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## Revanth Warns of Stir Against Maharashtra's Neglect

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Monday criticised the BJP-led Central government and Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis for ignoring the Telangana government's requests for negotiations on the proposed Tummidihatti barrage on the Godavari river, a key component of the Pranahita-Chevella project. He also warned of a large-scale Adivasi agitation from Telangana. Addressing a public meeting at Kagaznagar crossroads in Komaram Bheem



Asifabad district as part of the 99-day Praja Palana-Pragati Pranalika programme, Revanth Reddy said the Telangana government was prepared to bear the compensation cost for the submergence of around 2,000 acres of land in Maharashtra required for the construction

of the Tummidihatti barrage. He said that despite repeatedly seeking talks with Maharashtra for over a year, Fadnavis had neither responded to multiple letters nor agreed to a Chief Minister-level meeting to discuss the height and other issues relating to the proposed bar-

rage. Revanth Reddy alleged that Maharashtra was discriminating against Telangana and its people by refusing to cooperate on the project, which he said would irrigate nearly two lakh acres in the erstwhile Adilabad district and also benefit farmers in the erstwhile Nizamabad, Karimnagar and Medak districts. He warned that if the deadlock continued, the people and farmers of Adilabad would intensify their struggle and Maharashtra would "feel the heat" of Telangana farmers.

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### SC Refuses to Accept Plea to Conduct NEET-UG Retest in CBT Mode

The Supreme Court on Monday refused to entertain a plea seeking that the NEET-UG 2026 re-test, scheduled for June 21, be conducted in computer-based test (CBT) mode, observing that the National Testing Agency (NTA) was already dealing with multiple challenges. A bench of Justices P.S. Narasimha and Arvind Kumar posted the petition filed by RJD MP Sudhakar Singh and others for hearing on July 27, but declined to direct that the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (Undergraduate), or NEET-UG, be conducted in CBT mode instead of the existing pen-and-paper format. The NTA had cancelled the NEET-UG examination held on May 3 amid allegations of a question paper leak. The CBI is investigating the case, and a re-test has been scheduled for June 21. Appearing for the petitioners, advocate Satyam Singh Rajput urged the court to direct the NTA to hold the re-examination in CBT mode. The bench, however, said: "There is no question of conducting the re-examination in CBT mode. They

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## Iran Stops Talking To US, May Block Strait of Hormuz



**TEHRAN**  
Wakeup telangana

Iran's Tasnim news agency said Tehran was suspending all exchanges with mediators in peace talks with the United States on Monday, blaming Israel's ongoing invasion of Lebanon. "Given the continuing crimes of the Zionist regime (Israel) in Lebanon and considering that Lebanon was one of the preconditions for the ceasefire and that this ceasefire has now been violated on all fronts, including Lebanon, the Iranian negotiating team is suspending dialogues and exchange of texts through mediators," Tasnim reported. It said Iran was demanding the "immediate cessation" of Israel's military operations in Gaza and Lebanon and its withdrawal from areas it occupied

in its northern neighbour as a precondition for resuming talks. Israel's military has pushed further into southern Lebanon than at any time since it ended its occupation of the region in 2000. On Monday it warned residents of the capital Beirut's southern suburbs to evacuate ahead of strikes. Tasnim also reported that Iran and its allies had "set their determination to completely block the Strait of Hormuz and activate other fronts, including the Bab al-Mandab Strait", at the entrance to the Red Sea. Iran's Yemeni ally, the Houthis, have previously attacked shipping in the latter strait and nearby waters, forcing ships to take long detours around Africa rather than sail through the Red Sea and Suez Canal.

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### Bengaluru Man With Pregnant Wife Protests Gridlocking Traffic for VIPs

A stranded commuter Prajwal with his pregnant wife on Old Madras Road of Bengaluru city on Monday fed-up over stoppage of vehicular movement on the busy by traffic police staged a lone protest against halting vehicular movement to make way for the smooth passage of Governor's convoy. Having waited for a long time stuck in the traffic, the commuter decided to stage a protest and sat on a zebra cross on the road near ISRO junction at around 12 pm. The traffic was halted for about half-an-hour for the convoy of the Governor. A traffic policeman brought to the notice of the commuter that vehicular movement on the road has been halted to allow the convoy of Governor Thaa-warchand Gehlot. The traffic policeman warned the

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## India, Myanmar reaffirm support

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi held talks with Myanmar President U Min Aung Hlaing at Hyderabad House here on Monday, during which both nations discussed ties in sectors including trade and investment, defence and security, border management, development assis-

tance, energy, critical minerals and rare-earths, high-end technologies including in artificial intelligence and space, health and education. Completion of the Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport project and the India-Myanmar-Thailand trilateral highway, which are both vital connectivity projects, were also discussed while "both sides noted ongoing

discussions on various bilateral agreements and Memoranda of Understanding and looked forward to their early conclusion". An invitation was also extended to Modi to visit Myanmar. A joint statement mentioned that "both sides underscored the importance of preventing the misuse of sovereign territory for activities inimical to their

security interests ... (while) the President reiterated Myanmar's assurance that its territory would not be permitted to be used against India's security interests". It added that Modi "reaffirmed India's support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Myanmar" and also "affirmed that India, as a steadfast and trusted partner of Myanmar.

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**Advocate Mir Qurram Ali** : BRSV GHMC Coordinator  
Advocate Telangana High Court | Chairman BRS Welfare Federation



**Father Affan**  
Congress Youth Leader

## India-Oman Trade Deal Takes Effect

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

The free trade agreement between India and Oman came into force on Monday, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said. The India-Oman Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) will benefit domestic exporters in sectors such as textiles, leather, plastics, marine products, auto-



mobiles, sports goods, and agri-items, as they gain preferential access to the Omani market over competitors, Goyal said. "The India-Oman Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement

is entering into force from today," the minister told reporters here. The free trade pact was signed on 18th December 2025 in Muscat. Upon completion of internal processes by both parties, the Agreement entered into force on 1st June, 2026. To mark the entry into force, about 10 consignments of agriculture and gems and jewellery products from Mumbai, Kolkata and

Chennai were shipped to the Gulf nation under the preferential tariffs. Oman is India's second-largest trading partner in the Gulf region and serves as a strategic gateway to the wider GCC market through its advanced port infrastructure. Bilateral trade between India and Oman reached USD 11.18 billion in FY 2025-26, up from USD 10.61 billion in FY 2024-25.



**సామల సందీప్ రెడ్డి**  
బి ఆర్ ఎస్ పార్టీ నాయకులు  
పోచారం 8వ డివిజన్

## Telangana borrowings exceed revenue in April as fiscal deficit touches Rs 11,413 crore

**HYDERABAD**  
[Wakeup telangana](#)

In a clear indication of the precarious condition of the Telangana treasury, the borrowings of the Congress government have exceeded the revenue collections in April. The State government raised Rs 11,413.93 crore through market borrowings during April, even as total revenue receipts stood at Rs 10,974.73 crore including tax revenue, non-tax revenue and the Central grants.

In other words, the government borrowed nearly Rs 108 for every Rs 100 earned through taxes. The State's dependence on debt becomes more striking when compared with the State's tax revenue which was Rs 10,598.33 crore, nearly Rs 816 crore lower than the borrowings raised in a

single month. The State realised Rs 3,155 crore from GST, Rs 1,413 crore from Stamps and Registrations, Rs 2,923 crore from Sales Tax, Rs 1,445 crore from State excise duties and another Rs 1,260 crore from State's share in Central taxes.

Surprisingly, the State's tax revenue was lesser than Rs 10,916.68 crore collected in April last year.

According to the monthly report of Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG), the fiscal indicators also pointed to mounting pressure on the State's finances. Telangana recorded a revenue deficit of Rs 8,526.59 crore during April, indicating that revenue receipts were insufficient to meet revenue expenditure. The Congress government presented the budget with a revenue surplus of Rs



6,857.76 crore.

The State also posted a fiscal deficit of Rs 11,413.93 crore, equivalent to the entire amount raised through borrowings. This is unprecedented for any State in the first month of the financial year. Borrowings accounted for more than half of the State's total receipts of Rs 22,392.28 crore in April.

On the expenditure side, the government spent Rs 21,472.31 crore during the month. Revenue expenditure alone stood at Rs 19,501.32 crore, with substantial outgo towards salaries (Rs 4,449.24 crore), pensions (Rs 1,893.11

crore), interest payments (Rs 2,350.90 crore) and subsidies (Rs 4,727.38 crore). The capital expenditure was pegged at Rs 1,970 crore against an annual estimate of Rs 47,267 crore.

The latest CAG report indicated that the State's debt-funded spending pattern continued into 2026-27, with borrowings outpacing both overall revenue receipts and tax collections in the very first month of the financial year. This is a major cause of concern for the Congress government which is set to launch Phase-2 of Indiramma Illu housing scheme and numerous other initiatives on Tuesday on the occasion of Telangana Formation Day.

Although the first month of a financial year does not always reflect annual trends, the data offers an

early indication of the challenges confronting the State's finances. With borrowings already exceeding both revenue receipts and tax collections in the opening month of FY27, fiscal management is likely to remain a key area of debate in the months ahead. The government's ability to improve revenue mobilisation, while containing deficits will determine whether Telangana can sustain its spending commitments without becoming increasingly dependent on debt.

