



BJP Telangana Launches Modi's 'Sapta Sutras' Campaign Amid Crisis: P2



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Modi Discusses Global Issues with BRICS Foreign Ministers

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday met foreign ministers of BRICS nations in New Delhi as India hosted a two-day conclave of the grouping ahead of its annual summit. The visiting ministers included Russia's Sergey Lavrov, Iran's Abbas Araghchi, Brazil's Mauro Vieira, Indonesia's Sugiono and South Africa's Ronald Lamola, who jointly called on the Prime Minister. The meeting comes amid global economic concerns arising from the West Asia crisis, including disrupt-



tions in energy supply and evolving trade and tariff policies. Modi met Russian foreign minister Sergei Lavrov and discussed bilateral ties and key regional and global issues, including the situations in Ukraine and West Asia. According to the Prime Minister's Office, Lavrov briefed Modi on progress in bilat-

eral cooperation since the 23rd India-Russia Annual Summit held in December 2025. "Foreign Minister Lavrov and the Prime Minister exchanged views on various regional and global issues of mutual interest, including the situation in Ukraine and West Asia," the statement said. During the meeting, Modi reiterated India's position that dialogue and diplomacy remain the preferred approach for resolving conflicts and expressed support for peaceful solutions. "Pleased to receive Russia's Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov. Thanked him for an update on the pro-

gress on various facets of our Special & Privileged Strategic Partnership. We also exchanged views on various regional and global issues, including situation in Ukraine and West Asia. Reiterated our consistent support for efforts aimed at peaceful resolution of conflicts," Modi said in a post. The Prime Minister also conveyed his greetings to Russian President Vladimir Putin through Lavrov. India, which currently holds the BRICS chair, is hosting the foreign ministers' meeting ahead of the annual summit scheduled in September.

ACB Summons to KTR, Arvind, BLN

Court issues summons in Formula E case over alleged Rs 55 crore fund misuse in Hyderabad

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The special court dealing with Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) cases has summoned BRS working president and former municipal minister K.T. Rama Rao in connection with the alleged irregularities in the conduct of the Formula E race case during the BRS regime in 2023. Along with Rama Rao the court also summoned senior IAS officer Arvind Kumar, HMDA former chief engineer B.L.N. Reddy, sports consultant Govenda Kiran Malleswara Rao and Formula E Operations Alberto Longo. All the accused have been directed to appear before the court on July 31 this year. The summons were issued after the ACB court took cognisance of the chargesheet recently filed by the Anti-Corruption Bureau regarding the alleged misappropriation of Rs 54.88 crore of public funds by transferring the



amount to a foreign company associated with the Formula E event without obtaining Cabinet approval. In the last week of March 2026, the ACB submitted the chargesheet before the ACB court following the FIR registered in 2024. The in-charge judge of the ACB court took cognisance of the chargesheet and issued summons to all the accused directing them to appear before the court. The ACB had filed the chargesheet on March 23 this year naming Rama Rao as Accused No. 1 (A1), Arvind Kumar as A2, B.L.N. Reddy as A3, sports consultant Malleswara Rao as A4 and Formula E Operations as A5. The case centres on the transfer of funds from the Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA) to Formula E

Operations for organising the international electric car racing event held in Hyderabad in 2023. In an informal interaction with mediapersons at his residence on May 11, Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy had clarified his stand on the case, stating that there was no political vendetta in the matter. He said the government had followed all due procedure before the chargesheet was filed against the accused. Revanth Reddy stated that the ACB had secured approval from the Governor for prosecution of Rama Rao and from the Union Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) approval for prosecution of IAS officer Arvind Kumar. He said further action in the case would depend on the judiciary's orders.

Amit Shah Likely to Review Security Situation in Post-Maoist Bastar

Union Home Minister Amit Shah is likely to visit Bastar in Chhattisgarh on May 18 for a two-day review of the security situation in the region after it was declared free of armed Maoists earlier this year. According to senior officials in the state home department, the visit is expected to focus on assessing whether the ground situation is suitable for the phased withdrawal of Central forces from the former Left Wing Extremism-affected region. This will be Shah's first visit to Bastar since Chhattisgarh was declared Maoist-free on March 31. More than 65,000 personnel from various Central Paramilitary Forces are currently deployed in Bastar for counter-insurgency operations. Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma had earlier indicated that Cen-

SC: Why Cabinet Minister on EC Panel?

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The Supreme Court on Thursday observed that the independence of the Election Commission is a facet of the "basic structure" of the Constitution, as free and fair elections depend on it. The apex court said free and fair elections cannot be en-

sured unless the poll panel is independent and also appears to be independent. A two-judge Bench of Justices Dipankar Datta and Satish Chandra Sharma made the observations during the final hearing on a batch of six pleas challenging the constitutional validity of a new law governing the appointment of the Chief

Election Commissioner and Election Commissioners. The Chief Election Commissioner and Other Election Commissioners (Appointment, Conditions of Service and Term of Office) Act, 2023, which came into force on January 2, 2024, provides that the CEC and ECs will be appointed by the President

on the recommendation of a Selection Committee comprising the Prime Minister, a Union Cabinet minister and the Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha. The law replaces the Chief Justice of India with a Union Cabinet Minister on the three-member Selection Committee.

NEET Paper Leak 'Demonetised' Future of Students: Revanth Reddy

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Wednesday said that the NEET-UG 2026 question paper leaks had "demonetised" the future of lakhs of medical aspirants. Expressing solidarity with students and parents affected by the crisis, he said the Telangana government would stand firmly with them and urged the Centre and the National Testing Agency (NTA) to conduct



a transparent, time-bound and credible investigation into the matter. In a media statement, Revanth Reddy strongly condemned the cancellation of the NEET-UG, which he said had caused enormous distress and uncertainty among lakhs of students and parents na-

tionwide. He stressed that the credibility of national examinations must be protected at all costs and demanded the strictest punishment for individuals or networks involved in paper leaks and corruption, irrespective of their influence or position. Revanth Reddy remarked that competitive examinations should become instruments of opportunity and merit rather than anxiety and uncertainty. He noted that students pre-

Pre-SIR in Hyd Gets a Big Push

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

City poll officials have covered 41 per cent of the electorate as part of the pre-SIR (special intensive revision) mapping exercise, even as all the mainstream political parties, except the All India Majlis Ittehadul Muslimeen, have failed to involve their booth level workers in the routine yet controversial voter verification exercise. The Congress has been highly critical of the SIR, and accuses the Bharatiya Janata Party of forcing the deletion of voters, particularly among Muslims, but has



neglected the pre-SIR exercise and has not even furnished the list of booth-wise agents to the Election Commission. So is the case with the Bharat Rashtira Samithi. "We saw the bitter experience that the Muslims and other minority voters faced in West Bengal and we are sure of the BJP attempting to repeat it in Telangana," said a senior MIM leader, explaining

the massive awareness programme launched by the party in the city and Hyderabad Lok Sabha segment in particular. It was only in recent times that the Congress and BRS initiated the process of appointing polling station-wise agents. "Identification of voters and their place of residence becomes easy if political party representatives play an active role, because they have micro-level knowledge of the voters," a senior official told. The pre-SIR exercise has been primarily focusing on mapping the electoral list as on January 1, 2025, with that of 2002 when

the last SIR was conducted. The mapping would mean verifying the name of the voter in both the lists, and with that of their parents if their (voters) names did not figure in the previous list. The common experience of the booth-level officers (BLOs) has been that voters aged above 40 years did not have issues as their names were getting traced either in the same constituency or others in case of migration. "Those who registered as voters after 2002 will be mapped with their parents," said K. Chandra-

SIR Phase III To Start in 16 States, Three UTs From May 30

The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in 16 states and three Union Territories will be taken up in a phased manner from May 30. The Election Commission of India said the schedule for SIR Phase III had been fixed keeping in view the common field machinery engaged in the ongoing house-listing exercise of the Census. Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar on Thursday said all efforts would be made to ensure that only eligible voters are included in the electoral rolls and that no ineligible names are added to the fresh list. "I appeal to all electors to participate enthusiastically in Phase III of the Special Intensive Revision and fill in their Enumeration Forms. The SIR is being

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OPPOSITE TO RBI, SAIFABAD

Gold Import Cut to 100kg Per Licence

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

A day after significantly increasing the import duty on precious metals, the government on Thursday imposed a limit of 100 kg on gold imports under the Advance Authorisation scheme, which allows jewellery exporters to import raw or input materials at zero duty. The government has tightened

conditions for the issuance and monitoring of advance authorisation for import of gold. Earlier, there was no limit on gold imports under the scheme. The Advance Authorisation scheme allows the duty-free import of inputs that are incorporated into an export product. In addition to any inputs, packaging material, fuel, oil, and catalyst that are consumed or utilised in the



process of production of export product, are also allowed. "AA for import of gold shall be issued, subject to a maximum permissible quantity of 100 kilograms," the DGFT said in a public notice. It added that in case of application for Advance Authorisation by a first-

time applicant, a mandatory physical inspection of the applicant's manufacturing facility will be undertaken to verify the existence, capacity and operational status of the unit. "Any subsequent AA for the import of gold, shall be considered for issuance only upon fulfillment of at least 50 per cent of the export obligation..." it said, adding that the AA holder will have to

submit a fortnightly performance report, which should be duly certified by an independent chartered accountant certifying gold imports and exports undertaken. Further, the concerned regional authority of the directorate will submit a monthly report to the DGFT containing details regarding the issuance of AA.

BJP Telangana Launches Modi's 'Sapta Sutras' Campaign Amid Crisis

BJP urges Metro use, EV adoption and swadeshi products to boost self-reliance

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Bharatiya Janata Party Telangana unit on Thursday launched a statewide awareness drive promoting Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "Sapta Sutras" — seven austerity and self-reliance measures aimed at strengthening the country's economy amid the ongoing West Asia crisis and rising global uncertainties.

Participating in a special campaign event in Hyderabad, Telangana BJP president N. Ramchander Rao released pamphlets explaining the initiative and appealed to citizens to actively participate in building an "Aatma Bharat." He said public cooperation was essential



to reduce economic pressure caused by global fuel instability and international conflicts.

Ramchander Rao highlighted Prime Minister Modi's own lifestyle choices, including his reduced convoy usage, as an example of responsible leadership during challenging times. He also stated that he personally had been using public transport to attend pro-

grammes and public meetings to encourage people to adopt fuel-saving habits.

Calling upon Hyderabad residents to contribute to the campaign, Rao urged people to increasingly use the Hyderabad Metro Rail, encourage carpooling particularly in the IT sector, and gradually shift towards electric vehicles for fuel conservation. He said such small behavio-

ral changes could collectively reduce dependence on imported fuel and strengthen the national economy.

The BJP leader outlined the seven key measures promoted under the "Sapta Sutras" campaign. These include reducing petrol and diesel consumption, avoiding unnecessary gold purchases, prioritising work-from-home wherever possible, opting for public transport, reducing cooking oil consumption, encouraging natural farming instead of chemical fertilisers, embracing swadeshi products, and avoiding foreign tours unless necessary.

Addressing criticism over the campaign, Ramchander Rao said austerity

initiatives were not new in India and recalled that former Prime Ministers Manmohan Singh and Indira Gandhi had also promoted similar measures during periods of economic difficulty.

