



Telangana to Launch T-Fiber SPV for Rural Broadband Expansion: P3



RCB's Kohli Becomes First IPL Batter To Register Four Successive 600-Plus Run Seasons: P7

SIR Aimed at Removing Anti-BJP Voters, Says Bhatti: P3



CM Siddaramaiah Decides To Quit Over His "Commitment" to High Command

Deshpande said he did not see any displeasure in Siddaramaiah while he stated his decision to quit as Chief Minister.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Senior Congress leader and MLA R.V. Deshpande on Wednesday met Chief Minister Siddaramaiah at his official residence "Kaveri" in Bengaluru city, where the visiting Congress MLA was told by Siddaramaiah over his decision to "step down" following a commitment he has made to the party high command during his meeting in New Delhi on Tuesday. One of the leaders close to Siddaramaiah, Deshpande said he asked Siddaramaiah to continue as Chief Minister but he has already made up his mind to quit the position and that he might resign from the post either tomorrow or on Friday. However, Deshpande said Siddaramaiah did not explain the circumstances which made him arrive at the decision to quit the post of Chief Minister nor "I evinced interest in knowing the reason behind his decision to quit." Deshpande said he did not see any displeasure



in Siddaramaiah while he stated his decision to quit as Chief Minister. Even MLAs supporting Siddaramaiah wanted him to continue in the post but Siddaramaiah is firm on quitting the post. "Siddaramaiah stated he is com-

mitted to the high command to resign and will abide by it," Deshpande said over his interaction with the Chief Minister. Deshpande said he was "surprise" by the decision of Siddaramaiah to quit the post but Siddaramaiah reiterated his decision to quit. Another Congress MLA Ashok Pattan stated he has information that Siddaramaiah would resign as Chief Minister on Thursday after 3 pm and said "The decision by

Siddaramaiah was unexpected one." Meanwhile, general secretary of All India Congress Committee and Karnataka party incharge Randeep Singh Surjewala arrived in Bengaluru and speaking to reporters he said "No decision has been taken by the party high command on convening Congress Legislature Party meeting yet or no other decision has been taken." He appealed "Don't speculate on change of leadership."

Shivakumar Aides Burst Crackers, Distribute Sweets

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Supporters of Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar broke into celebration in many parts of Karnataka on Wednesday amid intense speculation over a possible change of guard in the state. Firecrackers were burst and sweets distributed outside Shivakumar's residence in Sadashivanagar, Bengaluru, as well as in Ramanagara, the district headquarters of Bengaluru South. The sudden show



of support came amid speculation in political circles that Siddaramaiah may resign on Thursday, potentially paving the way for his deputy Shivakumar to take over as chief minister. Speaking to reporters, a Shivakumar supporter described him as a strong and decisive leader, citing his performance in the

2023 Assembly elections. "In 2023, he challenged the BJP and RSS and delivered a strong performance. When he said he would win 130 seats, he delivered. He has worked very hard for the last three years," the supporter said. Another supporter said enthusiasm among party workers was driven by Shivakumar's leadership style. According to sources in the Congress, Siddaramaiah may tender his resignation to Karnataka Governor Thawarchand Gehlot on Thursday.

Revanth Reddy Orders High Vigil amid Rain Threat



In view of an orange alert issued by the India Meteorological Department (IMD) for several districts, Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy alerted officials to remain vigilant over the rain situation. The Chief Minister directed officials to make additional arrangements at paddy procurement centres and instructed them to speed up paddy procurement operations. He emphasized that adequate tarpaulins should be kept ready to prevent the paddy stored in procurement yards from getting wet. He also ordered officials to shift tarpaulins from centres where procurement has already been completed. Keeping in view the weather department's warning of strong gusty winds, the Chief Minister advised people to remain cautious and alert.

Iran's Big Claim On Deal To Reopen Hormuz, US Calls It's "Fabrication"

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Iran on Wednesday said that it would restore shipping through the Strait of Hormuz to pre-war levels within a month, according to a draft framework deal with the United States that also included US forces withdrawing from the Islamic Republic and the lifting of the US naval blockade. The Iranian state television cited what it said was the draft of a potential "memorandum of understanding". However, it clarified that the text had not been "finalised" as of yet. "The United States has committed itself to lifting Iran's naval blockade and to cease harassing ships passing to or from the Islamic Republic of Iran," the state TV report said. According to the draft, in return, Iran would agree to allow shipping through the strategic waterway but that it would continue to manage shipping lanes, inspect vessels, and impose service fees on ships. The draft also mentioned



that the strait will not be reopened "unconditionally" and its commitments would not apply to military vessels. The report cited the United States' "commitment" to Iran about withdrawing troops from the region. It added that it remained unclear whether the commitment referred only to forces deployed before and during the war or if it also included existing US military bases in the Gulf. Following agreement on the framework, Tehran and Washington would enter a 60-day negotiation period, the draft said, without specifying which issues would be discussed. "If negotiations reach a final agreement during the 60-day period, this agreement is expected to be approved by a binding resolution of the United Nations Security Council," it added.

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Lokesh for 33% Women's quota in TDP for 2029 Elections

Nara Lokesh has proposed 33% reservation for women within the Telugu Desam Party (TDP) for the 2029 General Elections, stressing the need for greater representation of women in politics. Addressing the MahaNadu, Lokesh said he believes the coming phase of Indian politics will be defined by women's leadership. He noted that while the NDA government took a historic step by introducing the Women's Reservation Bill, many opposition parties failed to support it in Parliament. He emphasized that women should not remain mere beneficiaries of welfare schemes but must emerge as decision-makers. Criticizing parties that raise the issue of women's empowerment only during elections, he said TDP has consistently supported women's aspirations since its inception.

SC Upholds EC's Power to Conduct SIR

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The Supreme Court on Wednesday upheld the power of the Election Commission of India to conduct a Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise of electoral rolls, saying that it "advances the constitutional imperative of free and fair elections". It can't be said that the poll panel acted outside statutory powers by exercising SIR, observed a

bench headed by Chief Justice Surya Kant. "We are unable to conclude that the impugned exercise is a process resorted to solely for administrative convenience. On the contrary, we hold that the electoral SIR advances the constitutional imperative of free and fair elections," the bench said. The pleas challenging SIR claimed that the Election Commission does not have powers under Article 326 of the Constitution,

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Sidda to Reveal Delhi Meeting Outcome After Breakfast Meet

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Wednesday said he would reveal the outcome of his lengthy meeting with Congress central leaders in New Delhi after the breakfast meeting hosted by him on Thursday for ministers and MLAs at his official residence 'Kaveri' in Bengaluru. After paying floral tributes to former Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru on his 62nd death anniversary, Siddaramaiah declined to answer questions from media persons and said, "I will speak on it tomorrow (Thursday)," before leaving the venue. Sources said Siddaramaiah has softened his stand on continuing as Chief Minister after Rahul Gandhi reportedly referred to the unwritten power-sharing agreement

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Ruckus Outside Pinarayi's Home



Left Democratic Front (LDF) activists attack the vehicle carrying Enforcement Directorate (ED) officials outside former Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan's residence after a raid conducted at Vijayan's residence as part of ED's investigation in the CMRL money laundering case, in Thiruvananthapuram, Wednesday, May 27, 2026.

ED Raids Part of Targeted Attack on Opposition Leaders: Pinarayi

Former Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan on Wednesday alleged that the ED raids at his premises were part of a targeted crackdown on opposition leaders across the country. Speaking to reporters after Enforcement Directorate officials concluded hours-long searches at his rented house at Bakery Junction in connection with the alleged CMRL monthly payment case, Vijayan said such actions would not weaken him or the CPI(M). "This is only the beginning. Nobody should harbour the illusion that such actions can intimidate or weaken us," he said. The veteran CPI(M) leader alleged that the BJP-led Centre has been using central agencies against opposition leaders since it came to power, and claimed the action against him was also part of that strategy.

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Ruckus Outside Pinarayi's Home As ED Searches Premises

KERALA
Wakeup telangana

Ruckus broke out outside former Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan's rented residence at Bakery Junction on Wednesday as angry CPI(M) workers allegedly hurled helmets, plastic bottles and stones at security personnel deployed there while ED searches were underway inside. According to reports, Vijayan and his

family members had been inside the house since the Enforcement Directorate raids began early in the morning. Television visuals showed hundreds of CPI(M) workers gathering outside the residence, with some attempting to force their way into the premises through the main gate, amid sloganeering against the ED and the BJP-led central government. Dur-

ing the commotion, some protesters allegedly threw plastic bottles, helmets and stones at security personnel standing guard on the premises. Senior CPI(M) leaders later intervened, pacified the workers and persuaded them to withdraw from the violent protests. The ED carried out searches at premises linked to Vijayan in the alleged CMRL monthly payment case involving

his daughter. Armed central security personnel stood guard outside Vijayan's rented residence at Bakery Junction and his family's house in Kannur district while ED teams conducted searches at both locations. The ED action is linked to allegations that Cochin Minerals and Rutile Ltd paid Rs 1.72 crore to Exalogic Solutions-owned by Vijayan's daughter T Veena-be-

without receiving any services in return. Officials said searches were being conducted at around 10 premises across Kerala under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). The searches came a day after the Kerala High Court dismissed a plea by CMRL seeking to quash the ED proceedings in the case.

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OPPOSITE TO RBI, SAIFABAD

Will not contest next elections if Congress Govt does not build more houses than BRS: Ponguleti

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Revenue and Housing Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy has asserted that the Congress Government is firm on providing houses to as many poor as possible before the completion of its five year tenure and plans in this direction have already translated into action.

He ridiculed the claims made by Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) MLA and party working president K.T. Rama Rao that the latter will quit politics if the Congress can prove it has constructed houses for the poor. The Minister, accepting the challenge, said he will not contest the next election if the government does not construct more liveable houses than the previous BRS government before the end of its tenure. "I will not contest the next election if the government



Minister Azharuddin, MP Asaduddin Owaisi, local public representatives, and senior officials accompanied Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy inspects sites for Indiramma houses in Hyderabad's Old City.

does not fulfil its assurance of providing houses to eligible poor. Is Mr. Drama Rao (Mr. K.T. Rama Rao) ready to accept the challenge?" he asked at a press conference held in Hyderabad on Wednesday. Another Minister, Ponnambhakhar, alleged that the BRS Government failed to take up housing project in over 10,000 of the more than

12,000 gram panchayats across the State whereas the Congress Government had taken up construction of houses in all villages under the Indiramma Indlu, weaker section housing programme. "I am ready for anything if KTR can prove otherwise," he said. Mr. Prabhakar alleged that the housing scheme was taken up in select

constituencies during the BRS rule benefitting some leaders of the coterie surrounding the party president and former Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao.

