



**Rythu Discom will become noose around neck of farmers, Harish Rao: P8**



**King vs Prince: Kohli-Gill Headline the IPL 2026 Final: P7**

**Fulfill 420 promises before contesting elections: KTR dares Revanth Reddy: P2**



**WEATHER**

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

## King Defeats Prince



Royal Challengers Bengaluru's Virat Kohli celebrates after winning the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026 title.

Revanth to review Employees Health Scheme rollout tomorrow

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy will conduct a review meeting with officials tomorrow regarding the implementation of the Employees Health Scheme, which the government is bringing into effect for the health security of Telangana employees and pensioners. This scheme will be implemented through the Employee Health Care Trust. Six representatives from employee unions and two from pensioners will serve as members of this trust. One state government employee will be appointed as the CEO of this trust. This committee is likely to be announced tomorrow.

The collection of necessary details for the implementation of this scheme has already begun. To gather details of government employees, pensioners, and their family members, the Finance Department has already issued a circular to all departments. It has been specified that the data must be uploaded by May 31. Based on these details, the government will take steps to provide digital health cards and cashless treatment services.

## Kharge Says No Proposal Yet on New Karnataka Cabinet

**KALABURAGI**  
Wakeup telangana

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Sunday said no proposal had yet been received regarding the composition of the new Karnataka ministry under Chief Minister-designate D K Shivakumar. He also indicated that decisions on ministers, deputy chief ministers and key appointments would be taken only after consultations following the June 3 swearing-in ceremony. Addressing reporters here, Kharge said discussions were underway on various aspects of the government formation process, but no formal proposal had been placed before the party leadership so far.

"We will have to see. No proposal has come yet (on the appointment of ministers). Once the proposal comes, discussions will be held on how many ministers and deputy chief ministers should be appointed, on whether important chairmanships should also be filled along with it," he said. Kharge said the party would get clarity only after the swearing-in ceremony. "All these matters are under discussion. We will know after



June 3. Right now, we have to wait," he said. Referring to the possibility of expanding the cabinet in phases, he said, "Whether he (CM-designate) will appoint eight or ten ministers, we have not received their proposal. Once it comes, one phase may be completed first, and then after 15 days or a month, another phase may be taken up for the remaining (posts)." Asked whether a framework for accommodating aspirants had already been worked out, Kharge said discussions were taking place, but no final decision had been conveyed to the party leadership. "There is an idea that in another phase, the remaining members should also be accommodated. Such a discussion exists, but we still do not know what exactly the CM-designate is considering. Nothing has come to us yet," he said.

**Rahul Gandhi Backs Students in CBSE OSM Row, Demands Answers**



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Sunday targeted the Centre over the CBSE OSM row, sharing a video of his interaction with a group of students and describing them as brave young Indians who asked the Modi government simple questions but received "insults instead of answers". Asserting that the students deserved a bright future, Gandhi said, "We will make sure they get it". Posting the clip on his social media accounts, Gandhi described it as a "revealing chat with my fellow 'anti-national Soros agents'." "Vedant and his friends are brilliant, brave young Indians who asked CBSE and the Modi government simple questions -- but got insults instead."

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## Modi Urges People to Take Precautions Amid Scorching Heat

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday urged citizens to take precautions amid rising temperatures, stressing the need to stay hydrated. In the 134th episode of Mann Ki Baat, he said, "Stay hydrated. If you need to step out in the sun, do so cautiously and take necessary precautions. Keep drinking water. Don't forget the guidelines issued by var-



ious government departments in this regard either."

Referring to the prevailing heat conditions, he said people should exercise care while going outdoors. He also noted that traditional dietary practices adapt to seasonal

conditions, with households turning to locally prepared drinks. He said, "You are also familiar with these desi drinks. If you go to North India, you will find aam panna in many places, the taste of raw mango, and relief from the heat. If you go to Punjab or Haryana, you'll find lassi in large glasses. Buttermilk in Rajasthan and Gujarat is like a companion to every meal." "And what's more, Sattu sharbat in Bihar, Jhark-

hand, and Eastern Uttar Pradesh is simply amazing -- it fills the stomach and provides strength. Kokum sherbet and Sol Kadhi in Konkan and Goa. Panakam, Neer Mor, Sambaram in South India, and Bael Pana in Odisha aren't just drinks, they're a part of the traditions of different regions of India. And they also reflect the spirit of "Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat," Modi said.

## Admiral Krishna Swaminathan Takes Charge as New Navy Chief



**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Admiral Krishna Swaminathan on Sunday assumed charge as India's new chief of the Naval Staff amid a fast evolving regional maritime security

scenario. He succeeds Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi, who retired from service.

Admiral Swaminathan was serving as the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Western Naval Command.

Cross-LoC Romance Under Suspicion: Young Couple Detained In J&K's Uri

A suspected cross-LoC love affair has once again drawn security attention in the Uri sector, where a young man from Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir (PoJK) and a local Kashmiri woman were detained after meeting secretly near the de facto border. What might have been a private relationship has now become a matter of interrogation, with both the Army and the J&K Police probing whether the encounter had any implications beyond personal intimacy. According to reports from Uri, the Indian Army on Sun-

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## Close to a Deal: Trump on Iran Negotiations

**WASHINGTON**  
Wakeup telangana

US President Donald Trump has indicated that a peace deal with Iran could be within reach, while stressing that military action remains an option if negotiations fail. He said any agreement must include a guarantee that Iran will not acquire nuclear weapons. In an interview with Fox News, Trump said, "We are making a great deal; otherwise we'll just go back and finish it off militarily. We're close to a very good deal, and if we can make it good, otherwise we just start up with the Department of War."

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— Donald Trump

Trump drew comparisons with previous military operations, including in Venezuela, describing them as "one-day wins." However, he said he would prefer a diplomatic resolution and hopes to avoid military escalation

if a satisfactory agreement can be reached. Referring to Iran, Trump said, "We've essentially defeated their military. I would rather get a deal because we can open the strait immediately upon signing. The one guarantee that I have is that there will be no nuclear weapons. They've agreed to that."

He described the negotiations as difficult and said progress was being made gradually. "We're getting what we want slowly. Very tough negotiators. It takes a long time. I'm in no hurry... If you're going to be in a hurry, you're not going to make a good deal," Trump told Fox

News. Trump reiterated that the United States would pursue alternative measures if the talks fail to produce the desired outcome.

"Slowly but surely we're getting what we want—and if we don't get what we want, we're going to end it a different way," he added. His remarks come amid a report by Axios, which cited a senior administration official and another source familiar with the matter, stating that Trump has requested several amendments to the peace deal negotiated by US envoys and their Iranian counterparts during a Situation Room meeting on Friday.

Pakistan Signs \$12 Million US Lobbying Deal Months After Op Sindoor

Following the fallout from Operation Sindoor after the Pahalgalam terror attack, Pakistan has intensified its lobbying efforts in Washington DC. According to filings under the US Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA), Pakistan entered into a new multi-million-dollar agreement on May 1 aimed at strengthening its influence within US policymaking circles. The FARA report states that Pakistan signed a formal contract with LLC, a US-based government relations and advocacy firm. The agreement, effective from May 1, 2026, provides for a

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## Gen Raja Subramani Takes Charge as New Chief of Defence Staff

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Gen NS Raja Subramani, widely known as an expert on Pakistan and China, on Sunday took charge as India's new Chief of Defence Staff with a primary mandate to implement the ambitious military theaterisation plan and bolster tri-services synergy. He succeeded Gen Anil Chauhan, who signed off after completing his ten-



ure as the country's senior-most military commander on Saturday. Gen Subramani was serving as the Military Advisor at

the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS). He retired as the Vice Chief of Army Staff on July 31 last year.

The military officer, shortly after taking charge, said transformation of the armed forces and organisational reforms to enhance tri-services synergy and integration will be his primary focus. We will accelerate the development, induction and integration of indigenous weapons in our armed forces, he said in a brief media statement. "Our armed forces consistently demonstrated profession-

alism and operational decisiveness in safeguarding our national interests. We are committed to protect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of our country," he said. "I assure citizens of India that armed forces will continue to serve the nation with dedication, courage, honour and professionalism," he added. Gen Subramani also noted that he would also work towards accel-

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## Fulfill 420 promises before contesting elections: KTR dares Revanth Reddy

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

BRS working president KT Rama Rao challenged Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy to publicly announce that he would contest future elections only after implementing the 420 promises and six guarantees made by the Congress party to the people of Telangana. He said the Chief Minister was attempting to mislead people by claiming that he would not contest elections if electricity meters were installed on agricultural pump sets. "Instead of making such statements, Revanth Reddy should announce that he will not seek votes unless all promises made to the people of Telangana are implemented, including housing under the In-



diramma scheme, welfare guarantees and other commitments made during the Assembly elections," he said while addressing a gathering of BRS leaders from the Secunderabad Cantonment constituency on Sunday. On the proposed Rythu DISCOM, the former Minister said it was being created with the sole objective of eventually scrapping the 24-hour free power supply to farmers. He recalled that while in opposition, Revanth

Reddy had publicly stated that three hours of electricity was sufficient for farmers and argued that the current proposal was designed to translate that mindset into policy. "The real intention behind the Farmers' DISCOM is to dismantle the historic 24-hour free power supply introduced by KCR. The Congress is concealing its anti-farmer agenda while claiming the initiative is meant to benefit farmers," he said, adding that Revanth

Reddy had no concern for farmers and that the proposed DISCOM was a death noose for Telangana's farmers. Recalling the power situation before Telangana's formation, Rama Rao said six decades of Congress rule had left the State plagued by severe shortages, frequent outages and industrial power holidays. He credited former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao with transforming the power sector within six months of assuming office and delivering uninterrupted 24-hour electricity. "KCR is the first leader in independent India's history to provide free round-the-clock power to the agricultural sector. But the Congress government is now attempting to erase that legacy," he remarked.

Stating that the Congress had deceived every section of society by failing to implement its electoral promises, he said farmers and citizens should remain vigilant against policies that could adversely affect their interests. The BRS working president criticised the Congress government for failing to deliver any meaningful development in Hyderabad in the past two-and-a-half years. He reminded the gathering that Ministers, including Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, had promised 6,000 houses in Cantonment during the by-election campaign. "But not a single house has been delivered since then, in Cantonment or anywhere else in Hyderabad," he added.