Economist Prof. Dr Krishna Reddy analysed the "Sapta Sutras" using global economic indicators and described the initiative as a "national economic movement." He explained that small everyday decisions such as purchasing local products, conserving fuel and electricity, and adopting work-from-home practices could help stabilise foreign exchange reserves, reduce inflationary pressure, and improve long-term economic resilience.

PMJ Robbery: Three Interstate Gangsters Arrested

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Karimnagar police on Thursday arrested three members of an interstate gang in connection with the May 3 robbery at a PMJ Jewellery showroom, where ornaments worth over Rs 82 lakh were looted. Police said the gang operated under the direction of a mastermind lodged in a Bihar jail. Police Commissioner Goush Alam identified the arrested as Raghunath Karmakar, 41, of West Bengal, Ravish Kumar, 23, of Bihar and Mehtab Khan, 32, of West Bengal. Police seized Rs 51,000 in cash, two mobile phones, two SIM cards, three fake Aadhaar cards and forged documents. Police said the kingpin, Subhod Singh, known as "The Golden Thief", planned the operation



from prison. Karmakar, described as the main accused, was arrested at Velichala Crossroad on May 13. Kumar and Khan were traced to Bihar and West Bengal and brought to Karimnagar on transit warrants. The robbery occurred under the Karimnagar II Town police station limits when five armed men entered the showroom, threatened staff and opened fire when resisted, injuring four employees. The gang fled with 161.4 tolas of gold and 112 carats of diamonds valued at Rs 82,02,000. Police said the gang con-

ducted reconnaissance for two months across Telangana, including Khammam, Siddipet and Peddapalli, and used fake Aadhaar cards, stolen number plates and specialised SIM cards to evade detection. Investigators said Karmakar procured six pistols and magazines near the Maharashtra border a day before the crime. On the day of the robbery, the gang switched motorcycles and number plates near a hilly area before reaching the showroom.

Arekapudi Gandhi Reviews Civic Issues at PJR Stadium Programme

RANGAREDDY
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh

PAC Chairman Arekapudi Gandhi participated in a review meeting at PJR Stadium under Chandanagar Division as part of the "One Day One Ward" programme. The meeting was attended by G. Srujana, Zonal Commissioner Narayan Amit Malempati, Deputy Commissioner Shashirekha, officials, and Residents Welfare Association members. Residents highlighted several colony issues and requested development



works. Gandhi instructed officials to speed up pending works, improve drainage systems before monsoon, repair roads, and develop parks in various colonies. He also proposed better facilities at PJR Stadium, restoration of stormwater drains, construction of foot over-

bridges in Chandanagar to reduce accidents, and measures to prevent water stagnation near residential areas.

The PAC Chairman also appealed to residents to install rainwater harvesting pits and maintain cleanliness by separating wet and dry waste.

CSIR-NGRI Lead E-Tractor, E-Tiller roadshow



In sync with the global shift towards green vehicles, Durgapur-based CSIR Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CSIR-CMERI) has developed two electric vehicles for farming operations — e-tiller and e-tractor — that could free farmers from the dependence on costlier imported diesel. The vehicles were demonstrated during a nationwide roadshow organised by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research - National Geophysical Research Institute (CSIR-NGRI), Hyderabad, e-tractor (PRIMA-ET-11) and e-tiller on May 11 to mark the National Technology Day. The roadshow started in CSIR-IIIM Jammu and after Hyderabad its next stop would be in CSIR-NIIST Thiruvananthapuram. CSIR-CMERI has been a pioneer in agricultural innovation for decades, and had developed India's first indigenous tractor — Swaraj — in 1974. The e-tractor has a top speed of 25 kilometre per hour (kmph) and a peak power of 26 horse power (hp). The vehicle's 500-kg lift capacity and battery capacity of 72 voltage and 200 Ampere-Hours delivers a 60 per cent running cost saving in comparison to diesel counterparts.

Malla Mahanadu Calls for Fair Probe in POCSO Case

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Dp Srinivas rao

Malla Mahanadu Greater Hyderabad president Bindla Srinivas on Thursday demanded the immediate removal of Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar following allegations against his son, Bandi Sai Bhagirath, in a POCSO case involving a minor girl. Addressing the media in Hyderabad, Srinivas termed the alleged inci-



dent a "heinous act" and said the case had raised serious concerns over women's safety and accountability in public life. He questioned the BJP's commitment to its "Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao" campaign and

stated that the slogan would lose public trust if strict action was not taken in cases involving relatives of influential leaders. Srinivas urged the Central Government to immediately remove Bandi Sanjay from his ministerial position to ensure a fair and transparent investigation without any political influence. He also called on the Telangana government to fast-track the investigation under the POCSO Act and ensure the im-

mediate arrest of the accused. The Malla Mahanadu leader further demanded that the BJP clarify its stand on allegations involving family members of senior leaders accused in crimes against women. Stating that "the nation is watching," Srinivas said justice must be delivered without delay and vowed that Malla Mahanadu would continue its fight until the victim receives justice and the accused faces legal action..

Serilingampally Revenue Officials Intensify Action Against Encroachments

RANGAREDDY
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh

K. Mahipal Reddy, Tahsildar, Deputy Collector and Executive Magistrate of Serilingampally, stated that the Revenue Department is taking strict action against government land encroachments in the mandal. During an interaction on public-interest issues related to revenue administration, he said notices are being issued



against encroachments and action is being taken to remove unauthorized occupations. Officials are focusing on protecting government lands such as lake buffer

zones, road lands, park lands, grazing lands, and assigned lands from illegal occupation. He stated that the administration is working to safeguard public properties and prevent further encroachments. The Tahsildar also advised citizens to verify land ownership carefully before purchasing any plots or properties to ensure the land does not belong to the government.

Zilla Parishad CEO Conducts Field Inspection in Bommalaramam Mandal

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Thalka anjaiah

N. Shobharani conducted an inspection visit to Bommalaramam Mandal on Thursday and reviewed the implementation of various development and welfare programmes. She held a review meeting with officials associated with MGNREGS, EGS personnel and Panchayat Secretaries, directing them to increase labour participa-



tion and provide more workdays to rural workers under the employment guarantee scheme. The CEO also stressed the need to protect nurseries and avenue plantation saplings during the summer season and in-

structed officials to ensure proper maintenance and survival of plants. Later, she inspected the ongoing Indiramma housing works in Bommalaramam village along with Sarpanch Katta Umadevi and directed officials and beneficiaries to complete the houses without delay so eligible families could benefit soon. MPDO D. Shyamala, APOs G. Sreemaalini and S. Srilaxmi, Housing AE Rohith and other officials attended the programme.

Telugu Literary Stalwart Sharada Ashokavardhan No More



Telugu litterateur Sharada Ashokavardhan, author of over 80 books, died at her daughter's residence in Banjara Hills, Hyderabad, on Wednesday night. She was 87. She is survived by four daughters, one of whom is a well-known journalist, anchor, and author. The funeral will be held on Friday at 10.30 am. Ashokavardhan's contribution covered diverse literary genres, including novels, poetry, plays, essays, lyrics, children's literature, and newspaper columns, said a release. She was also a familiar and respected voice on All India Radio, where she worked for several years. Several of her lyrical compositions attained popularity, especially 'Manasaayera Madhava'. Her 'Ganapathi Suprabatham', rendered by Dr Mangalampalli Balamuralikrishna, continues to enjoy popularity, the statement said. Many of her lyrics were also set to tune by the music composer Palagummi Viswanadham. Her works have been translated into Tamil, Kannada, and Hindi. Ashokavardhan also served as joint director in the state information department.

Vijaya Dairy Strengthens Consumer Confidence Through Field-Level Inspections in Twin Cities

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Thalka anjaiah

In a continued effort to strengthen consumer confidence and improve dairy services across Hyderabad and Secunderabad, Sri Peravali Mohan Murali, LMS, Telangana State Dairy Development Co-Operative Federation Ltd. (TGDDCF Ltd.), conducted extensive morning inspections of Vijaya Dairy parlours and milk outlets in various parts of the twin cities on Thursday. During the field



visit, Mohan Murali, along with concerned departmental officers, interacted directly with shopkeepers, parlour owners, vendors, and local consumers regarding product availability, quality standards, cold-chain maintenance, hygiene practices, and public feedback on Vijaya Dairy products. As part of

the inspection drive, officials also visited the proposed Vijaya Dairy parlour under Tarnaka Zone at Korremula Road, Ghatkesar, being developed by Putta Venkata Swamy. Discussions were held regarding infrastructure facilities, product supply systems, consumer accessibility, and future business expansion opportunities under the Vijaya Dairy network. Officials emphasized that TGDDCF Ltd. is taking continuous steps to modernize dairy parlours, im-

prove supply efficiency, and strengthen customer satisfaction through regular monitoring and field-level implementation. Mohan Murali LMS stated that such inspections are not merely routine visits but part of a broader mission to enhance the reputation and reach of Vijaya Dairy among consumers. He assured that customer feedback and vendor suggestions would play a key role in further improving services and product delivery systems.

Dalit Ratna Awards Honor Raju Ustad, Social Justice Champions

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Dp Srinivas rao

The National Committee for the Protection of the Rights of Scheduled Castes (NCPRCSC) on Wednesday organized the Dalit Ratna Awards ceremony in Hyderabad, honoring individuals working for Dalit empowerment and social justice. National Vice President Mbe Vinod Kumar attended as the chief guest and presented the awards to National President Raju Ustad, Battula Sudarshan, Mamba Ashok and Ayyavari Venugopal for their contributions in education, legal aid and community welfare for marginalized communities. Addressing the gathering, Raju Ustad



said the award was dedicated to every Dalit voice fighting against injustice and called for stronger unity to protect Scheduled Caste rights. He highlighted the need for effective implementation of reservation policies and anti-discrimination laws. Several dignitaries, including Madyala Prabhakar, Deepak Deva, Arundhati Rajeshwari, Rekha and Vimala, participated in the event, which also featured cultural performances focused on empowerment and social equality.

Telangana CM Revanthy Reddy Congratulates VD Satheesan On Becoming Kerala CM



Chief Minister of Telangana, A. Revanthy Reddy, today extended his warmest greetings and heartfelt congratulations to V. D. Satheesan on being appointed as the Chief Minister of Kerala. In his message, the Chief Minister described Sri Satheesan's appointment as a well-deserved recognition of decades of dedicated public service, principled politics, and an unwavering commitment to the welfare of the people of Kerala. He observed that the people of Kerala have, through the recently concluded Assembly elections, reaffirmed their faith in the values of democracy, social justice, and inclusive development by entrusting the United Democratic Front, led by the Congress, with the mandate to govern the state.

US Influencer Targets Telugu Bizman Over Visa Fraud

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

US social media influencer Sara Gonzales has once again sparked debate over the H-1B visas after confronting another Telugu-origin businessman in the United States, accusing him of visa fraud. Sara visited the home of Sakam Nagarjuna Reddy, director of Great America Technologies Inc., and recorded a confrontation that was later posted on social media.