Mr. Srinivas Reddy charged the previous Government for neglecting the interests of the poor and "dismantling" the Housing Board. The Congress Government had initiated the Indiramma Indlu programme taking up construction of 4.5 lakh houses with a whopping ₹22,500 crore across the State, including in the remote habitations. Over one lakh houses had been completed and beneficiaries were performing house warming. Another one lakh houses would be completed before June end. This was not all as the government had decided to roll out the second phase of Indiramma Indlu targeting construction of 2,000 houses for poor in each of the 119

constituencies. "The government is not looking at who is representing the constituency, unlike the BRS. Number of poor in the constituency is the only criterion for the construction of houses," he averred.

Launching a scathing attack on the BRS leaders, he said the previous government had constructed 46,000 two bedroom houses in its 10-year tenure and 16,000 others were left in different stages of construction. Of the completed houses, 21,000 remained unoccupied as the residents were not given basic amenities like drinking water, sewerage and others while a majority of these houses were constructed in areas far from the places where the allottees work. "A major chunk of houses were left unoccupied and our government had reallocated them subsequently after creating necessary amenities," he said.

Congress Meeting Erupts After Slap Row at Gandhi Bhavan

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Tension erupted at Gandhi Bhavan on Wednesday after senior Congress leader Osman Bin Mohammed Al Hajri allegedly slapped Congress leader Feroz Khan during a heated altercation over seating arrangements beside Minorities Welfare Minister Mohammed Azharuddin.

The incident occurred during a meeting chaired by BC Welfare Minister Ponnambhakhar. A viral video from the venue shows Hajri angrily shouting "Bade bhai ko dhakalte" before slapping Feroz Khan and pushing him to the ground. Despite the shock, Khan maintained composure and avoided retaliation. The situation quickly turned chaotic, prompting senior Congress leader V. Hanumantha Rao to inter-



Tension prevailed at Gandhi Bhavan as Congress leaders Feroz Khan and Osman Ali Hajri allegedly clashed over stage protocol during a Hyderabad Parliamentary constituency review meeting held in the presence of Ministers Mohd Azharuddin and Ponnambhakhar.

vene. Rao questioned Hajri's behaviour, asking, "Do you think you are a pahlawan?" Hajri reportedly responded aggressively and hurled abuses at leaders attempting to calm the situation. Rajya Sabha MP Anil Kumar Yadav and several Congress leaders formed a protective cover around Hanumantha Rao as tensions escalated briefly. Azharuddin, who had just arrived at the venue, re-

portedly left immediately after witnessing the scuffle. Later, Feroz Khan told reporters the dispute was triggered over a chair and claimed both leaders later reconciled. "Congress is one big family," he said. Reports indicate TPCC president B. Mahesh Kumar Goud may discuss the matter with both leaders, while disciplinary action is also being considered.

Bakrid Joy for 500 Families

Jampana Pratap Praises Shareef's Noble Bakrid Charity Drive



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Ahead of Bakrid, former Cantonment Board Vice President Jampana Pratap visited Azwa Exotic Farm at Pension Line in Ward 1, New Bowenpally, and praised farm owner Mohammed Shakeeb Shareef for his annual charitable initiative benefitting hundreds of underprivileged families. Shareef is set to distribute sacrificial mutton free of cost to nearly 500 economically weaker

Muslim families, enabling them to celebrate the festival with dignity and happiness. The initiative has earned widespread appreciation from residents and community leaders. This year, the programme has attracted special attention due to the rare and premium sheep being reared at the farm. Shareef has sourced an exotic breed from Karnataka, known for its superior quality and high market demand. During his visit, Pratap inspected the

livestock and learned about their unique characteristics. According to farm representatives, each sheep is valued at more than ₹1 lakh in Karnataka. Despite their relatively modest weight of around 15 kilograms, the ani-

mals belong to a highly sought-after breed renowned for its quality and lineage. Commending the gesture, Pratap said spending large sums of money to rear premium livestock solely for distribution among poor families reflects true generosity and compassion. He noted that such efforts strengthen community bonds and ensure that less fortunate families can celebrate Bakrid with joy and respect. Several local residents and community members, including Maula, Fahad, Sajid, Nazeer, Faisal and Harshad, participated in the visit and appreciated the philanthropic initiative.



Jampana Pratap Seeks Relief for NH-44 Shopkeepers

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Dp Srinivas rao

Vice-President of the All India Cantonment Boards, Jampana Pratap, has urged authorities to provide fair compensation, rehabilitation, and livelihood protection to dozens of small traders and tenants facing displacement due to the proposed NH-44 road widening works in New Bowenpally and surrounding areas. In a representation submitted to the Special Deputy Collector and the Estate Office & Land Acquisition Officer (NH-44), Pratap highlighted the plight of shopkeepers operating in Sanjeevaiah Nagar, Krishna Reddy



Nagar, Chinna Thokatta, New Bowenpally, and Kadakpura. He appealed for a comprehensive survey to identify all genuinely affected persons and ensure that no family is deprived of its only source of income. According to Pratap, many of the affected establishments, including tyre-puncture shops, hardware stores, tea stalls, mechanic sheds, fruit stalls, pan shops, fast-food centers, cobbler shops,

sugarcane juice stalls, and other petty businesses, have been functioning for nearly 30 to 40 years. These enterprises support entire families and have become integral to the local economy. He noted that several shop owners are daily-wage earners, self-employed workers, elderly individuals, widows, and economically vulnerable persons with no alternative means of livelihood. While expressing support for infrastructure development, Pratap stressed that growth should not come at the cost of pushing families into unemployment and financial hardship. The representation sought fair compensation, re-

habilitation packages, interim relief, alternate livelihood support for vulnerable groups, and transparent, humane eviction procedures only after rehabilitation measures are secured. "We are not against development, but authorities must protect the livelihoods of people who stand to lose everything overnight," Pratap stated. Officials of the concerned departments had not responded to the appeal at the time of reporting. Meanwhile, affected traders have expressed willingness to cooperate with the project, provided adequate compensation and rehabilitation are ensured before any displacement.

Ramabai Ambedkar's Sacrifice Remembered on 91st Death Anniversary

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Dp Srinivas rao

The 91st death anniversary of Mata Ramabai Ambedkar was observed with reverence at the Ambedkar Statue on Goods Shed Road, Moosapet, under the leadership of Greater Hyderabad All India Ambedkar Youth Association (AIAYS) President Karka Nagaraju. The programme was attended by former president of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Amarajyothi Association, Karka Shivashankar, as the chief guest. He paid floral tributes to Ramabai Ambedkar and highlighted her immense sacrifices in supporting Dr. B.R. Ambedkar during his lifelong struggle for social justice



and equality. Speaking on the occasion, Karka Shivashankar and Karka Nagaraju described Ramabai Ambedkar as a symbol of sacrifice, perseverance, and strength. They said her life stands as proof that behind every successful man is a woman who makes countless sacrifices. Despite facing severe poverty and personal hardships, Ramabai supported Ambedkar's education and social mis-

sion, often enduring unimaginable struggles to keep the family together. The speakers recalled that Ramabai managed the household while Ambedkar pursued higher studies abroad and remained committed to his vision despite losing four of her five children due to illness and lack of resources. They noted that her sacrifices played a crucial role in enabling Ambedkar's historic contributions to the upliftment of marginalized communities and the framing of India's Constitution. Ramabai Ambedkar passed away on May 27, 1935, at the age of 35. The leaders said her dedication and hardships continue to inspire generations.

Vendors Seek Compensation for Corridor Impact

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Dp Srinivas rao

Hundreds of roadside vendors and small shopkeepers in Secunderabad Cantonment have demanded financial compensation as the construction of the NH-44 elevated corridor threatens their livelihoods. A delegation led by former Cantonment Board Vice President Jampana Pratap submitted a memorandum to the Special Deputy Collector on Wednesday, urging immediate government intervention. Pratap said vendors operating for over four decades in Sanjeevaiah Nagar, Krishna Reddy Nagar, Chinnadokata, Kadappura and New Bowenpally support the development project but should not be left without means of survival. Citing Article 21 of the Constitution, he stressed that the right to livelihood is a



fundamental right and called for fair rehabilitation measures. He also appealed to local MLA Sri Ganesh to take up the issue and ensure a suitable compensation package for affected families. Responding positively, the Special Deputy Collector assured the delegation that a comprehensive survey of businesses along the affected NH-44 stretch would be conducted to identify eligible beneficiaries and determine compensation. Vendors now await concrete relief as work on the corridor progresses.

Vijaya Dairy Officials Support Late Employee's Family

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Thalka Anjaiah

In a heartfelt gesture of compassion and solidarity, officials and employees of Telangana State Dairy Development Cooperative Federation Limited (TGDDCF) - Vijaya Dairy - visited the residence of Late Md. Maqsood, Marketing Supervisor, and extended financial assistance to his bereaved family. On the occasion, LSM Peravali Mohan Murali, along with senior officials and the en-



tire Marketing Team, personally handed over a contribution amount of Rs. 60,000/-, voluntarily collected from TGDDCF employees, to the daughter, wife, and brother of the deceased employee. The Vijaya Dairy officials expressed deep condolences and re-

membered Late Md. Maqsood for his sincere service, dedication, and commitment towards the organization. They assured the family that the Vijaya Dairy fraternity would continue to stand by them during difficult times.

Former PR Superintending Engineer Gali Shankaraiah Passes Away

Late Gali Shankaraiah, retired Superintending Engineer of the Telangana State Panchayat Raj Engineering Department who served extensively in the Adilabad district, passed away on May 20, 2026, due to health complications. His demise has created deep sorrow among family members, former colleagues, friends, and well-wishers. Sri Gali Shankaraiah was known for his dedication, discipline, and committed service throughout his distinguished career in the Panchayat Raj Engineering Department. He earned a reputation as a sincere and dynamic officer who worked tirelessly for rural infrastructure development and public welfare in several remote and backward regions. During his tenure in the department, he contributed significantly to the development of village roads, public infrastructure, and welfare-oriented engineering works. Colleagues and associates remembered him as a soft-spoken, approachable, and efficient engineer who always maintained cordial relations with staff and the public alike.

Amoy Kumar Appears Before ED Again in Bhoodan Case

Senior IAS officer Amoy Kumar on Monday appeared before the Enforcement Directorate (ED) at Basheerbagh in connection with a case relating to the alleged alienation of Bhoodan land at Nagole in Medchal Malkajgiri district. The Central economic intelligence agency took up the investigation based on a case registered at the Maheshwaram police station against private persons and government officials on the illegal sale of 42 acres of Bhoodan government land through forged documents and manipulated government revenue records. Amoy, who is currently posted in the animal husbandry and dairy development department, served as the district collector of Rangareddy and Medchal Malkajgiri districts earlier. The ED had questioned Amoy in October, 2024. Though Amoy was not named as an accused in the FIR, his role in the use of the Dharani portal and registration of properties which were under prohibited categories came under scrutiny during the ED's probe.

