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**WEATHER**

MAX: 37.0°C  
MIN: 19.2°C  
RH: 23%  
RAINFALL: 0MM  
FORECAST: MAINLY CLEAR SKY  
MAX/MIN temp. 37/19°C

### Brief Insights

#### Women's Bill, LS Seat Hike in Offing

Parliamentary affairs minister Kiren Rijju on Thursday said that both Houses of Parliament would reconvene at the earliest, possibly on April 16 after a brief recess to pass Bills to increase the number of Lok Sabha seats from 543 to 816 so that the women's reservation law can be implemented. This is expected to be the latest flashpoint between the government

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#### AAP Drops Chadha as Rajya Sabha Deputy Leader

The Aam Aadmi Party has written to the Rajya Sabha secretariat seeking removal of its MP Raghav Chadha as deputy leader in the House and proposed Punjab MP Ashok Mittal as his replacement, sources said on Thursday. According to sources, the party has also conveyed that Chadha should not be allotted speaking time from its quota in the Upper House. The move comes amid Chadha's limited public engagement with party activities and his absence from several events led by party chief Arvind Kejriwal. Chadha, once

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**Harish Rao hits out at Kishan Reddy over Kaleshwaram row: P8**

**Kaleshwaram row triggers heated exchanges in Rajya Sabha: P3**

**Cong Govt. Works Tirelessly For People's Welfare, Says Revanth: P8**



## LDF, UDF Release Manifestos For the Upcoming Kerala Assembly

Both fronts make tall promises on social welfare pensions, women empowerment, infrastructure development, agriculture

**KERALA**  
Wakeup telangana

With just a week to go for the Kerala assembly elections, the CPM-led LDF and Congress-led UDF have unveiled their manifestos, both emphasizing welfare, agriculture, and infrastructure development. Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan released the LDF manifesto in Kozhikode, while V D Sa-theeshan launched the UDF manifesto in Kochi on Thursday, joined by Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy as the chief guest. The LDF's two-volume manifesto, featuring 60 promises, showcases achievements from its decade-long rule alongside future plans. The UDF manifesto highlights Rahul Gandhi's flagship NYAY scheme, offering Rs 6,000 per month to BPL families, along with a host of initiatives for women, youth, and infrastructure growth. Similarities in LDF and UDF manifestos include promises from both fronts to hike the universal welfare pension to Rs 3000. On women's welfare, the



LDF promises safe travel, childcare, skill training, and rural economic development for 20 lakh households, while the UDF offers free travel for women on state-run KSRTC buses, Rs 1000 per month for college-going girls, and self-employment loans through Kudumbashree. In terms of jobs, the LDF vows campus placements and skill development programs for all graduates, aiming to create 60,000 jobs along with upgrading SMEs. The UDF, meanwhile, plans skill development training for five lakh youth over five years, interest-free loans up to Rs 5 lakh for young entrepreneurs, and MSME support for businesses with turnover up to Rs 100 crore. The LDF has promised to expand

measures to support farmers. They have promised to increase the support price of rubber to Rs 300, and both have committed to raising the paddy procurement price to Rs 35 per kg. Development and service provision Metro rail project: Both LDF and UDF have stated in their manifesto that they will implement metro rail in Thiruvananthapuram and Kozhikode. The LDF promises assured pensions for government employees, while the UDF pledges a pension reform favorable to them, with both focusing on improving government employee pensions. Two days ago, the BJP-led NDA unveiled its manifesto, packed with promises. Among them is the launch of a "Bhaktshya Arogya Suraksha Card" for women from poor and BPL families, offering a monthly recharge of Rs 2,500 to buy groceries and medicines. The party also pledged to provide two free LPG cylinders each year for poor families, distributed during Onam and Christmas. In agriculture, both LDF and UDF have pledged

## SC Pulls Up Bengal Govt Over Attack on Judges

Mamata says EC handles law and order, blames Owaisi, Kabir

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

The Supreme Court on Thursday came down heavily on the West Bengal administration for its "complete failure" and inaction over the "highly deplorable" gherao and attack on seven judicial officers in Malda district during the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, however, blamed the Election Commission for the gherao, as the latter is managing law and order in the state ahead of the Assembly elections. She also criticised AIMIM president Asaduddin Owaisi of provoking some people — on the advice of the BJP — to block roads and gherao the judges to impose President Rule in the state. Describing West Bengal as the "most polarised state", the Supreme Court observed that the incident exposed a "complete failure of the state administration". It termed the attack a "brazen attempt" to browbeat judicial officers and a challenge to the authority of the Su-



preme Court. The court ordered an independent probe by the CBI or NIA and directed deployment of Central forces at all locations where objections to exclusion from electoral rolls are being adjudicated by appellate tribunals in the state. Acting on the orders of the Supreme Court, Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar on Thursday handed over the investigation of the incident to the National Investigation Agency. An NIA team is likely to reach West Bengal on Friday. Earlier in the day, a three-judge bench comprising Chief Justice of India Surya Kant and Justices Joymalya Bagchi and Vipul M. Pancholi said the incident was not routine but "ex facie a calculated, deliberate move to demoralise judicial officers".

Rejecting the claim that it was an "apolitical protest", the Chief Justice said: "If the protest was apolitical, then what were the political leaders doing? Was it not their duty to reach the spot and see what was happening? That someone was trying to take the law into their hands? From 5 pm to 11 pm, your collector was not there." Around 700 judicial officers from West Bengal, Odisha and Jharkhand have been deployed in the ongoing SIR process to deal with over 60 lakh objections from those excluded from the electoral rolls. The court further directed the Chief Secretary, the DGP, the District Magistrate, Malda, and the superintendent of police, Malda, to show cause as to why action should not be taken against them in light of the letter received from the Chief Justice of the High Court.

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## India Joins UK-Led Meet on Hormuz

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Foreign secretary Vikram Misri on Thursday highlighted the importance of freedom of navigation and India's energy security concerns during a Britain-led virtual meeting on the Strait of Hormuz. According to an official statement, Misri "noted the importance of the principles of freedom of navigation and unimpeded transit through international waterways and emphasised the impact of the crisis on India's energy security". He also

referred to the loss of Indian mariners in recent attacks. "India remains the only country to have lost mariners in attacks on merchant shipping in the Gulf," he said, adding that the solution lay in "de-escalation and a return to the path of diplomacy and dialogue among all concerned parties". The meeting, convened by UK foreign secretary Yvette Cooper, saw participation from more than 60 countries, the government said. MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal confirmed that India joined the initiative at Britain's invitation. The

discussions come amid disruptions in maritime traffic through the Strait of Hormuz following the West Asia conflict. Reports indicate that Iran is allowing passage only to select countries, including India. UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer said his government was exploring diplomatic options to reopen the route, which is critical for global oil supply. He said the meeting would assess measures to restore navigation, ensure safety of ships and resume movement of essential commodities.

## Trump Uses Iran War Address to Urge Skeptical Voters to Give Him More Time

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

President Donald Trump used his first major address since launching his war in Iran to assure Americans that all of his military objectives will be completed "shortly" and urge an increasingly skeptical electorate to give him a little bit more time. Trump in his Wednesday evening speech dialed back the bluster that's dominated his rhetoric in recent days as world markets convulse and a badly battered Iran is still landing some effective blows on Gulf neighbors' infras-

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## GHMC Seizes Rotten Meat From Old City Shop

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

The police on Thursday seized 12 tonnes of rotten sheep and goat offal, which is estimated to be worth over `10 lakh, from A to Z Mutton Offals, a shop-cum-storage unit at Chisti Chaman Dargah under Mangalhat police station limits. The raid was conducted by Mangalhat police, Golconda Task Force, Hyderabad Food Adulteration Surveillance Team (H-FAST) and GHMC officials, after they received reports of



the shop supplying rotten sheep and goat offal to caterers and function halls for huge profit. This was the second raid within a month on A to Z Mutton Offals. During the first raid on March 10, the officials had seized 300 kg of rotten meat from the outlet and arrested its

owner, Md Afroz. The 43-year-old outlet's owner, a resident of Amanagar and a repeat offender, is absconding, and special teams have been formed to trace him. Police sources had disclosed that Afroz was involved in a racket, and he has been supplying meat

to several prominent hotels, restaurants and caterers across the state. Police are identifying hotels and outlets that received the meat. During the Thursday operation, police arrested the shop manager who allegedly assisted Afroz in procuring and storing spoiled offal. Additional DCP (task force) Anand Srinivasa Rao said the manager confessed to sourcing stale meat at low cost and preserving it for a long time for further supply.

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## Trump Announces Destruction of Iran's Tallest Bridge

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

US President Donald Trump said Thursday the tallest bridge in Iran had been destroyed, hours after threatening to bomb the country "back to the Stone Ages." Trump posted footage on social media of smoke rising from the B1 bridge in Karaj, around 20 miles (35 kilometers) southwest of Tehran -- and warned that there would be further destruction unless Iran comes to the table to end the five-week war.



"The biggest bridge in Iran comes tumbling down, never to be used again - Much more to follow! IT IS TIME FOR IRAN TO MAKE A DEAL BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE, AND THERE IS NOTHING LEFT OF WHAT STILL COULD BECOME A

GREAT COUNTRY!" Trump said. Iranian state television had earlier reported two US-Israeli strikes on the bridge. "A few minutes ago, the American-Zionist enemy once again targeted the B1 bridge in Karaj," state TV said, adding that an initial strike had caused two civilian casualties. It said the later attack took place as emergency teams were deployed to the site to help victims of the first strike. The B1 bridge, which was still under construction, is considered the Middle East's tallest

according to Fars/Iranian media, with a 447-foot (136-meter) column. Trump delivered a speech Wednesday in which he argued that the war launched by the United States and Israel on February 28 was almost over -- even as he threatened to bomb Iran "extremely hard" if it didn't bow to his demands. "Over the next two to three weeks, we are going to bring them back to the Stone Ages, where they belong," he said in his first prime-time address to the nation on the war.

## Iran Vows Crushing Attacks On US After Trump Threats

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Iran on Thursday threatened "crushing" attacks on the US and Israel, firing missiles at Tel Aviv after US President Donald Trump vowed to bomb the Islamic republic "back to the Stone Ages". The war, which erupted more than a month ago with US-Israeli strikes on Iran, has spread throughout the Middle

East and roiled the global economy, impacting hundreds of millions of people worldwide. In a prime-time White House address, Trump said the US was "very close" to achieving its objectives but warned attacks would intensify if Iran did not reach a negotiated settlement. In a prime-time White House address, Trump said the

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ESTD-1960

## ASTORIA HOTEL

Hyderabad Laziz Biryani

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

## Ultra modern sports complex inaugurated in Nizamabad to boost student development

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

“The all-weather, new indoor sports arena Khelbharathi at the Nav-yabharathi Global School in Nizamabad (Telangana) is an extension of our commitment to providing holistic education going beyond academics and also creating opportunities for students to compete at higher levels and to instil a spirit of excellence, resilience and sportsmanship,” says K Santhosh Kumar, CEO of the NGS and the brain behind the ultra modern sports complex on the school premises.