In the video, she alleged that the company was operating as a "scam company" and questioned whether any employees were actually working under him. She claimed that the company had failed to provide required public access files linked to H-1B visa rules. During the exchange, Nagarjuna Reddy repeatedly asked Sara to leave his property



and warned that he would sue her for trespassing and defamation. The video quickly spread online and added to the growing political argument in the US over immigration and employment visas. Gonzales has become a well-known social media influencer in recent months for posting videos in which she visits addresses connected to H-1B sponsoring companies in Texas. In several videos, she claimed some firms were operating from

homes or virtual offices and accused them of abusing the visa system. However, the targeted companies have argued that many small businesses legally operate from residential addresses and alleged that she has not produced direct proof of fraud in many cases, and has sensationalised the issue in the name of exposing a scam. At the same time, Republican leaders in the US are increasing their criticism of employment-based visa programmes. Missouri

Senator Eric Schmitt recently posted a long thread on X attacking the H-1B, L-1, F-1 and OPT visa systems, claiming they are hurting American workers and lowering wages. Schmitt alleged that bad actors, especially from India, are running a "visa cartel", involving recruiters, outsourcing firms, shell companies and middlemen who allegedly bring foreign workers into the US through interconnected business networks. According to him, some companies recruit workers overseas, file visa petitions through linked firms, place them into jobs and manage payroll through separate entities. He claimed the system allows businesses to hire cheaper "visa-dependent labour" while American workers lose opportunities.

Seethakka Says Govt Committed to Resolving Grievances at Field Level

WARANGAL
Wakeup telangana

Panchayat raj minister Seethakka on Thursday said the state government is committed to resolving public grievances at the field level, while addressing a 'Praja Darbar' in Laxmipuram village of Kannaigudem mandal in Mulugu district. The programme, held as part of the 99-day 'Praja Palana' plan, saw residents from 10 villages, including Tupakulagudem, Laxmipuram, Rajannapet and Muppanapalli, submit petitions. The minister, along with ITDA project officer Lenin Vatsal Toppo, ASP Manan and additional collector Ch. Mahendar ji, received the applications. She said the initiative was drawing a strong public response as it brought governance closer to people. She noted that conducting such pro-



grammes in backward areas like Kannaigudem mandal reflected a shift towards proactive administration. The minister said officials were visiting remote villages to address issues of the rural poor without requiring them to travel to government offices. She added that while several grievances were being resolved on the spot, others involving technical issues were being processed within set timelines to ensure transparency. She said officials and public representatives must work together "like a pair of bullocks" to en-

sure rural development. The minister also inaugurated and laid foundation stones for development works worth about Rs 3.4 crore in the mandal, including a gram panchayat building at Laxmipuram and internal CC roads and drainage works. She launched a road project from Boregudem to the ST Colony, estimated at Rs 1.45 crore, aimed at improving connectivity for tribal habitations. The minister directed officials to prioritise petitions received during the programme and ensure applicants are informed.

Tgana Government Reaffirms Commitment to Brahmin Welfare and Development

Grand Assumption Ceremony of Brahmin Welfare Parishad Chairman and Vice Chairman Held in Hyderabad

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Prashanth reddy

A grand oath-taking and assumption ceremony of the newly appointed Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Telangana State Brahmin Welfare Parishad was held with much enthusiasm at Vasanth Vihar Function Hall, Nagole, in the distinguished presence of Telangana Minister for IT, Industries & Commerce and Legislative Affairs, Duddilla Sridhar Babu. On the occasion, Dr. Satyam Srirangam, PCC Member and TPC Official Spokesperson, extended heartfelt congratulations and best wishes to Basavaraj Srinivas on assuming charge as Chairman and Ponnada Subramanya Prasad as Vice Chairman of the Parishad. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Satyam Srirangam stated that the people's government



reach every deserving family in the community. Dr. Satyam Srirangam also appealed to the Parishad to work proactively under the guidance of Minister Sridhar Babu to secure substantial government support and funding for the welfare and development of Brahmins in Telangana. The event was attended by several prominent dignitaries including State Government Advisor Harkara Venugopal Rao, State Road Development Corporation Chairman Mai Reddy Ram Reddy, and former Union Minister Samudrala Venugopala Chary, who felicitated the newly appointed leaders with shawls and conveyed their blessings and appreciation. A large number of Brahmin associations, community representatives, and leaders participated in the program, making the event a grand success.

under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanthy Reddy remains firmly committed to protecting dharma and ensuring the welfare and upliftment of the Brahmin community. He emphasized that the Telangana Government has been implementing several welfare and development initiatives aimed at empowering Brahmin families across the state. He urged the newly appointed leadership of the Brahmin Welfare Parishad to work in close coordination with the government so that the benefits of welfare schemes effectively

Serilingampally Zonal Commissioner Reviews Census Activities with Ward Nodal Officers

RANGAREDDY
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh

Narayan Amit conducted a review meeting at the Serilingampally Zonal Conference Hall on May 14 regarding ongoing Census activities across the zone. During the meeting, the Zonal Commissioner reviewed ward-wise Census enumeration progress with nodal officers from all wards. Of-



officials were instructed to ensure accurate data collection, create public awareness, and complete Census activities within the prescribed timeline. Narayan Amit directed officials to record household details without errors

and conduct extensive awareness programmes about the importance of the Census. Ward nodal officers were also asked to resolve field-level issues immediately and speed up the enumeration process. The Zonal Commissioner stated that Census data plays a key role in national development and welfare planning, and appealed to citizens to cooperate with officials during the process.

CBIT MCA Students Explore Innovation Ecosystem at ACIC-CBIT

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

MCA II Semester students of Chaitanya Bharathi Institute of Technology visited Atal Community Innovation Centre (ACIC-CBIT) to gain practical exposure to innovation, entrepreneurship, and startup development initiatives. During the visit, students were introduced to the innovation ecosystem and various startup support activities undertaken by ACIC-CBIT. The session focused on promoting awareness about entrepreneurship, incubation support, research



opportunities, and skill development programmes for aspiring innovators. Addressing the students, Dr. Sunny Agrawal explained the objectives and activities of ACIC-CBIT and emphasized the importance of innovation-driven learning in today's technology-oriented environment. He encouraged

students to actively participate in entrepreneurial activities and utilize incubation facilities to transform innovative ideas into successful ventures. The programme was coordinated by Dr. G.N.R. Prasad and Dr. M. Ramchander. Students described the visit as informative and inspiring.

AIDSO Expresses Concern Over Irregularities In NEET-UG



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Hyderabad district committee of All India Democratic Students' Organisation (AIDSO) has expressed serious concern over the repeated irregularities and question paper leakages in national-level examinations, especially the NEET-UG. Speaking at a protest over the issue organised at the Khairatabad library organised by Ch Sasank, AIDSO state executive member, organisation's adviser Dr R. Gangadhara expressed serious concern over the repeated failures in maintaining transparency and security in national-level examinations and emphasised the need to protect students' interests and restore public confidence in the system. The AIDSO also strongly condemned the repeated failures of the National

Testing Agency (NTA) in ensuring a fair, transparent, and secure examination process and demanded a transparent and time-bound investigation under judicial supervision into all examination irregularities and paper leak cases. Strict punishment for every individual involved, irrespective of their position or influence. The meeting was attended by AIDSO Hyderabad president-secretaries Nithish and Nagarju and members Siddharth, Vinod, Vishali, Nihitha, Praneeth, Thippanna, Kranthi, Hanuk and others. It sought complete public disclosure of the findings of the investigation and immediate measures to ensure transparency, accountability, and security in all national-level examinations.

Over 56,000 students get seats in DOST phase-I allotment

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

More than 56,000 students secured undergraduate admissions in the first phase of Degree Online Services, Telangana (DOST) seat allotments for the 2026-27, with a majority getting seats in their top preferences. DOST 2026 includes 777 colleges, 409 courses and a total intake of 3.6 lakh seats. Students allotted seats must complete online self-reporting between May 15 and May 23 to confirm admissions. Phase-II registrations and



web options will continue till May 26, while the next seat allotment is scheduled for May 30. Commerce courses recorded the highest number of allotments at 23,214, followed by Physical Sciences with 14,394 and Life Sciences with 9,815 seats. Female candi-

dates accounted for 36,302 allotments, compared to 19,845 male candidates. English medium seats dominated admissions with 54,608 allotments. According to Telangana Council of Higher Education (TGCHE) and Commissioner of Collegiate Edu-

cation (CCE) officials, 56,147 candidates were allotted seats out of 61,543 students who exercised web options in Phase-I. Another 5,396 candidates could not secure allotments because of limited web options. A total of 84,610 candidates registered for admissions through Aadhaar OTP, DOST app and MeeSeva biometric authentication systems. Among those allotted seats, 36,634 students secured their first preference, while 19,513 received allotments in second or later preferences.

Potholes, Damaged Manhole Trouble Residents in Tallagadda

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Residents of Mahboob Colony in Tallagadda have urged the GHMC authorities to immediately repair the badly damaged road stretch in front of H.No. 13-5-431/A/51 under Gudimalkapur Division, Mehdiptnam. Several potholes on the road have become a major inconvenience and safety hazard for motorists, pedestrians and school students, as the stretch is located near a high school. Locals said vehicles are



frequently getting damaged after running into the potholes, forcing owners to spend money on repairs. They also expressed concern over the damaged manhole cover on the same road, stating that it poses a serious risk to commuters, especially during nighttime and rainy conditions.

Demanding urgent action from the GHMC engineering wing, BRS Party Gudimalkapur Division Vice President Sumair Khan appealed to civic officials to undertake immediate repair works and replace the damaged manhole cover to prevent accidents and ensure public safety.



CBI Gets Seven-Day Custody Of Five NEET-UG Leak Accused

The CBI on Thursday secured seven-day custody of five accused in the NEET-UG paper leak case and arrested two more suspects, as the agency widened its probe to examine the possible role of insiders in the National Testing Agency (NTA). A special CBI court, while granting custody, observed that the allegations indicated the involvement of an "organised gang" engaged in leaking and circulating confidential examination papers for monetary gain.

The five accused — Shubham Khairnar, Mangilal Biwal, Vikas Biwal, Dinesh Biwal and Yash Yadav — were produced before Special Judge Ajay Gupta after being brought on transit remand from different states.

The agency also arrested Dhananjay Lokhande from Ahilyanagar and Manisha Waghmare from Pune in connection with the case. In its remand plea, the CBI alleged that question papers were circulated in PDF format through WhatsApp and Telegram before the examination. It said the leak involved financial transactions.

SIR Phase III To Start in 16 States, Three UTs From May 30

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The Election Commission of India (ECI) on Thursday announced that the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in 16 States and three Union Territories will begin in a phased manner from May 30, with officials set to undertake a massive house-to-house verification drive covering over 36.73 crore voters.

Launching SIR Phase III, Chief Election Commissioner Gyanesh Kumar said the exercise aims to ensure that only eligible voters remain on the electoral rolls while preventing the inclusion of ineligible names. He appealed to citizens to actively participate by filling out Enumeration



Forms during the revision process. The states and Union Territories included in Phase III are Delhi, Odisha, Mizoram, Sikkim, Manipur, Uttarakhand, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Haryana, Chandigarh, Telangana, Punjab, Karnataka, Meghalaya, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Nagaland, Tripura and Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu. According to the ECI, the Phase III schedule

was planned keeping in view the common field machinery currently engaged in the ongoing Census house-listing exercise. The poll body stated that the SIR schedule for Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh will be announced later due to weather conditions in snow-bound and upper-reach areas. The Commission said more than 3.94 lakh Booth Level Officers (BLOs) will visit elec-

tors' homes during the revision process. They will be assisted by 3.42 lakh Booth Level Agents (BLAs) appointed by political parties to ensure transparency and participation in the exercise.

