project, executed in partnership with AdaniConneX and Nxtra by Airtel, is part of Google's massive investment plan in India



between 2026 and 2030." Spread across 601.4 acres in Rambilli, Adavivaram, and Taruvada, the hub is expected to generate around 3,000 direct

technical jobs and transform Visakhapatnam into a global digital gateway. Naidu said the Google data centre would be operational by September 2028

and act as a game changer for Andhra Pradesh, like how Cyberabad transformed Telangana three decades ago. "While people once searched on Google, Google itself searched and found Andhra Pradesh as its right destination."

In a lighter vein, he said the AI hub would act as one of his "AI secretaries" to accelerate governance. The Chief Minister stressed that the project would create a lot of employment opportunities, reverse migration trends, and make Visakhapatnam a destination for talent. The state government would provide full cooperation, ensuring water supply to it by bringing Goda-

vari water to Visakhapatnam within 60 days, he said.

The Chief Minister credited IT minister Nara Lokesh for initiating efforts to bring Google to Visakhapatnam. Naidu said Lokesh's early visit to Google laid the foundation for the project, while Prime Minister Narendra Modi's assurance of full support played a key role in securing the investment. Naidu expressed confidence that global partners Adani and Airtel would complete the project swiftly and urged that it be commissioned by September 2028. He also highlighted upcoming developments, including the inauguration of Bhogapuram

Youth Must Lead Nation's Future: KTR

KTR urges youth to adapt to AI, build future-ready skills, lead change, and actively contribute to nation building and governance

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Street Cause, one of the largest student-run NGOs in Hyderabad, hosted a dynamic and impactful youth leadership event featuring K. T. Rama Rao, who announced a contribution of ₹17 lakhs and joined the organization as an Advisor. The event also marked the launch of "donate.streetcause," a dedicated platform aimed at enabling sustained financial support for the NGO's growing initiatives.

Bringing together over 300 Gen Z volunteers, coordinators, and leadership members from 50+ colleges, the event focused on leadership, governance, entrepreneurship, and youth-driven nation-building. KTR emphasized the crucial role of young individuals as changemakers and high-



lighted the rapid development of Hyderabad, urging students to actively contribute to the nation's progress.

A major highlight of the session was an engaging discussion on Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its growing influence in today's world. KTR encouraged students to adapt

to emerging technologies and build future-ready skills to stay competitive in a rapidly evolving landscape. He also shared personal insights from his journey, reflecting on formative experiences that shaped his leadership approach.

The event featured interactive segments, including

a Myth vs Fact discussion, where common perceptions among Gen Z about politicians were openly addressed.

KTR offered grounded perspectives on governance and public life, fostering transparency and meaningful dialogue. A Mock Shark Tank session added further excitement,

with students pitching innovative ideas while KTR evaluated them as a venture capitalist, followed by an open Q&A session. Adding a creative touch, a student performed a rap dedicated to KTR, capturing his leadership journey in a contemporary format that resonated with the audience.

Volunteers were also recognized for their contributions to social impact and community development.

Founded in 2009, Street Cause has completed over 15,000 projects, impacting more than 1.3 million individuals and 1,000+ animals, with a volunteer base exceeding 4,000 and a strong alumni network of 45,000+. The initiative continues to empower youth and build socially responsible leaders committed to a sustainable future.

1.24 Lakh Students of ANU in Limbo, Seek CM's Help

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Uncertainty continues to cloud the future of 1,24,524 students who completed their distance education courses through Acharya Nagarjuna University, as they approached the government seeking recognition of their certificates and eligibility for employment.

The affected students raised their concerns during the 217th CM Prajavani held at Mahatma Jyotiba Phule Praja Bhavan on Tuesday. According to the students, their admissions were granted under Section 95 of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, which permits students from both Telangana and Andhra Pradesh to pursue education across state boundaries through distance mode. They



stated that many of them had successfully secured jobs in various government departments until 2021, based on the validity of their degrees.

However, the situation took a drastic turn in 2022 when the Telangana State Council of Higher Education reportedly declined to recognize the certificates issued by the Andhra Pradesh-based university. This decision has left thousands of candidates in limbo, affecting their employment prospects and career progression.

The students further highlighted that despite a favorable ruling from the Telangana High Court, the implementation of recognition for employment

purposes remains pending. As a result, they expressed deep concern that the futures of over one lakh students from Telangana have become uncertain. Responding to their appeal, CM Prajavani in-charge Dr G. Chinnna Reddy interacted with senior officials from the education department and the Telangana Public Service Commission, bringing the issue to their attention.

He assured the students that necessary steps would be taken to ensure justice and a fair resolution. In addition, candidates urged authorities to consider allotting vacancies in Gurukul schools to next-ranked candidates once the current recruitment process is completed. The issue has now gained significant attention, with students hoping for swift government intervention to resolve the long-pending matter.

Hyderabad Zoo Welcomes New Cubs

Launches Smart Facilities & Upgraded Enclosures



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Nehru Zoological Park has expanded its wildlife family with the birth of two female African lion cubs and a pair of Royal Bengal tiger cubs, marking a significant moment for the city's premier wildlife destination. In a special naming ceremony held on Tuesday, Telangana Forest Minister Konda Surekha named the lion cubs Avani and Ira, while the tiger cubs were christened Ishaan (male) and Vanya (female). The event added excitement among zoo officials and wildlife enthusiasts.

Alongside celebrating the



new arrivals, the zoo introduced several visitor-friendly initiatives. A self-ticketing vending kiosk has been installed near the main booking counter, allowing visitors to skip long queues. Additionally, ticket booking is now available through WhatsApp, making the entry process more convenient and digital-friendly. The kiosk was donated by South Indian

Bank under its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) programme. The bank also provided a luggage scanning machine installed at the main entrance to enhance security. Meanwhile, the WhatsApp ticketing system was supported by Kotak Mahindra Bank. Further boosting visitor amenities, the minister inaugurated the newly built Vihaar food court at the zoo's en-

trance, which can accommodate over 200 visitors at a time, offering improved dining facilities. On the conservation front, dome-shaped closed enclosures for primates, pheasants, and a breeding kraal for the sarus crane were also inaugurated. A pair of animals was released into the new enclosure during the event. These additions expand the zoo's infrastructure beyond its existing 154 enclosures, providing more spacious and enriched habitats. The upgraded enclosures are designed with greenery and equipped with enrichment features such as ropes, shelters, baskets, and hideouts to ensure animal well-being and activity. In a welfare initiative, the zoo, in collaboration with CARE Hospitals, conducted a two-day free medical health camp for its staff. Senior officials, including Principal Secretary Ahmed, PCCF (HoFF) Dr. C. Suvarna, Chief Wildlife Warden Vinay Kumar, Zoo Parks Director Dr. Sunil S. Hiremath, and Curator J. Vasantha, were present at the event.

Sunil Kumar Patha Appointed as BJP SC Morcha State Vice President

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In a notable development within the Bharatiya Janata Party's Scheduled Caste (SC) Morcha, dedicated party worker Sunil Kumar Patha has been appointed as the State Vice President.

The appointment letter was formally handed over by BJP General Secretary Goutham Rao along with SC Morcha State President Kanthi Kiran, under the leadership state unit president Ramchander Rao Sunil Kumar Patha's journey in the party reflects years of commitment and grassroots activism. Associated with the BJP since his student days, he has consistently worked to



strengthen the party at various levels.

His active role in the Bharatiya Janata Yuva Morcha (BJYM) highlights his strong connection with youth and organizational development. He has actively participated in several agitations and party pro-

grams, including the prominent padayatra led by Bandi Sanjay Kumar. His dedication and tireless efforts have earned him recognition as a committed and dynamic leader within the party ranks. Expressing his happiness, Sunil Kumar Patha said he is honored to take on this responsibility at the state level. He assured that he will continue to work diligently for the welfare of marginalized communities and the strengthening of the SC Morcha across the state.

Party leaders and workers have warmly welcomed his appointment, expressing confidence that his experience and dedication will further energize the organization and contribute to its continued growth.

Gangaputra Sangam Marks 28th Anniversary with Grand Temple Rituals

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The 28th anniversary celebrations of the Gangaputra Sangam Sabji Mandi at Karwan, Bhagyanagar, and the Sri Ganga Parameshwari-Sri Panchamukhi Anjaneya Swamy Temple were held with great devotion and grandeur under the aegis of the Gangaputra Sangam. A series of religious rituals including Kumbhabhishekam, Homam, Anna Prasadam, Bali



Annam, and Bonalu were performed for the deities, drawing large participation from devotees.

Gangaputra Sangam President Dothula Srinivas, General Secretary Anandesi Venubabu, Vice Presidents Nasa Narsingha Rao and Gudimani Keshavulu, along with Temple Committee President Gurram Sivashankar and other members, actively took part in organizing the event. Anna Prasadam donor Pallela Gansham and his team ensured smooth arrangements. Residents and devotees attended in large numbers, making the celebrations a grand success.