For someone who showcased Nizamabad’s rich flora and fauna with his passionate wildlife pho-



tography, Santhosh says that the primary objectives of the project are to promote physical fitness, encourage sports culture and support the overall development of students. “We aim to provide a dedicated, safe and weather-independent space where students can actively engage in indoor sports such as badminton, table tennis, chess, carrom, shooting and other physical activities

to help students look not just at academics but at sports too,” he said in a chat with ‘Telangana Today’ after the project was inaugurated early this week. “It is to create a lasting sports culture,” he said. “We have established a strong support system by way of qualified and experienced coaches to ensure that students receive quality training and guidance in sports, with

focus on quality and accessibility. The emphasis is also on a scientific approach to training and, more importantly, monitoring the students’ progress,” Santhosh said. “Our long-term goal is to develop Khelbharathi, inaugurated by philanthropist Chaganla Narendra Nath, into a centre of excellence for sports and physical education. We aim to identify and nurture young talent from an early stage and provide them with continuous, high-quality training that can help them excel at district, state and national levels,” he said. “What we truly expect in return is the overall growth and transformation of our students and that they excel both in sports and in life. This region is rich in young

talent and Nizamabad can emerge as a significant sporting hub in the region,” Santhosh said. On whether the complex would be open for others also, Santhosh said: “We are very much open to meaningful partnerships with corporates and like-minded organisations to enhance its reach and impact.” “We are also keen to host championships at different levels and not limit ourselves to just training at the sports complex. We are grateful to our management team and well-wishers who believed in the vision and stood firmly behind the project from the beginning,” Santhosh signed off, hoping to script a new chapter in sports in Telangana.

## Talasanani Leaders Lead Grand Hanuman Jayanti Celebrations in Ramgopalpet

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Former Minister Talasani Srinivas Yadav and young leader Talasani Dharmendra Yadav participated in grand Hanuman Jayanti celebrations in Ramgopalpet division, drawing large crowds and creating a spiritually vibrant atmosphere across the area. Marking the auspicious occasion of Chaitra Purnima, devotees gathered in huge numbers, chanting “Jai Shri Ram” and offering special prayers to Lord Hanuman, revered for his strength, devotion, and selfless service. The presence of the Talasani leaders added prominence to the celebrations, as they visited multiple temples and took part in rituals alongside devotees. Addressing the gathering, Talasani Srinivas Yadav highlighted the timeless relevance of Lord Hanu-



man’s ideals, stating that his life continues to inspire generations with values rooted in devotion and righteousness. He emphasized the importance of preserving cultural traditions and passing them on to future generations. Talasani Dharmendra Yadav actively interacted with youth and local residents, encouraging them to adopt Hanuman’s qualities such as courage, loyalty, and dedication in their daily lives. His engagement reflected a strong connection with the younger generation and

reinforced the message of social responsibility. Celebrations were held across several localities in Ramgopalpet, featuring special pujas, devotional chants, and community participation. Organizers ensured smooth conduct of the events, promoting unity and the spirit of service among devotees. The program concluded on a devotional note, with participants expressing renewed faith and commitment to the ideals showcased in the Ramayana.

## Smart QR Pendants Boost Safety for Special Needs Kids

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Marking World Autism Awareness Day, Project Chetna, in collaboration with the National Institute for the Empowerment of Persons with Intellectual Disabilities (NIEPID), distributed Smart QR “Sukraksha Kavacham” pendants to 60 special needs children in Hyderabad. Supported by CSR contributions from Fin Curve Financial Services and Augment, the initiative aims to enhance child safety using technology.



Each pendant stores critical information, including emergency contacts, medical history, and family details, which can be in-

stantly accessed through a simple scan. In emergencies, the system also sends automated email alerts to family members,

enabling quick response and support. The initiative acts as a safety shield, ensuring faster identification and helping reunite children with their families if they go missing. Organizers highlighted the importance of leveraging technology for social good, especially for vulnerable groups. With NIEPID’s support, the program gains institutional strength, while CSR partners reaffirm their commitment to building a safer, more inclusive and compassionate society.

## Hanuman Jayanti Celebrations Unite Hyderabad Devotees

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Hanuman Jayanti was celebrated with great enthusiasm across Cantonment and Tadbund, where thousands of devotees participated in grand processions, special prayers, bhajans, and Annadanam programs led by Jampana Pratap, Pandu Yadav, Prakash Bhatia, Pradeep Bhandari, and Amit Kothari, showcasing strong devotion and community unity. At the Seetharampuram



Hanuman Temple, Jampana Pratap inaugurated the Annadanam program, serving free meals to hundreds of devotees. The arrangements were efficiently managed by Pradeep Bhandari and Amit Kothari, who en-

sured smooth coordination and volunteer participation. The Human Foundation organized a major Shree Hanuman Jayanti Utsav at Tadbund ‘X’ Road, attracting large crowds with devotional music,

vibrant decorations, and prasad distribution. In Cantonment, Jampana Pratap along with MLA Sri Ganesh actively took part in rituals and processions, inspiring local participation. Meanwhile, Prakash Bhatia led devotional bhajans in Tadbund, while Pandu Yadav energized gatherings at Center Point. The celebrations highlighted Hyderabad’s rich cultural heritage, unity, and spirit of service among devotees.

## Chandrugonda SI Warns Against Drunk Driving, Cyber Crime Risks

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Chandrugonda Sub-Inspector Shivarama Krishna warned that strict action will be taken against drunk driving while urging people to stay alert on road safety, cyber crimes, and drug abuse. Speaking at a Village Assembly held at the Chandrugonda Gram Panchayat office under the Praja Palana Pragathi programme, he highlighted rising road accidents caused mainly by drunk driving and negligence. He cited the recent KVR Travels bus accident



as an example of how alcohol consumption leads to severe loss of life. He also cautioned against cyber frauds, explaining how scammers lure people through social media links and fake offers, leading to financial loss. Sharing bank details

for commissions can also trap individuals in criminal cases, he warned. Additionally, he stressed that involvement in drugs and ganja can ruin lives and lead to legal consequences, urging citizens to remain vigilant.

## SHE Teams, AHTU Step Up Safety Drives in



Mahbubnagar district police have intensified efforts to ensure the safety of women and children, while cracking down on human trafficking under the direction of District SP Smt. D. Janaki, IPS. SHE Teams and the Anti-Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU) are conducting coordinated special drives across key public locations. In March 2026, SHE Teams handled 15 complaints, caught 10 offenders red-handed, conducted counseling in five cases, and organized 22 awareness programs while inspecting 75 hotspots.

The teams focused on educating students about eve-teasing, cybercrime, POCSO Act, and personal safety. Simultaneously, AHTU rescued nine child laborers, registered seven FIRs, and conducted 15 awareness sessions along with 70 inspections. Police warned of strict action against child trafficking and illegal child labor. The SP urged citizens to report crimes via Dial 100, assuring confidentiality, and called for public cooperation to eliminate trafficking and protect vulnerable groups.

## Grand Annadanam Held at Tadbund Temple on Pournami

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

A grand Annadanam (free meal distribution) program was organized on Thursday at Sri Bhavani Shivalingeswara Swamy Temple in Tadbund under Cantonment Ward 6, marking the occasion of Pournami. The event, conducted under the temple committee’s supervision, witnessed large participation from local devotees and residents of nearby areas. Temple committee founder Sada Anita Keshava Reddy, along with



Nagarjuna Reddy, Shiva Reddy, Dhanunjaya Goud, Galipalli Durgayya, Yadagiri, and Veerender, actively took part in serving food to devotees. Speaking on the occasion, Keshava Reddy said that organizing Annadanam on every Pournami

has become a tradition aimed at promoting unity and service among people. Devotees like Neeve, Sanjay, Raju, and Anil, along with many women from the locality, participated in large numbers, contributing to the program’s success.

## Telangana advances SA-II exams for Classes I to IX

The School Education department on Thursday advanced the Summative Assessment (SA)-II examinations, which will now commence on April 8. Earlier, the exams for Classes I to IX were scheduled to be held from April 10. The department rescheduled the SA-II exams in view of the Telangana Open School Society’s SSC and Intermediate Public Examinations. The SA-II exams, as per the revised schedule, will conclude on April 18. All Regional Directors of School Education and District Educational Officers have been asked to issue necessary instructions to schools regarding the rescheduling of the SA-II examination timetable.

## Fake Gold Loan Scam in Enkoor; Three Arrested

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Police in Enkoor arrested three persons for allegedly cheating a bank by pledging fake gold ornaments and securing loans worth ₹9.53 lakh. The fraud came to light during a bank auction, where the pledged jewellery was found to be fake. According to Kalluru ACP Vasundhara Yadav, the accused colluded with a gold appraiser to misrepresent fake ornaments as genuine. The scam dates back to 2024, when the group pledged about 242.25 grams of fake gold to obtain loans from Telan-



gana Grameena Bank, Enkoor branch. As the accused failed to repay, the accounts turned NPAs, prompting the bank to initiate auction proceedings. The fraud was exposed during this process, leading to a police

complaint and investigation. Three accused have been arrested and remanded, while one woman remains absconding. Police warned of strict action against such offences.

## 99-Day Plan Aims to Resolve Village Issues Fast

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Resolving public grievances through the 99-day Praja Palana-Pragati Plan is the government’s primary objective, said Tungaram Sarpanch Praveen Prakash. He was speaking as the chief guest at a meeting held at the Tungaram Gram Panchayat office in Chandrugonda mandal on Thursday. He emphasized that it is the responsibility of local bodies to ensure welfare schemes reach every household. Praveen Prakash stated that all eligi-



ble beneficiaries will receive welfare benefits through transparent governance, which will strengthen public trust. He highlighted that holistic village development is possible only through collective efforts and better coordination between officials and public repre-

sentatives. With the summer season approaching, he assured that advance measures would be taken to prevent drinking water shortages in the village. Priority will be given to improving basic infrastructure such as roads, sanitation, and water supply, with a clear

action plan to transform the village’s overall outlook. He further added that he would extend full support for the village’s development at all times and stressed the importance of public participation in achieving desired outcomes. The programme was attended by Panchayat Secretary Kiran Kumar, Vice Sarpanch Bhukya Nares, Mandal Special Officer Raghu, Technical Assistant Ramu, ward members, officials from various departments, and villagers.

**Early Bird Property Tax Scheme in CURE Area**

The Early Bird scheme for 2026-27 has commenced in the Core Urban Region Economy (CURE) area, offering a five per cent discount on property tax if dues for the current financial year are paid in full by April 30. The scheme is applicable across Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC), Cyberabad Municipal Corporation (CMC) and Malkajgiri Municipal Corporation (MMC), but not on arrears. In 2025-26, the three corporations together collected ₹2,558.80 crore in property tax, with CMC generating the highest revenue at ₹1,000.36 crore, followed by GHMC (₹995.82 crore) and MMC (₹562 crore). On March 31 alone, ₹162.94 crore was collected, while the month's total stood at ₹453.98 crore. Additionally, under the one-time settlement scheme, ₹548 crore was collected that day, including ₹233 crore from GHMC, ₹189 crore from CMC and ₹126 crore from MMC.

