



**T'gana Cabinet approves mid-day meal scheme in junior colleges: P8**



**Jofra Archer powers Rajasthan Royals into IPL playoffs with 30-run win over Mumbai Indians: P7**

**BJP Warns Against Change in Godavari-Cauvery Link Alignment: P2**



**WEATHER**

MAX : 39.0°C  
MIN : 27.0°C  
RH : 23%  
RAINFALL : 0MM  
FORECAST : MAINLY CLEAR SKY  
MAX/MIN temp. 40/28°C

**Hotel Waiter in Medchal Detained for Online Links with Pakistan Operatives**

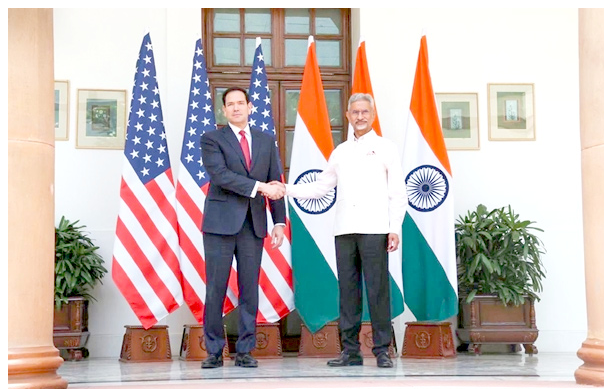
Medchal police on Sunday arrested a Uttar Pradesh native working as a hotel waiter for allegedly maintaining online contact with Pakistan-based terror-linked operatives through social media and even expressing willingness to travel to Pakistan for terror-related training. Investigators reportedly found photographs of the youth posing with gun-like objects, which were later identified as toy pistols. The accused, Jayeed Khan of Ghaziabad, migrated to Medchal in February this year in search of employment and was working at a hotel while residing in the same locality. According to police, the accused was in continuous contact with individuals from ISI-backed networks through Instagram. Police said he ex-

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## Jaishankar Sets 5-Point Diplomatic Framework

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

External Affairs Minister (EAM) S. Jaishankar on Sunday (May 24, 2026) outlined India's five-point approach on key regional and global issues, stressing that New Delhi advocates dialogue and diplomacy for conflict resolution, supports uninterrupted maritime commerce, and strongly opposes the weaponisation of trade and resources. Addressing a joint press briefing with Secretary of State Marco Rubio after delegation-level talks held at Hyderabad House, Mr. Jaishankar said India and the United States continue to maintain regular engagement and strategic coordination across a broad range of sectors. "This is the Secretary's first visit to India, but ever since he has assumed office, we have been in regular touch. This has included occasions in Washington, D.C., and New York, and also on the sidelines of other events, the most recent one being



in France. We have had a continuous engagement which has facilitated our overseeing the broad-based and growing cooperation between our two nations," Mr. Jaishankar said. Highlighting the political understanding between New Delhi and Washington, the External Affairs Minister said the India-U.S. strategic partnership is built on converging interests in several areas of mutual importance. "In terms of the political understanding between India and the US, we have a strategic partnership which emanates from a convergence of national interests in many areas," he stated. Listing India's broad po-

sition on important regional and global matters, Mr. Jaishankar said New Delhi remains committed to diplomacy, lawful conduct, economic resilience, and trusted global partnerships. "One, that we advocate dialogue and diplomacy to address conflicts. Two, we support safe and unimpeded maritime commerce. Three, we demand scrupulous respect for international law. Fourth, we are against the weaponisation of market shares and resources. And five, we believe in the value of trusted partnerships and resilient supply chains to de-risk the global economy," the External Affairs Minister said. Mr. Jaishankar also mentioned that

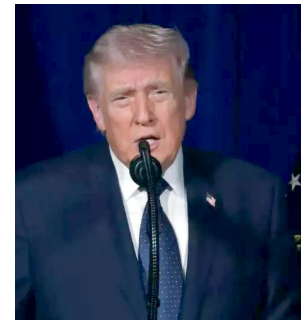
Rubio had called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday, during which the leaders discussed a range of global and regional developments. He said that during his own meeting with Rubio, discussions were held on developments in West Asia, the Indian subcontinent and East Asia, along with deliberations related to his recent visit to the Caribbean region. "Our talks today over lunch will focus on the latest developments in the Gulf. A few things have happened or seem to be happening overnight, and also on the Ukraine conflict. Indo-Pacific is also on the agenda for the Quad meeting, which we will be doing on May 26," he said. On defence and strategic cooperation, Mr. Jaishankar referred to the recently renewed 10-year major defence partnership framework agreement between India and the United States. He also highlighted the signing of a comprehensive underwater domain awareness roadmap.

## Don't Rush Into Deal With Iran

**There Can Be No Mistakes: Trump**

**WASHINGTON**  
Wakeup telangana

The US and Iran have "largely negotiated" a peace pact to end the nearly three-month war, US President Donald Trump said, asserting that he has told the negotiators "not to rush into a deal" and that "both sides must take their time and get it right." In a post on Truth Social on Sunday, Trump said negotiations between the US and Iran were "proceeding in an orderly and constructive manner," but he told representatives "not to rush into a deal" and "that time is on our side." Trump said the US blockade of ships in the Strait of Hormuz "will remain in full force and effect until an agreement is reached, certified and signed." "Both sides must take their time and get it right. There can be no mistakes," Trump said. He also invited Iran to join the Abraham Accords, which deal with establish-



ing diplomatic, economic, and security ties between Israel and Arab nations. The Sunday morning remarks came a day after he announced on social media that the deal was "largely negotiated," and that final aspects and details were being discussed and would be announced shortly. Trump said on Saturday that he had spoken with leaders from Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Pakistan, Turkey, Egypt, Jordan, Bahrain, and Israel. The US President was in the Oval Office late Saturday night and had even skipped his son Don Jr.'s wedding in the Bahamas. "Our relationship with

Iran is becoming a much more professional and productive one. They must understand, however, that they cannot develop or procure a Nuclear Weapon or Bomb," he said on Sunday. Trump also hit out at former President Barack Obama's 2015 nuclear deal with Iran and suggested that Iran could join the Abraham Accords. "I would like to thank, thus far, all of the countries of the Middle East for their support and cooperation, which will be further enhanced and strengthened by their joining the Nations of the historic Abraham Accords and, who knows, perhaps the Islamic Republic of Iran would like to join, as well," Trump said. The US and Iran have agreed in principle to a deal that would reopen the Strait of Hormuz with a commitment from Iran to dispose of its highly enriched uranium. The New York Times reported quoting a US official.

## Bengal To Set Up Holding Centres For Illegal Bangladeshis, Rohingyas

**KOLKATA**  
Wakeup telangana

The West Bengal government has decided to set up "holding centres" in districts to detain illegal immigrants, including Bangladeshis, Rohingyas and released foreign prisoners, to expedite deportation. The decision follows implementation of a May 2, 2025 directive issued by the ministry of home affairs (foreigners' division). An order was issued on Saturday to the



director general of police, district magistrates, superintendents of police and police commissioners to act on the directive. The state home and hill affairs department (Foreigners' Branch, SAARC Visa Section) said, "Enclosed please find the

letter under reference regarding the procedure to be followed for deportation of Bangladeshi / Rohingyas apprehended for staying illegally in this country." It added, "In this connection it is requested to take initiative / appropriate action for setting up of Holding Centres in the district for apprehended foreigners as well as for the released foreign prisoners awaiting deportation/repatriation in

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## Bhatkal: Tragedy At River Mouth Claims 10 Lives, One Missing

**KARWAR**  
Wakeup telangana

Ten persons drowned while collecting clams near the Venkatapura river mouth in Bhatkal taluk of Uttara Kannada district on Saturday, in one of the worst such incidents reported in the region in recent years. One person is still missing. Police said five of the victims belonged to the same family. The incident occurred

around 11 am near Tattihaklu village under Bhatkal Rural Police Station limits when a group of 14 people entered the river mouth area during low tide and were caught in a sudden rise in water level. "Locals had gone to collect clams from the Venkatapura Alvekodi river mouth near Tattihaklu village, where the river meets the sea, during the morning low tide. Due to the sudden rise in water

level, they got stuck in slush and drowned," Uttara Kannada SP Deepan M.N. said. Bodies of 10 victims were recovered with the help of local fishermen, while one person remains missing. "Also, three persons in critical condition have been shifted to the hospital in Manipal for treatment," he added. The deceased were identified as Malathi Jattappa Naik, Lakshmi Madeva

Naik, Lakshmi Shivarama Naik, Lakshmi Annappa Naik, Umesh Manjunath Naik, Lakshmi Madheva Naik, Jyothi Nagappa Naik, Mastamma Manjunath Naik, Manjamma Goyda Naik and Nagaratna Parameshwar Naik. Search operations are continuing for the missing person, Madeva. Those undergoing treatment include Madevi Manjunath Naik, Latha Jagadish Naik

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## TD's Shocker To BJP On CJP

In a significant political development, the Telugu Desam on Sunday openly acknowledged that the Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) trend on social media was a "reflection of the anxieties and frustrations simmering among the country's youth." The perspective of the key National Democratic Alliance partner was in sharp contrast to the Bharatiya Janata Party's narrative that the CJP was a conspiracy hatched by "foreign hand" to destabilise the country. The TD's observations came at a time when the BJP machinery, overtly and covertly, appeared to be attempting to decimate the online movement.

▶ FULL REPORT ON | PAGE 4

## Mahbub, Mujahid Are Suspects In Advocate Killing

Farhan alleged that his father Moizuddin had ongoing legal disputes against Mujahid Alam Khan and Mahbub Alam Khan relating to Waqf properties and land matters earlier

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The city police on Sunday took two "suspected accused" Mahbub Alam Khan and his son Mujahid Ali Khan of the Anwar-ul-Uloom group of colleges, into custody in connection with the gruesome murder of senior High Court advocate and Wakf activist Khaja Moizuddin. Special teams formed by police commissioner V.C. Sajjannar were said to have picked

the two suspected accused from Bengaluru and brought them to the Abids ACP office in the afternoon. Police did not confirm the arrest of the suspects, leading to large-scale protests by All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) cadres and followers of the slain lawyer, who waged a relentless legal fight against the accused over Waqf properties. The lawyer's son Khaja Farhan, who is also a High Court advocate, said



he feared a threat to his life from the accused and questioned the delay in arresting the perpetrators of his father's murder. Police sources said the murder was a handiwork of a supari gang hired by the suspected accused. The gang, after committing the

crime, headed towards Shamsabad using the PVNR Expressway, police confirmed. Police said the assailants had been sighted conducting a reconnaissance of Moizuddin's house for about five days. Six persons including two in the vehicle while others on bikes were also spotted from CCTV camera footage during the investigation, police sources disclosed. The main conspirators reportedly organised the murder in such a manner

that they would not fall in the police net, allegedly hiring new faces from other states to execute their plan, investigators suspected. Police have identified five persons involved in Moizuddin's murder and recovered the SUV that was used to knock the advocate down. The registered owner of the vehicle has reportedly been detained at the ACP office. The owner allegedly informed the investi-

▶ CONTINUE ON | PAGE 4

## BJP Warns Against Change in Godavari-Cauvery Link Alignment

In a letter written to Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, N. Ramchander Rao said the utilisation of Telangana's allocated share of Godavari waters should take priority, and only after that can the state properly consider the benefits of the proposed interlinking scheme.