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GDC Hayatnagar Hosts 30-Day Volleyball Camp

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Government Degree College (GDC), Hayatnagar successfully organized a 30-day Summer Volleyball Coaching Camp in April 2026, benefiting 66 students from surrounding areas as part of its outreach initiative. The program, conducted by the college's Physical Education Department, focused on volleyball basics, fitness training, and exercise routines, said Principal Dr. Suresh Babu. Marathon runner Nalini Mohan Ambati, Chief Infor-



mation Officer, Department of Health, USA, attended as the chief guest and emphasized the importance of balancing physical fitness and mental strength. Sharing her experience of participating in marathons across five continents, she encouraged students to pri-

oritize fitness to achieve excellence in sports. National volleyball player Kiran Reddy, Founder Director of Sarojini Cricket and Fitness Academy, attended as special guest and highlighted the importance of discipline, proper nutrition, and balancing academics with sports to

build a successful career. Physical Director Dr. Anitha stated that apart from physical training, the camp helped students develop self-confidence, determination, sportsmanship, and punctuality—essential life skills beyond the playground. The program saw participation from faculty members including Academic Coordinator B. Narasimha, Dr. Subramaniam, Dr. Durga Prasad, Dr. Sripathi Naidu, Dr. Yadagiri Reddy, and students, contributing to the camp's success.

Begumpet Traffic Police Crack Down on Tinted Glass Violations

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Begumpet Traffic Police conducted a special enforcement drive on Tuesday targeting vehicles with tinted glass and black films, booking around 150 violators. The drive was carried out under the directions of Malkajgiri Commissionerate, with Traffic-I DCP K. Rahul Reddy, Additional DCP Shakir Hussain, and Tirumalagiri Division Traffic ACP G. Shankar Raj supervising the operations.

The checks focused on key locations including HPS Outgate, Rasoolpura, CTO Junction, and Bowenpally. Along with illegal tinted glass, officials also took action against noise pollution from modified silencers, improper number plates, wrong-side driving, mobile phone



usage while driving, and driving without valid licenses.

Authorities stated that the initiative was aimed at enhancing public safety and ensuring strict compliance with traffic regulations. Begumpet Traffic Inspector G. Janaki Ramudu, along with Sub-Inspectors Harish Goud, Shivaraj, Ashok Reddy, Devidas, Satish, and other traffic personnel actively participated in the drive.

TGGenco Earns ISO 9001:2015 Certification

Telangana Power Generation Corporation (TGGenco) has received international recognition for its commitment to quality, efficiency and continuous improvement by achieving the prestigious ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System certification. The certification was presented by Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka on Tuesday night. The ceremony was conducted under the supervision of Energy special secretary Naveen Mittal, and the certificate was received by the organization's chairman and managing director, Harish.

This recognition followed a comprehensive audit conducted by an independent ISO certification body. As part of the audit process, the team thoroughly examined all departments and operational units within TGGenco. The evaluation focused on compliance with ISO documentation, department-wise performance, operational effectiveness, achievement of organisational objectives and the implementation of quality management systems. After confirming that each department adheres to international standards and follows best practices, approval was granted for the certification. Speaking on the occasion, the Deputy Chief Minister praised TGGenco, stating that the recognition is a testament to the organisation's high-quality services and robust management systems. The event was also attended by SPDCL chairman and managing director Jitendra V. Patil and ISO representative Shivayya.

30 Metres of Bypass Section Dug from Collapsed Zone

The civil supplies department has successfully distributed over 85% of its allocated rice quota for three months April, May and June, well ahead of the April 30 deadline. As of April 21, the state has delivered over 5.48 lakh metric tonnes of rice to beneficiaries across the state. According to officials, this rapid distribution strategy was executed in direct response to a March 2 directive from the Union Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution. The Centre instructed all states to advance the lifting and distribution of food grains for the April, May, June 2026 quarter to prevent logistical and storage bottlenecks ahead of the procurement season.

Out of the total allocation of 6,43,303 metric tonnes (MT) of rice, the department has already distributed 5,48,140 MT. This translates to an 86% completion rate with eight full days still remaining in the month. The widespread reach of this initiative is evident in the data, with the state recording over 2.62 crore successful transactions state-wide to date. "To maintain total transparency during this accelerated rollout, all digital transactions.

DGP Inaugurates Summer Camp For Children At TGPA

Addressing the gathering, the DGP recalled his childhood experiences during summer vacations and highlighted the importance of simple activities in shaping values and character.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

B. Shivadhar Reddy inaugurated a summer camp for children at the RBVRR Telangana Police Academy as part of a welfare initiative aimed at supporting police personnel and their families. The camp, which has enrolled around 65 children, is designed to provide a meaningful and engaging platform for young participants during the summer vacation while promoting their overall development. According to officials, the programme focuses on holistic growth by combining physical, creative, and intellectual activities. A wide range of sessions has been planned to ensure children remain active and productive



throughout the camp. Activities such as swimming, yoga, painting, drawing, and chess are already part of the schedule, helping participants improve both physical fitness and mental agility. In addition, the academy is planning to expand the camp further by introducing music, dance, drama, and acting sessions, thereby encouraging creativity and self-expression among

children. While addressing the gathering, Shivadhar Reddy shared his childhood memories of summer vacations and emphasized how simple yet meaningful activities played a crucial role in shaping values, discipline, and character. He highlighted the importance of staying connected to cultural roots and suggested that Telugu language ses-

sions, including poetry and classical literature, be incorporated into the programme to promote cultural awareness and linguistic appreciation among children. Abhilasha Bisht, Director of the academy, stated that the initiative reflects the institution's strong commitment to staff welfare and community engagement. She noted that such programmes not only support police families but also create a safe, nurturing, and enriching learning environment for children. Overall, the summer camp stands as a thoughtful initiative by the police department to balance recreation with learning, ensuring that children make productive use of their holidays while developing essential life

NGRI Holds First-of-its-kind Heliborne Scan of SLBC

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Srisailem Left Bank Canal tunnel may be just around 44 km long but for the detailed electromagnetic survey study that revealed the rock structure, weak zones, and associated faults, or geological folds, NGRI scientists flew a total 970 'line' kilometres covering a total area of nearly 110 sq kilometres. The geophysical survey using electromagnetic methods by way of a heliborne survey, covered 1.2 km on either side of the tunnel alignment to make sure all the required zones of the rocks along the tunnel on both its sides were studied properly. "This was the first time ever that NGRI conducted a heliborne VTEM survey with a spacing of just 25 metres along an alignment. This has never been done before and was done this time as it was important to understand fully



how the rocks are not just along the alignment but also on both its sides," a senior NGRI scientist told. While the tunnel lies 250 metres below mean sea level, the study looked at the rock structure upto a depth of 800 metres from the surface. The study used equipment carried inside the helicopter reading and recording the signals from an underslung transmitter and receiver along with ground stations along the multiple flight paths with the survey starting on November 2 with a test run and being completed on November 14, 2025. According to the NGRI

study report, the maps derived from the magnetic data effectively highlight the edges and boundaries of shallow structural features. The data analysis also revealed discontinuities, additional breaks along the untunnelled portion of the SLBC canal. The report said that such features may serve as potential pathways for groundwater circulation. Incidentally, seepages of water into the tunnel have been a persistent issue and could still be an issue when the tunnelling reaches the portion under the Nallavagu stream, a little over 6 km from the collapsed zone.

JAT Condemns Journalist Murder, Seeks Protection Law

JAT Condemns Murder of Senior Journalist Jagamohan Reddy, Calls for Journalist Protection Act

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Journalist Association of Telangana (JAT) has strongly condemned the brutal murder of senior Andhra Jyothi journalist Jagamohan Reddy in V. Kota mandal of Chittoor district, terming the incident as inhuman and a serious threat to press freedom.

In a statement issued in Hyderabad, JAT State President Pagudakula Balaswamy and State General Secretary Juluri Ramesh demanded that the Andhra Pradesh government immediately arrest the accused and ensure stringent punishment. They emphasized that justice must be delivered swiftly to maintain public confidence in law enforcement and safeguard democratic values. The association urged the state government to extend financial assistance and full support to the bereaved family. Expressing deep sorrow, the leaders conveyed their heartfelt condolences to the family members and colleagues of the deceased journalist. Highlighting the growing concerns over journalist



Pagudakula Balaswamy (JAT state president)



JULURI RAMESH (JAT state general secretary)

safety, JAT stated that attacks on media professionals have been rising, creating an atmosphere of fear and insecurity. They pointed out that journalists, who play a crucial role in strengthening democracy by bringing truth to light, are increasingly becoming targets of violence, intimidation, and harassment.

JAT leaders stressed the urgent need for comprehensive measures to ensure the safety and security of journalists across the country. They called upon both the Andhra Pradesh government and the Central government to introduce a dedicated Journalist Protection Act that would provide legal safeguards, fast-track investigation mechanisms, and strict penalties for crimes

against media personnel. They further stated that such a law would act as a deterrent against attacks on journalists and reinforce the importance of a free and fearless press in a democratic society. The association also urged authorities to establish special cells to address complaints from journalists and ensure timely action.

Reiterating their strong condemnation, JAT leaders said the murder of Jagamohan Reddy is not just an attack on an individual but an assault on the very foundations of democracy. They demanded immediate action against the perpetrators and long-term policy measures to prevent such tragic incidents in the future.