**Kaleshwaram row triggers heated exchanges in Rajya Sabha**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

A heated exchange erupted in the Rajya Sabha on Thursday between BRS Parliamentary Party leader KR Suresh Reddy and Union Minister for Coal G Kishan Reddy over the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project. While Suresh Reddy strongly objected to remarks made by Union Jal Shakti Minister CR Patil against the project, Kishan Reddy defended his colleague and blamed the previous BRS regime for alleged structural damages. The confrontation arose during a discussion on amendments to the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014, in the Rajya Sabha, after Suresh Reddy objected to Patil's statement that Rs 1 lakh



crore spent on Kaleshwaram had been wasted. He demanded that the remarks be expunged or that the Minister apologise, terming them misleading and warning of a breach of privilege if left uncorrected. Amid disruptions from both BJP and Congress MPs, the BRS MP asserted that the project was completed without Central financial assistance and played a key role in boosting Telangana's agricultural output. He recalled that the BJP-led Centre had re-

peatedly acknowledged the achievements of Telangana, including the Kaleshwaram project, in Parliament in the past. He clarified that Kaleshwaram comprised multiple barrages, reservoirs, tunnels and an extensive pipeline network. He stated that the reported damage was limited to a single barrage, with repair costs estimated at Rs 300 crore. "Due to inefficiency of the current Congress government in Telangana, the project currently remains non-functional," he said.

Suresh Reddy alleged continuous injustice to Telangana, citing amendments to the Act only favouring Andhra Pradesh, including the transfer of seven mandals without consultation. Likening his appeal to the Pandavas' plea for five villages in the Mahabharata, he urged the return of five villages abutting Bhadrachalam to Telangana. Reminding that Telangana's formation was the result of sustained struggle, he said the intent of State bifurcation was to live like brothers and work towards shared prosperity. He asserted that Telangana was never opposed to the Centre's support for the development of Andhra Pradesh, but had only sought equitable treatment.

**Saffron Surge Marks Grand Hanuman Jayanti in Cantonment**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

A sea of saffron engulfed Secunderabad Cantonment as thousands of devotees gathered to celebrate Hanuman Jayanti with immense devotion and enthusiasm. The grand celebrations highlighted the deep-rooted faith in Lord Hanuman, symbolizing strength, courage, and unwavering devotion. Temples across the Cantonment witnessed heavy footfall from early morning, with chants of the Hanuman Chalisa and Sundar Kand creating a spiritually charged atmosphere. Devotees observed fasts and offered special prayers to seek blessings from 'Sankat Mochan' for protection and success. Distribution of prasadam, including boondi and jaggery, added to the festive spirit, symbolizing devotion and positivity. The celebrations were further elevated by the participation of prominent



local leaders. Dr. Narasimhan Kannan emphasized the importance of discipline and spirituality among youth, urging them to follow the ideals of Lord Hanuman. Evo Mahender joined the vibrant processions, noting that such festivals strengthen unity and cultural harmony. Arvind Raju Yadav participated in special aarti rituals, highlighting the deity's role as a guardian of the community. Several akharas, schools, and local organizations organized processions, devotional

**Six Guarantees unfulfilled in Telangana, but Congress promises five guarantees in Keralam**

Revanth Reddy challenged Keralam opposition leaders to visit Telangana to verify six guarantees implementation while unveiling the UDF manifesto, even as criticism persists over delays in fulfilling similar promises made during the 2023 Telangana elections.

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Amid mounting criticism over the Congress government's failure to fulfil its poll promises in Telangana, Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy challenged opposition parties in Keralam to visit his state and assess the implementation of the six guarantees. The Congress government in Telangana has been attracting wide criticism from opposition parties and people for its failure to implement its poll promises. Despite this, the Chief Minister dared opposition parties in Keralam to visit Telangana, after releasing the Congress-led United Democratic Front (UDF) manifesto in Kochi on Thursday, along with senior leaders. The Manifesto, branded as "Indira Guarantees," lists five promises. These include free bus travel for women, Rs.1,000 monthly assistance for female college students, insurance coverage, interest-free loans of Rs. 5 lakh for youth to start



businesses, and a pension increase to Rs. 3,000. Ahead of the 2023 Telangana Assembly elections, the Congress had announced six guarantees. These included Rs. 2,500 monthly assistance for women, a pension hike to Rs. 4,000, a Rs.5 lakh Vidya Bharosa card for students, Rs.15,000 annual assistance per acre for farmers and tenant farmers, and Rs.12,000 support for agricultural labourers. More than two years later, these promises remain unimplemented in Telangana. As recently as last week, Congress MLC Vijayashanthi had questioned the Revanth Reddy Government in the Legislative Council on Monday over its failure to deliver on promises made to Telangana movement fighters. Even so, the Chief Minister criticised opposition

parties for questioning the guarantees announced in the UDF manifesto. He challenged political rivals to visit Telangana and study the implementation on the ground. "I will personally explain the execution of the schemes to Pinarayi Vijayan and his Ministers," Revanth Reddy said. During the Telangana elections, he had promised to implement the six guarantees within 100 days of coming to power. He had also assured legal backing for them in the first Cabinet meeting. He made a similar assurance for Keralam. He said the promises would be implemented from the first Cabinet meeting if the UDF comes to power. In a sharp remark, he criticised both Pinarayi Vijayan and Narendra Modi. He said India and Kerala were being ruled by the "Modi Brothers." In an apparent reference to the Sabarimala gold controversy, he alleged that even temple property was not safe in the State, often called "God's Own Country."

**Hanuman Vijaya Yatra Draws Devotees Across Cantonment**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Hanuman Vijaya Yatra was celebrated with great religious fervor across Bowenpally and Tadbund in the Secunderabad Cantonment area, attracting hundreds of devotees who participated in grand processions, special prayers, and Annadanam programs. The event witnessed vibrant scenes of devotion, with chants of "Jai Shri Ram" echoing through the streets as devotees gathered to honor Lord Hanu-



man, revered as a symbol of unwavering faith and strength. The celebrations reflected the deep-rooted cultural and spiritual traditions associated with the deity.

Local MLA Sri Ganesh attended the event as the chief guest and actively participated in the rituals. He inaugurated several Annadanam initiatives, distributing food to devo-

tees and emphasizing the importance of service during religious occasions. Former Cantonment Board members K. Pandu Yadav, Muppidi Madhukar, and Vishwanath also took part in the celebrations. Key locations included Tadbund Crossroads and Center Point Crossroads in Bowenpally, where elaborate pujas and rituals were conducted under the leadership of local organizers. The MLA also visited the Shiva Panchayatana Hanuman Temple in Sita-

rampuram, where he performed special prayers along with Temple Committee President Saibaba Yadav. He later participated in Annadanam, serving meals to devotees and pilgrims. Former Vice President Jampana Pratap emphasized the spiritual significance of Lord Hanuman, stating that sincere devotion brings strength and divine support. Several community leaders attended, making the Yatra a grand success marked by unity, devotion, and service.

**Teacher Suspended After Brutal Assault on Student**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

In a swift disciplinary action at the Telangana Minority Residential School (TMREIS) in Narayanpet, Jahangir, a TGT English teacher, has been placed under immediate suspension for physically assaulting a student. Incident Overview: According to reports, the incident occurred during night duty hours. The English teacher, Jahangir, reportedly beat Ayan, a sixth-grade student, indiscriminately. The sev-



erity of the assault left the child with visible injuries on his back and stomach. Upon learning of the incident, the stu-

dent's parents and relatives rushed to the school to demand justice. Following a formal complaint lodged through Principal Khaja Mahub Khan, RLC Khaja Bahuddin and Vigilance officials arrived at the school to conduct an emergency inquiry. Immediate Suspension: After verifying the injuries and conducting an initial investigation on the spot, the authorities issued orders to suspend Jahangir from his duties effective immediately.

**BRS councillor kidnapped ahead of elections to Khanapur chairperson**

**NIRMAL**  
Wakeup telangana

A BRS councillor was on Thursday allegedly kidnapped ahead of the election to the governing council of Khanapur municipality slated for April 4. Family members alleged that Pochavva, a councillor of the BRS, was abducted by unknown persons. They accused the Congress of kidnapping Pochavva in an attempt to win the chairperson post of the 12-member Khanapur municipality. They requested the police to trace the councillor and take stern action against those who abducted her. The BRS won four wards, falling three short of the required majority. It made

moves to secure the civic body, with three councillors from the Congress extending support to it. However, elections to the governing council were postponed in the past due to a lack of quorum at special meetings. The Telangana Election Commission on March 31 announced that elections for chairperson and vice-chairperson of Khanapur and Kyathanpalli would be held on April 4.



**Matoor Gram Sabha draws crowd under 99-Day Action Plan**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Matoor village in Motakondur mandal of Telangana hosted a well-attended Gram Sabha on April 2, 2026, at the panchayat office premises as part of the state-wide 99-Day Action Plan. The meeting was presided over by Sarpanch Janne Siddulu, with Deputy Sarpanch Bairapaka Ramulu, ward members, and the panchayat secretary also present. Ahead of the event, village authorities ensured strong participation by announc-



ing the Gram Sabha through wall posters and traditional tom-tom (drum) publicity. As a result, youth, members of Mahila Samakhya groups, elders, and other residents gathered in large numbers. Addressing the meeting, the Sarpanch stated that

the initiative aligns with the schedule set by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy to spread awareness about government welfare programmes, including the newly introduced Six Guarantees. During the meeting, villagers sub-

mitted petitions seeking old-age pensions, Indiramma housing, and additional motors to improve drinking water supply. Seasonal concerns such as summer water shortages and the need for pipeline extensions were also discussed. Some participants raised concerns over local liquor sales and their social impact, prompting discussion among attendees. The meeting concluded with the Sarpanch thanking residents for their active participation and urging continued cooperation for the village's development.

**Indiramma House Gruha Pravesham Ceremony Held at R. Itikyal Village**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

As per the directions of Telangana State Minister for Medical & Health, Family Welfare, and Science & Technology, C. Damodar Rajanarasimha, a newly constructed house under the government's prestigious Indiramma Housing Scheme was formally inaugurated with a Griha Pravesham ceremony in R. Itikyal village of Regode Mandal. The house, allotted to beneficiary Golla Shivayya, was completed recently, bringing joy and relief to the family. The Griha Pravesham function was conducted in a traditional and



celebratory manner, with active participation from villagers and local leaders. Speaking on the occasion, village Sarpanch Vemula Aparna Santhosh Kumar con-

veyed her best wishes to the beneficiary and highlighted the importance of government welfare schemes in improving the living standards of economically weaker sections. She stated that such initiatives are playing a key role in providing dignified housing to the poor. Senior Congress leader Venkat Rao Patil, Congress Party President Eshwarappa, and other local leaders were also present during the event. They appreciated the government's commitment to rural development and welfare programs, emphasizing that more such initiatives will continue to benefit the people in the future.

## Military Group Lokesh' leading the youth towards the goal

Born in a poor family.. how he trained 175 people as government employees.

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Arige Lokesh's journey and dedication are truly inspiring. Coming from a humble background, he has become a pillar of support for thousands of rural youth through his "Sainika Group."

Based on the details you provided, here is a structured English version of his biography, which can be used for a profile, social media tribute, or an official commendation. A Beacon of Inspiration for Youth: Arige Lokesh, Born on November 19, 2002, in Gambheerpur village, Dubbak Mandal, Siddipet district, Arige Lokesh is the son of Arige Rajaiah and Arige Bala Lakshmi. Growing up in an underprivileged family and studying in a government school, his journey is a testament to the power of a single transformative idea.



