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Brief Insights

India Plans Indigenous 1,000-kg Bomb

The ministry of defence has initiated the process for indigenous design and development of a 1,000-kg aerial bomb for the Indian Air Force (IAF), similar to the Mk-84 class, as part of efforts to enhance self-reliance.

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India LPG Flows Continue As Tanker Crosses Hormuz

An Indian LPG tanker carrying roughly half a day's cooking gas supply has successfully crossed the war-hit Strait of Hormuz, while another vessel from Iran has reached the port of Mangalore, signalling continued fuel inflows despite regional disruptions.

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Bank In Shanghai To Fund 2 Elevated Corridors

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

The New Development Bank (NDB), headquartered in Shanghai, will fund the two major elevated corridor projects in the city, aimed at easing traffic congestion in the core areas.



Kavitha slams govt inaction on fee hikes, calls out 'corporate collusion': P2

Congress workers attack Gajwel MLA camp office; police remain mute spectators: P2

Municipal Chairperson elections: 'This is a resounding victory for democracy,' says KTR: P3



Countdown For Removal Of LDF Govt Begins: Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi Targets LDF, UDF in Kerala; courts Christian voters on FCRA

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi sought to allay the fears of the Christian community following the apprehensions over NDA government's Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment Bill.



his government's position on FCRA. Modi said if the NDA is voted to power in Kerala, the state will witness development of the next level.

rule is clear. The countdown for the LDF government has begun. For the first time in Kerala, a BJP-NDA government will come to power," he said.

protests in Kerala, with major Christian denominations coming out strongly against the amendment. The India Alliance MPs had also staged a protest outside the Parliament.

Modi said Kerala's faith, beliefs, and culture should be preserved, and Kerala should move forward on the path of development—this is our resolve.

CM Revanth Gives Basara Temple A ₹225crore Fillip

Revanth Reddy directed that stringent regulations be implemented to preserve the sanctity of the temple premises.

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has sanctioned ₹225 crore for the development of the Goddess Saraswati temple at Basara and will lay the foundation stone for the project on Monday.



eral modifications. He directed that stringent regulations be implemented to preserve the sanctity of the temple premises.

temple premises in Basara to ensure that the entire area is adorned with majestic trees in the future.

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JD(U) Likely to Lose RS Deputy Chairman Post to TD

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

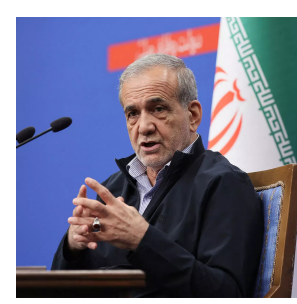
The JD(U) not only stares at the possibility of losing the "big brother" tag in the Bihar NDA, but the Nitish Kumar-led party, according to speculation, may also be denied the Rajya Sabha's deputy chairman's post.

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Iran Says No to Islamabad's Attempt to Play Peace Broker

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

Islamabad's attempt to position itself as a mediator in the West Asia conflict has come to naught with the Iranian side refusing to meet any US led delegation in Pakistan, reports the Wall Street Journal.



have been behind messaging to both the Iranian and US sides. However, it appears that with this significant trust deficit the Iranians are reluctant to let Islamabad play any role in negotiations.

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brief telephone interview with The Independent on Friday. When questioned by The Independent about the measures he might take if the airman is mistreated by Iranian forces, Trump stated, "Well, I can't comment on it because we hope that's not going to happen."

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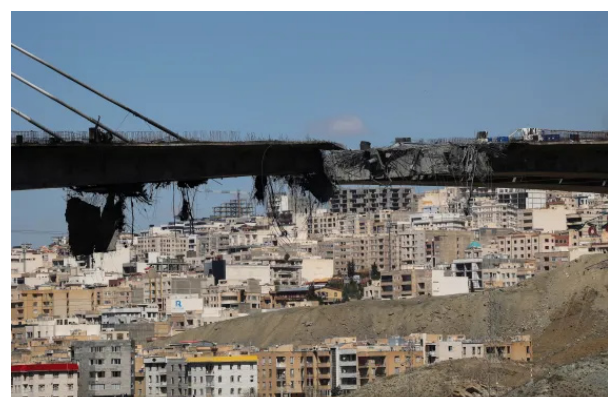
ASTORIA HOTEL Hyderabad Laziz Biryani. ESTD 1960. ek baar khaoge baar baar aaooge. 5-9-8 / C AG OFFICE ROAD, OPPOSITE TO RBI, HYDERABAD

2 US aircraft shot down as war in Iran escalates

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

Iran shot down two U.S. military planes in separate attacks Friday, with one service member rescued and at least one missing, in a dramatic escalation since the war began nearly five weeks ago.

address that the U.S. has "beaten and completely decimated Iran" and was "going to finish the job, and we're going to finish it very fast."



mation about the downed planes. In a brief telephone interview with NBC News, Trump declined to discuss the search-and-rescue efforts

but said what happened would not affect negotiations with Iran. "No, not at all. No, it's war," he said.

media said a U.S. A-10 attack aircraft crashed in the Persian Gulf after being struck by Iranian defense forces. A U.S. official who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss a sensitive military situation said earlier that it was not clear if the aircraft crashed or was shot down or whether Iran was involved.

came as Iran fired on targets across the Middle East on Friday, keeping the pressure on Israel and its Gulf Arab neighbors despite U.S. and Israeli insistence that Iran's military capabilities have been all but destroyed.

Congress workers attack Gajwel MLA camp office; police remain mute spectators

Congress workers allegedly led by DCC president T Anksha Reddy stormed and vandalised the Gajwel MLA camp office. BRS leaders condemned the incident, blamed the Congress government and called for a Gajwel town bandh on Sunday

HYDERABAD
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In what is apparently a premeditated action, Congress workers stormed the Gajwel MLA camp office on Saturday and ransacked it, even while scores of policemen on bandobust remained mute spectators.

The Saturday raid was orchestrated by DCC president T Anksha Reddy, who led the Congress workers who went on a rampage. They broke the main gate, tore down the curtains, damaged window panes and threw loose soil all over the place while raising slogans against BRS president K Chandrashekhara Rao, who represents Gajwel in the Assembly. The Congress workers were carrying the portrait of Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy. The security staff of the building who tried to stop them were assaulted and threatened with dire consequences, even as the police watched.



As the news about the attack on Gajwel camp office spread, hundreds of BRS workers led by constituency in-charge Vanteru Pratap Reddy rushed to the building, only to be stopped by the police. After heated arguments and some jostling, the police allowed them into the building premises. The BRS leaders examined the damage and lodged a complaint with the Gajwel police demanding action against those who were responsible for the entire damage.

In the wake of this incident, the police stepped up security at Anksha Reddy's residence and Congress party office. Meanwhile, the BRS party called for Gajwel town bandh on Sunday, to register their protest against the

Congress attack. Several BRS leaders including legislator and former minister T Harish Rao condemned the attack. Harish Rao held Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy responsible for the attack on the MLA camp office.

BRS MLAs, MLCs and senior leaders condemn attack on KCR's camp office in Gajwel

MHABUBNAGAR
Wakeup telangana

all the attack on the Leader of Opposition K Chandrashekhara Rao's camp office by Congress leaders in Gajwel on Saturday utterly reprehensible, the BRS MLAs, MLCs, and senior leaders wanted the proponents of democracy to condemn the act of hooliganism in unison. Former Minister V Srinivas Goud described the attack on the BRS president's camp office as an attack on the Telangana people. He came down heavily on the Congress leaders for forcibly placing Chief Minister A

Revanth Reddy's portrait in the Opposition Leader's camp office. "Does Congress and Leader of Opposition in Parliament MP Rahul Gandhi place Prime Minister Narendra Modi's portrait in his office?" Goud asked at a press conference. BRS MLC Deshapathi Srinivas charged that police and administrative machinery, far from preventing this anarchy, stood by as mute spectators. This signals a systemic breakdown, he said. "Instigating attacks on Opposition Leader's offices is a clear testament to the existential crisis, psychological distress, and deep-seated insecurity.

Kavitha slams govt inaction on fee hikes, calls out 'corporate collusion'

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Wakeup telangana

Kalvakuntla Kavitha, President of Telangana Jagruti, has launched a strong attack on the state government over its failure to regulate escalating fees in corporate educational institutions. She alleged that a growing nexus between authorities and private education lobbies is placing an unbearable financial burden on middle-class families across Telangana.

Kavitha questioned the government's lack of urgency in addressing what she termed as "fee exploitation," asking why special Assembly sessions cannot be convened to safeguard the interests of lakhs of parents. Drawing a comparison, she pointed out that significant national issues such as the Women's Reservation Bill received priority attention, while pressing concerns



affecting common citizens continue to be neglected. She demanded the immediate introduction of a comprehensive fee regulation law to ensure transparency, accountability, and fairness in the education sector. Expressing concern over delays, Kavitha highlighted that the draft bill prepared by the Telangana Education Commission remains pending, allowing corporate institutions to hike fees unchecked. Warning of serious consequences, she said the continued inaction is eroding the financial sta-

bility of ordinary families and pushing many into distress.

Kavitha also raised doubts about possible tacit understandings between the government and corporate education players, stating that such indifference reflects misplaced priorities and a disconnect from public concerns.

Meanwhile, Telangana Jagruti, in collaboration with the Hind Mazdoor Sabha (HMS), is set to organize a round table meeting titled "Save Singareni" on April 5, 2026, at its Banjara Hills office.

The meeting will bring together Kavitha, HMS General Secretary Riaz Ahmed, and several trade union leaders to deliberate on critical issues affecting Singareni, including pending dues, medical board concerns, compassionate appointments, and long-term sustainability strategies.

SIR Awareness Program Launched in Telangana

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The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) program for the rectification and updating of voter lists has officially commenced across Telangana. As part of this initiative, various awareness camps are being organized at multiple locations to educate and assist the general public. In Division 14, a significant Voter Mapping Camp was conducted under the leadership of Corporator Md Imran Shareef (AIMIM). The camp aimed to provide citizens with essential in-



formation regarding the importance of their franchise and the procedures for correcting details in the electoral rolls. An event was held at the Municipal Community Hall, located beside the Fire Station, Supervision and Field

Staff to ensure the successful execution of the verification process, ICDS Supervisor Waseema Sulthana oversaw the operations. The following Booth Level Officers (BLOs) were actively engaged in providing services: K. Sridevi, K.

Bhagya Laxmi, P. Manju Rani, A. Sandhya Rani, K. Manjula, Alivela, B. Uma Devi, and G. Aruna. Guidelines for Citizens Under the SIR program, BLOs may also conduct door-to-door verification. The administration has issued the following directives for all residents: Maintain original documents along with photocopies for immediate verification. Cross-verify that names and other personal particulars are accurately recorded in the voter list. Utilize these specialized camps to rectify any discrepancies in existing voter IDs.