Defense SC/ST Federation Meet in Hyderabad

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The All India Defence SC/ST Employees Federation meeting was held at the DRDO Lab Meeting Hall in Kanchanbagh, Hyderabad, with National President Netiram Tagel attending as chief guest. Representatives from various defence public sector units felicitated him during his visit.

Speaking at the event, Tagel urged SC/ST association members in defence organizations to affiliate with the federation to strengthen unity and representation. He announced that a Telangana Coordination Committee will be formed soon, followed by a strong state committee.



He assured employees that workplace issues can be brought to his notice and promised to take them to the National SC/ST Commission for resolution. He also encouraged workers to promote the ideals of B. R. Ambedkar. Leaders, former officials, and employees from MIDHANI, BDL, RCI, DRDO, and DRDL attended the meeting.

Saifuddin Valima Celebrated in Grand Style

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Valima reception of Mohammed Saifuddin, MS (USA), son of Mohammed Khaleel Salahuddin, and Sufia Fatima, M.Com, daughter of Mohammed Masooduddin, was celebrated on Monday at Classic Convention Three, Airport Road, Shamshabad, Hyderabad.

The ceremony witnessed the presence of close family members, relatives, and well-



wishers who gathered to bless the couple. Mohammed Nayeemuddin and Mohammed Zaheeruddin were among those seen at the event. The fathers of the bride and groom, Mo-

ammed Khaleel Salahuddin and Mohammed Masooduddin, were also present, warmly receiving guests and marking the occasion with traditional hospitality and joy.

Jagadishwar Goud attends Sevadal training camp



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

TPCC General Secretary and Serilingampally Congress in-charge V. Jagadishwar Goud participated in the "Samartha Training Camp" organized by the Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee Sevadal at Nampally Exhibition Grounds from April 27 to May 2. Sevadal State President Midela Jitender, Miyapur youth leader Yelamanchi Uday Kiran, and several local leaders were also present.

Addressing the gathering, Jagadishwar Goud said Sevadal is not just an organization but a platform

built on discipline, service, and sacrifice. He noted that the Congress party has always fought for people's rights, from the freedom struggle to social justice, and urged cadres to stand firmly with the public.

He explained that the camp aims to nurture leadership qualities among youth, strengthen their role in nation-building, and guide every worker towards service.

He expressed confidence that participants will gain discipline, unity, and awareness of public issues. Local leaders and Sevadal workers attended the program.

CBIT Hosts IICHE Inter-College Competitions

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Department of Chemical Engineering at Chaitanya Bharathi Institute of Technology (CBIT), in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Chemical Engineers - Hyderabad Regional Centre (IICHE-HRC), successfully conducted the Inter-College Competitions - 2026, drawing nearly 100 participants from premier institutions including NIT Warangal, BITS Hyderabad, RJUKT Basar, JNTU Hyderabad, JNTU Anantapur, OUCT, BVRIT, and



others. The event featured four key competitions—Elocution, Essay Writing, Technical Quiz, and Scientific Model Making—aimed at enhancing students' technical knowledge, creativity, and communication skills. Participants showcased

strong talent and innovation, reflecting the growing competence of future chemical engineers. Senior IICHE-HRC members, including Chairman Mishra and Secretary Appa Rao, addressed the gathering, highlighting the evolving role of chemical engineers

and the importance of adapting to emerging AI technologies. The competitions were judged by experienced academicians and industry experts, ensuring a fair evaluation process. CBIT Principal Prof. C. V. Narasimhulu appreciated the initiative and emphasized the importance of such platforms in academic growth. The event was held under the guidance of Dr. M. Mukunda Vani and coordinated by Dr. Prasanna Rani R, with support from faculty and students.

Farmer Registry Mandatory; Deadline Set for April 30

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Agriculture Department has issued an urgent advisory asking all farmers to complete their Farmer Registry process without delay, warning that non-compliance will lead to denial of multiple government benefits and essential agricultural services. Officials stated that farmers who fail to register will not be eligible for key welfare schemes such as PM-Kisan and Rythu Bharosa. Furthermore, from the Kharif 2026 (monsoon) season onwards, unregistered farmers will not receive

subsidized fertilizers through government channels.

The department clarified that Farmer Registry is now a crucial requirement for selling produce at Minimum Support Price (MSP). Farmers without registration will not be able to sell their crops at government procurement centers, which could directly impact their income. In addition, the registry has been made mandatory for agricultural land transactions, including purchase, sale, and mutation processes. This step is aimed at ensuring transparency, accurate land records, and proper

identification of genuine farmers for targeted benefit delivery. Officials also highlighted that the Central Government has already extended the registration deadline three times, and no further extension is likely. Farmers who miss the deadline risk losing access not only to financial assistance schemes but also to crop loss compensation, input subsidies, certified seeds, and agricultural machinery support.

To facilitate smooth registration, farmers are required to carry essential documents such as Aadhaar card, land ownership records (pattadar pass-

book), bank account details, and mobile number linked to Aadhaar. The process can be completed at nearby MeeSeva centers or designated agriculture offices. The Agriculture Department further informed that special camps may be organized at village level to assist farmers in completing the registration process. Farmers are encouraged to verify their land and personal details carefully during registration to avoid future discrepancies. Officials warned that once the deadline passes, requests or appeals for late registration.

Norway Plans Social Media Ban For Under-16s

Norway said Friday it will present a bill this year making it the latest country seeking to ban social networks for under 16s, adding that technology companies will be responsible for verifying the age of its users. "We are introducing this legislation because we want a childhood where children get to be children. Play, friendships, and everyday life must not be taken over by algorithms and screens," Prime Minister Jonas Gahr Store said in a statement. "This is an important measure to safeguard children's digital lives," he added. Several European countries, such as France, Spain, and Denmark have already said they will introduce a digital age of majority for social networks and others like Australia and Turkey have already done so. The European Commission has also made clear its determination to take action to protect children and adolescents, notably by unveiling in mid-April an age-verification app that will soon be made available to European citizens.

India Warns SCO: No Immunity for Terror Hubs; Rajnath Singh Meets Chinese Counterpart

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Defence minister Rajnath Singh at the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) defence ministers' meeting in Kyrgyzstan on Tuesday asserted that Operation Sindoor demonstrated India's firm resolve that terrorism epicentres are no longer immune to justifiable punishment. On the sidelines of the meeting in Bishkek, Singh discussed security concerns with Chinese defence minister Admiral Dong Jun. He also held talks with Russian defence minister Andrei Belousov. During his bilateral meetings with the Chinese defence minister, Singh reviewed the overall situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC). "Discussions focused on regional security and strengthen-



ing defence engagement," said the defence ministry in a tweet on the meeting with the Chinese minister. At the meeting, it is learnt that Singh and Adm. Dong discussed the situation along the LAC, underlining the importance of maintaining peace and tranquillity in the border areas, as well as regional security issues. The meeting came as New Delhi and Beijing move to repair their frosty relations. It is learnt that Singh in his meeting with Russian defence minister

Belousov discussed ongoing defence acquisition projects, including Russia's supply of S-400 air defence missiles to India. "Great interaction," Singh said after the meeting. In his address at the SCO defence ministers' meeting, Singh forcefully underlined the need to tackle the "evils" of terrorism, separatism and extremism by eliminating safe havens and rejecting any political exceptions. He called on the influential group-

"state-sponsored" cross-border terrorism and that there should not be any place for any "double standards" in combating the menace. Singh emphasised that SCO should not hesitate in seeking appropriate action against those who abet, shelter and provide safe havens to terrorists. "By tackling terrorism, separatism and extremism without exception, we transform regional security from a challenge into a cornerstone for peace and prosperity," he said. Describing counter-terrorism as a foundational principle of SCO, Singh said at the SCO defence ministers' meeting that the organisation had condemned such acts and ideologies in a common fight against the menace. He recalled last year's Tianjin Declaration.

Odisha Man Who Carried Skeleton To Bank Finally Gets Sister's Deposits

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

In an incident that sparked outrage, a tribal man exhumed the body of his sister and carried the remains to a bank, after the bank reportedly did not allow him to withdraw about ₹20,000 from her account. As the video of Jitu Munda carrying the skeletal remains on the road went viral, the bank handed over her savings deposit on Tuesday following government intervention. Munda, a resident of Dianali under Patana block in Keonjhar district, had been struggling for days to withdraw ₹19,402 from the account of his sister Kalara Munda, who passed away in January



this year. His repeated visits to the local rural bank at Maliposi allegedly yielded no results, with officials citing procedural requirements. Frustrated and reportedly unaware of the formalities involved in accessing a deceased person's bank account, Munda took the extreme step of exhuming his sister's remains. On Monday, he carried the skeleton to the bank premises and placed it outside, triggering panic among staff and locals.

Acting swiftly, Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi directed local authorities and bank officials to resolve the matter. Following this, the amount was released to Munda in the presence of local officials on Tuesday. Sources said issues related to documentation, including the absence of a death certificate, had caused the delay. The matter was resolved after a report from the local tehsildar facilitated the process. Police from Patana station reached the bank on Monday, pacified Munda and dispersed the crowd. The skeletal remains were later taken back to the village and reburied in accordance with local customs.