### The Journey: From Struggles to Service

- **The Dream:** His dream of joining the Indian Army took root in the 9th grade. However, like many rural students, he lacked guidance and resources.
- **Overcoming Obstacles:** While studying at SR College, Dubbak, he applied for the Army. Despite being unable to afford professional coaching fees, he prepared at home and successfully cleared the Indian Army's medical and physical examinations.

- **The Turning Point:** When the Central Government replaced traditional recruitment with the Agniveer Scheme, Lokesh realized that many rural candidates were left confused and demotivated. Instead of giving up, he decided to guide others.
- **The Rise of "Sainika Group"**
  - **Inception:** He started a WhatsApp group called "Sainika Group" with 50 candidates from Siddipet, providing them with daily defense notification updates and essential PDF study

- materials.
- **Massive Impact:** By 2023, the group expanded across both Telugu states (Telangana and Andhra Pradesh), reaching over 9,000 members.
- **Results:** By 2025, his guidance helped 175 candidates secure jobs in various central defense forces.
- **Expanding the Mission**
  - To strengthen the movement, Lokesh appointed District In-charges and provided them with ID cards and appointment letters.

Under his leadership, the group now conducts:

- **Awareness Programs:** Seminars on Army recruitment and the dangers of drugs and betting.
- **Social Support:** Distribution of free study materials to those who cannot afford books and organizing free medical camps for Army aspirants.
- **Strategic Partnerships:** Recognizing his service, the Bhavishya Bharat Voluntary Organization from Sangareddy joined hands with him to provide 60 days of free training by ex-servicemen.
- **Global Recognition & Awards**

- His selfless contribution has earned him several prestigious honors:
  - Telangana Book of Records
  - World Record
  - Honorary International Doctorate

**Final Thought:** Born in a remote village, Arige Lokesh has proven that leadership isn't about a title; it's about the impact you make. By shaping the careers of 175 individuals and guiding 9,000 more, he has become a true architect of the nation's future. Heartfelt congratulations to Arige Lokesh and the entire Sainika Group!

## India's Defence Exports Surge 62%, Hit Record Rs 38,424 Cr

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

India's defence exports rose to a record Rs 38,424 crore in 2025-26, marking a 62.66 per cent increase over the previous year's Rs 23,622 crore, according to official data. The growth represents an increase of Rs 14,802 crore year-on-year and nearly a three-fold rise over the past five years, indicating expanding global demand for Indian defence products. Defence Public Sector Undertakings accounted for 54.84 per cent of exports, contributing Rs 21,071 crore, while the private sector contributed Rs 17,353 crore, or 45.16 per cent. DPSU exports grew by 151 per cent compared to the previous year, while private sector exports rose by 14 per

cent. India exported defence equipment and systems to more than 80 countries during the financial year, with the number of exporters increasing to 145 from 128. Defence minister Rajnath Singh said the performance reflects the sector's growing global competitiveness. "The government's continuous endeavours towards ease of doing business and facilitation of defence exporters have paved the way for a performance-oriented and globally competitive defence industry," the defence ministry said. He added that India is moving towards becoming a global manufacturing hub for defence equipment under the leadership of Narendra Modi.

## Women's Bill, LS Seat Hike in Offing

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Parliamentary affairs minister Kiren Rijiju on Thursday said that both Houses of Parliament would reconvene at the earliest, possibly on April 16 after a brief recess to pass Bills to increase the number of Lok Sabha seats from 543 to 816 so that the women's reservation law can be implemented. This is expected to be the latest flashpoint between the government and the Opposition amid



the poll season. Speaking in the Rajya Sabha after Question Hour on the final day of the Budget session, Rijiju said members would be called back shortly. "We have certain Bills and important issues, which have been shared with the Opposition. We are going to

have a very important Bill soon," he said. The remarks come amid reports of discussions between the government and Opposition on measures to operationalise women's reservation, including proposals to delink delimitation from the Census and increase Lok Sabha seats. Opposition members questioned the timing. Congress leader Jairam Ramesh said any all-party meeting should follow the conclusion of ongoing Assembly elections, alleging

the move was aimed at electoral gain. "The government has a single-minded objective of gaining electoral advantage," he said. Leader of Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge reiterated support for women's reservation but cautioned against haste. "We all support reservation for women, but such important legislation with long-term implications should not be rushed or used for political gain," he said, accusing the government of behaving like a "bully".

## Grand Hanuman Jayanti Celebrations Draw Devotees

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Marking the auspicious occasion of Hanuman Jayanti, a grand Abhishekam, special pujas, and Anna Prasad distribution were organized at Sri Sri Sri Ganga Parameshwari Panchamukha Hanuman Temple under the aegis of Ganganaganga Sangam, drawing large participation from devotees across surrounding localities. Devotees from Sabji Mandi, Ganganagar, New Ganganagar, Navodaya Nagar, Kargil Nagar, and Jiyaguda thronged the temple to seek blessings



and partake in the holy prasad. The temple premises were beautifully decorated with mango leaf arches and vibrant flowers, while Lord Anjaneya Swami was adorned magnificently. Special offerings, including saffron halwa, were presented

with devotion. The event witnessed the active presence of Ganganaganga Sangam President Dorthula Srinivas, Principal Secretary Anandeshi Venubabu, Vice-Presidents Gudamani Keshavulu and Gudabooin Haricharan, along with

Temple Committee President Gururam Sivashankar and Principal Secretary Pusa Srinivas. Committee members, sangha officers, and devotees participated in large numbers. In Sabji Mandi, a Hanuman Dhawarohana Puja was also conducted, with enthusiastic participation from local residents, traders, women, and youth. Organizers emphasized that spiritual devotion fosters peace, happiness, and personal growth, praying for strength, wisdom, and success for all on the path of dharma.

## Indian Student Enrolment in US Dips 6.9pc: Govt Informs Rajya Sabha

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

More than 3.5 lakh Indian students are pursuing various educational programmes ranging from primary schooling to university courses in the US as of February 2026, which is a decline of around 6.9 per cent from the corresponding figure the previous year, the Parliament was informed on Thursday. The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) was asked whether Indian student enrolments in the US have dropped, and to what extent "scarce visa slots" and "high percentage of rejections of visas" are contributing to it. In a written reply to the query, the Minister of State for External Affairs Kirti Vardhan Singh shared with the Rajya Sabha some data released by the Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) Mapping Tool of the US Department of Homeland Security. According to the data, the total number of Indian students pursuing various educational programmes (primary, secondary, other vocational, high school, language training, flight school, associate,



bachelor's, master's, doctorate, and others) in the United States of America stands at February, 2025: 378,787 students and February 2026: 352,644 students, he said. The figure indicates a decline of around 6.9 per cent in overall student enrolments in US academic institutions, he added. The MEA was also asked whether the "increase in visa scrutiny" is contributing to this decline. On June 18, 2025, the US Department of State issued a press release titled, 'Announcement of Expanded Screening and Vetting for Visa Applicants'. It mentioned that the US uses all available information in its visa screening and vetting process to identify visa applicants who are "inadmissible" to the US, including those who "pose a threat to US national security," the minister of state said. The current US Administration has also announced that "a US visa is a privilege, not a right".

Under the new guidance, the US would conduct a comprehensive vetting, including online presence of all student and exchange visitor applicants in the F, M, and J non-immigrant classifications. Singh said that to facilitate this vetting, the US has required all applicants to adjust the privacy settings on their social media profiles to 'public'. "The new US guidance mentions that every visa adjudication is a national security decision and calls on all applicants to credibly establish their eligibility for the visa sought, including that they intend to engage in activities consistent with the terms for their admission," he said. In June 2025, the US Embassy in New Delhi also informed that the grant of a student visa does not guarantee the continued stay of the student in the United States, he added. They confirmed that the visa monitoring continues post-approval, and rule-breaking can lead to the revocation of the visa and deportation. He added that such violations may include discontinuing academic programmes without notification;

## Iran Vows Crushing..

In a prime-time White House address, Trump said the US was "very close" to achieving its objectives but warned attacks would intensify if Iran did not reach a negotiated settlement. "Over the next two to three weeks, we are going to bring them back to the Stone Ages, where they belong," said Trump in a 19-minute speech delivered in front of American flags. Iran's response was immediate, with Israeli air defences pressed into action and police responding to "several" impact sites, as four people were reportedly lightly injured in the Tel Aviv area. "This is not my first choice," said a writer who gave his name as Jeffrey, at a meal organised in a bunker in Tel Aviv. "But at least in the shelter, we can sit here and just ride it out," he added. — AFP

## ATF Prices Rise.....;

According to police, Afroz sourced low-quality and decomposed meat from states including Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir and Maharashtra, transported it to the city, and ran an illegal supply chain catering to hotels, restaurants and function halls, posing a public health risk. Investigators said the accused used stagnant water to suppress foul smell and delay decomposition before selling the spoiled meat as fresh. Samples were collected and sent to FSI for forensic examination, with officials suspecting the use of harmful preservatives. In a public health alert, officials have asked people to be

cautious about purchasing meat products. "We are committed to taking stringent action against those who endanger public health for profit," officials stated. Though mutton paya, boti, and chops are irresistible for meat lovers, a GHMC official said they should find out the reality behind the aroma of such dishes served in some eateries in the city. DCP Srinivasa Rao said cases have been registered under Section 125,271,318(2),112 of BNS and handed over the accused to Mangalhat police station for further investigation.

## Trump Uses Iran.....

Trump in his Wednesday evening speech dialed back the bluster that's dominated his rhetoric in recent days as world markets convulse and a badly battered Iran is still landing some effective blows on Gulf neighbors' infrastructure and U.S. bases. But the Republican president's promise to "finish the job" hardly built confidence with a jittery market as oil prices surged and Asian stocks fell as he vowed that the U.S. will continue to hit Iran very hard. He offered no detail about the state of negotiations with Iran that could bring about a promised endgame that he insists could come in a matter of weeks. There was also no overt lashing out at NATO allies for failing to fall in line and help him reopen the critical Strait of Hormuz waterway — something White House officials had said would be a prominent part of his roughly 20-minute address. The U.S. will continue to hit Iran hard for the

## FROM FRONT PAGE

next two or three weeks, he said, without saying how much longer the war would last. But he offered a plea to Americans to show a little patience. "We are in this military operation, so powerful, so brilliant, against one of the most powerful countries for 32 days, and the country has been eviscerated and essentially is really no longer a threat," Trump said. "This is a true investment in your children and your grandchildren's future. The whole world is watching, and they can't believe the power, strength and brilliance."

But Trump finds himself not only negotiating with an enemy that refuses to throw in the towel but also dealing with an American tolerance for a conflict that's being stretched. Most Americans believe recent U.S. military action against Iran has gone too far, and many are worried about affording gasoline, according to an AP-NORC poll conducted in mid-March, a couple of weeks after the war started. While Trump is deploying more warships and troops to the Middle East, about 59% of Americans say U.S. military action in Iran has been excessive.