Dasari Vishal Appointed National Vice President NSCRPA

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Dasari Vishal, a resident of Musheerabad in Hyderabad, has been unanimously elected as the National Vice President of the National Scheduled Castes Rights Protection Association. The decision was taken at the general body meeting held at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Bhavan, Lower Tank Bund, under the leadership of Raju Ustad. Following the election,



Raju Ustad handed over the appointment letter to Vishal. Speaking on the occasion, Vishal expressed gratitude to the national leadership for placing their trust in him and assigning him

the responsibility. He affirmed his commitment to work tirelessly towards the ideals of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. Vishal stated that he would strive to establish a society based on lib-

erty, equality, and fraternity, as envisioned by Ambedkar. He also pledged to fight against atrocities and injustices faced by Scheduled Castes and to oppose the indifferent attitude of central and state governments towards their welfare.

The meeting was attended by National Working President Rayikanti Narsing Rao, General Secretary Hari-Krishna, and Telangana State President Vaidyanath, among others.

Panduranga Reddy Calls for Massive Turnout to Kavitha's Party Launch

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A new political chapter in Telangana is set to begin on April 25, with the announcement of a new party under the leadership of Kavitha. The party's launch event will be held at Advaya Convention in Medchal, with leaders calling for massive public participation from youth and women across the state. The announcement was made during a review meeting held in Shankarpally on April 4, where senior leaders, including Kappati Panduranga Reddy and Ramidi Venkat Reddy, unveiled the official poster of the party formation. They stated that the new party will stand for Te-



langana identity and prioritize social justice as its core agenda. Addressing the media, the leaders emphasized that the party aims to represent marginalized communities and bring inclusive development. They alleged that existing opposition parties have failed to challenge the government effectively and claimed that Kavitha has been leading a lone

fight for the people. Highlighting the role of women, the leaders described the party as a movement driven by women's empowerment. They urged large-scale participation in the April 25 public meeting, calling it a historic moment that could reshape Telangana's political landscape. Several local leaders and activists attended the meeting.

Government Committed to Public Welfare: Govt Whip Yennam Srinivas



₹5 Lakh Insurance Scheme for Ration Card Holders from June 2 MAHBUBNAGAR: Government Whip and Mahbubnagar MLA, Shri Yennam Srinivas Reddy, reaffirmed that the state government is steadfast in its commitment to the welfare of the poor and needy. He made these remarks while attending as the chief guest at the MLA Camp Office to distribute Kalyana Lakshmi and Shaadi Mubarak checks to 109 beneficiaries from the Mahbubnagar Rural Mandal. Fulfilling Promises for the People Addressing the gathering, Yennam Srinivas Reddy stated that since the "People's Government" came into power, several landmark schemes have been implemented, including free bus travel for women and crop loan waivers up to ₹2 lakh for farmers. He criticized the previous administration, noting that not a single new ration card was issued in the last decade. In contrast, the current government is issuing ration cards to eligible families and providing fine rice (Sanna Biyyam) through fair price shops. New Insurance Scheme and Free Power The Government Whip highlighted two

Venkat Prasad Injured, Leaders Wish Speedy Recovery

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

District wrestler A. Venkat Prasad is recovering after undergoing surgery for an ankle fracture sustained during the Khelo India Tribal Wrestling Championship in Raipur, Chhattisgarh, and is currently resting at home.

TPCC General Secretary and District Wrestling Association Honorary President Naga Seetharamulu visited him and expressed confidence in his speedy recovery, urging him to return stronger and bring laurels to the district. Venkat Prasad had displayed remarkable performance in the championship, winning two rounds dominantly before suffering the injury during the quarterfinal bout. He has consistently excelled at national-level events, including university wrestling championships, Federation Cup,



and SAI senior competitions, earning multiple medals and recognition. Praising his achievements, Seetharamulu said Venkat Prasad has brought pride to the district and hoped he would soon resume training and continue his winning streak. District Wrestling Association General Secretary P. Kashi Hussain, Vice President Adinarayana, coaches, and senior players were also present.

Karwan MLA Kausar Mohiuddin Reviews SIR Mapping Work

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Kausar Mohiuddin conducted a door-to-door inspection of the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) booth-level mapping across Karwan constituency, reviewing progress and ensuring accuracy in voter verification. BLOs are actively carrying out mapping based on the 2002 voter list to streamline records and eliminate discrepancies. AIMIM's former corporators, primary unit presidents, and party



workers are actively supporting officials on the ground, assisting residents and guiding them through the process to ensure every eligible citizen is

included in the electoral rolls. The initiative aims to strengthen voter data accuracy and transparency ahead of upcoming electoral processes. Au-



thorities and party representatives have appealed to residents to cooperate with BLOs during verification visits and to utilize the AIMIM Help Desk for any assistance or clarifications regarding voter registration and updates.

Advocates Protection Bill is Historic: MLA Sri Ganesh

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Advocates Protection Bill in Telangana is a historic step, said Cantonment MLA Sri Ganesh. He thanked Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and the Congress government for introducing and passing the bill in the Assembly. On Saturday, members of the Telangana Legal Cell Students Association met the MLA at his office in Picket and expressed their gratitude. Speaking



on the occasion, Sri Ganesh stated that the bill reflects the government's commitment to protecting advocates. He also revealed that proposals for a stipend for jun-

ior lawyers and the establishment of a Law Academy are under consideration. He appreciated the association members for their efforts and support.

Early Bird Property Tax Scheme in CURE Area

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

After CM, now Dy CM peddles lies on six guarantees in Keralam

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

It's now the turn of the Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka to peddle lies. The Deputy CM, who is currently in Keralam to campaign for the Congress party in the ensuing elections, repeated the same lies uttered by the Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy over implementation of six guarantees, especially over filling up government job vacancies. Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka participated in the campaign for the United Democratic Front (UDF) in Pathanamthitta constituency and other parts of Keralam on Saturday. At different election rallies, he asserted that nearly all the election promises made by the Congress in



Telangana have been implemented within two years. He had even gone to the extent of offering to show detailed accounts as "the Finance Minister". In his speeches, he claimed that the Congress government had also filled up 70,000 government jobs within two years. On March 25, he went on record in the Telangana Assembly that the Congress government had filled up to 16,978 posts after it came to power. It had also completed the recruitment process for 50,785 posts which began during the previous BRS

government. In all the government had filled 67,673 posts.

The claim of both the Deputy CM and the CM about jobs being provided and the six guarantees being implemented is hotly contested in Telangana with political observers and opposition parties launching a scathing criticism against the Congress government for not honouring its electoral promises. However, both Revanth Reddy and Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka appear to have swept this criticism under the carpet.

Interestingly, Bhatti Vikramarka had also criticized the Left Democratic Front (LDF) for failing to fulfill the promises made during the previous elections. Even while his government acquired the notoriety as the "20 per cent commission govern-

ment" in Telangana, Bhatti Vikramarka sought to highlight the irregularities in the Sabarimala temple and how senior citizens in Keralam were being neglected without adequate welfare and support.

The Congress government in Telangana in its manifesto had promised to provide a monthly pension of Rs. 4,000 to senior citizens. But, post elections, even after two years the promise has not been fulfilled. The other burning issue he chose to brush under the carpet are the protests being staged by retired employees demanding payment of their retirement benefits.

Interestingly, the Deputy Chief Minister expressed concern that Keralam, once known for secular values, and strong humanistic traditions.

Municipal Chairperson elections: 'This is a resounding victory for democracy,' says KTR

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Saturday described the party's success in the Municipal Chairperson elections in Kyathanpalli, Mancherla district and Ibrahimpatnam in Rangareddy district as a "resounding victory for democracy." He said the party had secured these wins despite what he termed as atrocities by the ruling Congress to influence the outcome. He congratulated the newly elected Municipal Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons.

Taking to X, Rama Rao praised the councillors for remaining united and resisting alleged inducements and pressure exerted by the ruling party to seize these seats through un-



ethical means. He said their determination helped the party retain the municipalities. "The fighting spirit demonstrated by the CPI comrades - our allies in an effort to capture the Kyathanpalli Municipality - is truly inspiring," Rama Rao said. The BRS leader said the results showed that there was no place in Telangana for intimidation, corruption or undemocratic practices. These results have also established that the countdown has begun for the ruling Congress party, which, in a mere

two-and-a-half years, has already accumulated severe public resentment, he stated. Assuring support to party workers, Rama Rao said the BRS would continue to stand by its cadre, who, he said, had put up a strong fight in both Panchayat and Municipal elections. He called on party members to draw inspiration from the victories and continue their efforts against the Congress government led by Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy. Rama Rao also congratulated party leaders, including Mancherla district president Balka Suman and Rangareddy district president Manchireddy Kishan Reddy and Manchireddy Prashanth Kumar Reddy (bunty), for their role in the victories.

Hyderabad police promote defensive driving skills to promote road safety

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

With road accidents continuing to claim thousands of lives on city roads and across the State, police officials and road safety experts are now emphasising 'defensive driving' as a critical life-saving skill. They stress that adopting this approach, which focuses on anticipating risks and avoiding potential hazards, could significantly reduce both accidents and fatalities.

According to officials, nearly 8,000 people lost their lives in road accidents across the State last year. What is more concerning is that 70 to 80 per cent of these deaths are believed to be preventable through simple precautions and responsible driving behaviour. In Hyderabad, around 3,000 accidents are reported annually, with two-wheeler riders and pedestrians forming a major share of the victims. Hyderabad Police point out that human error accounts for nearly 80 per cent of road mishaps. "Rash driving,



overspeeding, failure to follow traffic rules, and lack of awareness are among the leading causes. In this context, defensive driving is being promoted not just as a skill, but as a necessary mindset for all road users," said Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic) Joel Davis. During awareness programmes conducted in educational institutions, students are being trained to remain alert, maintain safe speeds, and anticipate the actions of other drivers.

Traffic officials say that such training helps young motorists develop better judgment and reaction time, ultimately preventing dangerous situations.

Meanwhile, road safety experts recommend that two-wheeler riders, who are particularly vulner-

able, should strictly adhere to safety measures such as limiting speed to 40 to 60 kmph, wearing ISI-certified helmets, and using mirrors and indicators effectively. Motorists also need to exercise caution while merging onto main roads, follow lane discipline, and avoid risky behaviours like triple riding or overtaking stationary vehicles from the side.

They stressed that defensive driving practices can play a transformative role in making roads safer and saving countless lives. What is Defensive Driving? Defensive driving is a safe driving approach where a driver stays alert, anticipates potential dangers, and takes proactive steps to avoid accidents even if other road users make mistakes.