When Fear Recedes: Bengal's Electoral Contest

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The first phase of polling in West Bengal has drawn attention for one reason above all else, its scale. With turnout touching 91.78% and women voters participating in even higher numbers, point to a level of participation that stands out even by the state's standards. But in Bengal, numbers rarely stand alone. They are shaped by the conditions in which they are produced. The persistence of violence in Bengal's electoral landscape has not been incidental. Over the past decade, a substantial share of poll related incidents has been linked to the ruling establishment with one analysis indicating that nearly 64% of such cases involved TMC. This pattern has had



consequences that extend beyond individual elections. From assembly polls to panchayat elections, incidents of violence have tended to rise alongside political competition, thus shaping who steps out to vote and how parties organize themselves. In the past, BJP workers had to operate within limits. Elections were not simply about campaigning, they were also about managing the risk. In previous cycles, workers have

spoken of avoiding door-to-door outreach, of staying away from certain booths and in some cases leaving their homes altogether after polling. One ground level worker described it starkly, "If the BJP doesn't win, we will not survive here." The statement may sound extreme, but it captures a sentiment that has been widely reported. The fear of post poll reprisals has often shaped how actively the party could function. For party workers, this

shift is tangible. Campaigning is no longer confined to safer pockets. Booth level activity appears to be more consistent. A local BJP worker, who had earlier stayed away from active campaigning in 2021, described the difference, "Earlier, we were always on the back foot. This time, we are working normally. There is less fear." It is not a dramatic transformation but it is enough to change how mobilization unfolds.

US Returnee Stabs 2 After Asking Names

WASHINGTON
Wakeup telangana

Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said a man who had stabbed two security guards after allegedly asking their religion and telling them to recite the 'jalma' in Thane district, by a knife-wielding seemed to have undergone "self-radicalisation". Police, citing a note found with the accused, Zaib Zubair Ansari, said it appeared to be a 'lone wolf'

attack. He has been remanded to the Maharashtra's Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) till May 4. The 31-year-old accused had lived in the United States for several years. He allegedly asked the guards at an under-construction building site in Mira Road area to recite the 'kalma' (Islamic declaration of faith) before stabbing them early on Monday, an ATS official said. A 'lone wolf attack' refers to a terrorist act carried out by an individual

without any help or instigation from an organisation. Ansari had returned to India from the US in 2020, the ATS official said. The Maharashtra government handed over the probe into the incident to the ATS on Monday evening. Ansari lived alone at the Smita Regency building in Nayanagar, Mira Road, about 200 metres from the incident site, the official said. His wife, who is of Afghan origin, had left him and gone to

the US, as per the probe. During a search of his residence, the ATS recovered a note referring to lone wolf attacks and the Islamic State, a laptop, and three copies of the Quran, the official said. Speaking to reporters in Solapur, Chief Minister Fadnavis, who also heads the home ministry, said the accused was apparently influenced by online content and books, and acquired an extremist mindset. "It seems to be a case of self-radicalisation."

Trump Unhappy with Iranian Proposal, US Official Says

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

A US official said on Monday that President Donald Trump is unhappy with an Iranian proposal because it did not address Iran's nuclear programme. "He doesn't love the proposal," the US official said, referring to Trump. Earlier in the day, Trump discussed the proposal with his top national security aides. The US-



Iran conflict remains in a stalemate with energy supplies from the region reduced. Iranian sources earlier on Monday said the proposal would set

aside discussion of Iran's nuclear programme until the war has ended and disputes over shipping from the Gulf are resolved. Washington has said

nuclear issues must be dealt with from the outset. Work to bridge gaps between the US and Iran has not halted, sources from mediator Pakistan have said. But hopes of reviving peace efforts have receded since Trump announced this weekend he had scrapped a visit by his special envoy Steve Witkoff and son-in-law Jared Kushner to Islamabad, the Pakistani capital.

FROM FRONT PAGE

Telangana RTC.....

The government will also conduct regular review meetings and directly invite investments into Future City. Calling for public support to transform Future City into a world-class destination, the Chief Minister recalled that similar doubts were raised during the construction of the Outer Ring Road, which has now emerged as a landmark infrastructure project for Hyderabad. Taking a dig at the Opposition BRS, the CM accused it of spreading misinformation to obstruct development. He likened such efforts to mythological attempts to disrupt a 'yagna', stating that "Shukracharya (referring to former chief minister K. Chandrashekar Rao),

staying in the farmhouse, had deployed Maricha and Subahu (referring to K.T. Rama Rao and Harish Rao) to sabotage development." He said BRS leaders spoke while inebriated and that their comments need not be taken seriously. Reiterating that Future City would be positioned as a prime global investment hub, the Chief Minister stated that out of seven bullet train projects sanctioned across the country, three have been allocated to Telangana. These include proposed high-speed rail corridors connecting Hyderabad to Bengaluru, Shamshabad to Pune, and the Shamshabad-Amaravati-Chennai line. He said these major projects would transform Rangareddy district into a major growth hub.

Phase 2 Poll

A video of the IPS officer from Uttar Pradesh, who is dubbed 'Singham' in UP for being an 'encounter specialist', went viral, showing him issuing a warning in filmi style against the Trinamul candidate's muscle-flexing in front of Jahangir Khan's house. Khan, who was not present, later came face to face with Sharma on the road while looking after poll preparations. "This is Bengal; if he is 'Singham', I am 'Pushpa'," Khan said. "No amount of threat or coercion by the BJP-appointed police officials from Uttar Pradesh will be allowed in Falta," he said. "They came with forces and tried to pressure my people and me. Such actions are not acceptable in a democratic system." The ACP of

Prayagraj in UP, faced protests by Trinamul supporters who raised 'Jai Bangla'. Witnesses said that Sharma had visited the candidate's house on Monday and said that the authorities would take "firm and immediate steps" if there were reports of voter intimidation and told the candidate not to come crying. A poll panel official said Sharma visited the area after the EC received reports that Khan's men were allegedly collecting voter identity cards from people in the constituency and threatening them. The protestors termed those allegations "lies" and demanded that Sharma furnish "proof of voter intimidation". Around 3.21 crore voters - who include 1.64 crore males, 1.57 crore females and 792 transgenders - are expected to de-

cide the fate of 1,448 candidates from TMC, BJP, CPI(M), Congress and various other parties in Kolkata, North 24 Parganas, South 24 Parganas, Nadia, Howrah, Hooghly and Burdwan East.

Religious Freedom...

Appearing for Peerzada Syed Altamash Nizami, direct ancestral descendent in the Chisti Nizami lineage associated with the dargah of Hazrat Khwaja Nizamuddin Aulia, advocate Nizam Pasha submitted that a dargah was a place where a saint is buried. "Within Islam, there are differing views regarding the status of saints after death, but in the Sufi system of belief, there is deep reverence attached to the place where a saint is interred." "The Sufi system of

belief in India consists of several major orders, including the Chishtiya, Qadriya, Naqshbandiya and Suhrawardiya. The present case concerns the Chishtiya order. This system, I submit, clearly constitutes a religious denomination. If one looks at the teachings attributed to Hazrat Nizamuddin Aulia, there is emphasis on adherence to Islamic practices such as roza, namaz, haj, zakat, and above all, faith," Pasha said. He added that every institution must have norms and it cannot be individually determined by each person. Advocate Akshay Nagarajan, representing the Hindu Dharma Acharya Sabha in the court, submitted that the government cannot interfere with a religious denomination's rights by citing grounds under Article.

CRIME

ED Attaches Anil Ambani's Mumbai Flat, Son's Khandala Farmhouse in ₹3,034-Cr Order

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The Enforcement Directorate said it had attached a flat in Usha Kiran Building in Mumbai belonging to industrialist Anil Ambani and a Khandala farmhouse held jointly by his son Jai Anshul Ambani, under a Rs.3,034-crore attachment order in case of alleged bank fraud and linked money laundering probe against Reliance Communications. The attachment also included a land parcel in Ahmedabad's Sanand area in the name of Mudra Foundation for Communications Research and Education (MICA).

With the latest action, the total attachment of properties in the cases against the Reliance Anil Ambani Group stands at Rs.19,344 crore. The Group is being investigated by the ED on



charges of bank fraud and diversion of funds. Reliance Communications (RCOM) is a company of the Reliance Anil Ambani Group (RAAG). According to a RAAG spokesperson, some of the attached properties belong to Kokilaben D. Ambani, Anil Ambani's mother. The money laundering case was registered from a clutch of CBI FIRs lodged on the basis of the complaints of State Bank of India, Punjab National

Bank, Bank of Baroda and Life Insurance Corporation of India against RCOM, Anil Ambani and others. RCOM and its group companies availed loans from domestic and foreign lenders, of which Rs.40,185 crore is outstanding, the ED said. The central agency said a flat in Usha Kiran Building at Cumballa Hill in South Mumbai belonging to Anil Ambani, a farmhouse in Pune's hill station of Khandala held in the

name of Ambani's son Jai Anshul Ambani and Luna Trust, and a land parcel in Ahmedabad's Sanand area in the name of Mudra Foundation for Communications Research and Education (MICA) have been attached.

