

Harish Rao moves High Court over loan waiver denial in Siddipet: P2



Head, Klaasen power-hitting propels SRH to 6-wicket win against MI: P7

KTR slams Revanth over "sadistic pleasure" remark: P3



Exit Polls Split Over Bengal; See Return Of UDF In Kerala

NDA to sweep Assam; most back DMK in TN; one sees TVK win

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Will the BJP finally breach the heavily fortified bastion of Trinamul Congress in West Bengal? The verdict is split on this. While some pollsters claimed that the BJP has an edge in Bengal and the state may finally slip out of Mamata Banerjee's grasp after the tightly contested election, there are a few who felt that the TMC will be back in the saddle, even with numbers reduced in the Assembly. In Kerala the pollsters have indicated a clear change of government with Congress-led UDF snatching the state back from the LDF. However, status quo is predicted in Assam, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. Himanta Biswa Sarma of the BJP is expected to lead the NDA for a hat-trick in Assam, and DMK's M.K. Stalin will see through his party for a second term. NDA is also expected to be back again in Puducherry. However, Exit Polls often tend to go wrong. The Poll of Exit



gave zero to both the Left and the Congress in the state. Matrizo too predicted a BJP edge in the state, with 146-161 seats and the TMC getting 125-140. Axis My India decided to hold its predictions for West Bengal for the time being. For pollsters, getting voters to speak on their choice of candidates or who would form government in West Bengal has been never so difficult as this time. Ahead of Exit Polls, Pradeep Gupta of Axis My India claimed that in West Bengal his team noticed a massive "fear factor" amplified by SIR concerns and political polarisation due to which voters were reluctant to speak.

Modi: Bengal Voted Without Fear for First Time

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday asserted that the Assembly poll results on May 4 will strengthen the resolve of a developed India. Speaking after inaugurating the 594 km long access-controlled greenfield Ganga Expressway in Uttar Pradesh's Haridwar, Modi hailed the "fearless atmosphere" during the West Bengal elections and launched a sharp attack on the SP, accusing it of having an anti-women mindset and aligning with parties like the DMK that "abuse" the people of Uttar Pradesh. Referring to the Bengal polls, Modi said the voters are casting their ballot in a "fearless atmosphere", which was unimaginable in the past six or seven decades, and called it an important day in the festival of democracy. "Voting for the second phase is underway in Bengal, and reports indicate a massive turnout, with people stepping out in large numbers just like in the first phase. Images of long queues at polling stations are flooding social media, reflecting the enthusiasm of the people to exercise their democratic right," Modi said.

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Telangana takes over HMR Phase I from L&T

Paves way for phase-2 expansion, SPA signed after Revanth's meeting with L&T chairman

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana government on Wednesday formally completed the takeover of Hyderabad Metro Rail from Larsen & Toubro Limited by signing a share purchase agreement (SPA) to acquire 100 per cent equity shares of L&T Metro Rail (Hyderabad) Limited (LTMRL) at an equity value of ₹1,461.47 crore. The agreement was signed at the Secretariat in the presence of Chief Secretary and chairman of Hyderabad Metro Rail Limited (HMRL) K. Ramakrishna Rao, Special Chief Secretary (MA&UD) Jayesh Ranjan, HMRL managing director Sarfaraz Ahmad, and senior management representatives of L&T and LTMRL. The SPA was signed following a meeting earlier in the day between Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and L&T chairman S.N. Subrahmanyam at ICC, Banjara Hills, where modalities for completing the takeover



Newly-appointed DGP C.V. Anand pays a courtesy visit to Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy at the Integrated Command and Control Centre, Banjara Hills in Hyderabad, on Wednesday.

were discussed. With this deal, the Hyderabad metro rail project, which was initiated in 2010 under the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model has now come fully under the control of the Telangana government. Metro services were originally launched by L&T in November 2017. On behalf of HMRL, managing director Sarfaraz Ahmad signed the agreement, while D.K. Sen signed for L&T Ltd and K.V.B. Reddy for LTMRL. As part of the deal, the existing debt of LTMRL amounting to ₹13,538.53 crore as of April 30, 2026 — earlier guaranteed by L&T — will now be refinanced with a guarantee from the Telangana government. The transaction advisor for the deal was IDBI Capital, while legal advisory services were provided by Saraf & Partners. The Telangana government had earlier decided to take over Phase I of the metro rail through HMRL and had been holding discussions with L&T over the past few days to finalise the process.

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Man Lures Woman to Train's AC Cabin, Rapes Her

A man posing as a railway official allegedly lured a woman to a cabin in an AC coach and raped her on the Visakha Express while the train was heading towards Vijayawada Junction on the night of April 26. Police identified the accused as coach attendant Sourav Bagdhi, a native of Odisha. He was reportedly taken into custody for questioning. The victim and her husband, natives of Rentachintala village in Palnadu district, had been living in Visakhapatnam for some time. On April 26, at about 4 pm, the couple boarded the Visakha Express (17015) at Visakhapatnam railway station to travel to Nadikudi. They did not have reserved berths. At about 11.45 pm, while the train was on its way to Vijayawada Junction, the accused allegedly approached the couple, who were sitting near the washrooms in an unreserved compartment, and claimed to be in charge of the H1

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Trump Urges Iran Deal, Signals Longer Blockade

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana



US President Donald Trump on Wednesday urged Iran to 'get smart soon' and sign a deal, following days of deadlock in efforts to end the conflict and a media report that the US would extend its blockade of Iran's ports. In a post on Truth Social, Trump, who has said Iran can call if it wants to talk and has

stressed repeatedly Tehran cannot have a nuclear weapon, said the country 'couldn't get its act together.'

The Wall Street Journal cited US officials as saying the president had instructed aides to prepare for an extended blockade

of Iran's ports in a bid to force Tehran to capitulate. Officials said that Trump had opted to continue squeezing Iran's economy and oil exports with the blockade as his other options - resuming bombing or walking away from the conflict - carried more risk, according to the WSJ. "They don't know how to sign a nonnuclear deal. They'd better get smart soon!" Trump said

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Fire Breaks Out in Ghaziabad High-Rise



A firefighter douses a fire that broke out in Green Avenue Society, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad.

▶ FULL REPORT ON | PAGE 4

Last Phase of WB Polls Crosses 92% Voting

KOLKATA
Wakeup telangana

The second and final phase of the Assembly Election in West Bengal on Wednesday crossed 92% voters' turnout and remained by and large peaceful except for some stray incidents. The last leg's poll percentage, which was being updated by the Election Commission till the reports last came at night, is set to create a new record as it is expected to surpass the

first round's voting of around 93%, which was registered on April 23. The average poll percentage of the 142 seats in seven districts of the state was trending at 92.32%. Burdwan East has been leading the districts with 93.71% voting, followed by North 24 Parganas (92.47%) and Howrah (92.07%). Kolkata South, covering four seats, stood at the lowest with 87.71%. Among the constituencies, Haroa in

▶ FULL REPORT ON | PAGE 4

ESTD - 1960

ASTORIA HOTEL

Hyderabad Laziz Biryani

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

Telangana SSC Pass Rate Hits 95%, Girls Outshine Boys

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The overall pass percentage in the SSC Public Examinations, March 2026, rose significantly to 95.15 per cent, up from 92.78 per cent last year, reflecting improved student performance across the State. Out of 5,26,166 students who appeared, 4,97,312 successfully cleared the examination. Girls once again outperformed boys, continuing the trend seen in previous years. The pass percentage among girls stood at 96.26 per cent, compared

to 94.07 per cent among boys, highlighting a consistent edge in academic performance. The results were officially released on Wednesday at 2 pm by K. Keshava Rao, adviser to the Telangana government, in the presence of Dr Yogita Rana, Principal Secretary (School Education), and Dr E. Naveen Nicolas, Director of School Education. Subject-wise performance remained strong across the board, with languages leading the results. First Language recorded a pass percent-



age of 99.12, Second Language 99.97, and Third Language 98.98. Mathematics, though slightly lower, still achieved a notable 97.46 per cent pass rate. General Science and Social Studies registered

needs recorded a commendable pass percentage of 94.37. Officials attributed the improved results to key reforms introduced this year. A gap of four to five days between examinations allowed students to revise effectively, aligning the schedule with national boards like CBSE and ICSE. Teachers from government and local body schools remained available during these intervals to support students, while comprehensive study materials for all seven subjects were distributed in advance.

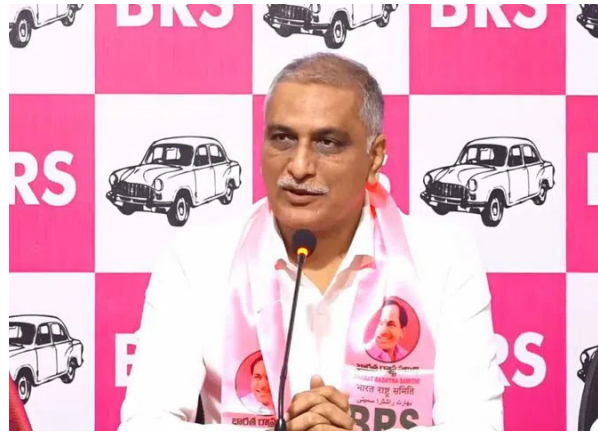
Additionally, technological measures such as WhatsApp-based hall tickets and QR code verification at examination centres streamlined the process and reduced logistical challenges. Officials emphasised that the strong results were a combined effort of students, teachers, and parents. To ensure no student loses an academic year, supplementary examinations will be conducted from June 5, enabling students to improve their scores and progress without delay.

Harish Rao moves High Court over loan waiver denial in Siddipet

BRS leader T Harish Rao has filed a writ petition in the High Court alleging that over 22,000 farmers in Siddipet were denied the promised loan waiver. He sought immediate relief, citing financial distress and rising farmer suicides.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BRS Legislative Party deputy leader T. Harish Rao has approached the Telangana High Court, filing a writ petition seeking justice for thousands of farmers in his Siddipet Assembly constituency who were allegedly denied the state government's loan waiver benefit. He stated that a significant portion of eligible farmers were excluded from the scheme despite fulfilling all required conditions. According to Harish Rao, out of the total eligible farmers in Siddipet, nearly 22,849



farmers—around 53 per cent—did not receive the promised Rs 2 lakh loan waiver. He pointed out that only 20,514 farmers, or about 47 per cent, were granted the benefit, while the remaining were left out without any clear explanation or justification from the government. Rao alleged that he had repeatedly raised the issue with the state government and even wrote open letters to Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy seeking corrective action. However, he claimed that there was no re-

sponse or resolution from the authorities despite his continuous efforts to highlight the grievances of the affected farmers. He further stated that many farmers had already repaid their bank loans by borrowing money from private lenders, based on the government's assurance that their loans would be waived. With the waiver not being extended to them, these farmers are now facing severe financial distress as they struggle to repay debts taken from informal sources. Harish Rao also expressed concern over the increasing financial bur-

den on farmers, alleging that the situation has contributed to a rise in farmer suicides in the region. He termed the issue a serious failure in implementing a welfare promise made to the farming community. Invoking Article 226 of the Indian Constitution, he has sought judicial intervention to ensure that all eligible farmers in Siddipet are extended the loan waiver without discrimination. He urged the court to direct the government to provide immediate relief and restore justice to the affected families.