Karchal Village Development Issues Raised Before Damodar Rajanarsimha

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Former Sarpanch of Karchal village, Kapu Srinivas Reddy, husband of the current Sarpanch Smt. Urmila, met Telangana State Health, Medical & Family Welfare and Science & Technology Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha to discuss a range of developmental issues affecting the village. During the meeting, Srinivas Reddy highlighted several pressing concerns requiring immediate government intervention. He drew the Minister's attention to the poor condition of internal and approach roads in Karchal, stating that damaged roads are causing inconvenience to residents



and posing safety risks. He requested urgent repairs and upgrades to improve connectivity and ensure smoother transporta-

tion. A major concern raised was the acute shortage of drinking water, especially during the summer months. Srinivas Reddy urged the government to take proactive measures to ensure a consistent and adequate water supply, emphasizing that villagers are facing severe hardships due to water scarcity.

On the education front, he pointed out the lack of basic infrastructure in the local government school. Issues such as insufficient classrooms, absence of proper drinking water facilities, inadequate toilets, and lack of furniture were brought to the Minister's notice. He also stressed the shortage of teaching staff and requested immediate re-

ruitment to improve the quality of education for students in the village.

In addition to these issues, discussions also covered sanitation challenges, irregular electricity supply, and the need for overall infrastructure development in Karchal. Responding positively, Damodar Rajanarsimha assured that all concerns would be reviewed with the concerned departments and necessary steps would be taken at the earliest to address them. Srinivas Reddy expressed confidence that the government would extend full support and ensure comprehensive development of Karchal village.

Hyderabad Gears Up for Grand Party Foundation Day & Union Minister's Visit

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

An urgent preparatory meeting was held in Hyderabad under District President Niranjan Yadav to organize the Party Foundation Day celebrations on April 5 and 6, along with a workshop for active members and workers. The meeting also focused on arrangements for the visit of Union Minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar to the IS Sadan Division. Leaders discussed detailed plans to ensure



smooth execution and large-scale participation. Key attendees included District General Secretaries Edla Pandarinath, Srinath, and Bokka Madhusudan, along with State Senior Citizen Convener Subhash Chander Ji and several senior leaders and local representatives. The leadership empha-

sized unity, coordination, and active involvement from all cadres. They expressed confidence that the upcoming celebrations and the Minister's visit will be conducted successfully, showcasing the party's organizational strength and enthusiasm at the grassroots level.

MLA Kausar Mohiuddin Inspects Drain Works in Karwan

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Kausar Mohiuddin inspected ongoing box drain works from Jinsi Chowraha Government School, Hakeempet to Balkalpur Nala along with officials from Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation and Hyderabad Urban Development Authority.

The inspection aimed to review progress and address civic issues in the area. Local leaders, the primary unit president, and party workers participated. The visit focused



on improving drainage infrastructure and ensuring timely completion of the project to prevent water-logging problems.

Hyderabad Pays Tribute to Ambedkar Couple, Calls for Social Action

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A grand commemorative event marking the wedding anniversary of Mata Ramabai Ambedkar and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar was held at Jai Bhim Bhavan in Humayun Nagar on Saturday evening, with a strong message to uphold their legacy of social justice, equality, and service. Organized by the Mata Ramabai Ambedkar Mahila Mandali, the program commenced at 6:30 PM with the garlanding of portraits, as members and attendees gathered to pay



heartfelt tributes to the iconic couple. Addressing the gathering, Yermala Shivraj, State Vice President of the Republican Party of India (Athawale), highlighted Mata Ramabai's immense sacrifices, describing her as the "silent force" behind Am-

bedkar's success. He emphasized that her unwavering support during his higher education abroad laid a strong foundation for his achievements. Recalling their history, Shivraj noted the couple's humble 1906 wedding in Mumbai and their deep

bond built on mutual respect.

He also mentioned that Ambedkar dedicated his book Thoughts on Pakistan to Ramabai, honoring her contribution to his journey. Presiding over the event, A. Jamuna and other members urged the community to move beyond symbolic tributes and actively work for the upliftment of marginalized sections.

The program concluded with a collective pledge to carry forward Ambedkar's vision of education, empowerment, and social transformation.

OBC Census Demand Intensifies at Hyderabad Meet

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Former Minister V. Srinivas Goud on Sunday demanded that the Central government immediately include OBC communities in the national census, warning that continued exclusion would lead to large-scale injustice. He was speaking at a roundtable meeting held at Somajiguda Press Club in Hyderabad, organized by political parties and caste organizations. Goud criticized the current census approach, stating that



only SC and ST populations are officially counted, while OBCs are grouped under "others," denying them accurate representation.

He argued that this lack of data is the primary reason why reservations for Backward Classes remain

unimplemented at the national level. He pointed out that while states like Karnataka, Punjab, and Bihar have attempted BC reservations, only Tamil Nadu has a legally sound framework.

He further alleged that promises made during

Prime Ministerial elections to conduct a BC census were meant to mislead voters. Highlighting that OBCs constitute nearly 80 crore people in India, Goud said successive governments have failed to ensure their political and economic empowerment. He also questioned the absence of a dedicated OBC ministry and adequate budget allocation. Former MP V. Hanumantha Rao and several BC leaders participated, calling for a nationwide movement to secure justice for OBC communities.

India LPG Flows Continue As Tanker Crosses Hormuz, Iranian Cargo Reaches Mangalore

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

An Indian LPG tanker carrying roughly half a day's cooking gas supply has successfully crossed the war-hit Strait of Hormuz, while another vessel from Iran has reached the port of Mangalore, signalling continued fuel inflows despite regional disruptions. "LPG vessel Green Sanvi has safely transited the Strait of Hormuz, carrying 46,650 tonnes of LPG cargo with 25 seafarers on board," a government statement giving an update on West Asia developments said Saturday.

Green Sanvi is the seventh Indian-flagged LPG tanker to have transited the strategic waterway, which has remained effectively shut since the US and Israel launched attacks on Iran on February 28 and Tehran's sweeping retaliation. Separately, an

LPG cargo from Iran has arrived at Mangalore and is being discharged, according to the statement. This perhaps is the first purchase of Iranian energy in seven years. "LPG vessel Sea Bird carrying around 44,000 tonnes of Iranian LPG berthed at Mangalore, India on April 2 and is currently discharging," the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas said in a post on X. The purchase follows United States last month waiving sanctions on Iranian oil and refined products temporarily to ease prices that have skyrocketed since the start of the Middle East conflict. After the passage of Green Sanvi, 17 Indian flagged vessels remain stranded on the west side of the strait. Earlier this week, two LPG carriers, BW TYR and BW ELM, carrying combined LPG cargo of about 94,000 tonnes have safely transited the region.



While BW TYR reached Mumbai on March 31, BW ELM docked at New Mangalore on April 1. Prior to that, four Indian-flagged LPG tankers had safely sailed through the strait. Pine Gas and Jag Vasant, carrying 92,612 tonnes of LPG, reached Indian ports between March 26 and March 28. MT Shivalik and MT Nanda Devi, carrying about 92,712 tonnes of LPG, had reached Mundra port in Gujarat on March 16 and Kandla port in the state on March 17, respectively. For a country that relies

on imports from the Gulf nations to meet as much as 60 per cent of its cooking gas needs, the arrivals will help ease the worst LPG shortage it is battling in decades. India consumed 33.15 million tonnes of LPG last year, with imports accounting for about 60 per cent of demand. As much as 90 per cent of those imports came from the Middle East. The US and Israel attacks on Iran and Tehran's sweeping retaliation have all but halted shipping through the strait - the narrow shipping lane

that is the conduit for oil and gas exports from Gulf countries to the world. Iran has, however, stated that "non-hostile vessels" may transit the waterway after coordinating with Iranian authorities. Originally, there were 28 Indian-flagged vessels in the Strait of Hormuz when the war in West Asia broke. Of these, 24 were on the West side of the Strait and four on the East side. Seven vessels from the west side and two from east have managed to sail to safety. Besides the seven LPG tankers, the Indian-flagged oil tanker Jag Laadki, with 80,886 tonnes of crude oil from the UAE, reached Mundra on March 18. Another tanker, Jag Prakash, carrying gasoline from Oman to Africa, had previously safely crossed the strait and is en route to Tanzania. LPG carriers Jag Vikram and Green Asha are still in the western Strait of Hormuz. One empty ves-

sel is being filled with LPG. The statement said all Indian seafarers in the Gulf region are safe and maritime operations remain unaffected, with no incidents involving Indian-flagged vessels reported in the past 24 hours. The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways said it is closely monitoring shipping movements, port operations and the safety of Indian crews, while ensuring continuity of trade amid tensions in the region. The 17 Indian-flagged vessels with about 460 Indian seafarers remain in the western Persian Gulf region and are being tracked by authorities, including the Directorate General of Shipping (DG Shipping), in coordination with ship owners and Indian missions, it said. The DG Shipping control room, operating round-the-clock, has handled more than 5,000 calls and over 10,000 emails.

PM Modi Set to Launch BJP's Bengal Poll Campaign From Cooch Behar

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to visit Cooch Behar on Sunday to launch the BJP's campaign for the West Bengal Assembly elections, a senior party leader said. Modi is scheduled to address a 'Bijoy Sankalpa Sabha' at the historic Ras Mela grounds around noon, marking the start of the party's intensified outreach in north Bengal. During the rally, Modi is expected to outline the party's vision for a "developed West Bengal," highlight issues raised in the BJP's recently released 'people's charge-sheet' against the ruling TMC government in the state, and focus on governance, law and order, and alleged corruption. Elections to the 294-member West Bengal

Assembly will be held in two phases - on April 23 and 29. Votes will be counted on May 4. The BJP leader said Modi's address will set the tone for the party's campaign narrative, emphasising a "fear-free" environment and restoration of public trust in institutions. The April 5 rally will be followed by a series of public meetings, roadshows, and organisational programmes by senior BJP leaders across the state ahead of the polls. Modi had last visited the state on March 14 to address a rally at Brigade Parade Ground in Kolkata and inaugurate development projects worth around Rs 18,680 crore, marking the culmination of the party's Poriborton Yatra.