## SC Pulls Up Bengal..

The Chief Justice of India directed all senior officials to appear virtually before the court on April 6, when the bench will hear the pleas, including the one filed by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee. Addressing rallies in Murshidabad, the West Bengal Chief Minister said, "Law and order is under the Election Commission,

which functions on the instructions of Union home minister Amit Shah. The Commission has effectively imposed a "super President's Rule" with the support of Shah and the Governor. I am unaware of who was behind the Malda incident and was not informed. Neither the Chief Sec-

## Bill on Legal Status...

retary, home secretary nor the DGP has contacted or briefed me on the situation. The Chief Secretary has not even reached out once. I came to know about the gherao of judges only around midnight through a journalist," she said. In an apparent reference to Asaduddin Owaisi, she alleged external influence in the unrest. "Someone flew in from Hyderabad. BJP gave money to some traitors to provoke you. They made you block roads and gherao the judges. What was the result? Whatever the SC has said today is correct. Don't you know that CBI and NIA are used against protesters? This is the BJP's game plan. They don't want elections. They want President's Rule." Targeting former TMC leader Humayun Kabir, she alleged attempts to split votes with support from opposition groups. "The BJP has communal people. There are some of them here also. They have taken money from the BJP to split votes. I have promised that none of you will be driven out and will be sent to detention camps. But if you take the law into your own hands, then CBI and NIA will arrest you. There are traitors among you as well.

## CRIME

### HC Permits Indian Navy to Proceed With ELF Radar Project at Damagundam

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana High Court on Wednesday permitted the Indian Navy to proceed with its Extremely Low Frequency (ELF) radar project proposed at Damagundam in Vikarabad district, while deciding to keep a close watch on the implementation of environmental safeguards linked to the project. A division bench comprising Chief Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh and Justice G.M. Mohiuddin made it clear that there would be no restriction on the execution of the project. The court chose to keep the public interest litigation (PIL) pending for six months solely to monitor the progress of compensatory afforestation being undertaken by



the forest department. The matter has been posted to October 5 for a review. The PIL was filed in 2020 challenging the allotment of around 2,900 acres of reserve forest land for the defence project. During the course of hearings, the court had appointed an amicus curiae to inspect the afforestation efforts and submit an independent report. Based on field visits to plantation sites in Vikarabad and neighbouring Rangareddy

district, the amicus report indicated that the survival rate and growth of saplings were satisfactory. The court took note of these findings while assessing the compliance measures.

The forest department, in its affidavit, informed the court that nearly 90 per cent of the saplings planted over the past two years had survived. It also outlined plans to replace dead plants during the upcoming monsoon and ex-

pand plantation activity across additional areas in the next two planting seasons. Further, the department highlighted ongoing efforts such as assisted natural regeneration in degraded forest areas and large-scale plantation drives. The court recorded that significant progress had been made, though a portion of the afforestation target still remains to be completed in the coming years. Observing that afforestation over such a vast area is a continuing process, the bench acknowledged the timelines involved and emphasised the need for sustained monitoring. The case will now remain under the court's supervision to ensure that the environmental commitments tied to the project are fully met.

### Seven booked for grabbing govt land in Hyderabad by faking info

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Chandanagar Police arrested seven people who created fake documents to claim ownership of a government land belonging to the Social Welfare Department on Wednesday, April 1. The case is concerning a piece of land owned by the Social Welfare Department in survey numbers 373, 374 and 375 at Gangaram in Chandanagar village of Serilingampally mandal in Rangareddy district, which was designated as an open space meant for a community hall or park. Seven people, including master-

mind N Niranjan, allegedly created fake house numbers, property tax identification numbers (PTIN) and pictures of houses as if they were constructed, as an attempt to mislead the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) for claiming ownership of the land. According to Chandanagar Circle Inspector, based on a complaint lodged by the members of "Jai Bhim Association," the perpetrators were arrested and sent for judicial remand. The accused have reportedly been booked under various sections, including criminal.

### 10 Held For Kidnapping Ex-Sarpanch In Khammam

**NALGONDA**  
Wakeup telangana

Mudigonda police in Khammam district on Thursday arrested 10 persons for the alleged kidnapping of former sarpanch Pamu Silvaraju of Pandregupalli village. The arrested were identified as Mustafa, 40, Shaik Fakrudin, 67, Shaik Qasim Saheb, 41, Syed Mohammed, 44, Dangi Mayirban Singh, 28, Dangi Silikar Kuljeet Singh, 23, Silikar Azad Singh, 21, Syed Ismail, 37, Rokkam Komala, 38, and

Varikuppala Tarun, 26. Addressing a press conference, inspector of police Murali said Silvaraju was abducted in the early hours of March 25 while on a morning walk towards Khanapuram. Based on a complaint lodged by his wife, police registered a case and began investigation. She had expressed suspicion against Shaik Fakrudin and his sons, citing prior enmity over a land dispute. Police traced the suspects to Hyderabad and rescued Silvaraju. All the accused were subsequently arrested.

### Cops arrest fake dentist in Neredmet

A case was registered by Neredmet police against a fake doctor for running a dental clinic without valid licence. Acting on a tip-off, a team conducted a surprise inspection at Anjalika Dental Clinic located in Satya Aditya Towers near Three Temple Street. During the inspection, it was found that the clinic was being operated for more than 10-year without obtaining permissions from the department concerned. Police identified the accused as Gupta Ramesh Kumar, who was found practicing modern dentistry without BDS degree. Officials said the accused was misleading the public by falsely claiming that he was holding a BDS degree and thereby putting the lives of patients at risk.

### Plea against 2nd occupancy certificates

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Justice S. Nanda of the Telangana High Court stayed the ensuing elections to the Jubilee Hills Co-operative Housing Society. The judge passed the interim orders in batch of writ pleas filed by M.N. Shastry and others. The petitioners through senior counsel D.V. Sitaram Murthy and A. Venkatesh pointed to multiple irregularities in the voters list. They contended that a faulty voter list would affect the ultimate result and make a mockery of the democratic process. They voiced grievances of the members excluded from the voter list on grounds such as not

being traceable, not having participated in general body meetings, etc. It was also argued that the impugned removal was unilateral and thus in violation of principles of natural justice. Another tangential writ petition was filed assailing the inclusion of certain members as being contrary to the directions issued by the High Court in October 2024. The petitioners in the said writ petition claimed that members of Phase IV, Manchiruvula, were added to the voters list, contrary to the directions of the High Court. After hearing the parties, Justice Nanda interdicted the election process as an interim measure.

### Spurious pickle unit busted in Jiyaguda

In a joint operation, the Task Force Golconda team and Kulsumpura police raided manufacturing units in Venkatesh Nagar, Jiyaguda, on Tuesday and arrested one person for producing and supplying spurious pickles. Raw material and property worth ₹3 lakh were seized. Police said K. Ravinder, 62, was manufacturing pickles without a valid licence, using low-quality ingredients in unhygienic conditions. Additional DCP Task Force Anand Srinivas Rao stated that stale mangoes and lemons were being preserved with rock salt and supplied to kirana stores, restaurants, and hotels. Officials warned that consumption of such pickles could pose serious health risks.

### Court Allows Tech Colleges to Collect Fee from Students

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Justice J. Sreedevi of the Telangana High Court on Thursday permitted the management of various private engineering colleges to provisionally collect fees from candidates under the SC, ST, BC, EWS and MC categories. The judge is dealing with batch of 10 writ pleas filed by the Professional Accredited Engineering Colleges Association and others. The managements were up in arms against the state government for its failure to comply with

its commitment to pay crores of rupees towards arrears of tuition fees. The government required the institutions to admit students from the specified categories with an undertaking that they would pay their tuition fees. The government then modified the order to prohibit the colleges from collecting fees directly from the students, stating it would pay the institutions. In an earlier round of litigation, the matters went to the Supreme Court where the government agreed to pay the fees due for a then-due

period of three years and assured that it would thereafter pay fees regularly. Senior counsel Avinash Desai, appearing for the institutions, pointed out how non-payment of amounts almost sabotaged the managements from effectively exercising their right to manage education institutions. He contended that the managements must be given a free hand to collect the fees running into multiple crores. He pointed out that earlier orders from the court and contempt proceedings had been met with stoic indifference. Another senior

counsel appearing for Keshav Memorial Institute of Technology argued that even reputed institutions were being paralysed. He pointed out that over ₹50 crores was due to the institution. Tarun Reddy, appearing for multiple colleges, pointed out how compelled expenditures and statutory requirements were ruining the fiscal balance of the institutions. Having undertaken the responsibility and having forced the managements to admit the students, the government could not be permitted to fail in its liability, he said.

## EDITORIAL

# TELANGANA STATE BUDGET 2026-27 A VISION OF WELFARE AND INCLUSIVE PROGRESS

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana  
Aftab Ahmed

The Telangana State Government, under the leadership of A. Revanth Reddy, has once again demonstrated its unwavering commitment to the people through the presentation of a truly welfare-oriented budget for the financial year 2026-27. Presented by Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka in the State Assembly, this budget stands as a shining example of people-centric governance rooted in the philosophy of Praja Palana – governance for and by the people.

This budget reflects a mature and balanced approach that places the immediate needs of the common man at the forefront while laying a strong foundation for long-term development. It prioritizes the upliftment of farmers, women, youth, the elderly, and marginalized sections of society, ensuring that the fruits of progress reach every corner of the state. The government deserves high praise for continuing to fulfill its electoral promises with sincerity and for introducing thoughtful new initiatives that strengthen social security and human development. At the heart of this budget lies a deep focus on farmer welfare. The government has strengthened support mechanisms for agriculture, recognizing farmers as the backbone of Telangana's economy. Enhanced investment support and related measures aim to provide stability and dignity to those who toil in the fields, helping them overcome challenges and contribute more effectively to the state's growth. Women's empowerment receives special attention, with continued emphasis on schemes that promote

**Its holistic vision balances immediate welfare with long-term growth by investing in infrastructure, skills, and asset creation, ensuring both present support and future prosperity for Telangana.**

mobility, financial independence, and social dignity. One of the most commendable aspects is the strong push towards education and skill development. These measures reflect the government's belief that investing in the youth is the surest way to build a prosperous and knowledge-driven Telangana. Healthcare and social security have also been given due importance. The government has expanded access to quality medical services and introduced innovative insurance schemes to protect families from unforeseen hardships. The new Indiramma Family Life Insurance initiative, which aims to provide life cover to a vast number of families, is particularly noteworthy. It showcases a compassionate and universal approach to social protection that transcends economic divides. The budget also gives a significant boost to rural and urban development. By strengthening panchayat raj institutions and focusing on infrastructure that benefits both villages and cities, the government is creating an enabling environment for overall progress. Projects aimed at improving urban amenities, such as riverfront development in Hyderabad, add to the aesthetic and functional growth of the state capital while benefiting the wider region. What makes this budget especially

praiseworthy is its holistic vision. While addressing immediate needs through robust welfare measures, it also channels resources towards asset creation, skill enhancement, and infrastructure that will drive future economic growth. This balanced strategy positions Telangana as a state that cares for its present generation while securing the future for the next. The Congress government in Telangana has shown remarkable consistency in listening to the aspirations of the people and translating them into actionable policies. By avoiding unnecessary burdens on citizens and focusing resources on productive and protective measures, the administration has reinforced trust in democratic governance. The 2026-27 Telangana State Budget is more than a financial document – it is a roadmap for building an equitable, empowered, and vibrant state. It embodies the spirit of inclusive development where no section is left behind. The leadership of Revanth Reddy and the efficient stewardship of Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka deserve sincere appreciation for crafting a budget that truly serves the people. This welfare-oriented approach not only addresses today's challenges but also ignites hope for a brighter tomorrow. Telangana is steadily marching towards becoming a model state where welfare meets progress and where every citizen can aspire to a life of dignity and opportunity. The government's commitment to Praja Palana continues to inspire confidence and sets a positive example for responsive and responsible governance. (The Writer is a Political Analyst and Strategist)



# Royal Stag Launches 'Live It Large' Campaign with Star-Studded Line-Up

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Pernod Ricard India's Seagram's Royal Stag Packaged Drinking Water has unveiled its latest 'Live It Large' campaign, featuring prominent personalities including Rohit Sharma, Jasprit Bumrah, Badshah, Sidharth Malhotra, Naga Chaitanya, and Payal Dhare. The campaign marks a strategic shift aimed at celebrating ambition, individuality, and the evolving aspirations of "Generation Large."

