



KTR demands farmers' crisis top Cabinet agenda white paper on crop procurement: P8



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BRS to Restore Pharma City, Scrap Future City, Says Harish Rao: P2



India, Cyprus Elevate Ties To Strategic Partnership, Sign 6 Deals

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

India and Cyprus on Friday elevated their ties to a strategic partnership and unveiled a five-year road-map for defence cooperation as Prime Minister Narendra Modi held wide-ranging talks with Cyprus President Nikos Christodoulides.

The two sides signed six agreements to provide for deeper cooperation in areas of innovation, technology, education and culture besides agreeing to soon conclude a comprehensive partnership on migration and mobility. The pacts firmed up included one on establishing



a joint working group on counter-terrorism.

The talks between the two leaders primarily focused on boosting ties in trade and investment, critical technologies, education, and implementation of the ambitious India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor.

In his media statement, PM Modi highlighted that

the strategic partnership will unlock commercial capital and open new avenues for Indian companies in Cyprus's infrastructure, energy, and agriculture sectors, while simultaneously boosting investment in India's booming shipping and maritime industries. "The relationship between India and Cyprus has stood the test of time

and again, with today's decision to upgrade the ties to strategic partnership, we are going to give new ambition and new momentum to our relationship," he said.

Following the talks, the two sides also announced the establishment of a cyber security dialogue. PM Modi also referred to the upswing in India-Europe relationship and said it has entered a new golden era. "Cyprus not only currently holds the Presidency of the European Union Council, but is also emerging as an important investment gateway between India and the whole of Europe," he said.

'Use electricity wisely'

Govt urges citizens amid severe heatwave warning as power demand breaks record

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The ministry of power on Friday cautioned that electricity demand across the country is breaching all previous records amid an intense heat wave, and advised citizens to use power wisely and judiciously as the India Meteorological Department (IMD) forecast severe heat wave conditions over large parts of India during the next week.

"Due to the intense heat wave in the country, the demand for electricity is also increasing. In the last four days, electricity demand has broken all previous records. The daytime peak electricity demand was met as follows: May 18: 257.37 GW; May 19: 260.45 MW; May 20: 265.44 MW; May 21: 270.82 MW. The peak daytime demand usually occurs between 2 PM to 4 PM. Although we are ready to supply electricity as required, due to the intense summer, let us all try to use electricity wisely and judiciously," the ministry said on Friday.



On Friday, the peak power demand was 267.68 GW. Over the weekend, the peak demand is expected to reduce marginally as commercial establishments may remain closed.

The IMD, meanwhile, has warned that heat wave to severe heat wave conditions are likely to continue over the plains of northwest India, central and east India, and parts of peninsular India during the next 6-7 days.

On Thursday, maximum temperatures were in the range of 40-47°C over northwest, west, central and adjoining east India, north peninsular India and adjoining southeast coastal India. The highest maximum temperature of 47.6°C was reported at Banda.

Heat wave conditions are very likely in isolated pockets over

Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh till May 28, with severe heat wave conditions over east Uttar Pradesh and east Madhya Pradesh during the same period. Heat wave conditions are very likely in isolated/some pockets over Punjab and Haryana, Chandigarh and Delhi till May 28, with severe heat wave conditions likely in isolated/some pockets during May 24 and 27. Heat wave conditions are very likely in isolated/some pockets over Rajasthan till May 28, with severe heat wave conditions likely in isolated/some pockets over west Rajasthan during May 24 to 28.

Heat wave conditions are very likely in isolated pockets over Vidarbha till May 28, with severe heat wave conditions likely in isolated pockets over west Rajasthan during May 24 to 28.

Heat wave conditions are very likely in isolated pockets over Coastal Andhra Pradesh and Yanam till May 26, with severe heat wave conditions likely in isolated pockets till May 24.

TSC: Absconding Husband Likely To Surrender

Samarth Singh, the absconding husband of Twisha Sharma, who was allegedly harassed for dowry and died last week in Bhopal, reached the Jabalpur district court on Friday evening to surrender, his lawyer Mrigendra Singh said. The development came around an hour after he withdrew his anticipatory bail application filed in the Madhya Pradesh High Court. He withdrew his anticipatory bail application plea from the single bench of the high court comprising Justice Avanimdra Kumar Singh, his counsel Jaydeep Kaurav said. With the withdrawal of the application, Singh was left with no other option but to surrender.

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Man Arrested for Sharing Troop Movements With Pak

CHANDIGARH
Wakeup telangana

A resident of Punjab's Pathankot was arrested on charges of spying for Pakistan-based handlers, police said on Thursday. Preliminary investigation revealed that Baljit Singh, a resident of Chakk Dhariwal village, had in-

stalled a CCTV camera at a shop located near a bridge on the National Highway-44 to allegedly keep an eye on the movement of the army and paramilitary forces, police said, adding that he was transmitting the live feed to Pakistan-based handlers.

During questioning, the

accused confessed that he had installed an internet-based CCTV camera at a shop on the NH-44 Pathankot-Jammu Highway in January.

He was also getting directions from an unknown person in Dubai. He was given Rs 40,000, police claimed. Police recovered standalone, internet-based

CCTV cameras from his possession. According to SSP Pathankot Daljinder Singh Dhillon, Baljit Singh was operating with three friends.

One provided logistics and the other two were in touch with intelligence agencies on foreign soil, the police added.

Umar Khalid Gets Interim Bail for Mother's Surgery

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The Delhi High Court on Friday granted three-day interim bail to Activist and former JNU student leader Umar Khalid in the larger conspiracy case linked to the 2020 north-east Delhi riots, taking an "empathetic view" in light of his mother's surgery. The Court granted interim bail from 7 am on June 1 till 5 pm on June 3 on a



personal bond of Rs 1 lakh. The Court directed that Khalid shall remain within the NCR region, stay at his residence and visit only the hospital during the period of interim release. Khalid had ap-

proached the High Court challenging the May 19 order of the trial court, which had rejected his plea for interim bail. While granting relief, the High Court noted that Khalid had previously been granted interim bail on multiple occasions for family ceremonies and had complied with the conditions imposed upon him.

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UAE official says '50-50' chance of US-Iran agreement on Hormuz strait

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The US and Iran have just a "50-50" chance of reaching an agreement that would free up the Strait of Hormuz, a senior UAE official said on Friday. Presidential adviser Anwar Gargash urged Tehran not to overplay its hand in the stop-start negotiations during the Middle East war's fragile ceasefire. Iranian officials

"have missed a lot of chances over the years because there's a tendency to overestimate their cards", Gargash told the GLOBSEC Forum in Prague.

"I hope they don't do that this time." The oil-rich UAE, which hosts US military facilities, was targeted by about 3,300 drones and missiles during 40 days of war from February 28 onwards, Gargash said, with only around four percent get-

ting through. He said the Iran-blockaded Hormuz, which normally carries a fifth of global oil production, must go back to normal, and cautioned against an inconclusive ceasefire.

"Negotiations just to reach a ceasefire and sow the seeds for further conflict in the future is not what we're seeking," he said. "And I think that the Strait of Hormuz clearly has to go back to the

status quo and this should be an international waterway." With US negotiators focusing on Iran's potential development of an atomic weapon, Gargash said: "The Iranian nuclear program was our second or third worry, now it's our first worry."

"We see that Iran is capable of using any weapon that it has in its hands, which is what we learned," he added.

We'll Sell As Much Oil They'll Buy: Rubio Ahead of India Visit

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio said on Thursday that the US was in talks with India to expand energy cooperation, an issue that would feature in his discussions during a visit to New Delhi. "Well, we want to sell them as much energy as they'll buy. And obviously, you've seen I think we're at historic levels of US production, and US export," Rubio told reporters in Miami as he embarked on the trip to Sweden and India.

Rubio will be in India from May 23-26 and will visit Kolkata, Agra, Jaipur and New Delhi. "We want to be able to do more. We were already in talks with them to do more. We want them to be a bigger part of their port-

▶ CONTINUE ON | PAGE 4

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SC Tones Down Over NCERT's Class 8 Chapter on Corruption in Judiciary

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The Supreme Court on Friday modified its March 11 order that had directed the Centre, states and others to disassociate from three academics, following a row over an NCERT book chapter containing "offending" contents on corruption in the judiciary. The apex court left it open to the Centre, states, Union territories, public universities and institutions that receive funds from the central or state govern-

ments to take an independent decision on the issue, without being influenced by its observations made in the March 11 order.

A bench of Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant and Justices Joymalya Bagchi and Vipul M Pancholi also recalled the part of the March 11 order that had recorded that the three academics -- Professor Michel Danino, Suparna Diwakar and Alok Prasanna Kumar -- had "deliberately and knowingly misrepresented the facts" in order to project a



negative image of the Indian judiciary to the students of Class 8.

The bench passed the order while hearing a plea moved by the three academics who explained their stand, saying no individual had the sole say in the drafting of the content and it was a collective process. The court

also observed that its comments were made in context of the contents and not the individuals. On March 11, acting tough against the three experts involved in the drafting of the controversial chapter in the National Council of Educational Research and Training's (NCERT) social science book for Class 8, the court had directed the Centre and all states to disassociate from them.

It had directed the Centre to form a committee of domain experts within a

week for the purpose of finalising the curriculum of the NCERT's legal studies for not only Class 8 but higher classes as well. The bench was hearing a suo-motu (initiated on its own) case titled "In Re: Social Science textbook for Grade-8 (part-2) published by NCERT and ancillary issues". The court was informed that the chapter was drafted by the textbook development team under Danino's chairmanship and consisting of members Diwakar and Kumar.

KTR accuses Congress, BJP of collusion in POCSO case; demands Bandi Sanjay's resignation

BRS working president KT Rama Rao accused Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and Union Minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar of collusion in the POCSO case involving Bandi Sai Bageerath. He questioned the police investigation, demanded accountability, and alleged deterioration in law and order under the Congress government

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BRS working president K. T. Rama Rao on Friday accused Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy and Union Minister of State for Home Bandi Sanjay Kumar of colluding to shield Bandi Sai Bageerath in the POCSO case, demanding Bandi Sanjay's immediate resignation to ensure a fair investigation. Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan, Rama Rao questioned where the accused had been hiding for nine days after the case surfaced and who had provided him protection. Alleging political influence in the investigation, he said the police acted negligently because the accused was the son of



a sitting Union Minister. He asked whether the authorities would have responded similarly if the accused had been an ordinary citizen. Rama Rao also questioned why no action had been initiated against Bandi Sanjay over allegations that the victim's family was threatened and intimidated. "A criminal is a criminal, irrespective of who they are," he asserted.