The attachment also includes 7.71 crore shares of Reliance Infrastructure Ltd, held by RiseE Infinity, a group entity of Anil Ambani under the RiseE Trust umbrella. The ED said this was a private family trust of Anil Ambani. It stated that the RiseE Trust was established to "ensure" wealth preservation and resource generation by aggregating properties within the Trust and shielding it from the personal liabilities of Anil Ambani in the form of personal guarantees extended by him to lender banks against the loans sanctioned to RCOM.

EDITORIAL

WB LESSON: IN FUTURE, EC CAN'T KEEP REAL VOTERS OUT

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The voting in the second phase of election to the West Bengal Assembly on Wednesday will mark itself as one of the darkest moments in India's electoral history as it keeps out a large number of people from the process for no fault of theirs. The episode becomes all the more unpardonable as it happened on the watch of the Supreme Court of India and the Election Commission of India, institutions created to protect the constitutional, fundamental and democratic rights of the people.

The electoral roll for West Bengal had 7.66 crore names before the EC went into the special intensive revision (SIR) in November last year. The process has legitimacy in that it seeks to clean up the voter lists, the fundamental document for the conduct of elections, by ensuring that the names of all and

only eligible voters appear in it. The EC published the first draft roll on December 16 with 7.08 crore voters; the final roll published on February 28 this year had 6.44 crore names. The final list left out about 60 lakh people for "logical discrepancies". This number was brought down to 27.10 lakh after the mammoth work done by the EC with active help of the Supreme Court that drafted in the officers of the subordinate judiciary in West Bengal and neighbouring states to do some of it. The appellate tribunals have until now cleared less than 2,000 of the more than 27 lakh appeals pending before it for inclusion in the voters' list.

In short, more than 27 lakh people who make up about four per cent of the total electorate in the state will have no right to vote in this election for the Election Commission failed to complete a task it had taken upon itself. The

EC is the constitutionally mandated body to conduct elections to both Houses of Parliament as well as the state legislative assemblies on the principle of adult suffrage. It has been vested with extensive powers to ensure the sanctity of the process, which also includes the preparation of the electoral rolls.

The Election Commission has failed itself, the people of West Bengal, the Constitution and the very idea of electoral democracy by not ensuring that every single eligible voter was part of the democratic process to elect the government in the state. Those at the helm of the EC have forfeited their right to continue in office when lakhs of citizens were made to watch helplessly as a government is being formed in their state with no mandate from them. A small swing in the vote percentage can be decisive in an Indian election; and four per

cent is an unacceptably high figure.

In a larger sense, the Constitution is an article of faith between the State and the citizen about some of the solemn rights the latter would enjoy.

They may be fundamental rights or constitutional rights; but they are inviolable. The Supreme Court of India is mandated to step in if and when the State uses its might to trample on those rights, be they belong even to a single person. Unfortunately, the apex court has also failed to discharge its duties by being silent when large numbers of people were kept out of the democratic process.

The Indian people and Parliament will have to look into these very serious lapses on the part of the constitutional bodies in upsetting the foundational principles of this country sooner or later. The earlier they do it, the better for Indian democracy.

Traffic cops nab man for fake number plate use

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The city traffic police traced the use of a fake number plate to an accused, leading Khairatabad police to register a criminal case and arrest D. Robert Samuel (41) on Tuesday. The complainant, T. Srikanth of Bachupally, Medchal-Malkajgiri, the legitimate owner of vehicle No. TS08HS7658 (Hero Destini two-wheeler), approached the traffic police after il-

legal challans were generated against his vehicle, causing financial loss. During inspection, it was found that Samuel had affixed the same number plate to another Hero Destini, intending to mislead enforcement agencies and avoid traffic penalties, said D. Joel Davis, joint commissioner (Traffic). Khairatabad police registered cases against Samuel and issued a notice under Section 35(3) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), corresponding to

Section 41 of the CrPC, for further investigation. The case was detected through coordinated efforts of Hyderabad Traffic Police and Khairatabad police, Davis added. The Hyderabad Traffic Police cautioned the public that using fake, identical or tampered number plates is a punishable offence under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita and the MV Act, and violations will be dealt with strictly. Equipped with advanced systems including CCTV surveillance.

Auto Driver Jailed for 20 Years in Minor Assault Case

The Rangareddy district Fast-Track Special Court on Monday sentenced Shadnagar Arun, an autorickshaw driver from Hanuman Nagar Colony, Rajendranagar, to 20 years' rigorous imprisonment for abducting and sexually assaulting a minor. The court also imposed a fine of ₹8,000 and directed payment of ₹3 lakh compensation to the victim. Police said that on February 12, 2019, Arun lured the victim with a false promise of marriage, took her to a temple, and performed a sham marriage. He then subjected her to repeated sexual assault despite knowing she was underage.

Boy drowns in Kushaiguda pool

An 11-year-old boy drowned in a swimming pool at a sports complex in Kushaiguda on Monday evening. The deceased, a Class VI student at ECIL, and resident of BN Reddy Nagar, Cherlapally, had gone to the pool at Sportivo Sports Arena when the incident occurred. According to initial information, he drowned under circumstances yet to be ascertained. Staff and others rushed him out of the water and shifted him to a nearby private hospital, where doctors declared him dead on arrival.

Chengicherla animal sacrifice plan halted

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A planned mass animal sacrifice at Beerappa Temple in Chengicherla near Secunderabad on April 26 was prevented after Medipally police intervened following a complaint citing legal provisions that prohibit such practices in places of public worship. Police officials met temple authorities after receiving information from a local activist and explained that the Telangana Animals and Birds Sacrifices Prohibition Act, 1950 bans

animal sacrifice in temples, their precincts and in religious gatherings on public streets. The intervention stopped the ritual before it could take place. People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) India had also raised the issue with authorities. "PETA India commends Secunderabad police, especially the station house officer of the Medipally Police Station, Ch. Shankaraiah, for taking steps to ensure the illegal sacrifice did not take place," said Sreekrutty Raju, Lead Cruelty Response Coordinator. "All

religions call for compassion, and choosing kindness over sacrifice is true worship of God's creations." The organisation's complaint pointed to multiple sections of the Act that prohibit participation, assistance or use of temple premises for animal sacrifice, and noted that violations are punishable offences. It also cited provisions under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, under which killing animals unlawfully can attract imprisonment, a fine or both.

Neopolis Pipe Scam: Former Sales Engineer Under Scanner For Supplying Fakes

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A company holding the registered trademark for R-Drain, a specialised high-density perforated drainage pipe used in critical infrastructure, has reported the misuse of its brand name. The product is an approved material for the Cascades Neopolis Project. The company lodged a complaint with the Narsingi police, who

booked a case. During routine coordination with project authorities, the company discovered that certain pipes were being used at the site were falsely represented as the R-Drain products by unauthorised suppliers. A subsequent site inspection found such materials stocked and in use. Their enquiries revealed that the materials were allegedly supplied by a Bengaluru-based firm,

Sankalpa Infra Solutions, represented by its proprietor Parichay E.N., in collusion with a former sales engineer of the complainant company. They confirmed that the pipes were not manufactured by the original company and did not meet approved specifications. The counterfeit products also had stickers and superficial markings that imitated the brand, whereas genuine materials have integrated branding.

The complainant, zonal manager of the company, stated that the former employee was suspected of misusing confidential information related to clients and projects after resigning and induced buyers by offering lower prices while falsely assuring genuine supply. The accused also allegedly attempted to remove the materials upon detection. Further investigation is underway.



Sensex, Nifty Close The Day In Red Amid FII Selling And Elevated Crude Oil Prices

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Indian equity markets ended Tuesday's trading session on a negative note, weighed down by persistent foreign institutional investor (FII) selling, rising crude oil prices, and global market volatility. Both benchmark indices struggled to sustain early momentum amid cautious investor sentiment. The BSE Sensex closed at 76,886.91, falling 416.72 points or 0.54 per cent. Similarly, the NSE Nifty 50 settled at 23,995.70, down 97 points or 0.40 per cent. The decline reflects continued pressure on domestic equities as global and macroeconomic



factors dampened market confidence. Markets had opened on a subdued note, with the Sensex starting at 77,094.79, down 208.84 points, and the Nifty 50 opening at 24,049.90, slipping 42.80 points. The cautious start was largely attributed to sustained FII outflows, geopolitical tensions in West

Asia, and elevated energy prices. Crude oil prices saw a notable uptick, adding to inflationary concerns. Brent Crude was trading at USD 111.30, up by 2.84 per cent, while Crude Oil rose 3.40 per cent to USD 99.65. In contrast, Gold prices declined by 1.54 per cent to USD 4,611.21, indicating a shift in investor preference away from safe-

haven assets during the session. Global market cues further impacted domestic sentiment. Asian markets faced selling pressure, with Japan's Nikkei 225 dropping 1.16 per cent and Hong Kong's Hang Seng Index declining 1.09 per cent. However, US futures showed mild resilience, as Dow Jones Futures gained 0.35 per cent and Nasdaq Futures edged up 0.20 per cent. Market experts believe that the ongoing global "AI trade" is diverting capital flows away from emerging markets like India. VK Vijayakumar of Geojit Investments noted that a handful of global AI-driven stocks have been attracting substantial investments,

leading to continued FII selling in Indian equities. He added that such trends are often temporary and warned of a potential correction in overvalued AI stocks. According to analysts, any correction in global AI-driven markets could trigger a reversal in portfolio flows back to India. In such a scenario, fairly valued large-cap stocks are likely to outperform. Until then, mid- and small-cap stocks—less exposed to FII activity—may continue to show relative resilience. Overall, market direction in the near term is expected to remain sensitive to global cues, crude price movements, and institutional investment trends.

