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Brief Insights

Discrepancies Surface In Vijay's Affidavits Filed At Perambur, Trichy East

Discrepancies have surfaced in two separate election affidavits submitted by actor and TVK founder Vijay, potentially inviting legal and political scrutiny ahead of the assembly elections. The contrasting documents, prepared for the Perambur and Tiruchirappalli East constituencies, reveal contradictory declarations re-

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Entire Country Supports Amaravati As Capital Except YSRCP: AP CM

Despite alleged conspiracies by the opposition YSR Congress Party (YSRCP) P, the entire country supported the decision to designate Amaravati as the capital of Andhra Pradesh, Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu said on Friday. Addressing a press conference, he asserted that after receiving the central government's sovereign seal, no one can alter the status of the capital city in the future.

"They (YSRCP) wanted to destroy Amaravati, but we enacted a law. Today, the entire country stands behind Amaravati. Overcoming all conspiracies,

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Harish Rao challenges CM Revanth over claims in Kerala election campaign: P8

Kavitha raises alarm over fee hikes, seeks immediate government intervention: P3

Telangana to Have First Integrated Godavari Temple Circuit: P2



AI Threatens Jobs, Focus on Skills Now: CM Revanth

Young India Integrated Schools to Be Established in 100 Constituencies with ₹20,000 Crore Investment, Says Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy will release a master plan for a 550-km Godavari temple circuit at Basara on April 6 to develop a river-linked pilgrimage and eco-tourism corridor ahead of the 2027 Godavari Pushkaralu. According to officials, the proposed Basara-Bhadra-chalam circuit will connect major shrines, including Gnana Saraswati Temple and Sri Sita Ramachandra Swamy Temple, along with Kaleshwaram, Dharmapuri, Kotilingala, Soan, Gudem, and Sri Rama Giri. The officials said these sites, earlier functioning in isolation, will be integrated into a continuous pilgrimage route for devotees from Telangana, Maharashtra, and Andhra Pradesh.

The river bends at Soan, and Kaleshwaram will be developed as key nodes with eco-sensitive walkways and viewing points. The officials said the circuit is planned to begin at Kandakurthi near Basara,



known as "Skanda Kudi" and "Triveni Sangamam," where the Godavari, Manjeera, and Haridra rivers meet. Vedic scholars said the locations hold religious significance due to river confluences and bends.

Vedic Pandit Raghunath Sharma highlighted Basara's rarity: "It's India's only historic Saraswati temple after Kashmir's Sharada Petha — a learning centre where lakhs of children do Aksharabhyasam yearly, with the Godavari waters carrying knowledge and speech energy." Senior Vedic pandit from Nirmal, Gunavanth Shastri, added that the "scriptures view

amenities such as shaded rest areas, toilets, water facilities, and parking will be developed to manage crowds and limit unplanned construction. Master plans for Basara, Kaleshwaram, Dharmapuri, and Bhadrachalam include infrastructure upgrades and aesthetic redevelopment. A ₹351-crore project is already underway at Bhadrachalam, with the state seeking additional central funds. The government expects the 2027 Godavari Pushkaralu to attract large pilgrim footfall while positioning the corridor as a combined religious and eco-tourism destination, officials said.

US fighter jet shot down over Iran

One F-15E crew member recovered, search continues for second

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

A U.S. fighter jet has been shot down over Iran and search-and-rescue efforts have so far recovered one of two crew members who ejected, a U.S. official told Reuters, in the first known incident of its kind in the nearly five-week-old war. The Pentagon and U.S. Central Command did not respond to requests for comment.

The prospect of a U.S. pilot being alive and on the run inside Iran raises the stakes for the U.S. in a conflict that, according to opinion polls, has struggled to win popular support among Americans.

It also presents a challenge to the U.S. military, which faces the twin goals of trying to save the life of an American behind enemy lines while safeguarding anyone involved in perilous rescue missions.

The incident comes over a week after U.S. President Donald Trump said in the Oval Office that Iran's



Fragments of downed U.S. jets in this picture said to be taken in central Iran and released on April 3, 2026.

military had been defeated to the point that "we literally have planes flying over Tehran and other parts of their country. They can't do a thing about it." White House Press Secretary Karoline Leavitt said Trump had been briefed, without confirming any details of the incident. Iranian officials called on civilians to be on the lookout for survivors and have flooded social media with images that purport to show wreckage from the aircraft.

Two U.S. officials said the aircraft was an F-15E fighter jet, which has two seats: one for a pilot and the second for a weapons

systems officer. It was unclear which of the two was recovered, and the U.S. official who confirmed the recovery did not offer any details on how it took place. U.S. air crews undergo training for what to do if they go down behind enemy lines, called Survival, Evasion, Resistance and Escape training, or SERE, opens new tab, but few airmen are fluent in Persian and staying undetected while seeking rescue will be a challenge. William Goodhind, a forensic imagery analyst with Contested Ground, said images of the plane's tail fin seen in photos

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Russia Offers to Scale Up Crude Oil, LNG Supplies to India

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Russia has conveyed its readiness to scale up oil and liquefied natural gas (LNG) supplies to India, offering an assurance on energy security amid the global crisis linked to the West Asian conflict. Russian First Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov communicated the position during meetings with the Indian leadership. On

fertiliser supplies, he said Russia had increased shipments of "in-demand" mineral fertilisers to India by 40 per cent by the end of last year and is prepared to continue meeting India's requirements. He added that "a joint product for carbamide production is under development".

The Russian Embassy said, "Particular attention was paid (during the meetings) to cooperation

in the oil and gas sector. Denis Manturov confirmed that Russian companies have the capacity to steadily increase supplies of oil and LNG to the Indian market," and added, "Russia and India continue to strengthen the partnership in nuclear energy in line with agreed schedules, the project to construct power units for the Kudankulam nuclear power plant is being im-

▶ CONTINUE ON | PAGE 4

EC Declares Paid Holiday on Polling Days for Upcoming Elections

The Election Commission of India (ECI) on Friday announced that all employees, including daily wage and casual workers, will be entitled to a paid holiday on polling days for the upcoming General Elections and bye-elections this month. In a press note, the ECI said, "As per Section 135B of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, every person employed in any business, trade, industrial undertaking, or any other establishment, and entitled to vote at an election

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SC Verdict Upheld TGpsc Transparency: Revanth

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Friday said the Supreme Court of India verdict upholding the Telangana Public Service Commission Group-I recruitment affirms the government's transparency in public hiring. In a post on X, Revanth Reddy welcomed Thursday's judgment dismissing petitions that challenged the recruitment of 563 candidates. He said the ruling brought relief to aspirants who had waited years for



government jobs. The Chief Minister said candidates had faced prolonged uncertainty and that his government, on assuming office, moved quickly to issue the notification, conduct examinations and issue appointment orders. He

said the process was completed despite attempts by "malicious forces" to obstruct it, enabling selected candidates to join as the first batch of Group-I officers and contribute to the state's reconstruction. He congratulated the candidates.

Revanth Reddy also commended the TGpsc chairman, members and staff for overhauling procedures, restoring confidence among unemployed youth and conducting the recruitment with transparency. The TGpsc conducted the

Group-I Main examinations in October 2024 for 563 posts and later declared the results. The process faced litigation after some candidates approached the Telangana High Court alleging irregularities. Appointment letters were issued in September 2025, subject to court outcomes. The High Court upheld the recruitment, following which unselected candidates moved to the Supreme Court. The apex court's dismissal of the petitions has now concluded the matter.

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Congress Shrinking Across India, Says Modi In Pondy

PUDUCHERRY
Wakeup telangana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday criticised the Congress, stating that the party's presence is declining across the country, while addressing BJP karyakartas ahead of the Assembly elections. He said the Congress' political space has reduced nationally, citing electoral setbacks and a decline in parliamentary strength. "The Congress

culture of dynasty politics and patronage is ending. India today is young, aspirational and forward-looking," he said.

Targeting the previous Congress government in Puducherry, the Prime Minister alleged that it functioned under the "high command" in Delhi rather than addressing local concerns, and described the party as operating in a feudal manner. He said voters who supported the party



Prime Minister Narendra Modi waves to supporters during a roadshow ahead of the Puducherry Assembly elections, Friday, April 3, 2026. Union Territory's CM N. Rangaswamy also seen.

in 2016 were dis-

appointed due to what he termed misgovernance and neglect of sectors

such as fisheries, coastal development and local industries. The Prime Minister also accused the Congress of undermining democratic processes, referring to delays in conducting panchayat elections despite court directions, and contrasted this with elections being held in regions such as Jammu and Kashmir and Gujarat. Highlighting development initiatives, Modi said the NDA government is working to posi-

tion Puducherry as a centre for education, tourism and spirituality, and noted that projects inaugurated during his visit reflect the Centre's focus on the Union Territory. He called on party workers to step up outreach efforts and expressed confidence that voters would support the NDA in the upcoming elections. Earlier, the Prime Minister inaugurated several projects and held a roadshow.