Telangana's fiscal condition in April 2026: Borrowings – Rs 11,413.93 crore Revenue Receipts – Rs 10,974.73 crore Tax Revenue – Rs 10,598.33 crore Revenue Deficit – Rs 8,526.59 crore Fiscal Deficit – Rs 11,413.93 crore

## KCR extends Telangana Formation Day greetings, pays tributes to martyrs

**HYDERABAD**  
[Wakeup telangana](#)

BRS president and former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao greeted people of the State and Telangana natives living across the world on the occasion of Telangana State Formation Day on June 2. He paid tributes to the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for statehood. Wishing that Telangana would continue its journey of progress, he wished prosperity, good health and happiness for farmers, workers and all sections of society.

In a statement, Chandrashekhar Rao recalled the Telangana statehood movement and its achievement through a democratic and parlia-



mentary struggle after overcoming decades of discrimination and numerous obstacles. He stated that Telangana, which had once suffered neglect under united Andhra Pradesh, emerged as a model of development under self-governance and silenced those who criticised that people of Telangana were incapable of effective administration. Pointing to the achievements of the previous BRS government, he said the State registered rapid progress in

irrigation, drinking water supply, power, agriculture, education and healthcare within a decade of its formation. He asserted that the State had emerged as a national model in several sectors and credited the BRS government for transforming Telangana into a major agricultural producer through large-scale irrigation and welfare initiatives. However, the BRS chief cautioned people to remain vigilant in safeguarding Telangana's identity and progress. Reiterating that the BRS would continue to stand as a protective shield for Telangana, he stated that the responsibility of protecting the State from regressive forces rested with all sections of society.

## Chanti Kranthi Kiran Pays Tribute at Funeral

**HYDERABAD**  
[Wakeup telangana](#)  
[Usha Sree](#)

Former Andole MLA Chanti Kranthi Kiran participated in the funeral procession of the father of former Vice MPP Basavaraju at Gorrekal village in Vatpally Mandal on Sunday. Accompanied by TRS State leader Rahul Kiran and other party leaders, he visited the bereaved family and conveyed condolences.

The leaders paid their final respects and joined



the last rites, carrying the bier as a mark of respect. They prayed for the departed soul and expressed solidarity with the grieving family. Several local leaders, party activists, villagers, and well-wishers attended the funeral and offered tributes.

## Illegal Betting Racket Busted by CID-SIT

**HYDERABAD**  
[Wakeup telangana](#)

The CID-SIT constituted by the state government to combat illegal online betting has arrested 11 persons linked to the 'Dafabet' betting network. Police seized several assets from them including high-end cars. Six special teams, each led by a DSP, were deployed to New Delhi, Gujarat, and Punjab. Despite the accused frequently changing mobile phones, SIM cards, and locations, sustained surveillance and field operations over two weeks



led to the arrests, said director-general, CID, Charu Sinha.

"We have obtained transit warrants and the accused are being brought to the CID police station, Hyderabad, for production before the judicial magistrate of first class (special mobile) PCR court, Karimnagar," Sinha

said. The case was based on a complaint from Challa Sai Krishna Reddy, a software engineer from Karimnagar, who said he was induced by Dafabet's promotional campaigns to participate in online betting. Trusting the platform's representations, he deposited and wagered money between January

2024 and January 2025, losing ₹9,95,000. Police traced his funds through 46 mule bank accounts spread across eight layers, used to route illegal betting proceeds. Forensic analysis of bank transactions, mobile numbers, email IDs, social media profiles, and WhatsApp groups revealed a coordinated, multistate network. The accused promoted betting on cricket, casino games, and the Aviator platform through the Dafabet app. Victims were lured with promises of easy money, bonuses, and high returns.

## CPI(M) Veteran Battupalli Srinivas Remembered

**HYDERABAD**  
[Wakeup telangana](#)  
[Thalka Anjaiah](#)

Former CPI(M) Bhongir Town President and ex-councilor Comrade Battupalli Srinivas was remembered on his 15th death anniversary at Singannagudem in Bhuvanagiri Mandal on Sunday.

CPI(M) leaders, former public representatives, family members, and supporters paid floral tributes and recalled his lifelong commitment to social justice, housing rights, and the welfare of workers, farmers, students, and the



poor. Speakers highlighted his role in people's movements and developmental initiatives during his tenure as councillor.

Family members thanked attendees, while participants pledged to uphold his ideals of equality, public service, and dedication to the common people.

## Chanti Kranthi Kiran Alleges Massive Encroachment in Singur Zone

**MLA Chanti Kranthi Kiran Alleges Massive Encroachment and Environmental Destruction in Singur Project Submergence Zone**

**HYDERABAD**  
[Wakeup telangana](#)

Former Andole MLA Chanti Kranthi Kiran has alleged large-scale encroachments and environmental destruction in the Singur Project Full Tank Level (FTL) and submergence areas, urging the district administration to take immediate action to protect public lands and water resources. Accompanied by local villagers and representatives from Kadirabad and Saipet villages, Chanti Kranthi Kiran met Sangareddy District Collector Prateek Jain and submitted a memorandum highlighting what he described as serious violations taking place within the Singur reservoir region.

According to the representation, influential individuals are allegedly taking advantage of the ongoing repair works at the Singur Project and temporary reduction of water levels to occupy government and submergence lands. He claimed that hundreds of acres of valuable public property are under threat due to or-



ganized encroachment activities.

The former MLA alleged that two historic water bodies—Korivi Kunta and Nalla Kunta—located in Kadirabad village have been damaged using heavy machinery. He stated that the ponds' bunds and sluices were dismantled, causing irreversible damage to traditional water conservation structures that have served local communities for generations.

The memorandum further alleged that portions of the project's FTL and submergence areas have been illegally leveled and filled with soil. Chanti Kranthi Kiran claimed that these alterations are being carried out to facilitate private commercial ventures, including tourism and boating-related busi-

nesses. Expressing concern over the impact on local farmers, he said that several small and marginal landholders are facing difficulties in accessing their agricultural lands. Villagers have reportedly complained about illegal excavation and land-filling activities, while authorities have failed to take effective action despite repeated representations.

The complaint also raised questions over an electricity line allegedly laid for more than a kilometer within the project area without proper authorization. Another allegation stated that attempts are being made to legitimize encroachments through the installation of religious symbols and flags under the guise of an existing place of worship.

Demanding immediate intervention, Chanti Kranthi Kiran called for a joint survey by the Revenue and Irrigation Departments to clearly demarcate the FTL boundaries and assess the extent of encroachments. He also urged officials to halt all leveling, construction, and commercial activities within the submergence zone and initiate strict legal action against those responsible for damaging public property and water bodies.

The former MLA stressed that continued encroachment could adversely affect the Singur Project's storage capacity, environmental sustainability, and long-term safety. He appealed to the district administration to act swiftly to safeguard government lands, protect farmers' rights, and preserve the ecological balance of the reservoir region.

"The protection of Singur Project lands and water bodies is essential for safeguarding the environmental future and public interest of the region," he stated.

## BRS Cadre Meeting Focuses on Membership Drive and Unity

**HYDERABAD**  
[Wakeup telangana](#)  
[Usha Sree](#)

A large-scale Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) cadre meeting was held on Monday at Tulip Hotel in Annajiguda, bringing together party workers and leaders from Pocharam, Ghatkesar, and Edulabad divisions of the Medchal Assembly Constituency. The meeting was organized under the leadership of Pocharam Municipal BRS President Mandadi Surender Reddy



and presided over by former MPP Bandari Srinivas Goud.

Malkajgiri Parliament BRS In-Charge Ragidi Laxma Reddy and senior leader Chamakura Ma-

hender Reddy attended as chief guests and addressed the gathering. They stressed the need to further strengthen the party at the grassroots level by expanding membership enrollment and building strong booth-level committees across the constituency.

The leaders stated that party workers are the backbone of the organization and play a key role in taking the party's ideology and welfare agenda to the people. They urged cadres to work with com-

mitment, maintain unity, and stay connected with the public to enhance the party's reach in every village and polling booth.

Several senior leaders, former public representatives, women activists, booth committee members, and party supporters participated in the meeting. The gathering concluded with a call for collective efforts to strengthen the party organization and ensure greater public outreach in the coming months.

## Gnanaprakash Reddy Assumes Charge as ZPP Superintendent

**HYDERABAD**  
[Wakeup telangana](#)  
[Thalka Anjaiah](#)

As part of the Telangana Government's General Transfers-2026, senior official Gaddam Gnanaprakash Reddy formally assumed charge as Superintendent at the Zilla Praja Parishad (ZPP), Yadadri Bhuvanagiri, on Monday. Gnanaprakash Reddy reported for duty at the district-level office following his transfer from the Mandal Praja Parishad Office in Bommalararam, where he served as Superintendent and earned recognition for his dedicated



service, administrative efficiency, and cordial relations with public representatives, officials, employees, and local residents.

Speaking after taking charge, he expressed gratitude to everyone who supported him during his tenure in Bommalararam. He said the Mandal would always hold a special place in his life and described his service there

as one of the most memorable phases of his career.

"I sincerely thank elected representatives, government officers, employees, well-wishers, local citizens, and members of the print and electronic media for their continuous support and affection. The experiences, friendships, and memories gained during my tenure in Bommalararam will remain with me forever," he said.