Telangana to Launch T-Fiber SPV for Rural Broadband Expansion

One of the major highlights of the T-Fiber project is the implementation of a ring architecture network connecting every Gram Panchayat in the state: Reports

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana government has decided to establish a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) for the large-scale rollout of high-speed internet connectivity across rural areas under the ambitious T-Fiber project. The initiative will be implemented through the Centre's Amended BharatNet Program (ABP) with the objective of providing reliable broadband access to every village and household in the state. The decision was finalized during a high-level video conference attended by A. Revanth Reddy, Telangana IT and Industries Minister D.



Sridhar Babu, and Union Communications Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia. During the meeting, Telangana signed a crucial agreement with the Central government for strengthening the state's digital infrastructure network. Under the first phase of the project, internet connectivity will be restored and upgraded in 3,089 villages spread across the erstwhile districts of Ni-

zamabad, Ranga Reddy and Khammam, where existing fiber infrastructure has reportedly been damaged. The villages will receive modernized, future-ready broadband systems under the BharatNet initiative.

A major feature of the T-Fiber project is the development of a ring architecture network connecting every Gram Panchayat in Telangana. The system is designed to maintain uninterrupted internet services by creating alternate routes for data transfer during cable cuts or technical failures, thereby minimizing network downtime in rural regions.

During the discussions, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy requested the

Centre's support in speeding up implementation agreements, releasing pending funds, utilizing the Digital Bharat Nidhi fund and framing a clear policy for transferring network assets from Mandal level to Gram Panchayats.

Union Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia assured the state government of full cooperation in resolving pending issues and accelerating project implementation. Senior officials, including Chief Secretary K. Ramakrishna Rao, Special Secretary to the Chief Minister B. Ajit Reddy and IT Department Joint Secretary D. Anudeep, also participated in the meeting.

SIR Aimed at Removing Anti-BJP Voters: Bhatti

He called upon party leaders and members to work collectively to strengthen the party and uphold the principles of social justice

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka on Wednesday alleged that the BJP-led Union government had launched the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls with the intention of retaining voters favourable to the party while removing those opposed to it.

Addressing a meeting of the District Congress Political Affairs Committee at the District Congress office in Khammam, Bhatti Vikramarka stressed the importance of strengthening the Congress party from the grassroots level. He said booth-level agents must be given top priority as they play a key role in



ensuring the party's organisational strength and electoral preparedness.

The Deputy Chief Minister directed party leaders to complete the formation of mandal executive committees, booth committees and village committees by June 30. He urged Congress leaders and cadre to work in coordination to strengthen the organisation across all levels and uphold the principles of

social justice. District Congress Committee president Nuthi Satyanarayana said the party would recognise the services of committed workers and provide deserving leaders with political opportunities. He called upon party leaders and activists to intensify efforts to further strengthen the Congress from the booth level to the district level.

The meeting was attended by MLAs Matta Ragamayee and Maloth Ramdas Naik, Khammam City Congress Committee president Nagandla Deepak Chowdary, Telangana State Warehousing Corporation chairman Rayala Nageswara Rao and several other senior party

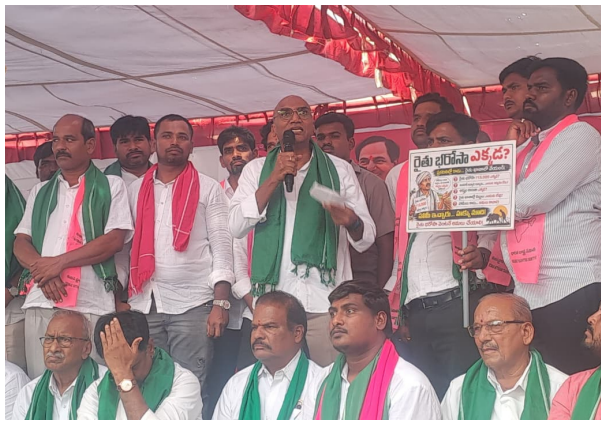
RS Praveen Kumar Slams Govt Over Farmers' Issues

Farmers' Issues Ignored, Govt Focused on Land Surveys: RS Praveen Kumar

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Santosh Chowdary

R. S. Praveen Kumar, State General Secretary of Bharat Rashtira Samithi, alleged that the Congress government has completely failed to address farmers' issues and is instead focusing on land survey numbers and high-value lands. Speaking as the chief guest at a mega farmers' dharna organised by BRS in Vangur mandal of Nagar Kurnool district, he accused Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy of neglecting grain procurement and farmer welfare.

Praveen Kumar criticised the Chief Minister's recent statement about conducting 18-hour review meetings, saying those reviews were not about farmers' suffering, procurement issues, or agricultural welfare. Instead, he alleged that the government was concentrating on assigned lands, survey numbers, and plans



to increase land values for large-scale projects. He said it was shameful that grain procurement had not been properly carried out even in the Chief Minister's own mandal. Alleging corruption, he remarked that bags meant for farmers' grain were being filled with cash bundles and sent to Delhi. He also accused millers of exploiting farmers by illegally deducting more than 10 kilograms per quintal during procurement.

The BRS leader alleged that vehicles meant for transporting grain were instead being diverted for sand smuggling activities. He further ac-

cused police officials of harassing BRS activists and farmers with false cases instead of acting against illegal sand transportation.

Praveen Kumar demanded action against Kondal Reddy and Tirupati Reddy in connection with the suicide of former Kondareddypalle sarpanch Sai Reddy. He questioned why those named in the suicide note had not been thoroughly investigated. Referring to attacks on BRS activists, he alleged police bias and warned that officers filing illegal cases against party workers would face consequences in a future BRS government.

₹79.58 Crore Drain Expansion Works Underway in Serilingampally Constituency

RANGAREDDY
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh

PAC Chairman Arekapudi Gandhi inspected ongoing nala expansion and RCC box drain construction works in Deepti Sree Nagar Colony under Chandanagar Division along with SNDP engineering officials and senior leader Raghunath Reddy.

The works, being taken up from Patel Cheruvu outlet to Gangaram Cheruvu at an estimated cost of ₹18.92 crore, are part of the larger SNDP Phase-2 project worth ₹79.58 crore across the Serilingampally constituency aimed at providing a permanent solution to flood and waterlogging problems.

Speaking on the occa-



sion, Gandhi said the nala expansion works would bring major relief to low-lying and flood-prone areas that have suffered for years during heavy rains. He directed officials to speed up the works on a war footing and complete them before the monsoon season.

He instructed authorities to ensure smooth traffic movement during construction, provide alternative routes wherever required, and maintain proper water flow levels while executing the works. He also stressed that there should be no

compromise on quality standards.

The PAC Chairman said the RCC box drain and nala widening works would prevent future flooding and provide long-term relief to residents. He assured that any issues related to the project would be resolved immediately and promised full support for the completion of the works. SNDP Engineering officials, including DE Dheeraj, leader Erragudla Srinivas Yadav, and local residents participated in the inspection.

Collector Urged to Resolve Kaveli Land Dispute Immediately

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Villagers of Kaveli in Kohir mandal urged the district administration to immediately resolve a land dispute linked to the construction of an Ammavari temple on land allotted decades ago to SC Mala and Madiga communities.



Mala community elders alleged that some individuals are obstructing

temple works by calling the site government land despite repeated petitions to officials.

Though complaints were submitted during Sangareddy Prajavani and assurances were given, no action followed. Villagers demanded an immediate field inquiry to prevent tensions and ensure justice.

Farmers' Anger Will Topple Congress Govt: Niranjan Reddy

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Santosh Chowdary

Former Minister Singireddy Niranjan Reddy on Wednesday accused the Congress government of pushing farmers into distress through its alleged failure in paddy procurement and agricultural support. He warned that the growing dissatisfaction among farmers would ultimately bring down the government. During a visit to paddy procurement centres in several villages of Ped-



damadadi mandal, including Manigilla, Niranjan Reddy said farmers were facing severe hardships due to delays in procurement, transportation failures and administrative negligence. He alleged that the government had failed to provide urea on

time, ensure adequate power supply and complete paddy purchases promptly, forcing farmers to depend on middlemen.

Expressing concern over paddy stocks getting damaged due to rain and lack of transport arrangements, he said farmers

were suffering heavy losses despite months of hard work. Comparing the situation with the previous BRS government, he claimed that paddy procurement and payments were completed quickly during its tenure.

Niranjan Reddy urged the government to immediately procure paddy and release payments without delay. District Media Convener Nandimalla Ashok, former public representatives and farmers attended the programme.

Aditya Madinaguda Blood Centre Inaugurated in Hafeezpet

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh

PAC Chairman Arekapudi Gandhi inaugurated the newly established Aditya Madinaguda Blood Centre at Madinaguda in Hafeezpet Division along with senior leaders and former corporator Narne Srinivasa Rao and Raghunath Reddy.

Speaking on the occasion, Gandhi said the blood centre would be highly beneficial for people in surrounding areas, especially children



suffering from thalassemia and patients requiring emergency blood support. He appreciated the organisers for establishing the facility and encouraging blood donation among the public.

The PAC Chairman said blood donation is one of the greatest forms of serv-

ice and appealed to healthy individuals, especially youth, to come forward and donate blood without fear. He stated that blood is essential during accidents, deliveries, and medical emergencies, and regular blood donation also helps maintain good health.

Aditya Madhinaguda Blood Centre President Venkata Prasad, leaders Erragudla Srinivas Yadav, Guru Charan Dubey, Pabba Mallesh, Pulipati Dheeraj, Ramanayya, Dayakar, and others participated in the programme.

Gandhi praised blood donors for supporting children suffering from thalassemia and said blood donors are equal to life savers. He distributed appreciation certificates and awards to donors who participated in the blood donation initiative.