Telangana to Have First Integrated Godavari Temple Circuit

The government expects the 2027 Godavari Pushkaralu to attract large pilgrim footfall while positioning the corridor as a combined religious and eco-tourism destination

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy will release a master plan for a 550-km Godavari temple circuit at Basara on April 6 to develop a river-linked pilgrimage and eco-tourism corridor ahead of the 2027 Godavari Pushkaralu. According to officials, the proposed Basara-Bhadrachalam circuit will connect major shrines, including Gnana Saraswati Temple and Sri Sita Ramachandra Swamy Temple, along with Kaleshwaram, Dharmapuri, Kotilingala, Soan, Gudem, and Sri Rama Giri. The officials said these sites, earlier functioning in isolation, will be integrated into a continuous pilgrimage route



for devotees from Telangana, Maharashtra, and Andhra Pradesh. The river bends at Soan, and Kaleshwaram will be developed as key nodes with eco-sensitive walkways and viewing points. The officials said the circuit is planned to begin at Kandakurthi near Basara, known as "Skanda Kudi" and "Triveni Sangamam," where the Godavari, Man-

jeera, and Haridra rivers meet. Vedic scholars said the locations hold religious significance due to river confluences and bends. Vedic Pandit Raghunath Sharma highlighted Basara's rarity: "It's India's only historic Saraswati temple after Kashmir's Sharada Petha — a learning centre where lakhs of children do Aksharabhya-

sam yearly, with the Godavari waters carrying knowledge and speech energy." Senior Vedic pandit from Nirmal, Gunavanth Shastri, added that the "scriptures view rivers as living goddesses. Sacred river bends are special sthalas. Soan's U-turn is known as 'Vrudha Ganga' and has immense significance in Shradha and Pinda daan for ancestors. Kaleshwaram's Dakshina Triveni Sangamam washes sins instantly. It is unique for two Shiva Lingas (Shiva and Yama) on one pedestal, and a rare Brahma temple is also nearby. Developing ghats here aligns infrastructure with ancient beliefs." Officials said eco-tourism sites such as Bogatha Falls and Kinnerasani Wildlife Sanctuary will be

integrated with regulated activities, including boating and trekking. Basic amenities such as shaded rest areas, toilets, water facilities, and parking will be developed to manage crowds and limit unplanned construction. Master plans for Basara, Kaleshwaram, Dharmapuri, and Bhadrachalam include infrastructure upgrades and aesthetic redevelopment. A '351-crore project is already underway at Bhadrachalam, with the state seeking additional central funds. The government expects the 2027 Godavari Pushkaralu to attract large pilgrim footfall while positioning the corridor as a combined religious and eco-tourism destination, officials said.

Cong. BRS Brace for Showdown in Municipal Elections

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The stage is set for elections to the posts of chairman and vice-chairman in Kyathanpalli and Khanapur municipalities on Saturday, with officials making elaborate arrangements and deploying police to prevent untoward incidents. A tense political atmosphere prevails as doubts are raised over the quorum of ward councillors required to conduct the polls, failing which the elections, where the Congress and the BRS are locked in a fierce contest, may be postponed. Additional collector (Local Bodies) P. Chandraiah said the elections in Kyathanpalli would be held as per guidelines and inspected the municipal office to ensure precautionary measures. Police will be deployed to main-



tain peace. Kyathanpalli has 22 wards, with BRS winning 10, Congress seven, CPI four and one independent. With CPI support, BRS has reached the magic figure. Minister Gaddam Vivek and Peddapalli MP Gaddam Vamsi have ex-officio votes, which they registered at Kyathanpalli. In Khanapur, BJP leaders recently offered to share posts with the BRS to keep the Congress out. Of the 12 wards, Congress won three, BRS and BJP four each, and one independent candidate later joined

Congress in the presence of MLA Vedma Bojju, who also holds an ex-officio vote. Meanwhile, BRS town president Gounkar Raju lodged a complaint alleging that councillor Mesa Posani and her son were kidnapped ahead of the polls. Congress MLA Bojju refuted the charge, saying his party had no need to resort to such acts and was confident of winning. Additional collector Venkateswarlu is overseeing arrangements in Khanapur, assuring transparent conduct of the elections.

Medchal-Malkajgiri Leaders Greet Kavadi Madhava Reddy

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Warm birthday wishes poured in for senior Congress leader Kavadi Madhava Reddy from across the district, reflecting his strong connect with party members and the public alike. Among those who conveyed their greetings was Thalka Ramulu, Division Vigilance Committee Member, along with several local leaders, party workers, and well-wishers. Many visited in person to extend their wishes, while



others reached out over the phone to mark the occasion. The celebrations highlighted the respect and goodwill Madhava Reddy

enjoys within political and social circles in the region. Supporters gathered to express their appreciation for his leadership and continued service to the

community. Responding to the overwhelming wishes, Kavadi Madhava Reddy expressed his heartfelt gratitude to everyone who took the time to greet him. He thanked all those who conveyed their wishes personally as well as those who reached out over phone calls, acknowledging their support and blessings. The occasion turned into a moment of camaraderie and connection, underscoring the leader's enduring rapport with people from all walks of life.

Allapur Gram Sabha Draws Crowd Under 99-Day Action Plan

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Allapur village in Raikode mandal witnessed a significant turnout during the Gram Sabha held on April 2, 2026, at the panchayat office premises. The meeting was conducted as part of the state-wide 99-Day Action Plan. The Gram Sabha was presided over by the Sarpanch, in the presence of the Deputy Sarpanch, ward members, and the Panchayat Secretary. To ensure maximum public participation, village authorities undertook extensive awareness campaigns



ahead of the event, including wall posters and traditional drum (tom-tom) announcements. These efforts resulted in enthusiastic participation from youth, members of Mahila Samakhyas groups, elders, and other residents. Addressing the gathering, the Sarpanch stated that the initiative follows the roadmap laid

out by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, aimed at creating awareness about government welfare schemes, particularly the Six Guarantees. During the meeting, villagers actively raised concerns and submitted petitions seeking: Sanction of old-age pensions Allotment of Indiramma

housing improvements in drinking water supply Seasonal challenges, especially summer water scarcity and the need for pipeline extensions, were also discussed in detail. Prominent attendees included Zilla Grandhalaya Chairman Anjaiah, Mandal Congress Party President, senior mandal leaders, and Raikode former Sarpanch Kedarnath Patil. The meeting concluded with the Sarpanch expressing gratitude to all participants and urging continued community involvement for the overall development of the village.

Bidekanne Gram Sabha Draws Crowd Under 99-Day Action Plan

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Bidekanne village in Jharsangam mandal, Sangareddy district, Telangana, held a well-attended Gram Sabha on April 2, 2026, at the panchayat office, as part of the state-wide 99-Day Action Plan. The meeting was presided over by Sarpanch C. Ravinder, with Deputy Sarpanch, ward members, and the panchayat secretary present. Awareness efforts, including wall posters and traditional drum announcements, ensured active participation from youth, Mahila Samakhyas members, elders, and other



residents. Sarpanch Ravinder highlighted that the initiative aligns with Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's roadmap to promote government welfare schemes, particularly the Six Guarantees. Villagers submitted petitions and raised concerns about old-age pension sanctions, Indiramma housing allotments, and drinking water improvements, includ-

ing additional motors and pipeline extensions. Seasonal issues, especially summer water scarcity, were also discussed. The Gram Sabha concluded with the Sarpanch expressing gratitude and encouraging continued community engagement for the overall development of Bidekanne village. Implementation of welfare programs..

Telangana teachers demand PRC report and DAs release

The Telangana Prantha Upadhyaya Sangam (TPUS) on Friday demanded that the State government immediately release the new Pay Revision Commission (PRC) report and pending DAs. During a meeting held here, TPUS president Vodalra Rajasekhara, general secretary Telkalapalli Pentayya and organising secretary Kanuganti Hanumanth Rao expressed concern that the PRC, which was supposed to be implemented from July 1, 2023, was yet to be released. The teachers pointed out that although the Central government regularly increases Dearness Allowance (DA), five DA instalments remain pending in the State. The TPUS representatives said Rs. 8,000 crore worth of pending bills related to employees were currently pending with the government. In addition, Rs. 2,000 crore in dues related to CPS employees were unpaid. Due to these pending amounts, teachers were being forced to take loans for their personal needs, children's education and urgent medical expenses, they said. Stating that retired teachers were being forced to wait for years to receive the benefits earned through a lifetime of service and were approaching the courts, the TPUS demanded.

Uddandapuram Satyanarayana Appointed as District Congress Secretary in Medchal-Malkajgiri

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In a move aimed at strengthening the Congress party in Medchal-Malkajgiri district, Uddandapuram Satyanarayana has been appointed as the District Congress Party Secretary. The appointment has been welcomed with happiness and enthusiasm among party cadres. Speaking on the occasion, Satyanarayana expressed his heartfelt gratitude to the state and district leadership, as well



as local leaders, for entrusting him with this important responsibility. He said he considers it a great honor to be given such a key role based on the trust placed in him. He also extended special thanks to print and electronic media personnel who consistently highlight public issues and

contribute towards their resolution. He acknowledged the crucial role of media in creating awareness about people's problems. Accepting the responsibility with commitment, Satyanarayana stated that his primary goal is to further strengthen the party across the district. He emphasized that he will work from the grassroots level to the urban areas, ensuring that party activities reach the people and addressing the concerns of all sections of society.

Telangana advances SA-II exams for Classes I to IX

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

Grand Hanuman Jayanti Celebrations Held in Mahbubnagar

MAHBUBNAGAR
Wakeup telangana

Hanuman Jayanti was celebrated with great religious fervor and devotion at the TD Gutta and Bandlagere Hanuman temples in Mahbubnagar town. On this auspicious occasion, grand 'Annaprasadam' (community kitchen) programs were organized for the devotees. The Honorable Government Whip and Mahbubnagar MLA, Shri Yennam Srinivas Reddy, attended the event as the Chief Guest. He performed special prayers and sought blessings for the peace and prosperity of the people. Following the rit-



uals, the MLA formally inaugurated the food distribution program and sat along with the devotees to partake in the meal, demonstrating a spirit of equality. Speaking on the occasion, MLA Yennam Srinivas Reddy stated that Lord Hanuman is the epitome of devotion, strength, and courage. He wished that the blessings of the deity would bring happiness to every household.

He further emphasized that such spiritual gatherings play a vital role in fostering social unity and harmony. The event saw the participation of several prominent leaders, including MUDA Chairman Laxman Yadav, District Library Corporation Chairman Mallu Narasimha Reddy, Senior Congress leader NP Venkatesh, and DCC General Secretary Siraj Quadri.