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

BJP Telangana president N. Ramchander Rao on Sunday said that the state government must first complete all assured Godavari basin projects before looking at additional water under the Centre's Interlinking of Rivers project. In a letter written to Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, he said the utilisation of Telangana's allocated share of Godavari waters should take priority, and only after that can the state properly consider the benefits of the proposed interlinking scheme. Rao said the Godavari-Cauvery interlinking project, as planned by

the Centre, would connect the Godavari at Inchampalli in the state to the Cauvery at Grand Anicut, with the alignment passing through the Nagarjunasagar Project on the Krishna and the Somasila Project on the Penna. He said the project would help share additional waters not utilised by Chhattisgarh among nearly seven states, with 90 per cent of the cost being borne by the Union government.

He described the project as a major contribution to Telangana and other states by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government, but cautioned against any move to shift the source or alter the alignment from Incham-



palli to Nagarjunasagar, as reported in a section of the media over the past month. Such a change, he said, would be detrimental to Telangana's interests and could weaken the state's ability to first secure full use of its own assured waters.

Rao expressed serious concern over what he called the state government's "non-serious" approach to planning and implementing irrigation

projects in the Godavari basin. He said Telangana's rightful share of Godavari waters — about 968 tmc ft — was still not being fully utilised despite repeated project clearances and years of delay. He argued that although the Centre had approved several major projects after Telangana was formed in 2014, including Kaleshwaram, Seetharama Sagar, Sammakka Sagar and other lift irrigation schemes, their execution has remained slow.

He said the Kaleshwaram barrages were damaged due to poor design and construction under the previous BRS government, and claimed the Congress administration

had failed to act decisively on the rehabilitation recommendations of the National Dam Safety Authority. The state BJP president said the Seetharama project and Sammakka Sagar project were progressing slowly because of delays in completing technical approvals and command area planning. He reiterated his criticism of the Congress government for delays in Godavari basin projects, saying poor planning and weak implementation had already deprived Telangana of timely irrigation benefits. He urged the Chief Minister to act immediately to protect the state's water share and avoid any planning decision that could further

## Telangana simmers as heatwave sends temperatures past 46 degrees Celsius

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Telangana continues to reel under a relentless spell of heatwave, with a large number of districts experiencing scorching conditions for more than a week.

Based on Telangana State Development Planning Society (TSDPS) temperature data, the maximum temperatures between 8.30 am and 4.30 pm on Sunday in multiple districts soared past the 46 degrees Celsius.

The TSDPS data indicated that Kunchavelli in Kumuram Bheem Asifabad witnessed a maximum temperature of 46.5 degrees Celsius in Telangana while Langar Houz area in core Hyderabad witnessed a scorching 42.7 degrees Celsius on Sunday.

The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC), including suburban and nearby districts,



is also witnessing equally severe heatwave conditions. Areas in and around Yadadri-Bhuvanagiri and Rangareddy have witnessed extreme heat, as maximum temperatures ranged between 43 degrees Celsius and 45 degrees Celsius.

Maximum temperatures in Telangana: (TSDPS data from 8.30 am to 4.30 pm on Sunday) (degrees Celsius)

Telangana: Kunchavelli, (Kumuram Bheem Asifabad): 46.5  
Velganoor (Dandepally), Mancherla: 46.4  
Aswaraopet (Bhadradri Kothagudem): 46.3  
Eturunagaram (Mulugu):

46.3  
Enkuru (Khammam): 46.3  
Munugode (Nalgonda): 46.3  
Eligaid (Peddapalle): 46.2  
Sarvaipet (Jayashankar Bhupalpally): 45.9  
Maximum temperatures under GHMC zone: (TSDPS data from 8.30 am to 4.30 pm on Sunday) Yadadri Bhuvanagiri: Venkiryal (Bibinagar): 45.6  
Rangareddy: Turkayamjal, Abdullapurmet: 43.1  
Hyderabad: Langar Houz (Golconda Tehsil office): 42.7  
Medchal-Malkajiri: Maruthi Nagar (Uppal): 42.4

## BRS Helped One Family Amass Wealth: Bhatti

Indiramma insurance scheme to be launched on June 2, says Deputy CM

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka on Sunday alleged that the previous BRS government neglected welfare and enabled a single family to amass wealth during its 10-year tenure. Addressing a felicitation meeting in Khammam for Stambhadri Urban Development Authority (Suda) chairman Puvvala Durga Prasad, he said Telangana was achieved through prolonged agitation and sacrifices by youth and students, but the BRS government failed to meet public aspirations after coming to power. He said people were denied the benefits of welfare and development programmes for a decade and "taught a lesson" to the BRS in the 2024 elections by voting the Congress to power. He said the Congress had secured votes on clear promises of welfare and development and reiterated that the government was committed to fulfilling its poll assur-



ances. The Deputy Chief minister said party leaders and members who worked for the Congress between 2014 and 2023, when it was not in power, would receive opportunities and recognition. He noted that despite some leaders leaving the party during that period, the cadre remained and worked to strengthen it.

He said the Indiramma Bheema insurance scheme would be launched on June 2, covering 1.15 crore families, with ₹5 lakh insurance coverage for each. Officials would conduct household visits to collect beneficiary details. Listing welfare measures, he said crop loan waiver,

a ₹500 per quintal bonus on fine rice paddy, free electricity up to 200 units, free travel for women in TGSRTC buses and Indiramma housing would benefit poor families and support their economic uplift.

He reiterated the government's target of transforming one crore women into "crorepatis" through self-help groups, stating that interest-free loans worth ₹20,000 crore were being provided annually and could be increased to ₹1 lakh crore if required. Referring to farmer deaths during the previous regime, he said families had struggled to receive minimum financial support, and the new scheme aimed to prevent a recurrence of such situations. Alleging that the BRS was spreading false propaganda on social media, he asked party cadre to counter it, attributing the opposition's actions to growing public support for the government due to implementation of welfare schemes.

## Bakrid Peace Urged, Malkajiri CP Warns Against Rumours

Malkajiri police commissioner B. Sumathi called upon citizens to celebrate Bakrid peacefully and maintain communal harmony. She was addressing separate meetings with members of Muslim groups and cow protection (go rakshak) organisations, along with officials from multiple government departments. Sumathi urged citizens not to believe rumours or misinformation, especially content circulated through social media platforms during the festive period. She said the police would be monitoring sensitive areas via CCTV cameras to maintain law and order. Citizens were requested to immediately inform police about suspicious vehicles, illegal transportation of cattle or any unlawful activities. The commissioner also advised go rakshak activists not to obstruct vehicles transporting cattle, assault individuals or conduct forced checks. Any suspicious activity, she said, should be reported to local police instead of taking law into one's own hands. Police urged Muslims to carry out animal sacrifice only at government-approved locations and maintain cleanliness by avoiding disposal of animal remains in public places and to cooperate with municipal staff.

## Historians Find Kakatiya Emperor Ganapatideva's Sculpture

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Historians have identified a rare sculpture representing Kakatiya emperor Ganapatideva and his wife Somaladevi at Thotapalli village of Siddipet district. Dr E. Sivanagi Reddy, archaeologist and CEO of Pleach India Foundation, and Sriramoju Haragopal, convener of Kotha Telangana Charitra Brundam (KTCB), identified sculpture during a heritage survey and awareness programme titled "Pre-



serve Heritage for Posterity" conducted on Sunday. According to historians, the sculpture consists of three figures carved on a three-foot square granite slab in Kakatiya style. The central figures are believed to represent emperor Ganapatideva and his wife Somaladevi engaged in worshipping a

miniature Shivalinga under the spiritual guidance of royal preceptor Visveswara Sivacharya. Ganapatideva was the first Telugu king who unified most of the current Telugu speaking regions during his rule between 1199 and 1262.

Dr Sivanagi Reddy explained that Ganapatideva is portrayed as a Shaivite devotee, adorned with Rudraksha malas and wearing a distinctive bun-shaped headgear. Somaladevi is depicted with a dhamilla-style hair dress. The presence of

royal parasols (chattris) above the figures helped scholars identify them as members of the royal family. The historians noted that the sculptural features and the nearby Trikuta temple architecture belong to the regnal period of Ganapatideva and represent the characteristic artistic excellence of the Kakatiya era. They said that this is possibly the first confirmed identification of sculptures representing Kakatiya emperor Ganapatideva and his consort from Telangana.

## Affection and Fellowship Shine at Birthday Celebrations of Retired Employees in Sangareddy

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana  
Thalka Anjaiah

In a heartwarming gesture of affection, unity, and mutual respect among retired employees, a grand collective birthday celebration was organized for pensioners born in the month of May at the Telangana State Government Retired Employees Building in Sangareddy district. The monthly celebration of birthdays for retired employees has become a cherished tradition, creating a platform where pensioners gather with joy, friendship, and emotional bonding after retirement life. The programme was conducted on Saturday under the leadership of the asso-



ciation in a warm and festive atmosphere. On the occasion, pensioners born in May were felicitated with special honours and birthday wishes. The gathering reflected a spirit of togetherness and emotional attachment, with participants expressing happiness over the opportunity to reconnect with old colleagues and friends. The programme was attended by Telangana State Gazetted Retired Employees Association

(TSGREA) Sangareddy District President Narsa Reddy, General Secretary Eshwarappa, Sangareddy South Mandal Division President D. Ashok Kumar, General Secretary Sri Krishna, Sri Ashok, Sri Prabhakar Reddy, Sri Gattu Ravinder, Retired Divisional Accounts Officer of Roads & Buildings Department, Krishnamurthy, Manayya, Shyam Rao Patil, along with several retired employees and pensioners.

## BRS demands urgent paddy procurement by May 31

BRS general secretary and former Minister T Jeevan Reddy lashed out at the Congress government for neglecting farmers amid the ongoing paddy procurement crisis. He demanded that the entire stock of paddy in the State be procured by May 31, failing which the BRS would confront the government. "Without completing crop procurement, Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy will have no moral right to hoist the national flag on June 2 on the occasion of Telangana Formation Day," he asserted. Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan on Sunday, the BRS general secretary alleged that the issue was not even discussed in the recent Cabinet meeting despite severe distress among farmers. He stated that farmers were incurring losses of nearly Rs 250 per quintal during procurement and termed it an 'R&R Tax'. He accused the Congress government of deceiving farmers without delivering promises, including the Rythu Bharosa scheme.