Revanth: Take Kishan's Help to Convince Maharashtra on Barrage

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Wednesday called for seeking Union minister G. Kishan Reddy's assistance in convincing the Maharashtra government to agree for construction of a 150-metre tall barrage at Tummidihatti. The barrage at Tummidihatti is the key structure of the Pranahita-Chevella link scheme that seeks to bring water from Pranahita river to Yellampalli reservoir on Godavari river. Chairing a review on the project at the MCR HRD Institute, the Chief Minister suggested that irrigation minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy to seek an appointment with Kishan Reddy, and submit a request letter asking Kishan Reddy to help in discussions on the barrage height with Maharashtra. During the meeting, irrigation department engineers informed the Chief Minister that to make the



best use of the portion of work on the project that was already completed in the past, the barrage height should be at 150 metres. Maharashtra had previously agreed to 148 metres, as raising the height any further would involve submergence of land in that state from the backwaters of the barrage. If the barrage is fixed at 150 metres, then Telangana will be able to use at least 100 TMC feet of water from Pranahita which could be sent to the Sripada Yellampalli reservoir on Godavari to the south of Pranahita. The officials said the Telangana government has already spent around Rs.11,000 crore on the project, and also constructed canals over a distance of 71.5 km. Revanth Reddy said a 150-tall bar-

rage will not result in any significant submergence in Maharashtra and that the Telangana government is ready to pay the required compensation to Maharashtra for any submerged land. Since the proposal suggested by the officials will be the most cost effective, and will also mean adequate water that can be taken via gravity to Yellampalli, and add to irrigation potential, the Chief Minister directed officials to begin discussions on this matter with the Maharashtra government. Revanth Reddy also said since Maharashtra has a BJP government, Uttam Kumar Reddy should meet with Kishan Reddy and seek the latter's assistance on the request to Maharashtra to agree to the suggested barrage height. He also directed officials to complete the ongoing geotechnical tests at Medigadda barrage before the onset of the monsoon season.

Grand Foundation Laid for Congress Party Office in Nizamabad Urban

NIZAMABAD
Wakeup telangana

In a significant development for the Congress party in Nizamabad, a grand foundation stone laying ceremony was held today for the construction of the party office on the land allocated by the government. The event witnessed the presence of several prominent leaders, including District In-charge Minister Seethakka, Government Advisor Mohammed Ali Shabbir, PCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud, Government Advisor Sudarshan Reddy, MLA Bhupathi Reddy, and Mayor Uma Rani, along with party leaders and cadres. Speaking on the occasion, Government Advisor Mohammed Ali Shabbir described the initiative as a major milestone for the Congress party in



Nizamabad. He stated that the construction of a dedicated party office would strengthen the party's connection with the people and enhance its ability to serve the public effectively. He emphasized that the Congress party remains committed to public welfare and that the new office would serve as a hub for addressing people's issues. District In-charge Minister Seethakka, in her address, reaffirmed the government's commitment to the development of the people. She highlighted the importance of establishing party offices to strengthen organizational structure and said

the upcoming building in Nizamabad would inspire party workers. She further added that the Congress government is focused on delivering transparent and accountable governance. PCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud stated that efforts are being made to further strengthen the Congress party across the state. He noted that the new office in Nizamabad would bring renewed energy to party activities and serve as a key center for coordination among party workers. He assured that the party would continue to move forward while upholding the trust of the people. The ceremony marked a new chapter for the Congress party in Nizamabad, reflecting its commitment to organizational growth and public service.

Cops Give Tips To 100 Hospital Staffers On Cyber Fraud

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A cyber awareness programme was organised at Princess Durrus Shehvar Children's and General Hospital in Old City, in which nearly 100 hospital staffers took part. Ten teams from the Hyderabad Cyber Crime Police unit were giving tips to the participants on how to safeguard themselves from cybercriminals. The members of the teams informed hospital staffers about various cybercrimes, including APK files related to fake RTO challans, PM Kisan Yojana, HMWS&SB and fake loan Apps, fake investment and online trading, digital arrest, impersonation scams



related to part-time/Meesho job frauds, OTP and bank reward-point scams, credit card limit enhancement and social media trolling scams. R.G. Siva Maruthi, ACP, cybercrime, said. Besides, the teams also provided valuable tips to participants on how to take preventive measures and

avoid becoming a victim of cybercrime. They were told not to fall into the trap such as online betting scams, fake job offers, phishing, digital arrest threats, and various other cyber threats prevalent in today's rapidly evolving digital landscape. Besides, a public advisory was also issued. The participants were told not to believe in digital arrest and online investigation. "Don't pick up unknown calls and click on unknown links. Besides, don't disclose the details of debit and credit card and OTP to unknown persons. Similarly, don't install APK files or unknown links," the members of the team told participants.

Hands-On Officer Mohan Murali Joins TSDDCF Head Office in Lalapet

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Peravali Mohan Murali, Deputy Director of the Telangana State Dairy Development Co-Operative Federation Limited (TSDDCF Ltd.), has officially assumed charge at the Head Office in Lalapet, Hyderabad, following his transfer from Ranga Reddy district. After being relieved from his previous posting, he promptly reported at the Head Office and, on the occasion, paid a courtesy visit to Shri Gutha Amith Reddy,



Chairman of TSDDCF Ltd., marking the beginning of his new responsibilities. Murali was accorded a warm and heartfelt welcome by the TSDDCF Vehicle Distribution Team, who greeted him with a floral bouquet, reflecting the respect and admiration he commands within the organization.

Widely regarded as a humble and approachable officer, Murali is known for his ever-smiling personality and down-to-earth nature. His leadership stands out for its strong grassroots connect and unwavering commitment to the dairy farming community. Rather than remaining confined to office work, he is recognized for actively visiting field locations, personally overseeing milk quality testing, and directly interacting with farmers and dairy stakeholders.

Honour for Yadagiri's Selfless Service



Kandula Yadagiri, who has been safeguarding the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Bhavan at Lower Tank Bund for the past 30 years without any salary, was honoured on the occasion of his 61st birthday. Having dedicated his life to the ideals of Babasaheb Ambedkar and choosing to remain unmarried, Yadagiri's commitment was recognised by leaders and activists. National Vice President of the National SC Rights Protection Association, Dasari Vishal, along with AMSA State General Secretary and Mala Praja Front Chairman Dr. Manchala Lingaswamy, felicitated him with a shawl and celebrated the occasion by cutting a cake. They praised Yadagiri's unwavering dedication towards protecting the Bhavan and promoting Ambedkar's ideology among the masses. His contributions towards the upliftment of marginalised communities were described as exemplary and inspiring. Several social activists and supporters attended the event and extended their wishes, concluding the celebration with resounding slogans of "Jai Bhim."

CBIT Hosts Stock Market Awareness Session

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Chaitanya Bharathi Institute of Technology (CBIT), Hyderabad, organized an awareness session on "Investment Avenues & Stock Market Awareness" for MCA II Semester students, aiming to strengthen financial literacy among future professionals. The session was conducted by Dr. S. Tulasi Ram, Assistant Professor, School of Management Studies, CBIT, who delivered an informative and practical presentation on various investment options and



strategies. The programme was designed to provide practical exposure beyond academic learning and build awareness of real-world financial systems. The event was successfully convened by Dr. G. N. R. Prasad and Dr. B. Indira, who coordinated the arrangements and ensured smooth execution. The management, principal, and faculty of CBIT appreciated the initiative and encouraged the continuation of such knowledge-oriented programs for student development and industry readiness. He emphasized the need for students to develop informed decision-making skills while approaching different investment avenues. The interactive session encouraged active participation from students, who engaged in discussions and clarified their doubts on market operations and investment

strategies. The programme was designed to provide practical exposure beyond academic learning and build awareness of real-world financial systems. The event was successfully convened by Dr. G. N. R. Prasad and Dr. B. Indira, who coordinated the arrangements and ensured smooth execution. The management, principal, and faculty of CBIT appreciated the initiative and encouraged the continuation of such knowledge-oriented programs for student development and industry readiness.

Vijaya Dairy Under Lens: Deputy Director Conducts Surprise Morning Checks

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

P. Mohan Murali, Deputy Director of Telangana Dairy Development Corporation Federation Limited, conducted an early morning inspection of Vijaya Dairy milk and dairy product sales across several parts of the city. Having recently assumed charge at the Vijaya Dairy head office in Lalapet, Murali began field-level inspections to assess ground operations and product availability. As part of the visit, he inspected Vijaya Dairy milk booths in key areas including Osmania University centre, DD Colony, New Excise Colony, TRT Colony, Shivam Road and Amberpet etc. During the inspection, he personally interacted with milk booth operators, gathering feedback



on product sales, supply, and customer response to Vijaya Dairy products. The initiative aims to strengthen retail operations and ensure improved service delivery to consumers. Officials stated that such inspections will continue to enhance efficiency and expand Vijaya Dairy's presence across the city.

No Paper, No X-ray Films Leave Jagtial Hospital Patients in Distress

Patients at the Government General Hospital in Jagtial district are allegedly being forced to take photographs of their ECG and X-ray results on mobile phones due to a shortage of printing paper and X-ray films, causing hardship and concern. For nearly a month, the radiology and emergency departments have reportedly been unable to provide physical reports, leaving patients to carry digital images of their medical results on personal phones to show doctors.

The situation has caused frustration among those seeking treatment. Hospital staff are said to be informing patients without smartphones that their reports have been sent directly to doctors, often without giving them any proof of the test results. The practice has raised concerns over patient privacy and medical accuracy, as unclear phone images may affect proper diagnosis. Adding to the problems, the hospital is also facing a shortage of essential medicines. Patients are reportedly being forced to buy Monocef antibiotic injections from private medical shops outside the hospital as stocks.

KTR slams Revanth over “sadistic pleasure” remark

KT Rama Rao slams CM Revanth Reddy over ‘sadistic pleasure’ remark, alleges governance failures

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BRS Working President KT Rama Rao strongly criticised Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Wednesday, condemning his reported statement that he derives “sadistic pleasure” from opposition criticism.