US Cancels Green Cards, Visas of Iran-Linked Nationals

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The Trump administration has revoked the green cards or US visas of at least four Iranian nationals connected to the current or former Iranian government, including two who have been detained by immigration authorities and are to be deported. The latest actions were taken just this week when Secretary of State Marco Rubio determined they were no longer eligible for either lawful permanent resident status, or to enter the United States. The steps

follow a move late last year in which the visas of several diplomats and staffers at Iran's mission to the United Nations were also revoked. In a statement on Saturday, the State Department said the niece and grand-niece of former Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps chief Qassem Soleimani, who was killed in a US airstrike near the Baghdad airport in 2020, had been arrested late Friday by immigration agents after Rubio revoked their green cards. "Hamideh Soleimani Afshar and her daughter are now in the custody of US

Immigration and Customs Enforcement," the statement said, adding that Afshar's husband has also been banned from entering the United States. Afshar and her daughter had been living a "lavish lifestyle" in Los Angeles for many years while publicly supporting the Iranian government and anti-American attacks, according to the statement. She is "an outspoken supporter of the Iranian regime who celebrated attacks on Americans and referred to our country as the 'Great Satan,'" Rubio said in a post on X. "The Trump administration will

not allow our country to become a home for foreign nationals who support anti-American terrorist regimes." The Iranian mission to the UN had no comment Saturday. Afshar and her daughter are just the latest Iranians to have their legal status in the US rescinded by Rubio, who recently revoked the visas of Fatemeh Ardeshtir-Larijani, an academic and the daughter of Iran's former national security adviser Ali Larijani who was killed in a US-Israeli airstrike last month. Her husband, Seyed Kalantar Motamedi.

Sunetra Pawar Seeks Uddhav Support For Bypoll

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

NCP chief and Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Sunetra Pawar has reached out to Shiv Sena (UBT) president Uddhav Thackeray, seeking his party's support for her candidature in the Baramati Assembly bypoll scheduled for April 23. Mr. Thackeray has said he will consult his party before taking a decision, sources said. The outreach comes amid indications that the Congress will field its own candidate even if its alliance part-

ners — NCP (SP) and Shiv Sena (UBT) — decide to support Ms Pawar, setting the stage for a multi-cornered contest. Meanwhile, Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis has appealed for an unopposed bypoll, saying all parties should "show a large-hearted approach". The Baramati seat fell vacant following the death of former Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar in a plane crash on January 28. The Election Commission of India has also scheduled a bypoll the same day for the Rahuri Assembly seat in Ahilyanagar district, which fell

vacant after the death of BJP MLA Shivaji Kardile. Counting for both seats will be held on May 4. Sunetra Pawar will file her nomination on Monday. Maharashtra Congress chief Harshwardhan Sapsal said the party's high command had approved contesting both bypolls. Reiterating the stand on Saturday, he said the Congress must fight the elections as "the BJP has been trying to destroy democracy", adding that there was "no tradition of unopposed bypolls". Citing precedent, Mr. Fadnavis recalled that the BJP did

not field a candidate in 2015 when Suman Patil, wife of late NCP leader and former home minister R. R. Patil, was elected unopposed from Tasgaon-Kavathe Mahankal after her husband's demise. Meanwhile, NCP leader Jay Pawar, younger son of Sunetra and the late Ajit Pawar, said Sharad Pawar also wanted an uncontested bypoll in Baramati. "Our party seniors have contacted Congress leaders. If needed, we will also speak to them. But if there is no consensus, we are ready to fight," he said.

JD(U) Likely to Lose RS Deputy Chairman Post to TD

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The JD(U) not only stares at the possibility of losing the "big brother" tag in the Bihar NDA, but the Nitish Kumar-led party, according to speculation, may also be denied the Rajya Sabha's deputy chairman's post. The Telugu Desam (TD), another NDA ally, is eyeing the deputy chairman's post, which will fall vacant after JD(U)'s Harivansh demits the office on April 9. The southern party has 16 Lok Sabha and two Rajya Sabha MPs. Harivansh, who was holding the post, has not been re-nominated to the Upper House. His tenure ends on April 9. According to sources, the TDP had backed Harivansh's re-nomination to the Upper House for the second term in 2020. The BJP will likely consider the TDP's claim for the deputy chairmanship this time. The TDP has so far not officially staked a claim. The JD(U) insiders said that the party intends to retain the Rajya Sabha deputy chairman post. The matter has been put before the party chief Nitish Kumar, who will take a



call on this issue in consultation with the BJP leaders after he takes the oath of the Rajya Sabha on April 10. Kumar is also expected to meet the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, soon after joining the Rajya Sabha. He will likely discuss the issue with the Prime Minister, they added. Noting that the post of deputy chairmanship is important for the party, the JD(U) leaders are hoping that the BJP will not change the existing political arrangement in the Parliament. Rejecting the speculation that the TDP will claim deputy chairmanship, the JD(U) sources said that the party supported the TDP in making Amaravati the Andhra Pradesh capital, so they will also support the JD(U) in retaining the post in the Rajya Sabha. The JD(U) sources claim that the

party also intends to claim the Bihar Speaker's post after the new Bihar CM is declared, who will likely be from the BJP. According to political pundits, the BJP will deal with this issue carefully so that the existing political coalitions remain intact and consolidated. The election for the deputy chairman is likely to be held during the upcoming Monsoon Session, and the BJP will like to build a consensus among the NDA partners, they said. Political commentators argue that in case there is no agreement on the Rajya Sabha deputy chairman's post, the BJP may either keep it with itself or consider handing it to the AIADMK, with whom the saffron party is contesting the Assembly election of Tamil Nadu.

Iran Vows Crushing..

To control the increasing vehicle traffic in the temple areas, the Chief Minister issued strict orders that the vehicles of prominent dignitaries and VIPs should also be parked outside the temple complex and that they should be provided EV for the rest of the visit. Revanth Reddy said instructed the officials to formulate plans and implement the same in this direction immediately. A solar rooftop system will be installed at the parking area. The CM underscored the need to develop a suitable plantation within the temple premises to ensure that the entire area is adorned with majestic trees in the future. Establishment of a healthcare center with an adequate number of doctors and medical staff to provide medical services to the devotees during Godavari Pushkaralu and other festivities was also discussed in the meeting. To control the increasing vehicle traffic in the temple areas, the Chief Minister issued strict orders that the vehicles of prominent dignitaries and VIPs should also be parked outside the temple complex. Those important persons should be allowed to move in the temple premises only by EV vehicles. CM Revanth Reddy said instructed the officials to formulate plans and implement the same in this direction immediately. A solar rooftop system will be installed at the parking area. The meeting was attended by endowments minister Konda Surekha, government adviser P. Sudarshan Reddy, MP Vem Na-

render Reddy, Chief Secretary K. Ramakrishna Rao, Chief Minister's principal secretary K.S. Srinivasa Raju, endowments principal secretary Shailaja Ramaiyer, commissioner Hanumantha Rao and other senior officials. It may be recalled that the Chief Minister recently launched ₹351 crore development works at the Bhadrachalam Sri Sita Ramachandra Swamy Temple on March 27 during Sri Rama Navami. The project includes temple expansion, infrastructure upgrades and development of Godavari ghats, with the first phase targeted for completion by March 31, 2027. The initial phase allocates ₹180 crore for temple expansion and infrastructure, ₹96 crore for surrounding development works and ₹75 crore for the ghats.

situation in the Strait of Hormuz for years. A senior Iranian security official told Press TV that Iran's heightened sensitivity over **Discrepancies.....** the strategic waterway stems from the fact that the majority of equipment used to supply US military bases and garrisons across the region has historically been transported by sea. "Iran has the capability to sustain this situation for years," the official said, referring to the effective shutdown of the strategic waterway to US and allied vessels. The official further stated that Iran believes it should no longer allow such logistical support to continue. **2 US aircraft shot.....** Neither the White House nor the Pentagon released public information about the downed planes. But the Pentagon notified the House Armed Services Committee that the status of a second service member from the fighter jet was not known. In an email from the Pentagon that obtained by The Associated Press, meanwhile, the military said it received notification of "an aircraft being shot down" in the Middle East, without providing more details. Iran's attacks on Gulf energy infrastructure and its tight grip on the Strait of Hormuz, through which a fifth of the world's oil and natural gas transits in peacetime, have roiled stock markets, sent oil prices skyrocketing, and threatened to raise the cost of many basic goods, including

food. Prior to word of the rescue, social media footage showed American drones, aircraft and helicopters flying over the mountainous region where a TV channel affiliated with Iranian state television said earlier that at least one pilot bailed out of the fighter jet. An anchor urged residents to hand over any "enemy pilot" to police and promised a reward. It was the first time the U.S. has lost aircraft in Iranian territory during the conflict and could mark a new level of pressure on the U.S. military. Throughout the war, Iran has made a series of claims about shooting down piloted enemy aircraft that turned out not to be true. Friday was the first time that Iran went on television urging the public to look for a downed pilot. **India Plans.....** Officials said the project has been structured in two phases. The first phase involves design and development of six prototypes, both live and inert, along with associated tail units and equipment. The second phase will focus on procurement, to be taken up through a commercial Request for Proposal (RFP) issued to qualified agencies. The ministry has issued an Expression of Interest (EoI) under the Defence Acquisition Procedure (DAP) 2020 for the project, which will be executed under the 'Make-II' category, followed by procurement under the 'Buy (Indian-IDDMM)' route. The proposed system is intended to be compatible with both Russian- and Western-origin aircraft.

FROM FRONT PAGE

<https://www.deccanchron->

CRIME

New WhatsApp fraud targets corporate officials in Hyderabad

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Cybercriminals have now devised a sophisticated new fraud method targeting top corporate officials, including CEOs, CFOs, business heads and accountants in the city.

According to the police, the fraud begins with phishing emails sent to official company email IDs. These emails contain malicious links that, when clicked, install malware on the victim's system, allowing hackers to gain full remote access. Hyderabad Police Commissioner VC Sajjanar said, "Once inside, the attackers exploit active WhatsApp Web sessions on the compromised systems. Using the genuine



WhatsApp accounts of senior executives, they send urgent financial instructions to company accountants, posing as CEOs or CFOs." The fraudsters typically claim they are in critical meetings and unable to take calls, pressuring staff to immediately transfer huge amounts of money, often running into crores, into fraudulent bank accounts.

"Since the messages originate from legitimate WhatsApp accounts, employees often assume them to be authentic and comply without verification," the commissioner said. Cybercrime officials said that several such incidents have recently surfaced across Hyderabad, raising serious concerns among corporate entities. Advisory to Companies:

Adopt strict verification protocols for financial transactions. Employees should never act on payment requests received via WhatsApp without confirming directly with the official concerned through a phone call. Install robust firewalls and updated antivirus software. Avoid clicking on suspicious email links. Log out of WhatsApp Web after each session. Conduct regular cybersecurity awareness training for staff. In case of cyber fraud, immediately contact the national cybercrime helpline 1930 or file a complaint on the official portal: www.cyber-crime.gov.in.