## From Water Tank Classroom to Rs 20 Lakh Jobs: Miyapur Teacher Changes Lives of Poor Children

**RANGAREDDY**  
Wakeup telangana  
Srirangam Venkatesh

Pothukuchi Srinivas, founder of the PSS Trust in Miyapur, has transformed the lives of children of security guards, domestic workers, and daily wage families through free education and career support. After leaving his corporate job, Srinivas started teaching poor students and later established the PSS Trust in 2003. The trust now runs classes from a converted overhead water tank classroom in Miyapur. Since its



inception, the trust has supported over 1,500 students in education and helped nearly 900 students complete diploma and engineering courses free of cost. The trust provides tuition fees, books, uniforms, transport, coaching, and laptops for deserving students. Many former students now return

to teach younger children. One of the success stories is Akula Kalyani, daughter of a security guard, who completed engineering through the trust and now works as a software engineer earning Rs 20 lakh annually. Students at the centre now dream of becoming engineers, scientists, and professionals, with some aspiring to join ISRO. The PSS Trust has become a symbol of hope for underprivileged children in Hyderabad, proving how one person's dedication can change hundreds of lives.

## Old Bonds Rekindled at Ghatkesar ZP High School Alumni Reunion

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The 1970-1971 SSC batch alumni reunion of Zilla Parishad High School, Ghatkesar, was held grandly at ISKCON Hotel, bringing together former classmates, teachers, and well-wishers after several decades. The reunion turned emotional as old students recalled their childhood memories, classroom ex-



periences, and unforgettable school days with joy and affection. Osmania University Vice-Chancellor Acharya Sri Moluguram Kumar attended as the chief guest. The programme began with floral tributes to Goddess Saraswati and lighting of the lamp.

Addressing the gathering, the Vice-Chancellor appreciated the organisers for reviving old friendships and preserving emotional ties with their alma mater. He also assured support for the development of Kondapur and Ghatkesar schools. Former students felicitated the Vice-Chancellor and his spouse with shawls and mementoes, making the reunion a memorable and heartfelt occasion.

## Nearly 15k candidates skip UPSC Prelims in Hyderabad

More than 14,900 candidates skipped the Civil Services Preliminary Examination that was conducted across the city on Sunday.

A total of 44,205 candidates registered and 29,609 appeared for the paper - I. Further, the number of candidates taking the paper - II has come down to 29,262, with absentees at 14,943.

The Paper - I (General Studies) was conducted from 9.30 am to 11.30 am and Paper - II (Civil Services Aptitude Test) from 2.30 pm to 4.30 pm. Candidates must appear for both papers.

Meanwhile, Hyderabad Collector in-charge C Narayana Reddy visited examination centres, including one for visually challenged candidates at the Osmania University College of Science, Saifabad, Government Polytechnic College, Masab Tank, and St Ann's Women's College. He said the examination was conducted peacefully and smoothly across Hyderabad. The Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) will shortly release the provisional answer key. For the first time, the Commission decided.

# Indiramma Bheema Scheme Will Be Launched on June 2: Bhatti

Bhatti Vikramarka assured that the insurance scheme would act as a protective shield for 1.15 crore families in the state, irrespective of caste, religion, or economic status

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka stated that the people's government in Telangana is fulfilling every promise made during the elections and delivering welfare benefits directly to the doorstep of the poor. He announced that the historic "Indiramma Bheema" scheme will be launched across the state on June 2 as a State Formation Day gift. He assured that this insurance scheme would act as a protective shield for 1.15 crore families in the state, irrespective of caste, religion, or economic status. Bhatti criticized the previous government, saying that families of farmers who



died by suicide had to struggle even for minimal financial assistance. To ensure such situations are never repeated, the government has decided to provide Rs.5 lakh insurance coverage to every family that loses its head due to an accident. Officials will soon visit every household to collect details related to the scheme, he said.

Bhatti Vikramarka clarified that the government's

goal is not just to treat women as beneficiaries but to transform them into entrepreneurs. As part of this vision, he announced that a scheme to allot solar power plants to women's self-help groups across the state will be launched on May 27 at Rajupalem village in Erupalem mandal of Madhira constituency. The Deputy Chief Minister said the government is providing interest-free loans worth Rs.20,000 crore annually to women's groups and promised to increase it up to Rs.1 lakh crore if needed.

He also noted that women are already traveling free in RTC buses across the state. Soon, 550 special RTC buses will be allocated exclusively for

women entrepreneurs. The government aims to make one crore women millionaires, he added. Bhatti Vikramarka proudly stated that the people's government is the only government providing premium fine rice, which costs Rs.50 to Rs.55 per kg in the market, free of cost to 1.06 crore families in the state. Each person will receive 6 kg of fine rice delivered directly to poor households. He said that under the Gruhajyothi scheme, free electricity up to 200 units is being provided across the state, reducing the electricity bill burden for 53 lakh families. In many villages, nearly 95 per cent of people are receiving "zero" electricity bills.

## Uttam Warns of Blacklisting Millers Causing Financial Loss to Farmers

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Civil supplies minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy on Sunday warned that strict action would be taken against anyone found defrauding farmers, including blacklisting rice mills that pay below the government-fixed price per quintal. Reviewing paddy procurement through a high-level video conference, the minister directed district collectors and civil supplies officials to complete operations within 10 days through "result-oriented field action". He also instructed officials to register criminal cases where warranted against those involved in fraudulent practices.

The meeting was attended virtually by Dep-



uty Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka and ministers Tummala Nageswara Rao, Ponnamp Prabhakar, Jupally Krishna Rao and Adluri Lakshman. Announcing a 10-day special drive, Uttam Kumar Reddy said task forces comprising officials from the revenue, police and civil supplies departments would maintain surveillance at procurement centres and mills to ensure transparency.

He said total arrivals were expected to reach 70-75 lakh metric

tonnes (LMT) and assured that the government would procure the entire quantity despite operational and financial pressures. Telangana recorded an estimated 140.81 LMT of paddy production during the current rabi season from 65.91 lakh acres. As of May 23, arrivals at procurement centres stood at 58.79 LMT, of which 50.01 LMT had been procured. About 85 per cent of the arrived stock had been cleared. Around 8.78 LMT remained pending and would be cleared within 72 hours, while another 16 LMT was expected from late-harvest districts over the next ten days. The civil supplies department has set a daily procurement target of 3 LMT as part of the accelerated drive.

## KTR Alleges Congress Plot To End Free Power

K. T. Rama Rao Alleges Congress Prepaid Power Meter Plan Aims To End Free Electricity, Privatise Telangana Power Sector

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

K. T. Rama Rao on Sunday accused the Congress government in Telangana of attempting to end free electricity for farmers by introducing prepaid power meters, alleging that the move was aimed at privatising the power sector. Addressing a party meeting in Amberpet, he urged people to oppose the proposed rollout politically before its implementation.

KTR claimed the Congress government planned to replace existing electricity meters with prepaid ones across rural and urban areas, including agricultural connections, within the next three months. He alleged that the proposal was designed to attract private participation in the electricity sector and would eventually weaken the free power scheme for farmers.

The BRS leader said his party had earlier warned during the Assembly elections that free elec-



tricity for farmers would come under threat if Congress came to power. He recalled that former chief minister K. Chandrababu Naidu had resisted pressure to introduce prepaid meters despite facing restrictions on funding support.

Criticising the Congress government over unfulfilled election promises, KTR claimed there was growing public dissatisfaction across the state. He also attacked the government over civic issues in Hyderabad, alleging that houses were being demolished in the name of HYDRAA, while the previous BRS government had focused on constructing homes for the poor.

Targeting Chief Minister

A. Revanth Reddy, KTR criticised the proposed Future City project, alleging that the government was making grand promises while neglecting existing infrastructure in the city.

On the Musi Riverfront project, he alleged that the Congress government was mismanaging public funds and causing hardship to residents through unnecessary demolitions. KTR also announced that the BRS would begin digital membership enrollment and training programmes for party workers in all constituencies and said the party would prioritise leaders committed to public issues for future municipal elections in Hyderabad.

## CM Revanth Reddy Participates in Grand Yadagirigutta Development Programme

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy visited the renowned spiritual shrine Yadagirigutta Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Temple and offered special prayers to Lord Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy amidst devotional fervour. The Chief Minister also received the blessings of Sri Sri Sri Shankara Vijayendra Saraswati Swami, Pontiff of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetham, before participating in several prestigious temple development programmes. During the visit, the Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for Telangana's largest Veda Pathashala complex within the Yadagirigutta Temple City project. The pro-



gramme was conducted in a grand spiritual atmosphere in the divine presence of the Kanchi seer.

As part of the Temple City development initiative, foundation stones were laid for multiple temple-related infrastructure works worth ₹99.55 crore. The state government aims to develop Yadagirigutta on the lines of Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams as a world-class spiritual and pilgrimage destination.

## Water Tanker Demand Rises Sixfold in Kondapur Amid Drinking Water Shortage

**RANGAREDDY**  
Wakeup telangana

Drinking water shortages have intensified in Kondapur as groundwater levels continue to decline due to rising summer temperatures. Residents are increasingly depending on water tankers to meet daily needs. According to Water Board officials, water is being supplied through tankers from overhead tanks at Tulip Community and Masidbanda from midnight till



12 noon. Officials said tanker bookings, which were around 40 to 60 per day two months ago, have now surged to 200 to 350 bookings daily at each point, showing a nearly sixfold increase in demand. Due to the rising tanker demand and reduced water input, regular water supply timings to households have been cut

to around 40 minutes per day, causing difficulties for residents across several colonies and apartment communities.

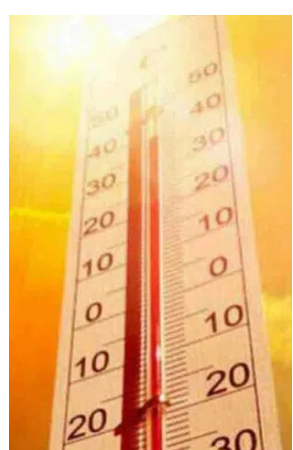
Water Board Manager Sandeep Kumar said officials are giving equal priority to all colonies while managing the supply crisis. He urged residents to use water carefully and avoid wastage during the ongoing shortage. Officials expect the water crisis to continue for at least another month until summer conditions improve.

## Heatwave conditions affecting public in Khammam, Warangal

**WARANGAL**  
Wakeup telangana

Several mandals in the erstwhile Khammam and Warangal districts witnessed heatwave conditions as daytime temperatures reached 46 degrees Celsius on Sunday, while several people died of suspected heatstroke.