Addressing a programme at Telangana Bhavan during the induction of leaders from various parties into the Kalwakurthy constituency, Rama Rao said the comments were “shameful” and reflected insensitivity towards public issues. KTR alleged that instead of responding to people’s problems, the Chief Minister appeared to be taking satisfaction from political attacks. He said such re-



marks were unacceptable at a time when several sections of society were facing difficulties under the present Congress government. According to him, the opposition was raising genuine concerns affecting citizens, and dismissing or enjoying criticism only exposed poor governance priorities. Launching a broader attack on the Congress administration, Rama Rao listed what he described as failures across multiple sectors. He claimed

farmers were under severe distress due to delays in procurement of paddy and other crops, adding that procurement centres were not functioning effectively. He alleged that farmers were being forced into distress sales and accused the government of delaying payments, including MSP and bonus amounts. Turning to the education sector, he said fee reimbursement delays had created financial pressure on students and parents.

He alleged that several colleges were withholding certificates and restricting access due to pending dues, disrupting academic progress. He added that the scheme, originally credited to the YSR regime and continued during BRS rule, was now

being neglected.

Rama Rao also criticised the government over irrigation and infrastructure, particularly the Palamuru-Rangareddy project, claiming that progress had slowed despite heavy borrowing. He further raised concerns about power supply issues and delays in welfare scheme implementation, saying public confidence in the government was declining.

He questioned the fulfilment of election promises made by the Congress, stating that many assurances remained unimplemented even after more than two years in office. He asserted that the BRS would continue to highlight public issues and remain active both in opposition and governance spaces.

Telangana slips to second spot in Per Capita Income

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telangana has lost its long-held top position in per capita income (PCI) among the major states, slipping to second place behind Karnataka, according to the latest 2025-26 advanced estimates released by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI). While Telangana recorded a PCI of Rs 4.18 lakh, Karnataka moved ahead with Rs 4.33 lakh. TouristDestinations

The state recorded an annual average growth rate (AAGR) of 14 per cent and a compounding annual growth rate (CAGR) of 10 per cent during the 10 years of BRS rule. Excluding the COVID period, the state consistently maintained double-digit growth. As a result, the growth rate of PCI in Telangana was 10.93 per cent in 2023-24, which declined to 9.78 per cent

Per Capita Income (NSDP)



in 2024-25, before a modest recovery to 10.24 per cent in 2025-26. Telanganaturism guide

In contrast, Karnataka maintained stronger momentum, posting 11.24 per cent growth in 2023-24, 11.37 per cent in 2024-25, and accelerating to 12.22 per cent in 2025-26, helping it overtake Telangana. Other major states continue to trail behind. Tamil Nadu reported a per capita income of Rs 4.08 lakh in 2025-26, while Andhra Pradesh stood at Rs 2.94 lakh. Maharashtra and Gujarat recorded Rs 3.47 lakh and Rs 3.57 lakh, respectively, reflect-

ing steady but comparatively lower levels.

Economists stated that a visible deceleration in Telangana’s economic momentum over the last two years was due to a combination of factors, including slower growth in key sectors, changes in public spending patterns, and policy transitions following a change in government. The Congress government, which assumed power in late 2023, has faced criticism from the opposition over a slowdown in economic management and execution.

Smoking-Driven Fires Top Causes in Telangana

Careless smoking has emerged as the leading cause of fire accidents in Telangana, accounting for 1,915 cases in 2026, according to fire department data. The State recorded 3,858 incidents, with Hyderabad reporting the highest number of fire calls.



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Careless smoking and improperly discarded cigarette butts have emerged as the leading cause of fire accidents in Telangana in 2026, according to data released by the Fire Disaster Response Emergency Services Department. The negligence has accounted for 1,915 fire incidents out of a total 3,858 emergency responses recorded across the state up to April 28. The department reported that most incidents were minor in nature, with 3,447 small fires, 106 medium-level fires, 27 serious cases, and 14 major fire accidents. In addition to fire responses, officials handled 228 rescue opera-

tions and 36 other emergency calls during the same period.

Electrical faults were identified as the second major cause, triggering 871 fire incidents, while 375 fires were attributed to unknown reasons. Other causes included 307 miscellaneous incidents, 89 cases of mechanical sparks, 69 gas-related accidents, 60 arson cases, 21 waste-burning incidents, and 35 cases of spontaneous combustion.

Fire accidents have resulted in an estimated property loss of ₹276.887 crore. However, prompt response by fire services helped save assets worth ₹535.460 crore, highlighting the effectiveness of emergency response opera-

tions. Despite these efforts, the incidents claimed 14 lives, while 67 individuals were rescued from fire-related emergencies. In separate non-fire emergencies, 161 people lost their lives and 49 were saved.

Residential buildings recorded the highest number of fire incidents at 987 cases, followed by 539 in miscellaneous categories, 534 in agricultural fields, and 400 in household-related spaces. Additional incidents were reported in vehicles (207 cases), as well as in commercial establishments, educational institutions, industrial units, shops, and offices.

Officials noted that most fire accidents are preventable and stem from human negligence, particularly careless smoking and faulty electrical systems. They warned that continued disregard for safety practices could further increase fire risks across urban and rural areas. Hyderabad reported the highest number of fire calls at 573, while Kumaram Bheem Asifabad recorded the lowest at 22 cases.

100% Success for ZPHS Kurumarthi in SSC Results

NALGONDA
Wakeup telangana

Zilla Parishad High School (ZPHS), Kurumarthi in Kattangur Mandal has achieved a commendable 100% pass result in the SSC examinations this year, bringing pride to the institution and the local community. A total of eight students appeared for the examinations, including three girls and five boys, and all of them passed successfully. Miss Alekha secured the first position in the school with 521 marks, followed by Tarun with 463 marks and



Jashwanth with 453 marks. The achievement was made possible under the leadership of Headmistress V. Kavitha and the dedicated efforts of the teaching staff, including Ravi Kumar, Ch. Venkat Reddy, R. Kamalaja Naidu, Yadaiah, B.R. Raju, Sreedevi, and T.

Saidulu. Sarpanch Dhara Sattemma and Amma Adarsha Pathashala Chairman Mandadi Padma congratulated the students and appreciated the teachers for their commitment and hard work. Teacher Bayya Raju conveyed heartfelt wishes to all the students and stated that their consistent effort and dedication led to this excellent result. The school community expressed happiness over the achievement and wished the students success in their future endeavors.

Dr. Samata Leads Successful Job Fair in Barkatpura, Empowering 200 Youth



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In a remarkable initiative focused on youth empowerment, a grand Job Fair was successfully organized in Barkatpura at Dr. Hari-Krishna Eye Care Center, under the dynamic leadership of BJP State Spokesperson Dr. Samata. The event, held on the occasion of BJP State President Shri N. Ramchandra Rao’s birthday, turned into a meaningful platform for employment generation and career opportunities. Dr. Samata played a pivotal role in conceptualizing and executing the program, ensuring participation from nearly 50 reputed companies. Her efforts bore significant results, as around 200 unemployed youth secured job opportunities, marking a major step toward building a stronger and self-reliant workforce.

The program was inaugurated by Shri N. Ramchandra Rao, who attended as the Chief Guest and appreciated the initiative taken under Dr. Samata’s leadership. He commended the efforts to bridge the gap between job seekers and employers, especially at a

time when such opportunities are crucial for youth. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Samata emphasized that empowering youth through employment is essential for nation-building. She stated that initiatives like these not only provide jobs but also instill confidence and direction among young individuals.

The event was attended by several prominent leaders and dignitaries, including State General Secretary N. Gautam Rao, Hyderabad Central District President Deepak Reddy, State Vice President Kalyan Naik, ST Morcha President Ravi Naik, State Secretary Ravi, Hyderabad Central General Secretary Ajay Kumar, OBC Morcha Secretary Vinod Yadav, VHP President Balaswamy, Boudhanagar Division President Amaravathi, ABVP General Secretary Sunitha, Secretary Purushottam, and others. With strong leadership from Dr. Samata, the Job Fair emerged as a beacon of hope for many young aspirants, reinforcing the commitment to inclusive growth and sustainable employment opportunities.

Puneeth Scores 92.6% in SSC Exams

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Dandotkar Puneeth Narshima, a student of Indu International School, Bandlaguda Nagole, Hyderabad, secured 556 out of 600 (92.6%) in the SSC Examinations 2025-26, earning praise for his academic excellence and discipline.

He also bears Hall Ticket Number 2623116261. The school, located near GSI Colony, Auto Nagar, Hyderabad-500068, congratulated him for the achievement.



Teachers and management appreciated his consistent performance and dedication to studies, calling him a role model for fellow students.

Puneeth said, “I am very happy with my results. This success is the outcome of my parents’ support, teachers’ guidance, and my consistent efforts.”

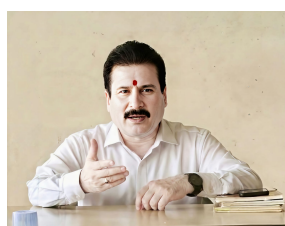
His achievement has brought pride to his family and school community and serves as an inspiration for students aspiring to excel in board examinations across Telangana.

His result reflects disciplined preparation, regular practice, and strong support from teachers at Indu International School. He is expected to continue excelling in higher studies ahead.

Panduranga Reddy Questions BRS Over Fatherly Emotion Claims

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In Rangareddy district, Telangana State Sena President Kappati Panduranga Reddy made strong remarks targeting BRS leaders over their statements on “fatherly pain” in politics. He questioned what he described as selective emotional narratives being used for political gain. Reddy asked whether former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao truly felt personal anguish when his daughter Kavitha was suspended from the party. He further questioned the si-



lence of leadership when she allegedly faced criticism from individuals abroad, and why no strong action was taken in those instances.

He also referred to Kavitha’s time in jail for around six months, questioning whether a father’s emotions were absent during that period. According to him, even when Kavitha publicly alleged con-

spiracies within the party, there was no visible response from the leadership. Reddy also raised questions about internal family dynamics, referring to instances where party leaders and family members appeared distant during public and political controversies.

He questioned the leadership’s silence on allegations involving phone tapping of close relatives and other internal disputes. Additionally, he cited comments made by certain political figures against Kavitha and questioned why there was no

strong defense of her dignity. He argued that repeated incidents involving criticism, legal troubles, and internal tensions should have drawn a more emotional or moral response from the leadership.

Concluding his remarks, Reddy said that genuine concern should be reflected in times of personal and political crises, not selectively used for political messaging. He challenged BRS leaders to respond to his questions instead of, as he put it, using emotional narratives for political advantage.