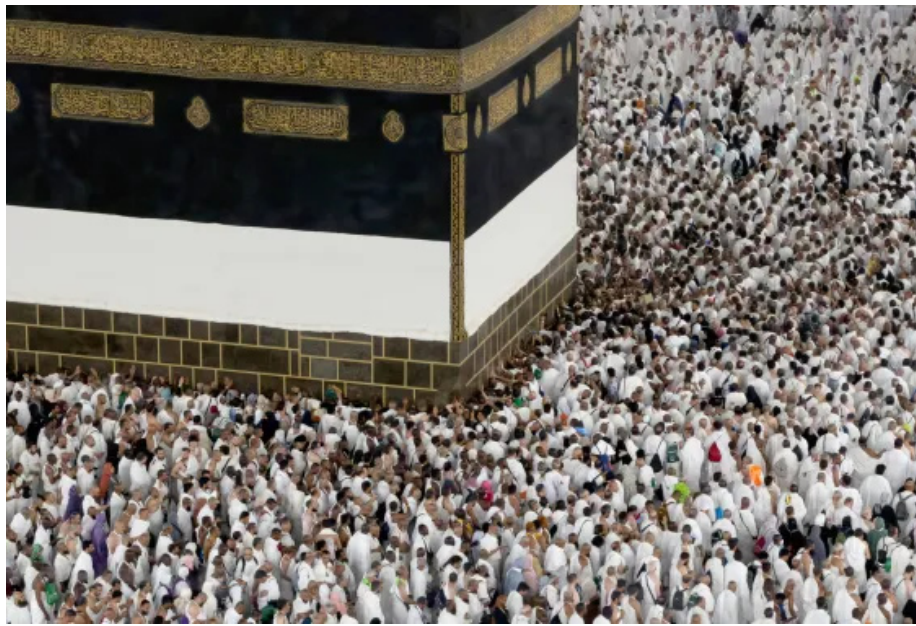
Aditya Madhinaguda Blood Centre President Venkata Prasad, leaders Erragudla Srinivas Yadav, Guru Charan Dubey, Pabba Mallesh, Pulipati Dheeraj, Ramanayya, Dayakar, and others participated in the programme.

Bengali Filmmaker Anik Dutta Dies After Fall from Terrace

Filmmaker Anik Dutta died on Wednesday after allegedly falling from the terrace of his multi-storey residence in south Kolkata, police said. He was taken to a private hospital near Dhakuria, where doctors declared him dead, a senior officer said. A police team started an investigation at the site, though the family has not issued any statement. Several actors, directors and members of the Bengali film industry gathered at the hospital following the incident.

Anik Dutta shot to fame with 'Bhooter Bhabishyat' in 2012. The film, noted for its political and social satire woven into a horror narrative, is regarded by many as a milestone in Bengali cinema. He continued in a similar vein with 'Ascharya Pradip', which also carried strong social messaging. The filmmaker also directed acclaimed films such as 'Aparajito', 'Meghnadbodh Rohshyo' and 'Borunabur Bondhu'.

Over 1.7 Million Muslims Perform Hajj 2026



NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

More than 1.7 million Muslims participated in the annual Hajj pilgrimage in 2026, according to figures released by Saudi Arabia's General Authority for Statistics on Tuesday.

The authority said a total of 1,707,301 pilgrims performed Hajj this year. Of these, 1,546,655 pilgrims ar-

rived from outside Saudi Arabia through various entry points, while 160,646 pilgrims were Saudi citizens and residents who joined the pilgrimage from within the Kingdom.

The data also showed that 893,396 men and 813,905 women took part in one of the world's largest religious gatherings, which draws Muslims from across the globe to the

holy city of Mecca each year.

Air travel remained the primary mode of transport for pilgrims. According to the statistics authority, 1,485,729 pilgrims entered Saudi Arabia through airports, accounting for the overwhelming majority of international arrivals. In addition, 54,429 pilgrims arrived via land border crossings, while 6,497 pilgrims reached

the Kingdom by sea.

Saudi authorities coordinated extensive logistical, security, healthcare and transportation arrangements to facilitate the movement and safety of pilgrims throughout the multi-day religious event. The General Authority for Statistics stated that the figures were compiled using administrative records provided by the Saudi Interior Ministry. The ministry's records serve as the primary source of Hajj data and are used to ensure accuracy, reliability and consistency in reporting.

Hajj is one of the five pillars of Islam and is mandatory once in a lifetime for Muslims who are physically and financially able to undertake the journey. Each year, millions of pilgrims from different countries gather in Saudi Arabia to perform the sacred rites, making it one of the largest annual religious congregations in the world.

CPM to Launch Statewide Protest Against ED Raids on Pinarayi Vijayan

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The CPM on Wednesday decided to launch a statewide agitation to protest the Enforcement Directorate (ED) raids against former Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan in connection with the CMRL payment case. After a meeting of top leaders, CPM state secretary M.V. Govindan told the media that party workers would hold a torchlight protest across 14 districts in the evening against what they see as a "politically motivated" ED action. "The raids are an attack on the CPM. There is a conspiracy to destroy the Left Democratic Front (LDF)," he said. He alleged that Congress and the BJP are united in demanding action against Pinarayi Vi-



jayan, recalling that during the recent assembly election campaign, Rahul Gandhi repeatedly questioned why the ED had not arrested Pinarayi. The case against Pinarayi, he claimed, is a fabrication by central agencies, similar to false cases registered against AAP leaders in Delhi, including former Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, which were later

quashed by the courts. He further questioned why no raids were being conducted against top Congress and UDF leaders whose names also appeared in the CMRL list if the case was truly about taking money from the company. The LDF allies CPI, RJD, Congress (S), NCP, KC(M), KC(B) will also take part in the protest in the evening.

Trump-Modi administrations to take nations to new heights: Kush Desai

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

White House Spokesperson Kush Desai reaffirmed US President Donald Trump's priority to the strategic partnership with India, mentioning the phone call moment with US Ambassador Sergio Gor and underlining the importance of US State Secretary Marco Rubio's four-day visit to India. Speaking with ANI, Desai said that the Trump administration and the Indian government are set to take the two countries to new heights. "President Trump has consistently underscored his support for America's strategic partnership with India, including on speaker phone with Ambassador Gor just days ago during an America 250 celebration in New Delhi," he told ANI.

Desai was referring to the direct moment of diplomacy when Sergio Gor placed his telephone against a microphone during grand celebrations marking the 250th



anniversary of America's independence, allowing the gathered dignitaries to hear Trump's live address.

"I just want to say hello to everybody. I love the Prime Minister. (Narendra) Modi is great, he is my friend, and I just want to say a very good evening to everybody," Trump said during the call, reiterating, "I am a big, big fan of Prime Minister Modi."

Kush Desai also said that Marco Rubio's "landmark" visit to India was built on Trump's push to "expand bilateral ties and cooperation. Noting the outcome of the visit, he mentioned that PM Modi and Trump have a "close friendship", which is focused on both countries'

growth. "Secretary Rubio's landmark visit to India built on the President's push to expand bilateral ties and cooperation on trade and national security, including with the signing of a historic MOU on critical minerals. President Trump and Prime Minister Modi have a close friendship, and under their leadership, the Trump administration and the Indian government are set to take our two countries to new heights," he said.

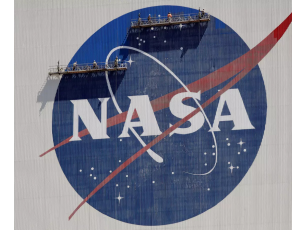
During Rubio's visit, India and the US signed a bilateral Critical Minerals Framework, marking a milestone in the strategic partnership between the two nations to ensure that the foundational elements required

for advanced technology and energy are available within trusted networks. This agreement builds upon the foundational groundwork laid in February 2026 during high-level meetings in Washington, DC, where Secretary of State Marco Rubio launched the Forum on Resource Geostrategic Engagement (FORGE), the official statement from the US Embassy said. It further noted that through this framework, India and the United States will engage in international efforts to protect sensitive supply chains from coercive market practices and reduce our collective vulnerability to single-source monopolies. The statement added, "The U.S. Government is mobilising unprecedented resources to secure critical mineral supply chains, supporting projects with more than \$30 billion in letters of interest, investments, loans, and other support in partnership with the private sector.

NASA Picks Blue Origin, Other Space Firms for Moon Missions

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

NASA awarded contracts to space firms including Jeff Bezos' Blue Origin and Astrolab to send robotic landers, rovers and drones to support the upcoming lunar exploration missions. The U.S. space agency said on Tuesday it had awarded Astrolab \$219 million and Lunar Outpost \$220 million to build and deliver



lunar terrain vehicles. Blue Origin was awarded a \$188 million contract to deliver the rovers to the moon's surface using its uncrewed cargo lunar lander, Mark 1. The contracts are part of

NASA's broader Artemis program, which aims to expand humanity's footprint in space and support future deep-space exploration.

The agency said it also selected Firefly Aerospace (FLY.O), opens new tab to build the spacecraft that will transport drones from the Earth's orbit to the moon for its MoonFall mission, which is targeted for launch in 2028. NASA's revised

plan for Artemis, which was created during President Donald Trump's first term, involves putting infrastructure, centered on a moon base, and vehicles on the moon's surface. NASA's second Artemis mission launched in April, sending four astronauts around the moon and back as one of a few precursor missions to the first crewed moon landing since 1972.

Israel Kills Hamas Military Chief Muhammad Odeh in Gaza

GAZA
Wakeup telangana

The Israel Defense Forces said it has eliminated Muhammad Odeh in Gaza, identifying him as the new leader of the military wing of Hamas and one of the alleged architects of the October 7 attacks. The operation was carried out on the instructions of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Defence Minister Israel Katz, according to a statement posted by the Israeli Prime Minister's Office on X.<

Odeh had served as the head of Hamas's intelligence staff during the October 7, 2023 attacks and



was appointed around a week ago to replace Ezzeddine al-Haddad, who was killed in an earlier Israeli strike in Gaza two weeks ago. According to Israel, Odeh was responsible for the killing, abduction and injury of several Israeli civilians and IDF soldiers. Netanyahu also confirmed the operation in a post on X, vowing to target all those involved in the October 7 attacks. "We have now struck

Muhammad Odeh — the leader of Hamas's military wing and one of the architects of the October 7 massacre. We will get to all of them," Netanyahu said. Meanwhile, Israel continued carrying out air strikes in southern Lebanon following an escalation in operations against Hezbollah, Al Jazeera reported. According to the report, multiple air strikes hit towns including Burj Rahal, Kawthariyat al-Ruz, Srifa, as-Sawana and Qabrikha in southern Lebanon.

Al Jazeera Arabic reported that Israeli air strikes across southern Lebanon killed 31 people and injured 40 others on

Tuesday. The escalation comes after Netanyahu on Sunday instructed the Israeli military to intensify operations against Hezbollah following increased drone attacks and signals from US officials that Washington would support broader action against the Iran-backed group, according to The Times of Israel. "We are at war with Hezbollah. Just in recent weeks, our brave fighters have eliminated more than 600 terrorists," Netanyahu said in a video statement. "But we are not taking our foot off the gas. On the contrary, I have instructed them to press the pedal even harder," he added.

FROM FRONT PAGE

SC Upholds EC's.....