Criticising the police explanation that the FIR registration was delayed due to bandobast arrangements for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Hyderabad, he asked whether criminals were being given a free hand whenever the Prime Minister toured the State. The BRS leader thanked the Telangana High Court for denying bail to the accused and compelling his surrender, stating that the

arrest might not have happened otherwise. He also pointed to contradictions in the official narrative, noting that while Bandi Sanjay claimed his son surrendered voluntarily, the police maintained he was arrested. Stating that the BRS had exercised restraint because the matter involved a minor girl, Rama Rao criticised sections of the Telugu media for remaining silent while national

media highlighted the issue. He also condemned attempts to malign the victim through references to her age and an alleged honey-trap case. Turning to allegations levelled by the Chief Minister regarding drugs allegedly found at his brother-in-law's residence, Rama Rao challenged the government to produce evidence and register a case if the claims were true. He pointed out that the Excise Department had already clarified that no drugs were seized. Rama Rao further alleged deterioration in law and order under the Congress government and claimed that mishandling of the POCSO case could discourage women and girls from seeking justice.

BRS to Restore Pharma City, Scrap Future City: Harish Rao

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

T. Harish Rao on Friday announced that the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) would scrap the proposed Future City project and restore the original Pharma City initiative once the party returns to power in Telangana. He alleged that the Congress government was misusing land acquired for industrial development by converting it into a commercial and real estate venture. Speaking to NRIs during his visit to the United States, Harish Rao said the Pharma City project was originally designed to strengthen Telangana's pharmaceutical sector and create large-scale employment opportunities. He pointed out that the project had already secured environmental clearance from the Union Environment Ministry during the



previous BRS government. According to Harish Rao, the original Pharma City master plan earmarked 75 percent of the acquired land for pharmaceutical industries and the remaining 25 percent for ancillary infrastructure such as residential facilities, educational institutions, and other support services required for industrial development. However, he accused the Congress government of reversing this ratio by prioritising commercial and real estate activities over industrial growth. He further alleged that the government's move violated provisions of the

Land Acquisition Act, as the land was originally acquired specifically for Pharma City purposes. Harish Rao also claimed that while the State government informed the High Court that the Pharma City project was still continuing, it was simultaneously pushing ahead with the Future City project on the same land parcel. Supporting Harish Rao's allegations, K. T. Rama Rao stated that the land acquisition was legally undertaken only for the Pharma City project and could not be diverted for unrelated purposes. He accused Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy of transforming an industrial development initiative into a large-scale real estate project aimed at commercial gains instead of employment generation and industrial expansion in Telangana.

Over 44k candidates to take Civil Services prelims in Hyderabad on May 24

Over 44,000 candidates will appear for the Civil Services Preliminary Examination in Hyderabad on Sunday across 100 centres.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

As many as 44,209 candidates registered for the Civil Services preliminary examination scheduled to be held on Sunday at 100 centres in Hyderabad. Paper I will be held from 9.30 am to 11.30 am and Paper II from 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm. The gates of the examination centres will be closed 30 minutes before the commencement of the examination and candidates have been advised to reach centres before 9 am for the morning session and before 2 pm for the afternoon session. Candidates arriving late will not be permitted to enter centres. "This year, as the Parliamentary Committee has observed that Paper II i.e., CSAT should be rationalised, it is expected that Paper II will be easier and consequently Paper I is expected to be tougher than the previous years," said V Gopalakrishna, Director, Brain Tree. Meanwhile, Hyderabad



Collector in-charge C Narayana Reddy said all arrangements have been put in place for smooth and transparent conduct of the examination at all centres. Narayana Reddy instructed the police department to thoroughly frisk candidates before they enter into centres. He said no person without an identity card will be allowed into the examination centre and that unauthorised persons should not be present at the examination centres. The Hyderabad Collector informed that jammers have been arranged at every centre. Under no circumstances will elec-

tronic devices, calculators, mobile phones, pagers, Bluetooth devices, pen drives, smartwatches, programmed devices, electronic gadgets, and electronic items be permitted inside the examination centres, he said. Stating that no storage rooms will be arranged at the centres for safekeeping of belongings, he advised candidates not to carry bags, electronic goods, or any other items to the examination centres. Only pen, pencil, ID card, e-admit card, and photograph will be permitted inside the examination centre.

Medak fort set for Rs 10 crore facelift to boost tourism

The historic Medak fort is all set to get a major facelift as Collector Prathima Singh assured to grant Rs 10 crore for taking up restoration and conservation works of the fort apart from providing various facilities, to attract the tourists the district. Medak fort, located close to the district headquarters, is a historically significant hill fort originally constructed during the Kakatiya period during the 12th-13th centuries and later strengthened by the Qutb Shahi rulers. The fort is known for its strategic location, ancient gateways, cannon installations, architectural remains, and panoramic view of Medak town. It is one of the important heritage monuments reflecting the rich cultural and military history of Telangana. Following the directions of Special Secretary A Vani Prasad, the Director of Heritage, Prof Arjun Rao and other archaeology department officials met Medak Collector Prathima Singh on Thursday.

Bhagya Reddy Varma Jayanti Celebrated in Hyderabad

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Dp Srinivas rao

The 138th birth anniversary of social reformer and Dalit icon Madari Bhagya Reddy Varma was celebrated grandly at Ambedkar Nagar, Goods Shed Road, Moosapet Division, under the leadership of Greater Hyderabad All India Ambedkar Yuvajana Sangham (AIAYS) president Karka Nagaraju on Thursday. Former president of Dr B.R. Ambedkar Amarajyoti Association, Karkada Kaikayya, attended the programme as the chief guest and paid floral tributes to the portrait of Bhagya Reddy Varma at the Ambedkar statue premises. Speaking



on the occasion, Karkada Kaikayya and Karka Nagaraju highlighted the immense contributions of Bhagya Reddy Varma towards the upliftment of Dalits and social reforms in the Hyderabad State. Born on May 22, 1888, Bhagya

Reddy Varma was a noted social reformer and founder of the Adi Andhra Sabha. Between 1906 and 1933, he established 26 schools for Dalit girls and worked tirelessly for their education and empowerment. He also founded organisations such as Jagan Mitra Mandali, Manya Sangham, Sangha Samskara Nataka Mandali, Ahimsa Samaj, and Adi Hindu Social Service League to eradicate social evils including child marriage, Devadasi and Jogini systems, superstition, and alcoholism. The speakers demanded the Telangana government include his biography in textbooks and install his bronze statue at Tank Bund.

Poverty-Stricken Mator Youth Earns Ph.D. From Osmania University

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Thalka anjaiah

Overcoming poverty and severe hardships, Mailaram Ravi from Mator village in Motakondur Mandal of Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district earned a prestigious Ph.D. degree from Osmania University, emerging as an inspiration for rural youth. Born to Mailaram Istari and Satyamma, Ravi pursued education with determination despite financial struggles. He completed



his primary education at the Government Primary School in Mator village, later studying at Sardar Patel College before completing his post-graduation and B.Ed. from Osmania University. Ravi's father, physically

handicapped by birth, worked as an agricultural labourer to support the family, while his mother walked nearly five kilometres daily for dairy and wage work. Under the guidance of Professor Sankasala Mallesh, former Vice-Chancellor of Satavahana University, Ravi completed research on "Rationalism and Its Impact on Contemporary Philosophical Schools." Villagers and well-wishers hailed his achievement as motivating for rural students.

DGGI uncovers Rs 16.96 crore GST evasion in Karimnagar granite industry

Close on the heels of exposure of violations of Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) in export of granite to foreign countries, another irregularity was unearthed in Karimnagar granite industry. Though the issue of FEMA violation has not yet concluded, come to conclusion, evasion of GST norms while exporting has now come to light. In this regard, the Director General of GST Intelligence (DGGI) officials arrested the organizer of a fake agency for transporting granite while avoiding payment of GST and produced him in the court. The agency was alleged to have exported about Rs 100 crore worth granite to other places after creating fake invoices and waybills. As a result, the payment of about Rs 16.96 crore GST to the government was avoided. Though Rs 100 crore worth waybills were generated in the name of the fake agency, the details were not mentioned in GST filing. Noticing it, DGGI officials carried out

99-Day Action Plan Review Meeting Held at Ranga Reddy Collectorate

RANGAREDDY
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh

A district-level review meeting on the 99-day action plan "Prajapalana - Pragathi Pranalika" was held at the Integrated District Offices Complex in Kongara Kalan, Ranga Reddy district. The meeting was attended by Government Chief Whip and MLC Patnam Mahender Reddy, MLAs Malreddy Rangareddy, Prakash Goud, Kale Yadaiah, Veerlapalli Shankar and Kasireddy Narayana Reddy, along with District Collector C. Narayana Reddy, Additional Collectors Chandrasekhar Reddy and Kiranmayi, and PAC Chairman Arekapudi Gandhi. Speaking on the occasion, PAC Chairman Arekapudi Gandhi said the government is committed to ensuring welfare schemes reach every poor



family without discrimination. He instructed officials to identify genuine beneficiaries for Double Bedroom houses, Indiramma houses, ration cards, and pensions. He said the "Prajapalana - Pragathi Pranalika" programme was launched to bring visible changes in people's lives through effective implementation of welfare schemes. Officials were directed to focus on resolving public grievances, speeding up file clearances, maintaining cleanliness in government offices, and ensuring

transparency in administration. Gandhi highlighted welfare schemes including free bus travel for women, ₹500 gas cylinders, free electricity up to 200 units, Aarogyasri, ration cards, fine rice distribution, and women empowerment programmes. He stressed that all eligible beneficiaries should receive these benefits. Referring to the "Telangana Rising - 2047" vision, Gandhi said the government aims to make Telangana a global leader in services, manufacturing, and agriculture sectors. He also stated that under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, several development works including flyovers, road expansion, and infrastructure projects are being taken up in Serilingampally constituency. Government officials, public representatives, party leaders, women, and local residents participated in the programme.