Security agencies warned against licence breach

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The police have warned private security agencies for violating regulations by operating without a valid licence under the Private Security Agencies (Regulation) Act (PSARA) and engaging guards and supervisors in breach of statutory provisions. This followed the state intelligence personnel, along with Kachiguda police, raiding MS Krish Security Force (Fire Fighting Vigilance), Tilaknagar, which was functioning without a PSARA licence issued by the state controlling au-

thority, said additional DGP, intelligence, Vijay Kumar. The agency was booked under Crime No. 1211 of 2026, Vijay Kumar confirmed. As per Sections 4 and 20 of the PSARA Act, 2005 any private security agency operating without a licence and engaging personnel is liable for punishment, including imprisonment up to one year, or a fine up to ₹25,000, or both. All private security agencies operating without a valid licence have been directed to obtain one through the official PSARA online portal (www.psara.gov.in) at the earliest. Strict legal.

Sajjanar Warns Of Whatsapp Fraud

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

City police commissioner V C Sajjanar on Saturday cautioned against cybercriminals' new modus operandi targeting business heads through WhatsApp impersonation fraud. He explained that crooks are sending malicious phishing links to official email addresses, infiltrating computers with malware to gain full remote access. Once inside, attackers exploit active WhatsApp web sessions to send misleading messages to accountants while posing as top executives. "They claim to be in an urgent meeting and unable to take calls,

tricking staff into transferring crores of rupees immediately to fraudulent accounts," the commissioner warned. "Since the messages appear to come from genuine WhatsApp accounts, accountants often believe them and process payments. With several such cases reported recently within Hyderabad commissioner jurisdiction, Sajjanar urged companies to remain vigilant. "One should never blindly trust financial requests received on WhatsApp, even if they appear to be from superiors. It is essential to immediately call the person concerned directly to verify authenticity.

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

No Need to Visit Police Station FIR Registration at Your Doorstep: SP D. Janaki, IPS

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana



In a major pro-people initiative, District SP Smt. D. Janaki, IPS, has announced the implementation of the "FIR at Doorstep" policy by the Telangana Police. This move aims to provide immediate relief and legal support to victims who are unable to visit police stations. Key Highlights of the Initiative: Focus on Vulnerable Groups: This service is specially designed for women, children, and victims of heinous crimes such as sexual assault, POCSO cases, SC/ST atrocities, and child marriages. On-the-Spot Reg-

istration: For crimes like robbery, theft, or attempt to murder, victims can simply provide information over the phone. Police officers will visit the victim's residence or a preferred convenient location to collect the complaint. Simplified Process: If a victim is unable to write a complaint, the police will record their statement in their own language, read it back to them for confirmation, and register the FIR immediately on the spot. A copy of the FIR will be handed over to the complainant then and there. Mandatory Women Officers: For cases involving women and children, a woman police officer's presence is mandatory. Interpreters or special educators will also be involved if necessary to record accurate statements. SP D. Janaki urged the citizens of Mahabnagar to utilize this facility and report crimes fearlessly, reaffirming that the district police is committed to public safety and swift justice.

Political Tension Rises in Telangana Amid CID Notice to MLA; BRS Leaders Detained

MEDAK
Wakeup telangana

Political tensions have escalated across Telangana following directions issued to Huzurabad MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy to appear before the CID office. Anticipating widespread protests, the police have stepped up precautionary measures across the state to maintain law and order. As part of these efforts, leaders and cadres of the Bharat Raksha Samithi (BRS) are being taken into preventive custody at several locations. Police officials believe there is a strong possibility of party workers mobilizing towards Hyderabad to stage demonstrations, prompting authorities to act in advance. In



many districts, BRS leaders have either been placed under house arrest or shifted to nearby police stations to prevent any untoward incidents. Officials stated that these steps are necessary to ensure that public peace is not disturbed. In Medak district, similar developments were reported from Regode mandal, where police intensified vigilance. Several local BRS leaders, including mandal president Buchaiah, general secretary Sunke Ramesh, and vice-pres-

ident Golla Gopal Krishna Yadav, were taken into preventive custody by Sub-Inspector Pochayya and shifted to the police station. Sources indicate that other mandal-level leaders and active party workers were also detained as part of the operation. Police reiterated that these actions are purely precautionary and aimed at maintaining peace and stability in the region. "Our priority is to ensure that no law-and-order issues arise," a senior officer stated. Meanwhile, BRS leaders and party workers have strongly condemned the preventive arrests, alleging that the government is curbing democratic rights and suppressing dissent.

EDITORIAL

STATE OF THE UNION | CHOKEPOINTS AND TYRANNY OF GEOGRAPHY IN GLOBALISED ERA | MANISH TEWARI

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Aftab Ahmed

In an age defined by globalisation, digital connectivity and complex supply chains, it's easy to believe geography has receded in importance. The reality is quite the opposite. Physical geography, particularly narrow maritime chokepoints, continues to exert a powerful influence over global trade and geopolitics. This is the "tyranny of geography": the notion that geography both influences and constrains human behaviour. Nowhere is this more visible than in the world's key maritime chokepoints. These are the narrow waterways through which much of global trade passes. They include the Strait of Hormuz, the Malacca Strait, Bab el-Mandeb, and the Bosphorus. They are not only important waterways; they are also weak spots in the global supply chain. But the important point is that these chokepoints aren't isolated. They are interconnected. So, if one is threatened, the entire global supply chain is threatened.

What is a chokepoint? A chokepoint is not just a constricted waterway but also a strategic bottleneck. Its importance lies in that there are few viable alternatives. The world's geography dictates that global trade routes must pass through these constricted waterways: so, they are essential but also very vulnerable. One such waterway is the Strait of Malacca, which provides a passage between the Indian Ocean and the Pacific Ocean. The Strait of

Malacca is one of the world's most important shipping routes; handling nearly one-quarter of global trade. However, the waterway is plagued by major problems of navigational difficulties due to shallow water and heavy congestion. Ships beyond a certain draft cannot pass fully loaded and have to take a longer route via the Sunda or Lombok Strait.

The Strait of Hormuz and Bab el-Mandeb are not constrained by geography so much, but are very vulnerable to security risks. These waterways are important because of the high volume of global trade and oil that passes through them. Bab el-Mandeb (linking the Red Sea to the Indian Ocean) handles roughly 10-12% of global trade and around 8-9 million barrels of oil per day. Nearly 20% of global oil trade passes through the Strait of Hormuz, making any disruption a systemic risk for energy markets. When tensions rise in these regions, shipping is rerouted, insurance premiums spike, and global markets react almost instantly.

The term "tyranny of geography" embodies a key concept that countries must conduct their affairs in accordance with physical constraints. A good example of this is Russia, which, despite its size, has limited warm-water ports. Russia's principal outlet to global commerce is through the Bosphorus and Dardanelles, which are in Turkey. Other ports, in the Baltic or Far East, are restricted by seasonal ice conditions or distance. In this case, geography determines Russia's strategic weakness. Similarly,

Chinese maritime strategy is limited by chokepoints such as Taiwan, while India's energy security is very dependent on unimpeded passage through the Strait of Hormuz. These are not policy issues that can be readily adjusted, rather they are geographical constraints that must be managed. The significance of modern chokepoints lies in their interconnectedness. The global maritime system is a closely integrated system: disruptions in one location quickly ripple outward. For instance, if a problem arises in the Strait of Hormuz, oil tankers will be diverted to an alternative route, like going around the Cape of Good Hope. This will increase transit times and fuel consumption, thus raising freight rates and insurance premiums. This will, in turn, contribute to inflation and supply chain disruptions. Similarly, if there is congestion or closure in the Malacca Strait, ships will be diverted to alternative routes such as Sunda or Lombok. Although these routes allow for larger ships, they will increase distances, time, and operational risks. In this sense, chokepoints are less like isolated bottlenecks and more like interconnected arteries in a circulatory system. A blockage in one will raise strain everywhere. The economic consequences of chokepoints' disruption are significant. The economic significance of maritime transport is such that it accounts for over 80% of global trade volume. Even if the disruption is small, the economic fallout will be major. In the case of energy trade,



US announces 100% tariff on patented pharma; limited impact on India

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

THE US on Thursday announced a 100% tariff on import of patented pharmaceuticals and associated ingredients starting July 31 on grounds that Washington is heavily reliant on imports, which threatens to limit access to life-saving medications in the event of "global supply chain disruption".

US President Donald Trump said that new tariffs will not include generic drugs "at this time". But a decision on adjusting imports of generic pharmaceuticals and their associated ingredients could be taken within one year. India is primarily an exporter of generic pharma products, but has introduced various schemes to boost produc-



tion of patented drugs too.

"I have determined that it is necessary and appropriate to impose a 100% ad valorem duty rate on the import of patented pharmaceuticals and associated pharmaceutical ingredients.. The Secretary [of Commerce] found that the present quantities and circumstances of imports of pharmaceuticals and pharmaceutical ing-

redients threaten to impair the national security and economy," Trump said.

The US is India's largest market for pharmaceutical exports, accounting for an almost 40% share. Pharma exports were also exempt from the 50% tariffs imposed by the Trump administration on most Indian goods. While India's exports are primarily in the patented segment, Sun Pharma is the

only Indian company with sizable sales from patented products in the US. According to HSBC analysts, it reported global sales of \$1,217 million from patented products in FY25, of which the US market accounted for 85-90%.

However, India has been pushing for the manufacturing of patented medicines too under its flagship Production Linked Incentive Scheme (PLI). According to an official statement, the PLI focuses on biopharmaceuticals, complex generic drugs, "patented drugs or those nearing patent expiry", gene therapy drugs, orphan drugs and complex excipients. The PLI Scheme for Pharmaceuticals was approved by the Union Cabinet in 2021, with a financial outlay of Rs

15,000 crore and a production tenure running from FY 2022-23 to FY 2027-28.

Former trade officer and founder of think tank Global Trade Research Initiative, Ajay Srivastava, said that for India, the immediate impact is limited as around 90% of India's pharmaceutical exports to the US are generics, which remain exempt. In 2025, India exported \$9.7 billion worth of pharmaceuticals to the US, accounting for 38% of its global pharma exports of \$25.8 billion, he said. "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," Srivastava said.

LPG price hiked to balance consumer interest, oil cos' finances; no plan to raise petrol, diesel prices: Govt sources

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The hike in liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), or cooking gas, for domestic consumers by Rs 60 per cylinder was done in view of the West Asia conflict-induced surge in international prices, which are weighing on public sector oil marketing companies (OMC) that have been retailing the fuel to households at a loss on a sustained basis, according to top government sources. They also said that currently there isn't any expectation of a hike in retail prices of petrol and diesel despite a jump in global prices as the OMCs—Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation (BPCL), and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation (HPCL)—are financially well-positioned in respect of these fuels. Moreover,

they also assured that sufficient fuel stocks are available in the country and the consumers need not panic about supply.