According to officials, as many as 15 mandals in Kothagudem, 12 mandals in Khammam, six mandals in Bhupalpally, five mandals in Mulugu and four mandals in Mahabu-



bad witnessed heatwave conditions as temperatures were 4.5 to 6.4 degrees Celsius above normal.

In Khammam, nine mandals, Yerrupalem, Enkoor,

Penuballi, Konijerla, Madhira, Sathupalli, Mudigonda, Chintakani and Raghunathapalem, recorded maximum temperatures of above 46 degrees Celsius, while several others witnessed temperatures above 45 degrees Celsius.

Meanwhile, a 31-year-old D Sai Charan of Gattu Singaram in Kusumanchi mandal in Khammam died of suspected heatstroke on Sunday after falling sick at his house. An aged farmer, Dodda Venkataiah, fell unconscious at his house after returning

from his farmland and died at Ramannagudem of Eturnagaram mandal in Mulugu district.

Similarly, in Chityal mandal of Bhupalpally district, a 68-year-old woman, Erraboina Jayalaxmi, died of heatstroke at her house during the day. It was said that she had gone to a nearby hillock to collect firewood to cook food as the gas cylinder had run empty. The family members called an RMP doctor to examine her after she fell unconscious, and the doctor declared her dead.

## MLA Dhanpal Narayana Assures Educational Support to Needy Students

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Urban MLA Dhanpalsurya Narayana Gupta stated that empowering students through education is the greatest service to society and assured that financially weaker students would always receive support from his charitable trust. He was speaking at a prestigious Pratibha Puraskaram programme organized by the District Arya Vaishya Mahasabha at Lakshmi Kalyana Mandapam in Nizamabad city on Sunday, where students who excelled in SSC and



Intermediate examinations were felicitated for their academic achievements. Addressing the gathering, the MLA said the Arya Vaishya community has consistently contributed not only to economic growth but also to the field of education and social welfare. "Vaishyas are not merely Lakshmi Putras associated with prosperity and wealth, but also Saraswati Putras who

value wisdom, learning, and knowledge," he remarked. Congratulating the students for securing excellent marks, Dhanpal Narayana Gupta encouraged them to continue their hard work and dedication in order to achieve greater milestones in life. He said recognition at the right stage motivates students to pursue excellence and strengthens their confidence to face future challenges.

Highlighting the importance of education, the MLA observed that wealth and material assets may disappear over time,

but education remains a lifelong treasure that no one can steal. He urged students to utilize every opportunity for learning and personal growth. He also noted that the Dhanpal Lakshmi Bai Vittal Gupta Charitable Trust has been actively supporting poor and deserving students by providing educational assistance and guidance. Assuring further cooperation to Intermediate toppers and talented youth, he said the trust would continue to encourage meritorious students in achieving higher education goals.

## 3 Girls Drown In Stepwell While Bathing In Madhya Pradesh

Three minor girls, including two sisters, drowned while bathing in a stepwell in Madhya Pradesh's Raisen district on Saturday, police said. Another girl accompanying them survived and alerted family members about the incident, they said. The incident occurred around 11 am in Sagor village in Gairatganj tehsil, about 60 km from the district headquarters. Sub-inspector Virendra Vishwakarma, in charge of the Garhi police outpost, said four girls had gone to bathe in the stepwell. One of the girls slipped into deep water and started drowning. Two other girls tried to save her, but all three drowned, he said. The minors have been identified as Radha Advansi (12) and her sister Tanu Advansi (13), daughters of Halke Ram Advansi, and their cousin Amrita Advansi (12).

# India To Become Major Arms Exporter In 25-30 Years: Rajnath

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Saturday said no power can stop India, once considered an importer of weapons, from becoming the biggest exporter in 25-30 years. After inaugurating an ammunition manufacturing unit in Shirdi, Singh said a nation that makes its weapons writes its own future. He said the role of private players in defence manufacturing was negligible a few years back, which now stands at 25-30 per cent, while the government has set a target to increase it further to 50 per cent. "The private sector is not just a supplier of nuts and bolts in defence, but also a producer of state-of-the-

art weapons systems," he said. Singh said India was considered a weapons importer, but no power can now stop it from being the biggest exporter in 25-30 years. He said that when the government's vision and the private sector's innovation align, then the country reaches new heights. "All have to work together to make India the hub of munitions and automation," he added. During the rule of the British East India Company, potassium nitrate was used as raw material to make gunpowder, and the company strengthened its military capability, Singh said. He said India has come a long way as far as its defence industry is concerned. Singh said that



while ordnance factories existed even before Independence and the defence industry is deeply rooted in the country, after Independence, there was no balance between the country's old capabilities and modern requirements. The main reason behind this was that private players did not get the opportunities and the sector was restricted to defence PSUs and ordnance factories, the defence minister said. He listed steps undertaken by the Central gov-

ernment to increase private participation in the defence sector, including policy-related reforms and liberalisation of foreign direct investment. He said the government implemented a strategic partnership model, prepared a positive indigenisation list of 5,000 items, making it mandatory for armed forces to procure them in India. Young innovators, too, are being encouraged, Singh added. On the defence manufacturing unit, Singh said a golden chapter of self-reliance is being written in India's defence and space sector. Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan and Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis also attended the event.

## UN Nuclear Non-Proliferation Talks End in Failure

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Talks at the UN to reaffirm nuclear nonproliferation and disarmament goals failed on Friday, according to the leader of the talks, after four weeks of negotiations held amid low expectations. Vietnam's Do Hung Viet, the president of the conference, said that "despite our best efforts... it is my understanding that the conference is not in a position to achieve agreement on its substantive work." "I do not intend to put the document forward for adoption," he added. Negotiators were reviewing the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), the cornerstone of nuclear weapons control, amid fears of a renewed arms race. Previous reviews in 2015 and 2022 were also unsuccessful. With expectations low, participants negotiated over a

repeatedly reviewed and watered-down text, which they ultimately failed to adopt. Experts pointed out that even in the absence of a review agreement for the third time in a row, the treaty continues to exist, but with diminished legitimacy. "The text keeps on becoming less and less anchored in the realities of current conflicts and proliferation risks," including North Korea and Iran, analyst Richard Gowan of the International Crisis Group said before the outcome was announced. The latest version of the text seen by AFP on Friday merely stated that Tehran must "never" develop nuclear weapons. The paragraph was in brackets, signaling persistent disagreement, despite the removal of the reference to Iran's "non-compliance" with its obligations that appeared in the first draft. Also gone were expressions of concern about North Korea's

nuclear program, or even any mention of the "denuclearization" of the Korean Peninsula. Gone as well was the direct call on the United States and Russia to begin negotiations on a successor to the New START treaty limiting Russian and American arsenals, which expired in February. The diluted text still covered "the risk of a resumption of nuclear testing by Russia, China and the United States, the growth of arsenals, and attacks on nuclear infrastructure," Heloise Fayet of the French Institute of International Relations said earlier on Friday. Exactly why the review failed isn't yet known. "The majority of countries are indeed working in good faith for disarmament," said Seth Sheldon of the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), commenting on the failure of the talks.

# TD's Shocker To BJP On CJP

The perspective of the key National Democratic Alliance partner was in sharp contrast to the Bharatiya Janata Party's narrative

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana



In a significant political development, the Telugu Desam on Sunday openly acknowledged that the Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) trend on social media was a "reflection of the anxieties and frustrations simmering among the country's youth." The perspective of the key National Democratic Alliance partner was in sharp contrast to the Bharatiya Janata Party's narrative that the CJP was a conspiracy hatched by "foreign hand" to destabilise the country. The TD's observations came at a time when the BJP machinery, overtly and covertly, appeared to be attempting to decimate the online movement. The TD is the only party in the NDA so far to acknowledge the CJP and attribute the bungling in NEET-UG as one of the reasons for the online movement to start trending. In a carefully drafted statement, TD Andhra Pradesh president Palla Srinivasa Rao, who is otherwise a political un-

derweight, said: "Democratic governments carry the responsibility of responding sensitively to the aspirations and insecurities of young people, particularly at a time when concerns surrounding employment opportunities, competitive examinations, economic pressures, and career uncertainty have become increasingly pronounced." The TD also cautioned, in a message apparently aimed at the Centre, against dismissing the CJP "merely as a political expression." Caught unawares, the saffron party saw in the TD statement a "shocking and unwarranted yet a strategic move" of Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu to position heir-apparent and party working president

Nara Lokesh as a leader who was sensitive to the anxieties and aspirations of youths. It was not clear yet if Naidu's move had the twin objective of expressing displeasure against the BJP's reported soft peddling on arch rival and former chief minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy. Srinivasa Rao noted that the emergence of such emotionally charged discourse on social media also warranted introspection from policymakers. He said governments must remain open to recalibrating policies wherever necessary and ensure that the concerns of the younger generation are meaningfully addressed. "The objective of governance is to ensure that young people do not feel abandoned or betrayed, but instead see their aspirations translated into tangible opportunities," he observed. While asking the Central agencies to thoroughly investigate into the allegations of external forces conspiring to destabilise the country, Rao said it would be equally inappropriate to brand every criti-

cism or expression of dissent as anti-national. A mature democracy, he remarked, must possess the confidence to distinguish between genuine public sentiment and malicious interference. "Listening to criticism is not a sign of weakness in a democracy; it is the hallmark of mature leadership," he pointed out. The TD leader also stressed that India's youth were not working against the nation. "They are demanding opportunities, transparency, and responsive governance. The NDA governments remain committed to advancing with sensitivity towards youth aspirations while simultaneously safeguarding national security," he added. Rao said Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chandrababu Naidu had consistently prioritised youth welfare, employment creation, and long-term economic growth. The NDA governments, he said, were pursuing structured and forward-looking policies centred on job generation, Digital India initiatives, start-up ecosystems,

# Didi Slams BJP 'Bulldozer-politics', Calls Assembly Polls a 'Mockery'

**CHENNAI**  
Wakeup telangana

Accusing the BJP of unleashing "bulldozer politics" immediately after coming to power in West Bengal, Trinamul Congress supremo Mamata Banerjee on Sunday called the recently concluded Assembly Election a "mockery" for "vote loot" and threatened to move court to challenge her defeat in her home turf: Bhowanipore. The former chief minister also alleged that her successor, Suwendu Adhikari, should be in jail instead of be-

coming the CM. She further claimed that her party, which has got 80 seats this time, was supposed to win at least another 150 which were however swapped with the BJP through rigging of counting and EVMs and hacking of data at the Election Commission. Ms Banerjee said in an address on Facebook, "An election happened. But was it an election really or a mockery? Counting and EVMs were rigged. Data hacking was done from the EC office. BJP workers, dressed in CRPF uniform, stormed count-

ing centres. Our agents were not allowed entry to counting centres. Their ID cards were snatched." In a veiled reference to Mr Adhikari, she observed, "Someone, who has been in the chair, is not supposed to be there because of vote loot. If someone talks about jailing 2500 workers and opening a separate jail for TMC workers, he should go to jail first. From Sarada to Narada, he is everywhere. How did you win in my constituency? I will file a case at court. If you have guts, show a forensic report. We demand EVM re-

ports." The TMC chief argued, "When I visited my counting centre on May 4, I was leading by 13,000 votes. There is someone who I don't like to name. He has occupied the chair now. We have known him for a long time. I saw him looting votes at data centres. Suddenly I was thrown out. Others, present there, belonged to the BJP IT cell. Other parties' agents were also evicted. Then results were declared after swapping the list of 'wins' and 'defeats' which happened in around 150 seats.