## Heat Wave Sparks Demand to Delay Junior Colleges Reopening in Telangana

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

As severe heat wave conditions continue across Telangana, parents and government junior lecturers have appealed to the State government to postpone the reopening of junior colleges for the 2026-27 academic year by at least one week. The new academic session is scheduled to begin on Monday. However, citing concerns over students' health and safety, lecturers' associations and parents have urged the government to extend the summer vacation until June 6 and commence classes from June 8. In a letter addressed to Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, the Government Minority Lecturers Association pointed out that the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued heat wave warnings across several parts of the



State. The association noted that universities such as Osmania University and Kakatiya University have already extended summer vacations for colleges under their jurisdiction due to the prevailing weather conditions. Association president Syed Zabeeb urged the government to adopt a similar approach for all junior colleges functioning under the Intermediate Education Department and prioritize student welfare. Despite the demand for postponement, the Intermediate Education Department has completed all preparations for the reopening of colleges.

During a review meeting, Intermediate Education Department Director Abhilasha Abhinav stated that the department is fully prepared for the new academic year. She said awareness campaigns and counselling programmes would be launched across districts to guide students and parents. The department has also ensured timely distribution of textbooks and other academic resources. Officials emphasized that government junior colleges offer quality education, welfare schemes, and career opportunities, and efforts are being made to ensure a smooth start to the academic session.

## Kavitha Praises Young Poet Bhairapaka Swami's Literary Journey

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana  
Usha Sree

Young poet and writer Bhairapaka Swami of Amanabolu village in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district met BRS MLC Kalvakuntla Kavitha at her Hyderabad residence on Sunday and presented his books Telugu Pathaka, Telangana Pallo Paata, and Aakali Mantalu. Kavitha appreciated the young writer's literary talent, dedication, and growing contribution to Telugu literature. She described



him as a promising voice whose works reflect creativity, social awareness, and commitment to Telugu language and culture. Encouraging him to continue writing, she wished him greater success and expressed confidence that many more meaningful books would emerge from

## Harish Slams Congress Over Power Infrastructure

Congress borrowed heavily but failed to create power infrastructure; BRS transformed Telangana's electricity sector, Says Harish Rao

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Senior BRS leader and former minister T. Harish Rao strongly criticized the Congress government, alleging that it has failed to create any significant electricity infrastructure despite raising massive loans since coming to power. Addressing the media, Harish Rao said the previous BRS government had transformed Telangana's power sector through large-scale investments and infrastruc-



ture expansion during its ten-year tenure. He stated that the number of 400 kV substations was increased from six to 30, while 220 kV substations rose from 51 to 103 under the BRS administration. According to Rao, the BRS government also ex-

panded 132 kV substations from 176 to 251 and established more than 1,100 new 33/11 kV substations across the State. He noted that over 4.60 lakh new distribution transformers were sanctioned in addition to the existing four lakh transformers, significantly strengthening the electricity network. The former minister further said that nearly 8,000 kilometers of extra high-tension power lines were laid to improve transmission capacity and ensure uninterrupted

power supply. He claimed that the BRS government spent more than ₹1 lakh crore on the power sector and fundamentally changed the State's electricity landscape. Targeting Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, Harish Rao alleged that the Congress government has not added any major power infrastructure despite extensive borrowing. He also recalled that the BRS was founded in 2001 to oppose electricity tariff hikes and protect consumers' interests.

## Chanti Kranthi Kiran Seeks Probe into Alleged Singur Land Encroachments

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana  
Thaika Anjaiah

Former Andole MLA Chanti Kranthi Kiran on Saturday demanded an immediate inquiry into alleged encroachments in the Singur Project submergence areas of Sangareddy district. During an inspection of Kadirabad and Saipet villages, he alleged that influential persons were attempting to occupy submerged lands exposed due to reduced reservoir water levels during repair works. Kiran claimed that water bodies, feeder chan-



nels, and pond structures were damaged and that small farmers' lands had been encroached upon. He urged revenue authorities to conduct a comprehensive survey, investigate alleged unauthorized developments and power connections, and take steps to protect Singur's environmentally sensitive catchment and submergence zones from further degradation.

## Congress Reduced to 'Revanth Congress' in Telangana

Dasoju Sravan Questions Congress Democracy Under Revanth Reddy's Leadership

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana  
Zaffer abedi

BRS MLC Dr. Dasoju Sravan launched a scathing attack on Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, alleging that the Congress party's 140-year-old legacy in the state has been reduced to a one-man show under the Chief Minister's leadership. Addressing the media, Sravan questioned whether the Telangana Congress was still functioning as a national party or had transformed into what he described as a "private political franchise" controlled by Revanth Reddy. He alleged that the Congress high command had remained silent despite growing dissatisfaction among senior leaders, grassroots workers, BC representatives and long-time party loyalists. According to Sravan, several veteran Congress leaders have either been sidelined or humiliated under the current leadership. He cited the exits and grievances



of leaders such as Ponnala Lakshmaiah, T. Jeevan Reddy and others, claiming that independent voices within the party were systematically being weakened. He alleged that leaders with their own political base were being discouraged from emerging as alternative power centres. The BRS MLC also raised concerns over what he called the marginalisation of BC leadership within the Congress. Referring to

TPCC President B. Mahesh Kumar Goud, Sravan claimed that speculation was growing within party circles about internal power struggles and attempts to control leaders who were building independent support bases. Questioning the role of the Congress high command, Sravan asked why senior national leaders, including Rahul Gandhi, Priyanka Gandhi, Mallikarjun Kharge, K.C. Venugopal and Meenakshi Natarajan, had not responded to complaints being voiced by party leaders in Telangana. Sravan further alleged that the balance of power between the party organisation and the government had been disrupted. He claimed that Gandhi Bhavan, traditionally the centre of organisational authority, had lost its influence and that key party decisions were increasingly being driven by the Chief Minister's Office. The BRS leader also targeted Revanth Reddy over his political positioning,

alleging that the Chief Minister maintained a soft approach towards the BJP while projecting himself as a Congress leader. He referred to public interactions between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Revanth Reddy, claiming they had fuelled political speculation across the state. Taking exception to Revanth Reddy's repeated assertion that he would remain Chief Minister until 2034, Sravan argued that such statements raised questions about the Congress party's national ambitions and its prospects in future parliamentary elections. Concluding his criticism, Sravan alleged that Congress ideology, internal democracy and collective leadership were being weakened in Telangana. He urged the Congress high command to take note of the growing discontent within the state unit and address concerns being raised by senior leaders and party workers.

## EPL Season-3 Prize Distribution Ceremony Held in Miyapur

**RANGAREDDY**  
Wakeup telangana  
Srirangam Venkatesh

The EPL Season-3 prize distribution ceremony, jointly organized by the Centre of Excellence Cricket Academy and Yelamanchi Uday Kiran Charitable Trust, was held grandly at Neelima Greens, Miyapur. Chief guests Jeti Kusuma Kumar (AICC Secretary and Odisha Congress In-Charge), V. Jagadeeshwar Goud (Serilingampally Congress



In-Charge and TPCC General Secretary), and Indian cricketer Chandan presented trophies, medals, and awards to winning teams and outstanding players. Awards such as Man of the Match, Best Batsman, Best Bowler, Best Fielder, and Emerging Player were

also distributed. The guests emphasized the role of sports in developing discipline, leadership, confidence, and a competitive spirit among youth. They appreciated the efforts of the organizers in promoting young cricketing talent. Special appreciation was

extended to Yelamanchi Uday Kiran, Founder and Chairman of the Charitable Trust, Manas Mutta-varapu, Founder of COEC Cricket Academy, and coaches Divakar and Vishnu for successfully conducting the tournament. A large number of players, parents, sports enthusiasts, Congress leaders, party activists, and local residents attended the event, which concluded with prize distribution and celebrations.

## Farmers Demand Increase in Jowar Procurement Limit

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana  
Usha Sree

Farmers in Regode Mandal have urged the government to increase the procurement limit for jowar (sorghum), stating that the current cap of 20 quintals per acre is causing significant financial losses despite higher crop yields this season. R. Itikyal BRS Youth President, Mr. Vadla Saibaba Chari, appealed to the authorities to re-



norms and extend support to farmers who have achieved record production levels. He pointed out that many farmers in the mandal have harvested nearly 30 quintals of jowar per acre this season, but

procurement centers are purchasing only 20 quintals per acre, leaving an additional 10 quintals unsold. "As a result, farmers are facing serious difficulties in marketing their remaining produce and are suffering financial setbacks," Saibaba Chari said. He emphasized that with the onset of the monsoon season approaching, storing the unsold crop for extended periods could expose farmers to further losses due to weather-related damage and stor-

age constraints. The farmers have demanded that the government immediately increase the procurement limit in accordance with the actual yield levels and expedite the procurement process to ensure that growers receive fair compensation for their produce. Saibaba Chari urged the state government to take swift action to safeguard the interests of jowar farmers and prevent avoidable losses during the current agricultural season.

## 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.

## Minister Tells Telangana BJP Leaders to March to Delhi, Not Across Telangana

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Roads and buildings minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy on Sunday said BJP leaders should undertake a padayatra to New Delhi to press the Centre to increase the rice procurement quota from Telangana, instead of holding a bus yatra in the state during the concluding phase of paddy procurement. Inspecting the construction of a Government Junior College at Kanagal in Nalgonda district, taken up at a cost of ₹6 crore, he said paddy procurement in the state had reached completion. He criticised the BJP's three-day "Rythu Gosa-BJP Bharosa" bus yatra, alleging it was aimed at political gain rather than addressing farmers' issues. He said the BJP-led Union government had earlier attempted to introduce anti-farmer laws and



added that its leaders had no moral right to speak on farmers' concerns. He said education was a key means for the poor to achieve development and that the state government was strengthening infrastructure in educational institutions to improve access to quality education, particularly in rural areas. Government junior colleges had been established at mandal headquarters such as Thipparthi and Kanagal to bring education closer to students, he said, directing officials to complete the Kanagal college building at the earliest without compromising on quality.

The minister alleged that the previous BRS government had neglected the education sector during its tenure. He said Mahatma Gandhi University, established on 300 acres at Annaparthi during the tenure of Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy, would offer courses such as DPharmacy, MPharmacy, BPharmacy and LLB from the current academic year. Responding to criticism over his use of a helicopter, he said his travel, whether by helicopter, car or two-wheeler, was for development work in the district. He said 80 per cent of the SLBC tunnel works had

been completed and the remaining work would be finished soon. Once completed, the project would provide irrigation to cultivable land in Nalgonda district for two crops a year. He alleged that the BRS had politicised an accident at the tunnel site, and said work had resumed using new technology, with one kilometre of drilling completed. He said Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy would lay the foundation stone for a Hybrid Annuity Model road project from Darveshipuram to Dindia via Kanagal, Gurrampode and Devarakonda, estimated at ₹13,600 crore, on June 13 or 15. A public meeting would be held between Gurrampode and Kanagal on the occasion. He said the tendering process for the project had been completed under the roads and buildings department.