Madhyala Prabhakar Demands Immediate Survey Demolition Action

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

SC Rights Leader Madhyala Prabhakar has demanded an immediate official survey and strict action against alleged violations in Bholakpur construction, issuing a strong warning to blackmailers and calling for full transparency in town planning enforcement.

He urged authorities to demolish illegal floors and hold officials accountable, stressing that housing dreams must not violate law or safety norms. He urged authorities to demolish il-



legal floors and hold officials accountable stressing that housing dreams must not violate law or safety norms.

Bholakpur residents have intensified their demand for immediate intervention stating that repeated warnings about unauthorized constructions have been ignored by the Town Planning Department.

They allege that unchecked violations have led to unsafe densification in the locality increasing the risk of structural hazards and long term urban stress. Community members insist that only a transparent survey can restore trust. Prabhakar has formally written to the Zonal Commissioner seeking an immediate comprehensive survey of the building including verification of total constructed area number of floors and compliance with sanctioned permissions.

He also demanded disciplinary action against the

Assistant Commissioner of Police in the Town Planning wing for alleged negligence in permitting construction without proper inspection. The leader further urged authorities to enforce demolition of all illegal floors and impose strict penalties on the builder responsible to set a strong precedent against unauthorized vertical expansion. He also issued a warning against blackmailers attempting to exploit the situation stating that the focus must remain on law safety and public interest above all else immediately enforced.

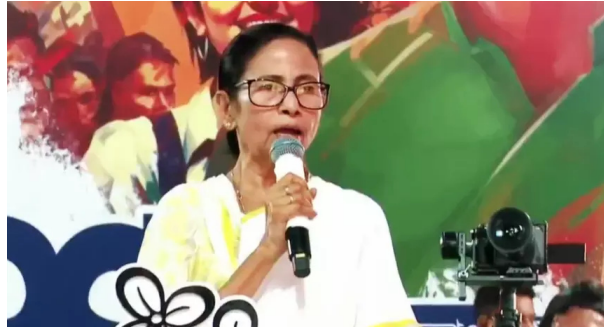
Air India Pilot Dies in Bali After Suffering Heart Attack

An Air India pilot, who was on scheduled rest, died in Bali after suffering a heart attack on Wednesday. The first officer, who was nearly 40 years old, operated a flight from Delhi to Bali on Tuesday, according to an airline official. In a statement, an Air India spokesperson said the first officer was on scheduled crew rest in Bali when he complained of severe discomfort at his hotel. "He was immediately taken to a hospital, where he was diagnosed with having suffered a heart attack. Despite the best efforts of the medical team, he could not be saved," the spokesperson said. Air India is deeply saddened by the death of the pilot, the spokesperson said and added that the airline was in close contact with the family and was extending all possible support. Further details could not be immediately ascertained. The airline official said the pilot had completed all mandatory medical examinations in accordance with regulatory requirements only a few months ago. There was no known pre-existing medical condition, the official said, and added that the pilot had been operating well within the flying-hours.

Mamata Alleges Central Forces' 'Torture', Insists on Peaceful Polling

KOLKATA
Wakeup telangana

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Wednesday accused central forces of unleashing "torture" on workers of the Trinamool Congress (TMC) at the behest of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), as she made multiple rounds of her Bhowanipore constituency during polling for the second and final phase of the Assembly elections. Breaking from her usual practice of stepping out only to cast her vote, Ms Banerjee conducted a day-long tour to assess the ground situation after receiving complaints from party leaders. She began visiting booths early in the morning, shortly after polling commenced, following reports of alleged intimidation and arrests of TMC workers. Her first



stop was Chetla, where Kolkata Mayor Firhad Hakim informed her that central forces had allegedly visited his residence the previous night and issued threats. She then moved to Chakraberia, interacting with local leaders and voters amidst tense conditions. A dramatic moment unfolded when her rival, Suwendu Adhikari, arrived near a polling booth with supporters. The two leaders came within close proximity, exchanging sharp remarks. Mr Adhikari taunted that she was about to lose her "chair,"

to which Ms Banerjee responded later, asserting her confidence in both her position and her party. Speaking to the media, Ms Banerjee said, "I'm still in the chair, also in our party. We want the voting to be peaceful. People should be allowed to exercise their rights." She further alleged that central observers and police personnel unfamiliar with Bengal had created pressure and fear among voters and party workers. Detailing incidents from the previous night, she claimed that personnel from the Cen-

tral Reserve Police Force (CRPF) conducted raids without local police presence, forcibly entering homes and threatening party leaders' families. "I stayed awake all night due to the torture unleashed across Bengal," she said. Later in the day, after casting her vote, Ms Banerjee reiterated allegations of widespread harassment in districts like South 24 Parganas, Nadia, and Hooghly. She claimed women were not spared and accused central forces of taking "complete control" of the polling process. Despite the tensions and sporadic clashes, including lathi charges outside booths following allegations of bogus voting, Ms Banerjee expressed confidence of a decisive victory, stating the TMC would secure a two-thirds majority.

Man Lures Woman to Train's AC Cabin, Rapes Her

VIJAYAWADA
Wakeup telangana

A man posing as a railway official allegedly lured a woman to a cabin in an AC coach and raped her on the Visakha Express while the train was heading towards Vijayawada Junction on the night of April 26. Police identified the accused as coach attendant Sourav Bagdhi, a native of Odisha. He was reportedly taken into custody for questioning. The victim and her husband, natives of Rentachintala village in Palnadu district, had been living in Visakhapatnam for some time. On April 26, at about 4 pm, the couple boarded the Visakha Express (17015) at Visakhapatnam railway station to travel to Nadikudi. They did not have reserved berths. At about 11.45 pm,



while the train was on its way to Vijayawada Junction, the accused allegedly approached the couple, who were sitting near the washrooms in an unreserved compartment, and claimed to be in charge of the H1 coach. Speaking in Hindi, he reportedly told them that one vacant berth was available in an AC cabin and offered it to them. Trusting his words, the woman accompanied him to the cabin while her husband remained seated in the compartment. Police said the accused took her into the AC cabin, shut the door and raped her despite her

resistance. After reaching home, the woman informed her family members about the incident. On their advice, she approached Rentachintala police station and lodged a complaint on the evening of April 28. Police registered a zero FIR, which is to be forwarded to the Government Railway Police in Vijayawada for further investigation and action. A railway police official in Vijayawada said, "Once we receive the FIR, we will take up an investigation." Meanwhile, AP Women's Commission chairperson Rayapati Sailaja made a video call to the victim on Wednesday and enquired about the incident. She assured her that efforts would be made to ensure justice by apprehending the accused and securing punishment for him.

Last Phase of WB Polls Crosses 92% Voting

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The second and final phase of the Assembly Election in West Bengal on Wednesday crossed 92% voters' turnout and remained by and large peaceful except for some stray incidents. The last leg's poll percentage, which was being updated by the Election Commission till the reports last came at night, is set to create a new record as it is expected to surpass the first round's voting of around 93%, which was registered on April 23. The average poll percentage of the 142 seats in seven districts of the state was trending at 92.32%. Burdwan East has been leading the districts with 93.71% voting, followed by North 24 Parganas (92.47%) and Howrah (92.07%). Kolkata South, covering four seats, stood at the lowest with 87.71%. Among the constituencies, Haroa in North 24 Parganas has turned out to be the topper with 97.37%. Bhowanipore, which is seeing a prestige fight between Trinamool Congress supreme and chief minister



Mamata Banerjee and leader of the Opposition Suwendu Adhikari from BJP, has clocked 86.63% polling. Two BJP candidates became targets of Trinamool Congress workers in South 24 Parganas after voting began in the morning. They are Bikash Sardar and Palash Jana who are contesting at Basanti and Raidighi respectively. Mr Sardar alleged that his car was vandalized while Mr Jana's car was ghe-raoed by angry supporters of the ruling party. Both the incidents happened when they were visiting booths. Allegations also surfaced against the central forces of assaulting men, women and children at various constituencies in the districts. One of the injured died later. While TMC claimed after

the final phase that it would bag more than 235 seats this time, BJP is yet to make any projection. The deceased, Purna Chandra Dolui (81), was a voter at Udaynarayanpur constituency in Howrah. He fell down and started vomiting after casting his ballot at booth no 245 in Balarampur Primary School of Khoshalpur. The aged man was rushed to Amta Hospital where he was declared dead. His son, Tarani, who accompanied him to the booth, claimed that his father was pushed by the central forces personnel, leading to his fall on the ground. Attacking union home minister over the incident, Diamond Harbour TMC MP Abhishek Banerjee posted on X-handle, "Central Forces under Amit Shah have become

BJP's PRIVATE ARMY- A gang of licensed thugs unleashed on the people of Bengal. In Udaynarayanpur, an elderly man went to cast his vote with his son. Too frail to walk unaided, his son tried to help him into the booth. Central Forces pushed and manhandled both. The old man collapsed, was rushed to Amta Hospital and declared dead on arrival." He added, "Since dawn, these Central Forces have been terrorising ordinary citizens-slapping women, assaulting the elderly, attacking even children. This is the SITALKUCHI MENTALITY OF 2021: cold-blooded, merciless violence against unarmed civilians. BJP paid a heavy price for the blood of innocents in 2021. They will pay an even heavier price in 2026. And to the JALLADS roaming Bengal: it doesn't matter which state you come from. It doesn't matter whose political patronage shields you. Every single one of you involved in this barbarism will be hunted down and made to face the full force of the law.

Fire Breaks Out in Ghaziabad High-Rise; Several Residents Rescued

GHAZIABAD
Wakeup telangana

A major fire broke out in a high-rise residential building in Indrapuram here on Wednesday morning, prompting a large-scale firefighting and rescue operation, officials said. The blaze erupted on the 11th

floor of Gaur Green Avenue Society around 9 am, spreading to multiple flats across several floors, a fire department official said. Under the supervision of the chief fire officer, more than a dozen fire tenders from Vaishali, Sahibabad, and Noida were rushed to the spot to

douse the flames. By around 10.30 am, the fire was largely brought under control, though efforts to completely extinguish it were still underway, officials said. Rescue operations were carried out simultaneously, and several residents were safely

evacuated, including an elderly man on oxygen support, who was brought out on a stretcher by the firefighters, they said. The fire had spread across seven to eight floors of the building, they added. The cause of the fire is yet to be ascertained.