TGMFC Strengthens Minority Empowerment Through Skill Development Initiative

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In a major step towards promoting employment-oriented education among minority youth, the Hon'ble Chairman of Telangana Government Minorities Finance Corporation, Mohd Obedullah Kothwal, formally inaugurated a Skill Development and Training Institute at New Nallakunta, Hyderabad, under the sponsorship of TGMFC. The training centre, managed by RST Technologies, will offer specialized courses in Hardware and Networking aimed at equipping unemployed minority youth with practical and industry-oriented technical skills. The initiative is expected to open new avenues of employment and self-sufficiency for students aspiring to build careers in the technology



sector. Addressing the gathering, Chairman Mohd Obedullah Kothwal highlighted the importance of skill-based education in today's competitive world and advised students to take full advantage of the opportunities provided by the government. He stated that such programmes are designed not only to provide training but also to build confidence and economic stability among minority youth.

ACB nabs govt engineer for taking bribe worth Rs 25,000

The Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Friday, May 22, arrested an Assistant Divisional Engineer (ADE) for taking a bribe of Rs 25,000 to forward bills of a contractor. The accused, Muddam Ramana Reddy, sought the bribe from a contractor to forward 11 work bills amounting to Rs 3,13,882 to Divisional Engineer Electrical Operations Medak. Based on a complaint from the contractor, the ACB registered a case and trapped Reddy when he accepted the bribe. Following his arrest, the accused was produced before the Additional Special Judge for Trial of SPE and ACB Cases Court at Hyderabad. In April, the ACB nabbed an Assistant Divisional Engineer from Devarakonda town of Nalgonda district for allegedly taking a Rs 30,000 bribe. According to the ACB, the accused officer, Sirikonda Saidulu, had taken the bribe in exchange for processing a bill of Rs 10 lakhs for the electrical work carried out by the complainant for the restoration of the damaged 33/11 KV line.

Telangana aims to become USD 3 trillion economy by 2047: Bhatti

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka on Friday, May 22, said the state government is aiming to transform Telangana into a USD 3 trillion economy by 2047, asserting that the state's strong growth rate and rapid urbanisation make the target achievable.

Addressing the 49th State Level Bankers' Committee (SLBC) meeting held at Mahatma Jyotirao Phule Praja Bhavan, Bhatti Vikramarka said the government is prioritising welfare schemes, women's empowerment, economic self-reliance, Musi River rejuvenation, and the development of the proposed Future City project. The meeting was at-



tended by Minister Tum-mala Nageswara Rao, senior state officials, Reserve Bank of India representatives, and banking sector executives. Highlighting Telangana's economic performance, the Deputy Chief Minister said the state is growing at 10.7 percent, significantly higher than the national average growth rate of 8.2 percent. He added that Telangana's per capita income has reached Rs 4.18 lakh, nearly double the national average of Rs 2.1 lakh. Bhatti Vikramarka said

total bank deposits in Telangana have touched nearly Rs 9.43 lakh crore, while advances have reached Rs 12.34 lakh crore. He described the state's Credit-Deposit ratio of 130.78 per cent as exceptional. He also praised banks for exceeding agricultural lending targets. Against a target of Rs 1.65 lakh crore, banks disbursed Rs 1.68 lakh crore in farm loans, achieving over 101 per cent of the target. He said agriculture remains the backbone of Telangana's economy and

appreciated banks for supporting farmers, dairy farmers, fishermen, and allied sectors. Calling on banks to play a larger role in industrial and social development, the Deputy CM urged greater focus on loans for micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), women entrepreneurs, Dalit and tribal entrepreneurs, and students seeking higher education. "Student loans are investments in the future," he said, appealing to banks to adopt a more supportive approach toward educational loans. Bhatti Vikramarka also announced that the government is increasing interest-free loans for women's Self Help Groups (SHGs) from Rs 5 lakh to Rs 10 lakh as part of efforts to strengthen women's economic empowerment.

From Telangana's Streets to People's Hearts

Komatireddy Venkat Reddy's Service Legacy Celebrated on His Birthday

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana



Telangana Minister and senior Congress leader Komatireddy Venkat Reddy celebrated his birthday today amid enthusiastic celebrations and heartfelt wishes pouring in from across the state. More than a political occasion, the day turned into a celebration of a leader widely known for his public service, grassroots connection, and commitment to social welfare. Known for placing people before politics, Venkat Reddy has earned recognition as a leader who stands beside the poor, supports party workers, and responds to public concerns with accessibility and action. One of his most admired contributions is in the field of education through the Prateek

Reddy Foundation, established in memory of his late son. The foundation has become a ray of hope for many underprivileged students by extending educational and financial support. His initiative in transforming the Bottuguda Government School in Nalgonda with smart classrooms, digital learning facilities, and modern infrastructure has drawn widespread appreciation. Komatireddy Venkat Reddy is also remembered for his firm stand during the Telan-

gana movement, reflecting his commitment to the aspirations of the people and his long-standing political experience. Admired for being a strong support system for party cadres and common citizens alike, he continues to enjoy a distinct place in Telangana politics as a leader identified with service, sincerity, and people-centric leadership. As supporters mark the occasion with welfare activities and celebrations, warm wishes continue to pour in for Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, hoping for his continued health, success, and dedicated service to society. A birthday celebration not just of a politician — but of a leader whose journey reflects public trust, educational vision, and unwavering service.

Cyberabad Police Launch Student Mobility Plan for Safer and Smoother School Transport

Cyberabad Police, SCSC Launch Student Transport Reform Drive in Hyderabad Amid Rising Traffic Congestion

RANGAREDDY
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh



Cyberabad Police Commissionerate, in association with the Society for Cyberabad Security Council (SCSC), conducted a large-scale orientation programme for educational institutions at the IIE ESCI Centenary Convention Centre in Hyderabad. More than 750 representatives from over 500 educational institutions participated in the programme. The initiative aims to address four major issues — traffic congestion, compliance, student safety, and affordability in school and college transportation across Cyberabad. A joint survey conducted by Cyberabad Police and SCSC covered 526 educational institutions and around 4.1 lakh students. The survey revealed that although 80% of institutions provide transport fa-

cilities, only 30% of students are using them, leading to nearly 2 lakh private vehicles on roads during school hours every morning and evening. Addressing the gathering, Dr. M. Ramesh, Commissioner of Police, Cyberabad, said traffic congestion near educational institutions has become a serious issue. He noted that accidents, unsafe driving, and stress among parents and children are increasing during school pickup and drop timings. The Commissioner stated that the initiative is not just a transport project but a long-term civic mobility reform focused on child safety, smooth traffic movement, and creating livelihood opportunities through organized last-mile

connectivity services. Narayana Amit, Zonal Commissioner, Serilingampally, said student safety begins from the moment children leave their homes and stressed that all departments must work together to ensure safer transportation systems. SCSC CEO Naved Khan explained that the main objective is to reduce the number of vehicles on roads while providing safe, affordable, and accessible transport solutions for students. Officials from TGRTC, education department, traffic police, women safety wing, and civic bodies also participated in the programme and discussed the phased implementation strategy for the student mobility plan.

Illegal Cellar Digging Sparks Alarm

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Illegal cellar excavations across Greater Hyderabad have triggered serious safety and environmental concerns, with residents and civic activists accusing builders of digging unauthorized basements without GHMC approval. In a complaint submitted to the GHMC Commissioner, community representatives alleged that several cellars are being illegally developed for commercial use such as



shops and godowns while authorities remain inactive. Residents warned that unchecked excavation could lead to building collapses, soil instability, fire hazards and major risks to

life and property. They also expressed concern over environmental damage and the possibility of increased vulnerability during natural calamities. The appeal demanded strict enforcement, regular inspections and criminal action against violators. Activists also urged officials to seize heavy machinery, including JCBs and Poclain excavators, used in unauthorized digging. Copies of the complaint were sent to senior municipal officials across GHMC zones.

Food Safety Training Conducted for Street Food Vendors in Serilingampally Zone

RANGAREDDY
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh



Under the coordination of Serilingampally Zonal Commissioner Narayan Amit, Additional Commissioner (UBD) Subhadra Devi, and Food Safety officials, an FSTC (Food Safety Training and Certification) programme was conducted for street food vendors as per the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006. The programme aimed

to create awareness among street food vendors on food safety, hygiene, and safe food handling practices. A total of 110 vendors participated in the training and successfully completed the Food Safety Supervisor course.

Hygiene kits were distributed to the participants during the programme. The initiative was organized with the support of Nestlé India and the National Association of Street Vendors of India to promote safe and healthy

Telangana Govt. to Organise Women's Week from May 25 to 31

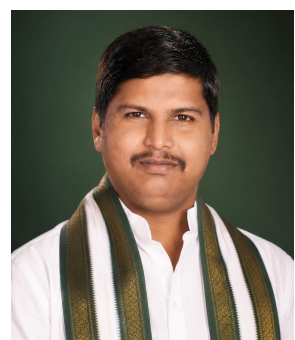
HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telangana will observe "Women's Week" (Mahila Varotsavalu) from May 25 to 31 under the 'Praja Palana - Pragathi Plan' to further strengthen the economic, social, and political empowerment of women. Various programmes will be organized for a week, involving rural women, Self-Help Group (SHG) members, aspiring women entrepreneurs, adolescent girls, differently-abled women, and senior citizens. Through these programs, special focus will be laid on issues such as women's economic self-reliance, livelihood expansion, social security, health, safety, infrastructure development, and strengthening of women's groups. Special meetings, awareness programs, inauguration ceremonies of infrastructure, grounding of livelihood units, and loan melas will be organised from the village level to the district level. The main attraction of this week-long festival will be the launch of the incubator program for women entrepreneurs and the grounding program for livelihood units by the Chief Minister A Revanth

Reddy in Hyderabad on May 29. This program will be a key milestone towards expanding economic opportunities for women's groups across the state. Day-wise events will include the launch of 0.5 MW solar power plants across four districts of Vikarabad, Khammam, Peddapalli and Komaram Bheem Asifabad, alongside the flag-off of 450 RTC buses operated by women's groups. The SHG meetings, bank loan distributions and nutrition awareness programmes on the first day. The events on May 26 will focus on the identification of eligible women, elderly persons, differently-abled persons and girls and the inclusion of the remaining women into SHGs. Formation of SHGs for differently-abled persons and elderly women will be carried out. This day will also include mock parliament sessions with teenage girls. On May 28, infrastructure development programs, including foundation stone laying ceremonies for women's group buildings, work sheds and women's warehouses, along with bhoomi puja.