## MLA Prem Sagar Rao Calls for Grand CM Revanth Meeting

**MANCHERIAL**  
Wakeup telangana  
Golla Thirupathi

Mancherial MLA and senior Congress leader Prem Sagar Rao has called upon Congress leaders, party workers, and the public of Komaram Bheem Asifabad district to participate in large numbers and make Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's public meeting at Kagaznagar X Road in Rebbena mandal a grand success. The Chief Minister is scheduled to address a massive public gathering on Monday evening during his visit to the district. As this is Revanth Reddy's first visit to Komaram Bheem Asifabad district after assuming office as Chief Minister, Congress leaders have taken the event as a matter of prestige and are making elaborate arrangements. Prem Sagar Rao has been personally monitoring the



preparations over the past week, visiting the venue regularly and reviewing arrangements. He said the Chief Minister's visit would mark an important occasion for the district and urged people from all sections to extend a warm welcome. Recalling his tenure as MLC of the erstwhile Adilabad district, Prem Sagar Rao said he had always stood by the people and party workers during challenging times. He noted that the strong relationship he built with the people of united Adilabad

continues even today. Though currently representing Mancherial constituency, he said he shares a special bond with the people of Asifabad and remains committed to supporting the region's development. Former MLC Dande Vital, DCC President Atram Suguna, District Congress In-charge Azmeera Shyam Naik, former MLA Atram Sakku, former DCC President Kokkiralala Vishwasprasad, and several Congress leaders attended the programme.

## Delayed Wage Payments Push MGNREGS Workers into Hardship

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Usha Sree

Hundreds of workers engaged under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in Pulkal and several other mandals of Sangareddy district are reportedly facing severe financial difficulties due to delays in wage payments. Workers alleged that although the prescribed daily wage under the scheme is around ₹300, many laborers are receiving only ₹260 to ₹280 per day. They expressed dissatisfaction over the disparity, stating that they perform strenuous physical work but are not receiving the full wage they are entitled to. The workers further complained about the lack of basic facilities at work sites. Despite working from early morning hours until noon under scorching summer conditions, they claim that essential amenities such as drinking water, temporary shelters, and resting



areas are either inadequate or completely absent. Many laborers said the extreme heat is affecting their health and productivity. Adding to their woes, workers stated that wages for work completed several weeks and, in some cases, months ago have still not been credited to their accounts. As most of these families depend entirely on daily wages for their livelihood, the delay in payments has created significant financial stress. "We survive on the income we earn through hard labor. Waiting for our wages for months together has made it difficult to support our families and meet daily

expenses," said several workers while expressing their concerns. The affected laborers have appealed to the concerned authorities to immediately clear all pending wage payments and ensure that basic facilities are provided at work sites. They urged the administration to address the issue on a priority basis and provide relief to poor families dependent on the employment guarantee scheme. The workers hope that prompt intervention by officials will help ease their financial burden and restore confidence in the MGNREGS program.

## State-Level Yogasana Judges and Coaches Training Program Concludes Successfully

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The State-Level Yogasana Judges and Coaches Training Program, organised by the Telangana Yogasana Sports Association, concluded successfully in Siddipet after a six-day training session held from May 25 to May 30. Participants from Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District actively took part in the programme. Srinu Amanaganti successfully completed the training and qualified as a Yogasana Judge, while Swapna, Sandhya, Shyam Sundar, and Soumya completed the course as certified Coaches. Former



minister T. Harish Rao attended the valedictory ceremony as the chief guest and distributed certificates to the participants who successfully completed the training. The programme was conducted under the guidance of Sridhar Rao, President of TYSA, along with Nandanam Kripakar, General Secretary, Rama

Reddy, Joint Secretary, and Thota Satish, who played key roles in the successful organisation of the event. Speaking on the occasion, the newly trained judges and coaches expressed their commitment to promoting Yogasana as a competitive sport and contributing to its growth and development across the state.

## Advanced Skin and Neuro Care Opens in Mahabubnagar

**MAHABUBNAGAR**  
Wakeup telangana

Residents of Mahabubnagar and nearby districts can now access advanced dermatology, hair restoration, aesthetic, and neurological healthcare services locally with the launch of Shine Skin Care Centre & Asian Neuro. Established by Dr. G.V.K.R. Goud, Dr. Vasu Chaitanya, Dr. Kalyani Karanam, and Mr. Murali Krishna, the centers offer



specialized treatments backed by modern medical technology and expert care. Services include dermatology, trichology, laser procedures, hair transplantation, Neuro ICU, OP services, diagnostic

labs, and brain and spine surgeries. The institutions aim to provide accessible, evidence-based, patient-centered healthcare while maintaining high standards of safety, ethics, and professional excellence.

## Pankaj Agrawal Raises Voice Over Surya Murder

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Expressing deep anguish over the murder of a youth named Surya in Ghaziabad, Hindu Suraksha Samiti has demanded strict and swift action against all those involved in the crime. Committee president Pankaj Kumar Agrawal conveyed his condolences to the bereaved family and urged authorities to ensure that no accused escapes punishment. Agrawal said the Surya murder case has raised serious concerns about public safety and law and order. He stressed that all individuals connected to the crime must be identified and brought to justice at the earliest. Referring to other violent incidents reported in recent years, including the killing of Tarun in Delhi during Holi celebrations, he said such crimes create fear and insecurity among citizens. He called on the administration to take firm measures to prevent violence and maintain social harmony. The Hindu Suraksha Samiti president also urged authorities to strictly enforce law and order during public and religious events. He alleged that certain incidents in different parts of the country have contributed to social tension and emphasized the need for proactive policing to prevent such situations. Calling for unity



against crime and violence, Agrawal appealed to all sections of society to raise their voice peacefully and within the framework of law. He said the strong public response seen after the Tarun murder case in Delhi should serve as an example in seeking justice for Surya as well. He stated that ensuring the safety of future generations is a shared responsibility of both the government and society. Timely justice for victims, he said, is essential to maintaining public confidence in the legal system. Agrawal also prayed for the peace of Surya's soul and strength for his grieving family. He appreciated the police officers of the Kooda police station area for their efforts in arresting the main accused, Asad, who had been absconding, and urged authorities to take stringent action against the remaining accused and all others found responsible in the case.

## LEGACY IN THE RING: Telangana Mourns Boxing Legend Matangi Srinivas

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana  
Dp Srinivas rao

Telangana's sports fraternity and residents of Nalgutta bid an emotional farewell to renowned boxer Matangi Srinivas, whose untimely demise has left the boxing community and sports lovers in deep mourning. Tributes poured in from athletes, coaches, friends, and admirers who remembered him as a champion boxer and an inspiring mentor. At a memorial pro-



gramme organized in his honor, several sports personalities paid homage by garlanding his portrait and recalling his immense contribution to boxing. Close friends Kongari Anand, boxing coach Krishna, Rajesh, and others described Srinivas

as a dedicated sportsman whose passion, discipline, and commitment helped shape the careers of many young athletes. Speakers noted that Srinivas' achievements extended beyond the boxing ring. Through his encouragement and guidance, he

played a key role in promoting the sport and nurturing emerging talent in Telangana. They said his life and career would continue to inspire future generations of sportsmen. Meanwhile, an atmosphere of grief prevailed at his residence in Nalgutta under the Sanath Nagar constituency. Family members, including his wife Jaya, brother Santhosh, and relatives, remembered him as a loving family man and a source of strength for those around him.

## Purnima Celebrations Draw Hundreds at Sitarampuram Temple

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana  
Dp Srinivas Rao

Hundreds of devotees gathered at the Shiva Panchayat Navagraha Hanuman Temple in Sitarampuram Sai Baba Colony on Sunday to participate in special Purnima (Full Moon) celebrations marked by religious rituals and a large-scale Annadanam programme. The temple committee organized the sacred Satyanarayana Swamy Vratham and special pujas, attracting devotees from Sitarampuram and surrounding localities. The temple premises



echoed with Vedic chants as devotees, particularly women, offered prayers seeking peace, prosperity, and well-being for their families. Following the religious ceremonies, the temple committee conducted a grand Annadanam programme, serving food to a large number of devotees and local residents. The initiative was supported

by generous contributions from local donors Shiva Shakti Satyam, Sambamurthy, and Maha Lakshmi. Former Cantonment Board Member Jampana Pratap attended the event as the chief guest and inaugurated the food distribution programme. Addressing devotees, he praised the temple committee for its continued

commitment to spiritual and social service activities. He particularly appreciated the committee's practice of organizing Annadanam on every full moon day, describing it as a commendable tradition that promotes both devotion and community welfare. Temple Committee President Sai Baba Yadav, along with committee members Vijayaraj, Prakash, Srikanth Reddy, Govardhan, Pandu, Satyanarayana, Kumar, and Vishnu Chari, supervised the arrangements and ensured the smooth conduct of 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 Rohoshyo' and 'Borunabur Bondhu'.

# Hundreds Arrested As Clashes Erupt In Paris On PSG Victory Night

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Police on Saturday detained more than 280 people in Paris after violent clashes erupted when thousands poured onto the streets during Paris Saint-Germain's Champions League final victory. Some 22,000 police were deployed across France for the game, including 8,000 in Paris, after unrest marred PSG's win in the competition last year. Paris tram lines were halted, several metro stations shut and bus traffic halted in places in a bid to minimise disturbances.

According to the French interior ministry, 416 people were detained nationwide, including 283 who were apprehended in Paris. It was not immediately clear how many of



these individuals were remanded in custody to face further investigation. Interior minister Laurent Nunez said seven officers had been wounded and called the unrest "absolutely unacceptable." Six vehicles and two businesses were damaged.

A group of supporters also stormed the Paris ring road, the periphere, bringing traffic to a halt for a time and letting off flares, an AFP photographer said. As fans celebrated the dramatic penalty shoot out

victory in the Hungarian capital, Budapest, some 20,000 people converged on Paris's iconic Champs-Elysees avenue, police said. Shops boarded up their windows ahead of the match to avoid a repeat of disturbances last year when youths ransacked shops on the Champs-Elysees and other streets. Hundreds of people were arrested.

Two dozen flares and about 100 fireworks were seized Saturday, while a bus shelter was destroyed near the

Champs-Elysees. The match also came on a hectic evening in Paris, with singer Aya Nakamura performing at the Stade de France national stadium, rapper Damso at the La Defense Arena and the French Open tennis in full swing. Police said a bakery and a restaurant were damaged near PSG's Parc des Princes stadium, where tens of thousands gathered inside to watch the match but 4,000 to 5,000 people loitered outside with projectiles which were thrown at officers.

About 150 people "attempted to enter through one of the gates" at the stadium but police pushed them back, a police spokesperson said. Some also attempted to erect a barricade with rental bikes which was cleared by police.