Naidu Wants All Government Services Online by December 2026

VIJAYAWADA
Wakeup telangana

Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu on Wednesday directed officials to ensure that all government services in Andhra Pradesh are made available online by December this year. This will be through a strong push towards expanding WhatsApp-based governance services for citizens. Reviewing the operations of RTGS (Real Time Governance Society) with senior officials at his camp office in Amaravati, the Chief Minister said bringing



all public services under the "Mana Mitra" WhatsApp Governance platform would spare people the need to visit government offices repeatedly. Officials informed the Chief Minister that at present, 1,035 services are being delivered through WhatsApp

Governance. Since the launch of the initiative, nearly 54 lakh people across the state have availed themselves of about 1.78 crore services. They stated that awareness campaigns are being conducted extensively. More than 24 lakh people have already been educated on

how to access services through the platform. Further, officials briefed Naidu about finalisation of the Drone City Master Plan in Kurnool district. They informed the CM about the rapid progress of development works being carried out in Phase-1 of the Drone City. Land allotment for eight companies that have come forward to establish manufacturing plants has already been completed. These companies are expected to begin ground operations by the second week of May.

FROM FRONT PAGE

Telangana RTC.....

Officials including K. Ramakrishna Rao, Jayesh Ranjan, and Sarfaraz Ahmad met L&T and LTMRHL representatives at the Secretariat on Wednesday, culminating in the signing of the SPA and transfer of ownership. L&T Metro Rail (Hyderabad) Limited has been operating Phase I of the project since November 2017 across three corridors spanning a total network length of 69 km. The system currently handles an average daily ridership of around 4.5 lakh passengers and has recorded nearly 86 crore passenger trips since inception. With the acquisition of Phase I, the state government aims to expand Metro Rail under phase-2 on four sides of the

city with the partnership of Centre. The Phase-1 takeover will ensure better integration with the proposed Phase II network. Officials said the unified control will facilitate improved coordination in planning, execution, and service delivery, ultimately leading to a more cohesive, reliable, and commuter-friendly metro rail network for Hyderabad in the coming years.

Exit Polls Split.....

The ECI has deployed 700 companies of Central paramilitary forces that will remain stationed for some days after results to prevent any post poll violence. gave a mixed response but a few indicated that BJP will finally form government in the state that has been for long out of its reach. In Kerala, the

decade old regime of LDF Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan may finally come to an end this time. The state that witnesses "revolving door" kind of results where the incumbent government is changed every five years, Vijayan had managed to break the pattern in 2021 when he led the Left front to a second term. But time, as exit polls claimed, apart from the anti-incumbency factor, the consolidation of minority votes in favour of the UDF appears to have shifted the mood toward the Congress. In Kerala, the Polls of Polls predicted 77 seats for the UDF and 59 for LDF. Kerala Assembly has a total of 140 seats with the winning mark being 71. Axis My India forecast that the UDF would get 78-90 seats, LDF 49-62 and NDA 0-3. People's Pulse

predicted the Congress-led UDF would get 75-85 seats, the LDF 55-65 and the NDA 0-3. Matrize forecast 60-65 seats for the LDF, 70-75 seats for the UDF and 3-5 seats for the NDA. In Tamil Nadu, the Polls of Polls predicted the return of DMK's M.K.Stalin as the CM with victory on 130 seats out of 234, with the magic mark being 118. The rival AIADMK is expected to get 65 seats and debutant Tamilaga Vettri Kazhagam (TVK) led by actor-turned-politician Vijay, just about 31.

Modi: Bengal Voted..

"What we are witnessing in Bengal today is unprecedented. A fearless environment where people are voting without fear was difficult to imagine in the past six to seven

decades," Modi said, adding that this is a powerful symbol of the country's Constitution and the strengthening of democracy. "I express my gratitude to the great people of Bengal for being so aware of their rights and participating in large numbers," Modi said and urged the people of Bengal to continue participating in the democratic festival with the same enthusiasm.

Trump Urges Iran.....

"They don't know how to sign a nonnuclear deal. They'd better get smart soon!" Trump said in the post on Wednesday, without explaining what such a deal would entail. Iran wants some kind of US acknowledgment of its right to enrich uranium for what it says are

peaceful, civilian purposes. It has a stockpile of roughly 440 kg of uranium enriched to 60 per cent, material that could be used for several nuclear weapons if further enriched. Iranian officials said on Tuesday the country could withstand the blockade as it was using alternative trade routes, and the Islamic Republic did not consider the war over. The conflict has killed thousands, thrown energy markets into turmoil and disrupted global trade routes. Iran's most recent offer for resolving the two-month war, suspended since April 8 under a cease-fire agreement, would set aside discussion of its nuclear programme until the conflict is formally ended and shipping issues resolved.

CRIME

IPL Betting Racket Busted In Odisha's Puri; Four Arrested, Rs 25 Lakh Seized

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

In a significant crackdown on illegal betting, police in Odisha's Puri district on Wednesday unearthed an Indian Premier League (IPL) betting racket, arresting four persons and seizing substantial cash and digital evidence linked to the operation. The accused, identified as Prasanna Prusty—alleged to be the key organiser—along with Nageshwar Rao, Bishwanath Lenka and Ramakant Sahu, were apprehended following coordinated raids by the Cyber Crime Police Station and a special police team.

Police recovered Rs 25.35 lakh in cash from the accused and froze Rs 31.81 lakh across 10 bank accounts linked to the racket. Six mobile phones used to facilitate betting activities were also



seized. According to investigators, the syndicate operated through an application referred to as 'Sky Exchange,' enabling users to deposit money that was converted into virtual points for placing bets on IPL matches under multiple conditions. The operation relied heavily on digital platforms, with WhatsApp used to coordinate transactions and betting instructions discreetly.

The network had a structured hierarchy, involving local organisers who re-

cruited participants and managed transactions. These organisers were reportedly paid around Rs 22,000 per month as commission. Police said the racket extended beyond Puri, with links to multiple districts, drawing in participants with promises of quick and easy financial gains. Preliminary investigation indicates that the financial transactions linked to the network run into crores of rupees, pointing to a wider and more organised betting ecosystem.

Puri Superintendent of Police Prateek Singh said the arrests followed sustained surveillance and intelligence gathering. "The gang was operating within the district with an organised structure. Simultaneous raids led to the arrest of four key accused and seizure of cash and digital evidence. Further links are being probed," he said. Police have also identified a suspected kingpin, referred to as the 'boss', who allegedly handled larger financial flows. Efforts are underway to trace and apprehend other members of the syndicate. A case has been registered under relevant provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, the Information Technology Act, and laws governing illegal money circulation and lottery activities. Further investigation is ongoing.

PIL on plotting of Medak govt lands

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A two-judge panel of the Telangana High Court directed the state to file a detailed response on allegations of illegal conversion and encroachment of "Sarkari Poramboke" land in Medak.

The panel comprising Chief Justice Apareesh Kumar Singh and Justice G.M. Mohiuddin was hearing a public interest litigation filed by Shivanagari Narasimha Chary and another, raising concerns over the alleged conversion of government land into residential plots in Medak town. Accord-

ing to the petitioners, government land in Survey No. 248, to an extent of about 3 acres, was illegally converted into residential plots, adversely affecting the rights of residents of Medak and nearby villages.

It was contended that such actions infringe the right to life and personal liberty under Article 21 of the Constitution, besides impacting larger public interest. The petitioners further alleged that private individuals are continuing construction activities on the said land without any lawful authority and that despite repeated representations to

the authorities, no action has been taken so far. On the other hand, the state contended that as per revenue records, a substantial portion of land in Survey No. 248/1, admeasuring Ac. 186.18 guntas, was classified as "Sarkari Poramboke" (government land), while other subdivisions within the survey number are recorded as patta lands, totalling about 29.38 acres. It was submitted that authorities have already initiated steps, including issuance of notices to alleged encroachers, and are proceeding in accordance with law.

Auto Driver Jailed for 20 Years in Minor Assault Case

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

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

Boy drowns in Kushaiguda pool

An 11-year-old boy drowned in a swimming pool at a sports complex in Kushaiguda on Monday evening. The deceased, a Class VI student at ECIL, and resident of BN Reddy Nagar, Cherlapally, had gone to the pool at Sportivo Sports Arena when the incident occurred.

According to initial information, he drowned under circumstances yet to be ascertained. Staff and others rushed him out of the water and shifted him to a nearby private hospital, where doctors declared him dead on arrival.

Mutawalli tenure row in High Court

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Justice Surepalli Nanda of the Telangana High Court admitted a writ petition challenging the constitution of a committee to manage Dargah Hzt. Syeed Shaheed Habeeb Ullah (RH), a notified Waqf institution in Nizamabad district. It was alleged that the action was driven by political influence and taken in disregard of their pending claim for continuation in office. The judge was dealing with a writ peti-

tion filed by Mohammed Abdul Rafi and two others. The petitioner challenged proceedings issued on March 13 that constitute a committee comprising unofficial respondents with respect to Dargah Hzt. Syeed Shaheed Habeeb Ullah (RH), along with its associated graveyard, Chillah Zinda Shah Madar and Chillah Saad Ullah Hus-saini. It was stated that the institution is a notified Waqf published in the Andhra Pradesh Gazette dated October 3, 2002. The petitioners contended

that the impugned action was taken despite multiple representations seeking extension of tenure of the Joint Mutawalli, whose lineage traces back to the original Towliath. It was argued that the constitution of the committee was arbitrary, without jurisdiction, and vitiated by extraneous considerations. Invoking Article 14 of the Constitution, the petitioners argued that Waqf authorities cannot interfere with existing management or displace a Mutawalli without due process.

Wasting Court's Time: HC Rejects DSC Plea

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Repeated attempts to secure appointment under DSC-2008 have drawn sharp criticism from the Telangana High Court, with Justice Namavara Rajeshwar Rao dismissing a writ petition and observing that the petitioner was re-litigating settled issues and wasting the Court's time.

The judge was hearing a petition filed by K. Naveen, who sought to set

aside proceedings of the district educational officer (DEO), Ranga Reddy district. The impugned proceedings recorded that the petitioner secured 44.5 marks with rank 25, while the last selected candidate secured 45 marks with rank 23, placing him outside the zone of consideration.

The dispute arose from recruitment to 78 posts of Physical Education Teachers in Ranga Reddy district under District Selection Com-

mittee-2008. It was contended that initially, only part of the notified vacancies were filled, leading to proceedings before the Andhra Pradesh Administrative Tribunal, which directed consideration of candidates for the remaining vacancies. Thereafter, the authorities reviewed the selections and filled the posts on roster-cum-merit basis.

The Court noted that subsequent proceedings of the DEO confirmed that the petitioner did

not satisfy the required cut-off mark, and contempt proceedings before the tribunal were closed after recording compliance with earlier directions. It was further observed that the petitioner filed multiple original applications and review proceedings on the same issue, all of which were dismissed. Holding that the writ petition sought to reopen issues that already attained finality, the judge dismissed the case.