The campaign film, set in a stylised 'Land of Large,' captures India's diverse cultural landscape, showcasing how different regions interpret success and self-expression. From North India's bold "tashan" to the South's fu-



sion of technology and tradition, alongside the musical richness of the East and the rustic vibrancy of the West, the film presents a unified narrative—where living large is a mindset rather than a destination.

Designed as a 360-degree outreach initiative, the campaign will be promoted across television, digital platforms, print,

and outdoor media, targeting a wide and youthful audience base. The brand positions itself as more than a product, evolving into a cultural symbol that resonates with modern India's dynamic ambitions.

Debasree Dasgupta, Chief Marketing Officer at Pernod Ricard India, said the campaign builds on Royal Stag's long-

standing philosophy of inspiring consumers to dream big. She noted that bringing together icons from varied fields reinforces the idea that success has no single definition and is deeply personal.

The ambassadors echoed similar sentiments. Rohit Sharma described "Live It Large" as a philosophy rooted in self-belief and

resilience, while Jasprit Bumrah emphasised discipline and consistency in achieving success. Actor Sidharth Malhotra highlighted the importance of courage and pushing boundaries, while rapper Badshah stressed authenticity and confidence. Naga Chaitanya connected the campaign to cultural relevance and youth aspirations, and gamer Payal Dhare spoke about breaking stereotypes and redefining success on individual terms. With its core message—"yahan, bas large chalta hai!"—the campaign aims to inspire millions to embrace their identity, pursue their ambitions, and celebrate every milestone, positioning Royal Stag as a catalyst for India's new generation of dreamers.

## Rupee posts biggest one-day gain in 13 years amid RBI curbs

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

The Indian Rupee saw its biggest single-day gain in nearly 13 years on Thursday, closing at 93.10 against the US dollar, as authorities stepped up efforts to curb currency speculation.

The sharp rally came after the Reserve Bank of India tightened rules in both domestic and offshore markets.

"The move was largely driven by improved risk sentiment following US President Donald Trump's speech, which hinted at negotiations rather than escalation, triggering a relief rally. However, uncertainty remains elevated, keeping volatility high in currency markets," an analyst explained.

The rupee surged as much as 1.7 per cent to 93.25 during the day,

marking its strongest rise since September 2013, as trading resumed after a three-day holiday break.

The central bank recently barred banks from offering rupee non-deliverable forwards to both resident and non-resident clients, and also restricted companies from rebooking cancelled forward contracts.

Earlier measures included capping banks' net open rupee positions at \$100 million and prohibiting foreign exchange derivative deals with related parties.

These steps are aimed at reducing speculative activity in the currency market and stabilising the rupee.

Analysts noted that India's strong foreign exchange reserves, which stand at over \$700 billion, also provide a cushion against volatility and give the central bank room to

intervene if needed.

The rupee's surge came even as global cues remained weak. Asian markets traded lower, with key indices such as Japan's Nikkei, Hong Kong's Hang Seng, and South Korea's KOSPI falling up to 3 per cent amid rising geopolitical tensions after US President Donald Trump signalled a possible escalation in West Asia.

Meanwhile, crude oil prices jumped sharply, adding to global uncertainty. Brent crude futures rose 5.24 per cent to \$106.47 per barrel, while US WTI futures gained 4.5 per cent to \$104.64.

Currency markets had remained shut earlier this week due to holidays including Mahavir Jayanti and the start of the new financial year, and will remain closed again on Friday for Good Friday.

## A Year Of Liberation Day Tariffs Kept Global Trade in Tenterhooks

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

A year after Donald Trump announced the sweeping "Liberation Day" tariffs, the global trade landscape remains unsettled, with India-US trade negotiations still unresolved despite multiple rounds of talks and policy shifts.

The uncertainty began on April 2, 2025, when Trump imposed a baseline 10 per cent tariff on all trading partners,

alongside higher "reciprocal" duties targeting specific countries. India faced a steep 26 per cent tariff over existing most-favoured nation duties, triggering immediate concerns across sectors. Within a week, on April 9, the US temporarily suspended the additional tariffs for 90 days, reducing India's effective burden to 10 per cent, in a move aimed at pushing countries toward bilateral trade agreements. Negotiations between

India and the US, which had already been underway, gained momentum during this pause, especially following the visit of Vice President JD Vance to India. However, key disagreements over dairy access, agricultural trade, intellectual property rights, and government procurement prevented a breakthrough.

By late July, tensions escalated again as the US reimposed tariffs, including a 25 per cent



duty on Indian goods effective August 7. This was followed by an ad-

ditional 25 per cent punitive tariff targeting India's continued pur-

chase of Russian oil. These measures remained in force until February 2, 2026, when Trump announced an interim trade deal framework. The US agreed to reduce tariffs on Indian goods to 18 per cent and withdraw punitive duties, while India committed to lowering tariffs on American products and significantly increasing imports of US energy, technology, and commodities.

However, the situation

took another turn when the United States Supreme Court struck down both the reciprocal and punitive tariffs, citing violations of global trade norms. Despite this, the US retained baseline duties of 10 to 15 per cent on most imports. While several economies—including the European Union, Japan, South Korea, Bangladesh, and Malaysia—finalised trade deals with the US during this period, India's

agreement remains in limbo. Analysts, including GTRI, argue that the episode exposed the weakening effectiveness of global trade rules under the World Trade Organization framework.

With Malaysia already stepping away from negotiations, experts suggest India may need to reassess its strategy amid continuing uncertainty in global trade dynamics.

## Sundaram Clayton Reinstates Dev Kishan, Reverses Board Decision

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Sundaram Clayton has withdrawn its earlier decision to relieve P D Dev Kishan as Company Secretary and Compliance Officer, reinstating him in the role without any break in service after a fresh board review held on March 30, 2026. In a regulatory filing to the BSE, the company stated that its Board of Directors reconsidered the matter after Dev Kishan withdrew his resignation.

Following detailed deliberations, the board decided to rescind both his proposed exit and the appointment of M Muthulakshmi, which had earlier been scheduled to take effect from April 6, 2026.

The company clarified that Dev Kishan will now continue in his position beyond April 5, 2026, maintaining his status as a Key Managerial Personnel. This marks a reversal of the company's March 27 announcement, when it had approved his



relieving and the appointment of Muthulakshmi based on the recommendations of the Nomination and Remuneration Committee.

The sudden reversal has drawn attention as it comes amid reports of internal differences within the company's leadership. According to media

reports, tensions between Venu Srinivasan and his daughter Lakshmi Venu have surfaced following a series of rapid developments in the boardroom. In a parallel leadership change, R Gopalan stepped down from his position as Chairman with immediate effect. However, he will continue to serve on the board as a Non-Executive Independent Director, ensuring continuity in governance. Following Gopalan's resignation as Chairman, Venu Sriniva-

san, who was serving as Chairman Emeritus and Managing Director, has been redesignated as Chairman and Managing Director of the company with immediate effect.

The developments point to a significant reshuffle at the top level, as the company moves to stabilise its leadership structure, ensure continuity in key managerial roles, and maintain strong governance standards amid evolving internal dynamics and strategic realignments.

## Oil rises 6%, Asian stocks fall after Trump says US will hit Iran hard, 'finish the job'

**HONG KONG**  
Wakeup telangana

Oil rose more than 6% and Asian stocks fell after US President Donald Trump said in his first national address since the Iran war began that the US will continue to hit Iran very hard.

Trump also said in his Wednesday night speech that the United States will "finish the job" in Iran soon as "core strategic objectives are nearing completion" and military operations could wrap up soon.

"We are going to hit them extremely hard over the next two to three weeks. We're going to bring them back to the Stone Ages, where they belong," Trump said in his address.

Trump did not mention a looming deadline he set for Iran to open the Strait of Hormuz, the critical waterway for global oil and gas transport, after he threatened Iran earlier with US attacks on its energy infrastructure if the strait was not reopened. He did not offer a clear path to end the supply disruptions that have sent energy prices soaring. Tokyo's Nikkei



225 was down 2.4% to 52,463.27 on Thursday. South Korea's Kospi lost 4.5% to 5,234.05, also after government data showed consumer prices in March rose 2.2% from a year earlier on soaring fuel costs.

Hong Kong's Hang Seng fell 1.3% to 24,965.07, the Shanghai Composite index was down 0.9% to 3,913.88.

Australia's S&P/ASX 200 dropped 1.1% to 8,579.50. Taiwan's Taiex was trading 1.8% lower, while India's Sensex lost 1.9%. US futures were down more than 1.2%.

Oil prices were sharply higher following Trump's remarks. Brent crude, the international standard, jumped 6.9% to \$108.15 per barrel. Benchmark US crude rose 6.4% to \$106.55 a barrel.

"The market has shown disappointment because the speech President

Trump made was far less than what the market expected," said Takashi Hiroki, chief strategist at Monex in Tokyo. "There were no concrete details about the end of the hostilities with Iran." "What the market wants is a clear outline for the ceasefire," he said.

Gold and silver prices fell. Gold's price was down 4% to \$4,621.30 per ounce, falling below the \$4,700 mark. Silver lost 7.3% to \$70.53 an ounce.

Renewed optimism on Wednesday for a possible end to the Iran war pushed world stocks higher, after Trump said late Tuesday the US military could end its offensive in two to three weeks.

On Wednesday, the S&P 500 added 0.7% to 6,575.32. The Dow Jones Industrial Average rose 0.5% to 46,565.74, and the Nasdaq composite climbed 1.2% to 21,840.95.

Shares of Eli Lilly jumped 3.8% after the US Food and Drug Administration approved its GLP-1 pill for weight loss. Nike plunged 15.5% despite better-than-estimated quarterly profit on expectations of weaker sales.

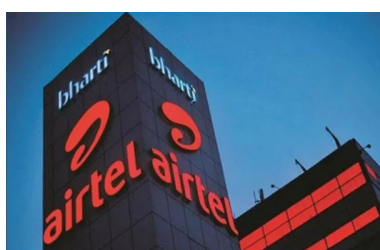
## Bharti Airtel hits 650 million subscribers milestone

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Bharti Airtel on Thursday announced that it has reached a major milestone of 650 million customers globally, making it the second-largest telecom operator in the world by subscriber base.

The telecom company, led by Sunil Bharti Mittal, has built a strong presence across India and Africa. In India alone, Airtel has over 368 million mobile users, according to data from GSMA Intelligence.