On January 29, the top court reserved its verdict on the pleas, including one filed by the NGO Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR). The SIR in Bihar was conducted in the first phase of the exercise.

The top court commenced final arguments in the matter on August 12 last year, when it observed that inclusion or exclusion of names in the electoral rolls falls within the constitutional remit of the Election Commission. The poll authority had come out with the names of 65 lakh people who were removed from the draft electoral rolls published as part of the SIR exercise. According to the SIR notification, voters who were not present in the

2002 or 2003 rolls had to show ancestral linkage with someone present in the rolls then. Defending the SIR exercise, the EC maintained that Aadhaar and voter identity cards cannot be treated as conclusive proof of citizenship. The petitioners alleged that the electoral rolls revision was an "NRC-like process" where the poll body was verifying citizenship, a power which vests in the central government.

Sidda to Reveal.....

However, Karnataka Public Works Minister Satish Jarkiholi, considered close to Siddaramaiah, said no official decision had been made yet regarding the Chief Minister's resignation. "Nothing is official yet over Siddaramaiah's resignation as

Chief Minister. There are indications that he could step down, but clarity will emerge only after the breakfast meeting hosted by Siddaramaiah on Thursday at Kaveri," Jarkiholi said.

He also clarified that he had not personally spoken to Siddaramaiah about the outcome of the Delhi meeting. Meanwhile, Congress MLA Iqbal Hussain, considered close to DK Shivakumar, said the party's central leadership had arrived at a decision and that the uncertainty surrounding the transfer of power had ended. DK Shivakumar, who is currently in New Delhi, will fly to Bengaluru to attend the breakfast meeting being hosted by the Chief Minister. Karnataka Public Works Minister Satish Jarkiholi, considered a close

confidant of Siddaramaiah, confirmed that he would attend the breakfast meeting at 'Kaveri.' Satish Jarkiholi said the meeting would provide clarity on the outcome of Siddaramaiah's lengthy discussions with the Congress high command. Primary and Secondary Education Minister Madhu Bangarappa also confirmed receiving an invitation for the breakfast meeting.

ED Raids Part

Vijayan further claimed that the search may provide "mental satisfaction" to leaders such as Rahul Gandhi, alleging that the Congress leader had repeatedly questioned why his residence had not been searched and why he had not been arrested. Claiming that opposition

leaders across the country were facing similar action from central agencies, Vijayan alleged that the Congress was maintaining silence over ED proceedings against leaders of other parties. The ED action is linked to allegations that Cochin Minerals and Rutile Ltd (CMRL) paid Rs 1.72 crore to Exalogic Solutions, owned by Vijayan's daughter T Veena, between 2018 and 2019, without receiving any services in return.

Officials said searches were being conducted at around 10 premises across Kerala under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). The searches came a day after the Kerala High Court dismissed a plea by CMRL seeking to quash the ED proceedings in the case.

Iran's Big Claim.....

However, the United States has denied the accuracy of the memorandum of understanding and said that it is a "complete fabrication".

"This report from Iranian controlled media is not true and the MOU they 'released' is a complete fabrication. Nobody should believe what Iranian state media is putting out. FACTS MATTER," the White House wrote on X.

Although talks on peace between both nations are ongoing, on Tuesday, the US military has launched new strikes on southern Iran, targeting Iranian missile sites and boats attempting to place mines, in what it described as a 'self-defence' action. Hours after new US strikes, American President Donald Trump said in a social media post.

CRIME

Rs 1,150 Crore Worth Cocaine Seized From Vessel Off Mundra Coast

AHMEDABAD
Wakeup telangana

In a major anti-narcotics operation, the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and the Gujarat Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) jointly seized 115 kg of cocaine worth an estimated Rs 1,150 crore from a container vessel off the Mundra coast in Gujarat. Officials said the operation was carried out during the intervening night of May 25 and 26 based on specific intelligence inputs regarding drug smuggling through maritime routes.

According to an official release, ATS Gujarat shared intelligence about a suspected narcotics consignment being transported by sea. Acting swiftly, ICG interceptor



boats carrying ATS personnel launched an extensive search operation in the Mundra anchorage area. During surveillance, officials noticed suspicious activity aboard a container vessel identified as MV Europe, which was anchored about five nautical miles off the Mundra coast.

The joint team observed several bags being thrown into the sea from the vessel under the cover of darkness. Despite poor visibility, Coast Guard

and ATS personnel quickly moved to the location and successfully recovered five bags floating in the water.

A subsequent examination revealed 115 packets containing a white powdery substance, each weighing around one kilogram. Preliminary tests confirmed the substance to be cocaine. The total quantity seized was approximately 115 kg, with an estimated international market value of Rs 1,150 crore.

Investigators revealed that two foreign nationals had brought the consignment aboard the ship for delivery to a Tanzanian national and a Ugandan national based in Delhi. The vessel has since been escorted to port for detailed examination and further investigation.

Authorities have launched a comprehensive probe involving the ICG, Gujarat ATS and other central agencies to identify the entire smuggling network and trace its international links. Officials are also examining the vessel's crew, cargo records and communication details as part of the investigation.

This operation marks the 15th successful anti-narcotics mission jointly conducted by the Indian

ACB Conducts Surprise Inspections at Kondapur RTA Office

RANGAREDDY
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh

The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Wednesday conducted surprise inspections at the Regional Transport Authority (RTA) office in Kondapur, along with inspections at Medchal and Nagole RTA offices in Hyderabad.

According to officials, the inspections were launched following several complaints regarding

alleged corruption, bribery, delays in file clearances, and the involvement of unauthorized private agents in RTA operations. Special ACB teams examined vehicle registration files, driving licence records, cash transactions, and other official documents during the inspections.

Officials are also investigating the alleged use of secret code systems and illegal methods reportedly being used by

intermediaries to facilitate bribes and speed up pending works.

Sources said the inspections aim to identify irregularities within the department and expose any nexus between RTA staff and private agents who allegedly collect extra money from applicants for faster processing of services.

The ACB is expected to continue its investigation and take further action based on the findings of the inspections.

Chain-Snatching Bid on Woman Foiled in Kompally

An alert resident foiled the attempts of a person to snatch a gold chain from a woman at Jayabheri Colony in Kompally.

The accused entered an oil shop on the pretext of a customer and tried to snatch gold from a woman sitting inside. When she raised an alarm, local residents rushed to her rescue and caught hold of the accused.

The residents assaulted the accused before handing him over to the police, who booked a case and took up investigation.

Boy drowns in Kushaiguda pool

An 11-year-old boy drowned in a swimming pool at a sports complex in Kushaiguda on Monday evening. The deceased, a Class VI student at ECIL, and resident of BN Reddy Nagar, Cherlapally, had gone to the pool at Sportivo Sports Arena when the incident occurred.

According to initial information, he drowned under circumstances yet to be ascertained. Staff and others rushed him out of the water and shifted him to a nearby private hospital, where doctors declared him dead on arrival.

Hyderabad man gets 20 years for raping minor he lured with marriage promise

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A city court has sentenced a 22-year-old Hyderabad man to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment for raping a 15-year-old girl after luring her away from home on the pretext of marriage, police said on Tuesday.

The XII Additional Sessions Judge, Nampally, convicted Vadloori Pavan, a resident of Bagh Lingampally, under Section 376(3) (rape committed

on a girl or woman who is under 16 years of age) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Section 5(l) read with Section 6 of the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act. He was also directed to pay a fine of Rs 10,000.

According to the police, the accused had been in contact with the minor over the phone. When the girl's parents discovered the relationship and questioned her about him, she left home without informing anyone on July 16,

2022. The accused then took her to his house on the promise of marriage and sexually assaulted her.

The victim's mother filed a complaint the following day at Amberpet Police Station.

The case was referred to the Bharosa Centre, which provided counselling and emotional support to the victim and her family throughout the trial. The family expressed relief at the conviction, police said.

Cyberabad Cybercrime Police Detect 6 Cases, Arrest 10 Offenders

RANGAREDDY
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh

Cybercrime Police, Cyberabad, detected six cybercrime cases and arrested 10 offenders from different states between May 20 and May 26, 2026, during a special crackdown on online fraud networks.

Police said the cases included trading fraud, impersonation fraud, digital arrest fraud, job fraud, and vishing call fraud. Investigations revealed that organized cybercrime gangs were operating across multiple states.



In a major case, fraudsters cheated a victim of ₹7.19 lakh through a fake stock trading and IPO investment app named "ACEFD" and a WhatsApp group called "77 Accel Partners Stock Exchange Group." The accused allegedly promised

huge profits, displayed fake returns in the app, and collected money through multiple bank accounts before blocking withdrawals.

Cybercrime Police arrested three accused from Delhi — Asim Khan, Shazeb Khan, and Mohd

Kamran — for allegedly providing bank accounts to route cheated money in exchange for commissions.

Police also processed 440 refund orders in 70 cases and facilitated the return of ₹1.39 crore to cyber fraud victims through court directions.

Cyberabad Cybercrime Police advised the public not to trust social media investment groups or fake trading apps promising guaranteed profits and urged citizens to report cyber frauds immediately through the cyber helpline 1930.

EDITORIAL

IF THERE IS ANY OBJECTION TO A NEWS PUBLICATION

"Prove It Legally With Evidence"

TJRA State General Secretary Strongly Condemns Insulting Remarks Against Small Newspapers

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telugu News paper Representative The issue relating to criticism against small newspapers over a recent news publication on alleged illegal timber transportation has triggered serious discussion among journalist circles across the region.

Responding strongly to the controversy, the State General Secretary of the Telangana Journalists & Reporters Association (TJRA) condemned the insulting remarks allegedly made against small newspapers and working journalists.

He stated that journalism should never be measured by the size of a publication, but by its commitment to truth, public awareness, and social responsibility.

"There is no small news or big news... News is what brings



unknown facts before society," he remarked. The TJRA leader further clarified that if anyone has objections regarding a news publication, they should respond through proper legal channels with supporting evidence and factual clarification instead of insulting journalists or attacking independent media organizations.

"If there is any issue with a news publication, prove it with documents and proceed legally. Democratic systems provide legal remedies

for everyone. But humiliating journalists and small newspapers is completely unacceptable," he asserted strongly.

He observed that many local newspapers and rural journalists work under difficult conditions to highlight public issues, corruption, and illegal activities that might otherwise remain hidden from society. Attempts to divert attention from the main issue by targeting the media only raise more doubts among the public, he said.

Senior journalists also expressed solidarity with the reporters who published the news, emphasizing that questioning unlawful activities is a fundamental responsibility of the press.

They warned that attempts to suppress media voices through intimidation or derogatory comments would be opposed collectively by journalist organizations.