Permanent Solution for Veerannapet Dumping Yard Soon

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Deputy Mayor of Mahbubnagar Municipal Corporation (MMC), Marpally Surender Reddy (MSR), has assured residents that a permanent solution to the long-standing dumping yard issue in Veerannapet (13th Division) will be implemented soon and Syed Mohsin 13 devisions corporater and senior Congress leader Syed taqi MAHBUBNAGAR were present. On Friday, the Deputy



Mayor conducted a field inspection of the dumping yard to assess the situation firsthand. Speaking to the media, MSR noted that the residents of Veerannapet have been suffering for a long time due to the foul smell and health hazards posed by the ac-

cumulated waste. "We have taken note of

the public's grievances. After inspecting the site and consulting with the concerned municipal officials, we are committed to resolving this issue permanently at the earliest to ensure a clean and healthy environment for the local community," the Deputy Mayor stated.



Early Bird Property Tax Scheme in CURE Area

The Early Bird scheme for 2026-27 has commenced in the Core Urban Region Economy (CURE) area, offering a five per cent discount on property tax if dues for the current financial year are paid in full by April 30.

Kavitha raises alarm over fee hikes, seeks immediate government intervention

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Telangana Jagruti President Kalvakuntla Kavitha expressed serious concern over the sharp rise in private school fees, stating that the education system is increasingly becoming unaffordable for common people.



government immediately step in and introduce a Fee Regulation Act to control arbitrary hikes. She called for a special Assembly session to discuss and pass the legislation, emphasizing that annual fee increases should not exceed 8% under any circumstances.

standards, lack of proper monitoring, and poor treatment of teachers, including denial of PF and low salaries. She urged authorities to conduct surprise inspections and strict audits in such institutions.

opportunities to locals, she said, should not be encouraged by the government. Kavitha further flagged the issue of pending fee reimbursements and scholarships, which are causing severe distress to students.

Telangana Jagruthi Appoints Vijayakiran Reddy as Farmers

Kappati Panduranga Reddy Welcomes Vijayakiran Reddy as Farmers' Champion, Confident He Will Empower Farmers

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Manchireddy Vijayakiran Reddy has been appointed as the President of the Telangana Jagruthi Rangareddy District Farmers' Section, with District President Kappati Panduranga Reddy announcing the decision and expressing confidence in his leadership.



Manchireddy Vijayakiran Reddy

the present—and reiterated that the farmers' wing would continue to act as a strong voice for agrarian communities. He emphasized that under Kavitha's guidance, the organization remains committed to improving farmers' livelihoods and driving social change.

government and authorities, ensure timely solutions, and mobilize farmer communities. Panduranga Reddy also urged him to unite farmer well-wishers and, if necessary, take a firm stand in advocating for their rights.

Tributes Paid to Telangana Martyr Doddi Komaraiah in Mahbubnagar

Senior Telangana leaders and citizens gather at Padmavathi Colony to honor Doddi Komaraiah, inspiring legacy of bravery and social justice.

MAHBUBNAGAR Wakeup telangana

On the birth anniversary of Doddi Komaraiah, celebrated as the first martyr of the Telangana Armed Struggle, senior leaders and citizens gathered at Padmavathi Colony to honor his legacy.



figure whose actions sparked the larger struggle for Telangana's freedom. The leaders underlined that Telangana's history is incomplete without acknowledging Doddi Komaraiah.

The community remembered Komaraiah not only as a revolutionary but as a guiding symbol of resilience and determination for future generations.

Foreign students in Telangana under scanner for attendance, conduct and performance

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Starting this year, attendance, conduct, academic performance among other details of foreign nationals and Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) cardholders studying in the educational institutions in the State will be recorded and monitored regularly.



The move comes as the Central government instructed the State government to implement the 'Immigration and Foreigners Act, 2025'. The Immigration and Foreigners Rules 2025 stipulate that every educational institution from school to the university admitting foreign nationals or OCI cardholders must furnish online the information

pertaining to such students enrolled in their institutions via the Form-II to the Foreigners Regional Registration Office (FRRO). This information submission has been made

mandatory to comply with Indian immigration laws and also to ensure national security. Details, including passport and Visa/OCI No. surname, given name, date of birth, nationality, course name, pattern and duration, fee structure, and sponsoring agency, if applicable, — have to be mandatorily submitted within 24 hours from the time of admission.

performance — attendance, examinations conducted, results, general conduct of the student, and whether or not the student is eligible to continue the course — must be also provided to the registration office every semester.

Mancherial MLA warns of defections, urges priority for loyal Congress leaders

ADILABAD Wakeup telangana

Congress MLA from Mancherial, K Prensagar Rao, cautioned the party leadership against encouraging defections. He said such a trend could weaken the party's future in the State.

party only for power. Speaking at a party programme in Mancherial on Friday, Rao urged the leadership to recognise the contribution of loyal leaders. He said they should be given priority in nominated posts and organisational positions.

He warned that such leaders would not remain with the party once political equations changed. "If defections are encouraged and turncoats' domination continues, the party will struggle to survive," Rao said.

Revenue on liquor sales increases by 266 crores in erstwhile Medak

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

The liquor sales, including beer and Indian Made Foreign Liquor, have considerably increased in the erstwhile Medak district during the last financial year compared to the previous year. The revenue from liquor sales increased from Rs 3,300 crore to Rs 3,566 crore, recording an increase of Rs 266 crore in the 2025-26 financial year compared to the previous year.

have been sold out and 42,93,910 beer cases have been sold out. While the liquor sales have recorded 4.84 percent growth compared to the previous year, the beer sales have declined by 12.88 percent, while the revenue on total sales has increased by 8.06 percent.

IFHE Launches Trithi-26: Culture, Creativity, Leadership

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

The prestigious three-day undergraduate cultural festival 'Trithi-26', organized by the ICFAL Foundation for Higher Education (IFHE), commenced on April 2, 2026, at the university campus.



of Trithi-2026 and Assistant Dean (Student Activities) of ICFAL Law School, highlighted the importance of holistic education. He emphasized that cultural platforms like Trithi foster leadership, teamwork, and creativity among students.

participate in cultural programs alongside academics for overall development. IFHE Registrar Prof. S. Vijayalakshmi appreciated the organizing team and noted such events strengthen campus unity and vibrant culture.

responsible, ethical professionals and said cultural festivals help develop leadership, creativity, and emotional intelligence. Chief guest Shobha Rani Yasaswi, IFHE Society Chairperson, spoke on the role of cultural activities in building confidence among youth.

IEEE Hyderabad Hosts Lecture on Research Success

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

The IEEE Society on Social Implications of Technology (SSIT), Hyderabad Section Chapter, in collaboration with the IEEE SSIT CBIT Student Branch Chapter, will host a Distinguished Lecturer Program on April 17, 2026, featuring Dr. Fahmida Chowdhury, Program Director at the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF), USA.



The online session, scheduled from 8:00 PM to 9:30 PM (IST), is expected to benefit students, faculty, and research scholars by offering practical guidance and insights into global research practices.

mGB79, and attend via Webex link Dr. Sagar Gujjuoori, Chairman of IEEE SSIT Hyderabad Section Chapter, extended an open invitation to academicians, researchers, and students to join the session.

Ship Carrying Iranian Oil Shifts Course Midway From India to China

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

A US-sanctioned tanker carrying Iranian crude oil has rerouted mid-voyage from its previously indicated destination of India - where it would have marked the first such shipment in nearly seven years - to China. The Aframax tanker Ping Shun, built in 2002 and sanctioned by the US in 2025, is now signalling Dongying in China as its destination instead of Vadinar in Gujarat, which it had indicated earlier this week, according to ship-tracking firm Kpler.

There is no confirmation that the destination that the ship's Automatic Identification System (AIS) transponder - a tracking system mandated on most commercial vessels - is indicating is the final and it may not change at any time during the transit. "An Iranian crude vessel 'Ping

Shun' that had been en route to Vadinar, India, over the past three days has dropped India as its declared destination near arrival and is now signalling China," said Sumit Ritolia, Lead Research Analyst, Refining and Modelling at commodity market analytic firm Kpler. Oil on Ping Shun would have been the first Iranian crude that India would have purchased since 2019. Indian refiners have been looking at opportunities to purchase a few cargoes of Iranian oil on water following the recent sanctions waiver by Washington. According to Ritolia, the shift in destination of Ping Shun appears to be payment-related, with sellers tightening terms, moving away from the earlier 30-60 day credit window toward up-front or near-term settlement.

It was not clear who was the actual seller and buyer of the crude. Vadinar is



home for 20 million tonnes a year oil refinery of Russian oil giant Rosneft-backed Nayara Energy. "While such mid-voyage destination changes are not unprecedented with Iranian crudes, they highlight the increasing sensitivity of trade flows to financial terms and counterparty risk," he said. "If the payment issues are resolved, the cargo could still make its way to an Indian refinery. However, the episode underscores how commercial terms are becoming as critical as logistics in determining Ira-

nian crude flows to other countries apart from China." India's oil ministry has so far maintained that techno-commercial feasibility will drive the decision on resuming buying Iranian crude. Historically, India was a major buyer of Iranian crude, importing significant volumes of Iranian light and heavy grades due to strong refinery compatibility and favourable commercial terms. Following sanctions tightening in 2018, imports ceased from May 2019, with volumes replaced by

Middle Eastern, US and other grades. At peak, Iranian crude accounted for 11.5 per cent of India's total imports. India used to buy 518,000 barrels per day of Iranian oil in 2018, which slowed to 268,000 bpd between January and May 2019 when the US granted waivers to a few buyers. There have been no imports since. The key grades that Indian refiners used to purchase are Iran light and Iran heavy crudes. The US last month waived sanctions on the purchase of Iranian oil at sea for 30 days in its latest attempt to ease oil prices that have been driven up by the US-Israeli war on Iran. That window expires April 19. An estimated 95 million barrels of Iranian oil is on vessels on sea, of which around 51 million barrels could be sold to India while the remaining are better suited for buyers in China and Southeast Asia. Ping Shun is estimated to be

carrying about 600,000 barrels of oil that was loaded from Kharg Island around March 4. Its declared ETA to Vadinar was April 4, according to Kpler. While the US waiver allowed countries to purchase those barrels, it is unclear how payments will be made. Iran remains cut off from SWIFT (Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunication) -- a global messaging network used by banks and financial institutions to securely send and receive information about financial transactions. Last purchases from Iran were done in Euro using a Turkish bank as a go-between but that option no longer exists. Iran was cut off from the SWIFT system in March 2012 following European Union sanctions over its nuclear programme, with the move forcing the disconnection of multiple Iranian banks and severely restricting global financial.