EDITORIAL

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

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

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

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

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

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

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

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

cent is an unacceptably high figure.

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

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

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



Sensex and Nifty end higher despite surge in crude oil prices

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Indian equity benchmarks ended higher on the Wednesday but surrendered a large portion of their intra-day gains as a sharp rise in global crude oil prices weighed on investor sentiment.

The Nifty closed at 24,177.65, up 0.76 per cent or 181.95 points, while the Sensex settled at 77,496.36, gaining 0.79 per cent or 609.45 points.

From a technical standpoint, experts said that on the upside, 24,200 remains the first resistance.

"On the downside, a breach of the 24,000-



24,100 support band could weaken the structure in the short term, with 23,900 acting as the next support," an analyst stated.

Market momentum was tempered after Brent crude prices surged over 3 per cent to \$114.60 per barrel on the Intercontinental Exchange. The spike in oil prices followed stalled talks between the

United States and Iran, raising concerns about supply disruptions. Adding to the uncertainty, the United Arab Emirates announced its decision to exit the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) effective May 1, further fuelling volatility in global energy markets.

Despite the late-session pullback, select

heavyweights provided support to the indices. ITC, Tech Mahindra and Maruti Suzuki India emerged as the top gainers in the Nifty, helping the benchmarks maintain their positive closing.

The broader markets, however, painted a mixed picture. The Nifty MidCap index ended marginally lower by 0.07 per cent, while the Nifty SmallCap index outperformed, rising 0.65 per cent.

Sectoral performance remained uneven. The Nifty FMCG and Nifty Realty indices led the gains, reflecting buying interest in consumption and real estate stocks. On the other hand, the

Nifty Construction Durable and Nifty Media indices underperformed, dragged down by sector-specific pressures and cautious sentiment.

Analysts said that while domestic equities managed to close in the green, rising crude prices and geopolitical developments continue to pose near-term risks, potentially capping further upside in the markets.

"Markets will closely track cues from the US Fed policy outcome, with sentiment likely to remain volatile amid evolving global developments and sector-specific earnings trends," an analyst

Indiabulls' Q4 profit jumps 46.4 pc to Rs 194 crore

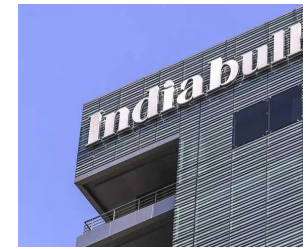
HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Indiabulls Limited on Wednesday reported a 46.4 per cent rise in profitability for the March quarter (Q4 FY26), closing a transformational financial year marked by its merger and strategic shift towards a real estate-led business model supported by diversified financial services.

The company posted a profit after tax of Rs 194 crore for the quarter ended March 31, according to the financial statement.

Revenue during the quarter stood at Rs 418 crore, it added in its financial statement.

For the full financial year FY26, Indiabulls reported a profit after tax of Rs 346 crore on revenue of Rs 880 crore,



resulting in a healthy profit margin of 39.3 per cent.

The performance reflects the company's successful repositioning and improved operational efficiency following its restructuring.

The real estate segment remained the key earnings driver, contributing around Rs 143 crore at the operating level in the fourth quarter.

For the full year, the company recorded sales bookings worth Rs 2,752 crore, with 909 units sold across 21.6 lakh square feet, while collections stood at Rs 400 crore.

Indiabulls' residential portfolio continues to focus on the Rs 2 crore to Rs 6 crore ticket size segment, targeting both luxury and mid-income categories across key markets such as Delhi NCR, Mumbai and Ludhiana.

The company also highlighted a strong development pipeline with a gross development value (GDV) of over Rs 21,000 crore spanning more than 110.52 lakh square feet, including ongoing, upcoming and future projects, providing clear revenue visibility in the coming years.

Alongside real estate, its financial services vertical delivered steady performance. The stock broking business reported revenue of Rs 124.4 crore in FY26, with a 26 per cent year-on-year growth.

GDP Growth May Dip to 6%, Inflation Could Hit 6% if Crude Reaches \$120: EY India

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

India's economy in terms of gross domestic product or GDP growth may slip to around 6 per cent and retail inflation could rise to the upper tolerance limit of 6 percent of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in the current fiscal, if the Indian crude basket price averages \$120 a barrel, EY India said on Wednesday. EY India chief policy advisor DK

Srivastava said that although room for policy interventions is limited, policymakers need to consider upward revision in the repo rate and accelerated diversification of sources of crude supply as the price of the Indian crude basket (ICB) may rise further if the West Asian crisis persists.

"If the ICB price averages \$120 per barrel in FY27, India's real GDP growth may slip to about 6 per cent and

CPI inflation may increase to 6 per cent... To minimise the adverse impact on fiscal deficit, increased energy prices should be passed on to the retailers to a relatively larger extent," Srivastava said. The April 2026 release of the US Energy Information Administration EIA short-term energy outlook projects Brent crude oil prices to increase from an average of \$81 per barrel in Q1 2026 to a

peak of \$115 per barrel in Q2 2026. Depending on how the crisis evolves, crude prices may fall in the future.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has also projected India's GDP growth at 6.5 per cent for FY27, while the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the World Bank expect it to be 6.9 per cent and 6.6 per cent, respectively. The RBI, in its monetary policy review earlier this month,

projected GDP growth for FY27 at 6.9 percent compared to 7.6 per cent estimated in FY26. The RBI also projected inflation to average 4.6 per cent for FY27.

In the EY economy watch report, Srivastava also said that current indications suggest that the West Asian crisis may last well beyond expectations of a short-lived conflict. Even after it is resolved, considerable time would be required

for the global crude supply situation to normalise. "As such, India's growth may be lower than 6.5 per cent and inflation somewhat higher than RBI's baseline projections," he said, adding that there is a likelihood of the ICB price exceeding \$95 per barrel on average in FY27. Even so, India's growth in FY27 is expected to be more than double that of global growth under an adverse scenario.



Resonance Records Strong Academic Performance



NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Resonance Schools, Hyderabad, have delivered an outstanding performance in the Telangana SSC Results 2026, achieving a 100% pass percentage across Madhapur and Patancheru campuses. The institution reported that 3 out of every 4 students secured more than 500 marks, with 71% scoring above 500 and 93% above 450 marks. Nine students crossed 580 marks, while overall results highlight strong academic consistency and structured preparation under expert faculty guidance.

Managing Director Purna Chandra Rao Narra congratulated students, stating the results reflect disciplined preparation, consistent effort, and dedicated faculty support. He highlighted parent cooper-

ation and confirmed that both campuses achieved 100% pass results for the consecutive year.

He also announced plans to expand Resonance School network across Hyderabad to reach more students and strengthen quality education delivery. Top performers included Sushmita Singh (587/600), Gadde Pragyan (586), G. Vedha Samhita and K. Sahasra (585 each), and Devharsh Bammidi (584), among others securing top ranks. Resonance Schools, with 16 campuses in Hyderabad and a large campus in Kurnool, continue to focus on holistic education, integrating academics, innovation, and competitive exam readiness. The institution reaffirmed its commitment to nurturing confident learners with strong conceptual clarity and future-ready skills.

RAI Hyderabad Retail Summit 2026 Highlights Next Phase of Retail Growth

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The 5th Hyderabad Retail Summit (HRS), organised by the Retailers Association of India (RAI), was held at Hotel Trident, Hyderabad, bringing together more than 300 retailers, industry leaders, and stakeholders to deliberate on the next phase of retail growth in the region. The summit focused on evolving consumer behaviour, digital transformation, and the expansion of retail beyond metro cities. Discussions highlighted how Hyderabad has emerged as a benchmark for modern retail in India, driven by rising disposable incomes, increasing consumer aspirations, and rapid adoption of technology. Speakers noted that the developments in Hyderabad are likely to influence retail growth in tier-2 cities such as Warangal, Nizamabad, and Karimnagar in the coming years. Addressing the summit, representatives from RAI emphasised that Telangana offers a supportive ecosystem for retail, with simplified processes for investment, hiring, and



store expansion. They observed that the alignment between policy support and market growth has positioned Hyderabad as a leading retail hub in the country. Industry leaders at the event stressed the importance of combining physical retail expansion with digital capabilities. They underlined that technology is no longer just a support function but a core driver of customer engagement and long-term relationships. The shift from transactional retail to relationship-based engagement powered by data analytics and omni-channel platforms was identified as a key trend shaping the sector. Speakers from sec-

tors including pharmacy, jewellery, fashion, wellness, and retail technology shared insights on changing consumer expectations. They pointed out that customers today demand transparency, personalisation, and seamless experiences across online and offline channels. Regional brands were encouraged to leverage early customer data to build stronger, more relevant offerings. Senior government representatives also addressed the gathering and outlined ongoing initiatives to strengthen the retail ecosystem in the state. They invited industry stakeholders to contribute suggestions for further policy improve-

ments to support sustainable growth. Panel discussions at the summit covered themes such as building resilient regional brands, the future of quick commerce, the role of physical stores in connected commerce, and strategies for expansion beyond metropolitan markets. Experts agreed that regional retailers have a strong opportunity to grow by combining cultural understanding with modern technology. The summit concluded with a shared vision of building a future-ready retail ecosystem in Hyderabad that integrates innovation, customer insight, and collaboration across the industry.

MTR Launches Minute Fresh Batter Range in Hyderabad



Mr Sunay Bhasin, CEO, MTR Foods and Mr Anupam Nair, Chief Marketing & Growth Officer, MTR Foods (R to L) launches MTR Minute Fresh Batter range in Hyderabad.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

MTR Foods, part of Orkla India, has launched its new 'Minute Fresh Batter' range in Hyderabad, strengthening its presence in the convenient breakfast segment. The product line aims to combine traditional South Indian taste with modern-day convenience for urban consumers.

The new range includes dosa batter available in three different pack sizes and rice rava idli batter, catering to varied household needs. Designed for quick preparation, the products target working professionals and families seeking authentic home-made-style breakfasts without the time-consuming preparation

process. The batter range will be distributed through leading quick-commerce and e-commerce platforms, ensuring easy accessibility for consumers across Hyderabad and surrounding regions.

The company expects strong demand given the city's deep-rooted breakfast culture and preference for dosa and idli-based meals. Speaking on the launch, MTR Foods CEO Sunay Bhasin said the initiative reflects Hyderabad's strong culinary traditions and growing appetite for convenience foods.

Anupam Nair added that the new range is designed for consumers who want both authenticity and convenience in their daily meals without compromising on taste or quality.