He noted that the cooperation extended by various sections of society enabled him to discharge his responsibilities effectively and strengthened his com-

mitment to public service. With his transfer to ZPP Yadadri Bhuvanagiri, Gnanaprakash Reddy begins a new chapter in his administrative career. He also conveyed his best wishes for the continued development and progress of Bommalararam Mandal.

Officials and colleagues expressed confidence that his experience and commitment would contribute significantly to the functioning of the district-level office and public service delivery in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district.

**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.

**Nitin Nabin Charts BJP Roadmap for Telangana: Ramchander Rao**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

BJP Telangana State president N. Ramchander Rao on Monday said the party's national leadership has set a clear target of strengthening the organisation and preparing it to emerge as a major political force in Telangana, with a roadmap aimed at bringing the party to power in the State. Addressing the media, Ramchander Rao said BJP national president Nitin Nabin recently convened a meeting of all State presidents and organisation general secretaries in New Delhi, where detailed guidance was given on strengthening the party structure and gearing up for upcoming elections. He said the leadership reviewed the party's recent electoral successes in West Bengal, Assam, and



Puducherry and directed leaders to work towards forming governments in Telangana and Karnataka. Ramchander Rao also announced that Nitin Nabin would participate in Telangana Formation Day celebrations in New Delhi on Tuesday and address party workers and supporters during the event. Turning to the issue of paddy procurement, the BJP leader launched a sharp attack on the Congress government in Telangana, accusing it of failing farmers despite promises made during the

elections. He alleged that the State government had not fulfilled the Chief Minister's assurance of purchasing every grain produced by farmers. He stated that while the Central government reimburses procurement expenses, the responsibility for timely procurement and transportation of paddy lies entirely with the State government. According to him, procurement operations this season were delayed by nearly a month compared to last year, forcing farmers to store their pro-

duce at Indira Kranti Patham (IKP) centres for extended periods. Ramchander Rao claimed that unseasonal rains had damaged paddy stocks at several procurement centres due to delays in lifting the grain. He further alleged that the State government intensified transportation efforts only after the BJP launched its "Rythu Gosa - BJP Bharosa" programme highlighting farmers' concerns. The BJP president also accused Congress ministers of presenting contradictory figures regarding paddy procurement, creating confusion among farmers and the public. He maintained that the State government must take full responsibility for procurement delays and ensure that farmers do not suffer losses due to administrative lapses.

**Suryapet Paddy Procurement to Finish This Week: Uttam**

**NALGONDA**  
Wakeup telangana

Civil Supplies Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Monday announced that paddy procurement in Suryapet district would be completed by the end of this week, stating that the State Government's large-scale procurement drive was delivering positive results across Telangana. Reviewing procurement operations at Thirumalagiri and Phanigiri centres, the Minister said a significant portion of the paddy collected from farmers had already been shifted to rice mills, easing congestion at procurement centres. He assured farmers that the government machinery would continue working round the clock until every grain of paddy was purchased and transported.



Uttam Kumar Reddy said Telangana had so far procured nearly 64 lakh metric tonnes (LMT) of paddy through 8,575 procurement centres across the State. He reiterated that even rain-soaked paddy was being purchased at the Minimum Support Price (MSP), ensuring that farmers did not suffer losses due to adverse weather conditions. Highlighting the government's commitment to farmers, the Minister said Rs 11,500 crore had already been credited directly into the bank accounts of 9.31 lakh farmers. He added that

officials had been instructed to deploy all available lorries and heavy vehicles to overcome transportation shortages and accelerate the movement of paddy to rice mills. The Minister also criticised the Centre's procurement policy, alleging that despite Telangana's readiness to procure up to 75 LMT of paddy, the Union Government had agreed to purchase only about 51 LMT. This, he said, was placing a substantial financial burden on the State government. Stating that procurement operations were progressing smoothly under the special drive, Uttam Kumar Reddy assured farmers that the State Government would continue its efforts until the entire crop was procured and shifted without delay.

**Masqati Family Hosts Grand Eid Milan**

**Thousands Attend Masqati Family's Eid Milan Celebration, Promoting Communal Harmony**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Reinforcing the spirit of unity and brotherhood, the Masqati Family organized its annual Eid Milan celebration on the occasion of Eid-ul-Adha at Gulzar Function Hall, Kotla Alijah, drawing over 5,000 attendees from diverse religious, social, and professional backgrounds. The grand gathering witnessed participation from political leaders, social activists, religious organizations, businessmen, traders, and members of the public, irrespective of religion or community. Members of the Masqati Family warmly welcomed the guests and extended Eid greetings. During the event, noted social activist Omer Khan felicitated the Masqati brothers, including Irfan Masqati, Sultan Masqati, Ali Masqati, Munan Masqati, Khalid Masqati, Adil Masqati,



and Aiyaz Shabibi, through traditional shawl and floral honors. Abdul Hafeez, Sohail Siddiqe, Mohammed Atteq, and several other dignitaries were also present on the occasion. Speaking to the media, Ali Masqati said the Masqati Group has been organizing the Eid Milan celebration for many years, bringing together thousands of people from all walks of life. He emphasized that the primary objective of the event is to strengthen Hindu-Muslim unity, foster communal harmony, and preserve the spirit of brotherhood among people. Ali Masqati further stated that the group takes pride in providing a

common platform where followers of different faiths can come together and celebrate Hyderabad's rich Ganga-Jamuni culture. He noted that such initiatives play a vital role in promoting peace, mutual respect, and social cohesion not only in Hyderabad but across Telangana. 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 implementation of the MGNREGS program.

**Release Pending Rythu Bharosa Funds, Procure Paddy Immediately: BRS Leaders**

**MEDAK**  
Wakeup telangana

Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) leaders in Regode Mandal on Monday demanded the immediate release of pending Rythu Bharosa assistance and urgent procurement of paddy stocks lying in market yards and procurement centers to prevent hardships for farmers ahead of the Vanakalam season. Addressing the media, BRS Regode Mandal

General Secretary and former R. Itikyala Sarpanch Sunke Ramesh said many farmers have reportedly received Rythu Bharosa benefits only up to two acres for the recently concluded Yasangi season, while several eligible beneficiaries are still awaiting the remaining assistance. The leaders urged the government to clear all pending Yasangi dues without delay and ensure that Vanakalam Rythu Bharosa funds are cred-

ited to farmers during June. They noted that farmers are preparing for cultivation and require immediate financial support for land preparation, seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, and other agricultural inputs. Stressing that agriculture is the backbone of the economy, the leaders said timely assistance and prompt paddy procurement are essential to protect farmers' livelihoods and strengthen rural prosperity.

**Nizamabad Police Solve ₹41 Lakh Armour House Theft, Recover Property Worth ₹31.48 Lakh**



**NIZAMABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

In a major breakthrough, Nizamabad Police solved a high-value theft case reported in Armour within days of the offence, arresting three accused and recovering stolen property worth ₹31.48 lakh. One accused remains absconding. Police Commissioner P. Sai Chaitanya announced that the theft case, registered at Armour Police Station under Crime No. 288/2026, involved the theft of gold ornaments, silver articles and cash worth over ₹41 lakh from a residence in Mahalakshmi Colony, Armour, on May 24. Acting on credible information, police teams detained three suspects near Brahmanpalli X Road on June 1. During interrogation, the accused confessed to the crime and revealed details of the conspiracy. Investigations revealed that the theft was allegedly masterminded by Vijay Agarwal, who targeted his uncle's house after learning that the family had travelled to Vemulawada. Police said he recruited others to ex-

ecute the theft for financial gain. The arrested accused were identified as Vijay Agarwal of Armour, Salman Khan alias Khaleelullah, a tile worker from Hyderabad, and Manjal Sai Kumar, a private employee from Hyderabad. Another accused, Srihari, is currently absconding. Police recovered nine gold bars weighing 580 grams, a 10-gram gold chain, silver Lakshmi coins weighing 300 grams, a silver plate weighing 50 grams, ₹19.33 lakh in cash and two mobile phones. Officials said part of the stolen cash had already been spent, while the absconding accused is suspected to possess nearly ₹8 lakh. Police also disclosed that Vijay Agarwal has multiple criminal cases registered against him, prompting authorities to open a rowdy sheet as a preventive measure. Commissioner Sai Chaitanya commended ACP J. Venkateshwar Reddy, Armour Town Inspector P. Satyanarayana, CCS Inspector P.D. Sainath and their teams for the swift investigation and recovery. Further investigation is underway.

**Green Tiger Expands Hyderabad EV Conversion Services**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana  
Dp Srinivas rao

Kolkundaa-born engineer Mahesh Goud is expanding his Bengaluru-based EV conversion and battery manufacturing company, Green Tiger, to Hyderabad, bringing affordable electric mobility solutions closer to consumers in Telangana. Green Tiger specializes in converting conventional petrol scooters into electric vehicles and manufacturing battery packs for two- and three-wheelers. The company has introduced three conversion options: the Green Tiger Fully Electric



Model, the Sufiable EV Fully Electric Model, and a Hybrid Model that combines petrol and electric power for greater flexibility and extended travel range. The Hyderabad expansion aims to make sustainable transportation more accessible while helping riders reduce fuel expenses and vehicle emissions. According to Mahesh Goud, customers can continue using their

familiar vehicles while benefiting from modern electric technology. In addition to EV conversions, Green Tiger produces durable and safety-focused battery packs and collaborates with local workshops for installation and after-sales support. The company plans to increase production capacity in Hyderabad and establish partnerships with regional service centers across Telangana and Karnataka. As part of its launch activities, Green Tiger will organize demo rides, EV conversion workshops, and battery safety awareness programs to educate riders and mechanics.