EC Declares Paid Holiday on Polling Days for Upcoming Elections

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The Election Commission of India (ECI) on Friday announced that all employees, including daily wage and casual workers, will be entitled to a paid holiday on polling days for the upcoming General Elections and bye-elections this month. In a press note, the ECI said, "As per Section 135B of the Representation of the People Act, 1951, every person employed in any business, trade, industrial undertaking, or any other establishment, and entitled to vote at an election to the House of the People or to the Legislative Assembly of a States/UTs or Bye-election to a PC/AC shall be granted a paid holiday on the day of poll."

The announcement covers elections to the Legislative Assemblies of Assam, Kerala, Pu-

ducherry, Tamil Nadu and West Bengal and Bye-election to eight Assembly Constituencies across six states, which are Goa, Gujarat, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Nagaland, Tripura. Polling will be held on April 9 for Assam, Kerala, Puducherry, Goa, Karnataka, Nagaland, and Tripura; April 23 for Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, and Maharashtra; and April 23 (Phase I) and April 29 (Phase II) for West Bengal.

The Commission further stated that wages will not be deducted on polling day, and violators will be fined. "No deduction of wages shall be made on account of such a paid holiday. Any employer who contravenes these provisions shall be liable to a fine," the statement read. The Commission further clarified, "Electors (including casual and daily wage workers) who are working.

Progress in Afghanistan-Pakistan Peace Talks: China

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Peace talks between Afghanistan's Taliban government and Pakistan are advancing, China's government said Friday, two days after those countries resumed conversations following weeks of fighting that have killed hundreds. "The consultation process is being steadily implemented and advanced," said China's Foreign Ministry spokesperson Mao Ning. Xi Jinping's government is mediating between Is-

lamabad and Kabul, whose representatives resumed the talks on Wednesday in the western Chinese city of Urumqi. "The three parties have also reached consensus and arrangements on a specific operational mode, including media coverage," she added, without giving more details. "Since the recent escalation of the Pakistan-Afghanistan conflict, China has been mediating and promoting talks in its own way, maintaining close communication with both sides through multiple

channels and at various levels, and creating conditions and providing platforms for dialogue", Mao said. She added that both countries "attach importance to and welcome China's mediation efforts, and are willing to sit down again for talks, which is a positive development." Pakistan has witnessed a surge in attacks in recent years, many claimed by the Pakistani Taliban. Even as the talks restarted, the police reported that a suicide bomber rammed an explo-

sives-laden vehicle into a police station in the Bannu district of north-western Pakistan late Thursday, killing at least five people and wounding several others. Pakistan often accuses Afghanistan of providing a safe haven to militants who carry out attacks inside Pakistan, especially the Pakistani Taliban, or TTP. The group is separate from but allied with the Afghan Taliban, which took over Afghanistan in 2021 following the chaotic withdrawal of U.S.-led troops.

5.8 magnitude quake rattles Hindu Kush region, eight dead

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

An earthquake with a preliminary magnitude of 5.8 rattled parts of northern and eastern Afghanistan and western Pakistan late Friday. The spokesperson for Kabul's governor said at least eight people are dead. The region is highly seismically active, and quakes have caused thousands of deaths in recent years. Friday's earthquake had an epicenter in the Hindu Kush mountain range, about 150 kilometers (93

miles) east of the Afghan city of Kunduz, according to the Euro-Mediterranean Seismological Center and the United States Geological Survey. With the epicenter at a depth of over 180 kilometers, the quake was felt across a wide swathe of Afghanistan and Pakistan. It was felt in the areas of Islamabad, Peshawar, Chitral, Swat and Shangla, according to the Pakistan Meteorological Department. Afghanistan's Health Ministry spokesman Sharafat Zaman said Kabul and provincial health au-

thorities had been put on alert. Last August, a 6.0 earthquake that struck a remote, mountainous part of eastern Afghanistan killed more than 2,200 people, leveling villages and trapping people under rubble. Most casualties were in Kunar province, where people typically live in wood and mud-brick houses along steep valleys. In November, a 6.3 earthquake struck Samangan province in northern Afghanistan, killing at least 27 people and injuring more than 950. It also

damaged historical sites, including Afghanistan's famed Blue Mosque in the city of Mazar-e-Sharif, and the Bagh-e-Jahan Nama Palace in Khulm. On Oct. 7, 2023, a 6.3 quake followed by strong aftershocks in western Afghanistan killed thousands of people. Impoverished Afghanistan often faces difficulty in responding to natural disasters, especially in remote regions. Many homes in rural and outlying areas are made from mud bricks and wood, with many poorly built.

Five Indians among 12 injured in Abu Dhabi missile debris incident

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

As many as 12 people, including five Indian nationals, were injured on Friday due to the falling missile debris after a successful interception carried out by UAE's air defence systems in Ajban area of Abu Dhabi.



"As part of the ongoing follow-up to the previously reported incident in the Ajban area caused by falling debris following the successful interception by air defence systems, authorities confirm that the incident has resulted in minor to moderate injuries sustained by six individuals of Nepali nationality and five individuals of Indian nationality, and one major injury sustained by an individual of Nepali nationality. The public is reminded to obtain information only from official sources and to avoid spreading rumours or unverified information," Abu Dhabi Media Office posted on X. Earlier in the day, the office said that authorities responded to an incident of falling debris in the Ajban area after a successful interception by air

defence systems. Meanwhile, UAE's Ministry of Defence said that its air defence on Friday engaged 18 ballistic missiles, four cruise missiles and 47 Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) launched from Iran. According to the statement, UAE's air defences have engaged 475 ballistic missiles, 23 cruise missiles and 2085 UAVs since the start of Iranian attacks. "The attacks resulted in the martyrdom of two members of the armed forces while performing their national duty, in addition to the martyrdom of a Moroccan civilian contracted by the Armed Forces, as well as nine fatalities of Pakistani, Nepali, Bangladeshi, Palestinian and Indian nationalities. "A total of 203 people

were also injured, with injuries ranging from minor to moderate and severe. The injured included nationals of the UAE, Egypt, Sudan, Ethiopia, the Philippines, Pakistan, Iran, India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Azerbaijan, Yemen, Uganda, Eritrea, Lebanon, Afghanistan, Bahrain, Comoros, Türkiye, Iraq, Nepal, Nigeria, Oman, Jordan, Palestine, Ghana, Indonesia, Sweden and Tunisia," read the statement. UAE's Ministry of Defence expressed its readiness to deal with any threats and vowed to confront anything that aims to undermine the security of the UAE, in a manner that ensures the protection of its sovereignty, security and stability and safeguards its interests and national capabilities.

Iran Vows Crushing..

William Goodhind, a forensic imagery analyst with Contested Ground, said images of the plane's tail fin seen in photos posted on social media are consistent with that of an F-15E Strike Eagle, which carries two crew. The governor of Kohgiluyeh and Boyer-Ahmad province said anyone who captured or killed the crew "would be specially commended," Iran's semi-official news agency ISNA reported. The incident follows threats this week by Trump to bomb the country back to the "Stone Age," including to attack Iran's energy infrastructure and desalination plants, as he presses Tehran to end the war on U.S. terms. So far, 13 U.S. military service members have been killed in the conflict and more than 300 have been wounded, according to the U.S. Central Command. No U.S. troops have been taken prisoner by Iran. While Trump has repeatedly sought to portray the Iranian military as in tatters, Reuters first reported on U.S. intelligence showing that Iran retains large amounts of missile and drone capability. As of last week, the U.S. could only determine with certainty that it had destroyed about one-third of Iran's missile arsenal. The status of about another third was less clear but bombings likely damaged, destroyed or buried those missiles in underground tunnels and bunkers, Reuters sources said.

Russia Offers to.....

The visit comes amid indications that Russian President Vladimir Putin may attend the BRICS Summit to be hosted by India, likely in September. Manturov called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi and held separate talks with National Security Advisor Ajit Doval and Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman. He also co-chaired the India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation (IRIGC-TEC), New Delhi said in a statement on Friday. External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar was also part of the engagements. The visit coincided with that of Vladimir Yakushev, Secretary of the General Council of Russia's ruling United Russia party, who met Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla and Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh Narayan Singh. India and Russia have held three high-level engagements over the past week, with discussions focusing on energy, fertiliser and food security amid the ongoing West Asian conflict. Last week, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri held Foreign Office Consultations with Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Andrey Rudenko in New Delhi, during which the West Asian situation was discussed. Russian First Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov, who concluded his two-day visit on Friday, also held a bilateral meeting with External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar on Thursday. Ac-

FROM FRONT PAGE

Discrepancies.....

According to officials, the two sides "exchanged views on regional and global developments including the conflict in West Asia". The contrasting documents, prepared for the Perambur and Tiruchirappalli East constituencies, reveal contradictory declarations regarding his pending criminal cases and designated election bank accounts. The affidavit prepared for the Perambur Assembly constituency, which was notarised in Chennai on March 30, explicitly claims that the political leader has no pending criminal cases against him. Conversely, a subsequent affidavit drafted for the Tiruchirappalli East constituency, notarised three days later in Tiruchirappalli, declares two pending First Information Reports (FIRs). According to the Tiruchirappalli document, the disclosed cases include an FIR registered at the Koodakovil Police Station in Madurai district, and another at the Peravallur Police Station in Chennai. The latter involves allegations of public nuisance and injuries caused by bouncers during a recent campaign event. In addition to the criminal record discrepancy, the financial declarations related to election expenditure also differ. The Perambur document lists a single bank account opened for election expenses at the Indian Overseas Bank, Saligramam branch, containing a deposit of Rs 1 lakh. The Trichy affidavit, however, lists two separate accounts, maintaining the Saligramam account

Entire Country.....