UAE to Exit OPEC on May 1; Major Blow to Cartel's Grip on Global Oil

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The United Arab Emirates said Tuesday it would leave OPEC from May 1, stripping the oil cartel of one of its largest producers and further weakening its leverage over global oil supplies and prices. The UAE had been producing around 3.4 million barrels of crude a day just before the US-Israeli war with Iran began on February 28. Analysts say it has capacity to produce roughly 5 million barrels a day. The UAE's decision had been rumoured as a possibility for some time, as it pushed back in recent years against OPEC production quotas it felt had been too low—meaning it wasn't able to sell as much oil to the world as it had wanted. Be-



sides, the UAE has had increasingly frosty relations with Saudi Arabia, OPEC's largest producer, over political and economic matters in the Mideast, even after both came under attack by fellow OPEC member Iran during the war. The UAE's withdrawal from OPEC won't necessarily have any immediate effects in markets. That's because world oil supplies are sharply constrained by the war in Iran, which has closed off the Strait of Hormuz, a waterway through

which one-fifth of global oil supplies—incloding much of the UAE's—is transported. OPEC's market power had already been waning in recent years as the United States ramped up its production of crude oil. Saudi Arabia had been pumping over 10 million barrels of oil a day before the war. The US pumps more than 13 million barrels a day. US President Donald Trump has been a steady critic of the cartel during his two terms in the White House.

India's Industrial Production Growth Slowed Down To 5-month Low of 4.1 pc in March



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

India's industrial production growth slowed to a five-month low of 4.1 per cent in March 2026, weighed down by weak manufacturing performance and sluggish electricity output amid global uncertainties linked to the West Asia crisis. The latest data released by the National Statistics Office (NSO) highlighted a noticeable moderation compared to the revised 5.1 per cent growth recorded

in February. The factory output, measured by the Index of Industrial Production (IIP), had expanded by 3.9 per cent in March 2025, indicating that while growth remains positive year-on-year, the recent momentum has softened.

The NSO also revised February's growth estimate slightly downward from 5.2 per cent to 5.1 per cent. The previous low in industrial output growth was recorded at just 0.5 per cent in October 2025, underlining the volatility in the sector

over recent months. A closer look at sectoral performance shows mixed trends. Manufacturing, which carries the highest weight in the IIP, recorded a modest growth of 4.3 per cent in March 2026, only slightly higher than the 4 per cent growth seen in the corresponding month last year. Meanwhile, electricity generation growth slowed sharply to 0.8 per cent, a steep decline from 7.5 per cent a year ago, reflecting subdued demand and operational challenges. In contrast, the mining sector

emerged as a bright spot, with output expanding by 5.5 per cent compared to a low base of 1.2 per cent growth in March 2025. This improvement provided some cushion to the overall industrial output figures.

Economists point to rising input costs and supply chain disruptions, exacerbated by geopolitical tensions in West Asia, as key factors impacting production margins and demand. Aditi Nayar, Chief Economist at ICRA Ltd, noted that despite the slow-down, non-core sectors

performed strongly, registering a robust 7.8 per cent growth. However, the performance across use-based segments remained uneven. Growth in infrastructure and construction goods output declined to 6.7 per cent from 11.1 per cent in February, indicating softer demand for key materials such as steel and cement. Overall, the data reflects a mixed industrial landscape, with resilience in some segments but clear signs of pressure from external and domestic challenges.

China Blocks Meta's Bid to Acquire AI Startup Manus



NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

China on Monday blocked Meta's acquisition of the artificial intelligence startup Manus, which has Chinese roots but is Singapore-based. In a short statement, China's National Development and Reform Commission, the country's top planning agency, said it was prohibiting a foreign acquisition of Manus and had required all the parties to withdraw from the deal. It did not specifically name Meta, which owns Facebook and Instagram. Meta had said there would be "no continuing Chinese ownership interests in Manus" and that Manus would discontinue its services and opera-

tions in China. But China said in January that it would investigate whether the acquisition would be consistent with its laws and regulations. China's commerce ministry said at the time that any enterprises engaging in outward investment, technology exports, data transfers and cross-border acquisitions must comply with Chinese law. Meta had said most of Manus' employees were based in Singapore. Meta said on Monday in a response that the transaction "complied fully with applicable law." "We anticipate an appropriate resolution to the inquiry," the California-based company said in a statement.

Four Manufacturing Sectors Account For 66 pc Of Chinese Imports

China accounts for 43 per cent of India's electronics imports, 40 per cent of machinery and computer imports, and 44 per cent of organic chemicals

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

While India's imports from China touched \$131.6 billion in FY26, about 66 per cent valued at \$82.6 billion goes to four sectors - electronics, machinery, computers, and organic chemicals. China accounts for 43 per cent of India's electronics imports, 40 per cent of machinery and computer imports, and 44 per cent of organic chemicals. These are core inputs that feed directly into India's manufacturing ecosystem, finds GTRI. This dependence is less about consumption and more about weak domestic production. Indian industry relies heavily on Chinese inputs—electronics parts, EV batteries, solar modules, APIs and specialty chemicals—that are hard to replace at



scale. "This creates clear risks. Dependence on a single supplier for critical inputs leaves sectors like pharmaceuticals, electronics and clean energy exposed to disruptions, whether geopolitical or commercial. At the same time, India's exports to China remain limited, keeping the relationship one-sided," SAID Ajay Srivastava, founder, GTRI. As India eases invest-

ment restrictions on China, the Chinese automakers are likely to expand through local assembly and increased EV imports if tariffs fall, putting pressure on Indian firms and reshaping supply chains. Chinese companies may continue sourcing key inputs—such as auto components, batteries, polymers, coatings and adhesives—from China rather than local suppliers. This could reduce domestic

value addition and hurt upstream industries. The policy challenge is clear. India needs to build domestic capacity in key sectors and diversify supply chains. A practical starting point would be to limit dependence on any single country to below 30 per cent of imports in critical sectors, finds GTRI. Exports to China remain stuck below FY2021 levels at \$19.5 billion, while imports have more than doubled to \$131.6 billion, pushing the deficit up 155 per cent to \$112.1 billion in five years. More worrying is the composition: 98.5% of imports from China are industrial goods, and four sectors—electronics, machinery, computers and organic chemicals—alone account for \$82.6 billion.

Expand Market Access And Boost Exports Using Trade Pacts With Developed Economies: Piyush Goyal



PUNE
Wakeup telangana

Commerce minister Piyush Goyal on Tuesday urged exporters and industry bodies to fully leverage India's trade pacts with developed economies to expand market access, boost exports and create employment opportunities, noting that timely utilisation of these agreements is critical. At the same time, industry representatives, who met the minister, also raised their concern relating to compliance costs, testing requirements, and challenges faced by MSMEs, according to a government statement. Despite global disruptions due to the West Asia war, sectors such as engineering goods, electronics, pharmaceuticals,

chemicals, gems & jewellery and agri-based products have sustained export momentum. However, the minister has assured continued support, including facilitation and targeted interventions to reduce entry barriers and enhance ease of doing business, the ministry said. India's total merchandise and services exports has reached a record \$860.09 billion in 2025-26, registering a 4.22 per cent year-on-year growth. The minister emphasised that this milestone should serve as a springboard for achieving \$2 trillion in exports by 2030. He also assured the government support to exporters for entering new markets and increasing their presence in existing markets to accelerate export growth.

A Homegrown Musical Genius

At just 22, Akso-maniac is fast emerging as one of the most distinctive new voices in contemporary music. His songs don't just entertain—they provoke, unsettle, and linger. His viral track 'Amsham' climbing global charts is no accident; it reflects a growing audience drawn to his deeply personal, boundary-pushing storytelling. Blending Malayalam rhythm and blues (R&B) with elements of mythology, queer identity, and raw emotional honesty, Akso-maniac has carved out a space that feels entirely his own. His music often explores themes rarely addressed in mainstream Indian soundscapes. Tracks like 'Karupp' confront colourism and lived experiences of being dark-skinned in India, while 'Amsham' delves into vulnerability and the complexities of love. For him, authenticity is non-negotiable—his lyrics are not constructed narratives but lived truths. Akso-maniac's artistic journey is also rooted in representation. Through his Malayalam project 'Varthamanam', he identified a glaring absence of queer voices in regional music and literature. That gap became his calling. His work is not just self-expression; it is an act of reclaiming space for stories that have



long been sidelined. One of the most compelling aspects of his artistry is his reimagining of mythology. Drawing from the figure of Manmadhan, the god of love, he re-frames traditional narratives through a queer lens. Introduced in 'Kanmashi' and expanded in 'Amsham', this evolving mythological thread reflects both personal identity and cultural reinterpretation. For Akso-maniac, mythology is not static—it is fluid, capable of embracing diverse identities, even if

modern retellings often erase them. His influences echo a lineage of artists who challenged norms, such as Freddie Mercury, Adam Lambert, and Lou Reed, all of whom brought queer narratives into music in their own ways. Like them, Akso-maniac uses art as both expression and resistance. Language plays a crucial role in his identity. Writing in Malayalam allows him to connect more deeply with his roots and express nuances that English cannot

fully capture. His work often reflects what he playfully calls "Mallu boy problems," grounding his global sound in local experience. In an era of rapid, disposable music consumption, Akso-maniac stands apart by prioritising narrative and intention. His journey is not about fitting into the industry but reshaping it—creating space for himself, his community, and stories that demand to be heard.