# Pakistan Signs \$1.2 Million US Lobbying Deal Months After Op Sindoor

**WASHINGTON**  
Wakeup telangana

Following the fallout from Operation Sindoor after the Pahalgam terror attack, Pakistan has intensified its lobbying efforts in Washington DC. According to filings under the US Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA), Pakistan entered into a new multi-million-dollar agreement on May 1 aimed at strengthening its influence within US policymaking circles. The FARA report states that Pakistan signed a formal contract with Ervin Graves Strategy Group LLC, a US-based government relations and advocacy firm. The agreement, effective from May 1, 2026, provides for a monthly retainer of USD 50,000 over 24 months, bringing the total value of the contract to approximately



USD 1.2 million. The deal also includes an upfront payment of USD 150,000 covering the first three months of services. The engagement is focused on providing government relations, policy advisory support and legislative monitoring services intended to advance Pakistan's diplomatic, economic and strategic interests in the United States. Under the agreement, Ervin Graves Strategy Group will conduct targeted outreach to members of the US Congress and their staff, particularly those serving on committees overseeing foreign affairs, defence, trade and appropriations. A key objective of the

arrangement is to position Pakistan as a reliable partner in counterterrorism and regional stability. Pakistan's support for terror groups has been a major issue raised by India at various international forums. At a UN Security Council meeting on May 27, India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Harish Parvathaneni, accused Pakistan of continuing to harbour and support terrorism, cross-border terrorism and violent extremism against India. "Pakistan will have to accept that there are consequences to its sponsorship of cross-border terrorism. Pakistan's harnessing of the malevolent forces of terrorism, religious extremism, violent radicalism, and anti-India rhetoric has continued unabated since its creation," he said.

# BJP Core Group Meet At PM Modi's Residence Today, Rajya Sabha Polls On Agenda

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

A high-level meeting of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)'s top leadership, including Union Ministers and party president Nitin Nabin, will take place at Prime Minister Narendra Modi's residence, this evening. The meeting, to be held at 5.30 PM is expected to focus on various issues including Rajya Sabha polls and the impending elections to several Legislative

Councils. Party's sources said that the key agenda of the high-level meeting is to discuss and finalise the names of candidates for upcoming Rajya Sabha and Legislative Council elections. Senior Union ministers including Amit Shah, Rajnath Singh, JP Nadda, party president Nitin Nabin and party's top brass are set to gather at PM Modi's residence, where they will deliberate and discuss names of party nominees

while also 'think over' re-fielding any retiring member in the Upper House. The party top brass is also expected to deliberate upon and strategize on securing an advantage over the Opposition in the high-stakes Rajya Sabha polls, particularly in light of the recent defeat of Women's reservation bill, marking the first big setback for Modi government in over decade-long governance. Notably, the elections



for 24 Rajya Sabha seats spread across 10 states are set to take place on June 18, as announced by the Election Commission. The vacancies arose due

to the retirement of sitting lawmakers from the Upper House, between June 21 and July 19, the poll body said. June 8 is the last date of filing nominations for

RS elections, pertaining to various states including Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Jharkhand and some in the North-East including Meghalaya and Mizoram. The BJP core group will also discuss possible nominations for the Legislative Council elections, spanning across Karnataka, Bihar and Maharashtra. The biennial election for 16 seats of Maharashtra Legislative Council (MLC) is set to be held

on June 18. In Karnataka, seven MLC seats will be up for grabs after expiry of terms of the incumbent members while in Bihar, the MLC seat became vacant after resignation of former Bihar CM Nitish Kumar. Top sources also said that the discussion will be held on strengthening the organisation, mobilising workers and supporters at the grassroots level and to propagate the landmarks and milestones of Modi government, achieved in past

twelve years. Modi government recently completed twelve years in power and the party brass hopes to inform, intimate and impress upon the electorate about the India growth story that unfolded in all these years under PM Modi's leadership. Discussions are also likely on giving final touches to new BJP president Nitin Nabin's team that will steer the party for crucial elections in coming years including high-voltage battle.

# I Stand As Victim Of State-Sponsored Terrorism: Abhishek Banerjee

**KOLKATA**  
Wakeup telangana

Trinamool Congress (TMC) national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee on Sunday said that the attack on him in Sonarpur is "political violence and state-sponsored terrorism" by the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). He also thanked Congress leader Rahul Gandhi for his support. "Thank you, Rahul ji, for your concern and constant support. We stand united and resolute in our fight to protect the soul of India, defend its



democratic institutions and uphold the values enshrined in our Constitution," Abhishek Banerjee posted on X. Recalling his participation in the Centre's diplomatic outreach following Operation Sindoor, he added, "Last year, I travelled across five countries representing India as part of the all-party delegation

for Operation Sindoor. I defended my country and stood united against terrorism. Today, I stand as a victim of political violence and state-sponsored terrorism unleashed by those who claim to be the guardians of nationalism. This is the reality of today's BJP." Banerjee further alleged that political opponents are being targeted for questioning the ruling party. "If you support them, you are a patriot. If you question them, you become a target. If you stand with them, you are

celebrated. If you stand against them, they try to silence you," he said. "I would rather face intimidation while defending democracy than enjoy comfort by surrendering my principles. Power is temporary. The will of the people is permanent. I will bow only before the people, never before the people in power," Banerjee added. The remarks come a day after Banerjee was attacked with bricks, stones, and eggs. While visiting families affected by post-poll violence in Sonarpur, South 24.

# Delhi HC Imposes Rs 30 Lakh Fine On Google

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

The Delhi High Court has directed Google to pay Rs 30 lakh as damages to Hindware for using the sanitaryware major's trademark as keywords for its AdWords programme. Justice Mini Pushkarna, while dealing with two lawsuits by Hindware Ltd, held that the use of trademarks as keywords amounted to "unfair advantage" under the Trademarks Act and restrained Google LLC

and Google India from using 'Hindware' or 'Hindware Sanitaryware', 'Hindware Sanitary' or 'Hindware Sanitaryware India' as part of advertising keywords for its platform. "This Court awards nominal damages of Rs 15 Lacs only each in the present suits, totalling to Rs 30 Lacs only in favour of the plaintiff. The aforesaid amount shall be paid by the defendants, i.e., Google LLC/Google India within a period of eight weeks," the court ordered

in the judgement dated May 22. It also held that Hindware was entitled to actual costs of litigation in relation to its two lawsuits on the issue and asked it file its "Bill of Costs" within two months. In the judgement, the court observed that Google's AdWords programme was a commercial venture to monetise the use of the search engine for advertising by displaying the sponsored links of various advertisers. The court ruled that by enabling direct com-

petitors to intercept users when they expressed an interest in the plaintiff's mark, Google indulged in an "unfair practice" and also sought to exploit the distinctive character or repute of the plaintiff's well-known trademark to benefit its own advertising business. It said no prior consent or approval was admittedly sought by Google from the plaintiff for offering, suggesting and selling its registered trademark to other entities pursuant to the AdWords programme.

## FROM FRONT PAGE

### Gen Raja Subramani.

In his illustrious career spanning over 40 years, Gen Subramani served across a wide spectrum of conflict and terrain profiles and held a host of Command, Staff and Instructional appointments. He served as the Vice Chief of the Army Staff from July 1, 2024 to July 31, 2025 and was General Officer Commanding-in-Chief of the Central Command from March 2023 till June 2024. The officer is a graduate of the National Defence Academy and the Indian Military Academy. He was commissioned into the eighth battalion of the Garhwal Rifles on December

14, 1985. Gen Subramani is an alumnus of the Joint Services Command and Staff College, Bracknell (UK), and the National Defence College, New Delhi. He holds a Master of Arts degree from King's College, London, and an M Phil in Defence Studies from Madras University. He commanded the 16 Garhwal Rifles in counter-insurgency operations in Assam as part of Operation Rhino, the 168 Infantry Brigade in Jammu and Kashmir, and the 17 Mountain Division in the Central Sector during a challenging operational environment. He also distinguished himself by commanding two corps, including a premier

strike corps of the Indian Army on the Western Front.

### Cross-LoC.....

According to reports from Uri, the Indian Army on Sunday apprehended 22-year-old Zeeshan Ahmad Mir, son of Lal Din Mir and a resident of Painkadi village in Muzaffarabad district, after he crossed the Line of Control (LoC) and entered the Silikote area of Uri. A local woman, Iram Bano, daughter of Abdul Majeed Mir from Tilawari — a village situated close to the LoC — on the Indian side was also detained alongside him. A purported video of the duo, in which they reveal their identities while responding to

questions from an unseen individual believed to be an Army or police official, has since gone viral on social media. Initial assessments suggest the two may have been involved in a cross-border romantic relationship, though officials emphasise that the exact circumstances are still being verified. Both remained in Army custody for questioning and have since been handed over to the local police for further investigation.

### Rahul Gandhi.....

but got insults instead of answers," Gandhi said in his post on X, accompanying the video. "They deserve a bright

and secure future. We will make sure they get it," he added. In the video, Gandhi has an informal chat with the students about their ordeal. He also joked about how they were labelled "Pakistanis" and "deep state agents" after raising what he called legitimate concerns and issues. "You are students. You are asking for your answer sheets, that's all. Now, suddenly, you have become anti-nationals. You have to accept the problem if you have to solve the problem. You are refusing to accept the problem and blaming the poor kids and saying 'you are deep state, you are spies, terrorists,'" Gandhi says in the video.

## iran-us-war



CRIME

# Cops Probe Links Between Moiz's Alleged Killers and Bhoodan Scam

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

Investigators are examining the financial and operational trail of the SUV (AP09 AT 9538) used to strike down senior advocate and Wakf activist Khaja Moizuddin on May 23. Sources indicate that its procurement, possession, use and possible beneficial interest were under scrutiny, particularly in view of the reported links of Mohd Munawar Khan with the main accused, his cousin, Mujahid Alam Khan and father Mahbub Alam Khan. Sources disclosed that Munawar Khan, who had allegedly had facilitated the purchase of the SUV, was being investigated for Bhoodan land fraud case

of Rangareddy district. He has been under the lens of the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) in connection with alleged land-grabbing, use of forged documents and possession of proceeds of crime. The ED had recorded proceeds of crime of about ₹6.45 crore in the alleged illegal land transactions.

As part of the same investigation, the ED had conducted searches at multiple locations in Hyderabad on April 28, 2025, including the premises connected to Munawar Khan who was booked under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), in connection with the alleged land scam case, sources said. The searches that were conducted by ED resulted

in seizure of land documents, Indian and foreign currency and as many as 45 old and used cars, including several vintage cars, from the farmhouse premises of Munawar Khan.