"They (YSRCP) wanted to destroy Amaravati, but we enacted a law. Today, the entire country stands behind Amaravati. Overcoming all conspiracies, Amaravati has emerged victorious. The dreams of five crore people have been fulfilled with the help of the Centre's sovereign seal. Nobody will be able to change anything in the future," he said. Naidu noted that there are 50 parties in both the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha. He said, "Despite ideological and personal differences, and no direct connection to Andhra Pradesh's capital, they all supported the Amaravati Bill in order to safeguard the interests of the country." Naidu attacked the opposition party, alleging that it has no sense of national interest and is not concerned about Andhra Pradesh's progress. He expressed his gratitude to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah for the passage of the 'Amaravati Bill' in Parliament. The Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation (Amendment) Bill, 2026, making Amaravati the capital of the southern state, was passed by the Rajya Sabha on Thursday and the Lok Sabha on April 1.

CRIME

Telangana seizes 3,699 illegal LPG cylinders in anti-hoarding drive

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Acting against hoarding and black-marketing of LPG, the Telangana civil supplies department has seized 3,699 domestic LPG cylinders and 70 small cylinders from March 12 to April 3, officials said on Friday. The total value of the confiscated property is estimated at Rs. 1.10 crore. A total of 1,275 cases have been filed under Section 6A of the Essential Commodities Act, while 216 FIRs have been registered. District Collectors, empowered under this section, can confiscate essential commodities if hoarding or black marketing is suspected. Authorities noted that many seized cylinders



were being diverted for commercial use. Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy assured residents that there is no shortage of domestic LPG in the state but warned that any misuse would attract strict action. Consumers have also been urged to avoid panic booking, which disrupts the regular delivery system. On average,

public-sector oil marketing companies—IOCL, BPCL, and HPCL—supply around 2.15 lakh domestic LPG cylinders daily in Telangana. While domestic LPG supplies remain sufficient, the state is facing a shortage of auto LPG, causing severe hardship for autorickshaw drivers. In a letter dated March 31, Reddy requested

Union Petroleum Minister Hardeep Singh Puri to provide an urgent additional supply to cover a daily deficit of 55 metric tonnes. The shortage affects nearly one lakh autorickshaws, disrupting public transport and impacting the livelihoods of drivers and their families. Reddy emphasized that petroleum product stocks in Telangana are adequate for three months, clarifying the situation following recent panic buying of petrol and diesel across the state. The civil supplies department continues its vigilance to prevent hoarding, ensure fair distribution, and maintain smooth functioning of both domestic and auto LPG supplies.

Seven booked for grabbing govt land in Hyderabad by faking info

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

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

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

Heavy Water Plant AITUC leader dies by suicide in Kothagudem

KHOTAGUDEM
Wakeup telangana

A senior AITUC leader at Heavy Water Plant, Aswapuram in the district allegedly died by suicide. According to CI Ashok Reddy, the deceased, Mulukuri Venkat Reddy (48), hanged himself at his residential quarters at Gautami Nagar Colony in the mandal headquarters at around midnight on Thursday when family members were not at home. The incident came to light on Friday. Venkat Reddy worked as a senior techni-



cian at the Heavy Water Plant. Based on a complaint filed by his brother-in-law, K Pratap Reddy, a case was registered and an investigation was launched into the incident. It was said that the deceased took the extreme step due to health issues.

Family disputes drive woman Sarpanch to die by suicide in Nirmal

A woman Sarpanch died by suicide following family disputes at Masaipet village in Kaddampeddur mandal on Friday. Kaddampeddur SI Sai Kiran said that Durgam Laharika (31), wife of Rajesh ended her life by consuming pesticide following a tiff with her husband. Differences cropped up between the couple for a long time. Elders of the two families tried to resolve the issues, but the couple continued to fight repeatedly. The exact reason for her drastic step is yet to be ascertained. Hailing from Narsapur village, Laharika was married to Rajesh 14 years ago. The couple has a son and daughter. Laxmi, mother of Laharika lodged a complaint with the police. A case of abetment to suicide was registered

Man kills twin daughters before throwing into well in Karimnagar

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In an inhuman incident, a man killed his five-year-old twin daughters and threw them into an agricultural well in Jublinagar of Karimnagar mandal on Friday. According to local people, the couple Gachu Srisailam and Geeta Sree have family disputes. On Friday, they had an argument with each other. Enraged over the incident, Srisailam killed his daughters by administering pesticides. Later, he threw the bodies into an agricultural well on the outskirts of the village. On coming to know about the incident, villagers

rushed to the spot and launched a search for the girls. The body of one girl was retrieved from the well. The search is continuing for the other. Enraged over the incident, villagers caught Srisailam and thrashed him severely before handing him over to the police. Family dispute is said to be the reason for the incident. Recently, the dispute between Srisailam and his wife was discussed at the gram panchayat by village elders. On coming to know about the incident, police rushed to the spot and began investigation by registering a case.

Spurious pickle unit busted in Jiyaguda

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

Promotion from ASI to SI: District SP Decorates Mohammed Moizuddin with Insignia

MAHBBNAGAR
Wakeup telangana

Mohammed Moizuddin of the District Crime Records Bureau (DCRB) has been promoted from Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) to Sub-Inspector (SI). The promotion ceremony was presided over by District Superintendent of Police Smt. D. Janaki, IPS, who decorated him with the new rank insignia and extended her heartiest congratulations. Moizuddin began his career in 1989 as a Constable in the erstwhile



Mahabubnagar district, serving at Alamapur, Thimmajipeta, Jadcherla, Pedakothapally, and Kosgi Police Stations. He was promoted to Head Constable in 2012 and ASI in 2018, and has held key as-

signments at DCRB, CCS Mahabubnagar, Hanwada, and the Traffic Police Station. He is currently posted at Koilakonda Police Station. Over his 37-year career, he has received 70 cash

rewards, 18 GSEs, 12 appreciation certificates, and prestigious awards including the Seva Pathakam (2013), Telangana Chief Minister's Sarvounnata Police Pathakam (2017), Uttama Police Pathakam (2019), and the Indian Police Medal (2025). D. Janaki lauded his discipline, dedication, and public service, emphasizing that with this promotion come greater responsibilities, confident he will continue his exemplary service. The ceremony saw colleagues and staff congratulating him

EDITORIAL

THE AI ERA: TRANSFORMING INDUSTRIES, ENHANCING LIVES AND BUILDING TOMORROW

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Aftab Ahmed

Artificial Intelligence (AI) has become one of the most significant technological advancements of our time. By 2026, AI has integrated seamlessly into nearly every sector, enhancing productivity, improving decision-making and fostering innovation. It serves as a powerful tool that amplifies human capabilities, streamlines operations and addresses longstanding challenges across domains. From healthcare and finance to agriculture and education, AI delivers measurable benefits through data-driven insights, automation and personalization. Beyond these, AI contributes meaningfully to entertainment through content curation, to environmental management via climate modelling and energy optimization and to fields such as law, cybersecurity and public administration by enabling faster analysis and smarter governance. Across all sectors, AI acts as an enabler that boosts productivity while complementing human expertise. Its continued evolution, supported by ethical frameworks and continuous skill development,

ensures broad-based benefits for society and the economy. The Telangana government, under the leadership of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, has taken commendable steps to position the state as a global leader in artificial intelligence. The formal launch of the Telangana AI Innovation Hub (TAIH) at the World Economic Forum in Davos in January 2026 marks a significant milestone. Designed as the world's first 'Global AI Proving Ground' for enterprise and population-scale solutions, TAIH fosters collaboration among industry, academia and government to drive applied AI research and real-world deployments across multiple sectors.

Complementing TAIH is the ambitious AI City project in Hyderabad, which aims to create a dedicated ecosystem for AI research, start-ups, infrastructure and innovation. Strategic partnerships with global organizations such as Blaize, Pearson and others have strengthened the initiative. Pearson's support for the Global AI Academy under TAIH focuses on curriculum design, skilling and credentialing, helping build future-ready talent. The government's vision includes large-scale training programs to equip youth with AI skills, integration of AI into school curricula starting from the 2026-27 academic year and the appointment of AI nodal officers across departments to enhance public service delivery. Plans for an AI University and investments in AI-ready data centers further underscore Telangana's commitment to infrastructure and innovation. These forward-thinking initiatives reflect a clear strategy to harness AI for economic growth, improved governance and inclusive development. By fostering public-private partnerships and emphasizing skill development, Telangana is strengthening Hyderabad's reputation as a premier technology hub while contributing to India's broader digital ambitions. As AI continues to evolve, its integration across industries holds immense potential to drive efficiency, innovation and sustainable progress. Success depends on collaborative efforts, responsible implementation and investment in human capital. Telangana's proactive and visionary approach serves as an inspiring model for leveraging AI to create long-term societal and economic value. With sustained leadership and strategic investments, the state is well-positioned to unlock new opportunities and shape a brighter digital future for its people and the nation. The journey of AI is still unfolding, and with thoughtful adoption, its benefits will continue to enrich lives across all fields. (The Writer is a Political Analyst and Strategist)



Maruti Suzuki adds 502 service touchpoints in FY26, expands network

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

India's largest automobile manufacturer, Maruti Suzuki India Limited, on Friday announced a record-breaking expansion of its after-sales service network, adding 502 new service touchpoints during the financial year ending March 2026. This marks the highest single-year expansion in the company's history and takes its total service footprint to 5,926 touchpoints spread across more than 3,000 cities and towns nationwide. The newly established service locations include a mix of ARENA and NEXA workshops, Maruti Suzuki Sales and Service Points (MSSPs), and Service-on-Wheels units. This diversified ap-



proach reflects the company's strategy to cater to a wide spectrum of customers—from urban metro users to those in smaller towns and remote rural markets. By strengthening its reach across geographies, the automaker aims to ensure convenient and timely service access regardless of location.