Netflix Renews Stranger Things: Tales From '85 for Season 2

Netflix has moved quickly to renew its animated spin-off

Stranger Things: Tales From '85 for another installment, following a strong reception to its first season. According to The Hollywood Reporter, the series is expected to return to Hawkins and the eerie Upside Down sometime in fall 2026, marking an early greenlight just days after its debut. The renewal comes only four days after Season 1 premiered, during which it entered Netflix's global Top 10 at No. 7, recording 2.8 million views. The animated series has also made an impact in Netflix's rankings for animation, securing a place among the platform's top 15 animated debuts of all time, as per industry reports. Set in the winter of 1985, Tales From '85 revisits familiar territory in Hawkins.

The storyline follows Eleven, Mike, Will, Dustin, Lucas, and Max as they attempt to return to normal life after earlier supernatural chaos. The group is shown navigating school routines, friendships, and everyday teenage experiences, suggesting a calmer phase in their lives. However, the peace does not



last long. A new and mysterious threat begins to surface in Hawkins, once again pulling the group into danger. The narrative blends nostalgic 1980s themes with fresh supernatural developments, continuing the franchise's signature mix of sci-fi, horror, and coming-of-age drama.

The series is backed by the original creators, Matt Duffer and Ross Duffer, who serve as executive producers through their production banner Upside Down Pictures, alongside

Hilary Leavitt. Shawn Levy and Dan Cohen also join as executive producers, while animation duties are handled by Flying Bark, known for its high-quality animated productions. The success of the spin-off arrives shortly after the conclusion of the original Stranger Things live-action series, which wrapped up its five-season run in late 2025.

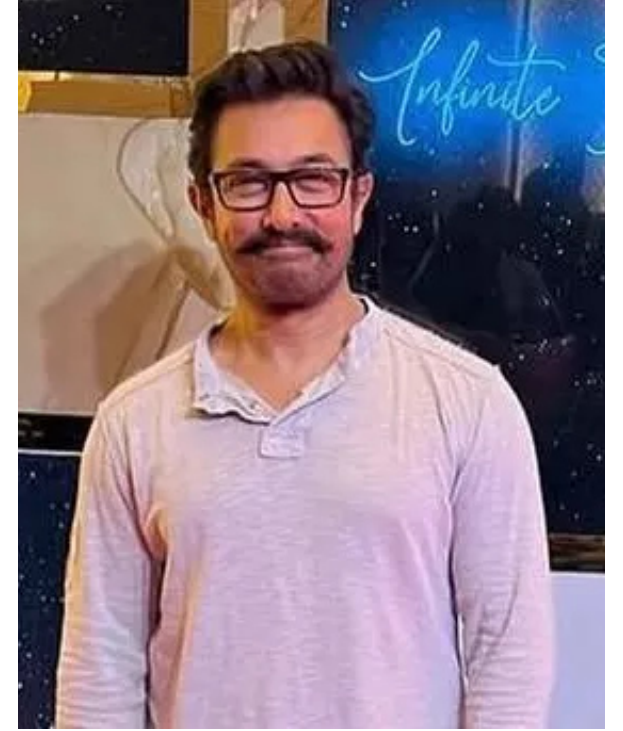
Despite ending, the franchise continues to maintain strong global popularity. Reports indicate that the original series, led by Millie

Bobby Brown, Finn Wolfhard, David Harbour, and Winona Ryder, has accumulated over 1.5 billion views across all seasons through March 2026. The franchise's cultural impact also remains significant online, with billions of social media impressions and renewed interest in earlier seasons following the final chapter. With the animated continuation now expanding the universe, Stranger Things shows no signs of slowing down.

Aamir Khan backs Sai Pallavi despite Hindi concerns

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Aamir Khan has revealed that Sai Pallavi was his first and only choice for the female lead in Ek Din, the sophomore project of his son Junaid Khan. To accommodate her limited Hindi proficiency, the makers decided to design the character as a Tamilian, a move Aamir says solved both casting and language concerns while adding authenticity to the role. Speaking about the casting decision, Aamir said Sai Pallavi "fitted the part like a glove" and described her as a completely natural performer. He went on to praise her highly, calling her "the best contemporary actress in Indian cinema." According to him, her screen presence and acting style made her indispensable to the film, leaving no room for consideration of other actors. The biggest challenge initially was Sai Pallavi's Hindi, which is known to be relatively weak. However, Aamir explained that the issue was creatively resolved by shaping the character as



a Tamil-speaking woman. This allowed the performance to remain authentic while eliminating language barriers during filming. He also noted that Sai quickly adapted to the requirements of the role. "She is a fast learner," he said, adding that she was already overcoming difficulties with Hindi pronunciation, particularly sounds like "ka" and "ki." Aamir further defended the decision by pointing out that many successful Tamil actresses in Hindi cinema have historically spoken with strong regional accents, yet that

has never prevented them from achieving pan-India success. He emphasized that language should not be seen as a limitation when the performer brings strong acting talent to the table. Responding to criticism over Sai Pallavi's Hindi during the promotional event for Ek Din, Aamir dismissed the negative comments, stating that language is not a real barrier in her case. He expressed confidence that she will pick up Hindi quickly and continue to improve as she works in the industry.

Actor Venkatesh unveils TG20 League logo

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Former India cricketer Ambati Rayudu and the well-known film star Daggubati Venkatesh unveiled the logo of the TG20 League to be organised by the Hyderabad Cricket Association here on Wednesday.

The inaugural season is scheduled for June-July 2026, with detailed fixtures and team announcements expected shortly.

Speaking on the occasion, Rayudu said it was long due and would be a great opportunity for the young talent to showcase its skills and dream bigger.

"I am sure given the fact that Telangana has abundance of talent, many more cricketers would go on to play in the IPL soon," he said. For his part, Venkatesh hoped the sport in the State would have a new direction with the launch of TG20 League.

HCA President and Apex Council member Amarnath said the whole objective of the League was to promote talent



across the State.

He also felt that the number of teams could be increased from eight to 10 to give more youngsters a chance to show their potential.

Mr C.V. Anand, newly-appointed DGP of Telangana and former cricketer himself, said it was long due.

"But, again, it should be clean and transparent in its organisation. The fact that 26 of the 29 States in India have their T-20 league organised by the respective State Cricket Associations, it is a welcome move by the HCA to finally have its own league," he said.

Mr. V. Chamundeswarana, IPL Governing Council member, hoped that the TG20 League would usher in a new chapter for the cricketers from the State. "Over the years, crick-

eters from Telangana never really got their due. But, now thanks to this TG20 League, I am sure there will be at least 10 cricketers from the State who should play in the IPL in the future," he said.

Mr. Jayesh Ranjan, Special Chief Secretary, Government of Telangana, congratulated the HCA and the stakeholders for finally coming up with the T-20 League. "From the Government side, we would like to extend whatever best possible help is possible," he assured.

Justice (Retd) P. Naveen Rao, Single Committee member of HCA, Mr. M. Jeevan Reddy, HCA Secretary, also spoke. Former India cricketers N. Shivlal Yadav, Arshad Ayub, Sravanthi Naidu, Diana David, were among.

Head, Klaasen power-hitting propels SRH to 6-wicket win against MI

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Travis Head (76) and Heinrich Klaasen (65 not out) outmuscled Ryan Rickelton's record 123 not out for Mumbai Indians as Sunrisers Hyderabad romped home to a six-wicket in their Indian Premier League contest, here on Wednesday.

After Rickelton's highest individual score for MI and also their fastest-ever ton in IPL history took the hosts to a formidable 243/5, SRH rode on a combined batting show to win with eight balls to spare.

Mumbai Indians had also registered their highest score batting first, but SRH recorded the fourth-highest successful run chase in IPL history on a docile wicket which provided absolutely no competition between the bat and the ball.

Chasing 244, SRH made 249/4 in 18.4 overs. While Head provided early fireworks racing to 30-ball 76 with eight sixes and four fours, Klaasen produced an equally brutal knock to finish with 65 not out off 30 balls with seven fours and four sixes.



For MI, a string of missed opportunities early on proved costly in their sixth defeat in eight matches.

While he was in his usual element, Head's knock was also littered with life-lines provided by MI.

The first ball of the third over from Trent Boult (1/41) swung away from Head and he threw his hands at it, slicing in the air towards deep point. Naman Dhir did well to get to the ball but it burst through his hands to land

beyond the ropes. In the fifth over, Head went deep in the crease to cut one in the air and despite timing his jump right, the ball brushed Dhir's fingers.

Dhir was in action again at the boundary ropes over point when he collected the ball in his hands but ended up on the ropes with it, as Head completed a 20-ball half-century. A pivotal moment had, meanwhile, arrived in the third over's second ball

when one that shaped away from Head off Boult, was collected by Rickelton and none in the MI camp realised there was an edge off the bat.

Head and Abhishek went about their job nonchalantly while smacking almost every bowler around the park.

Wicketless once again, Jasprit Bumrah (0/54) was hit for 14 in his first over, Boult for 18 after 11 in his first, and Will Jacks was clobbered for 19 runs in his first as SRH raced to 62 in four overs.

The onslaught continued beyond the powerplay when MI brought in Ashwani Kumar (2-0-41-0), as SRH openers collected 23 runs off the left-arm seamer to continue with the carnage.

SRH responded to MI's 93-run opening stand which took seven overs with 129 runs in only 8.4, with Head being the more dominant than Abhishek.

The India opener had not qualms in reading a slower one from Bumrah which he launched over mid-on for a six in the second over and freed up his arms at will on a benign track before he mishit one. Abhishek went hard

against one from Allah Ghazanfar (2/51) outside the off only to slice it in the air for a comfortable catch at backward point.

MI enjoyed a second breakthrough soon after when Ghazanfar, having pulled out of his run-up twice, got Ishan Kishan (0) chopping one on to his stumps.

A third wicket came when Head hit a full toss straight to Jacks at extra cover and MI felt they were back in the game.

But Klaasen was quick enough to crush any such hopes when he launched a counter-attack with 16 runs off Ghazanfar in the 11th over and 18 off Ashwani - including three fours in a row - off the 12th.

The bat versus bat contest ended in the penultimate over when Salil Arora blazed his way to a 10-ball 30 not out, striking three sixes and two fours. Earlier, Rickelton's 123 not out took his team to massive 243 for five. Rickelton batted through the innings for an unbeaten 123 off a mere 55 balls with 10 fours and eight sixes, anchoring MI's charge to an at-par total on a batting friendly track.