# Mahayuti Deadlock Persists Over MLC Seat Sharing

**MUMBAI**  
Wakeup telangana

As nominations for the 17 Maharashtra Legislative Council seats open on Monday, the deadlock over seat-sharing within the BJP-led Mahayuti alliance — comprising the Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena and the Sunetra Ajit Pawar-led NCP — continues unresolved. Amid the impasse, Shiv Sena

chief and Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde is reportedly keen to meet the BJP's top leadership over the distribution of MLC seats. Sources said Mr Shinde is likely to meet Union Home Minister Amit Shah during his visit to Delhi. The meeting is expected to include discussions on seat-sharing and the exchange of constituencies

ahead of the June 18 Legislative Council elections. Reacting to the speculation, Shiv Sena leader and Cabinet minister Sanjay Shirsat dismissed reports linking Mr Shinde's Delhi visit to the Legislative Council polls. He said the visit was related to "important departmental work" and not specifically to seat-sharing negotiations.

"It does not sound convincing that someone would travel to Delhi only to discuss Legislative Council elections," Mr Shirsat said. He added that discussions among senior Mahayuti leaders regarding seat allocation were still underway and no final decision had been taken on how many seats each alliance partner would contest.

### FROM FRONT PAGE

## Mahbub, Mujahid ..

The owner allegedly informed the investigators that he had sold the vehicle six months back but the buyers had not got it re-registered. The conspirators had allegedly planned the murder six months back when they threatened Moizuddin while he was attending Namaz at Aliya Mosque in Abids, police said. Additional five teams have been formed to arrest the alleged hired killers who appeared to have fled the city. Farhan in his complaint stated: "Incident appears to be a clear pre-planned attempt to murder... CCTV footage is available and upon verification it came to light that the incident was committed intentionally (sic)." Farhan alleged

that his father Moizuddin had ongoing legal disputes against Mujahid Alam Khan and Mahbub Alam Khan relating to Waqf properties and land matters earlier. He alleged that the accused persons had threatened and attempted to harm his father. Complaints regarding these threats were lodged at various police stations he said and urged the police to take legal action against the father-son duo of Mujahid and Mahbub Alam Khan as per the law. Farhan's complaint recorded at 8.45 pm on Saturday, the day of the murder, stated at about 5.45 am, as part of his daily routine, his father left their residence and went for a swim. He was near his parked vehicle at Vijaya Towers, Nampally, when a four-wheeler knocked him down at high speed, resulting in the

victim being thrown nearly 10 metres away. "On hearing a loud sound, I immediately came out and found my father lying on the road in an injured condition. I immediately shifted to Mahaveer Hospital for first aid and later rushed him to the Omni Hospital, Abids, for treatment," Farhan said.

## Bengal To Set Up.....

It added, "In this connection it is requested to take initiative / appropriate action for setting up of Holding Centres in the district for apprehended foreigners as well as for the released foreign prisoners awaiting deportation/repatriation in accordance with the MHA guideline under reference." According to the plan, detained individuals will be kept in holding

centres for up to 30 days, during which police will verify their citizenship credentials. The district magistrate will take a final decision on deportation. The move comes after the state government allotted land to the Border Security Force to fence a 27-km stretch along the India-Bangladesh border.

## Bhatkal: Tragedy.....

Those undergoing treatment include Madevi Manjunath Naik, Latha Jagadish Naik and Nagaratna Eshwar Naik. President Droupadi Murmu expressed condolences. "The news of the tragic loss of lives in an incident in Uttara Kannada district of Karnataka is deeply distressing. I extend my heartfelt condolences to those who have lost their loved

ones. I pray for the speedy recovery of the injured," a post from Rashtrapati Bhavan on X said. Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced an ex gratia of Rs 2 lakh each for the next of kin of the deceased and Rs 50,000 for the injured from the Prime Minister's National Relief Fund. "I was deeply saddened to learn about the tragedy in Karnataka's Karwar district. My condolences to those who have lost their loved ones. I pray for the speedy recovery of the injured," he said. Chief Minister Siddaramaiah also announced Rs 5 lakh compensation for the families of the deceased. "This is an extremely unfortunate and heartbreaking incident. On humanitarian grounds, the state government will provide compensation

of Rs 5 lakh each to the families of those who lost their lives in the tragedy," he said. **Hotel Waiter in.....** Officials stated that intelligence inputs and online surveillance led to his detention after suspicious social media activity came to light. During preliminary inquiry, police reportedly found digital evidence, including Instagram interactions on his mobile phone. A mobile phone and two imitation pistols were seized from his possession during the operation. Officials maintained that the investigation is at a preliminary stage and further questioning is underway to determine whether there were any broader links or unlawful intentions.

## CRIME

### Major Applicant Does Not Need Parent's ID For Passport: Telangana HC

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana



Justice Nagesh Bheemapaka of the Telangana High Court held that passport authorities cannot insist upon identity documents of parents for issuance of a passport to an adult applicant and observed that such insistence was illegal and arbitrary. The judge was dealing with a writ petition filed by Neha Fatima and another challenging refusal of an application by the Regional Passport Office, Hyderabad, on the ground that the applicant had not furnished documents of the parents, voter ID and ration card. According to the petitioners, they applied for a fresh passport on August 22, 2025, and produced all required documents in-

cluding Aadhaar card, birth certificate and marriage certificate. The passport authorities rejected the application after an adverse police verification report stating that documents of parents were not furnished. Counsel for the petitioners contended that for adult applicants, only personal proof of identity, address and date of birth were required and that parents' documents were insisted upon only in the case of minor applicants. It was argued that rejection of the application solely on the basis of non-

production of parents' identity proof was contrary to the Passports Act and Passport Rules. The Union of India, represented by the passport authorities, contended that the application was processed on a pre-police verification basis and an adverse report was received from the police. It was pointed out that a show-cause notice was issued to the petitioner but no reply was furnished initially. After examining the material on record and the statutory scheme under Section 6 of the Passports Act, Justice Bheemapaka observed that for an adult passport applicant, identity of parents documents were not mandatory and insistence upon such documents would be arbitrary. The court noted that

the petitioner had previously been convicted and sentenced to imprisonment for more than two years and therefore Section 6(2)(c) of the Passports Act would disentitle issuance of a passport for a period of five years from the date of conviction. The judge observed that the record did not disclose the date of conviction or whether the statutory five-year period expired. Disposing of the writ petition, the court granted liberty to the petitioner to apply for a fresh passport after expiry of the statutory five-year period from the date of conviction and directed passport authorities to consider the application in accordance with law if the five-year bar period had expired.

### 25-Year-Old Mentally Ill Man Goes Missing in Santosh Nagar

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana  
Zaffer abedi



A 25-year-old man suffering from a mental disorder has gone missing from the Santosh Nagar area of Hyderabad since the night of May 23, 2026. Family members and police have appealed to the public for assistance in tracing him. According to information provided by the family, Abdul Saif, son of Abdul Shafi, went missing at around 8 pm on May 23

from near St. Warris High School in Moin Bagh under the limits of Santosh Nagar Police Station. He reportedly left his residence and has not returned since then. The missing person has been identified as Abdul Saif, aged 25 years. His

family stated that he is suffering from a mental disorder, raising concerns over his safety and well-being. A missing case has been registered, and the Santosh Nagar police have launched efforts to trace him. Police officials requested citizens to immediately share any information regarding his whereabouts. Anyone who spots Abdul Saif or has relevant information is requested to contact Santosh Nagar Police Station at 8712661296.

### SB Constable's Bribery Audio, Video Go Viral

Audio and video clips allegedly showing a Special Branch constable demanding money from applicants for job and passport verification went viral on social media on Sunday in Kamareddy district. The constable, identified as Suresh, was allegedly heard demanding cash and a liquor bottle from applicants in Banswada town. A video clip purportedly showing the constable accepting money from applicants for verification-related work also circulated widely on social media platforms. Local residents reportedly lodged complaints with senior police officials alleging corrupt practices by the constable.

### Senior advocate Khaja Moizuddin laid to rest

Family members of senior High Court advocate Khaja Moizuddin, who was murdered allegedly over Wakf property-related civil issues, performed his last rites at Alamgir Mosque in Shantinagar at 10 pm on Saturday night. Funeral prayers, the Namaz-e-Janaza, were held at Alamgir Mosque, after which he was laid to rest in his hometown, Sangareddy. AIMIM president and Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi, Faheem Qureshi, Telangana Minorities Residential Educational Institutions Society (TMREIS) chairman, AIMIM legislator Majid Hussain, senior advocates of the Bar Council, and others visited the graveyard and later offered condolences to Moizuddin's family members.

### Traffic Cops Save Injured Biker

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana



Traffic police personnel from Begumpet Traffic Police Station displayed promptness and humanitarian concern by rescuing an injured biker after a road accident at Plaza Junction involving a two-wheeler and a bus. The rider, identified as G. Raju (30), suffered bleeding injuries to his right leg in the mishap. On noticing the accident, SI K. Devadas, ARPC 49 Tulsiram, and HG 4403 N. Jagan

Their swift action and presence of mind helped provide timely medical care to the victim. Appreciating their dedication and public service, ACP G. Shankar Raju of Traffic Trimulgherry Division felicitated the officers with a shawl in the presence of staff members. He praised their humanitarian service and instructed all officers and staff to continue performing their duties with commitment, alertness, and responsibility towards public safety and welfare.

### Cyberabad Traffic Police Nab 294 Drunk Drivers in Weekend Special Drive

RANGAREDDY  
Wakeup telangana  
Srirangam Venkatesh



Cyberabad Traffic Police conducted a special weekend drunk-and-drive enforcement drive and apprehended 294 offenders across the commissionerate limits. According to police, 255 cases involved two-wheelers, 5 involved three-wheelers, and 34 involved four-wheelers, while no heavy vehicle cases were reported. Based on Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC)

levels, 244 offenders recorded BAC levels between 36 mg/100 ml and 200 mg/100 ml, 30 offenders recorded levels between 201 mg/100 ml and 300 mg/100 ml, and 20 offenders recorded BAC levels between 301 mg/100 ml and 550

mg/100 ml. Police stated that all offenders will be produced before the court. Cyberabad Police also warned that drunken driving is a serious offence and said that if an intoxicated driver causes a fatal accident, a case will be

booked under Section 105 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, which carries a punishment of up to 10 years imprisonment along with a fine. Meanwhile, during the last week from May 18 to May 23, a total of 156 drunk-and-drive cases were disposed of in courts. Among them, 10 persons received fine and jail punishment, one person was awarded fine along with social service, and 145 persons were fined.