Subsequently, immovable properties worth approximately ₹4.8 crore belonging to Munawar Khan and his wife were provisionally attached under the PMLA. Mujahid Alam Khan, whose arrest for his alleged role in the killing of advocate Moizuddin was announced on Friday, and his connected network have been facing serious allegations of treating Waqf and public land as private family property and reportedly criminally enriching themselves through illegal control, manipulation and

private use of such properties.

The connection of the vehicle to Munawar Khan, under ED probe, makes it necessary for the investigating agency to widen the probe beyond the immediate driver or visible accused, a High Court Bar Council member said. The police must verify and place on record the vehicle history, including RTA ownership, previous registered owners, transfer forms, sale agreements, insurance records, challan history, FASTag movement, CCTV movement, mobile tower location, call data records of the accused persons, and the financial links connected to the purchase, transfer or use of the SUV, the Bar Council member said.

## SI N. Shankar Lal Honoured on Retirement

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

Sub-Inspector of Police N. Shankar Lal, who served at the Traffic Police Station, Begumpet, was felicitated on the occasion of his retirement during a programme organized at the Office of the Assistant Commissioner of Police, Traffic Trimulgherry Division, on Saturday.

The farewell ceremony was attended by family members, colleagues, and police personnel, who gathered to honor Shankar Lal's dedicated service to the Police Department. Speakers at the event praised his professionalism, discipline, sincerity, and commitment to duty throughout his career. His service and conduct earned him the respect and appreciation of both colleagues and the public.

Addressing the gathering, G. Shankar Raju, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Traffic Trimulgherry Division, congratulated Shankar Lal on successfully completing his distinguished tenure in the department. He acknowledged the retired officer's valuable



contributions and wished him good health, happiness, peace, and a fulfilling post-retirement life.

Family members and colleagues also extended their heartfelt greetings and expressed gratitude for his years of dedicated service. They recalled his commitment to maintaining discipline and carrying out his responsibilities with integrity.

The programme concluded with a group photograph, marking the occasion and commemorating Shankar Lal's long and commendable career in the police force.

## 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.

## 293 Drunk Drivers Caught in Weekend Special Drive by Cyberabad Traffic Police

RANGAREDDY  
Wakeup telangana  
Srirangam Venkatesh

Cyberabad Traffic Police conducted a special weekend drunk-and-drive enforcement drive and caught 293 offenders for driving under the influence of alcohol.

Among those booked, 241 were two-wheeler riders, 11 were three-wheeler drivers, 39 were four-wheeler drivers, and 2 were heavy vehicle drivers. Most offenders

recorded Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) levels between 36 mg and 200 mg per 100 ml, while several others registered much higher levels.

Police said all offenders will be produced before the court. Authorities reiterated that drunk driving is a serious offence and warned that anyone causing a fatal accident while under the influence of alcohol will face charges under Section 105 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, which

carries a punishment of up to 10 years imprisonment and a fine.

Meanwhile, during the last week, courts disposed of 173 drunk-and-drive cases, with some offenders receiving fines, jail terms, and social service punishments.

The special drive was conducted under the supervision of ADCP Traffic-I G. Hanmantha Rao as part of ongoing efforts to improve road safety across Cyberabad.

## Youth Drowns During Swim in Manjeera River

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

A day of leisure ended in tragedy when a 24-year-old youth drowned in the Manjeera River near Pocharam village under Pulkal Police Station limits in Sangareddy district on Sunday.

According to police, the deceased was identified as Sailu (24). He had gone to the river around 11 a.m. along with his son Sushanth and six friends for a recreational outing. While some



members of the group stayed on the riverbank because they did not know how to swim, Sailu entered the water. Police said Sailu was also not a trained swimmer. After venturing into deeper waters, he reportedly lost control and began drowning. Friends and local residents who

witnessed the incident rushed to rescue him, but despite their efforts, they were unable to save him.

Following a complaint lodged by Sailu's wife, Shobha, Pulkal Police registered a case and launched an investigation. The body was later recovered from the river and shifted to the Government Hospital in Sangareddy for post-mortem examination after the completion of inquest proceedings. Local SI Vishwajan confirmed that further investigation is in progress.

Police have appealed to the public to exercise caution while visiting rivers, lakes, reservoirs and other water bodies, especially during the summer and monsoon seasons. Officials advised non-swimmers to avoid entering deep waters and urged parents to closely monitor children near water sources. The incident has left the victim's family devastated, serving as a stark reminder of the importance of water safety and vigilance.

EDITORIAL

# AFTER SC BACKS EC ON SIR, BALL IN PARL COURT

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

The Supreme Court order upholding the ongoing special intensive revision of the electoral rolls across India as a genuine constitutional process is not just in harmony with its unfortunate approach to the conduct of the exercise but in fact sets a dangerous precedent of looking the other way when the government in power arbitrarily strips people of their constitutional right. The court's position comes in the backdrop of a series of litigations questioning the SIR conducted in several states, especially in Bihar and West Bengal. The Bihar SIR started and was completed in a matter of 30 days, which was too little time for many citizens to get their documents ready, particularly in the case of those working outside the state. West Bengal's was the worst experience, where

about 90 lakh voters were removed from the voters' list. There are about 27 lakh people who were denied their voting rights in the recently held Assembly election there on account of "logical discrepancies" in their document, a term even the apex court found to be inappropriate.

Natural justice demands that a person is convinced as to why a right previously enjoyed by him is going to be denied to him before it is finally taken away. The Supreme Court has now given its stamp of approval to the injustices caused by the EC's inefficiency. Instead of penalising the floundering authority, it has now punished its victims. The argument the Supreme Court presents to legitimise a process gone awry is that it cannot be invalidated just because it did not adhere strictly to modalities. It also said that the SIR is in consonance with

the Representation of the People Act and the 1960 Rules. It is "intended to secure the constitutional mandate of free and fair elections by ensuring that the roll on which the election rests is accurate and reliable", the court has stated.

But this is a strawman argument as nobody was questioning the idea in the first place. It is not the first time that such an exercise has been conducted in India. For instance, there were no complaints about the last SIR in West Bengal when it was conducted in 2002. It is unsettling that the top court in the country makes light of the procedural mandates of such an important exercise. That the law does not prescribe a fixed process for the periodic clean-up of the voters' list does not mean that the Election Commission has got a free run on deciding who can vote and who cannot. It is the duty of the courts

to come to the aid of the citizen when they are faced with the threat of losing a critical constitutional right and unacceptable that the Supreme Court in this case has refused to do so. The Supreme Court is of the opinion that examining questions bearing upon citizenship "must be undertaken with due regard to the presumption operating in favour of an elector whose name is already borne on the roll" but has chosen not to make it binding on the EC.

It is a costly contradiction. Universal adult franchise is the bedrock of representative democracy and the Constitution is the document that guarantees it. The Supreme Court has practically washed its hands of the matter of protecting voting rights. It is up to the Parliament now to ponder over ways to ensure justice for the unsuspecting voter.



# LIC plans foray in fintech space, strategic investment also on table: CEO Doraiswamy

Prior to 2022, LIC was wholly owned by Government of India.

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Insurance giant LIC is actively considering establishing a fintech arm either through strategic investment or organic way to cater to its growing digital needs, CEO and MD R Doraiswamy said. "Naturally, to meet the modernisation requirement and particularly to bring innovation, we are engaging both fintech and insurtech players and we are getting a lot of new things being developed by such players," Doraiswamy told PTI in an interview.

On the other side, he said, "we are a big financial institution investing in multiple organisations and we also look at strategic investments in any specialised player as a

way of improving the returns on the policyholders' funds."

Talking about Life Insurance Corporation of India's IT journey, he said, it was one of the early adopters of digital technologies.

"We have built our own core competence in developing our business applications by building up a software development centre. We have sizable number of people working in our IT department creating the IT solutions for us but that does not mean that we can be totally self-dependent. We engage a lot of IT service providers for the new infrastructure and platforms," he said.

Doraiswamy, who had spearheaded the modernization of IT infrastructure and Business Applications



of LIC's Individual Business as Executive Director, said, the Corporation need to have both its own core development teams as well as the support of IT players. "So, both go hand in hand... we are engaging the fintech players but whether it can be a strategic partner, we are looking at various options available and we may be coming up with something... our first aim is to modernize our IT applications and become as agile and nimble-footed as possible to remain relevant in the competition," he said. LIC is currently evaluating value proposition of

various options on the table, he added. Asked if LIC is prepared for further dilution of stake by the Centre, Doraiswamy said, "We have been prepared right from day one. When we started preparing for the IPO, we were prepared for this kind of subsequent actions as well. So the call is taken by the government." As and when a decision is taken on the timing and quantum of further stake dilution, LIC will be fully prepared to work closely with the government to ensure the initiative achieves the success it deserves.

LIC came with an initial-public offering, the biggest till 2022 in terms of size, resulting in the government raising about Rs 21,000 crore by diluting just 3.5 per cent stake in

the insurance behemoth. Prior to 2022, LIC was wholly owned by Government of India.

He further said the government has been focusing on complying with the listing requirements under which any listed company will have a public float of 10 per cent or 15 per cent at different schedules and times.

The government is focused on achieving this goal, but due to current market volatility, it is waiting for the right time to launch the next public offering, he added. Post-IPO, Doraiswamy said, LIC has done quite a good amount of activity in rewarding the shareholders. In the last quarter, he said, LIC announced a 1:1 bonus and then followed up with a good dividend which is 67 per cent.

## Adani says US legal issues behind it, bets on AI-driven infrastructure boom

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Billionaire Gautam Adani said the Adani Group has moved beyond its US legal challenges and is accelerating investments across energy, transport, logistics and digital infrastructure, positioning itself to benefit from rising demand for artificial intelligence-led growth. In his annual letter to shareholders, Adani said the conglomerate remained committed to expansion despite heightened scrutiny over the past year, adding that matters related to the group's US legal proceedings were now "behind us", allowing it to focus on its next phase of growth.

Adani described the group's recent Rs 24,930 crore rights issue in flagship firm Adani Enterprises as a vote of confidence from investors at a time when the conglomerate faced questions over governance and reg-



ulatory issues.

"Even though it was a year in which the world grew more fractured, complex energy security models returned to the centre of national strategy and technology became inseparable from sovereignty, Adani Group remained anchored to an unwavering belief - India's future cannot wait," he said.

"While others debated, the Group built, advancing its journey as the world's most integrated infrastructure platform - across energy, transport, logistics, utilities and industrial manufacturing." And this progress did not come in calm conditions for the ports-to-energy

conglomerate. "It came in the middle of extraordinary scrutiny. However, we did not bend. We did not pause," he said. "Because what we have always been defined by is: Not the noise that surrounds us, but the strength of our response. Not the intensity of the challenge, but the clarity of our purpose. Not the criticism, but the nation-building we continue to believe in."