This includes 13 million homes connected through fixed broadband and 15 million customers using its Digital TV services. In



Africa, its subsidiary Airtel Africa serves 179 million customers across 14 countries. The company offers high-speed data, voice services, and mobile money solutions in the region, with over 52 million users relying on its financial services platform.

Despite this global achievement, Airtel continues to be the second-largest telecom operator in India, behind Reliance Jio, which

crossed 500 million subscribers last year but operates only within the country.

Reacting to the milestone, Gopal Vittal, Executive Vice Chairman of Airtel, said reaching 650 million customers is a big responsibility and the company will continue to focus on improving customer experience through innovation and reliable services. He added that Airtel aims to set higher standards in the telecom industry.

The company has also been at the forefront of technological advancements, becoming one of the first to roll out 5G services in India.

According to a report by Kotak

Equities, Airtel's subscriber base has been growing at a steady pace, with a compounded annual growth rate of 2.9 per cent between FY21 and FY26. More importantly, its data subscriber base has grown faster at 9.7 per cent, indicating a rise in higher-value customers.

The report also highlighted that there is still significant room for growth, especially in rural areas and mobile broadband. It noted that nearly 20 per cent of Airtel's users are still on 2G and 3G networks, which presents an opportunity for the company to upgrade customers to faster and more premium services.

## Bhooth Bangla release postponed to April 16 amid Dhurandhar success

The makers of the upcoming horror-comedy film 'Bhooth Bangla' starring Akshay Kumar, have decided to move its release date.

On Thursday, co-producer Ektaa Kapoor took to her Instagram, and shared a creative notifying her followers of the change in the release date of the film. The makers decided to push the release of the film owing to the exceptional performance of the Ranveer Singh-starrer 'Dhurandhar: The Revenge'. Ektaa Kapoor shared, "After a collective call with our distributors and the exhibitors, we have decided on a new release date for 'Bhooth Bangla', 16 April, with the first show starting at 9 pm. 'Dhurandhar: The Revenge' performing exceptionally well is heartening news for our film industry and the exhibitors feel that this shift will allow both films the space, focus and atten-



tion they deserve. The 'Bhooth Bangla' team looks forward to welcoming you in cinemas on April 16, 9 pm onwards".

The film, which was earlier set to debut in theatres on April 10, will now bow in cinemas on April 16, 2026.

The film also stars Wamiqa Gabbi, Paresh Rawal, Tabu, Rajpal Yadav, Jisshu Sengupta, and Mithila Palkar. 'Bhooth Bangla' marks the much-awaited reunion of Akshay Kumar and Priyadarshan. The duo has previously delivered several

iconic comedy hits that remain fan favorites, making this collaboration particularly exciting for audiences. Known for their impeccable comic timing and chaotic storytelling, their coming together again has raised expectations for another memorable entertainer. The film is presented by Balaji Motion Pictures, a division of Balaji Telefilms Ltd, in association with Cape of Good Films.

Produced by Akshay Kumar, Shobha Kapoor, and Ektaa R Kapoor, and directed by Priyadarshan, the film is set to debut in cinemas on April 16, 2026. With the film moving its release date, 'Dacoit' starring Adivi Sesh, Anurag Kashyap, and Mrunal Thakur, is set to have a solo release on April 10, 2026. The film is produced by Supriya Yarla-gadda.

## Priyanka Chopra praises her 'dost' Ranveer Singh for 'Dhurandhar'

**MUMBAI**  
Wakeup telangana

Global star Priyanka Chopra Jonas has showered praise on her "dost" Ranveer Singh, with whom she has worked in movies such as "Gunday" and "Dil Dhadkne Do", for the blockbuster 'Dhurandhar', while also lauding filmmaker Aditya Dhar for his vision and artistry. Priyanka took to her Instagram stories section to extend her heartfelt congratulations to the entire team of the film.

Calling Ranveer her "dost," she expressed admiration for his work. She wrote: "Congratulations mere dost Granveersingh, @rampal72, @actor-maddy, #AkshayeKhanna, @dutsanjay, @saraarjunn, @therakeshbedi, @adityadhar-



films." Praising filmmaker Aditya Dhar, Priyanka wrote that he is "a man with a mission," adding that 'Dhurandhar' is "a revelation in every way." She wrote: "Aditya, you're a man with a mission. Dhurandhar in every way is a revelation. Thank you all for your artistry." Priyanka was recently seen in the movie The Bluff, where she played a 19th-century Caribbean pirate in the swashbuckler action drama. She will

next be seen in Judgment Day, directed by Nicholas Stoller and starring Will Ferrell, Zac Efron, Regina Hall, Priyanka Chopra Jonas, Michael Peña, Billy Eichner, Jimmy Tatro, Bobby Cannavale, Fortune Feimster, and Bill Camp.

Regarding Dhurandhar: The Revenge, the film has raked in a staggering Rs. 1,365 crore worldwide since its release on March 19. A tweet from the film's banner Jio Studios on X shared a day-wise break-up that the Ranveer Singh-starrer collected Rs 867 crore in India NBCC, with a strong hold beyond its opening week, adding Rs. 53 crore on Day 8, Rs. 42 crore on Day 9, Rs. 64 crore on Day 10, and Rs. 71 crore on Day 11.

## Delhi HC orders removal of Honey Singh, Badshah's song 'Volume 1'



**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Delhi High Court has ordered the removal of rappers Yo Yo Honey Singh and Badshah's controversial song 'Volume 1' from all social media and music streaming platforms.

Justice Kaurav hearing the case personally listened to the song in his chambers before passing the order, and he was taken aback by

the "vulgarity, obscenity and derogatory" views present in the song. Advocate Rupali Panwar told the media, "This song has been sung by Honey Singh and Badshah, though they have been claiming that they have not sung the song, in a very recent concert that was held last year, Honey Singh sung two lines of that alleged song against which we are here. So that is why Honorable High

Court has issued notice to Respondent No. 5 and 6, Honey Singh and Badshah, rather the Honorable High Court is dealing with iron-fist against this song and we have very clearly said that wherever this song is being published in any manner whatsoever, it has to be taken down. And the guideline, the order that he has given is quite strict in nature and he is working on getting the song down

for once and for all". Talking about the reaction of the judge, she said, "See, what he exactly said was that today itself he heard the song in his chamber and he was very taken aback by the lyrics that it has and the content that it has and it's still being circulated. The song was released when both of the singers were not very famous. In the very initial years of their career, they

sang that song. But now that they have become celebrities, they should at least agree that they have done this and they should rather apologize because they have quite a lot of fan following and it's not right". "They are not setting the right example. As celebrities, they are only enjoying the benefit, the fame, but they are not accepting their moral responsibility", she added.

## CSK look to bounce back in first home game against Punjab

**CHENNAI**  
Wakeup telangana

Chennai Super Kings will need to improve in all departments of the game to trouble a strong Punjab Kings in their first home game of the Indian Premier League here on Friday.

It was an uninspiring start for CSK in their opener against Rajasthan Royals.

CSK, now a team full of youngsters, did not get anything right in Guwahati and would simply like to leave that defeat behind in a long tournament such as the IPL. Considering how the Chennai surface played in the recent T20 World Cup, it should be a good batting wicket for the game on Friday.

While the injured MS Dhoni did not travel to Guwahati, he could be back in the dugout as a sounding board to captain Rituraj Gaikwad while he nurses a calf strain. Sanju Samson, their biggest signing for the season, did not last long on his CSK debut and would be looking to make a big impact in front of home fans. CSK did not have the



services of their key batter Dewald Brevis against the Royals and there is still no clarity over his recovery from a side strain. Sarfaraz Khan was brought in as an impact player following the batting collapse. He did not last long but looked comfortable in the middle in his first IPL game since the 2023 season.

More will be expected from youngsters like Kartik Sharma as the tournament progresses.

On the bowling front, the likes of Matt Henry and Noor Ahmad were made to look ordinary by the sheer hitting of Vaibhav Sooryavanshi. They would be eager to bounce back from that pasting. CSK take on last year's finalists Punjab Kings, who have become a formidable unit in the Shreyas Iyer-Ricky Ponting era.

As they aim to go all the way this season, they have found an able number three in Cooper Connolly, who anchored a tense chase against Gujarat Titans on Tuesday night.

The middle-order wobbled in what should have been a simple chase and that will push the team to produce a more convincing performance with the bat.

Yuzvendra Chahal, who returns to another IPL as a fitter cricketer, impressed with his variations of line and pace against the Titans, choking the flow of runs in the middle overs while dismissing two key batters. Another consistent performer, Harpreet Brar, was not part of the playing 12. Punjab Kings would need to find a way to play him in the eleven or as an impact player. Vijaykumar Vyshak carried on from where he left

off last season, doing the job for Punjab Kings in all phases of the innings.

Squads: Punjab Kings: Shreyas Iyer (c), Priyansh Arya, Harnoor Singh, Mitchell Owen, Vishnu Vinod, Nehal Wadhwa, Azmatullah Omarzai, Marco Jansen, Marcus Stoinis, Arshdeep Singh, Xavier Bartlett, Yuzvendra Chahal, Lockie Ferguson, Harpreet Brar, Vijaykumar Vyshak, Yash Thakur, Cooper Connolly, Ben Dwarshuis, Musheer Khan, Praveen Dubey, Vishal Nishad, Suryansh Shedge, Prabhsimran Singh, Pyala Avinash, Shashank Singh. Chennai Super Kings: Rituraj Gaikwad (c), Dewald Brevis, MS Dhoni, Urvil Patel, Sanju Samson, Shivam Dube, Ramakrishna Ghosh, Shreyas Gopal, Jamie Overton, Khaleel Ahmed, Anshul Kamboj, Gurjapneet Singh, Mukesh Choudhary, Noor Ahmad, Akeal Hosein, Prashant Veer, Matthew Short, Aman Khan, Matt Henry, Rahul Chahar, Zakary Foulkes, Spencer Johnson, Kartik Sharma, Sarfaraz Khan.

## Sunrisers Hyderabad crush Kolkata Knight Riders by 65 runs as Klaassen shines

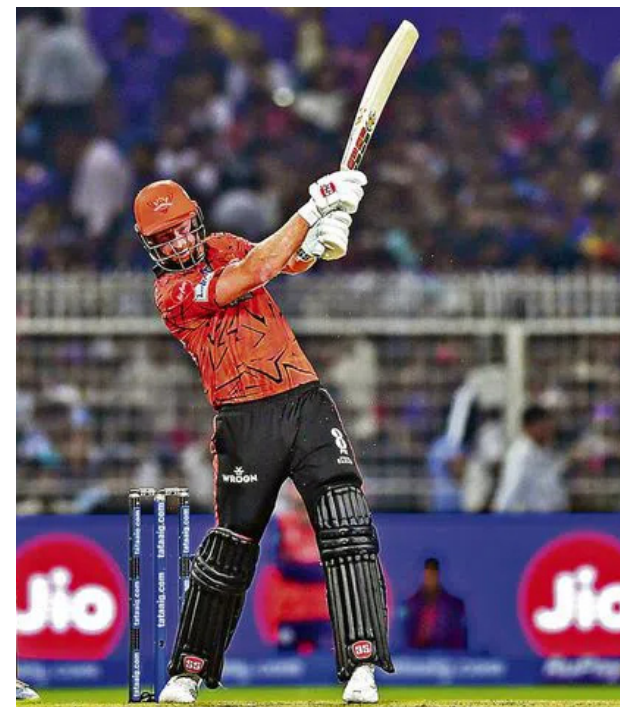
**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Heinrich Klaassen's experience-driven half-century guided Sunrisers Hyderabad back to winning ways as they thrashed Kolkata Knight Riders by 65 runs in their IPL clash here on Thursday.