**Eminent Educationist Krishna Rao Kodali Joins Manipur University Court**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana  
Dp Srinivas rao

Manipur University has appointed noted educationist Sri K. Krishna Rao Kodali as a Chancellor's Nominee to the Court of the University, recognizing his extensive contributions to higher and technical education. The appointment was made through Notification No. MU/1-1/2026/51 dated May 21, 2026, under Statute 10.5(xxii) of the Manipur University Act, 2005. He will serve a three-year term with effect from May



14, 2026. A distinguished academic administrator, Krishna Rao Kodali has played a pivotal role in shaping engineering education in Telangana. He currently serves as Secretary and Correspondent of Stanley College of Engineering and Technology for Women (Autonomous),

Hyderabad; Methodist College of Engineering and Technology (Autonomous), Hyderabad; and Indur Institute of Engineering and Technology, Siddipet. Under his leadership, these institutions have secured major academic achievements, including NAAC Grade A accreditation, NBA accreditation, DST research grants, and recognition for excellence in engineering education and women's empowerment. His efforts have focused on strengthening industry partnerships, innovation, research, and

holistic student development. Kodali's contributions have earned him several prestigious honors, including the Zee Telugu News Achievers Award 2025 for excellence in educational leadership and the ATA Excellence Award 2022 for community service. As a member of the Court, the apex governing body of Manipur University, he will contribute to policy formulation, strategic planning, institutional governance, and the review of annual reports and audited accounts.

**HAL-HALWU Union President Venkatadri Felicitated on Birthday**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana  
Dp Srinivas Rao

Hindustan Aeronautics Workers Union (HALWU) President and Coordination Committee Convener Venkatadri was felicitated on the occasion of his birthday at the recognized union office near South Gate of HAL on Monday. The felicitation program was organized under the leadership of Karka Naga Raju, General Secretary of HAL Employees Union (INTUC) and Working President of the recognized union. As part of the celebrations, Venkatadri



was honored with a shawl, presented with a flower bouquet, and gifted a calendar depicting the lives and contributions of great personalities. Speaking on the occasion, Karka Naga Raju lauded Venkatadri's dedicated efforts toward safeguarding the interests of workers. He said that

Venkatadri has consistently engaged with both local and corporate management to address employees' concerns and ensure timely solutions to workplace issues. He expressed hope that Venkatadri would continue to celebrate many more birthdays with the blessings of workers and

further strengthen his service to the labor community. Several union leaders and members participated in the event, including INTUC President Mohammed Simpathullah, Deputy General Secretary Polepalli Srikanth, Organizing Secretary Shukur, members of the recognized union executive committee, and women leaders. The gathering conveyed warm birthday greetings to Venkatadri and appreciated his continued leadership in advancing workers' welfare and protecting employees' rights at HAL.

## Nomination Filing for 27 Rajya Sabha Seats Begins

Filing of nominations for elections of 27 seats in Rajya Sabha began on Monday. While three seats, each belonging to Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Odisha will witness bye-elections, 24 seats covering ten states will see biennial elections. These ten states are Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Rajasthan, Arunachal Pradesh, Karnataka and Mizoram. The Election Commission of India had earlier announced elections to 27 seats in the Council of States (Rajya Sabha) including biennial and bye-elections and for the State Legislative Councils (by MLAs) in Bihar and Karnataka. The last date for filing of nominations is June 8 till 3 PM. The scrutiny of nominations will be taken up by the Returning Officers (ROs) on June 9 and the last date for withdrawal of candidatures is June 11. In case of contested elections, the polling will be held on June 18 from 8 AM to 4 PM.

# US Hits Iranian Military Sites as Kuwait Hit by Drone, Missile Fire

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

The United States bombed Iranian radar and drone control sites in Iran after Tehran shot down an American MQ-1 Predator drone this weekend, the American military said Monday. Iran acknowledged launching a retaliatory strike, while Kuwait said it was intercepting incoming drone and missile fire. The dueling attacks reflect the fragility of a weeklong ceasefire in the Iran war, which has seen repeated attacks even as American and Iranian officials try to negotiate a deal to extend it. Iran has maintained its chokehold on the Strait of Hormuz in the meantime, disrupting global energy supplies as a fifth of all oil and natural gas traded once passed through the



narrow mouth of the Persian Gulf. Meanwhile, fighting continues to escalate as Israel extends its occupation of Lebanon beyond the Litani River and as the militant group Hezbollah continues to launch drones into Israel. The U.S. military's Central Command said it carried out the strikes in Iran on Saturday and Sunday around the city of

Geruk and on Qeshm Island. "The measured and deliberate strikes occurred ... in response to aggressive Iranian actions that included the shootdown of a U.S. MQ-1 drone that was operating over international waters," Central Command said. "U.S. fighter aircraft swiftly responded by eliminating Iranian air defenses, a ground control station, and two

one-way attack drones that posed clear threats to ships transiting regional waters." The Predator has been phased out of service by the U.S. Air Force, which now flies the MQ-9 Reaper, though the U.S. Army still flies the Predator. The U.S. military said no American troops were hurt in the attacks. Kuwait meanwhile said its air defenses had opened fire early Monday morning to intercept incoming drone and missile fire. Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard in a statement carried by the state-run IRNA news agency that U.S. forces had targeted a telecommunications tower on an island. The Guard said it responded with an attack without saying where, likely referring to the attack on Kuwait.

## 70-Foot Messi Statue Removed in Kolkata Over Safety Concerns



**KOLKATA**  
Wakeup telangana

A 70-foot-tall statue of Argentine football star Lionel Messi, which had become structurally unstable following recent storms, was removed from Lake Town in Kolkata on Monday. According to Public Works Department (PWD) officials, the statue was dismantled from its pedestal and loaded onto a truck using a hydraulic crane without any damage. The statue will remain in the

PWD's custody, and there has been no official announcement regarding where it will be re-erected. Rumours suggest it could be installed at Rabindra Sarobar or Eco Park, pending a final decision from the state government. Concerns regarding the statue's stability were first raised a few days ago when locals alerted the Lake Town police station that it was swaying during storms. Following an inspection by police and PWD staff,

the contractor reported faults in the statue's "foundation bolts" and warned authorities that the structure was dangerous and at risk of collapse. The statue was unveiled last December during Messi's visit to Kolkata, where the player inaugurated the monument via remote control. The project was spearheaded by former state minister Sujit Bose, who was recently arrested by the ED in connection with a municipal recruitment scam.

# NYC Mayor Zohran Mamdani Skips Annual Parade Celebrating Israel

**NEW YORK**  
Wakeup telangana

New York City Mayor Zohran Mamdani did not attend an annual parade honoring Israel on Sunday, breaking with a decades-long political custom because of his support of Palestinian rights. Though it has gone by different names over the years, the Israel Day parade has always been a must-attend event for mayors, governors and other political leaders eager to win over the throngs of flag-waving

revelers who congregate on Fifth Avenue to celebrate the birth of the Jewish state in 1948. Not so for Mamdani. Two weeks ago the mayor's office released a video commemorating the Nakba, an Arabic word for "catastrophe" that is used to describe the displacement of an estimated 700,000 Palestinians during the 1948 Arab-Israeli war that followed Israel's establishment. "I said on the campaign trail that I wouldn't be attending the parade, and I've made my

views on the Israeli government abundantly clear," Mamdani said at a news conference Thursday. But he also promised a robust police presence to make sure it went off "seamlessly and peacefully." The city's police commissioner, Jessica Tisch, who is Jewish, did attend the parade. "It is the mayor's decision not to march, and it is my decision to march proudly," she had said Thursday as she stood alongside Mamdani at po-



lice headquarters. The mayor's absence, though long expected, has given fresh fuel to opponents who view his criticism of the Israeli government as antisemitic. A delegation of members of Israel's hard-line government, including Finance Minister

Bezalel Smotrich, attended the parade. The visit came nearly two weeks after the far-right settler leader said the International Criminal Court was seeking an arrest warrant against him and marked his first trip to the United States since March 2025. Rabbi Marc Schneier, founding senior rabbi of The Hamptons Synagogue on Long Island and president of the Foundation for Ethnic Understanding, which advocates for better relationships between

Jews and Muslims, called Mamdani's decision to not attend the parade "a slap in the face to all Jewish New Yorkers." "Do us a favor, stay home," he said. "We don't need you. We don't want you." Schneier also slammed Mamdani's Nakba video as "propaganda," echoing concerns from other Jewish leaders who said it excluded context about Jewish peoples' displacement during the period. The video, which appeared to be the first such recognition from a sitting

New York City mayor, featured the story of a woman who was displaced at 9 years old, interspersed with text about the Nakba, as she described a feeling of missing home, saying "it's the soft hills of Palestine that actually touched me." "I've lived in different places, and I've always been an outsider," said the woman, Inea Bushnaq. Supporters of Israel were outraged, saying the video should have acknowledged the mass displacement of Jews from

Muslim-majority countries or the role that the mass slaughter of Jews in the Holocaust played in the drive to establish a Jewish state. Mayors in New York City, which has America's largest Jewish population, have long been visible supporters of Israel, often visiting the country. Support for Israel among Americans has deeply eroded in recent years, though, a trend that accelerated amid the outcry over Israeli military action in Gaza.