Domestic LPG price was hiked by Rs 60 per 14.2-kg cylinder on Saturday to Rs 913 in Delhi, with corresponding changes in other parts of the country; for poor households covered under the Ujjwala scheme, the effective price will be Rs 613 after accounting for the Rs 300 cash subsidy. India has over 33 crore domestic LPG consumers; this is the second hike in domestic LPG prices in 11 months. In addition to domestic LPG prices, commercial LPG prices were hiked by Rs 114.5 per 19-kg cylinder to Rs 1,883 in Delhi, with corresponding changes in other parts of India. Commercial LPG is mostly used by restaurants and hotels. According to a senior

government official, despite the price increase, LPG for households continues to be sold below market-linked price levels in India, and is significantly cheaper than neighbouring countries like Pakistan, Sri Lanka, and Nepal. The pricing calculations indicated that the required increase would have been around Rs 134 per cylinder, as per government sources. They also said that price increase effectively translates to a hike of just around 20 paise per person per day for a family of four based on current household LPG consumption levels in the country. According to industry sources, even before the West Asian conflict, the three OMCs had accumulated losses worth roughly Rs 20,000 crore in the first three quarters of the current financial year. In 2024-25.

IT Q4 Earnings to Benefit from Rupee Fall Amid AI, Geopolitical Concerns

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

IT services companies' Q4 FY26 performance is likely to remain muted, but with a stable to improving year-on-year growth trajectory. A sharp depreciation of the Rupee against the US dollar means many companies may report double-digit year-on-year earnings growth, a report said. FY2027 guidance will be shaped by geopolitical uncertainty from the Iran war and increasing reve-

nue deflation from GenAI-led programs, according to a fourth-quarter preview by Kotak Institutional Equities.

Tata Consultancy Services will report fourth-quarter results on April 9, followed by Wipro (April 16), HCL Technologies (April 21), and Infosys (April 23). "The Indian IT services sector braces for another muted quarter in Q4 FY26E, with Tier-1 players' growth projected at -1.1% to +0.9% quarter-on-quarter in constant currency, and mid-



tier companies' growth ranging from -1.8% to 3.4%, as macro uncertainty, ongoing geopolitical tensions, and cautious client decision-making on large deals amid war escalation risks temper near-term revenue traction," said another preview by HDFC Securities. "The rupee depreciation

brings some respite to margins, but AI-led deflation concerns have triggered the recent multiple de-rating," HDFC Securities added. "The average cross-currency tailwind for the quarter will be around 35 basis points," analysts said. Management commentary on demand outlook, client budgets, AI-driven deflation, and delays in decision-making due to war conditions will be closely monitored. Margin guidance across companies is expected to remain stable,

supported by currency tailwinds and peak utilisation levels, analysts said.

The Nifty IT index has underperformed, declining around 24% over the past three months, led by concerns over AI-induced disruptions and a prolonged growth recovery. "Stocks have corrected 19-39% in the past two months. At the same time, macro headwinds pose another challenge for the sector, in addition to GenAI risks. The current stock prices of TCS and Tech Mahindra reflect low

growth expectations," the Kotak preview report said.

"The current one-year forward sector valuation is in line with the pre-COVID 10-year average, indicating limited downside.

The rupee depreciation will provide a cushion to margins," HDFC Securities said. The sector's growth recovery now hinges on execution capability, as new deals are mostly outcome-driven, pricing is agent-augmented, and renewals

come at discounts. Valuations have reset to pre-COVID levels and turned attractive after the correction, analysts noted.

"The quarter benefits from the absence of furloughs, particularly in BFSI and retail, although this is partly offset by fewer working days. The financial services vertical is likely to lead sequential growth. We expect TCS to lead revenue growth among Tier-1 companies, while Persistent will lead among mid-tier companies," said Kotak Insti-

tutional Equities. On FY27 guidance, Kotak Institutional Equities said: "Elevated geopolitical risk from the Iran war adds uncertainty to global macro conditions and enterprise spending visibility. Additionally, GenAI-driven productivity programs are increasingly deflationary in nature. These factors are likely to cap headline growth guidance despite a reasonable deal pipeline." Analysts expect some de-escalation in geopolitical conditions.

Earnings at risk: India Inc profits may taper off by 15% in 2026-27

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The geopolitical turmoil following the war in West Asia is beginning to show up in the books of Indian corporates. Input costs have gone up for most companies which, in turn, has compressed margins and could end up slowing the earnings growth in the coming quarters.

With fuel prices remaining elevated and supply chains fragile and heavily impacted due to the conflict, corporate earnings could take a significant hit, potentially declining by 10-15% in the financial year 2027 (FY27), according to economists and analysts.

Adding to the worries, emerging demand-side challenges may weigh on growth, potentially leading companies, particularly in oil-dependent sectors, to postpone their capital expenditure plans.

While the impact on earnings will largely be lim-

ited in the March quarter results — which are expected from the second week of April — margins are likely to get significantly squeezed, especially for smaller companies, and earnings are expected to take a hit in the upcoming June quarter and FY27.

Further, if retail inflation rises, the Reserve Bank of India is likely to raise interest rates which could affect the demand in the system. Airlines, textiles, paints, fertilisers and restaurants are among the sectors that are expected to be the worst hit due to the situation.

This estimate factors in the conflict in West Asia not lasting for an extended period, with most experts expecting it to be resolved within the next 2-3 months due to the sheer number of countries involved.

"Given the pain that this conflict is causing to so many economies, we do not expect it to persist beyond a few months. So,

there will be measures taken to de-escalate," said Gaura Sengupta, chief economist at IDFC FIRST Bank.

The State Bank of India (SBI) Research estimates that prolonged tensions could place Rs 13.75 lakh crore of corporate sector revenue in 18 segments at risk. In a severe scenario, revenue losses may reach Rs 2.75 lakh crore which is equivalent to 0.8% of GDP.

The revenue loss is likely to be Rs 1.38 lakh crore (0.40% of GDP) in a mild scenario and Rs 69,000 crore (0.20% of GDP) in the case of a baseline scenario, it said. Given that West Asia furnishes approximately 60% of India's crude oil imports alongside a significant proportion of its LNG requirements, the impact is permeating across industries that collectively underpin nearly 40% of the revenues of listed enterprises.

Most experts expect the biggest hit to earnings in

the first quarter of FY27. According to Miren Lodha, senior director at Crisil Intelligence, corporate margins may fall by around 50-100 basis points for fiscal 2027 if the conflict is resolved sooner, but may take a hit of another 100 bps if the conflict is prolonged. Narendra Solanki, head of fundamental research at Anand Rahi Shares and Stock Brokers, also expects a downward revision of around 10% for FY27 earnings.

With trade tariff tensions impacting profits, private non-financial companies' net profits grew at a slower pace of 5.2% in the quarter ended December 2025, compared to a growth of 11.8% in the year-ago period, RBI data showed. In Q2 FY26, net profits of these companies expanded by 1.5%. The data also showed that private non-financial companies clocked a double-digit sales growth of 10.1% in

Q3 FY26, following eleven quarters of single-digit growth.

"As a rule of thumb, what happens typically is that any \$10 movement in oil (crude prices) impacts the Nifty (50) earnings sensitivity by anywhere between 1.2-1.5%," said Sumit Bhatnagar, equity fund manager at LIC Mutual Fund Asset Management.

Recently, Goldman Sachs lowered its earnings forecast for Indian companies by 9 percentage points cumulatively for the next couple of financial years. However, many also feel it is premature to revise earnings estimates for the entire FY27 due to the volatile nature of the war. The impact will be much more limited to a few sectors in the March quarter, such as food and hotels, as the conflict in West Asia started in late February, and most companies have enough inventories to run operations for 3-4 weeks.

New NSE OTR framework for options to take effect from April 6

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The National Stock Exchange (NSE) has revised the order-to-trade ratio (OTR) framework for the equity derivatives options segment, with the changes set to come into effect from April 6, in line with SEBI guidelines issued earlier this year.

Under the revised criteria, orders placed within a range of (+/-)40 per cent of the last traded price (LTP) of the options premium or (+/-)Rs 20, whichever is higher, will be exempt from the framework for imposing penalties on high OTR.

This marks a significant relaxation compared to the earlier norm, under which only orders within 0.75 per cent of the LTP were excluded from OTR computation, resulting in a relatively narrow exemption band. The exchange also clarified that no changes have been made to the OTR frame-



work for the equity derivatives futures segment and the cash segment. In these segments, orders entered or modified within 0.75 per cent of the LTP will continue to remain exempt from OTR calculations.

As per the SEBI circular issued earlier in February, algorithmic orders placed by designated market makers for market-making activities will not be considered in the computation of OTR, providing a specific carve-out within the framework. The OTR metric tracks the ratio of total orders placed, including modifications and cancellations, to the number of trades executed by a trading

member.

It is used by exchanges to monitor excessive order placement and ensure orderly market functioning.

The changes follow representations from stock exchanges, consultations with market participants and recommendations of the SEBI's Secondary Market Advisory Committee (SMAC).

In addition, a mock trading session for the revised functionality was conducted on March 14.

The NSE said all existing penal charges, actions and other modalities under the OTR framework, as specified in earlier circulars, will remain unchanged.

Movie Bug Bit When I Was Seven: Ramesh Sippy Looks Back at 'Sholay'

He was only seven when he visited a film set, saw his father direct and fell in love with the movies. Seventy-two years later and Ramesh Sippy is ready to weave more magic with another "Buniyaad", taking forward the epic Partition story that aired on Doordarshan in 1986 and still tugs at the heartstrings. The son of producer-director G P Sippy and the blockbuster director of "Sholay", "Seeta Aur Geeta" and "Shaan" said the bug bit early. He knew right then that he didn't want to do anything else.

"Since the age of seven, when I first went on the sets of a film called 'Saza', (which was) my father's first film, I was lost in that world... It wasn't like a fever at that time but it built up over the years," Sippy told PTI in an interview. "That young boy wanted only one thing... to make films," he added, recalling that he left college in London midway to work on his father's sets. "I learned everything on the sets of all the films that my father backed and pro-



duced. And ultimately, I took the first step towards directing. Launched 'Andaz' and he backed me completely."

"Andaz" released in 1971. Starring Shammi Kapoor and Hema Malini, it was a hit. The story was written by Salim Khan and Javed Akhtar, the screenwriter duo who went on to form a great collaboration with Sippy in later years. It was the beginning of many more hits to come. Any conversation with the filmmaker invariably turns to "Sholay", just four years after "Andaz". Starring Dharmendra, Amitabh Bachchan, Hema

Malini, Sanjeev Kumar, Amjad Khan and Jaya Bachchan, the film written by Salim-Javed turned 50 last year and is one of the most celebrated and recalled Hindi films of all time.