The ECI described the SIR as a participative process involving electors, political parties and election officials. It urged political parties to appoint BLAs at every polling booth for effective monitoring of the revision process. The Commission also noted that SIR exercises have already been completed in states including Bihar, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, among others, while a special revision was conducted in Assam.

Amit Shah Likely to Review Security Situation in Post-Maoist Bastar

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Union Home Minister Amit Shah is likely to visit Bastar in Chhattisgarh on May 18 for a two-day review of the security situation in the region after it was declared free of armed Maoists earlier this year. According to senior officials in the state home department, the visit is expected to focus on assessing whether the ground situation is suitable for the phased withdrawal of Central forces from the former Left Wing Extremism-affected region.

This will be Shah's first visit to Bastar since Chhattisgarh was declared Maoist-free on March 31. More than



65,000 personnel from various Central Paramilitary Forces are currently deployed in Bastar for counter-insurgency operations. Deputy Chief Minister Vijay Sharma had earlier indicated that Central forces may continue in the region for another year despite the improvement in the security situation.

Security camps set up across Bastar are gradually being converted into "Jan Suvida Kendras" or public service centres, providing healthcare, education, banking and access to

welfare schemes for local villagers. Around 400 security camps are currently operational across Bastar division, which includes Bastar, Kanker, Kondagaon, Dantewada, Sukma, Nayanpur and Bijapur districts. Officials said Shah may inaugurate a public service centre at Netanar in Bastar district during the visit. The facility has been established at a security camp run by the CRPF's 80th Battalion.

Ahead of the proposed visit, Shah on Thursday held discussions in New Delhi with Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai regarding the post-Maoist security and development scenario in Bastar. Vijay Sharma also attended the meeting.

Trump Offers Platitudes While Xi Warns Of Possible Confrontation

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Chinese President Xi Jinping on Thursday warned visiting US President Donald Trump that Washington's handling of Taiwan could trigger "clashes and even conflicts" between the world's two largest economies, highlighting deep divisions despite warm public exchanges during Trump's state visit to China. During a nearly two-hour closed-door meeting at Beijing's Great Hall of the People, Xi described Taiwan as "the most important issue in China-US relations," according to Chinese foreign ministry spokesperson Mao Ning. Xi warned that if the issue is mishandled, bilateral ties could face serious jeopardy.

The sharp remarks contrasted with Trump's cordial tone at the start of the summit, where he praised Xi as a "great leader" and called it "an honor to be your friend." Trump also expressed confidence that relations between the United States and China



would become "better than ever before." Despite the positive public comments, the meeting underscored continuing disagreements over Taiwan, trade disputes and the ongoing Iran conflict. Analysts indicated the three-day visit may focus more on symbolism and diplomacy than on major policy breakthroughs. Xi urged both countries to avoid confrontation and referenced the

"Thucydides Trap," a foreign policy theory suggesting conflict often occurs when a rising power challenges an established one. Stressing cooperation over rivalry, Xi said the two nations should become "partners rather than rivals." Taiwan remained a major flash-

point during the discussions. China has objected strongly to the Trump administration's proposed \$11 billion weapons package for Taiwan. Although approved by Washington, the arms deal has not yet been implemented. Trump's recent comments showing greater ambiguity toward Taiwan have also raised concerns in Taipei about the future of US support.

Taiwanese officials responded cautiously after the meeting, thanking Washington for its continued backing and describing US support as essential for regional stability. The leaders also discussed trade and economic cooperation. Xi reportedly said China's "door of opportunity"

would continue opening wider to foreign businesses. The White House hopes Trump's visit will produce trade gains, including possible Chinese commitments to purchase American soybeans, beef and aircraft. US officials are additionally seeking to establish a new bilateral Board of Trade aimed at resolving long-running commercial disputes between the two countries. The two sides had reached a trade truce last year that temporarily eased tariff tensions, and discussions are continuing over extending that agreement. Trump's China visit also comes amid growing concerns over the Iran conflict and its impact on the global economy.

The war involving Iran and Israel has disrupted shipping through the Strait of Hormuz, causing oil and gas prices to surge and increasing fears of slower global growth. As China remains the largest buyer of Iranian oil, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio said Washington hopes Beijing will use its influence to help reduce.

Russia Hits Kyiv with Drones and Ballistic Missiles, Injuring Four

KYIV
Wakeup telangana

Russia attacked Ukraine's capital with a mass drone and missile attack early Thursday morning that injured at least four people, local authorities said.

Damage was recorded across six districts of Kyiv, according to head of Kyiv's Military Administration Tymur Tkachenko. He warned Russia was attacking the capital with ballistic missiles and drones. Residential buildings and civilian infras-



structure was damaged. In the Darnytsia district, a multistory residential building partially collapsed splitting the structure in half and burying people under the rubble.

At least 10 people were rescued from the rubble, according to Ukraine's Emergency Service. At the scene, emergency workers searched for survivors as smoke from the

attack continued to smolder beneath the pile of rubble.

In the Dnieper district, a drone hit the roof of a five-story residential building, Tkachenko said. Another building in the Dniprovsykyi district was also damaged. Explosions were heard across the capital early morning Thursday. The attack came hours after a rare daytime attack on Kyiv that killed at least six people, according to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

EAM Describes Russia As Trusted Partner

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

External affairs minister S. Jaishankar on Wednesday described Russia as a "trusted partner" during bilateral talks with Sergey Lavrov in New Delhi. Jaishankar said political cooperation between the two countries remains "valuable" in an uncertain global environment and stressed the need for sustained en-



gagement to advance ties. He noted that both nations share an interest in a multipolar world order and that the meeting provided an opportunity to

review the bilateral strategic partnership. Lavrov referred to the close relationship between the two countries and recalled the visit of Vladimir Putin to India last year. He indicated continued cooperation in strategic sectors and emphasised the need to "find global answers to global problems" in the context of ongoing international challenges. The meeting comes ahead of

the BRICS Foreign Ministers' Meeting, where global and regional issues are expected to be discussed. Jaishankar also held separate bilateral meetings with Mauro Vieira and Ronald Lamola. He additionally met visiting counterparts from the Maldives and Chile. The engagements are part of diplomatic consultations on bilateral ties and multilateral cooperation.

FROM FRONT PAGE

Pre-SIR in Hyd Gets....

"Those who registered as voters after 2002 will be mapped with their parents," said K. Chandrakala, additional commissioner, Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, who is in-charge of SIR here. Allaying fears over the exercise, she said it was a routine exercise which would help remove duplication and the names of dead and bogus voters. While the pre-SIR exercise dragged on for months and only 21 per cent of the electorate could be covered till a month ago, it gained momentum after Chandrakala over as AC (elections) and coverage was doubled. The officials were of the view that another 20 per cent voters will be mapped by the time the actual SIR process begins.

SC: Why Cabinet.....

While hearing the submissions of Attorney General R. Venkataramani on behalf of the Centre, Justice Datta said, "It is not sufficient for the Election Commission to be independent; it has to appear to be independent." Justice Datta said the independence of the Election Commission was a facet of the basic structure of the Constitution, as free and fair elections depended on it. "The level of confidence must be to that degree, as if there had been a third neutral person in the Selection Committee. Why should it be a minister from the Cabinet?" the Bench asked.

Referring to the Attorney General's submissions on judicial overreach, Justice Datta underlined the

need for mutual respect between the organs of the state. "Parliament may attribute anything to the judiciary, but we know our Lakshman Rekha. We will never do that," he said. Venkataramani argued that Parliament had the absolute right to legislate and was not bound to follow the "stop-gap" arrangement suggested by a five-judge Bench in the Anoop Baranwal judgment. He said the Baranwal judgment was an exercise of Article 142, which gives the Supreme Court discretionary power to do complete justice, and did not constitute binding law under Article 141 that could override an Act of Parliament. The Attorney General said the apex court should not strike down a law on the basis of hypothetical bias. "We have to eat the

pudding to know if it is bad. Unless the ECs demonstrate a lack of independence in their actual functioning, the law cannot be held invalid," he said. Cautioning the Bench against entering the legislative arena or acting as a "second chamber of Parliament", Venkataramani said, "Their first prayer is against the validity of the law. If that fails, no other prayer survives." "The question whether the Election Commission is independent cannot be answered in the abstract. It is a question of fact and evidence," he argued.

NEET Paper Leak.....

Revanth Reddy remarked that competitive examinations should become instruments of opportunity and merit rather than anxiety and

uncertainty. He noted that students prepare for NEET under immense emotional pressure, financial burden and personal sacrifice, while many parents take loans and even sell jewellery to support their children's preparation. He said the negligence of the Modi government had shattered the dreams of students who had spent years preparing for the examination.

Describing the cancellation of NEET-UG as a "dictatorial and arbitrary" decision of the Modi government, the Chief Minister said it had severely affected the future prospects of the youth. Drawing a parallel with demonetisation, he said the NEET cancellation had shocked the country in a similar manner and pushed students into uncertainty and despair. He alleged

that organised paper leaks and repeated government failures had created an atmosphere of insecurity among the youth.

Revanth Reddy said the similarities between the BJP government at the Centre and the previous BRS government in Telangana in failures, betrayal and organised corruption were "glaring" in conducting examinations smoothly. He alleged that BJP-ruled states had emerged as major centres for examination paper leaks and claimed that Gujarat alone had witnessed 14 paper leak incidents. He criticised the Centre for failing to take action even against ministers responsible for such lapses. The Chief Minister stated that since Prime Minister Narendra Modi assumed office in May 2014.

CRIME

Bageerath Case Hearing Fixed for Today

Bandi's son urges court to restrain police from arresting him

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana High Court has scheduled for Friday, orders on the interim protection application filed by Sai Bageerath, son of Union minister of state Bandi Sanjay, requesting the court to restrain the police from arresting him in a case registered against him under the BNS and the Pocco Act. Bageerath sought the interim protection till the court decided on his anticipatory bail petition, which been adjourned to next week for further hearing.

Bageerath's counsel, pressing for interim protection from arrest, said the anticipatory bail application would become infructuous if Bageerath was arrested before the court decided on the petition. The single bench of

the vacation court headed by Justice T. Madhavi Devi heard elaborate submissions from senior counsel appearing for the petitioner, the state, and counsel representing the victim before posting the interim application for orders on Friday.

Senior advocate S. Niranjan Reddy, appearing for Bageerath, argued that anticipatory bail was not barred under the Pocco Act and contended that the petitioner was entitled to the same legal protection available to any ordinary citizen. Counsel argued that the prosecution case rested on the question of the victim's age. Referring to an earlier police chargesheet relating to a separate underage driving incident, the senior advocate submitted that the victim's age had reportedly been shown differently in prior

records. He contended that if the victim was not a minor, the invocation of Pocco Act provisions would become questionable. Relying on the Supreme Court's order in 'Arnesh Kumar v State of Bihar', the petitioner's counsel submitted that arrest was not automatically warranted in offences punishable with imprisonment below seven years. The senior advocate also argued that the presumption under Section 29 of the Pocco Act would arise only after framing of charges and not at the anticipatory bail stage. Justice Madhavi Devi, questioned the petitioner's counsel on the urgency behind seeking interim protection and orally observed that the petitioner would have to demonstrate material supporting the contention that the victim was not a minor.