Telangana Govt Forms Panel for Activists

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Dp Srinivas rao



The Telangana government has initiated measures to officially recognise and honour Telangana movement activists who fought for statehood from 1969 until the formation of Telangana in 2014. Responding to long-pending demands, Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy issued orders constituting a special committee through GO Rt No. 679

issued by the General Administration Department. Jan Sanksema Sangham Telangana State President K. Venkatanarayana welcomed the decision and urged the government to ensure

justice without bias or corruption to all categories of activists, including martyrs' families, injured activists, those who suffered physical disabilities, people who underwent imprisonment, and individuals still facing movement-related cases. The committee has been formed to identify genuine Telangana movement activists and acknowledge their sacrifices and services. Government advisor Dr. K. Keshava Rao will serve as chairman of the

committee. Minister Ponnab Prabhakar, MLC Kodandaram, Adanki Dayakar, former MLC S. Ramulu Naik, and Mothe Shobhan Reddy have been appointed as members. The panel will frame eligibility guidelines, prepare a list of activists, and recommend recognition, honours, and welfare measures. It has also been authorised to consult officials, gather information, and submit its report to the government at the earliest.

Blood Donation Camp Marks Dasari Jai Ramesh 80th Birthday

RANGAREDDY
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh



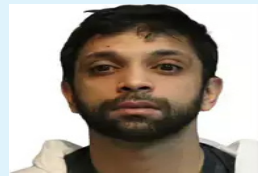
A blood donation camp was organised at the TCC Club in Serilingampally division on the occasion of the 80th birthday of Vijay Electrical Limited CMD Dasari Jai Ramesh. The camp was conducted by former employees and workers of Vijay Electricals under the leadership of Sambamurthy, with support from the Red Cross. PAC Chair-

man Arekapudi Gandhi attended the event as the chief guest and inaugurated the programme by lighting the lamp. Speaking on the occasion, Gandhi praised the services rendered by Vijay Electricals in the

power sector and conveyed birthday wishes to Dasari Jai Ramesh for contributing to the lives of thousands of families through innovative electrical technologies. He stated that blood donation is equal

to saving lives and encouraged everyone to come forward to donate blood. Around 40 people participated in the blood donation camp. He also appreciated the organisers for conducting social service activities and free medical camps for the benefit of poor people. Former employees, workers, staff members of Vijay Electricals and others participated in the programme.

Canada: Indian-Origin Man Held for Filming Women in Fitting Rooms



An Indian-origin man named Dishanth Srideva (26) from Mississauga, Canada, has been charged with voyeurism after allegedly recording women inside fitting rooms at a clothing store in Oakville. Police said the incidents happened at a Winners store located on Winston Churchill Boulevard. According to investigators, the first complaint came in April 2026 when a woman noticed a man secretly using his mobile phone to film her while she was changing inside a fitting room. After starting the investigation, police linked the suspect to another similar incident that reportedly happened at the same store in November 2024.

Modi Gifts Muga Silk, Ladakhi Stole and Kesar Mangoes to World Leaders

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

A Muga silk stole for Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni, a Madhubani painting for Dutch Prime Minister Rob Jetten and a Ladakhi pure wool stole for Swedish Prime Minister Ulf Kristersson were some of the gifts presented by Prime Minister Narendra Modi during his just-concluded five-nation tour. In addition, PM Modi also gifted a packet of Melody toffees to his Italian counterpart. A video of the moment was shared as "very, very good toffee". Some people have coined the portmanteau 'Melodi' to describe the equation between the two leaders.

During his trip, Modi also gifted Kesar mangoes and Meghalaya pineapples to UAE President Sheikh

Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, a replica of the ice axe used by Sherpa Tenzing Norgay to Iceland's Prime Minister Kristrunn Frostadottir and a Bidri silver work vase to Denmark's Prime Minister Mette Frederiksen, among others, officials said. Modi visited the United Arab Emirates, the Netherlands, Sweden, Norway and Italy.

The Muga silk stole gifted to Meloni is a rare and prestigious textile from the Brahmaputra Valley. Muga silk is known as the "golden silk" of Assam and is celebrated for its natural golden hue and understated elegance. Italy's celebrated tradition of luxury textiles and timeless design finds a natural resonance in the elegance of Assam's "golden silk", the officials said. The prime minister of Italy



was also gifted a Shirui Lily silk stole, inspired by the rare Shirui Lily, a delicate bell-shaped flower with pale pinkish-white petals that blooms only on the misty heights of the Shirui Kashong peak in Manipur.

For the Tangkhul Naga community of Manipur, the Shirui Lily symbolises purity, identity and cultural pride. The lily also holds deep cultural resonance in Italy, where it has long symbolised purity, grace and artistic refinement, frequently

appearing in Renaissance art. President of Italy Sergio Mattarella was gifted a marble inlay work box with CDs of legendary Hindustani classical vocalist Pandit Bhimsen Joshi and Carnatic singer M S Subbulakshmi. The box is a refined example of India's handcrafted artistry, closely associated with the master craftsmen of Agra.

Created using the intricate art of Pacchikari, or Pietra Dura, this decorative tradition is believed to have originated in Florence, Italy, before flourishing in India under royal patronage, making it a remarkable artistic bridge between the two nations. Together, the marble inlay box and the timeless musical works celebrate the shared appreciation of India and Italy for art, heritage and cultural excellence.

From Deve Gowda To MKharge: Voting For 26 Rajya Sabha Seats On June 18

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The Election Commission has announced elections for 26 Rajya Sabha seats across eight states, with polling scheduled for June 18. The seats are falling vacant following the completion of the six-year term of sitting members, while two seats are being filled through bypolls after resignations.

Among the prominent leaders whose terms are ending are former Prime Minister HD Deve Gowda, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, senior Congress leader Digvijaya Singh, Union Minister George Kurian and BJP leader-turned-Union Minister Ravneet Singh Bittu. According to the notification, the 24 regular vacancies are spread across Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Rajasthan, Arunachal Pradesh, Karnataka and Mizoram and

two by-elections in Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu.

State-wise MPs - Andhra Pradesh Ayodhya Rami Reddy Alla - YSRCP Parimal Nathwani - Independent backed by YSRCP Pilli Subhash Chandra Bose - YSRCP Sana Satish Babu - YSRCP Gujarat Rambhai Harjibhai Mokariya - BJP Amin Narhari Hirabhai - BJP Gohil Shaktisinhji Harichandrasinhji - Congress Ramila Becharbhai Bara - BJP Jharkhand Deepak Prakash - BJP Shibu Soren's seat has been vacant since August 2025 - JMM Madhya Pradesh George Kurian - BJP Digvijaya Singh - Congress Sumer Singh Solanki - BJP Manipur Maharaja Sanajaoba Leishemba - BJP

Meghalaya Wanweiroy Kharlukhi - NPP Rajasthan Neeraj Dangi - Congress Rajendra Gehlot - BJP Ravneet Singh Bittu - BJP Arunachal Pradesh Nabam Rebia - BJP Karnataka Narayana Koragappa - BJP Iranna Kadadi - BJP HD Deve Gowda - JD(S) Mallikarjun Kharge - Congress Mizoram K. Vanlalvena - Mizo National Front (MNF) The Election Commission has also separately announced bypolls for two Rajya Sabha seats. One vacancy is from Maharashtra after NCP leader Sunetra Pawar resigned from the Upper House after getting elected to the Maharashtra Assembly from Baranmati. She is also serving as Deputy Chief Minister in the state government. The second bypoll is for the Tamil Nadu seat vacated by AIADMK.

Congress-DMK Divorce Raises BJP's Hopes Of New Delhi Affair

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Will the DMK-Congress divorce in Tamil Nadu ignite a new affair in Delhi? Sources have indicated to NDTV that the ruling BJP is smelling an opportunity in the DMK-Congress breakup to shore up its number in Parliament. The party has started exploring the possibility of getting the Dravidian party to work closely with it on the national issues in Parliament.

What Raises BJP's Hopes

After its bitter fallout with the Congress when the latter dumped its long-standing alliance to support the Vijay-led TVK in Tamil Nadu, DMK has been unsparing in its attacks on the Congress calling it a "backstabber". Upping the ante against the former ally, the DMK has also written to Lok Sabha Om Birla for a new seating arrangement in the House as the party doesn't want its MPs to sit with the Congress in the House. This escalation gives hope to the BJP that the DMK may be amiable



to work with it on some issues, sources have told NDTV.

The BJP is also looking at exploiting the DMK's political vulnerability after it's been handed a stunning defeat in Assembly polls by a new party - the TVK. Superstar Vijay's party has broken the six-decade long Dravidian duopoly of the DMK and AIADMK and has rewritten the state's political landscape. Political watchers feel that it is difficult for a regional party to be in opposition both at the State and the Centre. In such a scenario, BJP sources feel, it may be easier to get DMK to work closely with the Centre. DMK has been with the

BJP in the past. It was part of the coalition led by Atal Bihari Vajpayee before it switched to join the Congress led alliance. So, it's not impossible to rekindle the old working relationship, sources feel.

Delimitation & Sanatan hurdles

DMK has been a ferocious opponent of the proposed Delimitation plan of the central government. It framed the entire Assembly election campaign around what it called "BJP's assault on representation of the southern states". DMK MPs staged black cloth protests and burnt the copies of the Delimitation Bill. It won't be easy for the MK Stalin-led party to dilute its position on the issue. Another sticking point is

the DMK position on the Sanatan Dharma, which has constantly pitched it against the BJP. Former Deputy Chief Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin's repeated remarks against the Sanatan Dharma and calls for its eradication have long pitted BJP and DMK at loggerheads. It will be a tricky territory for both sides to navigate. The BJP's hopes rest on the possibility of the DMK supporting it on specific issues in Parliament, where what matters is real numbers. During the Delimitation vote in Parliament, BJP could not muster the two-thirds majority to see the bill through. NDA is 70 short of the two-thirds mark of 362 in Parliament. DMK's 22 MPs in Lok Sabha can take it closer to the magic number in the future. During the delimitation vote, the NDA got 298 votes, while 230 votes were cast against it. The NDA fell 54 short of two-thirds majority mark of 352 as there were 528 MPs present during the vote. DMK's 22 MPs voted against the bill along with the opposition.

TVK Slams DMK's A Raja Over 'Bent Coconut Tree' Jibe

CHENNAI
Wakeup telangana

The DMK on Friday made a sarcastic "coconut tree bending towards a neighbour" remark targeting allies the VCK and IUML after they joined the TVK government, prompting the VCK to retort that it "did not grow at the mercy of other parties". Both VCK and IUML, allies of the DMK till the 2026 Assembly election, announced support to the TVK government which fell short of a simple majority of 118 in the Assembly.