Highlighting the importance of customer convenience, Managing Director and CEO Hisa-

shi Takeuchi stated that the company's growing service network ensures that assistance is always within reach. Customers can either visit workshops, opt for doorstep servicing, or avail support while traveling, making the ownership experience more seamless and reliable. He further revealed that Maruti Suzuki is targeting an ambitious expansion to nearly 8,000 service touchpoints by the finan-

cial year 2030–31.

The current pace of expansion marks a significant acceleration compared to the company's earlier growth trajectory. Maruti Suzuki began its service journey in 1983 with its first workshop and took nearly 14 years to reach 1,000 touchpoints by 1997. The latest addition of over 500 service points in a single year underscores the company's aggressive push to scale operations in line with rising customer demand.

On the sales front, Maruti Suzuki reported steady growth. The company recorded a 5 percent year-on-year increase in retail sales for March 2026, while its overall sales volume for the full financial year FY26 grew

by around 3 percent compared to the previous year. In March alone, the automaker sold a total of 2,25,251 units, up from 1,92,984 units in the same month last year. Domestic passenger vehicle sales stood at 1,69,428 units, while exports witnessed a strong surge to 47,040 units. Additionally, sales to other original equipment manufacturers (OEMs) reached 8,783 units, reflecting robust demand across segments.

Meanwhile, shares of Maruti Suzuki closed at ₹12,632 on the BSE on Thursday, registering a 1 percent increase, signaling continued investor confidence in the company's growth strategy and expanding service network.

Franklin Templeton's First SIF NFO from April 10

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Franklin Templeton India has announced the launch of its first specialised investment fund (SIF), the Sapphire Equity Long-Short SIF, under the newly introduced SIF framework. The fund requires a minimum investment of ₹10 lakh and is aimed at investors with a higher risk appetite seeking more flexible and dynamic investment strategies. The New Fund Offer (NFO) for the Sapphire Equity Long-Short SIF will open on April 10 and close on April 24, 2026. The scheme will invest across stocks listed in the Nifty 500, providing diversified exposure to large-cap, mid-cap, and small-cap segments. The SIF framework, recently intro-

duced in India, is broadly aligned with the mutual fund structure but offers greater flexibility in portfolio management. A key differentiator is the ability to take unhedged short positions of up to 25 per cent of the total assets under management (AUM).

This feature enables fund managers to potentially benefit not only from rising markets but also from falling ones, thereby enhancing risk management capabilities. According to Avinash Satwalekar, President of Franklin Templeton India, the SIF structure is designed to cater to investors who are comfortable with higher levels of risk in pursuit of relatively better returns. He noted that the flexibility to take short positions allows the fund to respond ef-

fectively to market volatility and corrections, potentially reducing downside risk. Satwalekar further highlighted that modern markets are increasingly dynamic, with rapid shifts across economic cycles and sectors. In such an environment, traditional long-only strategies may not always capture opportunities efficiently. The long-short approach adopted by the Sapphire Equity SIF allows for a more balanced and adaptive investment style. Overall, the launch reflects Franklin Templeton India's effort to expand its product suite in line with evolving investor needs, offering a sophisticated investment option that blends growth potential with risk management through strategic short-selling capabilities.

REDMI Note 15 SE Launched with Premium Design, Big Battery



NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Xiaomi India has unveiled the REDMI Note 15 Special Edition, a feature-packed smartphone that combines premium design, immersive display, and long-lasting performance. Positioned as a stylish yet practical device, it aims to enhance everyday user experiences across entertainment, communication,

and productivity.

The REDMI Note 15 SE stands out with its 6.77-inch curved AMOLED display offering FHD+ resolution and a 120Hz refresh rate. With peak brightness reaching up to 3200 nits, the screen ensures clear visibility even in bright outdoor conditions. The device also features triple TÜV certifications, ensuring eye comfort during prolonged usage. Its ultra-

slim 7.35mm profile and lightweight 178g build contribute to a sleek, premium feel, available in Crimson Reserve, Carbon Black, and Frosted White finishes.

Under the hood, the smartphone is powered by the Snapdragon 6 Gen 3 processor built on a 4nm architecture, ensuring efficient multitasking and smooth performance. It is equipped with a 50MP

AI dual rear camera system and a 20MP front camera, supported by advanced AI tools such as AI Erase, AI Sky, and AI Bokeh, enabling users to capture and enhance images effortlessly.

Battery life is a major highlight, with a 5800mAh battery designed for all-day usage, complemented by 45W turbo charging for quick power-ups. The device also fea-

tures dual speakers with Dolby Atmos support, ensuring an immersive audio experience, while AI-powered noise cancellation enhances call clarity. Connectivity options include multiple 5G bands and dual-band Wi-Fi for reliable performance.

Security and durability are also prioritized, with features like an in-display fingerprint sensor, AI face unlock, and Titan Solid build qual-

ity. The phone is certified to MIL-STD-810H standards and offers IP65 and IP66 ratings for dust and splash resistance.

The REDMI Note 15 SE will be available from April 7, 2026, via Flipkart and mi.com. Prices start at ₹17,999 (effective) for the base variant, making it a competitive offering in the mid-range segment.

Food Prices Rise in March on West Asia Conflict

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

World food commodity prices rose in March for the second month in a row, largely due to higher energy prices linked to the conflict in West Asia, finds the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). While wheat production in major producing countries are anticipated to fall, India will have a record harvest. The FAO Food Price Index, which tracks monthly changes in

the international prices of a basket of globally traded food commodities, averaged 128.5 points in March, up 2.4 percent from February and 1.0 percent above its level a year ago.

"Price rises since the conflict began have been modest, driven mainly by higher oil prices and cushioned by ample global cereal supplies," said FAO Chief Economist Máximo Torero. "But if the conflict stretches beyond 40 days with high input costs with current low margins,

farmers will have to choose: farm the same with fewer inputs, plant less, or switch to less intensive fertilizer crops. Those choices will hit future yields and shape our food supply and commodity prices for the rest of this year and all of the next."

The FAO Vegetable Oil Price Index increased by 5.1 percent from February to stand 13.2 percent higher than its year-earlier level. International quotations for palm, soy, sunflower and rapeseed oil all

rose, reflecting spillover effects from the sharp increases in crude oil prices, which catalyzed expectations of stronger demand for biofuels. Bovine and poultry meat prices declined, partly due to logistical constraints limiting access to markets in West Asia.

The FAO Sugar Price Index increased by 7.2 percent in March. Rising expectations that Brazil, the main sugar exporter, would use more sugarcane to produce ethanol to counter higher inter-

national crude oil prices overweighed a generally favourable global supply outlook for the current season, supported by good harvest progress in India and Thailand. With most of the world's wheat crop already planted, FAO forecasts worldwide harvests of 820 million tonnes, a 1.7 percent drop from the previous year. Lower prices and adverse weather conditions are anticipated to curb wheat output in the European Union, the Russian Federation, and the United.

Dettol Campaign Celebrates Mother's Protective Instinct

Dettol Launches new Campaign celebrating a mother's protective instinct

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Dettol has launched a new emotion-driven campaign for its iconic Dettol Antiseptic Liquid, reinforcing its long-standing association with care and protection in Indian households. Centered on the theme "Nothing protects like Mom & Dettol," the campaign highlights the instinctive bond between a mother and child while positioning the brand as a trusted companion in moments of vulnerability.

The campaign film, set in a vibrant wedding household, captures a poignant moment where a young boy hides his injury amid celebrations. Despite his efforts to appear brave, his mother instinctively senses something is wrong. As she gently treats his wound using Dettol Antiseptic Liquid, the child's emotional guard drops, revealing his pain. The narrative concludes with



a touching reversal, as the child comforts his mother, reinforcing the emotional depth of their bond. The film ends with the message, "Apnon ki suraksha ka mazboot sahara."

Conceptualized and written by Prasoon Joshi, the campaign blends storytelling with cultural authenticity. The film features music composed by Vishal Khurana, vocals by Javed Ali, and direction by Amit Sharma, bringing together emotion and realism in a relatable narrative.

According to Gaurav Jain, EVP Regional Director, Reckitt – South Asia, the campaign reflects the brand's commitment to fostering a sense of safety and care

beyond product functionality. He emphasized that Dettol has remained a dependable presence across generations, supporting mothers in moments where protection is both physical and emotional.

Echoing this sentiment, Prasoon Joshi noted that the campaign draws from the universal truth of a child seeking comfort in their mother, while mothers rely on Dettol to safeguard their loved ones.

With this campaign, Dettol reiterates its enduring legacy as a household essential, continuing to stand alongside families and reinforcing its role as a symbol of trust, care, and protection across generations.

India Generic Exports Resist U.S. Drug Tariffs

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

India is unlikely to be significantly impacted by US President Donald Trump's announcement of 100 per cent tariffs on certain patented drugs, as the country primarily exports low-cost generic medicines to America, think tank GTRI said on Friday. Trump signed an executive order on April 2, announcing the imposition of a 100 per cent ad valorem duty rate on the import of certain patented pharmaceuticals and associated pharmaceutical ingredients. The order, issued on April 2, 2026, builds on a Section



232 investigation launched on May 1, 2025, which cited national security risks from dependence on foreign drug supplies. The Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI) said the move has left "India largely protected, given its dominance in low-cost generic drug exports to the US". Generic medicines make up over 90 per cent of US drug use and are exempt for now, likely for

about a year, to avoid shortages and price increases, it added.