"My question is, if you are saying she is not below 18 years, then are you trying to say this is not a Pocco case at all? You will have to show what evidence you have," the court orally remarked. The court further questioned how the petitioner was different from any other, and what was the urgency required for immediate protection. Senior counsel Niranjan Reddy denied that Bageerath was absconding and stated that he was willing to cooperate with the investigation. The court was also informed that posters carrying the petitioner's photographs had appeared across the city and that political organisations had conducted protests over the issue. Public prosecutor Palle Nageswara Rao, appearing for the state, defended the police action.

Court slams Sanathnagar cops for interfering in civil dispute

Justice G.M. Mohiuddin of the Telangana High Court came down heavily on the authorities of the Sanathnagar police station for interfering in civil disputes while granting interim protection to a 55-year-old man embroiled in a family property dispute. The court cautioned law enforcement authorities against compelling parties to arrive at settlements in matters of purely civil nature. The judge was hearing a writ petition filed by Prem Chand, who alleged that police authorities were unlawfully interfering in an ongoing family property dispute and attempting to force a compromise with the unofficial respondent. According to the petitioner, the dispute pertained exclusively to family property issues and did not disclose any criminal offence warranting police intervention. Counsel for the petitioner contended that police personnel were repeatedly visiting the residence of the petitioner, summoning him to the police station and allegedly threatening criminal action.

Court Orders Data Transfer to T-Wallet

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Justice T. Madhavi Devi of the Telangana High Court, sitting in the vacation court, granted anticipatory bail to the directors of a payment service operator in the T-Wallet dispute case, after recording their undertaking that they would transfer customer data and wallet balances relating to nearly 16 lakh users to the government within a week. The judge was hearing a criminal petition filed by Srinivasa Rao Katuri and Kiran Kumar, who were facing allegations of cheating and criminal

breach of trust arising out of operations of T-Wallet, the state government-owned e-money wallet platform.

According to the petitioners, their company was previously engaged by the government for operation of T-Wallet and the dispute arose after the government appointed a new operator and sought transfer of customer KYC details and wallet funds. The petitioners contended that Reserve Bank of India regulations prohibited transfer of customer funds and sensitive KYC data without obtaining consent from customers and that any such transfer

without legal protection would expose them to serious regulatory consequences. It was submitted that the petitioners were willing to transfer the customer data and monies provided appropriate protection and directions were granted by the court. Opposing the plea, the public prosecutor contended that similar assurances were been furnished earlier by the petitioners but the customer data and wallet balances were still not transferred. It was submitted that the matter involved nearly 16 lakh customers and that custodial interrogation.

3 Held For Stealing Money From Temple Hundis

Kalluru police on Thursday arrested three members of an inter-state gang for allegedly stealing money from hundis at temples in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh over the past six months, police said.

The arrested were identified as Bolusu Yesubabu alias Manikala Yesubabu, 23, of Obulapalem in Mylavaram mandal of NTR district; Chevuri Adinarayana, 30, of Chitrai in NTR district; and Tummala Murali, 25, of Erraguntapadu in Khammam district. Kalluru ACP Vasundhara Yadav said the three were arrested on Madhira Road on the outskirts of Kalluru following credible information. Police seized tools allegedly used to break open temple doors.

Fake Premium Liquor Racket Busted at Guttala Begumpet Near Kondapur in Hyderabad

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh

The Prohibition and Excise Department's Ranga Reddy Enforcement Team busted a fake premium liquor racket operating in Hyderabad. According to officials, the gang collected empty bottles of costly liquor brands from parties and events hosted by wealthy people. They allegedly refilled those bottles with cheap liquor mixed with water, repackaged them as premium



brands, and sold them at discounted prices to software employees.

The accused were identified as Lalu Prasad Biswal and Rajeshwar Meher, both from Odisha, along with Sharath Chandra, a software employee from Karimnagar currently residing in Attapur. Officials said the group operated from a rented room in Guttala Begumpet near Kondapur, where they prepared and packed the adulterated liquor.

During the investigation, authorities found that expensive liquor brands were being sold at much lower prices after being mixed with low-cost liquor.

Cases have been registered against Lalu Prasad Biswal, Rajeshwar Meher, and Sharath Chandra in connection with the incident. The Excise Department is continuing further investigation into the case.

Land take for NH: HC issues notice

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A two-judge panel of the Telangana High Court sitting in the vacation court issued notices to the land acquisition officer and other authorities in an appeal arising out of land acquisition proceedings for the NH-163G Mancherla-Warangal greenfield corridor project in Jayashankar Bhupalapally district.

The panel comprising Justice T. Madhavi Devi and Justice G.M. Mohiuddin was hearing a writ appeal filed by Anandapu

Tirupathi and other agriculturists challenging the order of a single judge, which relegated them to avail the statutory remedy under the National Highways Act in disputes concerning compensation and acquisition proceedings.

The appellants contended that their agricultural land situated in villages falling under Chityal, Mogullapally and Tekumatla mandals of Jayashankar Bhupalapally district were acquired for the four-lane greenfield highway project undertaken by the National Highways Authority of India

(NHAI). According to the appellants, they became aware of the proposed acquisition only in April 2021 through notifications issued for acquisition of land in nearly 10 villages. They alleged that the notifications disclosed only survey number-wise extents without furnishing pattadar-wise particulars, thereby depriving affected landowners of a meaningful opportunity to submit objections.

The appellants contended that despite filing objections opposing the greenfield alignment and suggesting widening of

the existing highway instead, the authorities failed to conduct any effective hearing. Before the vacation court, counsel for the appellants argued that the writ court failed to appreciate serious procedural irregularities and denial of statutory safeguards in the acquisition process. It was further contended that the challenge raised by the appellants was not confined to adequacy of compensation, but extended to the legality of the acquisition proceedings themselves, particularly on the ground.

EDITORIAL

JOB, MIGRATION & REALITY: BJP'S POST-POLL CHALLENGE

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Storytelling is critical in electoral politics. But the gap between political storytelling and official data has rarely been wider. The BJP offered voters a storyline about industrial revival, jobs, cash support for the vulnerable, and an end to economic despair, alongside huge dollops of Hindutva, its calling card. The narrative was emotionally potent: other governments fail the people; the "double-engine" BJP model delivers. It worked.

The BJP enters mid-2026 with unprecedented political dominance: direct control of 16 states and influence over nearly three-fourths of India's population through its NDA alliance partners. With the polls over, bread-and-butter concerns must be centre stage. The challenge for the BJP: operationalising its promises across the country. Out-migration was a potent election issue. In West Bengal, BJP

leaders painted grim pictures of lakhs of desperate workers fleeing their states. Exaggeration proved to be a potent electoral strategy. The data, however, tells a more nuanced story. People all over India are on the move, not just from West Bengal to other states in search of work. As the late Bibek Debroy and Devi Prasad Misra noted in EAC-PM's (Economic Advisory Council to PM) December 2024 working paper "400 Million Dreams" -- "Mumbai, Bengaluru Urban, Howrah, Central Delhi, Hyderabad are the districts attracting most migrant arrivals; while Valsad, Chittoor, Paschim Bardhaman, Agra, Guntur, Villupuram and Saharsa are the top origin districts."

Even though Census 2011 is the last comprehensive, door-to-door official count of migration, experts and government bodies use alternative high-frequency proxy data to estimate current migration patterns. Debroy and Misra used high-

frequency railway unserved ticket data and telecom roaming records as proxies to assess domestic migration. West Bengal ranks in the top five for total outbound migrants, but is nowhere near the top two. Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have far higher figures for work-related inter-state migration.

"There has been significant out-migration from West Bengal to Kerala and other southern states. However, Bengal is not the only source state. Since we have not had a Census since 2011, there is no official, comprehensive data on internal migration patterns in India. Migration is normal, natural and is one of the fastest ways of intergenerational social mobility for a person from disadvantaged communities in rural India. In India, a large number of migrants move to southern states, which offer better incomes and opportunities. Bengal is merely one among many states from where rural Indians are migrating in search of

livelihoods, driven by a lack of local job opportunities exacerbated by climate change," points out Dr Benoy Peter, migration expert and executive director, Centre for Migration and Inclusive Development. Framing any state as the worst in every way is political storytelling. The reality: large-scale distress migration from all poorer, populous northern and eastern states to western and southern industrial hubs. The BJP tapped into real voter pain, but the exaggeration raises the bar for delivery. Reversing entrenched migration patterns will take years of sustained industrial growth, beyond campaign rhetoric. Another hugely relevant issue across India -- investment and the quality of jobs on offer. Job growth trails GDP growth. Millions of Indians continue to survive through self-employment (mostly low-productivity) and casual labour. This gap between promise and reality became visible in mid-April 2026.



Sensex jumps 790 points, Nifty gains over 1 pc amid broad-based buying

CRISIL Ratings, which analyzed companies accounting for near 94 per cent of wholesale PV volumes, said the September 2025 GST reduction revived demand sharply.

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Indian equity markets ended in the green for a second consecutive session on Thursday, with benchmark indices surging over 1 per cent each amid buying in pharmaceuticals, healthcare, metal and banking stocks and expectations of policy measures to address currency volatility.

Sensex closed at 75,398.72, rising 789.74 points or 1.06 per cent, while Nifty settled 277 points or 1.18 per cent higher at 23,689.60. During intraday trade, the benchmarks jumped as much as 1.43 per cent or 1,073 points to 75,681.88 and 1.55 per cent or 364 points to 23,777.20, respectively.



At the day's low, the 30-share index touched 74,526.77, down 0.11 per cent or 82 points from the previous close, while the Nifty hit 23,426.55, up 0.05 per cent or 14 points. Sector-wise, Nifty Pharma was the top gainer, rising 2.74 per cent, followed by the Nifty Healthcare Index, which advanced 2.56 per cent. The Nifty Metal

index also climbed 2.04 per cent. Banking counters also moved higher, with the Nifty PSU Bank index rising 1.37 per cent and the Nifty Private Bank index gaining 1.16 per cent. On the other hand, Nifty IT was the top sectoral laggard, declining 2 per cent amid selling pressure in technology stocks. Key IT counters, including

HCL Tech, Infosys, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) and Tech Mahindra, witnessed losses during the session.

According to market experts, domestic stock markets staged a recovery from intraday lows and ended higher despite weakness in the rupee and elevated crude oil prices. They added that investor sentiment was supported by expectations of possible policy measures to address currency volatility, including steps such as easing tax treatment on bonds for foreign investors and tightening of the Liberalised Remittance Scheme to curb capital outflows.

Experts further noted that sentiment was also aided by global cues, including optimism following the

Trump-Xi meeting, which raised hopes of improved economic cooperation.

On the sectoral front, they said buying interest in pharma and healthcare was driven by rotation into defensive pockets, while metals gained support from firm global prices and improving demand outlook from China. However, IT stocks remained under pressure and extended losses during the session, they added.

In addition, rupee traded highly volatile as the currency initially weakened towards 95.95, but later recovered sharply towards 95.60 following reports of a proposal to reduce taxes for foreign investors in an attempt to support capital inflows and stabilise the rupee.