The TJRA leadership demanded that the concerned authorities conduct a fair and transparent inquiry into the allegations related to illegal timber transportation and take action strictly based on facts and evidence.

"Truth can be challenged in a court of law, but not by insulting journalism itself," journalist leaders stated during their protest reaction.

DREAM OF THE RAREBIT FIEND



Industry Calls for Balanced, Future-Ready Framework for Telangana Gig Workers Bill

Seeks wider stakeholder consultations and practical welfare measures that preserve flexibility, innovation, and job creation

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Forum For Progressive Gig Workers in India have urged the Government of Telangana to adopt a balanced, growth-oriented, and future-ready regulatory approach while finalizing the Telangana Platform-Based Gig Workers Bill, 2026, emphasizing the need to protect worker welfare without undermining the flexibility and scalability that define the platform economy. In a representation submitted to the Government, the forum welcomed Telangana's progressive intent to recognize platform-based gig workers and build a welfare framework for the sector. The representation noted that Telangana has emerged as one of India's



leading digital economy hubs, where the platform economy plays a critical role in enabling flexible earning opportunities, entrepreneurship, logistics efficiency, and economic participation for thousands of individuals, including women, students, migrants, and first-time workers.

K. Narsimhan, Convener, Forum For Progressive Gig Workers in India, said, "Telangana has the opportunity to create a model framework that balances worker welfare with innovation, flexibil-

ity, entrepreneurship, and economic growth," the representation stated. While social security and worker welfare are important policy objectives, an overly prescriptive or employment-style regulatory framework could unintentionally disrupt the operational flexibility that enables the gig economy to function effectively at scale."

Among the key recommendations made to the Government were: Preserving the distinction between gig work and traditional employment rela-

tionships, as recognized under the Code on Social Security, 2020. Ensuring compliance obligations remain practical, proportionate, and suited to the realities of platform-based work. Avoiding duplication of regulatory mechanisms already covered under existing laws and institutional frameworks. Creating a predictable and sustainable welfare contribution framework aligned with central legislation. Encouraging continued investment, innovation, platform growth, and earning opportunities across Telangana's digital economy ecosystem. The representation noted that certain provisions resembling traditional employment structures — including fixed remuneration frame-

work, notice periods, enquiry processes, and restrictions around operational flexibility — may create legal uncertainty and impact the efficiency of platform-based services.

It further emphasized that the objective should not be to regulate the gig economy in a manner analogous to conventional employment relationships, but rather to create a modern, flexible, and sustainable framework tailored to the evolving nature of platform work. The representation also urged the Government to undertake wider stakeholder consultations before finalizing the Rules to ensure that the framework remains practical, implementable, and supportive of long-term economic growth and job creation.

PL Capital AMC Sees Strong Market Rebound

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

PL Asset Management, the asset management arm of PL Capital, has reported a strong recovery in Indian equities during April 2026, driven by improving liquidity, resilient domestic economic fundamentals, and sustained participation from domestic investors despite ongoing global uncertainties. According to the firm's latest market outlook, Indian equities witnessed one of their strongest monthly rebounds in recent years after the correction seen in March. The Nifty gained 7.46%, while Midcap and Smallcap indices surged 13.22% and 17.10%, respectively. The rally was led by domestic cyclical sectors including industrials, defence, real estate, metals, energy, and financials, reflecting renewed confidence in India's long-term growth

prospects. PL Asset Management highlighted strong domestic economic indicators supporting the rally. GST collections touched a record ₹2.42 lakh crore in April, up 8.7% year-on-year, while the Manufacturing PMI rose to 55.9 from 53.9 in March, signaling robust economic activity at the start of FY27.

Despite challenges such as rising inflation, geopolitical tensions, and foreign institutional investor (FII) outflows of nearly ₹1.9 lakh crore since the beginning of 2026, Indian markets remained resilient. The firm attributed the FII selling largely to global capital reallocations toward AI-driven opportunities in developed markets.

Commenting on the outlook, Siddharth Vora said improving market breadth, attractive valuations, and opportunities across select

sectors continue to support a positive medium-term view. The firm remains constructive on domestic cyclicals, industrials, defence, metals, energy, and financials.

PL Asset Management's flagship AQUA (Adaptive Quantitative Unbiased Alpha) strategy delivered 10.74% returns in April, outperforming the BSE 500 TRI benchmark's 10.38%. Since inception, AQUA has generated an annualised return of 20.40% compared to the benchmark's 13.81%.

The firm's Multi-Asset Dynamic Portfolio (MADP) strategy also outperformed, delivering 9.04% returns against the Nifty Multi Asset Index's 5.65%. Over three years, MADP achieved an annualised CAGR of 15.18%, exceeding the benchmark return of 12.25%, supported by diversified exposure across equities and gold.

Rapido Launches 'Rest Spaces' for Gig Workers Across Mumbai

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

In a significant step towards improving the working conditions of gig economy workers, ride-hailing platform Rapido has launched dedicated support and rest spaces for riders and delivery partners across Mumbai. The initiative aims to provide much-needed relief to workers who spend long hours on the road, often under challenging weather con-

ditions and demanding schedules.

The newly established rest spaces offer a range of facilities designed to support workers during their shifts. These include shaded seating areas, free refreshments, mobile charging stations, and designated short-break zones where riders can rest and recover before resuming work. The initiative has been widely appreciated as a practical and compassionate effort to address



the day-to-day challenges faced by gig workers.

The move comes at a time when India's gig workforce is increasingly

drawing attention for its role in powering the country's rapidly expanding digital economy. Delivery executives and ride-hailing partners

often work extended hours to meet growing consumer demand, making access to rest and recovery facilities especially important.

Rapido's initiative has received positive reactions on social media, with users and industry observers praising the company for going beyond conventional employment benefits. Many have highlighted that such facilities acknowledge the physical strain experienced by riders

and demonstrate a commitment to their well-being.

Beyond its social impact, the initiative also reflects a strategic response to operational challenges faced during extreme summer conditions. Heatwaves across several Indian cities have led many delivery and ride-hailing workers to temporarily log off from platforms to avoid heat-related health risks. This reduction in active riders often results in

longer delivery times, increased wait periods, and higher surge pricing for customers.

By creating dedicated rest zones, Rapido seeks to help workers stay comfortable and productive while reducing fatigue. The facilities enable riders to cool down, hydrate, recharge their mobile devices, and take short breaks without leaving their work areas, thereby supporting continued service availability during peak demand

periods.

A notable aspect of the initiative is that these rest spaces are open not only to Rapido captains but also to riders associated with platforms such as Zomato, Swiggy, and Blinkit. Industry experts view this inclusive approach as a smart ecosystem-building strategy that enhances goodwill among gig workers while strengthening Rapido's visibility and reputation within the broader delivery and mobility sector.

Mahanaadu 2026 Begins in Hybrid Mode at Hyderabad NTR Bhavan



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telugu Desam Party's prestigious annual conclave "Mahanaadu-2026" commenced on Wednesday, May 27, at NTR Bhavan in a grand hybrid digital format, combining physical participation with statewide virtual connectivity. Organised over two days, the event is being conducted with advanced digital technology and virtual cluster arrangements in view of international conditions and expenditure control measures. LED screens have been installed across party clusters statewide, enabling cadre and supporters to participate virtually. This year's Mahanaadu

is centered on the theme "Stree Shakti" (Women Empowerment), with extensive discussions planned on women's welfare, leadership, and empowerment. Other major topics include youth employment opportunities under "Yuvagalam," welfare initiatives for weaker sections, and strengthening the role of party workers under the slogan "Karyakartae Adhineta."

Senior leaders and party representatives gathered at NTR Bhavan, including Katragadda Prasuna, Bantu Venkateswarlu, Kandikanti Ashok, Bhuvanagiri Krishnamachari, Paidi Gopal Reddy, Pochu Jayaram, SC Cell Ashok, Harish, Ashok Goud, Suryadevara Latha, and Sripathi Satish.

SKF Awards Global AI-Led Business Transformation Contract to TCS

The long-term collaboration will modernise SKF's existing IT landscape and create an AI foundation for greater agility, resilience and operational efficiency across the enterprise

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) (BSE: 532540, NSE: TCS), a global leader in IT services, consulting, and business solutions, has entered into a strategic partnership with SKF to accelerate intelligent transformation across its global operations. Through this collaboration, TCS will enable SKF to build a future-ready digital enterprise, leveraging AI to reimagine industrial manufacturing business. As part of the engagement, TCS will provide end to end managed services across applications, infrastructure, data, and user services, security, and connectivity for SKF across the globe. Combining its deep manufacturing and IT expertise with AI-led agentic workflows, TCS will modernise and simplify global technology landscape. The program will also standardise operations, strengthen domain led technology architec-



ture, modernise core infrastructure, and accelerate the design and adoption of next-generation Enterprise Resource Planning platform. Rickard Gustafson, CEO, SKF, said, "The next decade of industrial manufacturing will be defined by how deeply companies integrate AI into how they design, produce, and serve. SKF intends to lead that shift. With TCS as our partner, we are not just modernising our technology, we are also building the operational and AI foundations that will set new standards for precision and customer value across our industry. This is a long-term commitment, made between two companies that share a conviction about where

industrial manufacturing is heading."

K. Krithivasan, MD and CEO, Tata Consultancy Services, said, "Our partnership with SKF is centred on modernising its global IT landscape and building a resilient, scalable digital foundation for the future. Together, we are applying data driven intelligence and AI to create an agile enterprise that can adapt to technological and market change while supporting long term sustainable growth and competitiveness. This collaboration reflects our joint commitment for making SKF an AI-native, industry-leading technology-driven industrial manufacturer. TCS will bring its deep domain expertise with advanced

technology and partnership ecosystem to deliver outcome driven, enterprise scale business transformation across the value chain."

This partnership will help SKF create a globally connected operating model, combining centralised, AI enabled systems and harmonised processes with the flexibility to meet local market needs. It supports SKF to embed AI in every layer across IT, business and products thereby driving faster growth, enhancing customer experience, and advancing strategic priorities at both global and regional levels. TCS' full stack AI approach spanning infrastructure to intelligence and access to cutting-edge innovation ecosystems will help SKF create a fit-for-purpose operating environment which will host business transformation initiatives across the industrial value chain for improved customer centricity and market differentiation.

Jio Introduces a New ₹200 OTT Pass

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Jio today introduced a new ₹200 Jio OTT Pass, a single 28-day pack that combines access to 15 premium OTT apps, over 1,000 live TV channels on JioTV, 30 GB of high-speed data, and unlimited 5G for the duration of the user's base plan validity. The new pass goes live across online and offline channels from today, 27 May 2026, and is available to all Jio users with an active base plan. Positioned as a stand-alone entertainment proposition, the new ₹200 Jio OTT Pass brings together video streaming, live television, and high-speed connectivity into one accessible, fixed-price pack, offering consumers benefits worth approximately ₹1,500 a month for just ₹200.