Adani also sought to draw a line under the legal and regulatory challenges that have weighed on the group since late 2024. "The matters related to our US legal proceedings are now behind us thereby allowing us to focus with renewed confidence and belief on the next phase of our growth," he said.

The Adani Group has faced scrutiny from US authorities over bribery allegations linked to its renewable energy business, charges the conglomerate has denied.

# Modern Slavery in a New Form? A Debate on Labor, Dignity, and Equality

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

A Powerful Reflection on Modern Slavery, Social Inequality, and Human Dignity In every city, town, village, office, factory, apartment complex, restaurant, shopping mall, and corporate establishment, society depends on millions of workers who perform essential services every day. Security guards protect properties, sanitation workers keep surroundings clean, delivery personnel ensure conven-

ience, drivers transport goods and people, and office assistants support the daily functioning of institutions.

Yet a fundamental question remains largely ignored:

Who produces and sustains this vast workforce, and why are the communities providing this labor often denied equal dignity, opportunities, and social justice?

Historically, slavery existed in direct and brutal forms. Human beings were captured, bought,

and exploited as property. Across the world, oppressed communities fought long struggles against such systems. Their sacrifices laid the foundation for modern ideas of human rights, equality, and dignity.

However, while legal slavery may have ended, critics argue that exploitation has not disappeared. Instead, it has evolved into more sophisticated forms. Today, the burden of many low-paid, physically demanding, and so-

cially undervalued occupations continues to fall disproportionately upon marginalized communities.

From housekeeping and sanitation services to delivery work, manual labor, security services, and various forms of informal employment, millions remain trapped in cycles of economic vulnerability. Society celebrates technological progress and economic growth, yet often overlooks the workers whose labor sustains that very growth.

The debate becomes even more relevant whenever discussions arise about population growth and workforce requirements.

If society continuously demands workers for difficult and low-paying jobs, should only certain communities bear that responsibility?

Should the children of some groups be expected to fill these roles generation after generation while others enjoy greater access to education, wealth, and upward mobility? These questions challenge

deeply rooted social and economic inequalities.

The issue is not merely about employment. It is about dignity, representation, and equal opportunity. Every child, regardless of birth, deserves the freedom to dream beyond inherited social expectations. No community should be permanently assigned the burden of serving others without receiving equal respect and opportunities in return.

Throughout history, social reformers, civil rights

leaders, labor movements, and oppressed communities have challenged systems of exclusion and discrimination. Their message remains relevant today: true progress cannot be measured only through economic indicators, infrastructure, or corporate growth. It must also be measured by how a society treats its workers, values human labor, and ensures justice for all sections of its population.

The call emerging from contemporary social jus-

tice movements is not for conflict, but for recognition. It is a demand that labor be respected, exploitation be challenged, and opportunities be distributed more fairly. A democratic society flourishes when every citizen enjoys dignity, equality, and the chance to shape their own future. The voices of workers, marginalized communities, and social movements remind us that development without justice remains incomplete.

## Market cap of seven top firms erodes by Rs 1.54 trillion in holiday-shortened week

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The combined market valuation of seven of India's 10 most-valued companies declined by Rs 1.54 trillion during the holiday-shortened trading week.

During the week, the Sensex fell 639.61 points, or 0.84 per cent, while the Nifty slipped 171.55 points, or 0.72 per cent, as investors remained cautious amid market volatility.

Commenting on Nifty technical outlook, experts said that on the upside, immediate resistance levels are placed at 23,900 and 24,100. On the downside, support is seen at 23,400 and 23,200.

"A decisive breakdown below the 23,200 zone could invite fresh selling pressure, whereas sustained trade above 24,100 may improve sentiment and support a recovery move," an analyst stated. HDFC Bank recorded the biggest decline among the listed firms mentioned, with its market valuation shrinking by Rs 33,333.06 crore to Rs 11.46 trillion. Telecom

major Bharti Airtel saw its valuation fall by Rs 25,408.96 crore to Rs 11.14 trillion, while Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) lost Rs 22,920.58 crore, taking its market capitalisation to Rs 8.15 trillion.

Hindustan Unilever's valuation dropped by Rs 13,169.46 crore to Rs 5.04 trillion. Bajaj Finance also witnessed a decline of Rs 7,253.24 crore, reducing its market worth to Rs 5.63 trillion. ICICI Bank's market capitalisation fell by Rs 6,311.41 crore to Rs 9 trillion.

Despite the broader market weakness, three companies managed to post gains in their market valuations. Larsen & Toubro emerged as the biggest gainer among the top 10 firms, adding Rs 20,608.43 crore to reach a market capitalisation of Rs 5.61 trillion.

State Bank of India also registered a strong performance, with its valuation increasing by Rs 13,753.62 crore to Rs 8.90 trillion. Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) added Rs 6,040.37 crore, taking its market capitalisation to Rs 5.20

## India, Canada optimistic on free trade deal as CEPA talks gain momentum

Indian and Canadian officials expressed confidence that negotiations on the proposed Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement could conclude this year. Discussions at a Regina summit highlighted renewed bilateral engagement, trade expansion goals, and efforts to reset ties after diplomatic tensions stalled talks

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Canadian and Indian officials have expressed optimism about ongoing negotiations on a proposed free trade agreement during a business summit in Regina, amid renewed engagement between the two countries after trade talks stalled in 2023, according to media reports.

Saskatchewan Premier Scott Moe, Canada's High Commissioner to India Chris Cooter and India's High Commissioner to Canada Dinesh Patnaik, on Friday, participated in the Western Canada-India Leaders Summit in Regina, capital city of the Saskatchewan province, where they discussed bilateral ties and negotiations on the proposed Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), and spoke with delegations. According to Canadian broadcaster CBC News, Cooter said negotiations



on the agreement were continuing and expressed confidence that a deal could be reached later this year. "The free trade agreement will happen. I have no doubt." CBC also reported that Patnaik said negotiations were ongoing.

Moe described the relationship between Saskatchewan and India as important for the province and pointed to ongoing trade discussions as a reason for optimism, according to CBC.

The comments came days after India's Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said the two countries were looking to conclude negotiations on a free trade agreement before the end of this year, and the prime ministers of both sides had tasked officials

with completing the agreement and expanding bilateral trade from about USD 17 billion to USD 50 billion by 2030.

Trade negotiations between India and Canada stalled in 2023 after relations deteriorated following Canadian allegations linking Indian agents to the killing of Sikh separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar in British Columbia. India rejected the allegations as "absurd" and "motivated". Recent months have seen renewed trade engagement between the two countries.

During his visit to Canada earlier this week, Goyal said Canadian Prime Minister Mark Carney's recent visit to India had "completely changed" the way the two countries viewed each other and had set the stage for a broader reset in ties.

CBC reported that Moe credited Carney with helping restart engagement with India, includ-

ing through a visit to Mumbai and New Delhi earlier this year, which Moe also attended.

The summit discussion also touched on trade in agricultural commodities. According to CBC News and Global News, Moe said he hoped pulse crops would be included in any future trade agreement but indicated their exclusion would not be a deal-breaker.

Global News reported that Moe said Saskatchewan could work around existing Indian duties on pulse imports even if those tariffs were not removed under a future agreement.

Last year, India imposed a 30 per cent levy on imported yellow peas and a 10 per cent duty on lentils, affecting Canadian exports of the crops.

The summit was organised by the Canada-India Business Council and brought together political leaders, diplomats and business representatives from both countries.

## Hyderabad Set to Lead India's Semiconductor Design

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Hyderabad, already hosting seven of the world's top 10 semiconductor firms and outpacing Bengaluru in chip design hiring, is poised to emerge as India's primary semiconductor design hub, according to Niti Aayog's newly released Future of India's Semiconductor Industry road map. The plan targets a \$120 billion to \$150 billion semiconductor ecosystem by 2035, positioning Hyderabad as a critical node.

The 10-year road map, unveiled by Niti Aayog's Frontier Tech Hub on Friday, identifies semiconductor design talent development as one of its five key pillars. Hyderabad's pool of 9,300 semiconductor professionals, growing at four per cent annually, is seen as the foundation for India's transition from downstream consumer to global chip manufacturing powerhouse. "This road map validates what we've been seeing on the ground for the past two years," said Dr Rajesh Reddy, a Hyderabad-based semiconductor industry analyst and former VLSI architect with over 20 years of ex-

perience at global chip design firms.

"Hyderabad's advantage isn't just about having talent - it's about having the right kind of talent.

The city's engineers are already working on advanced chip verification, AI accelerators, and SoC design for global clients. When Niti Aayog talks about building 100+ advanced semiconductor design IPs by 2035, Hyderabad is naturally positioned to deliver at least 30-40 per cent of that because the ecosystem is already mature here," Dr Reddy said.

"Many people think semiconductor manufacturing is just about fabs, but that's wrong," Dr Reddy added. "Advanced packaging, chiplet design, and compound semiconductors are where the real growth is happening, and Hyderabad is already strong in all three." He said the common facility centre at Knowledge City will be a game-changer for start-ups and mid-size design houses that cannot afford their own prototyping infrastructure. "This is exactly what the road map is pushing for - ecosystem deepening, not just ecosystem creation," Dr Reddy said.

# Aishwarya's Achievements Matter More Than Appearance: Madhuri Dixit

**V**eteran actor Madhuri Dixit has come out strongly in support of Aishwarya Rai Bachchan, condemning the online trolling and body-shaming directed at the former Miss World following her appearance at the 2026 Cannes Film Festival. Madhuri said Aishwarya's decades-long contribution to representing India on the global stage should not be overshadowed by comments about her appearance.

Speaking at a promotional event for the upcoming Netflix film "Maa Behen," Madhuri said Aishwarya's achievements far outweigh superficial judgments based on age, body size, or appearance. She emphasized that Aishwarya has made India proud through her international accomplishments and remains a global icon.

Highlighting Aishwarya's journey, Madhuri noted that the actor has been attending the Cannes Film Festival for over two decades and has consistently represented India with distinction. She said reducing a person's



worth to physical appearance sends a damaging message to young people, who should instead be encouraged to value achievements and character.

Madhuri stressed that such criticism promotes the false idea that personal worth depends on looks rather than accomplishments. Describing Aishwarya as beautiful both inside and out, she urged people to focus on her contributions rather than social media-driven narratives.

The discussion also touched upon recent criticism faced by actor Ananya Panday after a dance sequence from her film "Chand Mera Dil" went viral online. The scene, which blended Bharatanatyam with hip-

hop, sparked debate and accusations of disrespecting classical dance traditions.