DMK deputy general secretary A Raja, with a penchant for making controversial remarks, alluded the two parties join-



ing the TVK Cabinet as a "coconut tree bending towards a neighbour". Raja said in a veiled reference "if the coconut tree in my garden bends and offers tender coconut to the neighbour, in literature it would be called 'mutta-thengu' (coconut tree in the courtyard). What name should we give it in politics". He ended by uttering "long live Tamil", Raja said on 'X'. Both VCK and IUML had earlier clarified that

they extended the support to TVK government to prevent President's rule in the state, and that DMK chief M K Stalin was aware of their "independent" decision. Besides them, the Left parties and Congress too supported TVK in forming the government. Reacting sharply to the "bent coconut tree" jibe, the VCK said it did not grow at the mercy of other parties.

Taking strong exception, the VCK said it did not grow at the mercy of other parties. The party's sweat and blood sustained the vote bank of the oppressed people and aided in the victory of the coalition parties, it claimed. "What right do other parties have to talk about

party defection? Whose history is it that they allied with the Sangh Parivar (BJP) to defeat the Congress? Whose 'selfishness' is it that they were part of the Vajpayee cabinet and then opposed the same BJP? Tamil Nadu has seen many such political dramas," the VCK said on 'X'.

VCK leader Vanni Arasu, who emerged victorious from Tindivanam Assembly constituency and A M Shahjahan who was elected from Papanasam were sworn in as ministers by Governor Rajendra Viswanath Arlekar at the Lok Bhavan here today in the presence of Chief Minister C Joseph Vijay. Shahjahan was made Minister for Minorities.

Centre Extends NCB Chief Anurag Garg's Tenure Till July 2027

TEHRAN
Wakeup telangana

The Centre has extended the tenure of Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) chief Anurag Garg till July next year, according to a Personnel Ministry order. Garg, a 1993 batch Indian Police Service officer of Himachal Pradesh cadre, was appointed Director General of the NCB



in September 2024. His tenure was to end on May 23 this year. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved an

extension in Garg's deputation tenure as DG, NCB, beyond May 23, 2026, up to July 31, 2027, that is the date of his superannuation, said the order dated May 21.

The NCB recently busted several drug trafficking syndicates and made the country's first-ever seizure of Captagon, the so-called "Jihadi Drug". Union Home Minister Amit Shah

on May 16 announced the busting of an international drug syndicate involved in the trafficking of Captagon with a seizure of 227 kg of the "jihadi drug" valued at Rs 182 crore. The NCB last month also secured the return of notorious international drug trafficker Mohammad Salim Dola from Turkey.

FROM FRONT PAGE

Umar Khalid Gets.....

The Court also observed that Khalid is "one of the key conspirators" in the case, but nevertheless considered it appropriate to take an empathetic view owing to the medical condition and scheduled surgery of his mother.

Earlier, Khalid had moved the Delhi High Court seeking interim bail for 15 days from May 22 to June 5 and setting aside the trial court order dated May 19, which rejected his plea for temporary release in the 2020 northeast Delhi riots larger conspiracy case. The appeal, filed under Section 21(4) of the National Investigation Agency Act, states that Khalid seeks interim bail to attend the Chehlum ceremony of his deceased maternal

uncle and to take care of his 62-year-old mother, who is scheduled to undergo lump excision surgery on June 2.

The trial court had earlier dismissed Khalid's interim bail plea on May 19, observing that the grounds cited by him for temporary release were "not reasonable". Additional Sessions Judge Sameer Bajpai of the Karkardooma Courts had held that attending the Chehlum ceremony of his uncle was "not that necessary" and also observed that Khalid's sisters and father could take care of his mother during the surgery.

Khalid has been in custody since September 2020 in the larger conspiracy case arising out of FIR 59/2020. The prosecution alleges that the riots were part of a pre-

planned conspiracy linked to protests against the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), allegations which Khalid has denied.

We'll Sell As Much.....

"We want to be able to do more. We were already in talks with them to do more. We want them to be a bigger part of their portfolio. We also think there are opportunities with Venezuelan oil," Rubio said. He was responding to a question about India being affected by high energy prices due to the closure of the Strait of Hormuz.

Rubio described India as a "great partner" and said his visit to New Delhi was important as it would also give him an opportunity to meet with ministers from the Quad nations. "They are a great ally, a

great partner. We do a lot of good work with them. And so it is an important trip. I'm glad we're able to do it because I think there'll be a lot for us to talk about," Rubio said.

"We'll also meet with Quad there, which is important. I think my first meeting as Secretary of State was with the Quad. I'm glad we are able to do it now in India and we're going to do one later in the year as well," Rubio said. Rubio said the acting President of Venezuela Deley Rodriguez was also scheduled to visit India next week and there will be many opportunities to work with New Delhi. "In fact, it's my understanding that the interim president of Venezuela will be travelling to India next week as well. So, there's opportunities. There's a lot to work on with India," Rubio

said.

Twisha Sharma.....

He withdrew his anticipatory bail application plea from the single bench of the high court comprising Justice Avanindra Kumar Singh, his counsel Jaydeep Kaurav said. With the withdrawal of the application, Singh was left with no other option but to surrender. The anticipatory bail application was filed before the high court on Thursday after a subordinate court turned down his plea last week. Singh's mother Giribala Singh, a retired district and sessions judge and current chairperson of the Bhopal Consumer Court, was granted anticipatory bail last week by a Bhopal court. She is named in the FIR registered

in the death case. Twisha Sharma, 33, was found hanging at her matrimonial home in Bhopal's Katara Hills area on May 12.

Her family accused her in-laws of dowry harassment and abetment to suicide, while the Singh family claimed she was addicted to drugs. Police registered an FIR under Sections 80(2), 85 and 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita along with relevant provisions of the Dowry Prohibition Act against Samarth Singh and his mother.

Police had announced a cash reward of Rs 30,000 for information leading to Samarth Singh's arrest and also approached the court seeking revocation of his passport.

CRIME

HC quashes the criminal cases against Warner Bros

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana High Court has quashed criminal cases registered against Warner Bros. Pictures (India) Private Limited, holding that a purely commercial and contractual dispute cannot be converted into a criminal prosecution for cheating or criminal breach of trust.

Justice N. Tukaramji allowed the writ petitions filed by the company, represented by its managing director Denzil Dias, challenging FIRs registered against it by the Hyderabad police. The dispute arose from theatrical distribution agreements entered into during 2013-14

between Warner Bros. and film distributor Balakrishna Gogineni for the release of films such as 'Man of Steel', 'Pacific Rim', and 'Into the Storm' in the Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Nizam and Marathwada territories. According to the company, the distributor had repeatedly defaulted on payment schedules despite the films being released. Warner Bros. alleged that after several unsuccessful civil proceedings, including suits seeking specific performance and injunctions against the release of subsequent films, the distributor resorted to filing criminal complaints as a pressure tactic. The complaints accused the com-

pany of cheating and criminal breach of trust under Sections 420 and 406 of the Indian Penal Code, alleging that Warner Bros. had induced the distributor to deposit Rs.25 lakh by assuring continuation of theatrical distribution rights for upcoming films, but later released the films through another distributor and failed to refund the money collected. Counsel for Warner Bros argued that the complaint lacked the essential ingredients required to constitute criminal offences. Opposing the petitions, counsel for distributor contended that the criminal investigation should be permitted to continue, arguing that the company had dishonestly

induced investment and subsequently violated its assurances. Justice Tukaramji observed that to attract the offence of cheating, fraudulent or dishonest intention must exist at the very beginning of the transaction. The court noted that the parties had executed multiple written agreements over a sustained period and had continued business relations despite alleged payment defaults, which, according to the court, negated any inference of dishonest intention at the inception. The court held that the payments made under commercial agreements constituted contractual consideration and could not be treated.

Man Gets 2 Months Imprisonment for Harassing Elderly Parents in Narayanguda

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A local court here has sentenced a 44-year-old man to two months of imprisonment for harassing and ill-treating his elderly parents within the limits of Narayanguda police station. According to the police, the accused G. Srinivas had been constantly harassing his aged parents. Based on a complaint received from the aggrieved parents,

Naryanguda police registered a case against him under Section 70B of the City Police (CP) Act, and Section 115(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). Narayanguda Sub-Inspector J. Srikanth Reddy conducted a thorough probe, collected strong evidence, and produced Srinivas before the Fifth Special Judicial Magistrate Court at Nampally here. Upon pursuing the case facts

and evidence, the Judge, M. Bhasker, held Srinivas, a private employee, guilty of the offence and sentenced him to undergo two months of jail terms along with a fine of Rs.50. The Narayanguda police re-iterated its commitment to protecting senior citizens and warned that strict legal action will be initiated against anyone found harassing or abandoning their elderly parents, said Inspector M. Saideswar.

Karimnagar Businessman Held in Fake Granite Billing Case

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Hyderabad zonal unit of Directorate General of GST Intelligence (DGGI) has arrested a businessman Srikanth from Karimnagar in connection with alleged tax evasion. After arresting him, the officials produced him before the economic offences court in Nampally after which it remanded him to judicial custody. The DGGI conducted extensive inspections at the offices of several granite shops and transporters in Karimnagar in the last two days. It was found that granite worth about Rs 100 crore was moved through invoices and waybills generated by the bogus company.

14-Year-Old Dies 3 Days After Being Hit By Cricket Ball

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A 14-year-old boy died in Girinbavi village of Dugondi mandal in Warangal district after being hit on the head by a cricket ball, police said on Sunday. The incident occurred three days ago while the boy was playing cricket with friends. He collapsed after being struck by a hard ball and was shifted to a nearby hospital. He died on Sunday while undergoing treatment. Police said no complaint had been received from the family and enquiries are under way.