Neopolis Brands Raises ₹90 Cr for Fashion Expansion

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Fashion retail veteran Shailesh Chaturvedi has launched Neopolis Brands after securing ₹90 crore in funding from a group of strategic investors to accelerate the company's expansion in India's premium fashion and lifestyle market.

The newly launched venture plans to partner with global fashion brands that are leaders in their home markets and help scale them across India through retail stores, ecommerce and multi-city distribution networks.

The funding round includes investments from Ashish Kacholia, Alchemy Capital represented by Lashit Sanghvi, along with strategic partners Brandix and Manipal Technologies.

Speaking on the launch, Shailesh Chaturvedi said



the company aims to build several large-scale brands in India, each with at least 100 stores and a strong ecommerce presence across 40 to 50 cities. He added that scaling operations would be crucial for profitability and long-term market leadership.

Neopolis has also brought together a leadership team that previously worked with Chaturvedi, including CFO Ankush Tibrewal, to focus on execution and expansion.

Investor Ashish Kacholia said women's fashion and

accessories remain a major untapped opportunity in India due to strong consumer demand and limited organised retail presence. Lashit Sanghvi noted that Chaturvedi's three decades of experience in scaling global brands profitably gives investors confidence in the venture's growth potential. The company said the ₹90 crore investment will be used for organisational expansion, supply chain development, brand investments, store growth and strengthening digital capabilities.

Sunil Mittal plans succession, eyes 51 per cent control in Bharti Airtel

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

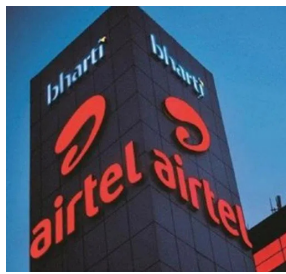
Telecom czar Sunil Bharti Mittal plans to hand over the reins of Bharti Airtel to his children in the next decade and desires that promoter firm Bharti Telecom regains over 50 per cent stake in the company. Owned by the Mittal family and Singtel Group, Bharti Telecom holds 40.47 per cent stake in Airtel. The promoter firms, including Bharti Telecom, the Mittal family holding firm In-

dian Continent Investment, the Singtel Group firm Pastel, and others jointly hold a 48.87 per cent stake in Airtel. Mittal - whose current term as the company Chairman was due to expire on September 30 - has been reappointed for five years till September 30, 2031.

"My own wish is that in the next I know it's hard to put in years on it decade as I kind of come to a point where I hand over the reins to the next generation as shareholders,

Bharti Telecom should get back to controlling shareholding of 51 per cent or just over 50 per cent," Mittal said.

Mittal, during Bharti Airtel's Q4 earnings call on Thursday, said in order to raise Bharti Telecom's stake by 10 per cent in Airtel, a good amount of cash in hand is needed. It would require an investment of Rs 1 lakh crore based on present share price and market capitalisation of the company. Bharti Enterprises Holding has a 50.56 per cent



stake and Singtel a 49.44 per cent stake in Bharti Telecom.

"You know, basically the belief remains that you must have everything through one company that should be the controlling, promoting shareholder. Bharti Telecom, as you

know, historically has not only been the founding promoter of this company (but has also) had almost always for a long period of time, a controlling shareholding of 51 per cent," Mittal said. Mittal said that the shareholding in Airtel can be raised in next 3-4 years, depending on the performance of the company driven by top executives handling day-to-day operations. Singtel has around a 7 per cent direct stake in Bharti Airtel.

"To put a bit more granu-

lar sort of angle, Singtel has a 7 per cent direct stake in Airtel and it had about 6 per cent to equalise. Now with this transaction, once this is done and shares are issued, the gap will come down to 3.6 per cent (for a target of 51 per cent). We should see an overall gap dramatically reducing, and Singtel, which has been on the path of selling down its direct stake, has to sell now much less than earlier," he said.

Assuming a next 3-4 year timeframe for acquiring a

3.6 per cent balance stake in Airtel, Mittal said that it will depend on the performance of Airtel executive leadership on executing share buybacks, giving out more dividends and generating cash flow to put more cash in hand for Bharti Telecom to achieve the target. Mittal also said even Airtel should make an attempt to have a higher share in Airtel Africa, around 90 per cent.

The Airtel board on Wednesday approved raising the company's stake in

Airtel Africa by 16.31 per cent to around 79 per cent through a share swap agreement worth Rs 28,220 crore from the 62.73 per cent stake at present.

"The UK regulations allow you to go up to 90 per cent. With this move, we have gone up to 78 per cent. Ambition for Airtel should be whatever is allowed to go up to 90 per cent, they should get there," Mittal said. He said Airtel Africa has been doing buybacks from time to time.

Hyderabad Large Office Leasing Jumps 69% YoY

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Hyderabad recorded a sharp rise in large office space leasing during the first quarter of 2026, with transactions above 100,000 square feet touching 4.4 million sq ft, according to Knight Frank India. The segment registered a 69% year-on-year growth compared to 2.6 million sq ft leased during the same period in 2025.

The report stated that large office spaces accounted for 75% of the city's total office transaction volume of 5.9 million sq ft in Q1 2026, highlighting strong demand from major occupiers seeking premium and sustainable workspaces.

Mid-sized office spaces ranging between 50,000 sq ft and 100,000 sq ft contributed 1 million sq ft of leasing activity, making up 17% of the total transactions during the quarter. Smaller office spaces below 50,000 sq ft recorded leasing volumes of 0.5 million sq ft and accounted for the remaining 8% of office transactions in Hyderabad.



According to Joseph Thilak, the overall growth in Hyderabad's office transaction volumes was largely driven by large office space deals. He noted that occupiers are increasingly preferring high-quality office environments that align with evolving workplace strategies, operational efficiency and ESG-focused requirements. The report further indicated that Hyderabad continues to remain one of India's leading commercial office markets, supported by sustained demand from large corporates, technology firms and global capability centres looking for expansive and modern office campuses. The strong leasing momentum also reflects growing business confidence and the city's attractiveness as a preferred destination for large-scale office occupiers.

Trump and Xi agree Iran must never have nuclear weapons

US President Donald Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping agreed Iran must never acquire nuclear weapons and stressed keeping the Strait of Hormuz open during talks in Beijing. The summit also focused on trade, Taiwan, energy security, fentanyl controls and broader US-China relations

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The United States and China agreed Thursday that Iran can never have a nuclear weapon and the crucial Strait of Hormuz must remain open, a White House official said after Presidents Donald Trump and Xi Jinping held a high-stakes summit in Beijing.

The leaders had the much-anticipated meeting at the imposing Great Hall of the People, during which they discussed an array of consequential issues, including trade, the ongoing US-Israeli war on Iran and Taiwan, the self-governing democracy China considers part of its territory.

The meeting came amid an impasse in peace negotiations between Washington and Tehran aimed at ending their months-old war and reopening safe passage through the Strait of Hormuz, a key shipping lane for oil, fertiliser, and other commodities. "The two sides agreed that the Strait of Hormuz



must remain open to support the free flow of energy. President Xi also made clear China's opposition to the militarisation of the strait and any effort to charge a toll for its use," the official said, casting the Trump-Xi meeting as "good." "And he expressed interest in purchasing more American oil to reduce China's dependence on the strait in the future. Both countries agreed that Iran can never have a nuclear weapon," the official added.

Their discussions on the Middle East conflict came as Trump seeks to exit the war and restore freedom of navigation in the Strait of Hormuz, particularly ahead of the US midterm

elections slated for November.

China itself has been apprehensive about the conflict, as disruptions to shipping in the waterway could imperil its energy supplies. China has sought to shift to alternative energy sources and maintains large oil stockpiles, but the conflict has raised longer-term economic risks for the world's second-largest economy.

The two sides also discussed ways to enhance economic cooperation between the countries, including expanding market access for American businesses into China and increasing Chinese investment in US industries, the official said

without elaborating.

In addition, the leaders highlighted the need to build on progress in ending the flow of fentanyl precursors into the US, as well as increasing Chinese purchases of American agricultural products, according to the official.

At the summit, both Trump and Xi signalled their desire to stably manage bilateral ties, but the Chinese leader staked out Beijing's firm position on Taiwan, Yonhap news agency reported. "It's an honour to be with you. It's an honour to be your friend, and the relationship between China and the USA is going to be better than ever before," Trump said in his opening remarks.

The American president also said that he and Xi had known each other for a long time and have had a "fantastic" relationship, while pointing out that whenever the two countries faced difficulties, the two leaders "worked it out very quickly." "We are going to have a fantastic future," he said.

Andhra Pradesh Holds 30% Of India's Rare Earth Reserves

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Andhra Pradesh holds nearly 30% of India's rare earth mineral reserves, positioning the state as a major hub in the country's push to reduce dependence on imports and build a domestic rare earth ecosystem, according to a report released by B2K Analytics.

The report said Andhra Pradesh has around 3.8 million tonnes of monazite deposits along its coastline. The state government is planning investments exceeding ₹50,000 crore over the next decade to promote rare earth mining, processing, research and manufacturing. A dedicated state policy is expected to be approved by the cabinet and notified by June 2026.

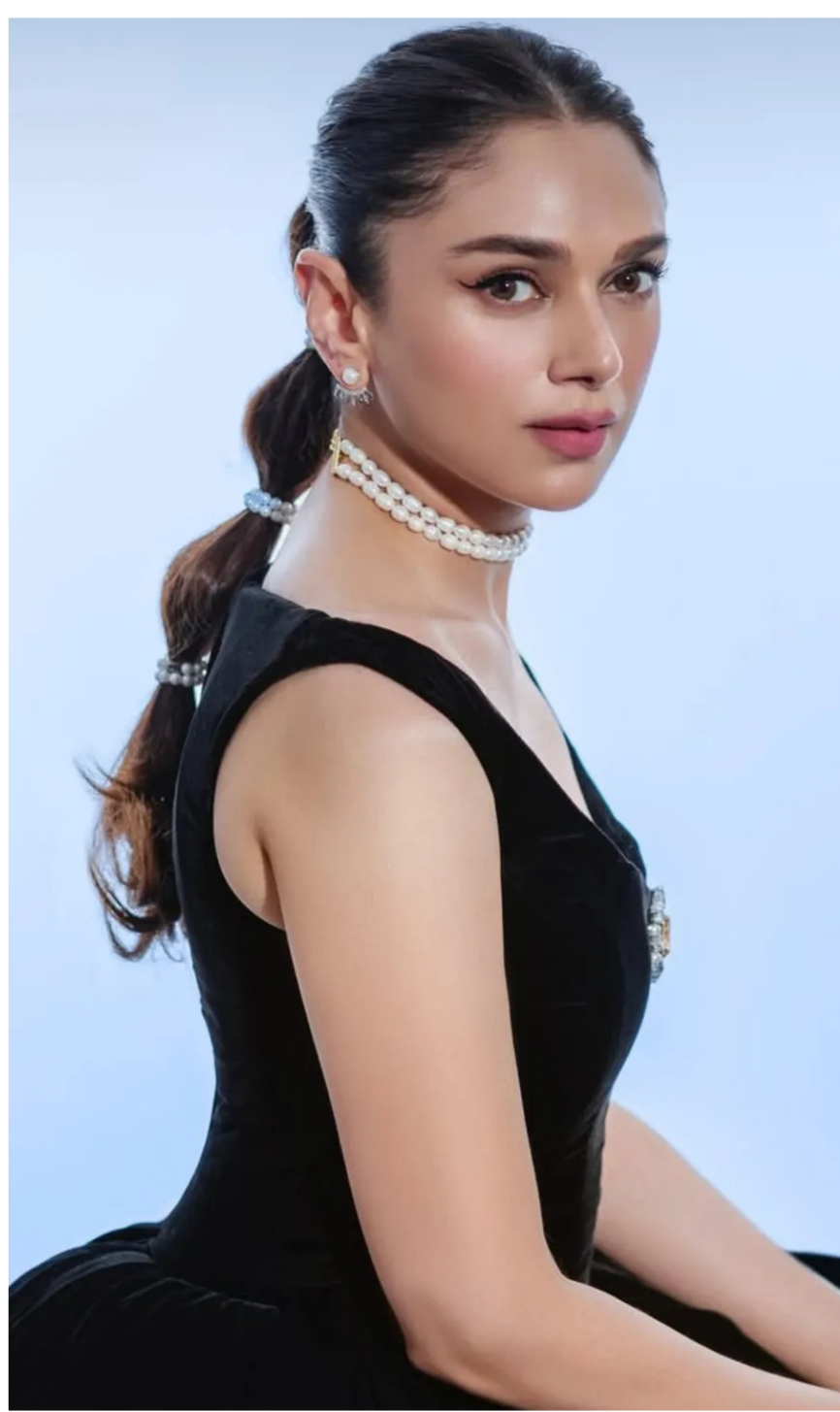
During the Union Budget 2026, the Centre also announced support for rare earth corridors in mineral-rich coastal states including Andhra Pradesh, Odisha, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. India currently holds nearly 8% of the world's rare earth reserves, making it the third-largest globally. De-