In 2025, India exported USD 9.7 billion worth of pharmaceuticals to the US, accounting for 38 per cent of its global pharma exports of USD 25.8 billion. "However, Indian firms producing branded or speciality drugs, or supplying inputs for patented medicines, could face tariff pressure. The larger concern is future uncertainty if tariffs are extended to generics," GTRI founder Ajay Srivastava said. The order timing, issued on the first anniversary of the earlier "Liberation Day" tariff push, signals a continuation of Washington's aggressive trade

strategy, he added.

On April 2 last year, the US announced sweeping tariffs on about 60 countries, including India. The 100 per cent tariffs will mainly affect Ireland, Germany, Switzerland, Belgium, Denmark, the United Kingdom and Japan, which are major exporters of patented and high-value drugs, including biologics, to the US, he said, adding that the order does not exempt countries with trade arrangements with the US, including the European Union and Japan. On April 2 last year, the US announced sweeping tariffs on about 60 countries, including India.

Purnama Chary Showcases Art at Art India Festival 2026

International contemporary visual artist Purnama Chary Kagithala will present his works, including Dream of Paradesi, at the India Art Festival Hyderabad 2026 from April 3 to 5, 2026, at Jubilee Hills Convention Centre. The festival will run daily from 11 AM to 8 PM, showcasing 80 galleries, 300 artists, and over 3,000 artworks spanning painting, sculpture, photography, and prints. A VIP Preview on April 3 will provide exclusive early access with a digital pass valid for all days. Dream of Paradesi stands out as a central piece, reflecting themes of longing, liberation, and the human urge to transcend boundaries. The work creates a surreal passage between stillness and movement, where suspended wings within an arch symbolize a moment of transformation—an awakening before flight—while a forward-moving winged figure captures the desire to explore distant lands and unknown worlds.

Rendered in a dream-like surrealist style, the composition blurs the line between reality and imagination. The interplay of light and shadow strengthens the narrative, evoking hope emerging from stillness and reinforcing emotional and physical transcendence.

Based in Central London, Kagithala's broader practice explores identity, desire, displacement, and psychological space through figurative and surrealist approaches. His work is grounded in strong draftsmanship and conceptual clarity, spanning multiple mediums including acrylic, oil, charcoal, watercolour, pastel, and mixed media.

He holds a Master of Fine Arts from the University of Hyderabad and a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Osmania University. With participation in over 20 exhibitions across India and internationally, he has received multiple awards, building a growing global presence.



Dream of Paradesi



Artist Purnama Chary Kagithala



Dream of Paradesi



India Art Festival Hyderabad 2026 at Jubilee Hills Convention Centre, Hyderabad.

Aadi Sai Kumar's 'Saira Banu' promises a vibrant love story



HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Telugu star Aadi Sai Kumar's next film, which is being directed by Phani Krishna Siriki, has been titled 'Sairabanu', its makers announced on Friday.

Well known producer Ramesh Danda, fresh off the sensational success of 'K-Ramp', is to bankroll the film under the Hasya Movies banner, with Krishnakanth Paruchuri as co-producer.

Bandhavi Sridhar has

been roped in as the female lead opposite Aadi Sai Kumar for this film. Sources say that Aadi Sai Kumar, who scored the biggest blockbuster of his career with 'Shambhala', is now steering towards concept-driven films with strong commercial appeal. Titled fascinatingly 'Saira Banu', the film was unveiled through a visually delightful poster. The design radiates a vibrant, dreamy romantic tone. A gigantic heart-shaped pink cloud, brushed in soft pastel textures, floats across

the top. Beneath it lies the tagline 'A Fun Filled Journey of Love, Faith & Destiny.' The bottom half paints a striking fantasy-infused visual—a water-drenched Charminar, a peaceful Vizag beach road, and Rajahmundry Godavari bridge, all set in a surreal, storybook-like landscape. The clear, serene sky and gently scattered clouds add to the whimsical, imaginative world the film seems to promise.

Hasya Movies took to its social media timelines to

announce the title of the film. Sharing the title poster, it wrote, "A formal beginning... to a love story that breaks every boundary. #SairaBanu Pooja Ceremony commenced today. Clap by @Kiran_Abbavaram. Camera switched on by @RamAbbaraju. @saikumaractor garu Script handover by @kona-venkat99 @JainsNani. First shot direction @filmsyogi. Shoot begins soon."

Sources claim that Phani Krishna Siriki has crafted

a unique Hindu-Muslim love story laced with humour, with the narrative unfolding in Rajahmundry and Hyderabad. The project was launched on Friday with an auspicious pooja ceremony. Backed by a strong technical team, the film aims to be a rich visual and emotional experience. The film is to have cinematography by Raam Reddy and music by Shekar Chandra. Chota K Prasad is to handle the editing of this film while Brahma Kadali will serve.

Delhi Capitals top order under pressure ahead of Mumbai Indians

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

The spotlight will firmly be on Delhi Capitals' top order when they face a confident Mumbai Indians in their first home fixture of the IPL 2026 season here on Saturday.

DC, who tried as many as seven opening combinations last year, had hoped for greater stability this season, but early signs suggest the issue persists. Chasing a modest 142 against Lucknow Super Giants in their opener, the Capitals' top order crumbled quickly, with KL Rahul falling for a first-ball duck and Nitish Rana and Pathum Nissanka departing in quick succession to leave the side at 26 for four.

What followed, however, was a display of composure and maturity by 22-year-old impact substitute Sameer Rizvi, who struck an unbeaten half-century. Combining with the experienced Tristan Stubbs, the duo scripted a six-wicket victory with an unbroken stand that rescued DC.

While Rizvi's fearless strokeplay stood out, the



vulnerability at the top remains a concern, particularly against a Mumbai attack led by Jasprit Bumrah.

Still in pursuit of their maiden IPL title, the Capitals will be eager to see greater stability at the top. They have the option of turning to either Abishek Porel, who showed promise last season, or Prithvi Shaw, who has struggled with consistency.

"It's just been one game, we haven't pushed the panic button yet," Kuldeep Yadav said at the pre-match press conference when asked about the top-order collapse.

In contrast, DC's bowling unit looked more assured even in the absence of Australian quick Mitchell Starc, who remains unavailable.

South African pacer Lungi Ngidi continues to use slower deliveries ef-

fectively and T Natarajan, who has spent considerable time on the sidelines due to injury, chipped in with a three-wicket haul against LSG, while Mukesh Kumar was economical.

The spin duo of Kuldeep Yadav and skipper Axar Patel applied pressure through the middle overs, ensuring the opposition never broke free.

This blend of pace variations and spin control will be key for Delhi against MI's batting line-up that includes Rohit Sharma, Suryakumar Yadav and Tilak Varma.

MI will enter the contest with confidence after snapping a 14-year opening-match jinx with a record chase against Kolkata Knight Riders.

Rohit turned back the clock, scoring a fiery 78, marking his return to T20 cricket in emphatic fash-

ion. Fellow opener Ryan Rickleton, who was picked ahead of the more experienced Quinton de Kock, provided solid support with a quick 81 and is likely to keep his place.

"When we bought him (Rickleton), we knew his potential. We had him in our SA20 team as well. And when he and Rohit had a good combination last year, there was no intention of changing it," MI head coach Mahela Jayawardene said on the eve of the match.

"When we saw Quinny at the auction, it was an opportunity for us. We saw him as an overseas backup because Indian wicketkeepers went for high prices. And he fit in well.

"We never thought that we would change the combination. We did not want to change something that was not broken."

Their bowling, though expensive, had its moments. Shardul Thakur picked up three crucial wickets, while Bumrah and Trent Boult kept things tight. Mumbai used Suryakumar as an impact player due to a minor groin.

Iyer's fifty powers Punjab Kings past Chennai Super Kings by five wickets

CHENNAI Wakeup telangana

Skipper Shreyas Iyer's half-century, marked by elegance and aggression in equal measure, was the centrepiece in Punjab Kings' five-wicket win over Chennai Super Kings in their IPL match here on Friday.

Shreyas (50, 29 balls) and his 59-run alliance with Nehal Wadhwa for the fourth wicket helped Punjab end up at 210 for five while chasing a competitive 209 on a dew-less Chepauk night, also consigning the hosts to their second successive defeat. It was Punjab's second win on the trot, but there were other heroes too on the night for PBKS.

Chasing a target at a run-rate close to 11 required consistent and calm run-making, and that was what PBKS did through their top order, with almost everyone chipping in. Priyansh Arya (39, 11 balls), Prabhsimran Singh



(43, 34 balls), and Cooper Connolly (36, 22 balls) all came up with notable contributions.

Arya was quite brutal while attacking the CSK attack. Khaleel Ahmed was hit for a four and a six, while Matt Henry was struck for 4, 6, 4 in his first over that leaked 20 runs.

Arya and Prabhsimran added 61 runs in just 4.2 overs, giving a clear indication of the course the match was taking.

The Delhi batter was cleaned up by Henry to give some relief to CSK, but none was more significant in PBKS's march than their skipper Shreyas,

who played a wide range of shots.

Shreyas started a bit slow, reaching 8 off 9 balls, as Connolly was doing most of the scoring. But once the Australian fell to Anshul Kamboj, Shreyas took control of the chase.

As expected, he attacked the spinners, and the shot of the innings was an inside-out six off leg-spinner Rahul Chahar.

Shreyas brought up his fifty in 26 balls with a boundary off Kamboj, but soon fell to the bowler while chasing a wide delivery.

Wadhwa fell off the first ball of the next over to Henry as PBKS slipped to

186 for five from 186 for three.

However, that proved a minor setback. Earlier, Ayush Mhatre showcased his talent with a 43-ball 73, powering the Super Kings to a competitive 209 for five.

Mhatre and skipper Ruturaj Gaikwad (28) added 96 runs for the second wicket after Devon Conway returned to the pavilion early.