Kajal Aggarwal's 'The India Story' to hit screens on July 24



MUMBAI
Wake up telangana

The makers of Kajal Aggarwal and Shreyas Talpade-led socio-national drama, "The India Story," have finally locked in on a release date.

Directed by Chettan DK and produced and written by Sagar B Shinde, the drama will reach the cinema halls on July 24 this year.

Sharing the release date with the netizens, the makers wrote on social media, "The poison was never in the fields alone. It was in the silence."

#TheIndiaStory, Slow Poison in Progress. Coming in cinemas on 24th July 2026...Releasing in 3 languages #Hindi #Tamil #Telugu (sic)."

"The India Story" sheds light on the alarming consequences of chemical

misuse, especially in the context of pesticide farming and related scandals.

Applauding the collective efforts behind the project, director Chettan DK said, "Every member of the team, from the crew to the cast, has put in immense dedication to bring authenticity to this story. Kajal and Shreyas have delivered incredibly nuanced performances, and their commitment has truly elevated the film. We've worked hard to ensure that the narrative remains both engaging and impactful."

Sharing the motivation behind the movie, producer Sagar B Shinde added, "We chose to tell this story because it reflects a reality that often goes unnoticed but impacts countless lives across the country. The misuse of chemicals,

especially in pesticide farming, is not just an environmental concern; it's a human crisis. Through this film, we hope to raise awareness and initiate meaningful conversations around accountability and change."

Backed by Sumit Bagade, Anita Jadhav, Vinayak Saidani, Kalpesh Shah, Devyani Khorate, and Prem Joshi, the film will enjoy camera work by Nishant Bhagwat with the music scored by Mangesh Dhakde.

The technical crew of the drama further includes Ashish Mhatre as the editor, Shakeel Azami as lyricist and Anmol Bhavne as the sound designer.

"The India Story" will be released in multiple languages, including Hindi, Telugu, and Tamil.

Too Many Stars, Too Few Spots

NEW DELHI
Wake up telangana

Former player Virender Swag made a valid, blunt point. He said, "Every IPL throws up players who are batting very well, but where is the space for them in Team India? There is no place." He has a point. With India's talent pool deeper than ever, selectors can choose only 15 players for an international squad. For many talented cricketers, that means waiting endlessly on the fringes, or being judged after only a handful of opportunities. And he is right. With the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) having a talent pool so vast, selectors can only pick 15 players for international duty. The result? Many promising cricketers hover on the fringes, waiting for a chance that may never come — or worse, getting one opportunity and being judged too

quickly. Take Sai Sudharsan as an example. Given a chance in England, he was dropped after just one or two poor outings. In a system brimming with options, patience is often a luxury.

Maninder Singh, former India spinner, speaking exclusively, emphasised that the challenge is not just about skill but about handling the enormous pressure of representing India. "How they can handle the pressure and how strong they are mentally... because it's not easy, international cricket, especially for the Indian boys.

There's always so much pressure because of the cricket lovers in the country. Even when they're focusing on the job at hand, they know millions are expecting so much from them. Mental strength is very important. These are the kinds of things selectors must keep looking for when boys are given opportu-

nities in India A and other platforms." He added that consistency is the only currency fringe players can rely on: "It's a great headache for selectors to choose the best 15. All these boys can do is keep performing regularly and consistently.

I'm glad there's so much talent — it means Indian cricket is in good hands."

Karsan Ghavri, former India all-rounder, says, "India A must be the pathway". He offers a practical solution: "All fringe players likely to play for India in future should be made to play for India A.

India A home matches and tours should be frequent — we have enough power house. That's the best way to keep them ready and tested." His point underscores the importance of India A as a bridge between domestic cricket and the national team.

Rajasthan Royals Hand PBKS Their First Defeat of Season

MULLANPUR
Wake up telangana

Donovan Ferreira's audacious stroke-play handed Punjab Kings the bitter pill of defeat for the first time in this edition of IPL as Rajasthan Royals canted home by six wickets in a high-octane chase here on Tuesday. Chasing a target of 223, Rajasthan Royals needed 71 off the last six overs when Ferreira smashed his way to an unbeaten 52 off 26 balls in company of an unheralded Shubham Dubey (31 not out off 12 balls) to clinch the victory with four balls to spare.

Ferreira was brilliant while picking his areas as PBKS troika of Arshdeep Singh (1/68 in 4 overs), Lockie Ferguson (0/57 in 4 overs) and Marco Jansen (0/41 in 3.2 overs) would like to forget this day in a hurry. Between Ferreira and Dubey, they hit nine fours and five sixes as they undid all the good work done by Yuzvendra Chahal (3/36 in 4 overs). The manner in which Vaibhav Sooryavanshi (43 off 16 balls) started with a deluge of sixes — five — including a



couple of flicked maximums off Arshdeep Singh and Lockie Ferguson, it seemed RR would make a meal of the chase.

Arshdeep was lucky that Sooryavanshi missed out on a sixth six when he mistimed a full-toss only for Shreyas Iyer to grab it with ease. However, it was the wily Chahal who brought the Royals back in the game just when Yashasvi Jaiswal (51 off 27 balls) looked like

slowly taking the game away in company of Dhruv Jurel (20 off 16 balls). However, Jurel committed a hara-kiri, offering an easy skier off a full-toss but it was the manner in which Jaiswal and skipper Riyan Parag (29 off 16 balls) were taken out deserved more than honourable mention. For both, the pace on the ball was considerably taken off and flighted outside the off-stump line

without giving enough room to chance their arms. Both were holed out at long-off. But then, Ferreira and Dubey had other ideas as Chahal's good work went down the drain. Earlier, Stoinis muscled his way to a 20-ball half-century despite a gallant effort from young leg-spinner Yash Raj Punja as Punjab Kings posted a competitive 222 for 4 after being put into bat.

While Punjab's top three — Prabhsimran Singh (59 off 44 balls), Priyansh Arya (29 off 11 balls) and Cooper Connolly (30 off 14 balls) — all looked dangerous, but none of them went on to play a big knock on a track that was hard and offered appreciable bounce. It was Stoinis, who bludgeoned his way to an unbeaten 22-ball 62 with a half a dozen of sixes and four boundaries as Royals gave away as many as 55 runs in last three overs. Inexperienced Brijesh Sharma's (0/42 in 4 overs) pace-off play backfired with 24 coming off the final over of the innings. Stoinis, who hasn't really been summoned this season, was all about

brute power and Royals bowlers, including the dependable Jofra Archer (1/40), were guilty of bowling length balls inside his hitting arc. However, credit should go to unheralded Yash Raj (2 for 41 in 4 overs), a 6 feet 4 inches tall leg-spinner for varying his pace, not being afraid to flight and alter the length as and when required and keeping things tight till the 16th over. Just when Connolly was cutting loose with some delectable strokeplay, Yash Raj got the Australian against the run of play by flighting one outside the off-stump asking the batter to fetch it. The result was an easy catch for Donovan Ferreira at long-off. Prabhsimran, despite scoring a half-century and hitting six boundaries and a six, wasn't very smooth with his timing. Yash Raj, whose average speed was in early 90s (kmph), slowed it down and enticed Prabhsimran to throw the kitchen sink without being anywhere close to the pitch of the delivery. The catch was cleanly collected by Riyan Parag.

Reformed Maoists Appointed as 'Giri Darshaks'; Revanth Pushes Future City Vision

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In a significant move blending rehabilitation with development, the Telangana government has appointed 20 former Maoists as 'Giri Darshaks' (tourist guides) in Bhadradi Kothagudem and Mulugu districts, converting former conflict zones into emerging tourism destinations. The initiative underscores the state's strategy to reintegrate surrendered cadres into mainstream society while promoting ecotourism and local employment. The selected candidates have completed a month-long training programme focusing on tourism, communica-

tion, and soft skills. They will now serve across departments such as tourism, forest, and endowments, guiding visitors at prominent destinations including Parnashala, Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary, Laknavaram Lake, Karreguttalu Hills, and Thousand Pillar Temple. Once identified as Maoist-affected areas, these sites are now being repositioned as safe and attractive tourist hotspots. Malkajgiri Police Commissioner B. Sumathi said the programme is being implemented through a convergence of multiple departments. She added that the initiative is designed to be sustainable, with the Giri Darshaks expected to become "trainers of

trainers" in the near future, helping extend similar rehabilitation efforts to four additional districts along the Telangana-Maharashtra border. Each of the appointed Giri Darshaks will receive a monthly honorarium of ₹10,000 along with uniforms. Highlighting the broader rehabilitation framework, Commissioner Sumathi noted that nearly 99% of surrendered Maoists have been provided financial assistance through reward payments, while about 53% have been sanctioned housing under the Indiramma housing scheme. These measures, she said, are aimed at ensuring long-term stability and dignity for those who

choose to give up extremism. At the same event, Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy inaugurated and laid foundation stones for several key police infrastructure projects, including the Malkajgiri Police Commissionerate building, OCTOPUS administrative block, Qutbullapur DCP office, and new facilities at Bharat Future City and Gachibowli. These developments are part of a broader push to strengthen policing and urban infrastructure. In a notable outreach, the Chief Minister appealed to former top Maoist leader Muppala Lakshmana Rao to return to mainstream society and contribute to public

welfare. Assuring support, he stated that the government would take responsibility for his health and safety. Revanth Reddy also reiterated his commitment to the ambitious Future City project, urging farmers affected by land acquisition to accept compensation. He highlighted that land prices in the area have already doubled in recent years and stressed that the project would deliver long-term economic benefits. Responding to criticism from opposition leaders, he remarked that their opposition only strengthens his resolve to push forward with development initiatives.