"Since it's there in everybody's blood, I'm also a part of it as a whole. All cinema loving people, they're with me, that's the way I feel and I'm very happy about it... To make 'Sholay', I had to be happy with the script which we developed together... We did it and had a wonderful cast that made a lot of difference. So I guess it worked out fine," said Sippy, who was in Delhi to receive the lifetime achievement award at International Film Festival Delhi. Everyone, he noted, has their own take on "Sholay". And this, Sippy said, makes it particularly difficult for him to describe it. "They all like it, love the film and continue to enjoy it. But everyone has their little own take on it. I think it's everyone's film and everyone has a right to do that. I've made the film for the people. So if it's really up to them to enjoy it the way they want."

Rajinikanth's 'Jailer 2' Wrapped Up; Confirms August Shoot With Kamal

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Veteran actor Rajinikanth on Saturday confirmed that the shooting of his much-anticipated sequel 'Jailer 2' has been completed and the film is now in its final stages of post-production. The superstar added that the production team will soon officially announce the release date, heightening expectations among fans. Speaking to the media at the Chennai airport, Rajinikanth said, "The shooting of the upcoming film Jailer 2 has been completed and is currently in its final stages. The production team will soon officially announce the release date." The sequel follows the success of the original 'Jailer,' which performed strongly at the box office.

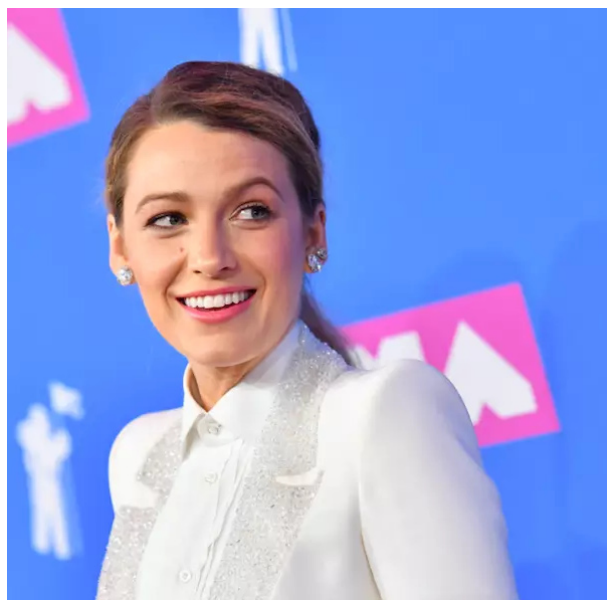


Beyond 'Jailer 2', Rajinikanth also gave a major update on the new collaboration with fellow industry icon Kamal Haasan.

The project, tentatively referred to as KH x RK, is expected to bring together two of Tamil cinema's most influential figures on screen. According to Rajinikanth, shooting for the film is scheduled to begin in August 2026. The collaboration has already generated considerable buzz, especially after a promo video released ear-

lier in February showcased the distinct style of director Nelson Dilipkumar and music composer Anirudh Ravichander. The clip featured a lively exchange between Rajinikanth and Kamal Haasan, ending with a signature moment of Rajinikanth's screen presence. The project is being backed by Red Giant Movies, further adding to its scale and anticipation. Meanwhile, he is also set to appear in 'Thalaivar 173', directed by Cibi Chakravarti and backed by Kamal Haasan.

Blake Lively Confirms to Continue Legal Fight Against Justin Baldoni



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Actor Blake Lively has reaffirmed her intent to take legal action against co-star Justin Baldoni, even after a key sexual harassment claim in her lawsuit was dismissed, stating she will not be "distracted by the digital soap opera." In a statement shared on her Instagram Stories, Lively said she remains committed to pursuing justice, with the case now

set to go to trial in New York on May 18. "I will never stop doing my part in fighting to expose the systems and people who seek to harm, shame, silence and retaliate against victims," she wrote, adding, "I know it's a privilege to be able to stand up. I will not waste it."

Addressing the emotional toll, Lively highlighted the real-world impact of online hostility, stating that "the

physical pain from digital violence is very real." She also expressed gratitude to the court for its recent ruling while reiterating that initiating legal proceedings was not her first choice. "The last thing I wanted in my life was a lawsuit," she wrote, attributing her decision to what she described as "pervasive retaliation" for advocating a safe working environment. Her message ended with a pointed

note that reads, "See you in court." The development comes a day after Judge Lewis Liman dismissed the sexual harassment portion of the lawsuit, citing jurisdictional issues and Lively's status as an independent contractor during the production of 'It Ends With Us.' However, her defamation and retaliation claims, described by Lively as the "heart of my case", remain active and will be presented before a

jury, as per Deadline. Lively alleges that Baldoni, along with executives from Wayfarer Studios and associated public relations teams, orchestrated an online smear campaign against her in 2024, ahead of the film's release. According to her legal team, digital communications and messages support claims that efforts were made to discredit her preemptively. Baldoni and his representatives have consis-

tently denied these allegations, maintaining that the backlash Lively faced online was organic and not coordinated. What remains undisputed is that the actor experienced intense public criticism across digital platforms, as per Deadline. Court-ordered settlement talks between both parties have reportedly failed. Baldoni's attorney, Bryan Freedman, had earlier indicated that negotiations in February

Rajasthan Royals clinch second straight win, edge Gujarat Titans in thriller

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Tushar Deshpande bowled a magnificent final over by landing six consecutive deliveries on either blockhole or wide yorker length in an exhibition of high-class bowling as Rajasthan Royals edged out Gujarat Titans by six runs in an IPL humdinger here on Saturday.

This was Royals' second successive win in the tournament while the Ashish Nehra coached GT team has now lost two matches in a row.

Riding on half-centuries from Dhruv Jurel (75 off 42 balls) and Yashasvi Jaiswal (55 off 36 balls), Royals scored 210 for 6 in their 20 overs.

Despite Sai Sudharsan's 73 which oozed class, GT were staring down the barrel at 161 for 7 before Kagiso Rabada (23 not out) and stand-in skipper Rashid Khan (24) took the team close to a win with 10 needed off the final over.

But Deshpande had other ideas as he started the final over with a wide but then was on target with three singles and a wide



fuller delivery that Rashid conceded a dot. In the end, only four runs were scored and the Titans would feel that they let it slip big time after a solid opening stand.

With Shubman Gill absent due to spasms, Sai Sudharsan (73 off 44 balls) had a new partner in debutant Kumar Kushagra (18 off 14 balls) but it was the Tamil Nadu man who did bulk of the scoring in the 78-run opening stand. When it came to sheer elegance and grace, Sudharsan hardly has any peers among the new breed of T20 batters.

Even the sixes that he hit — three apart from nine boundaries —, seemed like

caressed through the orbit. For Kushagra, it was about playing the second fiddle. However once Sudharsan was snapped by Bishnoi with a half-tracker, suddenly, GT lost track with the leg-spinner tormenting them with altered length and variations.

From 107 for 1, suddenly, they were reeling at 133 for 5 and subsequently became 161 for 7 with all recognised batters back in the hut.

However Rabada and Rashid had other ideas as they launched brutal yet swift counter-attack which wasn't enough in the end. Earlier, Jurel beautifully merged aggression and

discretion in his 42-ball 75 to guide Rajasthan Royals to a challenging 210 for 6 after opting to bat. In the RR innings, Jaiswal looked like getting back into the groove with a 55 off 36 balls after 'Boy Wonder' Sooryavanshi smashed 18-ball 31 in an opening stand of 70 in just 6.2 overs.

Jurel seemed settled in his new role as No. 3 and showed that there is place for conventional shots and yet can strike at more than 150. The pick-up pull off Ashok Sharma after completing his fifty was a delight — a testimony to his strong core and good hands. He hit five maximums and an equal number of boundaries.

For Gujarat Titans, Ashok Sharma (1/37 in 4 overs), in only his second IPL game, emerged as the 'Next big pace hope' having clocked 154.2 clicks and consistently bowling northwards of 145 kmph. But BCCI coaches would need to be careful as there are stories of Mayank Yadav and Umran Malik to learn from.

Jurel's knock was a throwback to the good old early days of IPL where there was one person.

Delhi Capitals outclass Mumbai Indians in first home game

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Impact substitute Sameer Rizvi continued his fine form with another half-century as Delhi Capitals outclassed Mumbai Indians by six wickets in their first home game of the 2026 IPL season here on Saturday.

Chasing 163, the 22-year-old Rizvi (90 off 51 balls) took apart the MI attack with a fluent knock studded with seven fours and as many sixes. After suffering a top-order wobble for the second successive game, Delhi Capitals steadied through a 66-run stand for the third wicket between Rizvi and Patham Nissanka, who scored 44 off 30 balls.

Rizvi then added 78 runs with David Miller (17 not out) as the hosts completed the chase with 11 balls to spare.

Initially playing second fiddle to Nissanka, Rizvi shifted gears after the Sri Lankan's dismissal, taking on the bowlers with ease.

The youngster smashed back-to-back fours followed by two towering



sixes, including one over deep backward point, to plunder 20 runs off the 11th over bowled by Corbin Bosch.

He continued the assault in the next over, whipping consecutive sixes off Mayank Markande to seize complete control of the chase.

He was unlucky to miss out on his debut IPL ton but received a standing ovation from the crowd when Bosch dismissed him.

Earlier, Delhi Capitals bowlers restricted Mumbai Indians to 162 for six despite stand-in skipper Suryakumar Yadav's patient half-century.

Suryakumar anchored the innings with a 36-ball 51, hitting three fours and two

sixes, while Rohit Sharma made 35 even as other MI batters struggled.

Skipper Axar Patel was exceptional, conceding just 22 runs in his four overs and removing the dangerous Rohit Sharma. Leg-spinner Vipraj Nigam (1/24 in 3 overs) chipped in with a wicket, while Kuldeep Yadav (0/31 in 3 overs) proved slightly expensive.

The pace trio of Mukesh Kumar (2/26), Lungi Ngidi (1/34) and T Natarajan (1/24) also played their part, sharing four wickets between them. Mukesh struck early, removing the in-form Ryan Rickelton with a good-length delivery that was miscued to Axar at mid-off. Two balls later, he

produced a return catch to dismiss Tilak Varma for a duck, leaving Mumbai Indians two down inside the powerplay.

Rohit and Suryakumar then steadied the innings with a 53-run partnership. Rohit got going with the first six of the match, dispatching an overpitched ball from Nigam over long-on, while Suryakumar followed up with a maximum off the next delivery.

However, Delhi spinners tightened the screws soon after. Axar accounted for Rohit, who mistimed a shot to the cover region where Nitish Rana completed a fine catch.

Vipraj then dismissed Sherfane Rutherford (5), with Mukesh taking a good catch close to the boundary.