spite this, the country continues to depend heavily on imports, especially from China. Between 2022 and 2025, India imported nearly 60-80% of its rare earth requirements by value and 85-90% by quantity from China.

Monazite, found mainly in coastal regions, contains light rare earth elements such as cerium, lanthanum and neodymium, which are widely used in semiconductors, LEDs, EVs, solar cells, lasers and defense equipment. However, the report highlighted major challenges in the sector.

Since monazite contains thorium, a radioactive element used in India's nuclear programme, mining and processing remain tightly regulated under the Atomic Energy Act. This has restricted private participation and kept most operations under state-run IREL (India) Limited. India also lacks commercially viable heavy rare earth reserves needed for EV and renewable energy manufacturing, making continued import dependence likely despite growing investments and policy support.

Aditi Rao Hydari gives a glimpse of the 'calm' before she 'Cannes'



Bollywood actress Aditi Rao Hydari is all set to dazzle on the red carpet at the prestigious Cannes Film Festival, and ahead of her much-awaited appearance, the actress shared glimpses of the "calm before Cannes" from the French Riviera. Aditi, who has already reached Cannes, posted a series of candid pictures from her hotel room, offering fans a behind-the-scenes look into her preparations for the grand event. From posing elegantly by the window to enjoying a quiet meal, applying lipstick, and getting final fittings done for her red carpet ensemble, the actress looked graceful and relaxed. Captioning the pictures, she wrote, "The calm before we Cannes," giving fans a charming peek into her glamorous journey.

The 79th edition of the Cannes Film Festival, one of the world's most celebrated film events, began with the French period-comedy film *The Electric Kiss* and will conclude on May 23. French ac-

trix Eye Haidara is serving as the host for both the opening and closing ceremonies. Several Indian celebrities, including Alia Bhatt, Aishwarya Rai Bachchan, Huma Qureshi, Tara Sutaria and Aditi, are expected to make multiple appearances at the global cinematic celebration.

On the professional front, Aditi was last seen in the film *Gandhi Talks*, a black comedy that communicates through silence, emotion, and visual storytelling. The film also stars Vijay Sethupathi, Arvind Swamy and Siddharth Jadhav. The story explores the contrast between Mahatma Gandhi's ideals and modern society's obsession with money. Aditi was earlier seen in *Hey! Sinamika*, directed by Brinda. Married to actor Sidharth, Aditi made her acting debut with the Malayalam film *Prajapathi*. She rose to fame with memorable performances in *Delhi-6* and *Yeh Saali Zindagi*, followed by acclaimed roles in *Rockstar*, *Murder 3*, *Padmaavat* and the web series *Heeramandi*, cementing her place.

Karuppu Faces Release Issues; RJ Balaji Reacts to Last-Minute Hurdles



MUMBAI Wakeup telangana

Actors Suriya and Trisha Krishnan are awaiting the release of *Karuppu*, a film that has been making headlines ahead of its grand debut. However, the movie has run into problems before its release. The film team informed the public that early shows were cancelled, much to the disappointment of fans. Producer SR Prabu took to X in the early hours of May 14 to apologize to audiences for the sudden cancellation. Sharing an update regarding the "unavoidable reasons" behind the delay, he

wrote, "Due to unavoidable reasons 9am shows will be cancelled for *Karuppu*. Our sincere apologies to everyone!"

Director and actor RJ Balaji also spoke about the last-minute hurdles, stating that the producers are trying to resolve the issues before the official release. Talking about the problems faced by the film over the last 32 months, RJ Balaji wrote, "Dearest fans, I don't have a concrete answer to the current situation. Producers are doing their best to solve the hurdles. This film has always had hurdles, and somehow God

has made us sail through all that and here we are after 32 months. This time as well, I have faith, complete faith, in Him."

Suriya fans are protesting and asking the production house to share updates, as well as to release the movie smoothly without further delay. The film's trailer received a positive response from all quarters. Directed by RJ Balaji, the movie also features Indrans, Natty, Swasika, and Sshivada, among others, in important roles. The music for *Karuppu* has been composed by Sai Abhyankar.

Thrilling finish awaits at IGU Andhra Pradesh Junior Boys Golf Championship

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

The stage is set for an exciting final day, with only three strokes separating the top four on the leaderboard after the penultimate round of the IGU Andhra Pradesh Junior Boys Golf Championship at the East Point Golf Club in Visakhapatnam on Thursday.

Overnight leader Arjun Dahiya held firm on the back nine with a one-over 73 to stay one shot ahead of Vihaan Jain (73), while Chaitanya Pandey (74) and Ishnidh Virdi (75) remained in contention, three shots off the pace. Dahiya, who took his three-day tally to three-under 213, struggled on the front nine, allowing first-round leader Vihaan to take a four-shot lead at the turn. Starting from the 10th tee, Dahiya carded two three-putt bogeys (11th and 15th holes) and dropped another shot on the 12th, where his 3-wood tee shot found the right trees. Vihaan, meanwhile, was



solid with birdies on the 15th and 17th holes to build a big lead. However, Dahiya fought back with birdies on the second and ninth holes. Vihaan dropped a shot on the second and knocked his 5-wood tee shot out of bounds on the ninth, ending up with a double bogey to sit one shot behind the leader.

In Category 'B' (13-14 years), Pandey took a commanding 13-shot lead over Aditya Misra (76) with a cumulative total of

even-par 216.

Later, Drona Singh Dhull edged out Shan Alvi on the first playoff hole to clinch the Category 'C' (11-12 years) title after both had finished the 54-hole competition at seven-under 223.

Despite being three shots behind the leader going into the final day, Drona shot a one-under 71 to force a playoff. Alvi, who led for the first two days, managed only a two-over 74 in the final round.

Tilak's tadka: MI sink Punjab to fifth straight defeat, playoff hopes fading fast

DHARAMSALA Wakeup telangana

Punjab Kings slumped to their fifth straight defeat, seriously hurting their playoff hopes, as Mumbai Indians cruised to a six-wicket win in a crucial IPL clash on Thursday riding on Shardul Thakur's four-wicket haul and a clinical batting effort from Tilak Varma, who smashed 75.

Asked to bat first, Prabhsimran Singh (57) added a 33-ball 50-run opening stand with Priyansh Arya (27) to take PBKS to 55 for 1 in the powerplay and then added 57 runs with Cooper Connolly to go past the 100-run mark in the 12th over.

Shardul (4/39) brought MI back into the game with a four-wicket burst but PBKS managed to pile up 53 runs in the last three overs to post a competitive 200 for 8.

Chasing the target, Ryan Rickelton came out blazing as he single-handedly propelled Mumbai Indians to 59 for no loss despite Rohit Sharma's scratchy 25 at the other end.

PBKS fought back with three wickets for 57 runs between the seventh and



13th overs, but Tilak Varma anchored the chase superbly with an unbeaten 33-ball 75. He first stitched a 61-run stand off 42 balls with Sherfane Rutherford (20) and then combined with Will Jacks to steer MI home in 19.5 overs.

The defeat severely dented Punjab Kings' playoff hopes as they now need to win both their remaining matches to stay in contention for a top-four finish.

Defending 200, Arshdeep Singh delivered two outstanding overs with the new ball, conceding just eight runs, but lacked support from the other end as

Rickelton tore into the attack with four boundaries and four sixes during his explosive 23-ball 48.

Skipper Shreyas Iyer rotated his seamers in the powerplay, but Rickelton launched the assault with a six off Azmatullah Omarzai before hammering Marco Jansen and Xavier Bartlett.

Azmatullah eventually provided the breakthrough by dismissing Rickelton, while Jansen removed Naman Dhir (9). Yuzvendra Chahal then pulled things back briefly with a superb spell, first strangling Rohit for runs and later casting him as MI slipped to 89 for 3.

Tilak and Rutherford rebuilt the innings calmly before shifting gears, targeting Azmatullah for a 13-run over to ease the pressure. Arshdeep nearly provided another breakthrough when Tilak miscued a skier, but Jansen failed to hold on to a difficult chance.

With 72 needed off the last five overs, PBKS turned to Chahal again, but Tilak and Rutherford counterattacked brilliantly, taking 20 runs off the leg-spinner's over.

Although Azmatullah dismissed Rutherford in the 17th over, Tilak remained unfazed, smashing Jansen for two sixes and a four in

a 22-run 18th over to decisively swing the chase in MI's favour.

Needing 15 from six balls, Tilak smashed two sixes to knock off the winning runs.

Earlier, Deepak Chahar (2/36) struck first for MI, cleaning up Arya in the fifth over but stand-in skipper Jasprit Bumrah was unlucky not to get Prabhsimran earlier after Naman Dhir dropped a straightforward catch off a thick edge in the second over.

Prabhsimran made the visitor pay as he slog-swept Raghu for two sixes before launching Corbin Bosch (1/42) for another maximum.

He reached his fifty with a single and followed it up with another six off Shardul over backward square leg.

However, the momentum shifted dramatically once Shardul, who had conceded 15 runs in his opening over, struck twice in the space of three balls.

The pacer removed the well-set Prabhsimran and then dismissed skipper Shreyas Iyer (4) as PBKS slipped badly.

Gurukul students honoured with Pratibha Puraskar Awards

The Pratibha Puraskar (Excellence Awards) Ceremony was held on Thursday, May 14, to honour the top-scoring students from Gurukuls and Welfare Hostels. The event took place at the Komaram Bheem Bhavan in Banjara Hills, organised by the Backward Class Welfare Department.