The pass includes subscriptions to 15 premium OTT platforms in a single pack. Users will get access to YouTube Premium with ad-free viewing across TV, tablet, and mobile devices, along with background play and offline downloads. The pack also includes JioHotstar Mobile + Hollywood for live sports, Hotstar Originals, and blockbuster Hollywood content, as well as Prime Video Mobile Edition for Amazon Prime Video access on mobile devices. In addition, users can access 12 more OTT platforms through JioTV, including SonyLIV, ZEE5, Lionsgate Play, Discovery+, Sun NXT, FanCode, Kanccha Lannka, Planet Marathi, Chaupal, Hoichoi, TimesPlay, and Tarang Plus. Subscribers will also get access to more than 1,000 live TV channels on JioTV, including over 150 paid channels from leading broadcasters. This includes channels from JioStar such as Star Plus HD and Colors HD; Sony Entertainment channels including SET HD and Sony SAB HD; Sun TV Network channels such as Sun TV HD and KTV HD; Warner Bros. Discovery channels including Discovery Channel and Animal Planet; and ETV regional entertainment and movie channels, among others.

Bobby Deol Says Alpha's Action Ensured 'Tough Shoot' for Him and Alia Bhatt

Bollywood actor Bobby Deol shared that he thoroughly enjoyed shooting for Alpha and had a great experience working alongside Alia Bhatt. Speaking about the film, Bobby said he had always wanted to collaborate with Alia and her husband, actor Ranbir Kapoor. "I'm very fond of Ranbir and Alia, and I always wanted to work with both of them. With Ranbir, I did 'Animal', and now with Alia, I have now done 'Alpha'. I had the best time working with both of them," Bobby said in a statement. Produced by Aditya Chopra under the banner of Yash Raj Films, 'Alpha' stars Alia Bhatt and Sharvari in lead roles, with Bobby Deol and Anil Kapoor also featuring in pivotal parts. Calling Alpha a refreshing project, he added, "It is quite amazing that we are making an action film in India, like 'Alpha', featuring two girls doing action on screen. I like 'Alpha' a lot because it is new, it is refreshing, and a new



visual for the audience to watch in theatres. "The actor also praised Alia Bhatt's dedication and preparation for the physically demanding role.

"Alia is one of the most hardworking and sincere actors I've worked with. She comes to the set completely prepared, deeply invested in every scene," Deol said. "She has never done this kind of action before, and I was amazed seeing how prepared she was for the shoot. I could see

she was giving her all because action is hard to pull off, and she went for it," Bobby added. Speaking about the film's action design, Bobby credited producer Aditya Chopra and director Shiv Rawail for aiming to create grounded and realistic action sequences. "Adi and the director Shiv Rawail had a clear vision that action should look real and raw. So, it was a tough shoot for both of us, and I'm glad we have a film that everyone should sit back,

relax, and hopefully enjoy thoroughly," he said. The film is directed by Shiv Rawail, who previously directed the series 'The Railway Men.'

It is produced by Aditya Chopra under the banner of Yash Raj Films. 'Alpha' marks the sixth installment in the highly successful YRF Spy Universe, which already boasts blockbusters such as 'Ek Tha Tiger,' 'Tiger Zinda Hai,' 'War,' and 'Pathaan.' Alpha is set to release in theatres on July 10,

Suriya Makes Strong Comeback in Telugu States, Huge Relief

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

After setbacks with films like Kanguva and Retro, Tamil star Suriya appears to have bounced back strongly in the Telugu states with Veerabhadru, regaining both confidence and box-office momentum. "Tamil star Suriya has made a big comeback in Tollywood, and it is a huge relief for him," says producer Raj Kandukuri, adding that Suriya finally picked the right script. "Playing a larger-than-life role with a divine touch has worked very well with Telugu audiences in both states," he says.

According to trade sources, the film has collected nearly Rs 13 crore share in the Telugu states from a gross of around Rs 25 crore, which is considered a solid number for a dubbed film. "Suriya had been missing successful outings with Telugu audiences for quite some time. I still remember films



like Ghajini and Yamudu rocking the box office in the Telugu states and earning him immense fan following here. Of course, he later moved towards OTT-oriented content and impressed viewers with films like Jai Bhim and Soorarai Pottru, showcasing his versatility," he points out.

The anti-corruption drama has reportedly crossed Rs 200 crore gross worldwide, once again proving

that stardom and collections are closely tied to theatrical performance, especially amid the ongoing tussle between producers and exhibitors in the Telugu states. "Theatres will always remain the true barometer for stardom and popularity because everything depends on footfalls. Superstars are made in theatres, and that charm can never be replaced," he concludes.

Veteran Sports Administrator Randhir Singh Passes Away

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Veteran sports administrator and India's first shooting gold-medallist in Asian Games, Randhir Singh, died here on Wednesday after battling age-related ailments, marking the end of an era in the country's sporting landscape on which he left a lasting impact in varied roles. Singh was 79 and had undergone hospitalisation for several days before breathing his last at his residence here. He is survived by his wife Vinita and three daughters -- Mahima, Sunaina and Rajeshwari, who is also a shooter.

Singh recently quit his position as the President of the Olympic Council of Asia (OCA) due to health issues, ending his run of over four decades as a sports administrator. He was elected to the OCA top position for a four-year term in 2024, having already served the body as Secretary General from 1991 to 2015. Singh's last rites will be conducted in Haridwar on Thursday afternoon. "With deep sorrow, we share the sad news of the passing of Raja Randhir Singh, who



left for his heavenly abode today, on 27th May 2026," Secretary of the National Rifles Association of India (NRAI), Rajiv Bhatia, stated.

"A distinguished Olympian, Arjuna Awardee, and one of the most respected sports administrators in India, Asia, and the International Olympic Committee, Raja Randhir Singh, made invaluable contributions to the development of shooting sports and the Olympic movement. "The National Rifle Association of India and the entire shooting fraternity mourn this irreparable loss and extend heartfelt condolences to his family and loved ones. May his noble soul rest in eternal peace," he added. Singh's death triggered an outpouring of condolence

messages as administrators current and former, along with top athletes issued emotional tributes, lauding his role in Indian sports. Singh's stellar sporting career included five Olympic appearances and the historic trap gold in the 1978 Bangkok Asian Games that earned him the Arjuna Award in 1979. His Olympic appearances came in Tokyo 1964 (Reserve Shooter), Mexico 1968, Munich 1972, Montreal 1976, Moscow 1980 and Los Angeles 1984. In his equally successful administrative career, he served as the Secretary General of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) from 1987 to 2010 and was also a member of the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

Vaibhav Sooryavanshi Overtakes Gayle For Most Sixes in an IPL Season

MULLANPUR
Wakeup telangana

Rajasthan Royals (RR) prodigy Vaibhav Sooryavanshi surpassed West Indies legend Chris Gayle for most sixes in a single Indian Premier League (IPL) edition and in a T20 tournament. Sooryavanshi achieved this milestone during his side's IPL eliminator match against Sunrisers Hyderabad (SRH), slamming a stormy 97 in just 29 balls, with five fours and 12 massive sixes. His runs came at a strike rate of 334.48.

Sooryavanshi has smashed 65 sixes so far in the ongoing IPL season, outdoing Gayle's tally of 59 sixes in the 2012 edition. Sooryavanshi has also levelled with Gayle for most in-



stances of hitting 10-plus sixes in an IPL innings, a total of four times. Three of these occasions have come this season, making him the first batter to hit 10-plus sixes in three IPL innings in a season. The 15-year-old's take down of cricket leg-

ends one by one continues as he also surpassed Sri Lankan legend Sanath Jayasuriya's tally of seven powerplay sixes during the IPL 2008 clash between Mumbai Indians (MI) and Chennai Super Kings (CSK), with eight sixes in the power-

play at Mullanpur. Sooryavanshi is the batter with the most runs coming in the powerplay during an IPL season, with 490 runs, overtaking Australian legend David Warner, who scored 467 runs for SRH in the 2016 edition. This is also his fifth fifty-

plus score in the power play in IPL, with only Warner (six such scores) ahead of him. He has also joined Suresh Raina (87 against Punjab Kings in 2014) and Adam Gilchrist (74 against Delhi Daredevils in 2009) for fifty-plus scores made during powerplay in an IPL knockout/playoff match.

This is Sooryavanshi's fifth fifty in less than 20 balls, with only Abhishek Sharma (six) above him. Sooryavanshi establishes new IPL playoff records The 15-year-old's 16-ball half-century tied with Raina's 16-ball fifty (against PBKS in 2014) for the joint-fastest fifty in an IPL knockout/playoff match.

SCBA Condemns Brutal Murder of Senior Advocate in Hyderabad

The Supreme Court Bar Association on Tuesday condemned the "planned, brutal, and shocking murder" of senior advocate Khaja Moizuddin in Hyderabad and sought a "fair, expeditious and thorough investigation" for bringing perpetrators to justice. Senior lawyer Khaza Moizuddin, 63, died after being allegedly run over by unidentified assailants in an SUV on May 23. The Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA), headed by senior advocate Vikas Singh, issued a statement, saying, "The attack resulting in the death of a member of the Bar is not merely a crime against an individual but an assault on the institution of justice itself." The resolution, signed by SCBA Secretary Pragna Baghel, said the death "clearly looks like a planned, brutal and shocking murder of the senior advocate". "The incident has deeply disturbed the legal fraternity and raises serious concerns regarding the safety and security of advocates discharging their professional duties... The legal profession forms an essential pillar of the justice delivery system, and any act of violence against advocates strikes at the very foundation of the rule of law," the statement said.

Rains Cool Hyderabad in May, IMD Sounds Thunderstorm Alert

TGDPS data showed light rain across all Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation circles, with higher cumulative rainfall reported in Gajularamaram, Ramachandrapuram-Patancheru and Quthbullapur zones

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Relentless overnight rain brought rare late-May relief to Hyderabad and several Telangana districts on Wednesday, pulling temperatures down after days of severe heatwave conditions even as the India Meteorological Department (IMD) warned of more thunderstorms, lightning and strong winds across the state. Mahabubnagar district recorded the highest rainfall in the state, with Bhoothpur receiving 111.8 mm, followed by Parpalli in Koilkonda at 106.5 mm and Bhoothpur town at 102.5 mm, according to Telangana Development Planning Society (TGDPS) data. Heavy rain also lashed



Nagarkurnool, Wanaparthy, Siddipet, Sangareddy, Nalgonda and Jogulamba Gadwal districts overnight.