## EDITORIAL

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

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

Storytelling is critical in electoral politics. But the gap between political storytelling and official data has rarely been wider. The BJP offered voters a storyline about industrial revival, jobs, cash support for the vulnerable, and an end to economic despair, alongside huge dollops of Hindutva, its calling card. The narrative was emotionally potent: other governments fail the people; the "double-engine" BJP model delivers. It worked. The BJP enters mid-2026 with unprecedented political dominance: direct control of 16 states and influence over nearly three-fourths of India's population through its NDA alliance partners. With the polls over, bread-and-butter concerns must be centre stage. The challenge for the BJP: operationalising its promises across the country. Out-migration was a potent election issue. In West Bengal, BJP

leaders painted grim pictures of lakhs of desperate workers fleeing their states. Exaggeration proved to be a potent electoral strategy. The data, however, tells a more nuanced story. People all over India are on the move, not just from West Bengal to other states in search of work. As the late Bibek Debroy and Devi Prasad Misra noted in EAC-PM's (Economic Advisory Council to PM) December 2024 working paper "400 Million Dreams" -- "Mumbai, Bengaluru Urban, Howrah, Central Delhi, Hyderabad are the districts attracting most migrant arrivals; while Valsad, Chittoor, Paschim Bardhaman, Agra, Guntur, Villupuram and Saharsa are the top origin districts." Even though Census 2011 is the last comprehensive, door-to-door official count of migration, experts and government bodies use alternative high-frequency proxy data to estimate current migration patterns. Debroy and Misra used high-

frequency railway unserved ticket data and telecom roaming records as proxies to assess domestic migration. West Bengal ranks in the top five for total outbound migrants, but is nowhere near the top two. Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have far higher figures for work-related inter-state migration. "There has been significant out-migration from West Bengal to Kerala and other southern states. However, Bengal is not the only source state. Since we have not had a Census since 2011, there is no official, comprehensive data on internal migration patterns in India. Migration is normal, natural and is one of the fastest ways of intergenerational social mobility for a person from disadvantaged communities in rural India. In India, a large number of migrants move to southern states, which offer better incomes and opportunities. Bengal is merely one among many states from where rural Indians are migrating in search of

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

# India, US strategically united on critical minerals and technology: Rubio

US Secretary of State Marco Rubio reaffirmed strong India-US strategic ties, highlighting cooperation on counter-terrorism, critical minerals, supply chains and emerging technologies. During talks with S. Jaishankar, Rubio described India as one of America's most important global strategic partners

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

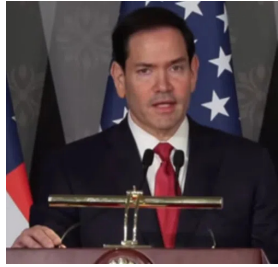
US Secretary of State Marco Rubio said on Sunday that India and the US are strategically aligned on several key global issues, including critical minerals, supply chains and terrorism. He called India "one of the most important strategic partners" for the US in the world.

While addressing a joint press briefing with External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Thursday, Rubio said that India and the US have suffered due to global terrorism networks. He noted that India and the US as democracies understand the importance of public scrutiny, accountability.

Rubio said, "I have to go back and justify to the American people every

decision we make and the president has to do the same on why it's good for our country and our counterparts here in India have to do the exact same thing. You have to respond to the people of India about why your partnership with the United States or your stance on any issue for that matter is to the benefit of your country. I imagine this is true in every country in the world to some degree, but it is particularly true for democracies."

"Democracies respond directly to the people and you have to respond constantly and democracies, you have opposition parties, have a free and open media. By the you have a lot of media. We have media in our government, you guys have a lot



of media, that means a lot of scrutiny and lot of attention. But that begins to align our interests immediately because we both recognize and have mutual respect and understanding that every decision we make, every announcement we make, everything we work together on, we ultimately have to go back and justify it to our voters, to our people, the people who put us in these positions to begin with," he added.

Marco Rubio stated that the strategic partnership between India and the US

goes beyond regional cooperation. He stressed that both nations are strategic allies on the idea that access to critical minerals and supply chains are essential issue in the 21st century.

He said, "The second point I would make is that our partnership from a strategic standpoint is not limited to a regional one. Now, clearly there are regional issues in the Indo-Pacific that are important to both of our countries. But, the ability increasingly as we have conversations, we are talking about strategic interests that align beyond simply the region. Whether it's your visit last weekend to the Western Hemisphere, we have a lot of alignment. Whether it's our mutual interests of what's happening currently now

in the Strait of Hormuz and beyond and then on the topics as well.

"If you talk about the topics that we have a mutual interest on, both countries are strategic allies on the idea that access to critical minerals and supply chains are an essential issue in the 21st century. The over-concentration of reliance on a single source for anything, particularly things that are vital for our economies, is one of the great challenges of the 21st century and we are strategically aligned on that topic," he added.

Highlighting strong counter-terrorism alignment between India and the US, he said, "On the issue of terrorism, both of our countries have suffered, both directly and indirectly.

# Gold Imports To Decline To 400 Tonnes This Year

**CHENNAI**  
Wakeup telangana

Jewellers expect gold imports to come down to 400 tonnes this year in value terms and the import bill to shrink by around ₹3 lakh crore due to the curbs on imports. The industry has urged the government to involve jewellers in the Gold Monetisation Scheme (GMS) to bring idle household gold into the formal economy. If enough old gold does not come into the market, the industry will see 15-20 lakh workers being laid off.

The recent increase in gold and silver import duties from 6 per cent to 15 per cent, along with elevated gold prices and the likelihood of a below-normal monsoon affecting rural demand, is expected to significantly

reduce imports and consumption this year, said Saiyam Mehra, former chairman of All India Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council (GJC). "We are seeing a decline of 40 per cent to 65 per cent when it comes to individual stores from last year to this year," Mehra said, adding that India imported nearly 200 tonnes of bullion between January and April.

According to him, India earlier witnessed annual sales of nearly 750-800 tonnes, comprising about 450 tonnes of jewellery sales, 150-200 tonnes of bullion and coin sales, and 125-150 tonnes of jewellery exports. However, domestic jewellery consumption is now expected to fall from 450 tonnes to around 300-325 tonnes. Bullion and coin sales are also likely to decline sharply from 150-200 tonnes to

nearly 75 tonnes as jewellers actively discourage customers from buying bullion and coins. Jewellery exports, meanwhile, are expected to remain at around 100-125 tonnes.

"The industry will remain around ₹7 lakh crore itself because there will be a lot of recycled gold coming into the market," he said. Families are increasingly expected to sell old jewellery lying unused in households, helping jewellers maintain sales while reducing dependence on imports. GJC estimates that recycled gold, which stood at around 125-150 tonnes last year, could rise to 200-250 tonnes this year. India is estimated to hold around 34,000-40,000 tonnes of gold in households, and even refurbishing 0.5-1 per cent of that stock annually.

# India Should Focus On FTA Implementation, Utilisation By Exporters: Experts

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Ahead of several implementations of the free trade agreement (FTA) with other countries, experts have said that India's next priority is to help exporters use these pacts, as the gap between the negotiated and used market access remains the country's weakest link. "The immediate priority should be to ensure that these negotiated benefits

translate into actual claims at the border," they said.

"Historically, India's FTA utilisation has hovered around 25 per cent, compared with 70-80 per cent in developed economies, and closing this gap is now the single highest-leverage trade policy reform available," they pointed out. India has so far implemented several trade pacts, including those with Singapore, Japan, Korea, the UAE, Australia, ASEAN, and the

EFTA bloc. Besides, it has also finalised such pacts with Oman, New Zealand, the European Union, and the UK.

"Hence, India's next FTA priority should be practical implementation, helping exporters use the agreements, defend against new trade barriers, and convert market access into sustained export growth," said Gulzar Didwania, Partner, Deloitte India, adding that the immediate priority should now be to ensure that these

negotiated benefits translate into actual claims at the border. "The policy narrative must now move decisively from FTA signing to FTA utilisation. India has already secured significant market-access outcomes, including duty-free access for 99 per cent of India's exports to the UK under CETA and market access for more than 99 per cent of India's exports by trade value under the India-EU FTA," he added.



Didwania is of the view that FTAs can help cushion the impact of geopolitical uncertainties on India's merchandise exports by creating alternative trade routes and improving access to multiple strategic markets. "India's best approach

would be to diversify export markets and products, deepen integration with global value chains, and strengthen domestic manufacturing competitiveness to reduce external vulnerabilities, he said.

Rudra Kumar Pandey, Partner, Shardul Amarchand Mangaldas & Co, also stated that the most immediate priority is FTA utilisation. "The gap between market access negotiated and market access used remains India's weakest

link. The utilisation rates under the Australia ECTA have reached 84 per cent. But awareness among MSMEs remains low, and certification infrastructure is underdeveloped across most other agreements. Every firm with export potential must understand the preferential access available to it and have the documentation and compliance support to use it," Pandey added. Pandey further said that the sectors where India has nego-

tiated the deepest tariff concessions - textiles, leather, engineering goods, pharmaceuticals, and marine products - need targeted PLI-type support to build the production capacity and quality standards required to exploit that access fully. "India must also accelerate standards alignment and regulatory upgradation to meet the compliance requirements of partner markets," he said.

# Telangana issues HILTP norms to convert industrial lands into multi-use zones

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana government has operationalised the Hyderabad Industrial Lands Transformation Policy (HILTP), allowing the conversion of industrial land within and near the Outer Ring Road (ORR) to 'multi-use zones.'

The policy aims to reduce pollution in the state capital and protect it from environmental crisis by shifting polluting industries out of the city.

An online portal was also launched on May 23 to allow eligible industrial unit holders to submit, monitor, and track their applications online. In an order issued on May 22, the government authorised the Telangana Industrial Infrastructure Corporation Limited (TGIIIC) as the nodal agency for implementing the policy.

As per the guidelines furnished by the TGIIIC, 'industrial park' refers to the 21 industrial parks and standalone units within the Core Urban Region (CURE) of Hy-



derabad. This includes industrial zones like Nacharam, Mallapur, Cherlapally, Moula Ali, Uppal, Sanathnagar, Medchal, Kushaiguda, Patancheru, Hayathnagar, Kukatpally, Jeedimetla, Balanagar, Gandhinagar, Pashamylaram, Ramachandrapuram, Chandulababadari and Katedan.