## Please Wait, Says Annamalai Amid Rumours of Quitting BJP

**KOLKATA**  
Wakeup telangana

Amid speculations that he was sulking in the BJP and that he may float a new political party, the saffron party leader from Tamil Nadu, K Annamalai, on Monday said he would clarify his stand in 2 days. Asked about speculations that he may launch a new political party, Annamalai, before leaving for Delhi, told reporters at the airport that he would provide



answers and make his stand clear in 2 days. On Monday afternoon, Annamalai arrived at Chennai airport to board a flight to the national capital. Notably, the vehicle in which he arrived at the airport did not display a BJP flag, drawing

attention amid the ongoing rumours. When asked about the various rumours circulating on social media claiming that he is planning to leave the party and start a new political party, he said, "Please wait. We will sit down and talk in two days." "His remarks come amid intense discussion on social media over his next political move. Posters featuring slogans like "Our Leader, Come and Lead Us" have been put up along key roads

and streets in the city ahead of Annamalai's birthday on June 4. This comes just after the 2026 Tamil Nadu Assembly elections, which marked a historic shift in state politics as TVK won 108 seats in its debut election, ending the decades-long dominance of the DMK and AIADMK formations. Following the Victory, Vijay assumed charge at the Tamil Nadu Secretariat in Chennai shortly after taking oath as the 13th Chief Minister of the state.

## India Moves Ahead on ₹3.25 Lakh Cr Rafale Deal

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

India has issued a Letter of Request (LoR) to France for the procurement of 114 Rafale fighter jets for the Indian Air Force under a government-to-government deal estimated at ₹3.25 lakh crore. The defence ministry's acquisition wing sent the request to the French government last week, initiating the next phase of one of India's largest defence procurements. The Defence Ac-

quisition Council, headed by defence minister Rajnath Singh, had accorded Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) for the deal in February. French authorities are expected to respond within two to three months, with negotiations likely to be concluded within a year. Under the proposal, 94 aircraft are to be manufactured in India by Dassault Aviation in partnership with an Indian company, while the remaining jets will be delivered in fly-away condition from

France. The Indian Air Force chief, Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh, is currently in France and is expected to visit Dassault Aviation facilities as well as missile manufacturer MBDA. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is also scheduled to visit France this month, with the Rafale deal expected to figure in discussions with French leadership. The aircraft will be equipped with indigenous weapons systems, although the source code will remain with

France. India has opted for 4.5-generation Rafale fighters despite offers from the United States and Russia for fifth-generation platforms, including the F-35 and Su-57. The move comes amid a decline in the Indian Air Force's squadron strength to 30, against a sanctioned strength of 42. Induction of the Tejas Light Combat Aircraft Mark 1A, intended to replace the retired MiG-21 fleet, has been delayed by over a year.

### FROM FRONT PAGE

#### Bengaluru Man.....

The traffic policeman warned the protester "Don't we have to deal with you in other ways? and the protester replied "Even we too have work. My wife is pregnant sitting in the vehicle while the traffic has been brought to a halt. Governor is yet to come out of the venue (Hindustan Aeronautics Limited)." Traffic policeman stated "The halt in vehicular movement was over VIP movement." The protester stated "Is Governor the only VIP. Aren't we?" The traffic police "You are also a VIP but first get up." Continuing his protest the commuter told the police-

man "I don't know all these. Even, I'm a VIP." Since the commuter was unrelenting, the traffic policeman called a patrolling police team to handle the situation." Later the protester withdrew the protest and made way for the convoy of the Governor to pass. Traffic was opened before some commuters stuck in traffic recorded the incident reportedly over the mobile phone.

#### SC Refuses to.....

They (the NTA) are already facing too many problems. The examination was cancelled and is now being re-conducted. Either we dismiss this petition now or after the

vacation." When Rajput said the petitioners were pressing only the prayer related to CBT mode, the court noted that similar pleas had been dismissed earlier. Justice Narasimha also asked the counsel to appreciate the pressure under which the NTA was functioning. Meanwhile, a Delhi court sent three accused in the NEET paper leak case — physics translator Manisha Sanjay Hawaldar, paediatrician Dr Manoj Shirure and physics teacher Tejas Harshadkumar Shah — to 14 days of judicial custody. The CBI alleged that Hawaldar, in conspiracy with other accused, illegally retained and

distributed NEET-UG question papers for money. It also alleged that Shirure played a key role in helping three students obtain Chemistry questions from NEET paper setter P.V. Kulkarni. The agency has already arrested Kulkarni and Shivraj Raghunath Mote-gaonkar, who allegedly ran the operation. Revanth Warns of..... Recalling the bifurcation-era developments linked to the Polavaram project, Revanth Reddy said seven mandals of the then Khammam district were merged with Andhra Pradesh after the formation of Telangana in 2014 through an ordinance issued by the BJP-

led NDA government, resulting in the displacement of lakhs of Adivasis. He questioned why Fadnavis had remained silent despite repeated appeals for dialogue and remarked that he did not know whether the Maharashtra Chief Minister disliked him personally or shared a "special relationship" with former Telangana chief minister K. Chandrashekar Rao. "Is the Telangana Chief Minister so cheap for you?" he asked while expressing frustration over the lack of response from Maharashtra. The Chief Minister also targeted Union minister G. Kishan Reddy for allegedly failing to facilitate talks between the two states.

### LPG cylinder price doubled



CRIME

Hyderabad police SIT begins review of crimes involving absconding Nepal nationals

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

The Hyderabad City Police have launched a comprehensive investigation into a series of burglary and homicide cases involving Nepal nationals, with a Special Investigation Team (SIT) beginning an extensive review of offences reported across the city over the past several years.

The SIT was constituted following the sensational murder of the wife of a retired IPS officer at her residence in Jubilee Hills. The crime, allegedly committed by the victim's housemaid along with her associates, prompted authorities to initiate a broader probe into similar cases and identify individuals who continue to evade arrest.

Hyderabad Police Commissioner V.C. Sajjanar issued orders for the formation of the dedicated investigation team. The SIT is headed by an Inspector-rank officer and consists of around 20 personnel drawn from various specialized wings of the city police. The team includes sub-inspectors, head constables, and constables from the Central Crime Station (CCS), Task Force, Cyber Crime Wing, IT Cell, and several police stations.

According to police officials, the SIT has begun collecting and analyzing data related to cases involving Nepal nationals reported in Hyderabad during the last six to eight years. Investigators are conducting a detailed case-by-case review to examine available evidence,

witness statements, forensic findings, and other clues that could help trace suspects who remain absconding.

Police sources revealed that approximately 60 cases involving Nepal nationals have been registered in the city during this period. While many accused persons were arrested and remanded to judicial custody following investigations, several suspects managed to evade arrest and remain at large.

Officials stated that the primary objective of the SIT is to identify these absconding individuals and develop a coordinated strategy to locate and apprehend them. Once the review of all previous cases is completed, investigators will prepare a consolidated list of

wanted persons and initiate focused operations to track them down.

In addition to tracing absconding suspects, the SIT has been entrusted with executing pending non-bailable warrants (NBWs) issued by courts in various cases. The team will also investigate possible links between offenders and organized criminal networks that may be operating across state or international borders.

Police believe that the specialized investigation will help strengthen ongoing efforts to curb serious crimes, improve coordination among different units, and ensure that long-pending cases are brought to a logical conclusion through the arrest of all accused persons involved.

Cyberabad Police Bust Inter-State SIM Swap Fraud Racket; ₹22 Lakh Recovered

RANGAREDDY  
Wakeup telangana  
Srirangam Venkatesh

Cyber Crime Police, Cyberabad, have busted an inter-state cyber fraud racket involved in SIM swap fraud, OTP diversion, and unauthorized online banking transactions, linked to a fraud of ₹77.75 lakh.

According to police, the accused posed as Citibank Prestige Credit Card officials and convinced victims to convert e-SIMs into physical SIMs under the pretext of DoT verification. They then sent tampered



mobile devices through courier services, enabling them to intercept OTPs and banking alerts and gain unauthorized access to victims' bank accounts.

The prime accused, Selim Mondal (30) of West Bengal, was arrested and remanded to judicial custody. During police custody, officers recovered ₹7 lakh in

cash from his residence. Earlier, ₹15 lakh had been recovered from two other accused, taking the total recovery to ₹22 lakh.

Cyberabad Police advised the public not to share OTPs, banking details, or SIM-related information with unknown callers and warned against using devices received from unverified sources. Further investigation is in progress.

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.

Miyapur Police Recover 18 Kg Ganja Near Metro Station; Conductor Rewarded for Vigilance

RANGAREDDY  
Wakeup telangana  
Srirangam Venkatesh

A private bus conductor's alertness led to the seizure of 18 kilograms of ganja worth nearly ₹20 lakh at Miyapur, earning him appreciation and a cash reward from Kukatapally DCP Rithiraj. According to police, on the night of May 30, six individuals attempted to load a suspicious luggage bag onto a private bus near Miyapur Metro Station while claiming they were travel-



ling to Aurangabad. When the conductor questioned them about the contents of the bag, they failed to provide a satisfactory explanation and fled the spot.