Hyderabad witnessed widespread steady rain through the night across Miyapur, Chandanagar, Lingampally, Gachibowli, Madhapur, Kukatpally,

Uppal, LB Nagar, Hayathnagar and several other areas. TGDPS data showed light rain across all Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation circles, with higher cumulative rainfall reported in Gajularamaram, Ramachandrapuram-Patancheru and Quthbullapur zones.

The IMD issued an orange warning for multiple districts, including Hyderabad, Karimnagar, Khammam, Mahabubabad, Medak, Siddipet, Suryapet and Warangal, forecasting light to moderate rain, thunderstorms and gusty winds over the next few hours. Stronger winds of 41-61 kmph were likely in districts such as Rangareddy, Sangareddy, Vikarabad, Wanaparthy, Narayanpet, Mahabubnagar and Jogulamba Gadwal. Despite the rain, heatwave conditions are expected to continue in parts of north and east Telangana. Temperatures touched 44.8°C in Khammam on Tuesday, while Bhadradi Kothagudem recorded 44.2°C and Ramagundam crossed 44°C.

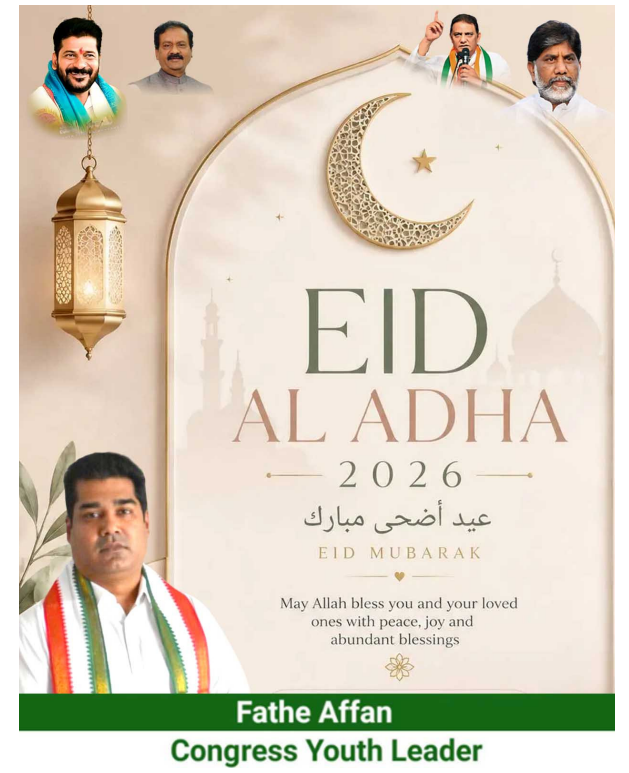
Bandi Bageerath shifted for questioning in POCSO case

Police shifted Bandi Bageerath from the Cherlapally Central Prison on Wednesday, May 27, for questioning as part of the ongoing investigation into the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) case against him.

He was first taken to the Medchal Government Hospital for a medical examination, after which the police took him to Aranya farmhouse in Moinsabad to conduct an on-site investigation. A local court on Tuesday granted police a two-day custody of Bageerath.

A POCSO case was registered against Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay's son, Bandi Bageerath, at the Pet Bageerath police station on May 8, following allegations made by the family of a 17-year-old girl.

According to the complainant, Bageerath made the victim consume alcohol and sexually assaulted her at a farmhouse on the outskirts of Hyderabad on two separate occasions. Meanwhile, Bageerath filed a counter-complaint with the police in Karimnagar alleging extortion and intimidation by the girl and her parents.



Goat, Sheep Prices Soar Ahead of Bakrid

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

With Bakrid approaching, the city's goat and sheep markets are witnessing the usual festive bustle - but this year, soaring prices have taken the sheen off the trade. At Tolichowki, one of the city's biggest markets, vendors say goat and sheep prices have climbed sharply this season and several roadside vendors also confirm this trend. They blame rising fuel prices, which have made transportation costlier, along with higher fodder costs, for the spike in rates.

Traders say transporting costs have shot up significantly, with freight charges more than doubling in some cases. Last year the rate was Rs 20,000 and now the price has gone up by Rs 8,000, quoted one trader. The labour costs involved in rearing the goats have also

increased, he said. With petrol costs going up, the transportation costs have also gone. Earlier, people who would purchase two goats are now taking only one.

The lightweight goats, generally under 20-25 kg, are priced anywhere between Rs.12,000 - Rs. 20,000, while those weighing 30 kg and 50 kg are priced at Rs. 22,000 - Rs.40,000. The heavier premium goats weighing between 55 kg and 90 kg, which are some of the biggest attractions at Bakra Mandis, cost around Rs. 40,000 - Rs.90,000, reports state. Bakrid, also known as Eid al-Adha, commemorates the spirit of sacrifice and charity, and traditionally drives strong demand for goats and sheep across the country. But traders remain hopeful that last-minute customers will revive demand closer to the festival.

Devagiri Express passenger arrested with Rs 1.2 crore unaccounted cash



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In a major crackdown on illegal hawala transactions, the Government Railway Police (GRP) Secunderabad and the Railway Protection Force (RPF), on Tuesday, May 27, seized Rs. 1,22,70,000 in unaccounted cash from a passenger travelling on the Devagiri Express.

At around 3:00 pm, officials intercepted the 40-year-old carrying a suspicious luggage bag between Bollaram and Malkajgiri railway stations. He was travelling from Mumbai to Secunderabad.

The individual was identified as Vijay Ambadas Gupta from Amaravati, Maharashtra. During interrogation, Gupta re-

vealed he had received the cash from a person identified as Santosh Seth, who allegedly operates Kantha Jewellery in Mumbai.

Gupta was transporting the amount to Secunderabad to hand it over to another individual identified as Banti, who runs a jewellery shop at Monda Market here. Police said Gupta was promised Rs 5,000 for transporting the cash.

Officials stated that the cash was suspected to be linked to hawala transactions associated with the jewellery business. However, Gupta failed to produce any valid documents or provide a satisfactory explanation regarding the source, ownership, possession, or intended use of the money.

Balka Suman Alleges Congress Diverting Attention From Farmers

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Former MLA and BRS leader Balka Suman alleged that the Congress government was targeting him and attempting to distort his remarks made at a Singareni Karmika Sangam meeting to divert public attention from pressing issues concerning Singareni workers and farmers.

Addressing the media, Suman said the controversy surrounding his comments was deliberately created after senior BRS leader Harish



Rao raised allegations that nearly 40 lakh metric tonnes of coal had disappeared from Singareni. He claimed that instead of addressing those allegations, the ruling Congress was trying to shift the focus by demanding action against him.

Referring to reports that Congress MLCs and ministers Ponnambhakhar

and Adhuri Laxman had complained against him, Suman said a representation had reportedly been submitted to the DGP seeking registration of a case. He maintained that he was not afraid of legal action, recalling that he had faced 226 cases during the Telangana movement and had been jailed on multiple occasions.

Hyderabad Gears Up for Bakrid Prayers Across City



Special arrangements were made at Eidgah Mir Alam in Hyderabad for Eid-ul-Adha prayers as thousands of devotees gathered to offer namaz on the festive occasion.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Hyderabad will witness large-scale Eid al-Adha (Bakrid) prayers across multiple Eidgahs, playgrounds, function halls and open grounds on Thursday, May 28, beginning from 6 am. Thousands of devotees are expected to participate in the special congregational prayers organised in different parts of the city.

The first prayers will commence at 6 am at OR Palace Bandlaguda, Mohammadia Eidgah Uppally, Musarat Function Hall in Jahanuma and other locations. Additional prayer gatherings are

scheduled at Rajendranagar, New Malakpet, Sun City, Balapur Road, Yakuthpura, Talab Katta, Aram Ghar, Golconda, Nacharam, Chanchalguda, Masab Tank, Tolichowki, Lower Tank Bund, Quthbullapur, Sanathnagar, Dammaiguda, Medchal and Chilkalguda throughout the morning.

Major prayer venues include Quli Qutub Shah Stadium opposite City College, NTR Stadium at Lower Tank Bund and Chilkalguda Eidgah, where the final prayer session will be held at 10 am. Meanwhile, the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) has intensified sanitation and

solid waste management operations across the city ahead of the festival. Since May 26, civic teams have been conducting cleanliness drives, distributing garbage covers, inspecting Bakrid stalls and monitoring sanitation arrangements to ensure hygienic surroundings during the celebrations. Eid al-Adha, one of Islam's most significant festivals, commemorates the devotion and sacrifice of Prophet Ibrahim. The festival symbolises faith, compassion, gratitude and charity, with families gathering for prayers, festive meals and acts of kindness.

Six months after father's death, mother-son die by suicide in Hyderabad

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In a tragic incident, a mother and her 20-year-old son allegedly died by suicide in Abdullapurmet, Rangareddy, on Tuesday morning, May 27. Kaladar was a tailor by profession. A case has been registered, and further investigation is underway.

In a similar case, a 54-year-old temple priest, Varayoru Lakshminarasimhacharyulu, and his 25-year-old mentally challenged son, Pavan

Kumar Acharyulu, allegedly died by suicide in Jangaon district.

According to locals, the priest had been in deep distress ever since his wife, Sridevi, passed away a month ago following a prolonged illness.

He had repeatedly expressed his desire to end his life along with his son, who was entirely dependent on him. Their bodies were found in the pond of the very temple where Lakshminarasimhacharyulu served for two decades.

court sends man to jail for misbehaving with woman

A court in Hyderabad sentenced a 24-year-old man to five days in jail for misbehaving with a woman and creating a public nuisance.

The incident took place in the area that falls under the jurisdiction of Malakpet Police Station.

The accused who was identified as N. Sudheer Kumar is a resident of Shaivahan Nagar, Musarambagh in Hyderabad. According to police, the man was caught behaving inappropriately with a woman.

Following the incident, Malakpet Police registered an E-Petty Case under Section 70-C of the City Police Act.

Driver Rescued After Hour-Long Effort in Hayathnagar Accident

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A tipper driver was rescued after a nearly hour-long effort by police and ambulance personnel following a road accident near Hayathnagar Police Station on the Hyderabad-Vijayawada National Highway on Wednesday. The accident occurred in the early hours when a tipper lorry rammed into a



stationary container truck from behind.

The driver, identified as Sampangi Naveen from Chinnaraviryala village,

got trapped inside the mangled cabin due to the impact. Rescue teams used cutters to extricate him from the vehicle. Naveen, who sustained serious injuries, was shifted to a nearby private hospital for treatment. The incident caused traffic disruption on the busy highway, with vehicles diverted through the service road until normalcy was restored.

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