Sajjanar Forms SIT to Probe Crimes Linked to Nepali Gangs

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

City police commissioner V.C. Sajjanar on Thursday constituted a special investigation team (SIT) to investigate crimes allegedly involving Nepali gangs and persons of Nepali origin operating in the city. The team was formed under the IT Cell and will function under the supervision of inspector Daniel Shanti Kumar. The development follows the recent murder of the

wife of a retired IPS officer in Jubilee Hills and other incidents where such gangs are allegedly involved. The SIT comprises 20 personnel, including sub-inspectors, head constables and police constables from CCS, Task Force, cybercrime wing, IT Cell and multiple police stations. The team includes both field and technical personnel to strengthen intelligence gathering and operational response. The SIT is been tasked with

tracing absconding accused allegedly involved in property offences, executing pending non-bailable warrants (NBWs) and identifying organised criminal networks linked to such crimes. According to the orders, SIT will focus on coordinated investigations and quicker apprehension of accused persons involved in organised property offences, particularly those allegedly committed by Nepal gangs operating in Hyderabad

Rachakonda Police Bust Fake Cotton Seed Racket

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Rachakonda Police have busted an inter-state racket involved in the illegal transport and sale of counterfeit cotton seeds, arresting four persons and seizing 600 kg of banned BT-3 cotton seeds at Hayathnagar on the outskirts of Hyderabad. The operation was carried out by the LB Nagar Special Operations Team (SOT) in coordination with officials of the Agriculture Department and Hayathnagar Police fol-

lowing specific intelligence inputs about the illegal movement of banned seeds into Telangana ahead of the monsoon farming season. According to police officials, the accused were transporting fake BT-3 cotton seeds from Nandyal district in Andhra Pradesh to various parts of Telangana with the intention of selling them to unsuspecting farmers. The counterfeit seeds were allegedly being marketed as high-yield varieties to attract buyers during the crucial sowing period.

During the raid, the police intercepted the consignment near Pedda Amberpet under the Hayathnagar police station limits. Authorities seized around 600 kilograms of banned BT-3 cotton seeds valued at several lakhs of rupees. In addition to the seeds, officials also confiscated two vehicles used for transportation and four mobile phones believed to have been used for coordinating the illegal trade. Officials stated that the racket was specifically targeting farmers by sup-

plying counterfeit and banned seeds, which could result in severe crop losses and financial hardship for cultivators. The sale and distribution of unapproved BT-3 cotton seeds are prohibited as they do not meet government regulations and agricultural safety standards. Police said preliminary investigations suggest the involvement of a wider network operating across state borders. Efforts are underway to identify other persons linked to the racket and trace the supply chain.

EDITORIAL

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

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Storytelling is critical in electoral politics. But the gap between political data 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.



Crude oil prices remain risk to external sector outlook: RBI Bulletin

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

The Reserve Bank of India's latest Bulletin has cautioned that India's external sector outlook continues to face significant challenges due to tightening financial conditions, volatile crude oil prices, and uncertain capital flows amid the ongoing conflict in West Asia. The article on the "State of the Economy," published in the May edition of the Bulletin, highlighted that geopolitical tensions in the region are exerting pressure on global commodity markets, trade routes, and supply chains, thereby increasing volatility in international financial markets.

Despite the uncertain



global environment, the RBI noted that the Indian economy has entered this challenging phase from a position of relative macroeconomic strength. Domestic demand remains the primary driver of economic growth, helping the country maintain resilience even as external risks intensify.

According to the Bulletin, India's domestic eco-

nomical activity showed encouraging signs in April, with both industrial and services sectors maintaining momentum across several segments. In the agricultural sector, summer sowing operations progressed positively due to above-normal pre-monsoon rainfall and healthy reservoir levels, which are expected to support crop production in the

coming months.

On the inflation front, the RBI observed that Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation increased to 3.5 percent in April, mainly due to rising food prices. However, core inflation, which excludes volatile food and fuel components, remained stable, indicating that broader price pressures are still under control.

The Bulletin warned that although headline inflation remains within the RBI's tolerance band, the pass-through effect of global commodity price increases to domestic prices requires close monitoring. It emphasized that higher crude oil prices and fluctuating financial conditions could impact India's external balances and currency stability.

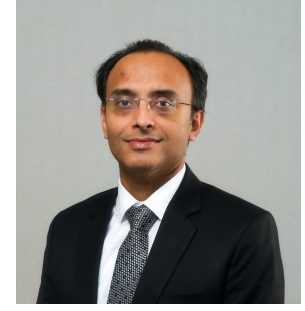
The RBI further pointed out that capital flows and developments in global financial markets continue to pose risks to the country's external sector outlook. Nevertheless, the central bank expressed confidence that several factors could help cushion the Indian economy from external shocks. These include robust services exports, positive net foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows, strong foreign exchange reserves, and proactive policy measures undertaken by both the Government of India and the RBI. The central bank clarified that the views expressed in the Bulletin article are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of the Reserve Bank of India.

Equity Resilient, Bonds Face Inflation Risks

Large caps remain stable as growth slows and inflation concerns rise globally

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Bajaj Finserv AMC has said Indian equity markets continue to show resilience despite rising global uncertainties, while bond markets remain cautious amid inflationary pressures and slowing economic growth. In its latest market outlook, the fund house noted that global growth is expected to moderate to 3.1% in 2026 from 3.4% last year, while inflation could rise to 4.4% due to elevated energy prices and supply disruptions. The IMF projections also indicate tighter financial conditions and weaker global trade impacting emerging markets. Despite volatility linked to crude oil prices and geopolitical tensions,



Indian equities performed strongly over the past month. The Nifty 50 gained 7.5%, while mid-cap and small-cap indices rose 14% and 20% respectively. Foreign portfolio investor outflows also eased in April 2026 to ₹70,000 crore from nearly ₹1.2 lakh crore in March.

According to Sorbh Gupta, Head of Equity at Bajaj Finserv AMC, large-cap stocks continue to provide stability during volatile phases, with valuations currently below long-term aver-

ages after recent corrections. The AMC remains positive on domestic consumption, financials, and select capital goods companies benefiting from global power sector investments, while remaining cautious on IT services due to AI-related revenue pressures.

On the fixed income side, the AMC said oil prices remain the biggest macroeconomic risk influencing inflation and policy outlook. Siddharth Chaudhary, Head of Fixed Income, said the RBI is expected to maintain a balanced policy stance as growth slows and inflation risks persist. The AMC believes diversified investment strategies and balanced duration positioning remain important amid current market conditions.

Oil Market Could Hit 'Red Zone' in July-August, IEA Chief Says

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The International Energy Agency (IEA) has warned that the global oil market could enter a "red zone" during July and August as peak summer fuel demand collides with severe supply disruptions caused by the ongoing Iran war. Speaking at Chatham House in London, IEA Executive Director Fatih Birol said the world may face a dangerous phase if there

is no immediate improvement in oil supply conditions, particularly in the Middle East.

The crisis has intensified after attacks on energy infrastructure and Iran's effective closure of the strategically vital Strait of Hormuz, a key route for global crude shipments. According to the IEA, more than 14 million barrels per day (bpd) of oil supply from the Middle East has been removed from the market, making it the largest oil

supply disruption in modern history.

Although Birol did not clearly define what the "red zone" would mean, he indicated that existing emergency measures may not be enough to stabilize the market. Before the conflict, the oil market had a modest surplus, but that cushion has rapidly disappeared. The IEA and its 32 member countries have already coordinated the release of 400 million barrels from strategic petroleum



reserves, the largest emergency release ever undertaken.

Currently, these reserves are being supplied to the market at a pace of 2.5 to

3 million barrels per day. However, Reuters calculations suggest the released supplies may be exhausted by early August, which coincides with the period Birol warned could become critical. Commercial stockpiles are also declining steadily, adding further pressure to global markets.

Birol stressed that the most effective solution would be the full and unconditional reopening of

the Strait of Hormuz. Without restored shipping access, oil-importing countries may continue facing high fuel prices and supply instability.

The IEA chief also cautioned that restoring Middle Eastern oil production and refining capacity will take considerable time. He expressed particular concern about Iraq, where falling oil revenues and inadequate storage facilities have forced shut-

downs of oil fields that may prove difficult to restart. In contrast, countries such as Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates possess stronger financial resources and advanced technology, which could support a quicker recovery. Meanwhile, Brent crude prices were trading around \$108 per barrel on Thursday, lower than wartime highs of \$126, but still significantly above pre-war levels of around \$70 per barrel.

India's First 24/7 Dental Hospital Opens in Hyderabad



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

India's first-ever 24/7 dental hospital, Tooth Wish - 24/7 Dental Hospital, was inaugurated at Khajaguda in Hyderabad on Thursday, introducing round-the-clock advanced dental care services under one roof. The state-of-the-art multi-specialty facility was launched at EAPL Sri Tirumala Hub 9 by Founder and Chairman Dr. Sravanthi Ellasiri and Co-founder and Managing Director Dr. Ravi Shankar Rathod in the presence of doctors, guests, and media representatives.

The hospital aims to provide emergency and accessible dental care at any hour with advanced technology, experienced specialists, and patient-focused treatment.

Equipped with digital diagnostic systems, soothing interiors, and minimally invasive treatment facilities, the hospital focuses on comfort, precision, and safety.

Speaking at the launch, Dr. Sravanthi Ellasiri said the hospital was established to redefine dental healthcare with empathy, honesty, and modern technology. Dr. Ravi Shankar Rathod said Tooth Wish combines modern dental science with compassionate care to deliver healthy and confident smiles.

The hospital offers dental check-ups, implants, root canal treatments, cosmetic dentistry, braces, clear aligners, pediatric dentistry, laser treatments, smile makeovers, gum care, oral rehabilitation, and emergency dental services.

Indonesia Expands Control Over Critical Commodities, Reshaping Global Exports

JAKARTA
Wakeup telangana

Indonesia is overhauling its trade policies for key commodities in a sudden move that some experts liken to a hostile takeover of major industries in the resource-rich nation, with global implications. The new regulation announced to parliament Wednesday by Indonesian President Prabowo Subianto mandates that a recently set up state-owned enterprise will handle the country's exports of coal, palm oil and iron alloys by September.

Prabowo said one aim is to increase tax revenues. That would help restore dwindling government reserves that have been exhausted by the energy shocks from the war in Iran. Given Indonesia's role as a major commodities exporter, the new rules likely will ripple across international supply chains. Indonesia is the largest exporter of thermal coal, which is burned for energy, and palm oil, a key ingredient in everything from cosmetics to biofuels. The Southeast Asian nation of roughly 287 million people also



has the world's biggest known reserve of nickel, a mineral needed for electric vehicle batteries and stainless steel.

As Indonesia's largest trading partner, China will feel the brunt of this policy pivot, experts say. China is closely watching Indonesia's "initiative to nationalize" and considering "how it would impact China's further cooperation," said Lie Xie, with the UK-based think tank Third Generation Environmentalism. "The future path that Indonesia is taking is highly important for China."

The swiftness of the new rule's implementation could affect access to needed resources for China's clean technologies industries, which use Indonesian commodities to supply growing de-

mand for renewable energy. Chinese companies are major investors in many Indonesian industries, including critical minerals. "Indonesia has become vital to China" since it supplies the commodities that "underpin China's dominance in electric vehicles, batteries, and industrial manufacturing," said Li Shuo with the Asia Society Policy Institute's China Climate Hub. "But the relationship is evolving."