Suspecting foul play, the conductor brought the bag to Miyapur Police Station

and informed the police. During an inspection conducted in the presence of witnesses, police found approximately 18 kg of ganja concealed inside the luggage bag.

Police have registered a case and formed special teams to trace and arrest the six suspects involved in the transportation of the contraband. Recognising his vigilance and responsible action, Kukatapally DCP Rithiraj felicitated the bus conductor with a shawl and presented him with a cash incentive.

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 inves-

tigation 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.



# UPI, ATM withdrawals, LPG prices

## Key financial changes that take effect from June 1

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Several financial changes affecting consumers and businesses have come into effect from June 1, ranging from security measures for Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions and changes in ATM withdrawal rules to tax-related deadlines and higher commercial LPG prices.

One of the key changes relates to UPI payments, where additional security measures are expected to be introduced for high-value transactions. Under the new framework, larger transactions may require extra layers of authentication beyond conventional PIN-based verification on payment platforms.

In another major update, changes have been intro-



Key financial changes that take effect from June 1

duced for ATM withdrawals. UPI-based cardless cash withdrawals will now be included within banks' monthly free withdrawal limits, meaning customers exceeding free transaction limits could face additional charges.

For taxpayers, June 15 remains an important deadline as the first instalment of advance tax for FY2026-27 must be paid by then.

Individuals whose estimated tax liability exceeds Rs 10,000 are

required to pay 15 per cent of their estimated tax liability by the due date. Missing the deadline could attract interest charges.

Reports also suggest that the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) is testing a system that could allow employees to withdraw provident fund money through UPI. If implemented, the facility could reduce processing time and simplify withdrawals.

Meanwhile, tax-related

rules around PAN usage have been revised. Under the new rules, PAN may no longer be mandatory for certain cash deposits exceeding Rs 50,000.

However, reporting requirements linked to higher-value transactions remain applicable if total annual cash deposits or withdrawals cross prescribed thresholds.

Similarly, rules governing property transactions have changed, with the threshold requiring mandatory PAN disclosure for property purchases and sales being increased.

Additional reporting requirements have been introduced for high-value transactions, gift deeds and joint development agreements.

Meanwhile, commercial LPG prices have increased. The price of a

19-kg commercial LPG cylinder in Delhi has been raised by Rs 42, while prices have also increased in other cities.

Notably, state-owned oil marketing companies (OMCs) raised prices of 5-kg free trade LPG cylinders. However, domestic LPG cylinder prices remain unchanged, offering some relief to households.

Besides, the Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting is scheduled between June 3 and June 5.

Consumers are also expected to closely monitor petrol, diesel and CNG prices amid evolving global crude oil movements and geopolitical developments which continue to influence domestic fuel prices.

# Indian equities trade higher despite elevated oil prices, geopolitical uncertainty

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Indian equity benchmarks started the month on a strong note on Monday, trading higher in early deals despite elevated oil prices and ongoing geopolitical tensions, with both indices gaining almost 1 per cent.

Sensex rose nearly 600 points or 0.8 per cent to hit an intraday high of 75,367, while Nifty climbed 185 points or 0.78 per cent to trade at 23,733.

Sectoral trends remained largely positive, led by IT stocks. Nifty IT emerged as the top sectoral gainer, rising around 2 per cent, while Nifty MidSmall IT & Telecom advanced more than 1 per cent.

Media, chemicals and metal stocks also traded in the green. However,

FMCG stocks remained under pressure, with the Nifty FMCG index declining 0.57 per cent. Auto and healthcare indices also traded marginally lower.

Among Nifty constituents, Hindustan Unilever emerged as the top loser, falling 1.35 per cent, followed by Mahindra & Mahindra, which slipped 0.95 per cent.

NTPC, Tata Consumer Products, Power Grid and Bharat Electronics also traded lower, while Nestle India, ITC and Sun Pharma declined up to 0.60 per cent. Meanwhile, India VIX — the market's volatility gauge — fell more than 1 per cent to around 16.

Last month, US President Donald Trump said he would soon decide on a proposed deal to extend the ceasefire with Iran, al-

though the two countries still appeared divided on key issues central to the conflict. However, the US later carried out strikes over the weekend on Iranian radar and drone command-and-control sites in Iran's Goruk and Qeshm Island, according to the military.

The strikes were launched in response to what the US described as "aggressive Iranian actions", including the downing of a US MQ-1 drone that "was operating over international waters", US Central Command said in a post on X.

In addition, reports claim that the American President is planning to modify the terms of the agreement with Iran to end the war, even as Tehran prepares to introduce new elements.

# Rupee slips to 94.95 against US Dollar amid global risk-off sentiment

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The rupee depreciated 10 paise to close at 94.95 (provisional) against the US dollar on Monday, amid renewed geopolitical tensions between the US and Iran and surge in crude oil prices. Forex traders said the strength of the American currency in the overseas market and Israel-Lebanon tensions also deteriorated global risk sentiments. At the interbank foreign

exchange market, the rupee opened at 94.93 against the US dollar, then touched an intraday high of 94.73 and a low of 95.03 during the day.

At the end of Monday's trading session, the rupee was quoted at 94.95 (provisional), down 10 paise from its previous close.

On Friday, the rupee appreciated 73 paise to close at 94.85 against the US dollar on suspected interventions by the RBI.

"We expect the rupee to trade with a slight neg-



ative bias on renewed geopolitical tensions and an overnight surge in crude oil prices. A strong dollar and rising US treasury yields may also weigh on the rupee," said Anuj Choudhary, Re-

search Analyst at Mirae Asset ShareKhan.

Choudhary further noted that any continued peace talks may prevent a sharp fall. "USDINR spot price is expected to trade in a range of 94.60 to 95.30,"

he added.

Forex traders said attention has now shifted toward the upcoming RBI Monetary Policy Committee meeting scheduled for June 3-5. The six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC), headed by RBI Governor Sanjay Malhotra, will announce its decision on June 5.

Meanwhile, the dollar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading at

99.04, up 0.10 per cent. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, was trading higher by 3.47 per cent at USD 94.28 per barrel in futures trade. On the domestic equity market front, Sensex dropped 508.40 points to settle at 74,267.34, while the Nifty was down 165.15 points to 23,382.60.

Foreign institutional investors offloaded equities worth Rs 21,105.86 crore on a net basis on Friday, according to exchange

data. According to the RBI's latest data released on Friday, India's forex reserves dropped by USD 7.511 billion to USD 681.384 billion during the week ended May 22. In the previous week, the kitty had dropped USD 8.094 billion to USD 688.894 billion. According to government data released on Monday, gross GST collections rose 3.2 per cent to over Rs 1.94 lakh crore in May on higher supplies

of goods and services, as well as collection from imports.

Meanwhile, US President Donald Trump has said the US and Iran are close to a "very good deal," but if Washington does not get what it wants, then it will "end it in a different way." Trump said the Iranians are "good negotiators," but argued that the United States now holds "all the cards" because Iran has been "militarily defeated."

## INDICA Expands Film Utsav Into Two Global Festivals



**INDICA**  
**CENTER**  
**FOR INDIC FILMS**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Hyderabad-based INDICA's Center for Indic Films (CIF) has announced a major expansion of its flagship film initiative by introducing a dual-festival model and opening submissions for the upcoming editions of INDICA Dallas Film Utsav and INDICA Heritage Film Utsav.

Entering its seventh year, the Festival of Positive Cinema has screened more than 350 feature films, documentaries, and short films from around the world over the past six years. The festival previously operated for four years as an OTT platform and for two years as an in-person theatrical event in Dallas, USA.

Under the new format, INDICA Dallas Film Utsav will be held from November 13 to 15, 2026, at Galaxy Theatres in Dallas, Texas. The

three-day event will feature film screenings, filmmaker interactions, workshops, contests, and networking opportunities.

The second initiative, INDICA Heritage Film Utsav, will be conducted online from March 11 to 14, 2027. The global digital festival will focus on films highlighting civilizational, cultural, and heritage themes, allowing audiences worldwide to access content anytime and from anywhere. INDICA Founder Hari Vadlamani said cinema remains a powerful medium for preserving and sharing civilizational values, adding that the new dual-format model will strengthen the reach of meaningful and inspiring storytelling. Chief Curator and Co-founder Danji Thotapalli said the two festivals are designed to serve both local theatrical audiences and global online viewers.

## 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.

## Seven in 10 Gen Z travellers prefer short trips, says Airbnb report

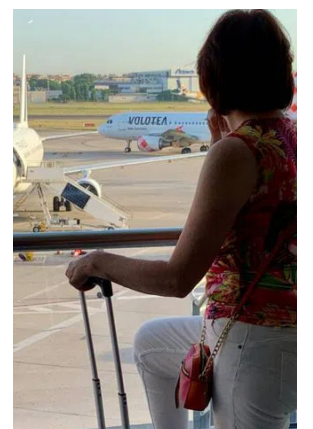
**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Short trips are replacing long annual holidays, with seven in 10 Gen Z travellers preferring three short trips over one long annual holiday, according to a report released on Monday.

Seven in 10 Gen Z travellers would rather take three short trips than one long annual holiday, while 87 per cent prefer trips that last less than a week, according to the Airbnb report, 'Never the Same: The New Rules of Gen Z Travel in India'.