Only the industrial plots/units that have been properly set up and where sale deeds have been executed are eligible for conversion under the policy.

All applicable charges and dues (Extension of Time, mutation, property tax, sub-division charges, delay condonation fee and any other dues as per TGIIIC regulations) have to be cleared before the application is taken up by the Scrutiny Committee.

# Rutba by Isha Opens in Himayathnagar

**Actress Ritikka Chakraborty and Miss India Telangana 2023 Urmila Chauhan Grace Boutique Launch in Hyderabad**



**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

"Rutba by Isha," a new luxury fashion and lifestyle boutique, was grandly launched at Doshi Crest Apartment in Himayathnagar, Hyderabad, on Saturday, attracting fashion enthusiasts, guests, and well-wishers from across the city. The boutique was inaugurated in the presence of actress Ritikka Chakraborty and Urmila Chauhan, who

showcased the boutique's exclusive collection of fashion, lifestyle, and luxury products during the launch event.

Positioned as a premium yet budget-friendly fashion destination, "Rutba by Isha" aims to offer customers a unique shopping experience with a curated range of elegant and contemporary designs. The boutique combines sophistication, quality, and affordability, catering to customers

looking for stylish outfits and lifestyle products under one roof.

The grand opening witnessed a vibrant atmosphere as visitors explored the boutique's luxurious interiors and carefully selected collections. Guests appreciated the store's elegant ambience and its focus on personalized style and modern fashion trends. Speaking on the occasion, the management of Rutba by Isha, including

# Mcap of 6 of top-10 most valued firms surges by Rs 74,111 cr

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The combined market valuation of 6 of the top-10 most valued firms surged by Rs 74,111.57 crore last week, with Reliance Industries emerging as the biggest gainer.

Last week, the BSE benchmark climbed 177.36 points, or 0.23 per cent.

"Markets ended the week with marginal gains amid a highly volatile and range-bound trading environment. Benchmark indices witnessed sharp intraday swings throughout the week, driven by persistent rupee weakness, mixed global cues, sectoral rotation, and continued uncertainty around inflation and interest rates," Ajit Mishra - SVP, Research, Religare Broking Ltd, said.

From the top-10 pack, Reliance Industries, ICICI Bank, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), Bajaj Finance, Larsen & Toubro, and Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) were the gainers, while HDFC Bank, Bharti Airtel, State Bank of India and Hindu-

stan Unilever faced erosion from their valuation. Reliance Industries added Rs 24,696.89 crore, taking its market valuation to Rs 18,33,117.70 crore.

The valuation of TCS jumped Rs 19,338.68 crore to Rs 8,38,401.33 crore, and that of ICICI Bank surged Rs 14,515.93 crore to Rs 9,06,901.32 crore.

LIC's valuation climbed Rs 9,076.37 crore to Rs 5,14,443.69 crore.

The market capitalisation (mcap) of Bajaj Finance edged higher by Rs 3,797.83 crore to Rs 5,70,515.57 crore, and that of Larsen & Toubro went up by Rs 2,685.87 crore to Rs 5,40,228.21 crore.

However, the market valuation of Bharti Airtel dropped by Rs 20,229.67 crore to Rs 11,40,295.49 crore. The mcap of Hindustan Unilever eroded by Rs 16,212.18 crore to Rs 5,17,380 crore, and that of State Bank of India declined by Rs 12,784.4 crore to Rs 8,76,077.92 crore. HDFC Bank's mcap dipped by Rs 2,094.35 crore to Rs 11,79,974.90 crore.

# Ram Charan Apologises After Mix-up Involving Jasprit Bumrah

**T**ollywood star Ram Charan recently found himself at the centre of a light-hearted social media moment after accidentally referring to Indian cricketer Jasprit Bumrah as a football player during a public event and rapid-fire session. The amusing slip-up quickly went viral online, with fans and meme creators flooding social media platforms with humorous reactions and jokes about the incident.

During the interaction on stage, Ram Charan was naming some of his favourite sports personalities when he mistakenly identified Bumrah as a football player instead of a cricketer. The actor did not immediately realise the error, but the internet was quick to notice the mix-up. Several funny memes, edited videos, and witty comments soon began circulating, turning the moment into a trending topic among fans of both cinema and cricket.

However, what truly won the admiration of netizens was Ram Charan's graceful and humble response after the incident. Taking to his official X account, the actor issued a sincere apology to Bumrah and clarified that the mistake



happened unintentionally in the excitement of the event.

In his heartfelt post, Ram Charan wrote, "Uff... I'm genuinely so forgetful with names sometimes. Apologies to Jasprit Bumrah Ji for the mix-up – it was a genuine human error in the middle of all the excitement and the crowd. I truly respect you and I am a huge fan of your game. You make every Indian feel proud when you constantly put batsmen on the back foot."

The actor's honest admission and immediate clarification received widespread appreciation from fans and social media users. Many praised him for accepting the mistake with humility instead of ignoring the situation. Several users commented that such genuine behaviour reflects Ram Charan's grounded personality and maturity despite being one of the biggest stars in Indian cinema today.

Meanwhile, on the pro-

fessional front, Ram Charan is preparing for the release of his much-awaited film *Peddi*, which is scheduled to hit theatres on June 4, 2026. Directed by Buchi Babu Sana, the pan-Indian rural sports drama has generated massive buzz among audiences. The film also features prominent actors including Shiva Rajkumar, Jagapathi Babu, Divyendu Sharma, and Boman Irani in key roles.

## Who is joining Prabhas in Spirit? New reports surprise fans



**MUMBAI**  
Wakeup telangana

Prabhas is continuing his strong momentum after starting 2026 on a successful note with *The Raja Saab*. With several big films already in progress, fans believe 2027 could become one of the biggest years of his career. Among all his upcoming projects, *Spirit* is currently creating the most curiosity.

Directed by Sandeep Reddy Vanga, *Spirit* marks his first collaboration with Prabhas. The project is already carrying huge expectations because of the director's intense storytelling style and Prabhas'

pan-India reach. According to industry buzz, Prabhas will reportedly appear in a powerful police officer role. Sources suggest the character will present him in a rugged and mass-oriented look that fans have not seen before.

The latest discussion in film circles is about a special character designed by Sandeep Reddy Vanga. Reports suggest the makers are trying to bring a senior Bollywood actor onboard for this important role.

Although there is no official confirmation yet, the addition of a big Hindi film star could help the movie expand its reach

further in North India. Fans are already imagining powerful scenes between Prabhas and this mystery actor.

Another major talking point is the female lead. Reports suggest Triptii Dimri is expected to star opposite Prabhas in *Spirit*. After gaining nationwide attention through *Animal*, expectations are high to see this fresh pairing on screen. Industry discussions also mention names like Vivek Oberoi and Prakash Raj being linked to the project. There are even rumours around possible surprise appearances, although nothing has been officially announced.

## Bolarum Challenge Cup Returns After 15 Years with Rs. 75,000 Prize Money



**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

After a gap of 15 years, the prestigious Bolarum Challenge Cup is making a grand comeback, with the football tournament scheduled to be held from June 6 to June 14, 2026, at the LRMG Grounds in Bolarum. The revived championship is expected to attract several top football teams from Hyderabad, rekindling excitement among football enthusiasts across the region.

Announcing the tournament during a preparatory meeting at the Bolarum Sporting Club Ground, Chairman Dr. Narsimhan

Kannan said the winners will receive a cash prize of Rs. 50,000, while the runners-up will be awarded Rs. 25,000. Organizers said the tournament aims to revive Bolarum's rich football heritage and encourage emerging talent.

The meeting was attended by club President Murthy, Vice-President Dr. P. Navin Raj, Hon. Secretary Bhagirath Chary, Treasurer Sunil, senior committee members, coaches and players. Andhra Pradesh Football Team coach Shyam Raj, Mani Bhushan, Prabhakar Reddy, Chandraprakash, Deepak, Vinod (DMRL), Vinod

(NIS Telangana Sports School), Prabhu, Pushkar, Ramesh, Raghu and Anand were among those present.

Speaking on the occasion, Dr. P. Navin Raj thanked Telangana Football Association Secretary Sri G.P. Phalgunna for granting permission to organize the tournament, which will be the first Bolarum Challenge Cup to be conducted after the formation of Telangana. Organizers said details regarding fixtures, participating teams and ticketing will be announced soon through the Bolarum Sporting Club and tournament committee.

## Jofra Archer powers RR into IPL playoffs with 30-run win over MI

**MUMBAI**  
Wakeup telangana

Rajasthan Royals rode on Jofra Archer's all-round brilliance to book the fourth and final play-off berth with a 30-run victory over Mumbai Indians in the Indian Premier League here on Sunday.

Archer returned with splendid figures of 4-0-17-3 after his 15-ball 32 helped Royals reach a fighting 205 for 8 after 20 overs.

It was 73 runs in the last five overs bowled by Mumbai Indians which proved to be decisive as Mumbai Indians could manage only 175 for 9 in 20 overs.

The victory lifted Rajasthan Royals to the fourth position in the IPL points table with 16 points, effectively knocking out Punjab



Kings, Kolkata Knight Riders, and even Delhi Capitals — latter two had slim outside chances.

Mumbai Indians' reply was spruced with a timely half-century from Suryakumar Yadav — 60 off 42 balls with four sixes and three fours — as well as skipper Hardik Pandya's 15-ball 34 and Will Jacks' 33 off 18 balls.

But none of these efforts were enough to revive the five-time winners, who had slipped to 38 for four with Archer's two-wicket burst at the start.

The collapse began when Archer produced a jaffa — a perfect outswinger which darted sharply away from Rohit Sharma (0) who went on a fishing expedition away from

his body. The resultant edge settled into wicketkeeper Dhruv Jurel's gloves.

Archer then got one to nip off the surface to hit the wickets and see the back of Naman Dhir (6) in the third over, but the body blow came for MI in the form of Ryan Rickelton's (12) dismissal off Burger, who found Vaibhav Sooryavanshi at square leg.

A disappointing season had no different end for Tilak Varma with the bat when the India batter was undone by a Brijesh Sharma delivery which kept low while he attempted to flick it.

In a season marred by poor powerplay returns, Mumbai Indians had no respite in their final outing where they finished at 49 for four after six overs.

Suryakumar also rode his luck, getting two reprieves en route to his second half-century of the season.

Brijesh missed a run-out chance on either ends when both Ryan Rickelton and Suryakumar were caught in a mix-up with an awful throw, and then dropped a catch at mid-wicket when the MI batter on 27 off Yash Raj Punja in the eighth over.