Suryakumar, leading in the absence of Hardik Pandya, tried to accelerate alongside Naman Dhir (28) as Mumbai crossed the 100-run mark. The pair targeted wrist spinner Kuldeep Yadav, collecting 15 runs in the 15th over, including two sixes.

Run For Jesus Marks Holy Saturday



The annual "Run for Jesus" was held on Holy Saturday across India, drawing participation from more than 800 locations to commemorate Good Friday and Easter. Initiated in 2011, the event witnessed enthusiastic involvement from thousands of youths and members of the Christian community, who took to the streets walking, running, and riding vehicles while proclaiming the message of the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ with slogans like "Christ is Risen! Indeed, Christ is Risen!"

In the city, the rally was conducted at over 40 locations, covering nearly 200 km. The main event was flagged off early morning by Cardinal Poola Anthony, while at Munuganoor, Ibrahimpatnam MLA Malreddy Ranga Reddy inaugurated the rally and extended his support, saying, "God bless them." In Ramnagar, the rally was flagged off by Muta Gopal in the presence of youth leader Muta Jai Simha.

Organising committee member Paul Devapriyam Pulla noted that Christians from all walks of life participated in large numbers, making the event a grand success. Adding to the celebrations, David Norfolk of Millennium Church said an inter-church cricket tournament involving 26 teams was held prior to the rally, generating excitement among Christian youth.

Azharuddin Boosts Congress Campaign in Tirur



Former India cricket captain Mohammad Azharuddin campaigned for the Indian National Congress in Kerala on Saturday, April 4, energising voters in Tirur constituency with a cricket-themed address in support of candidate Kurukkoli Moideen. Addressing a packed public meeting in Tirur, Azharuddin compared the election to a high-stakes cricket match, urging voters to treat each vote like a "six" that would secure the future.

Drawing loud cheers, he described Moideen as a "Test player" — dependable and capable — while taking a swipe at the Opposition, saying they had only delivered "no balls, wide balls and run-out dramas." Earlier in the day, Azharuddin interacted with local youth in Puthanathani, joining them in friendly games of cricket and football, which added excitement to the campaign trail. His presence drew enthusiastic participation from young voters. A former Indian captain who played 99 Tests and 334 ODIs, Azharuddin now serves as a minister in Telangana, handling the Minorities Welfare portfolio, and is also a member of the AICC Advisory Council on Minority Affairs. He concluded his speech with a call for unity, saying, "Let Tirur win, let the people win," reinforcing the Congress party's appeal to voters ahead of the Assembly elections.

BRS-CPI alliance wins Kyathanpalli chairperson, vice-chairperson

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Despite hurdles created by the Congress, the BRS-CPI alliance captured the posts of chairperson and vice-chairperson of Kyathanpalli municipality. A special meeting was held to conduct elections to the two posts on Saturday.

The BRS councillor Godishela Sandhya Rani was elected as the chairperson of 22-member Kyathanpalli municipality, while CPI councillor Mittapalli Saritha was elected as vice-chairperson with the alliance having an absolute majority with 14 councillors. The election process began at 11 am and ended at noon amid tight security made by deploying 600 policemen at junctions and near the civic body.

The Congress tried to bag the posts with the help of



its seven councillors, an independent, the labor Minister Dr G Vivek and Peddapalli MP G Vamshi Krishna, who enrolled as an ex-officio member. However, they stayed away from the election as it was clear that they would not be able to capture the posts. This has led to smooth conduct of the process ending nearly a two-month long suspension over election.

Earlier, the election of the governing council was postponed twice resulting

in a suspension, drawing the attention of many. The process was initially postponed due to lack of quorum on February 17. It was again postponed when councillors of the Congress assaulted the BRS-CPI councillors at the time of the meeting. The State Election Commission issued an order to conduct the elections on Saturday, when the BRS leaders approached the High Court.

The councillors were shifted to a camp organ-

ized by the BRS district president Balka Suman. The Congress made all out efforts to emerge victorious in the elections even though it had seven councillors. It reportedly tried to lure councillors from the BRS-CPI alliance by offering developmental projects. It then allegedly used police to register cases against leaders of the BRS.

On February 18, Suman and 13 others including former Zilla Parishad vice-chairperson Mula Reddy from Chennur town was arrested and were sent to jail in Adilabad town for allegedly for unlawful assembly, rioting and obstructing the duties of a sub-inspector amidst strong resistance from party's cadres. He was released from jail on bail on March 4.

Meth worth Rs 63 lakh seized in Hyderabad's Jeedimetla, two held

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Two individuals, a drug peddler and his customer, were arrested by Jeedimetla police on Friday, April 3, with 316 gram of Methamphetamine (meth) worth Rs 63,20,000 during a raid at Ganesh Nagar near Kaman Chintal.

The accused have been identified as Vemula Sai Kumar (peddler) and Tirumala Arvind (consumer). Along with the meth, two weighing machines worth Rs 8,000 and one mobile phone worth Rs 10,000 were also seized.



A case has been registered under section 8(c) read with 22(c), 27(b), 29 of Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (NDPS) Act, 1985. The main supplier, Poojith, a resident of Quthbullapur, is currently absconding. Efforts are underway to nab other customers linked to the peddlers.

Telangana to host 'Health Week' from April 6 to 11

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

As part of the ongoing 99-day Public Governance Progress Plan, the Telangana government will organise 'Health Week' from April 6 to April 11. The week will begin with an 'Eat Right Walk' at 6:30 am on April 6 at Necklace Road for 'Food Safety' day. Afterwards, a Millet Mela with 40 stalls will be organised at the Naturopathy Hospital from 3:00 pm.

Training for food handlers, distribution of certificates to street food vendors, and distribution of hygiene rating certificates will be taken up at the same event.

On April 7, the state will celebrate World Health Day, beginning with the inauguration of an advanced medical linear accelerator (LINAC) machine at Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences (NIMS) at 10:00 am by Health Minister Damodar Raja Narasimha. He will participate

in various programs at Ravindra Bharathi and hand over an appointment letter to 871 doctors selected for the posts of Assistant Professor and Civil Assistant Surgeon Specialist. On April 8, 'Safe Mother Day' will be organised at the Midwifery Training Institute in Boiguda at 11:00 am. Antenatal Care (ANC) tests will be conducted in the districts, and identification of high-risk cases, workshops on maternity services will be organised, and awareness will be created among women at the village level, the Minister said. On April 9, a Red Run will be organised in Hyderabad and the districts at 7:00 am to create awareness about Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome (AIDS). Additionally, special medical camps will be organised in prisons, and free tests will be given at transgender clinics.

Ayurveda, Yoga, and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy (AYUSH) Day.

Study Flags Rising Groundwater Risks In Musi Basin

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A recent study covering more than 25 years of data by National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI), Hyderabad, Academy of Scientific and Innovative Research, Ghaziabad, and the JNTU-Hyderabad's department of civil engineering, has raised concerns over increasing groundwater vulnerability in parts of the Musi river basin, highlighting the growing risk of pollution in several sub-basins due to hydro-geological and human factors. While most



sub-basins recorded some recovery in groundwater levels over the past decade, areas like Hussain Sagar witnessed a decline, indicating stress on aquifers.

This was published in the 'Current Science' journal and researched by S. Chandrapuri, N.C. Mondal and M.V.S.S. Giridhar.

The research used analysed rainfall, groundwater levels, and water quality indicators between 2007 and 2023. The findings reveal that sub-basins such as Paleru, Muchkunda, Shamirpet, and Ibrahimpatnam are particularly vulnerable to groundwater contamination. According to the study, the basin receives an average annual rainfall of about 1,047 mm, with nearly 82 per cent occurring during the monsoon months from June to September. Despite a slight increase in rainfall over the years, groundwater recharge remains uneven across regions. On average, only

about 14.96 per cent of monsoon rainfall contributes to groundwater recharge, with the highest recharge observed in Ibrahimpatnam (21.68 per cent) and the lowest in Osmansagar and Hussainsagar (12.06 per cent).

Groundwater levels showed significant variation across the basin, ranging from shallow depths of 0.25 metres to as deep as nearly 30 metres below ground level. While most sub-basins recorded some recovery in groundwater levels over the past decade, areas like Hussainsagar witnessed a decline, indicating stress on aquifers.

GHMC's Mega Drive Removes Nearly 800 Encroachments

Drive targets footpaths and road margins across six zones following High Court directions

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Acting on directions from the Hon'ble High Court, the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation conducted a massive single-day enforcement drive on April 4, removing 798 encroachments across Hyderabad to reclaim footpaths and road margins.

The drive spanned all six zones—Shamshabad, Charminar, Rajendranagar, Golconda, Khairatabad and Secunderabad. Of the total, 340 were permanent structures and 458 were temporary.

The highest number of removals was reported in Shamshabad and Golconda zones.

Shamshabad alone accounted for 222 encroachments, largely along Rallaguda Road. Rajendranagar followed with 175 removals, including 79 in Circle-19 and 96 in Attapur's Circle-20 stretch between Pillar No. 252 and 116.

Golconda zone recorded 154 removals in Goshamahal, covering key



Shop owners near the Clock Tower at Murgi Chowk salvage their belongings after their decades-old shops were demolished during a GHMC encroachment drive in Hyderabad's Old City.

-----Photo: Mir Zulfequra Ali

stretches from Jambagh Hanuman Temple to MJ Market and up to Sid-damberbazar Masjid near Afzal-gunj.

In Charminar, 52 encroachments were cleared along Laad Bazar-Puranapur road. Secunderabad saw 60 removals in Mettuguda along the

Secunderabad Railway Station road. Khairatabad reported 25 removals in Yousufguda, including demolition of compound walls. The drive is part of a larger initiative to improve pedestrian safety and enforce urban planning norms across the city.

AIMIM Leaders Halt Demolitions in Old City

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

AIMIM leaders jumped into the fray to prevent the GHMC from demolishing encroachments at Murgi Chowk and Rikabgunj in the Old City, even as the corporation said it had removed 798 structures amid protests across the city on Saturday. Of these, 340 were permanent structures and 458 were temporary in nature. Apart from at Murgi Chowk, encroachments were brought down on the road from Rathifile bus stand to Alpha hotel via the Secunderabad railway station; Rallaguda road to the Shamshabad bus stop, NH-44 to Rallaguda

in Shamshabad circle, Rikabgunj Road (Charminar circle), Aramgarh (Rajendranagar circle) and on the stretch from Jambagh Hanuman Temple to MJ Market.

At Murgi Chowk, the action started early in the day when local traders tried to block GHMC staff who brought in heavy equipment and were accompanied by police personnel. With a short time, AIMIM MLC Rahmat Baig and party leader Sohail Pasha Quadri, a former corporator from Pattargatti, reach the spot and threatened the GHMC staff and forced them to stop work. A few shops were demolished by that time.

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