Searches by Indian Gen Z travellers for the summer period were up more than 30 per cent year-on-year, with shorter getaways of two to six nights emerging as the fastest-growing trip format, rising nearly 80 per cent for domestic travel, the report said.

The Airbnb report, 'Never the Same: The New Rules of Gen Z Travel in India', is based on the company's internal data on searches made by Indian guests for check-ins between May 1 and June 30, 2026, compared with the same period last



year. The report further revealed that travel for Gen Z is less a planned event and more a reflexive response to stress, an open weekend or a friend who simply says, 'Let's go'. Around 66 per cent of Gen Z travellers book within days or weeks of travel, and 67 per cent said no two trips they have taken have ever looked the same.

For Gen Z in India, travel has become one of the primary ways to express identity, with 87 per cent saying the way they travel reflects who they are as a person and 92 per cent feeling that their destination or stay reflects their personal taste rather than just a popular option.

# 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.

## Sonali Bendre Makes a Comeback in 'Raakh'

**MUMBAI**  
Wakeup telangana

Popular actress Sonali Bendre is set to make a significant comeback with Raakh, a thriller series set in late 1970s Delhi. The series explores a period when families felt secure enough to let their children venture outdoors alone after sunset, while weaving together suspense, emotion, and human relationships.

Speaking about her return, Sonali said the depth of the story and its emotional complexity attracted her to the project. Although Raakh unfolds as a thriller, she described it as a deeply human story that examines relationships, loss, and resilience.

In the series, Sonali portrays Mona Arora, a grieving and emotionally distressed mother whose journey forms a crucial part of the narrative. The actress said the role allowed her to explore emotional dimensions she had not previously experienced in her acting career.

"The series gave me the opportunity to ex-



plore emotional spaces I hadn't tapped into before as an actor," Sonali said. She added that Mona is a character who embodies both vulnerability and quiet strength, making the role particularly rewarding to portray.

According to the actress, Raakh stands apart because it balances suspense with strong emotional storytelling. She expressed hope that audiences would connect with the series and be moved by its narrative in the same way the cast and crew were during its creation.

Known for her successful career in both Telugu and Hindi cinema during the

1990s, Sonali remains one of the most admired actresses of her generation. Her return through Raakh marks a notable moment for fans who have followed her journey on screen over the decades.

Set against the backdrop of a changing Delhi in the late 1970s, Raakh promises a blend of mystery, emotion, and compelling character-driven storytelling. With Sonali Bendre leading a powerful emotional arc as Mona Arora, the series is expected to draw attention from audiences seeking both suspense and heartfelt drama.

## What the Auction Can't Buy

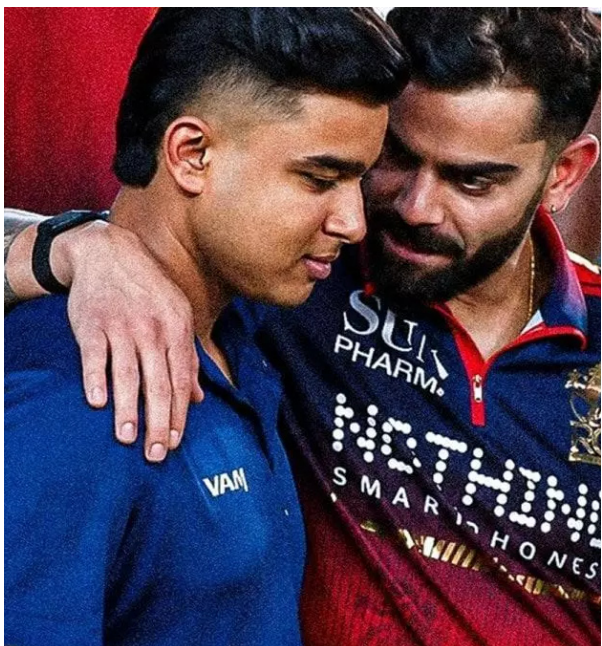
IPL 2026 was a masterclass in the difference between price and value. The auction creates drama — bidding wars, billionaire owners trying to outbeat the others... But real cricket is played on the pitch, not in the auction hall

**AHMEDABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

There's a lesson here not just for IPL franchises, but for anyone who confuses the price of something with its worth. This IPL reminds us: the scoreboard doesn't care what you paid. Teams with the superstar players, bought at mindboggling prices like Mumbai Indians, Chennai Super Kings, Kolkata Knight Riders and so on finished at the bottom of the points table. **Stars who had a terrible season**

Lucknow Super Giants broke every record at the 2025 mega auction when they secured Rishabh Pant for a mind-blowing Rs 27 crore — the largest bid in the auction and the most expensive signing in IPL history. Rishabh and the team had a dreadful season.

**Hardik Pandya**  
Who is rumoured to quit Mumbai Indians, perhaps had the worst season in his career. He was the same player, when captain of Gujarat Titans, won the IPL for his team. Mumbai

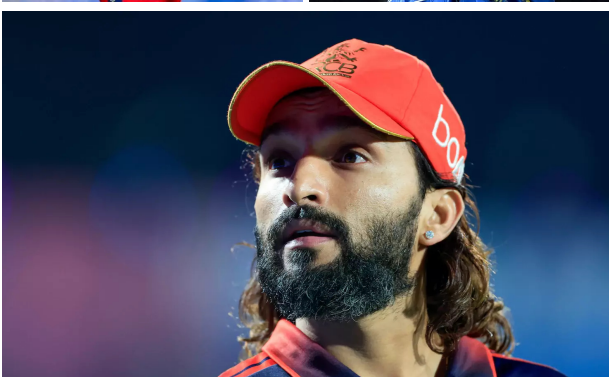


Indians as a team had a bad season. Boasting of top players like Rohit Sharma, Jasprit Bumrah and the likes and yet they failed collectively. The Wonder Boy When Rajasthan Royals paid Rs 1.1 crore for a teenager from Bihar at the IPL 2025 mega auction, most people barely blinked. Vaibhav Suryavanshi was 14 years old at the time — the youngest player ever to secure an IPL contract bought for a price that nobody paid attention to, but what fol-

lowed was nothing short of jaw-dropping.

This 15-year-old prodigy played brilliantly in the IPL 2026. He won the Orange Cap after emerging as the top-scoring batter this season, with 776 runs to his name. Every top player had a word of praise for him. Rajasthan Royals got a generational talent. The return on investment? Incalculable.

**The Skipper not many knew of**  
Royal Challengers Bengaluru skipper Rajat Patidar entered his name in the



history books on Sunday (May 31) by becoming the first player in the world to win two IPL titles in his first two seasons as captain. Patidar was appointed RCB captain ahead of the IPL 2025 season, and he led RCB to their maiden IPL title. This year's IPL, again, RCB successfully defended their title by defeating Gujarat Titans by five wickets in the final on Sunday.

Rajat Patidar's story is the kind cricket writers dream about. Originally

bought by RCB for just Rs 20 lakhs in 2021, he was released and went unsold in the 2022 mega auction. He came back as an injury replacement — and promptly announced himself to the world. Patidar became the first uncapped player to register a century in the IPL playoffs, smashing 112 not out off 54 balls against Lucknow Super Giants in the 2022 Eliminator. A surgery robbed him of the entire 2023 season, but he returned hungrier.

## Bolarum Launches Challenge Cup, Honors TFA Secretary Phalguna

**BOLARUM**  
Wakeup telangana

Bolarum Sporting Club on Saturday honored Telangana Football Association (TFA) Secretary G.P. Phalguna and officially launched the Bolarum Challenge Cup during a grand football event held at LRMG Grounds. The program combined a veterans' friendly match, a felicitation ceremony, and the unveiling of the upcoming tournament, drawing football enthusiasts, officials, and former players from across the region.

The Bolarum Challenge Cup, fully sponsored by Bolarum Sporting Club Chairman Narsimhan Kannan, will be conducted from June 6 to June 14. The tournament is aimed at promoting local football talent and providing a competitive platform for emerging players.

Speaking on the occasion, G.P. Phalguna thanked the organizers for their efforts in strengthening grassroots football. He assured the club of the Telangana Football Association's



support in areas such as infrastructure development and talent scouting. Phalguna also praised Kannan for personally sponsoring the tournament, describing private support as a key factor in the growth of modern football.

The event began with an entertaining veterans' friendly match between JJ Soccer Club and Bolarum Sporting Club. Former players showcased their skills and experience, delighting spectators and highlighting the rich football tradition of the region.

Addressing the gathering, Narsimhan Kannan said Bolarum has long been known for producing football talent and emphasized the need to recognize those who have contributed to the

sport's development over the years.

As part of the celebrations, former Indian football captain Victor Amal Raj and veteran footballer Pratap Selan were felicitated for their outstanding contributions to Indian football. Their achievements were acknowledged amid applause from players, officials, and supporters.

The event witnessed the participation of sports dignitaries, football association representatives, and current and former players. With the Bolarum Challenge Cup set to begin this week, football activity at LRMG Grounds is expected to intensify, further boosting the sport's profile in the region.

## Police denies permission for Pawan Kalyan's Hyderabad sabha

The permission was denied to ensure law and order and public peace and tranquillity, police said.