State to Save Rs.1,000 Cr Via Loan Swap Exercise

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The state government is set to save around ₹1,000 crore annually through an ongoing loan-swapping exercise aimed at reducing the mounting debt burden. Launched in August 2025 by the Congress government, the initiative focuses on replacing high-interest loans borrowed during the previous BRS regime, with fresh borrowings at substantially lower interest rates. Official sources said that the government had sought approval to swap an additional ₹25,000 crore of loans during the current financial year. The earlier loans of the BRS government tenure carried interest rates of up to 11 per cent, while the refinanced borrowings are being secured at rates ranging between 7 and 7.5 per cent. This reduction of 3 to 3.5 percentage points in interest is expected to yield annual savings of about ₹1,000 crore in debt servicing, sources added. As part of the strategy, the

government plans to raise another ₹12,000 crore over the next two months — May and June — which will be utilised for further loan swapping. The move is part of the financial restructuring effort to reduce the state's debt burden. Following repeated representations by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, the Centre had, in August 2025, approved the rescheduling of ₹26,000 crore worth of high-cost loans through the Reserve Bank of India at significantly reduced interest rates. This restructuring has already helped lower the state's debt servicing burden and provided much-needed fiscal relief. The Chief Minister has also appealed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to extend further support by restructuring loans amounting to nearly ₹2 lakh crore in a phased manner. The CM highlighted the severity of the state's financial situation, pointing to an overall outstanding debt of approximately ₹2.74 lakh crore, which he attributed to bor-

rowings by the previous BRS government. Under the loan-swapping strategy, the government is targeting high-cost debt, including borrowings through special purpose vehicles (SPVs) such as the Kaleshwaram project and various corporate loans. These are being replaced with lower-cost, long-term bonds with repayment tenures ranging from 13 to 28 years, thereby easing immediate cash flow pressures in the 2026-27 financial year. As per CM's directions, the finance department, has made progress in restructuring liabilities worth about ₹26,103 crore in previous fiscal 2025-26, contributing to reduced interest burden. Speaking in the Legislative Assembly during recent Budget session, Revanth Reddy had said, "To overcome the financial crisis, I persuaded the Centre and financial institutions to restructure ₹26,000 crore of loans at an interest rate of 7.5 per cent for a tenure of 35 years," he said.

30 Metres of Bypass Section Dug from Collapsed Zone

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Work on the bypass tunnel that will sidestep the collapsed section of the SLBC tunnel's inlet side is progressing and since work was resumed this March, 30 metres have been excavated. The bypass will be a little wider than the original tunnel diameter of 9.2 metres, and will return to the original straight line alignment after crossing the weakened rock zone where the collapse occurred at the 13.9 km mark. "The bypass, expected to be around 170 metres long, is



also expected to be slightly deeper than the gradient of the original tunnel alignment to account for smooth flow of water using gravity. But that is not of concern. All that means is a small section where a pool will be

there over which the flowing water will continue to move smoothly once the tunnel goes into action," a senior irrigation department official said. The official also acknowledged the four zones of concern as delin-

eated in the NGRI study, and added that since the drill and blast method being used now also has various sensors in place, and the blast system will also provide adequate warning of the rock structure ahead, the coming up to any weak zone will be known before reaching that spot and the pace and system of the work, will be adapted accordingly. Even if there is water, then it is not such a bad thing as drill and blast produces dust and the seepage could be used for misting to keep the dust levels down which will help in fewer delays in

clearing the muck from the blast and moving forward, the official explained. Meanwhile, sources said that if enough funds are mobilised by the contractor, then the tunnelling can be completed in 24 to 26 months. This factor is now up to the government which may have to ensure adequate funds are provided to the contractor, not just for the work but also have some redundancies in terms of machinery. This is vital as if there is a breakdown, then standby machinery can be employed to cut potential delays, the sources added.



TPCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud inaugurated the Congress Seva Dal training camp "Samarth" at Exhibition Grounds, Nampally, in Hyderabad on Tuesday. Organised under the aegis of the Telangana Pradesh Congress Seva Dal, the six-day programme will run until May 2. Several key Seva Dal leaders were present on the occasion.

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Forest Officials Stall Indiramma Housing Across Adilabad District

MLAs urge Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy to resolve land row

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Construction of hundreds of Indiramma houses across the erstwhile Adilabad district has come to a halt, with MLAs cutting across party lines raising serious concerns over objections from forest officials. The issue was brought to the notice of Housing Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy and Adilabad in-charge Minister Jupally Krishna Rao during a review meeting on housing progress in Komaram Bheem Asifabad, Adilabad, and Nirmal districts. According to legislators, forest authorities are preventing construction on the grounds that many sanctioned house sites fall within reserve forest or forest land. This has directly affected beneficiaries who had already begun preparations to build their homes under the Indiramma housing scheme. Sirpur (T) MLA Palvai Harish Babu stated that nearly 200 houses in his constituency alone have been stalled due to such objections. He pointed out that provisions under the Forest



Rights Act 2006 allow for recognition of land rights, including issuing Record of Forest Rights (ROFR) pattas for house sites. He suggested that the state government could consider granting such pattas to enable beneficiaries to proceed with construction. Similar concerns were echoed by MLAs from Khanapur, Asifabad, and Boath constituencies, who said the issue has persisted for a long time without resolution. Khanapur MLA Vedma Boju highlighted that around 300 proposed houses in his constituency have been obstructed, particularly impacting families from the Kolam community, a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group (PVTG). He added that several Kolam and Gond beneficiaries had dismantled their existing huts in

anticipation of completing new houses within a few months. However, with construction now stalled, many families have been forced to seek temporary shelter with relatives, worsening their living conditions. Responding to the concerns, Minister Srinivas Reddy assured that the government would intervene to resolve the issue. He said a meeting would soon be convened with senior forest officials, including the principal chief conservator of forests and district forest officers, to address the bottlenecks and expedite construction. The minister also noted that as part of administrative decentralisation, district collectors have been given additional powers to fast-track the housing programme.

Sajjanar Plea for Calm After SSC Results

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In view of the announcement of Tenth Class (SSC) results, city police commissioner V.C. Sajjanar on Tuesday issued an appeal to students, parents and teachers. Expressing grief over recent instances of young lives lost following Intermediate results, Sajjanar said: "Taking one's life due to disappointment is never a solution. Such tragedies leave families with lifelong pain, and marks can never outweigh the value of a human life." He emphasised that exam results are not the final word on a student's future but merely a minor turn in a

long journey. Investigations by the Women's Safety Wing into recent student suicides, he noted, revealed shocking details about the immense academic pressure faced by students. Sajjanar urged students to remember that "failure is not the end" and should be seen as a stepping stone to success, not a reason to end one's life. To parents, he appealed not to burden children with excessive expectations. "A child's life and their smile are far more important than any grade sheet," he said, advising parents to embrace their children lovingly regardless of results and to monitor their behaviour closely.

Couple abandons daughters at police station in Telangana

A tragic incident occurred in Karimnagar's Thimmapur mandal, where a couple abandoned their minor daughters over family disputes, police said on Tuesday, April 28. Speaking to reporters, Thimmapur Sub Inspector Syed Anwar said that the wife, Lalitha, had approached the police station one month ago to complain about domestic abuse. She originally hails from Nizamabad and is a nursing student. The couple had been living in Fish Colony, Algnur village; however, following disputes with her husband, Lalitha started living with her parents in Nizamabad along with her children.

Temple Anniversary Celebrated with Leaders' Presence

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Prominent leaders attended the 8th anniversary celebrations of Sri Sri Sri Nagalingeshwara Swamy Temple in Dattatreya Colony under Alwyn Colony Division. PAC Chairman Arekapudi Gandhi participated as the chief guest, performing special puja rituals along with former corporators Dodla Venkatesh Goud, Narne Srinivas Rao, and Uppalapati Srikanth. Temple management committee members honored the dignitaries



with shawls during the ceremony. The program witnessed active participation from local leaders, party workers, devotees, and colony residents, making

the event spiritually vibrant and grand. The celebrations reflected strong community involvement and devotion among the people in the area.