Commenting on the broader trend, Madhuri observed that social media has given everyone a platform to voice opinions instantly. While criticism has always existed, she said digital platforms have amplified it significantly, allowing reactions to spread rapidly and often without accountability.

Actor Triptii Dimri, who also stars in "Maa Behen," echoed Madhuri's views. She said it is easy for people to criticize from behind screens without understanding the hard work and dedication that artists invest in their careers. Triptii described both Aishwa-

rya and Ananya as achievers who have earned their success through years of effort.

Triptii acknowledged that public scrutiny can create anxiety for performers, particularly after investing time and energy into a project. While she accepts audience feedback on professional work, she expressed frustration when criticism becomes personal rather than focusing on performances.

Madhuri also reflected on the evolution of film criticism, noting that reviews have always been part of the industry. However, she said today's digital environment demands constant content, leading to commentary on every aspect of a film even before audiences have fully experienced it.

Despite finding the trend frustrating, Madhuri said artists must adapt to the realities of the digital age and continue moving forward. "Maa Behen," a dark comedy featuring Madhuri Dixit, Triptii Dimri, Dharna Durga, and Ravi Kishan, is scheduled to premiere on Netflix on June 4.

## CM Vijay and Ajith Choose Different Journeys After Stardom

**MUMBAI**  
Wakeup telangana

Tamil cinema is currently witnessing an extraordinary chapter as two of its most celebrated stars have chosen vastly different journeys beyond the world of films.

While both continue to command immense fan loyalty and public admiration, their recent life choices highlight how success can be redefined beyond box-office achievements.

On one side stands Vijay, popularly known as Thalapathy Vijay. After years of dominating the Tamil film industry with blockbuster hits and a massive fan following, Vijay made a historic transition into politics. His successful entry into electoral politics culminated in a landmark victory in the Tamil Nadu Assembly elections, paving the way for him to assume the office of Chief Minister. The achievement marked a rare milestone, as he managed to convert cinematic popularity into political success on his very first major electoral outing. With his



new responsibilities in governance and public service, Vijay has effectively drawn the curtain on his acting career and dedicated himself entirely to public life.

In contrast, fellow superstar Ajith Kumar has chosen a completely different path. Rather than stepping into politics or pursuing another public role, Ajith has increasingly focused on his personal interests and passions. A longtime enthusiast of motorsports, he has spent significant time participating in racing events and related activities, both in India and abroad. His love for sports has also extended to cricket, with several recent appearances showing him actively enjoying the game alongside local players and fans. These moments have delighted supporters, who appreciate see-

ing the actor pursue hobbies that bring him personal satisfaction.

The contrast between the two icons is remarkable. Vijay has moved from cinematic superstardom to political leadership, embracing the challenges of governance and public administration. Ajith, meanwhile, has gravitated toward a quieter life centered on sports, recreation, and personal fulfillment.

Despite taking different directions, both stars continue to inspire millions. Their decisions reflect a rare phenomenon in Indian cinema—two of its biggest names choosing meaningful pursuits beyond films, proving that success can take many forms long after the spotlight of the silver screen begins to fade.

# RCB Clinch Second Straight IPL Title

If the Titans' innings of 155 for eight was filled with trepidation, Royal Challengers' 161 for five in 18 overs was full of intent and confidence

**AHMEDABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

It was a night dotted with chilling certainty. Royal Challengers Bengaluru translated their domination from Day 1 of this IPL into a second successive title, and Virat Kohli anchored that five-wicket romp over Gujarat Titans with a patented chase masterclass of unbeaten 75 here on Sunday. If the Titans' innings of 155 for eight was filled with trepidation, Royal Challengers' 161 for five in 18 overs was full of intent and confidence.

And those words are forever entwined with Kohli's batting and the latest evidence was his 42-ball unbeaten innings. As he has done throughout his career, he struck out with an unflinching desire to take his side home. That purpose was evident in his dismantling of Kagiso Rabada with a sequence of 4, 4, 6, 4, right after his opening partner Venkatesh Iyer handed the South African a similar punishment

in the second over that yielded 18 runs.

Kohli and Venkatesh added 62 runs in just 4.3 overs to rain even on the distant dreams of the Titans. Once Rabada was nullified in three straight overs of his, the Titans did not have enough ammunition in the Power Play, in which RCB amassed 70 for two, to make an impact. The dismissal of Venkatesh and Devdutt Padikkal followed by the quick departure of skipper Rajat Patidar and Krunal Pandya saw RCB slipping to 91 for four.

But amid this little cavern of chaos, Kohli stood firm like a fort, stopping GT's advances, and the 37-year-old reached his fifth fifty of the season with pulled four off pacer Arshad Khan. Tim David (24, 17b) produced a mini storm that eased the pressure on Kohli, who survived a scare as Shubman Gill's catch off Arshad was found to have bumped on the grass in the umpire's review. The champion batter soon so



berfittingly fetched the winning moment for RCB with a six off Arshad.

The thundering shot also transformed the RCB dug-out into a school children's after examination party. Patidar, who joined MS Dhoni and Rohit Sharma as the only captain to have successfully defended an IPL title, shed his usual stoic face, breaking into a wide grin. Others around him rushed to the field to gather

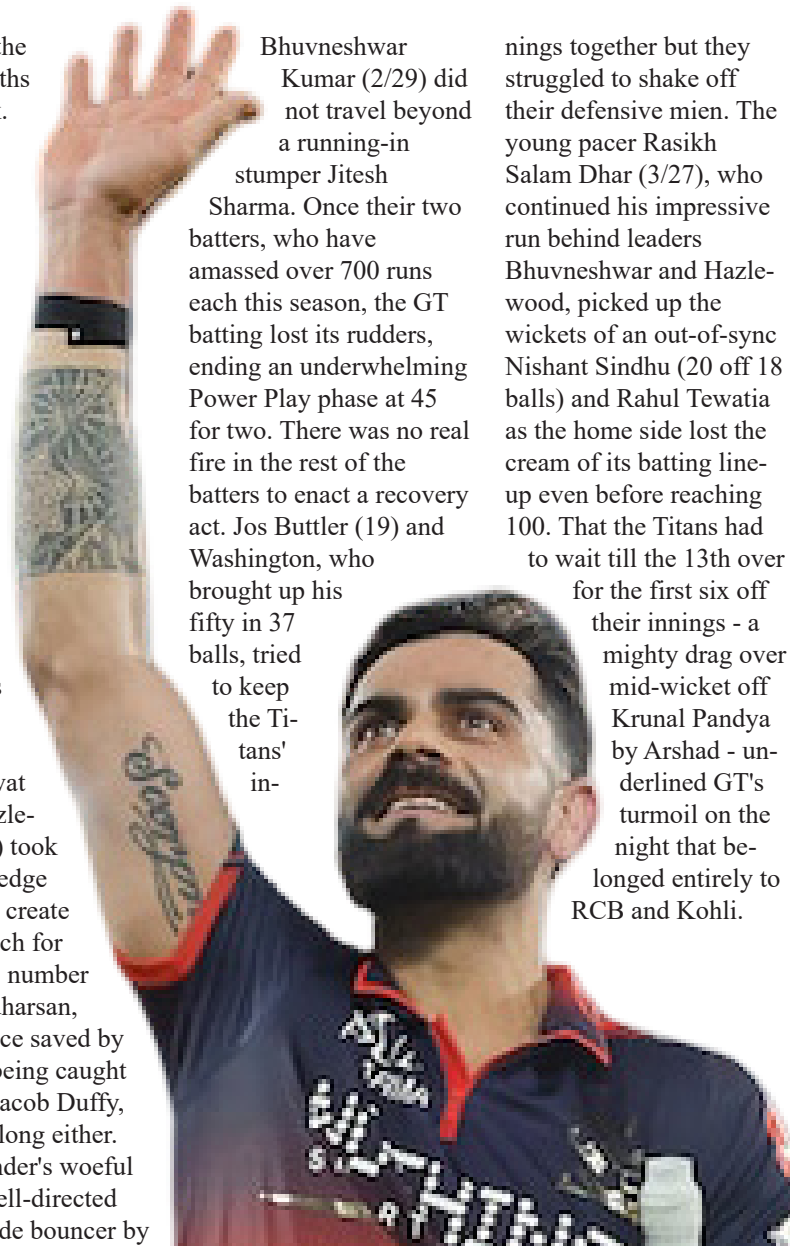
around Kohli, the beating heart of his franchise since 2008. But before Kohli put on display his undimmed abilities in white ball format, RCB bowlers exploited a slow pitch to perfection, restricting a lethargic Gujarat Titans to a sub-par 155 for eight. Shot-making was not exactly an easy proposition on the pitch No. 6 at the Narendra Modi stadium, a mix of red and black soil, and it

aply reflected in the GT batting. Washington Sundar resisted the trend with an unbeaten 50 (37b, 5x4), but the damage around him was far too big to mitigate. The fatigue of playing Qualifier 2 on Friday and a delayed departure because of inclement weather at Mullanpur also might have added to their list of woes. But none of that should not take any credit away from the RCB bowlers

who found the correct lengths on this deck. The Titans needed skipper Gill and his opening partner B Sai Sudharsan to fire upfront to pile a competitive total, but they failed in that endeavour. A steady beginning was not alien to GT openers but Gill's swat off Josh Hazlewood (2/37) took the leading edge of his bat to create a simple catch for his opposite number Patidar. Sudharsan, who was once saved by DRS from being caught behind off Jacob Duffy, did not last long either. The left-hander's woeful pull off a well-directed high and wide bouncer by

Bhuvneshwar Kumar (2/29) did not travel beyond a running-in stumper Jitesh Sharma. Once their two batters, who have amassed over 700 runs each this season, the GT batting lost its rudders, ending an underwhelming Power Play phase at 45 for two. There was no real fire in the rest of the batters to enact a recovery act. Jos Buttler (19) and Washington, who brought up his fifty in 37 balls, tried to keep the Titans' in-

nings together but they struggled to shake off their defensive mien. The young pacer Rasikh Salam Dhar (3/27), who continued his impressive run behind leaders Bhuvneshwar and Hazlewood, picked up the wickets of an out-of-sync Nishant Sindhu (20 off 18 balls) and Rahul Tewatia as the home side lost the cream of its batting lineup even before reaching 100. That the Titans had to wait till the 13th over for the first six off their innings - a mighty drag over mid-wicket off Krunal Pandya by Arshad - underlined GT's turmoil on the night that belonged entirely to RCB and Kohli.