Telangana Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnam Prabhakar and Youth Affairs Minister Vakiti Srihari attended as Chief Guests. Srihari, who also heads the Ministry of Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development, and Fisheries, and Sports, highlighted the importance of education with a Telugu saying – "Vidya dadati vinayam, vinayadyati patratam," which translates to "education bestows humility, and humility elevates a person to greatness."

The minister urged the students to become an "integral part" in the Rising Telangana movement, calling for their proactive participation. Quoting Nelson Mandela and Mahatma Jyotirao Phule, he said both prominent figures asserted that education

Sai Bageerath a threat to young girls in T'gana: RS Praveen Kumar

BRS leader RS Praveen Kumar appealed to the public to help trace absconding POCSO accused Bandi Sai Bageerath, alleging political interference in the investigation. He also demanded a probe into Union Minister Bandi Sanjay's alleged role and criticised police silence

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BRS general secretary RS Praveen Kumar on Thursday appealed to the public to help trace POCSO accused Bandi Sai Bageerath, who has been absconding. Accusing the police of making no serious effort to arrest him due to political pressure, he released multiple photographs of the accused in different disguises.

Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan, the former IPS officer urged citizens to report the accused's whereabouts by dialling 1098 (Child Protection Helpline) or 100. He said people could also coordinate with the BRS to assist in ensuring the accused's arrest. "Women and young girls in Telangana are under threat as



long as he remains free," he said.

The BRS leader praised Kukatpally DCP Riti Raj for ensuring more stringent POCSO provisions were invoked against the accused and urged her to pursue the investigation further. He specifically called for an examination of the call data records of Union Minister of State for Home Bandi Sanjay, BJP spokesperson Sangappa, and the victim's parents, along with CCTV footage from the residence of the Union Minister.

"All of this will establish Bandi Sanjay's involve-

ment and threats to the victim's family. He must be treated as A-2 (accused) in this case, and questioned for gathering evidence," he said.

Questioning the police over the handling of the investigation, Praveen Kumar alleged a lack of transparency by the State police. He asked why DGP CV Anand, who held daily briefings as the then Hyderabad Police Commissioner during a previous high-profile crime against a foreign national at a pub, was now maintaining silence despite growing public concern.

"Not a single officer has been assigned to brief the media and inform citizens of the State on the progress of this investigation," he said, questioning the need for such silence in the case.

The BRS leader hit out at

the BJP IT cell and sections of the media for reducing the case to a debate over the victim's age.

"Even if she is eventually found to be a major, does she not deserve justice? Should the accused's misconduct go unchallenged because of his father's position as Union Minister of State for Home Affairs?" he asked.

Reacting to Telangana Rakshana Sena president K Kavitha's recent remarks on the case, he criticised her for reading out scripts from the BJP and Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy rather than reaching out to the victim's family. "If she is not a robot, she must meet the victim and her mother, stand in their support rather than the accused," he urged.

Telangana ends FY26 with Rs 9,235 crore revenue deficit

Telangana ended FY26 with a revenue deficit of Rs 9,235 crore and a fiscal deficit of Rs 77,762 crore, according to the preliminary CAG report. Revenue collections missed targets sharply, while borrowings and interest payments increased significantly, raising concerns over fiscal sustainability.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telangana ended the financial year 2025-26 under severe fiscal stress, with the State slipping into a sharp revenue deficit of Rs 9,235 crore, while total revenue collections failed to cross the ambitious Rs 2 lakh crore mark.

The reversal was significant. The Revanth Reddy government had originally projected a revenue surplus of Rs 2,738 crore in the State budget, but closed the year with a substantial deficit, indicating growing pressure on public finances and increasing dependence on borrowings even for routine expenditure.

According to the preliminary Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) report for 2025-26, the fiscal deficit surged to Rs 77,762 crore against the budget estimate of Rs

54,009 crore, marking an overshoot of nearly 44 per cent. The primary deficit, which excludes interest payments and reflects the government's core fiscal position, stood at Rs 48,082 crore against the budgeted Rs 34,640 crore, an increase of nearly 39 per cent. Economists said the figures suggested that the State was spending far beyond its sustainable capacity.

Telangana recorded total revenue receipts of around Rs 1.81 lakh crore, achieving only about 79 per cent of the budget estimate of Rs 2.29 lakh crore. Though marginally better than the previous year's achievement rate of 75.85 per cent, the State still faced a shortfall of over Rs 47,000 crore in total revenue receipts.

State tax revenue stood at Rs 1.52 lakh crore against the target of Rs 1.75 lakh crore. GST, sales tax and State excise collections

remained the major contributors. However, non-tax revenue reached only Rs 18,986 crore, about 60 per cent of the budget estimate, pointing to the government's weak performance in generating revenue beyond taxation.

Grants-in-aid and Central contributions emerged as another weak area, with the State receiving only Rs 10,423 crore, or 45.75 per cent of the budget estimate. This exposed Telangana's inability to fully leverage Central transfers and external funding support. Meanwhile, borrowings and other liabilities rose sharply to Rs 77,762 crore, far exceeding the budget projection of Rs 54,009 crore. The growing debt burden was reflected in rising interest payments, which increased to Rs 29,679 crore during 2025-26 from Rs 26,688 crore in the previous year.

Anand Reviews Greyhounds Operational Preparedness, Future Readiness



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Director-General of Police CV Anand here on Thursday reviewed the operational preparedness and future readiness of the Greyhounds force during his visit to the headquarters. In light of the fact that Maoist activities have almost come to an end, he discussed the downsizing and restructuring of Greyhounds and how many are essential to maintain minimum strength to tackle future crisis.

The discussions also covered advanced training, capability building, modernization, infrastructure

development, administrative support, and welfare initiatives aimed at further enhancing the efficiency of this elite unit.

"We also deliberated on future requirements and a strategic vision for the next five years to ensure the force remains agile, technologically empowered, and mission-ready at all times," he added. The Greyhounds, which is an elite special forces unit of the Telangana Police, is specialized in counter-insurgency and jungle warfare operations against Naxalite-Maoist terrorists. Established in 1989-90, the unit is renowned for rigorous training, guerrilla tactics.

NEET leak: Hyderabad students demand scrapping of NTA

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Students from various organisations held a protest at Narayanguda in Hyderabad on Thursday, May 14, demanding the dissolution of the National Testing Agency (NTA) and an end to outsourcing the exams to private agencies. The student activists demanded strict punishment for all those responsible for the NEET UG 2026 paper leak and compensation for all the 22 lakh af-



affected students.

Speaking on behalf of Disha Students' Organisation, Mahipal highlighted that the repeated failures of the NTA revealed the anti-student and profit-driven nature of the present examination system.

He said that increasing privatisation and outsourcing of examinations have strengthened corruption, weakened accountability, and enabled

paper leaks through collusion of private companies, officials, politicians, and the education mafia.

Suhas, who represented Naujawan Bharat Sabha, said that repeated paper leaks and examination scams, including the 2017 paper leak case, the Vyapam scam, and the NEET and UGC NET leaks of 2024, exposed a deep nexus between the state and private actors.

He said that such scams were not just some isolated acts of negligence, but were rooted in the

privatised and profit-driven structure of the present examination system.

He stressed that these failures placed an immense financial and psychological burden on the students coming from poor, rural, and working-class families.

Students and job aspirants listened to the activists with curiosity and tried to understand the root causes behind the repeated negligence and paper leaks.

Kukatpally resident held for using fake number plate to evade traffic challans



The Hyderabad Police registered a criminal case against a 23-year-old resident of Kukatpally for allegedly using a fake number plate to avoid traffic challans. As per the Sanathnagar Police, G Sai Ganesh pasted the registration number AP21BC2008 on his two-wheeler over his original number – AP21AV6721 – to mislead the police.

On any traffic violations, the challan would be generated in the name of PS Mohammed Jaffer of Nandya district.

A first information report (FIR) was registered at the Sanathnagar Police Station under Section 318(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and Section 80 (a) of the Motor Vehicles Act.

The Hyderabad Traffic Police cautioned the public that the use of fake, identical, or tampered number plates is a serious punishable offence under law and will invite strict legal action.

Citizens may report suspected misuse of vehicle number plates through <https://echallan.tspolice.gov.in>, email ID: echallan-helpdesk.hyd@gmail.com, or e-Challan Traffic WhatsApp No. 8712661690.

GHMC Collaborates With IIT Kharagpur, AIIMS On Water Monitoring

The program will first go through a 12-month pilot phase during which more than 25,000 water samples will be tested from across Hyderabad

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) on Thursday, May 14, announced that it has signed an MoU with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kharagpur and the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) New Delhi to launch one of India's most technologically advanced water quality monitoring initiatives.

The project, which is expected to commence in the third quarter of this year, will establish a next-generation water surveillance and early-warning system for Hyderabad, stated a release.

By combining advanced scientific research, artificial intelligence, and real-time environmental monitoring, the system will help protect public health and strengthen long-term water governance across Telangana, it added.

Unlike conventional water testing systems, which rely on slow laboratory workflows and test for only a limited set of known contaminants, the



proposed platform will use advanced nonthermal plasma spectroscopy and artificial intelligence to analyse the complete optical signature of a sample. This will allow rapid identification of a broad range of contaminants, including heavy metals, industrial chemicals, microbial indicators, and emerging pollutants, while also identifying anomalous patterns that may signal previously unrecognized risks.

The technology already has the ability to detect contaminants even in very low concentrations with accuracy comparable to or exceeding gold-standard laboratory methods.

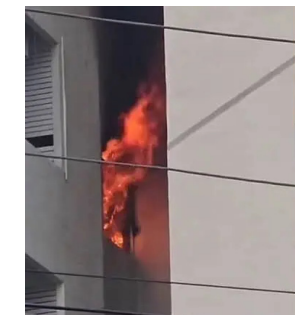
It is also capable of processing large numbers of samples rapidly while requiring significantly less sample preparation and infrastructure than tradi-

Deepam in puja room sparks fire at apartment complex in Hyderabad

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A deepam kept in the puja room sparked a fire at an apartment complex in Vanasthalipuram on Thursday, May 14. Fortunately, the fire was contained to a single flat and did not spread. No injuries were reported from the incident.

The accident occurred on the fourth floor of Trident Namishree apartment at around 6:25 pm. "The family had gone out after lighting the deepam in the puja room, soon



sparking a fire. The puja room and the kitchen next to it were completely damaged," an official from Hayathnagar fire station told.

The total damages are estimated to be around Rs 2 lakh.

Brahma Kumari Ashram Bhoomi Pujan Held at Mozamjahi Market

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Former corporator Rakesh Jaiswal and BJYM leader Laddu Yadav participated in the Bhoomi Pujan ceremony of the Brahma Kumari Ashram at Mozamjahi Market in Jambagh division on Thursday.

Retired Judge Eshwariah attended the programme as a chief guest along with Rajyogini BK Kuldeep and Rajyogini BK Hemlata.

Several Brahma Kumari sisters, brothers, social activists and local residents also took part in the spiritual programme.

Speakers highlighted the importance of spiritual values, peace and social harmony during the event. The organisers said the upcoming ashram would serve as a centre for meditation, spiritual learning and community welfare activities in the area.



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