**AIMIM MLA protests police 'special treatment' in advocate's murder case**



All India Majlis e Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) Nampally MLA Mohammed Majid Hussain staged a protest at the Abids Road police station here on Sunday, alleging the police were providing "special treatment" to two prime suspects Mehboob Alam Khan and his son, Mujahid Alam Khan. The police had reportedly brought the two persons for questioning to the police station in connection with the murder case of senior advocate Khaja Moizuddin. Unknown persons had mowed down Moizuddin with a car when he came out of his house to head to a hospital to visit an ailing relative on Saturday morning. MS Farhan, son of Moizuddin, in his complaint had alleged that Mehboob Alam Khan, and Mujahid Alam Khan had threatened his father five times in the past over some wakf-property related issues and suspected their involvement in the killing of his father.

## T'gana Cabinet approves mid-day meal scheme in junior colleges

Cabinet also decided to construct one lakh houses for LIG (Lower Income Group) in the 24 assembly constituencies in Greater Hyderabad region.

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana Cabinet on Saturday approved several key welfare and development initiatives, including the extension of the mid-day meal scheme to all junior college students and the sanctioning of 2.50 lakh houses under the second phase of the 'Indiramma' housing scheme. Addressing the media after the Cabinet meeting, Telangana Information and Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy said the Congress government had already sanctioned 4.50 lakh houses during the first phase at an estimated



cost of nearly Rs 22,500 crore. Under the new phase, 2,000 houses will be allotted in every Assembly constituency across the state. The Cabinet also approved the construction of one lakh Lower Income Group (LIG) houses in the 24 Assembly constituencies falling under the Greater Hyderabad region, aiming to provide affordable housing to economically weaker

families.

In a major boost to education, the government decided to introduce a mid-day meal scheme for students studying in all junior colleges, covering Intermediate first and second-year students across Telangana. The initiative is expected to improve student attendance, nutrition and academic performance.

Another major approval was given to the Next-Generation Life Sciences Policy 2026-30, which had earlier been unveiled by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy during his visit to the World Economic Forum summit at Davos. The policy aims to attract investments worth

USD 25 billion and generate nearly five lakh jobs over the next five years. The government hopes to transform Telangana into one of the world's top five life sciences hubs by 2030.

The Cabinet further approved proposals from state DISCOMs to join the Centre's Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS) to strengthen electricity distribution infrastructure and improve power supply services. Additionally, the government sanctioned Rs 587 crore towards land acquisition and related works for the ambitious Palamuru-Ranga Reddy Lift Irrigation Scheme.

## Telangana inter exam rescheduled due to holiday for Bakrid festival

In view of the holiday announced for the Bakrid festival, the Telangana Board of Intermediate Education (TGBIE) has rescheduled the Environmental Education exam for inter students in the state. Earlier, the examination was scheduled to be held on May 28. However, the board has now postponed it to May 29.

As per TGBIE, there is no change in the examination timings, and the test will continue to be conducted from 10 am to 1 pm. The board has instructed colleges to inform all students appearing for the Intermediate Public Advanced Supplementary Examinations about the revised Environmental Education exam date.

The Telangana government has declared May 28 as a holiday on the occasion of Eid-Al-Adha. As per the Telangana calendar, the government had declared the holiday on May 27. However, as the crescent moon marking the beginning of Dhul-Hijjah 1447 AH was not sighted in Hyderabad or other parts of Telangana on Sunday, May 17, the festival will be celebrated on May 28 and, accordingly, the government made changes.



## Traffic restrictions announced for skywalk construction at Mehdiapatnam

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Hyderabad police announced traffic restrictions at Mehdiapatnam for the construction of a skywalk and installation of CCTV cameras at PVNR expressway.

The restrictions will remain in place from 4 PM on Sunday to 6 AM on Monday.

From evening 4 PM onwards, traffic coming from Masab Tank, NMDC, SD Eye Hospital towards Rethibowli-Nanal Nagar will be diverted at PVNR Expressway pillar numbers 2 and 3 at Azizia Mosque via Meraj Cafe and take a right turn at Mehdiapatnam at pillar number 15 and will be merged in the regular route.

Commuters moving from Tolichowki, Langer Houz, and Attapur via Nanal Nagar-Rethibowli towards



Masab Tank will be diverted at PVNR Expressway pillar number 23 'u' turn to the opposite direction and will be allowed to merge in the same direction at pillar numbers 4 and 5 in the regular route. Traffic coming from Masab tank towards RGIA will be diverted at S.D Eye Hospital towards Laxminagar Ramp at pillar number 77. Commuters moving from the Hyderabad airport towards Mehdiapatnam will take exit at Laxmi Nagar Ramp at pillar number 88. Vehicles will take exit at respective down ramps according to the work progress on PVNR Expressway.

## For Hyderabad's Bakrid feasts, knife sharpeners are back in business

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Festivals often bring prosperity to many, and with Eid-ul-Adha (Bakrid) approaching, Hyderabad's travelling knife sharpeners have returned to the city to cash in on the festive demand.

"We earn a lot of money in the run-up to the festival by visiting the households and sharpening the knives or repairing them," says Shaik Farooq, a knife sharpener from the Ardhapur area of Nanded district.

Travelling from hundreds of kilometres, they make sure that Hyderabad households have the sharpest knives to prepare a plethora of iconic dishes.

Arriving from Beed, Parbhani, Nanded and Latur districts of Maharashtra, a week before the Eid al-Adha, the knife sharpeners make their services available right at your doorstep. Charging a nominal fee



of Rs 50 for regular knives, another knife sharpener, Mohd Sartaj, says he earns easily Rs 2,000 per day.

The knife sharpeners stay around the railway or bus stations at night and set out for business during the day before heading back to their villages for other jobs. The business lasts a short and bountiful 15 days only, says Shaik Aejaz, hailing from Nanded's Degloor area. Apart from shining your favourite cutlery, the sharpeners also offer specially crafted steel-made butcher knives and meat cleavers priced between Rs 200 and Rs 300.

## NITHM hosts tourism conclave on Destination Telangana

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The National Institute of Tourism and Hospitality Management (NITHM), jointly promoted by the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, and the Government of Telangana, organised a Tourism Conclave on "Destination Telangana - The Road Ahead" at the NITHM campus in Gachibowli as the concluding event of the week-long Tourism

Week celebrations held under the Government of Telangana's "Prajalavaddaku Palana" initiative.

The conclave brought together policymakers, tourism experts, hospitality leaders, branding specialists and industry stakeholders to deliberate on the future of tourism in Telangana and the opportunities emerging in domestic, heritage, experiential and sustainable tourism. Patel Ramesh Reddy,



Chairman of Telangana State Tourism Development Corporation (TGTDC), L Ranjeet Nayak, Director of Tourism, Government of Telangana, Prof Venkatramana, Director of NITHM, and others participated.

A major attraction of the conclave was the CEO panel discussion on "Destination Telan-

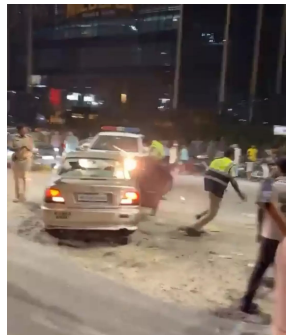
gana - The Road Ahead," chaired by Tarun Singh Chauhan of TSC Consulting. The panel featured D Ramchandram, Co-Chairman of the Tourism Committee, FTCCI; Nagesh Pampati, President of the TAAI Telangana Chapter; Aditya Deendayal, Executive Director of Alankrita Resort; Abhishek Patawar, CEO of Weddings by Patawar; and Arnab Gupta, General Manager of Taj Deccan.

## Race For Reels Ends Up Arrest Of Youth

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

A 19-year-old youth was arrested for allegedly performing dangerous car stunts and creating public nuisance near Knowledge City and T-Hub in Hyderabad's IT corridor, police said on Sunday. The accused, identified as Rahman, was taken into custody after he allegedly drove recklessly near Knowledge City during the early hours of Sunday. Police said he attempted to speed past officers while performing stunts, injuring constable Ramesh in the hand when the officer tried to stop the vehicle.

However, police faced criticism from some quarters over the manner in which they acted during the crackdown, breaking the window panes of the car Raidurgam inspector Ch Venkanna said the accused did not possess a driving licence and had borrowed the car (AP10 AL 5684) from a friend. Police said Rehman had recently created an Insta-



gram page to upload videos of racing and stunt performances. "He had uploaded seven videos and intended to create more content," the inspector said.

Police booked the accused on charges including public nuisance, speeding, rash driving, vehicle modification, driving without a licence, and obstructing and damaging public property. Since Rahman did not possess a driving licence, the vehicle owner would also be held accountable, the inspector said. Police suspect more youngsters were involved in the late-night racing activity, but several allegedly fled after noticing officers at the spot. Venkanna said the T-Hub and Knowledge City

stretch witnesses heavy late-night movement of people, many of whom gather to watch vehicle stunts. According to police, the crowd largely comprises cab drivers waiting for bookings, autodriviers from surrounding villages using rented vehicles, and customers visiting eateries in the area. Videos of the police action drew criticism on social media after officers were seen breaking the car window panes and aggressively chasing those present at the scene. Responding to the criticism, police said they were authorised to intervene firmly in cases involving dangerous driving, public nuisance and potential law-and-order disturbances in crowded public spaces.

The inspector said officers broke the car glass to prevent the driver from fleeing and endangering people gathered at the spot. Investigation is underway to identify and apprehend others allegedly involved in the racing activities.

## Hyderabad software employee held for attacking home guard during helmet check

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

A software employee was arrested on Sunday, May 24, at Abids General Post Office (GPO), Hyderabad, for allegedly attacking a home guard when he was pulled over for not wearing a helmet during a vehicle check.

The accused, Yashwanth, was riding on his bike along with his father and pet dog when Home Guard Kumar stopped him.

When on-duty Traffic Sub-Inspector Anil questioned Yashwanth, he be-



came furious and started abusing the officer. Home Guard Kumar, who was recording the incident, was allegedly attacked on the face by the software employee. Yashwanth was immediately handed over to the Abids Police Station, where he created further nuisance and reportedly damaged an air cooler. A case has been registered.

## HMWSSB detects illegal borewells near Himayat Sagar Lake

Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) officials found two illegal borewells within the Full Tank Level (FTL) and buffer zone limits of Himayat Sagar Lake. An FIR was registered against an individual for alleged illegal commercial water supply activities.

In a press release on Sunday, the HMWSSB said the Board initiated action after finding that some individuals had illegally drilled borewells within the FTL and buffer zones of Himayat Sagar Lake to supply groundwater for commercial purposes through tankers.



MP Mallu Ravi, along with Congress leaders, cut a cake to celebrate the birthday of TPC President Mahesh Kumar Goud at Gandhi Bhavan in Hyderabad.

— Photo: Mir Zulfequar ali

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