Conway moved towards the leg side and tried to play Xavier Bartlett's outswinger over covers, but edged it to Prabhsimran behind the wicket.

But his dismissal proved a minor setback, as Mhatre took apart Punjab's bowling with power and precision.

Pacer Bartlett suffered early as Mhatre hit him for three fours in a row—a loft through mid-wicket, a flick and a pull. His aggressive approach helped CSK reach 57 for one in the Power Play.

Hyderabad police warn citizens against chemically ripened mangoes

The Hyderabad Food Adulteration Surveillance Team (H-FAST), a special unit of Hyderabad Police to check food adulteration, is maintaining a strict vigil on the sale of chemically ripened mangoes. Hyderabad Police Commissioner V. C. Sajjanar, who heads H-FAST, said on Friday that legal action is being initiated against those who violate the rules. He urged the public not to be deceived by the outward appearance of the fruit and to verify its naturalness before purchasing. Be cautious of mangoes that have an unnatural colour, a chemical odour, or a strange taste. If there are unusual spots on the skin or if the colour changes unexpectedly when washed with baking soda water, realise that they are harmful to your health, he said. People having information regarding adulterated mangoes may report it to Dial 100 or contact the H-FAST helpline at 8712661212. "The king of fruits is back on our plates, but people are advised to exercise caution and avoid being misled by chemically ripened mangoes. They should also be wary of those sold under the label of organic," the Police Commissioner said in a social media post. He urged consumers to verify the authenticity of the produce before making a purchase. "With the onset of summer, the mango has begun to flood the markets. However, citizens must not overlook the deadly danger lurking behind these mouth-watering fruits. Driven by a greed for profit, some unscrupulous traders are risking public lives. Instead of allowing mangoes to ripen naturally, they are being artificially ripened using Calcium Carbide and other hazardous chemicals," he said.

18,000 Permits Cleared via BuildNow in Hyderabad



The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation recorded a significant surge in building approvals and revenue during the 2025-26 financial year, with 17,957 building and layout permissions granted through the BuildNow portal. In addition, 2,427 occupancy certificates were issued, reflecting improved efficiency in urban governance. Of the 15,536 building permissions processed, a majority—12,014—were cleared under the instant approval category, highlighting the system's speed. Another 2,515 permissions were granted via the single-window system, while 972 fell under instant registration, ensuring multiple streamlined pathways for applicants. The civic body reported total revenue of ₹1,172.08 crore from building permissions and occupancy certifications, marking an increase from ₹1,138.44 crore collected in the previous financial year. This growth underscores the expanding construction activity and improved compliance. Revenue contributions were led by Cyberabad Municipal Corporation (₹538.09 crore), followed by GHMC (₹436.47 crore) and Malkajgiri Municipal Corporation (₹198.24 crore), indicating balanced urban development across regions. The BuildNow portal, launched in March 2025 by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, introduced a transparent, technology-driven system for granting approvals. Authorities emphasized that the digitized process has significantly reduced delays, minimized manual intervention, and enhanced accountability. Officials stated that the initiative has accelerated permissions, boosted investor confidence, and simplified procedures, making it easier for citizens and developers to obtain approvals while ensuring regulatory compliance.

Traffic advisory: One-way trial near KBR Park for H-CITI project

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In view of ongoing infrastructure works under the Hyderabad City Innovative and Transformative Infrastructure (H-CITI) project, traffic restrictions will be imposed in parts of Banjara Hills and Jubilee Hills on April 5.

Accordingly, roads surrounding KBR Park will operate under a one-way trial system between 11 am and 1 pm, to facilitate the construction of a steel flyover and underpass. According to traffic police, commuters travelling from NFCL towards SNT, Sagar Society, KBR Park entrance, and Jubilee Hills check post, Road No. 36, Road No. 45, and the Durgam Cheruvu Cable Bridge are advised to take a diversion via NTR Bha-



van, Basavatarakam Cancer Hospital, Agrasen Island and Omega Hospital before reaching their destinations. Similarly, motorists from Yousufguda and Srinagar Colony towards Jubilee Hills and Madhapur should take Indiranagar Gadda Road (Road No. 5), proceed to Venkatagiri

Junction and continue via Road No. 10 and Al-Cazar towards Road No. 36 and Road No. 45. Hyderabad Traffic officials clarified that no 'U-turns' will be allowed on designated routes during the trial period, and commuters must strictly follow left-side driving to ensure smooth exits. Traf-

fic police personnel will be deployed on the ground, and signage will guide motorists along diversion routes. Citizens are requested to plan their travel in advance, use navigation apps for real-time updates or opt for public transport and car-pooling.

Harish Rao challenges Revanth Reddy over claims in Kerala election

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BRSRP deputy leader T Harish Rao had thrown down the gauntlet at Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy to prove his claims of governance success made during his election campaign in Kerala. He accused the Chief Minister of misleading people outside the State, while failing to deliver on key promises in Telangana. "Which of the Six Guarantees have actually been delivered fully?" he asked, listing pending promises including farm loan waivers, financial assistance to women, enhanced pensions, and farmer support schemes. He exuded

confidence that Kerala voters were clever enough to verify facts independently, notwithstanding Revanth Reddy's political rhetoric. Speaking to media persons during his Kodangal visit on Friday, Harish Rao dared Revanth Reddy to identify a single village in Kodangal where farm loan waivers had been fully implemented, asserting that ground realities starkly contradict official claims. He stated that the Congress government had not only duped farmers with partial implementation of farm loan waiver, but also failed to release three installments of Rythu Bharosa financial assistance.

Mamata blames 'Hyderabad cuckoo AIMIM' for Malda unrest

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Friday, April 3, blamed All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) for unrest in Malda. She also mocked Union Home Minister Amit Shah's announcement that he would camp in the state for 15 days, declaring that even 365 days would not help the BJP because "people of Bengal do not like you". Addressing a poll rally at Gazole in Malda district, Banerjee turned her guns on AIMIM chief Asaduddin Owaisi without nam-



ing him, accusing the "Hyderabad cuckoo of the BJP" of engineering the protests in Malda in which seven judicial officers engaged in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise were confined for hours inside a block office. Her remarks came a day after Shah, during BJP leader Suvendu Adhikari's nomination filing programme from Bhabanipur,

announced that he would stay in West Bengal for 15 days during the election campaign, underscoring the importance the BJP central leadership has attached to the battle for Bengal. "Bengal is not Delhi where everything can be managed through agencies and money power. You are saying you will stay here for 15 days. Even if you stay for 365 days, nothing will happen. People here do not like you," Banerjee said, taking a swipe at Shah. With Malda turning into the epicentre of the row after Wednesday night's blockade of judicial of-

ficers in Kaliachak-II block, Banerjee attempted a delicate balancing act — condemning the incident but simultaneously blaming "outsiders" and opposition parties for stoking the unrest. "One incident in Malda has tarnished Bengal's honour. The local people are not responsible for it. They may have grievances. But the people who trapped the judges were outsiders. A cuckoo of the BJP has come from Hyderabad along with some communal people. They are behind all this. We have caught them red-handed. CID picked them up from the airport," she said.

Hyderabad Metro takeover to lessen burden on state's exchequer

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana government has extended the deadline for the takeover of Hyderabad Metro Rail from Larsen & Toubro from March 31 to April 30. According to a Deccan Chronicle report on Friday, April 3, a source had informed that due to the financial commitments between the state government and L&T with regard to acquiring the company's debt of Rs 13,000 crore and equity of Rs 2,000 crore, the process has been extended to another month. The report also cited official sources who informed that the state government has already secured approval from the Indian Railway Finance Corpora-

tion (IRFC) for a loan amounting to Rs 13,000 crore with low interest rates, out of which 75 per cent will be paid in Japanese Yen and the remaining 25 per cent in Indian rupees. The delay is due to the process of obtaining the 75 per cent loan amount from IRFC in Yen, which could take a month's time to be processed. According to the DC report, the interest rate on Yen is 1.5 to 2 per cent, whereas the interest on rupee loan is 25 per cent, which would bring it to a consolidated interest of around 3 to 4 per cent, against the present interest rate of 10 per cent being paid by L&T to a consortium of its lending institutions for the Rs 13,000 crore debt.

Special prayers, passion plays mark good friday

Devotees Observe Fasting, Prayers and Reflection Across Twin Cities



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Thousands of Christians across Hyderabad and Secunderabad observed Good Friday with solemn prayers, fasting, and religious services, commemorating the crucifixion of Jesus Christ. Churches witnessed large gatherings from early morning, marking one of the most sacred days in the Christian calendar with deep devotion and reflection. Special services were held throughout the day,

including Bible readings, hymns, and the "Stations of the Cross," which trace the journey of Christ from condemnation to burial. Many devotees returned to churches at 3 pm, traditionally believed to be the hour of Jesus Christ's death, for silent prayers and meditation. Several churches organized Passion Plays, dramatizing the trial and crucifixion of Christ, drawing significant participation from the faithful. The "Way of the Cross" was also observed,

with devotees carrying wooden crosses to symbolically retrace Christ's final path. Fasting remained a key aspect of the observance, with many abstaining from food as an expression of faith and humility. Devotees followed different fasting practices, ranging from skipping meals to observing day-long fasts, reflecting personal spiritual discipline. Good Friday marks a day of mourning and introspection for Christians, forming a crucial part of

the 40-day Lenten period, which emphasizes repentance and self-reflection. The observance sets the stage for Easter Sunday, which celebrates the resurrection of Jesus Christ and symbolizes hope, renewal, and joy. Churches across the twin cities have begun preparations for Easter, with decorations, lights, and flowers adorning places of worship. Special services and gatherings are planned as families come together to celebrate the festival.



Members of the Christian community perform The Passion of the Christ, depicting the crucifixion of Jesus Christ on Good Friday at St. Joseph's Cathedral in Hyderabad.----Photo: Mir Zulfeqar ali

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