Blessing Muzarabani grabbed 4/41, but it was Klaassen's composed 52 off 35 balls that held Sunrisers Hyderabad's innings together as they posted a competitive 226/8 after KKR opted to bowl.

Chasing the daunting target, KKR never found momentum as they were bundled out for 161 and slumped to their second successive defeat, having lost their opening match to Mumbai Indians at the Wankhede.

Boasting a batting-heavy line-up in Finn Allen, IPL's costliest overseas buy Cameron Green (Rs 25.20 crore), Rinku



Singh and Sunil Narine, the target at the free-flowing Eden looked par. It needed a partnership in the middle, but there were clear signs of a lack of chemistry in the KKR line-up as they lasted just 16 overs.

That their mystery spinner Varun Chakravarthy leaked 25 runs in one over and returned

with 0/31 from two overs also hurt them. Narine (0/39) also returned wicketless from his four overs.

For SRH, left-arm pacer Jaydev Unadkat took 3/21 from three overs, including the wicket of Rahane, while Ehsan Malinga (2/14 in two overs) and Nitish Kumar Reddy (2/17 in two

overs) were also effective.

KKR's veteran skipper Ajinkya Rahane's painful eight off 10 balls once again raised questions over the team's bold leadership call, while partnerships failed to materialise.

Youngster Angkrish Raghuvanshi showed promise with a breezy 52 (29 balls; 6x4, 2x6), but there was no support from the other end.

Fresh from his 100 not out in the T20 World Cup semifinal against South Africa a month ago on the same wicket, Kiwi opener Finn Allen showed early sparks in a seven-ball 28 (4x4, 2x6).

But once he fell to Harsh Dubey, giving a return catch, the innings unravelled quickly.

KKR's star recruit Green endured another failure, run out for two, following a chaotic mix-up with Raghuvanshi, who played the shot.

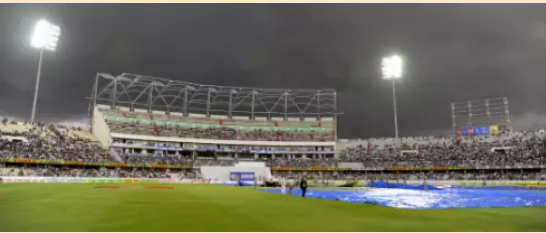
## Congress Govt. Works Tirelessly For People's Welfare, Says Revanth

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Thursday said that the government had launched the 99-day action plan 'Praja Palana — Pragati Pranalika' to bring visible and tangible changes in people's lives, and said that welfare schemes must go beyond paperwork and reach every eligible beneficiary. As part of the programme, gram sabhas were held across Telangana on Thursday, where officials read out the Chief Minister's message and explained details of various welfare initiatives.

During the gram sabhas, officials announced the list of beneficiaries under Rythu Bharosa, details of 200 units of free electricity, and the beneficiaries of the Indiramma housing scheme. Information was also shared on schemes already in implementation and the proposed universal life insurance scheme scheduled to be launched on June 2. Officials briefed villagers about new initiatives, including the morning breakfast programme in government schools — featuring milk distribution for three days and ragi porridge for three days each week — and the extension of the mid-day meal scheme to Intermediate college students from the 2026-27 academic year beginning in June. Details of funds released to Gram Panchayats and allocations for each village were also disclosed during the Gram Sabhas.

In his message, the Chief Minister said it has been two years and three months since the "people's government" assumed office, and despite financial challenges, it has been working tirelessly to ensure development and welfare for all sections by rectifying the shortcomings of the previous regime. Stressing a governance philosophy rooted in service, he said the government's decisions are guided by the welfare of people, social responsibility, and the future of the state.

## Cops Tighten Vigil Ahead of IPL Matches



In a major surveillance boost ahead of IPL 2026 matches to be hosted here, police have installed an additional 100 CCTV cameras at the Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium, taking the total to 430. Matches will be held on April 5 and May 22 at the stadium, which has a seating capacity of around 39,000. According to Uppal DCP K. Suresh Kumar, nearly 2,000 police personnel will be deployed as well as four fire tenders.

The officer also added that a joint command and control room has been established to monitor CCTV footage in real time for immediate response. Anti-sabotage checks will be conducted round-the-clock, supported by sniffer dogs and bomb disposal squads. Scanners installed at entry points will help detect explosives and prohibited items. Gate No. 1 at the stadium has been reserved for players, while spectators will be allowed entry through designated gates as per their tickets. An evacuation plan has also been put in place. Communication has been strengthened with VHF sets issued to officers for quick coordination.

Suresh Kumar said special SHE Teams and anti-woman harassment squads will be deployed, while vendor monitoring teams will regulate prices and prevent illegal activities. Background verification of all vendor and sponsor staff has been completed, and photo passes have been issued. Mobile technician teams will be stationed at each gate to check mobile phones, and special teams will monitor anti-social elements and black ticketing. Public safety measures include increasing ambulances from three to five and the deployment of four fire engines. Signage boards have been installed across major routes, including Habsiguda, LB Nagar, Medipally and Ramanthapur to guide spectators. Gates will open three hours prior to match time, and no cloakroom facility will be available.

## Harish Rao hits out at Kishan Reddy over Kaleshwaram row

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

BRS deputy leader T Harish Rao criticised the Union Minister G Kishan Reddy for betraying Telangana and distorting facts in Parliament over the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme.

He said the Union Minister, who ran away from resigning to his MLA post during Telangana statehood movement, had once again betrayed the State and its people rather than speaking to protect its interests.

Reacting to Kishan Reddy's remarks in the Rajya Sabha on Thursday, Harish Rao said Kishan Reddy insulted Telangana's self-respect and inderests by parroting the false propaganda of the ruling Congress against the project.

Hinting at a tacit understanding between the Congress and the BJP, he



recalled that the Central government including Union Ministers and Central Water Commission authorities, praised the Kaleshwaram project earlier.

"Then why this sudden reversal for political gain?" he asked.

The former Irrigation Minister stated that Kaleshwaram was the world's largest multi-stage lift irrigation scheme, which continues to serve its purpose despite the Congress government's neglect. He asserted that water was still being supplied to farmlands despite peak summer conditions

and challenged the Union Minister to visit the project sites.

Citing the Union government's own Economic Survey, he pointed to the sharp increase in Telangana's cultivable land from 1.31 crore acres in 2014 to 2.2 crore acres in 2023, which was attributed to initiatives like Kaleshwaram and Mission Kakatiya under the leadership of K Chandrashekar Rao.

Harish Rao took exception to Kishan Reddy's criticism of public spending on the project, arguing that infrastructure development is routinely

funded through public resources.

"Does the BJP build national highways with its funds or spends from the government treasury?" he asked, calling the remarks illogical.

The BRS leader accused the BJP of betraying Telangana by transferring seven mandals to Andhra Pradesh through an ordinance at first and an amendment by the BJP government later. He asserted that the merger of mandals was not part of the original Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014.

"Kishan Reddy's claim is not just inaccurate, but is a betrayal. The BJP amended the Act and handed over the mandals to AP. Today, he is trying to spread false propaganda in the Parliament," Harish Rao said, recalling that protests were held in Telangana at the time to oppose the move.

## KTR slams Congress govt for cancelling TSCO school uniform orders

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Thursday accused the Congress government of neglecting State-run institutions like the Telangana State Handloom Weavers Cooperative Society (TSCO) by cancelling orders and favouring private players. He said the countdown has begun for the downfall of the anti-people government.

The Education Department reportedly cancelled a Rs 105 crore order given to TSCO for supplying uniforms to government school students. TSCO had been executing such works since the BRS regime, supporting handloom weavers.

Reacting to media re-



ports in this regard, Rama Rao warned that diverting orders to private firms would hurt weavers' livelihoods. He also questioned the delay in placing orders worth Rs 200 crore for clothing and blankets from the Welfare Department.

Questioning the Congress government's intent, he asked whether it was running a people's government or a private limited company, and warned of serious consequences if State-run sectors continue to be sidelined.

## New Bhu Bharati Will Be Expanded: Ponguleti

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

Revenue minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy on Thursday announced that the new Integrated Bhu Bharati portal will be expanded to one mandal in each district after a 45-day pilot phase in five mandals with necessary modifications. Launching the portal on a pilot basis at a gram sabha in Vithaipalle in Amangal mandal in Rangareddy district, Srinivasa Reddy said the pilot



project was being implemented in five select mandals, including Kusumanchi in Khammam, Aswaraopet in Bhadradi Kothagudem, Vatpally in Sangareddy, and Kosgi in Narayanpet districts.

The minister said the portal would eliminate the need for citizens, especially farmers and the

poor, to visit multiple government offices, as all land-related services would be accessible through smartphones. He added that as part of the second phase, a comprehensive survey will be conducted in 70 villages in each district, and a unique "Bhoodhar" number, similar to Aadhaar, will be assigned to every survey number.

Taking a swipe at the previous BRS government, Srinivasa Reddy said the Dharani portal had left around 9.52 lakh applica-

tions related to "Sada Bainama" unresolved. He said the present Congress government has taken steps to address these long-pending issues by issuing a government order to regularise such cases, ensuring that ownership rights are granted to those cultivating and possessing the land after obtaining their consent. He further stated that these provisions would also be extended to areas that have transitioned from gram panchayats to municipalities.

## Fervour cultural spectacle mark hanuman jayanti

Massive Hanuman Yatra Draws Thousands, Festivities Remain Peaceful



HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

Thousands of devotees participated in grand Hanuman Jayanti processions across Hyderabad on Thursday, as the city witnessed vibrant celebrations blending religious devotion with cultural spectacle. Authorities confirmed that the large-scale event concluded peace-

fully despite its massive turnout.

The main 'Veera Hanuman Vijaya Yatra,' organized under the banner of Bajrang Dal, began at Gowliguda Ram Mandir and covered nearly 12 km before culminating at Tadbund Hanuman Temple. The procession passed through key areas including Koti, Narayanguda, RTC Cross Roads, Ashok

Nagar, and Paradise junction.

City Police Commissioner VC Sajjanar flagged off the yatra after participating in a Hanuman Yagna. Around 3,000 police personnel were deployed across the city to manage nearly 168 rallies and ensure law and order. Coordination between Hyderabad and Malkajgiri police commissionerates helped maintain smooth conduct throughout. Streets echoed with chants and devotional music, while colorful tableaux and children dressed as Lord Hanuman added vibrancy to the celebrations. Local residents set



up stalls distributing buttermilk, water, and food to devotees along the route, reflecting community spirit.

A large bike rally and a public meeting at Koti marked key highlights, where religious leaders emphasized youth participation, unity, and cultural values. Concerns over social issues like drug abuse were also raised. Despite traffic disruptions in several areas due to diversions, officials reported no major incidents, and festivities concluded with special prayers, marking a peaceful and successful celebration.

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