If handled well, the centralization of Indonesia's trade may also open the door to more American investment, analysts said, as it competes with China for key resources. "Such a move is a clear signal that U.S. investment is being attracted to come to Indonesia even more," said Bhima Yudhistira of the Jakarta-based Center of

Economic and Law Studies. He called the new policy a "hostile takeover" that will mean every contract in industries controlled by China may be revised. Indonesia tightens its grip on natural resources Prabowo told lawmakers Indonesia had lost as much as \$908 billion because exporters underreport their sales to avoid paying taxes and other fees. "The primary objective of this policy is to strengthen oversight and monitoring — and to combat under-invoicing, transfer pricing and the diversion of export proceeds," he said. The new entity taking over Indonesia's exports of these commodities — PT Danantara Sumberdaya Indonesia — was officially registered the day before Prabowo's announcement. It is 99% owned by Danantara, the sovereign wealth fund the president launched last year, and will strengthen the government's influence on setting the price of its commodities. This "represents a governance reform, a step toward strengthening our credibility in managing strategic commodity.

Long-term real estate momentum in south India

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

South India's real estate sector continues to show strong long-term growth potential, driven by robust economic activity, rapid urbanization, infrastructure expansion, and rising employment opportunities. Industry experts believe the region remains one of the most attractive destinations for real estate investments despite short-term market or political fluctuations.

The three major southern states — Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Telangana — together contribute nearly 25% of India's GDP, underlining their economic significance. Tamil Nadu contributes around 9% to the national GDP, while Karnataka contributes nearly 8%, supported heavily by its thriving IT and ITes ecosystem. Tamil Nadu, meanwhile, benefits from a diversified economy driven by real estate, information technology, automobile manufacturing, and industrial clusters.

Industry participants also note growing investor confidence in professionally managed real estate investment platforms, Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs), and REITs as the sector becomes increasingly transparent and organized. Investors are now focusing on long-term structural demand drivers rather than short-term market trends.

According to Sharad Mittal, real estate investments are closely linked to long-term economic fundamentals such as infrastructure growth, urbanization, employment generation, and end-user demand. He stated that regions supported by strong industrial ecosystems and sustained economic activity continue to attract long-term real estate capital.

Experts further emphasize that South India has consistently demonstrated resilience across market cycles. Manufacturing-led growth, expanding infrastructure, and steady residential demand continue to strengthen investor confidence.

Jackie Shroff reveals why Gen Z connects deeply with him

Veteran actor Jackie Shroff, who is gearing up for the release of his upcoming film *The Great Grand Superhero*, has shared the secret behind his growing popularity among Gen Z audiences. During the promotions of the film, Jackie spoke candidly about his approach to life, relationships, and how he connects effortlessly with people across generations.

Speaking to IANS alongside the film's director Manish Saini, Jackie said that he never limits himself based on age or social differences. According to the actor, his openness towards people is the reason younger audiences find him relatable and inspiring even today.

"I'm open to all. I don't shut down my energy. I don't think someone is too old or too young. For me, I keep my energy open," Jackie shared. He explained that he enjoys blending into the interests of people around him, which naturally helps create meaningful connections. "We tell our story, they tell their story. At least open yourself. Accept a human being, not their age," he added.



The actor also stressed the importance of embracing people with honesty and warmth. Jackie believes every individual has something valuable to teach, regardless of age. His simple and grounded outlook has often resonated with younger fans, especially on social

media, where his humble personality and unique style continue to trend regularly.

Talking about his role in the film, Jackie revealed that the character of a superhero grandfather is personally very close to him. He said the emotional bond between the

grandfather and grandchild in the movie reflects his own way of interacting with children in real life. "I talk to a child like he's me. I don't see the difference. There's no generation gap," he said. Jackie further revealed that one of the biggest reasons he agreed to do the film was the uniqueness of the concept. According to him, the idea of a superhero grandfather had never been explored in Hindi cinema before. The actor also expressed immense trust in director Manish Saini, praising his creative vision and achievements.

"I said, a gentleman who's got three national awards. It's the right kind to totally blindly trust," Jackie remarked while speaking about the filmmaker. He added that working with Saini was an honour and privilege, and once he heard the story, he instantly connected with the emotional depth of the character. *The Great Grand Superhero* is expected to bring a refreshing family entertainer to audiences, highlighting friendship, emotions, and the special bond between generations. The film is scheduled to release in cinemas on May 29, 2026.

Allegations Against South Korean Actor Kim Soo-hyun Fabricated: Police

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Police investigations have reportedly found that allegations made by YouTube channel HoverLab, also known as Garo Sero Institute, against South Korean actor Kim Soo-hyun, were based on edited and fake evidence. The channel had accused Kim Soo-hyun of dating late actress Kim Sae-ron while she was a minor. But according to police documents shared by the South Korean media, investigators concluded that the claims were false and were done to harm the actor's reputation.

Police said that the evidence presented by the channel included manipulated Kakao Talk chat screenshots and an AI-generated voice recording. Investigators found that several parts of the chat screenshots had been edited, including changing the name of the person in the conversation to "Kim Soo-hyun". Authorities said the original identity of the person in the chats was unclear. An audio clip released by the channel that was



claimed to be Kim Sae-ron's voice was also found to be created using artificial intelligence. According to investigators, Kim Se-ui, the head of the HoverLab, was unaware that Kim Soo-hyun had not dated Kim Sae-ron while she was underage, but still continued spreading the allegations. Police believe the claims were shared for financial reasons, including increasing YouTube traffic and revenue. Following the investigation, prosecutors requested an arrest warrant for Kim Se-ui, and a court hearing is scheduled for May 26. Kim Se-ui

has denied all accusations against him.

The controversy began after Kim Sae-ron's family, through HoverLab, claimed that she and Kim Soo-hyun started dating in the year 2016 when she was only 15 years old. Kim Soo-hyun's side strongly denied this saying the two were only in a relationship between 2019 and 2020, after she became an adult.

Kim Sae-ron passed away by suicide in February 2025. Earlier, Kim Soo-hyun had filed defamation cases against HoverLab and Kim Sae-ron's family over these allegations.

India demoted to third-tier Challenge League as AFC revises slot allocation for 2027-28

AHMEDABAD
Wakeup telangana

Indian football suffered another major continental setback after the Asian Football Confederation (AFC) revised its slot allocation for the 2027-28 club competition cycle, pushing India down to the AFC Challenge League, which is the third tier of Asian club football.

The revised allocation, released by the AFC in its official slot allocation document for the 2027-28 season, confirms that Indian clubs will no longer enjoy a direct place in the AFC Champions League Two (ACL2), Asia's second-tier competition. However, Indian football clubs will play in the second-tier AFC Champions League 2 in 2026-27. India had earlier been allocated one direct and one playoff slot in ACL2 for the 2026-27 cycle, but the latest revision effectively demotes the country into the AFC Challenge League structure from the 2027-28 season. The

slot allocation from AFC explains how many teams each member association can send across its three-tier structure directly and indirectly.

According to the latest update, India have been given only one indirect slot in the Challenge League and the Indian clubs have to play qualifiers to secure their berth in the main competition. The development comes as a consequence of India's falling AFC club competition ranking, which is determined by the performances of clubs across continental tournaments over an eight-year cycle. India is currently placed at 15th in the list of West Asian countries, below Hong Kong, Tajikistan and Lebanon and others. Saudi Arabia is at the top with 132.545 points.

The AFC Challenge League currently serves as Asia's third-tier club competition beneath the AFC Champions League Elite and ACL2. The tournament was introduced as part of the

AFC's revamped three-tier continental structure. India's decline in continental standing has been linked to a string of underwhelming performances by Indian clubs in recent AFC competitions.

Clubs from the Indian Super League have struggled to progress consistently in ACL2 and earlier AFC Cup campaigns, resulting in a drop in coefficient points compared to rival West Asian nations. Indian clubs have also not fulfilled the minimum number of games played criteria for the top tier of a country, which is 27 matches for each team, as the Indian Super League (ISL) 2025-26 was shortened, and each team played only 13 matches in the league stage. The AFC Challenge League winners qualify for the following season's ACL2 group stage, offering Indian clubs a possible route back into the second tier if they perform strongly in continental competition.

SRH Beat RCB By 55 Runs

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Sunrisers Hyderabad produced a commanding all-round performance to defeat Royal Challengers Bengaluru by 55 runs in a high-scoring IPL 2026 clash at the Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium in Hyderabad on Thursday night. Riding on explosive batting displays and disciplined bowling, SRH posted a mammoth 255/4 before restricting RCB to 200/4 in their chase of 256.

After winning the toss, SRH captain Pat Cummins opted to bat first, and the decision paid immediate dividends as the openers launched a fierce assault on the RCB bowling attack. SRH collected 13 runs from the opening over and quickly moved to 33/0 after three overs with both batters attacking freely.

Travis Head continued his aggressive form and smashed 26 off 16 balls before being bowled by Rasikh Salam Dar in the fourth over. However, the wicket did little to slow SRH's momentum as Abhishek Sharma took complete control of the innings with a breathtaking knock. The left-hander hammered boundaries all around the ground and brought up his half-century in just 20 balls. Abhishek eventually departed for a blazing 56 off 22 deliveries after powering SRH to 97/2 in the ninth over. Ishan Kishan then anchored the



innings superbly while maintaining the attacking tempo. He reached his fifty off 31 balls and ensured the scoreboard kept moving at a rapid pace. SRH crossed the 100-run mark in just 8.5 overs and surged to 156/2 after 13 overs following a massive 27-run over against Josh Hazlewood. The late assault came from Heinrich Klaasen, who produced another destructive innings in the middle order. Klaasen smashed a blistering 51 off only 24 balls and completed his half-century in just 23 deliveries. His powerful hitting helped SRH cross 200 in only 15.2 overs as the home side

dominated the final phase of the innings. Despite Klaasen's dismissal in the 17th over, SRH continued their charge and eventually finished on a massive 255/4 in 20 overs.

For RCB, Krunal Pandya, Suyash Sharma and Rasikh Salam Dar managed to pick up wickets, but the bowlers found little relief against SRH's relentless batting attack.

In reply, RCB began positively with Venkatesh Iyer smashing 44 off 19 balls in a rapid opening stand. The visitors raced to 57/0 after four overs before Eshan Malinga provided the breakthrough.