Hyderabad man booked for using siren, VIP stickers on private SUV

The Goshamahal Police on Tuesday, April 28, have registered a case against a city resident and his driver after their private SUV was found fitted with a siren and VIP stickers, with the occupant allegedly misbehaving with officers and producing a dubious identity card to justify the violations. The white Toyota Fortuner was intercepted on April 28 near the Traffic Training Institute in Goshamahal, after the vehicle's use of a siren had drawn attention on social media. When stopped, the occupant, identified as Girish Kumar Agarwal, allegedly behaved rudely with the officers and produced an ID card from an organisation called the "National Human Rights Organization" to justify the siren and VIP stickers on the vehicle, the police said. A first information report (FIR) has been registered against Agarwal, his driver Hanuma Reddy and two others under multiple sections of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), including those relating.

Activists demand first rights for Musi river residents displaced

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Environmental activists and experts on Wednesday staged a Satyagraha-style protest at Dhama Chowk near Indira Park in Hyderabad, demanding that residents living along the Musi riverbanks be made the first beneficiaries of rehabilitation if they are displaced under the Musi Riverfront Development Project. The protest, organised under the People's Committee for Musi River Rejuvenation (PCMRR), emphasised that they were not opposing the project or displacement itself, but were calling for a more scientific, hydrological and people-centric implementation. The group said any redevelopment must prioritise affected communities and ensure transparent environmental planning. Former United



Nations Environment Programme consultant Sagar Dhara warned that long-term pollution has severely damaged connected water systems. He noted that Hussain Sagar has drastically shrunk from about 20 sq km to just 4.75 sq km, reflecting decades of ecological stress. He also flagged the presence of heavy metals and pesticides such as Lindane and DDT, reportedly carried from industrial regions like Patancheru, which have accumulated in lake sediments and are

now flowing into the Musi river system. Dhara criticised the Telangana Pollution Control Board, arguing that the same institution responsible for granting industrial permissions is also tasked with regulating pollution, creating a structural conflict of interest. He suggested legal recognition of the Musi as a living entity with enforceable rights and proposed empowering gram sabhas to carry out independent environmental audits. Environmental activist and advocate Dr Lubna Sarwath raised

concerns about rising climate risks and the lack of publicly released technical reports, including pollution, microbiology, and biodiversity assessments for the project's first phase. She also alleged inconsistencies in land use, claiming that overlays of government KML data on satellite maps showed private high-rise construction within the river area. The PCMRR resolution demanded detailed enumeration of riverbank residents, socio-economic surveys, public hearings, ward-level consent, and a comprehensive study of contaminants, including pharmaceuticals and heavy metals. It also called for updated hydrological assessments incorporating neglected tributaries like the Bhulkapur and Firangi nalas, which activists say were excluded from official planning.

ACB Logs Decade-high Cases in First Quarter

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) has once again recorded the highest number of cases in the last 10 years for the January-March quarter of 2026. In this connection, Director General Charu Sinha on Wednesday conducted a comprehensive review of cases registered and investigated by the Bureau, with particular focus on performance during the first quarter of the year. The review was followed by a "Reward Mela" organised to felicitate officers and staff for their outstanding contribution to the anti-corruption drive. During the review, Charu Sinha expressed deep satisfaction over the overall performance of the ACB in the first quarter of 2026 and

placed on record appreciation for the sustained efforts, professionalism, and dedication displayed by officers and staff across all units. In recognition of this performance, she announced substantial rewards and commendations for officers who demonstrated exceptional dedication and effectiveness during the first quarter. The Reward Mela honoured the best performers, whose sustained efforts have led to a record number of corruption cases being detected and processed. Addressing the gathering, the director general congratulated all awardees and teams for their exemplary work and noted that "corruption makes a country hollow from within." She exhorted officers to work even harder and to main-

tain the highest standards of integrity so as to reinforce public trust and ensure transparent governance. She underlined that the primary focus must remain on professional, fair, and thorough investigation, supported by continuous capacity building. The Reward Mela and review meeting together aimed to acknowledge past performance and inspire all units of the ACB to sustain high levels of vigilance, strengthen investigation standards, and continue investing in capacity building. The event concluded with a collective resolve to maintain the momentum achieved in 2026, to confront corruption decisively, and to ensure that the Anti-Corruption Bureau remains at the forefront of safeguarding integrity and good governance.

Man, who was involved in 73 crimes, held for Rs 1 lakh ATM fraud

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A 31-year-old man was arrested by the Sultan Bazar Police on Tuesday, April 28, for allegedly duping people who had come to deposit money at ATMs. The accused has been identified as Intipalli Rama Rao, a native of Andhra Pradesh who currently resides in a dormitory at Jubilee Bus Station. According to the police, the accused would approach people who had come to deposit money in the ATMs, win their trust through polite conversation and then take their cash, promising to send an equivalent amount through National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT).

The accused would then send a fake transaction message to the victims and tell them that it would take an hour to receive the money before fleeing from the spot. The matter came to light after the Sultan Bazar Police received a complaint from a woman on April 22. Sunitha, a resident of Secunderabad, told police that earlier in the day, she had gone to an SBI ATM to deposit Rs 1 lakh, but due to some technical issue amount could not be deposited in her account. At this time, an unknown person approached her, offering to transfer the amount from his NEFT account. The complainant accepted the offer, after which the accused showed her a message saying that the money.

Cops Shift 5 Men Living on Pavement



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Five individuals living on a footpath near Malakpet Gunj market, were rescued and shifted to a shelter home as they were found deprived of basic amenities like food and others. Chaderghat police extended the support in shifting the five people living in penury. The rescued individuals have been identified as Venu Gopal, 46, Narsimha, 60, Krishna, 70, Bharath Chetri, 35, and Anil, 35. Police per-

sonnel on a routine patrol found them living by the roadside that too in a pathetic condition. A team of officials from Chaderghat police station visited the spot and shifted them to a recognised shelter home for their proper care and safe living. Chaderghat SHO K.B. Murari said, "We extended help to five individuals on humanitarian grounds as they were found living without shelter or basic means of support."

Hyderabad couple twins born Gandhi Hospital IVF

In a major achievement after establishing an In Vitro Fertilisation (IVF) Centre at Gandhi Hospital in Hyderabad, a couple gave birth to twins - a boy and a girl - who are in a healthy condition along with their mother. The delivery was performed on Wednesday, April 29, after 13 failed attempts by the couple who had tried private hospitals with the hope of having progeny for the past 10 years. The couple was not well-off. Gaddam Triveni and Masthan Rao, residents of Boiguda in Hyderabad, had left no stone unturned to have a baby. They tried several private hospitals but failed in the past. The IVF treatment, which usually costs anywhere between Rs 10 lakh to Rs 12 lakh, was offered for free to the couple. The doctors and other medical staff at the Gandhi Hospital identified the problem and treated Triveni from pregnancy till delivery at the hospital, with continuous monitoring, which resulted in the IVF success. Health Minister Damodar Raja Narasimha appreciated Gandhi Hospital Superintendent Dr Vani, IVF Center Head Dr T Shobha, Dr Fathima, Dr Shiva Krishna and Nursing Officer Lavanya, among other staff, who made the twin deliveries possible.

No need to worry about petrol and diesel: Uttam kumar Reddy

Reddy said in a statement that a special control room has been set up to monitor fuel supply.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Amid long queues witnessed at petrol bunks since the last few days, Union Coal Minister G Kishan Reddy and Telangana Civil Supplies Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy on Wednesday, April 29, assured that there is no shortage of fuel in the state. Uttam Kumar assured that there is no need to worry over the supply of petrol and diesel as an adequate quantity of fuel to meet consumer requirements is available in the state. He said people should not believe rumours with regard to the supply of diesel and petrol. Reddy said in a statement that a special control room has been set up to monitor fuel supply. He also said special attention is being paid to diesel supply for agricultural requirements and a toll-free number 1967 has been set up to receive complaints. The Civil Supplies department said in a post on



'X' that fuel is being supplied above the average levels to ensure zero disruptions. "Petrol supply: Up by 132 per cent. Diesel supply: Up by 210 per cent. With 36,404 KL supplied and 3,817 tankers dispatched yesterday alone, there is absolutely NO fuel shortage. Don't panic, don't overstock!" it said. Kishan Reddy, who held a review meeting with Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs), said the Centre is maintaining adequate supplies of petroleum products across the country. Kishan Reddy said, in Telangana, the average daily petrol supply has increased from around 6,400 kilolitres to approximately 10,300 kilolitres. In Hyderabad, petrol

supply has risen from about 3,200 kilolitres to nearly 6,400 kilolitres. Similarly, diesel supply in Telangana has gone up from around 8,000 kilolitres to approximately 15,500-19,300 kilolitres, while Hyderabad's diesel supply has increased from about 2,700 kilolitres to nearly 5,060 kilolitres, an official release said. Out of approximately 4,325 fuel outlets in Telangana, about 106 outlets reported temporary stock issues this morning. These disruptions are transient and are being addressed through prioritised dispatches and administrative interventions, including resolving payment and logistics-related bottlenecks, it said. While noting global supply disruptions due to geopolitical developments, Kishan Reddy said India is actively engaging with multiple supplier countries and leveraging diplomatic channels to ensure uninterrupted supplies and alternative sourcing arrangements.

Hyderabad man gets 25 years for raping neighbour's 10-year-old son

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A city court on Wednesday, April 29, sentenced a 29-year-old man to 25 years of rigorous imprisonment for sexually abusing his neighbour's 10-year-old son over a period of four months in 2023. The Special Sessions Court for POCSO Act Cases, Hyderabad, found Kali Aman Kumar, also known as Akshay, a resident of Puranapur, guilty of unnatural sex and criminal intimidation against the minor. The court also

imposed a fine of Rs 10,000 and directed payment of Rs 75,000 as compensation to the victim. According to the prosecution, the accused had lured the child into his house on the pretext of watching television and subjected him to repeated sexual abuse, threatening the boy with dire consequences if he spoke about it. The victim's father filed a complaint with the Kamapitipura Police on December 2, 2023, following which a case was registered and an investigation taken up.

Hyderabad Water Board seizes 22 illegal motors

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) seized 22 illegal motors on Tuesday, April 28, attached to pipelines to draw water during supply hours. Nine motors were seized at the Haider Nagar Ward, and 13 were recovered from Gayatri Nagar Colony, Jyoti Nagar Colony, and Gayatri Nagar Indoor Stadium Colony areas of Gayatri Nagar Ward. The Water Board warned strict



action against anyone caught attaching motors to their drains. Second-time offenders will be fined Rs 5,000 and cases will be registered against them. In case of a low-pressure

water supply or any other problems, consumers can contact the concerned manager or call the Jalmandali customer care number 155313.

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