## Two more arrested in Gandipet land fraud

The Cyberabad Police in Telangana have arrested two more accused in the case relating to an alleged conspiracy to illegally encroach valuable government land by creating fake government orders and false official records. The police on Sunday, May 31, announced the arrest of Veladi Radhakrishna and his driver Gyara Praveen Kumar, named as accused 9 and 10, respectively. Police on May 29 claimed to have busted a Rs 1,000 crore land scam with the arrest of three persons. The case relates to creating fake government orders (GOs) and false official records to illegally sell 10 acres of government land worth nearly Rs 1,500 crore in Gandipet. A case under sections 338, 336(3), 318(4) and 61(2) BNS was registered in Narsingi Police Station on May 23 on a complaint from Srinivas Reddy, Tahsildar, Gandipet Mandal, Rangareddy district.

# Rythu Discom will become noose around neck of farmers: Harish

Harish Rao alleged that the proposed Telangana Rythu Power Distribution Corporation Limited would end 24-hour farm power supply, affect lift irrigation and drinking water projects, and pave the way for discom privatisation, while questioning the government's intentions

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Former Minister T Harish Rao said that the Telangana Rythu Power Distribution Corporation Limited (RPDCL) would become a death trap for farmers as it would put an end to 24-hour power supply to the farming sector.

Speaking to reporters in Siddipet on Sunday, Harish Rao said the RPDCL would become a curse for lift irrigation projects such as Kaleshwaram, Kalwakurthy, Nettekpadu, Bheema, Koil Sagar and many others, which provide irrigation water to thousands of acres across Telangana.

He said there would be disruption in drinking water supply as power supply to these projects



would also be affected with the establishment of RPDCL. Quoting the Congress government's arguments before the Electricity Regulatory Commission (ERC), the former minister said Congress leader Kodanda Reddy informed the ERC that three-hour power supply to farming was enough. He said he was making the statement as he had evidence of the Congress' argument before the ERC.

Rao asked Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy to ac-

cept his challenge of the Congress seeking votes only if his government supplied 24-hour power to the farming sector. Stating that the Congress government was not supplying round-the-clock power now, he said he checked the power supply during his visits to multiple substations and found that agriculture connections were hardly getting 13-hour power.

Dismissing Revanth's claims that 24-hour power would be supplied to the agriculture sector through the establishment of RPDCL as misleading, he said the Congress government had put an end to round-the-clock power supply after coming to power. He said the RPDCL would hardly supply seven to eight hours of power. Accusing Revanth of fol-

lowing the words of 'Bade Bhai' (Prime Minister Narendra Modi), he said the Gujarat government was supplying seven hours of power while Congress-ruled Karnataka was providing eight hours of power supply to the agriculture sector. Showing GO Ms No. 8, which was issued regarding the establishment of RPDCL, he said the government intended to give priority to renewable energy for RPDCL.

Quoting the GO, Rao said the supply of renewable energy would be possible only for eight to nine hours during the day. He questioned why Revanth wanted to supply only renewable energy to RPDCL while thermal power, which is available round the clock, would be supplied to NPDCL and SPDCL.

## Missing Hyderabad Toddler Traced Safely Within 12 Hours

A family in Hyderabad's Tappachabutra had a scare Saturday, May 30, after their three-year-old boy went missing while playing outside the house. The family, residing near the Taj Function Hall in Sarwar Nagar, noticed Hamza's absence at around 7:30 pm and started frantically searching.

After nearly five hours, they approached the Tappachabutra police station at around 1 am.

A kidnapping case was registered, and police began their search. At around 5 am, they found little Hamza at one of the houses in the same locality and safely reunited him with his family.

The child was found by Taslim Begum, who denied any foul play. During questioning, she claimed that the boy had followed her as she was passing by the area. Not knowing what to do, she approached the local mosque to make an announcement, but found no one there. She ultimately decided to take him to her house, fed him and made him go to sleep.

She had planned to take the boy to the masjid the following morning, she said.

## New Bus Shelter, Water Kiosk Opened at Bollaram Check Post

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

A new bus shelter and drinking water kiosk were inaugurated at Bollaram Check Post on Saturday to improve commuter convenience and ease traffic movement in the area.

The facility was inaugurated by ACP G. Shankar Raju. The bus shelter was constructed to prevent buses from stopping on the main road, reducing traffic congestion and ensuring safer boarding and alighting for passengers.

The project was completed through the efforts of Traffic Police personnel and support from local residents. The newly established shelter provides commuters protection



from harsh weather conditions while helping maintain smooth traffic flow.

A water kiosk was also set up beside the shelter to provide drinking water to the public during the summer season with support from local community leaders.

Speaking on the occasion, the ACP said such public-friendly initiatives enhance road safety, commuter comfort, and traffic discipline through community participation.

## Telangana govt deducts EHS premium sans health cards, staff fume

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Neither the Employees Health Scheme (EHS) trust was set up, guidelines and health cards were rolled out nor agreements with hospitals were signed, yet the Telangana Congress government deducted 1.5 percent as EHS premium contribution from salaries of its employees, doctors, healthcare staff and teachers.

While the employees expected some good news on the occasion of the State Formation Day celebrations scheduled for Tuesday, they were in for a rude shock when they noticed their deductions in their pay slips. Employees claimed that the government did not provide any prior information nor issued any orders but deducted the premium without taking their consent.

The deduction, according to employees and teachers, ranged from Rs 907 per month to Rs 3,750 per month depending on the cadre and position. They also claimed two premiums were de-

ducted if both spouses were government employees.

Earlier, as per government directions, 1,07,926 out of 2,98,888 employees uploaded their family information till the last count on Saturday. However, premiums were deducted not only from those who uploaded their details but also from those who did not.

Employees' union leaders claimed that deducting money from salaries without following due legal process amounts to a constitutional violation. They also claimed that deductions without employee consent violate legal protections and that employee approval is mandatory before any salary deduction. TS UTF president Chava Ravi and general secretary A Venkat said at a time when the government should be addressing their concerns and implementing the health scheme transparently, imposing salary deductions in such a hurried manner without taking the necessary steps is creating several doubts.

## HYDRAA Protects Muskin Cheruvu From Encroachers

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency (HYDRAA) on Saturday said it had fenced 52.2 acre of Muskin Cheruvu located in Puppalguda and Narsingi, saving land worth Rs 5,500 crore approximately. HYDRAA alleged that an attempt was made to grab 34.21 acre by constructing an embankment in the middle of the lake under the guise of lake development. A construction



firm had undertaken lake development works using corporate social responsibility funds.

According to HMDA records, the 52.2 acres

fenced on Saturday fell within the full tank level (FTL) boundary of the lake's total extent of 59.11 acres as per village records. Of this, 20.23

acres constitute government shikam (lake bed) land and the remaining was privately owned. The encroachers attempted to encroach land in the FTL area by taking up construction activities in violation of regulations and by erecting huts. According to HYDRAA, encroachers were using people from the economically weaker sections as a human shield to stop enforcement activity. In addition, the encroachers had dumped construction debris and soil to alter the lake's topography.

## TPCC chief's meeting with Kharge fuels speculation in Congress circles

TPCC president Mahesh Kumar Goud's meeting with AICC chief Mallikarjun Kharge in Hyderabad has assumed political significance following a television channel's report branding him a "disastrous leader."

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) president Mahesh Kumar Goud's meeting with AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge on Sunday has sparked speculation within Congress circles, particularly in the wake of a controversy surrounding a television channel's report that described him as a "disaster leader."

The report, aired by a news channel perceived to be supportive of the Congress party, triggered intense discussions both in political circles and within Gandhi Bhavan.

Though Mahesh Kumar Goud attempted to downplay the controversy, he remarked that "everyone will get answers at an appropriate time," a statement that further fueled curiosity among party leaders and cadre.

Against this backdrop, his closed-door meeting with Kharge at Hotel Novotel in Hyderabad assumed significance. Notably, Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, along with several



Cabinet ministers, received the AICC chief at Shamshabad airport.

Officially, party leaders maintained that the TPCC president briefed Kharge on the recent Political Affairs Committee meeting and the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) awareness programmes being conducted for party workers. However, many within the party believe that other sensitive issues may also have figured in the discussions.

"The report aired by the television channel not only defamed the TPCC president but also amounted to an attack on the entire Backward Classes community within the Congress. Mahesh Kumar would certainly

have brought these developments and possible conspiracies to the notice of the AICC chief," a senior Congress leader said.

"As TPCC president, it is his responsibility to inform the party high command about such attacks on the BC community," the leader added.

Meanwhile, Telangana Assembly Speaker G. Prasad Kumar's meeting with Kharge in New Delhi on Saturday has also generated considerable interest within the party. With speculation continuing over a possible Cabinet expansion or reshuffle, the Speaker's interaction with the Congress president has added another layer of intrigue to the ongoing political discussions.

## Man held with 2.9 kg ganja at Moula Ali Railway Station

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Ranga Reddy Excise Enforcement team seized 2.9 kg of ganja and arrested a man near Moula Ali Railway Station on Sunday, May 31, while he was allegedly waiting to deliver the contraband to prospective buyers.

Acting on the information, a team led by Excise Enforcement Circle Inspector Subhash Chander conducted surveillance and inspections

in the railway station area. During the operation, the team apprehended Suraj Majai, 23, who was allegedly carrying the ganja brought from Odisha.

They also seized Rs. 10,300 cash from his possession.

Circle Inspector Subhash Chander said the accused, along with the seized contraband and cash, was handed over to the Malkajgiri Excise Station for further investigation and legal action.

## 22-year-old Hyderabad student drowns in Texas after rescuing three friends

A 22-year-old student from Hyderabad drowned while saving his three friends in Texas, US, on Friday, May 29. The deceased, Anurudh Reddy Koduru, had graduated from the University of North Texas a few weeks ago. The incident occurred at the Toledo Bend Reservoir, where Koduru and his friends had gone for an outing.

Koduru, who is well-versed in swimming, noticed his friends struggling inside the water. He jumped into the reservoir and tried to pull them out. Tragedy struck after he rescued the three and was entangled in a fishing net. According to reports, Koduru was swept by strong waves. A rescue team later recovered the student's body from 20 feet under the water.

## Grand Anna Prasadam Unites Devotees at Bhavani Shivalingeswara Temple

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Sri Bhavani Shivalingeswara Swamy Temple in Cantonment's Sixth Ward organized a grand Anna Prasadam distribution on Sunday on the occasion of the full moon, attracting hundreds of devotees and local residents.

The event was conducted under the leadership of temple founder Sada Kesava Reddy and committee members, with active participation from Nagarjuna Reddy, Shiva Reddy, Dhanunjaya Goud, and social worker Galipalli Durgayya. Volunteers served meals to devotees and needy residents as part of the temple's



monthly charitable initiative.

Speaking on the occasion, Sada Kesava Reddy said the program aims to promote devotion, unity, and service. Devotees from the locality participated in large numbers. The temple committee reiterated its commitment to continuing the monthly Anna Prasadam program with community support.

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