Virat Kohli scored 15 before falling to Sakib Hussain, while Devdutt Padikkal added 21.

RCB captain Rajat Patidar fought hard with a well-made 56 off 39 balls and kept the chase alive deep into the innings. However, the required run rate kept climbing despite his efforts. Patidar eventually fell in the 19th over, effectively ending RCB's hopes as they finished on 200/4. Sakib Hussain and Eshan Malinga impressed with disciplined spells for SRH, helping the hosts register a comprehensive 55-run victory in front of an energetic Hyderabad crowd.

Zaheerabad smart city puts neglected Bidar back on the map

The foundation stone laid by Prime Minister Narendra Modi for the proposed Industrial Smart City at Zaheerabad has generated fresh hopes among industrialists, traders, and unemployed youth in Karnataka's Bidar district. Located barely 30 kilometres from Bidar city, the upcoming industrial hub in Telangana's Sangareddy district is expected to transform the region's economic landscape and create large-scale employment for people living in the border areas.

The ambitious project is being developed under the Hyderabad-Nagpur Industrial Corridor as part of the National Industrial Corridor Development Programme. The smart industrial township is expected to attract investments worth nearly Rs 10,000 crore and generate around 1.70 lakh jobs by 2029. Industries related to automobile manufacturing, food processing, heavy machinery, and electrical equipment are expected to set up operations in the region.

Officials said the project would be developed in phases across nearly 12,000 acres. In the first phase, around 3,245 acres will be developed at an estimated cost of Rs 2,350 crore. The location, situated adjacent to National Highway-65, is expected to provide strong road, rail, and air connectivity.

KTR demands farmers' crisis top Cabinet agenda demands white paper on crop procurement

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BRS working president KT Rama Rao has demanded that the State Cabinet meeting scheduled for Saturday take up the agrarian crisis and paddy procurement delays as its prime agenda. He warned that the BRS would launch Statewide protests if the government failed to act immediately.

He demanded unconditional procurement of all pending paddy stock regardless of discoloration or moisture issues. He dared the government to release a white paper on crop procurement since it assumed office. "The Cabinet must take



concrete decisions on Saturday. If it fails, the BRS will take to the streets," he said. Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan on Friday, Rama Rao said the Congress government had completely neglected crop procurement, while farmers across Telangana faced severe hardship during the ongoing Y-sangi (Rabi) season. He said he had written to Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, urging expedited procurement operations, but the latter continued to

deny there was a crisis. He also criticised Civil Supplies Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy for allegedly dismissing farmers' grievances.

The BRS working president said at least 10 farmers died at procurement centres due to distress this season, while several others had already attempted suicide. Farmers, including Congress supporters, were staging road blockades and protests across the State demanding immediate crop purchase. "For over 45 days, farmers have been waiting in 45-degree heat for the government to buy their produce, but there has been no respite," he said. Alleging that officials

were citing gunny bag shortages as the reason for delays, he said farmers were also being made to pay waiting charges for tractors and lorries parked at procurement centres.

Directly challenging the Chief Minister, Rama Rao disputed the government's claim that nearly 80 per cent of procurement had been completed, asserting that actual figures were below 30 per cent. "I am prepared to accompany Revanth Reddy to any procurement centre in the State, including Kodanag. If he proves 80 per cent procurement is done, I am ready for any punishment," he said.

IPL ticket black-marketing racket busted

Ahead of the high-voltage IPL 2026 clash between Sunrisers Hyderabad and Royal Challengers Bengaluru, the LB Nagar Special Operations Team (SOT) busted a black-marketing racket near the Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium in Uppal on Thursday. Acting on specific intelligence, officials caught several persons allegedly selling complimentary IPL tickets at inflated prices ahead of the much-anticipated SRH vs RCB encounter scheduled for May 22. Police said the seized tickets were marked "not for sale" and were originally meant for VIPs, sponsors, and other privileged categories. However, the accused allegedly diverted them into the black market to exploit the huge fan demand for the blockbuster match. During the operation, SOT officials recovered multiple tickets from the suspects and later



Over 13,000 Hyderabad homes register domestic helpers under Mee Surakhsha

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Mee Surakhsha, launched by the Malkajgiri Police Commissionerate on May 16, has seen a tremendous turnout with a total of 13,294 households registering their domestic helpers in just six days.

The initiative was launched following murder and robbery cases reported in high-end neighbourhoods/gated communities of Hyderabad. The accused in both cases were natives of Nepal employed as domestic helpers in the victims' houses.

In this context, the Malkajgiri Police on Friday, May 22, released the data on domestic helpers based on nationality.

While the majority of domestic helpers are Indians, at 12,457 registrations, Nepali workers make up 830 registrations. Kushaiguda Police Station recorded the largest number of Nepali workers with 113 registrations. Police also recorded two Bangladeshi workers, four workers from Myanmar and one from Sweden.

According to the Malkajgiri Police, Mee Surakhsha is a community policing.

Hyderabad driver flees with Rs 9 lakh cash, arrested within 48 hours

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A driver for a support services company who fled with Rs 9 lakh cash was arrested by Sultan Bazaar Police within 48 hours of the crime, the police said on Friday, May 22. The full cash amount was also seized from his possession.

The accused has been identified as Shaik Rahman, 46, a resident of Hasmathpet, Bowenpally.

According to the police, Rahman, along with two cash custodians and a gunman of Cleared Security Services Private Ltd, had set out for cash collection duties in a Toyota Innova Crysta on May 19.

After collecting cash from various business outlets, they reached the SBI main branch at Koti at around 02:20 pm to deposit the collections.

The two custodians went inside the bank with a portion of the cash, leaving Rs 19 lakh in five

bags inside the vehicle. Shortly after, the gunman also temporarily left the vehicle for the wash-room.

Seizing this opportunity, Shaik Rahman immediately fled with the transit vehicle.

The car was later found abandoned near the District Hospital, King Koti. Upon opening the vehicle with a duplicate key, it was discovered that the accused had fled away with two cash bags (from D-Mart and Mangalya Shopping Mall) containing Rs 5,88,932 and Rs 3,74,533, respectively.

After registering a case based on a complaint by one of the cash custodians, Gaddam Mallesh, the police started an investigation and traced the accused to Gulbarga in Karnataka. A special team was sent to Gulbarga and the accused was apprehended from Sabera Guest House near the Gulbarga Bus Stand on Thursday, May 21.

Union Minister Reviews Anti-Cyber Fraud Measures with Sajjanar

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Union Minister of State for Communications Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani has held a video conferencing with Hyderabad Police Commissioner V C Sajjanar to deliberate on systemic measures against cyber fraud, the senior police official said on Friday. The conference was held on Thursday.

The discussions highlighted the importance of intelligence-led enforcement, inter-agency collaboration and building robust preventive mechanisms to protect cit-



izens," Sajjanar said in a post on X.

The discussion focused on enhancing intelligence-sharing between telecom authorities and law enforcement agencies, and developing stronger regulatory mechanisms to prevent such misuse at the source - be-

fore enforcement intervention becomes necessary, sources said. Following the recent action taken against fraudsters engaging in cyber crimes by misusing telecom infrastructure, the minister held a review meeting with officials from the Department of

Telecom and Hyderabad Police.

"We discussed strengthening information sharing between the Telecom Department and law enforcement agencies to curb cyber frauds, as well as developing robust regulatory systems to prevent misuse at the source itself," the Minister said in a post. "Technological systems should provide security to the people... they should not become a pathway for crimes. The government is committed to working towards further strengthening cyber security and protecting public trust," Chandra Sekhar added.

Harish Rao's Son Earns MBA from Columbia University

Advocate Mir Qurram Ali Hails Achievement as a Proud Moment for Telangana Youth



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Archisman Thanneru, son of senior BRS leader and former Telangana Minister T. Harish Rao, has successfully completed his MBA from Columbia University, one of the world's most prestigious educational institutions, bringing pride and recognition to Telangana. The grand convocation ceremony was attended by Harish Rao and his wife Srinitha, who expressed immense happiness and pride over their son's remarkable academic accomplishment. The achievement has drawn



appreciation from political leaders, supporters, academicians, and well-wishers across the state. BRSV GHMC Coordinator and High Court advocate Mir Qurram Ali congratulated Archisman and termed the achievement a proud moment for Telangana youth. He stated that Archisman's success reflected dedication, discipline, hard work, and commitment towards excellence.

Speaking on the occasion, Mir Qurram Ali said earning an MBA degree from Columbia University was not just a personal achievement for Archisman but also an inspira-

tion for thousands of students from Telangana aspiring to pursue global education and leadership opportunities.

He further praised Harish Rao for consistently encouraging academic excellence and nurturing future leadership through education and values.

Archisman's accomplishment has become a major talking point in social and political circles, with many supporters and youth organizations celebrating the achievement as a symbol of the growing global presence of Telangana students in internationally reputed institutions.

CM Revanth Attends Wedding Reception of Dr. Syed Majeedullah Hussaini's Son



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy attended the grand wedding reception of Asaduddin, son of Telangana NGOs General Secretary Dr. Syed Majeedullah Hussaini (Mujeeb), at Malika Convention, Shamshabad. Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, Ministers Seethakka and Ponnampalabharani, along

with several MPs, MLAs, and leaders attended the function.

Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi also conveyed wishes to the couple. Nearly 12,000 guests, including overseas relatives and Telangana NGO representatives, attended the walima reception, which was organized on a grand scale with prominent political and social personalities in attendance.

Hyderabad man sexually assaults 15-year-old girl multiple times,

A 24-year-old man was booked by Alwal police for allegedly sexually assaulting a minor girl in the city. The accused, identified as Durga Prasad, and the victim's mother from the Macha Bolarum area became friends at a Spoken English center. The friendship later reportedly turned into an extramarital affair. The two had allegedly been living together. However, whenever the woman was away from home, the accused allegedly lured her 15-year-old daughter and sexually assaulted her on multiple occasions.

Ali Musqati Named BRS Charminar Membership In-Charge

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

On the directions of K. Chandrashekar Rao, BRS Working President K. T. Rama Rao appointed Ali Musqati as the BRS membership drive in-charge for the Charminar Assembly constituency. The appointment was made in recognition of his selfless public service and popularity among people of all communities. Ali Musqati thanked K. Chandrashekar Rao, K. T. Rama Rao, and T. Harish Rao, and pledged to strengthen the party and ensure the success of the membership campaign in Charminar.



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