### Sheer excuses: Jana Sena reacts

The Jana Sena Party in a post on 'X' said the reasons cited for rejecting the Jana Sena Sadhaks Meeting raise more questions than they answer and "appear more like excuses than genuine concerns". "How did the baseless remarks of an analyst and the counterarguments made against those baseless remarks suddenly become a threat to law and order across Telangana? Isn't that a lame excuse to stop the event?" the JSP asked. "So, making baseless allegations is acceptable, but responding to them is what supposedly triggers tensions? Neither Jana Sena nor Pawan Kalyan garu dragged Telangana into this issue. The real question is: who brought regional sentiments into the debate

and why? Why hasn't the Telangana Government taken any action against those who actually triggered regional sentiments in this discussion? They remained silent then, why?" it further asked. The JSP said it was unfortunate that the Telangana government appears to have acted hastily, citing vague law-and-order concerns and parking issues, and claimed the intention to stop the event had already been conveyed through selective narratives and half-cut videos promoted by certain ministers. Earlier in the day, Telangana Backwards Classes Welfare Minister Ponnampati Prabhakar took a vile dig at Pawan Kalyan, asking him to focus on Andhra rather than Telangana.

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Police have denied permission for Janasena Party Chief Pawan Kalyan's Nava Nirmana Sankalpa Sabha scheduled for Tuesday, June 2, at Sandhya Convention in Gachibowli. The Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister is set to arrive in Hyderabad to participate in the function, which aims to strengthen the party's presence in the Telangana political arena. Around 2,000 party workers and leaders are expected to participate. The permission was denied to ensure law and order and public peace and tranquillity, police said. Police, in its order rejecting the permission for the proposed meeting, cited the purported remarks of a Telangana-based political analyst on Pawan Kalyan and subsequent registration of criminal cases



posed meeting coincides with the 12th Telangana Formation Day, there is a high vulnerability of protests, demonstrations and severe disruptions to vehicular traffic. She said political leaders of Andhra Pradesh should not belittle Telangana people and should not try to show "cultural dominance" on Telangana, she said. "The damage caused (to Telangana) because their agent is the chief minister here. They are installing

different types of statues. I had said earlier. I am not as good as leaders in the past. We will definitely come to power. If you continue like this, we will break all statues and send them by parcel to Andhra. I don't have so much patience, such broad-mindedness," she said. Kavitha said investors from Andhra Pradesh are welcome in Telangana. "Our problem is not with them (investors). Our problem is with Andhra political leaders if they say that they will interfere in secretariat affairs," she said.

### Stay away from Telangana: Kavitha lashes out at Pawan

Telangana Rakshana Samithi (TRS) President K Kavitha said that she would not hesitate to break the statues of Andhra personalities now installed in Hyderabad against the wishes of her people when her party comes to power. She said political leaders of Andhra Pradesh should not belittle Telangana people and should not try to show "cultural dominance" on Telangana, she said. "The damage caused (to Telangana) because their agent is the chief minister here. They are installing



Kavitha said investors from Andhra Pradesh are welcome in Telangana. "Our problem is not with them (investors). Our problem is with Andhra political leaders if they say that they will interfere in secretariat affairs," she said.

## Hyderabad Water Crisis Reaches Record High with 15,200 Tanker Bookings

**RANGAREDDY**  
Wakeup telangana  
Srirangam Venkatesh



Hyderabad's water crisis has reached a new peak, with the city recording a record 15,200 water tanker bookings in a single day on May 30, exceeding the previous high of 12,000 bookings. According to HMWSSB, nearly 12,000 tankers are being supplied daily, but demand continues to outpace availability despite an expanded fleet and additional filling stations. The worst-affected areas include Kondapur, Madhapur, Gachibowli, Miyapur, Kukatpally, and Serilingampally, where prolonged summer conditions, delayed rains, and rapid urbanisation have led to severe groundwater depletion. In some loca-

tions, groundwater levels have fallen to nearly 100 metres, leaving several borewells dry. The city recorded 3.36 lakh tanker bookings in May alone, highlighting the growing water shortage. Officials attribute the crisis to increasing population, overexploitation of groundwater, inadequate rainwater harvesting systems, and unplanned urban development. While western Hyderabad faces the greatest pressure, parts of the Old City have been comparatively less affected due to better groundwater availability and proximity to water bodies.

## Cybercrime police bust inter-state fraud racket, over Rs 77 lakh recovered

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Cyberabad Cybercrime police busted an organised inter-state online fraud racket and apprehended six accused involved in vishing, SIM manipulation, One-Time Password (OTP) diversion, and fraudulent online banking transactions. The accused individuals allegedly impersonated officials from Citibank Prestige's Credit Card Division and manipulated victims to convert e-SIMs into physical SIM cards under the pretext of Department of Technology verification. They dispatched pre-loaded mobile devices containing malicious applications to victims through courier services. When the victims inserted the SIM cards, OTPs and banking alerts were diverted to the accused persons, enabling unauthorised access to bank accounts, leading to fraudulent online transactions. The accused, identified as Selim Mondal, is from West Bengal. He worked at a cell phone shop there.

He was arrested on May 11 on a transit warrant and remanded to judicial custody. On May 30, cash amounting to Rs 7 lakh was recovered from his residence. The police had earlier recovered Rs 15 lakh from another two accused in the case. A total of Rs 77,75,451 was seized from the individuals in the online fraud. The case was registered under Sections 318(4) (cheating), 319(2) (cheating by personation), 336(3) (forgery), 338 (forgery of valuable security), 340(2) (forged document or electronic record) BNS and Section 66-D of IT Act at the Cyberabad Cybercrime police station. Further investigation is ongoing. The police have advised the public not to share OTPs, banking credentials, or SIM-related information with unknown persons over phone calls. The authorities urged citizens not to insert SIM cards into unknown or courier-delivered devices received from unverified sources.

## Telangana raises minimum monthly wage to Rs 14,000 from June 1

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana government has revised the minimum wages for employees across the state, with the new rates coming into force from June 1. The decision was taken following recommendations from the Telangana State Minimum Wages Advisory Board and a Cabinet Sub-Committee. Under the revised structure, wages have been categorised according to skill levels and geographical zones. Zone-I covers Municipal Corporations,

Zone-II includes Municipalities, and Zone-III comprises rural and other areas. As per the notification, unskilled workers will receive minimum monthly wages ranging from Rs 14,000 to Rs 16,000. Semi-skilled employees will earn between Rs 15,000 and Rs 17,000, while skilled workers will receive Rs 16,500 to Rs 18,500. Highly skilled workers will be entitled to wages ranging from Rs 18,000 to Rs 20,000 per month depending on the zone. The government has also

standardised skill classifications, defining unskilled, semi-skilled, skilled and highly skilled categories based on experience, training, technical expertise and level of responsibility. The notification mandates equal wages for all workers performing similar work, irrespective of gender, including transgender and differently-abled employees. Workers employed on weekly offs or public holidays must be paid double wages, while overtime beyond eight hours a day will attract

double the normal wage rate. Employers have been directed to pay wages through bank transfers, cheques or electronic modes such as NEFT, RTGS and IMPS. The government also clarified that employees already receiving higher wages will continue to receive them. Several new sectors, including e-commerce, courier services, amusement parks, religious institutions and mobile tower maintenance, have been brought under minimum wage protection.

## Borewells Go Dry, Hyderabad Gasps for Water

As summer peaks, citizens are locked in a desperate struggle for potable water, often waiting days for tankers that sometimes never arrive.

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Hyderabad is facing one of its worst water crisis in years, with taps running dry across the city, groundwater levels plunging to alarming lows, and even 1,000-foot borewells drying up in several localities. As summer peaks, citizens are locked in a desperate struggle for potable water, often waiting days for tankers that sometimes never arrive. Every part of the city, including the old MCH limits that have seen a rapid shift from individual houses and apartments to high-rise towers, is now under severe water stress. This is the first crisis of such scale in nearly a decade. Areas repeatedly flagged as the worst affected include KPHB, Kukatpally, Gachibowli, Kondapur, Narsingi, Kokapet, Manikonda, Madhapur, Nizampet, Nanakramguda, Nallagandla and Tellapur, all of which are under a water emergency. "Water has become a daily battle here. Without tankers, normal life simply stops. In western



Hyderabad, particularly in the 7th Phase and 9th Phase of KPHB, people are not just facing shortage, they are surviving on uncertainty. We wait for tankers the way stranded people wait for relief, because there is no other option. Every month, thousands of rupees are going only to buy water, not to improve life," said Lalitha, a resident of KPHB Colony. Despite Hyderabad's population growing by 35 per cent to 40 per cent over the past decade, with several peripheral areas merged into the city, the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply & Sewerage Board has not increased supply proportionately. Daily supply remains stuck at around 550-600 million gallons per day, the same level maintained

for over a decade, while the city's current requirement is about 750 MGD. A senior water board official said demand is expected to rise to 835 MGD by 2027, leaving a deficit of nearly 235 MGD. Official data from the Telangana groundwater department shows that 70 per cent of Hyderabad is now over-exploiting groundwater, with 11 of the 16 mandals extracting between 100 per cent and 177 per cent of the available reserves. The over-exploited and critical zones include KPHB, Ameerpet, Khairatabad, Amberpet, Asif Nagar, Saidabad, Dilsukhnagar, Chaitanyapuri, Gachibowli, Kondapur and Nizampet. Unrestricted borewell drilling has pushed the water table to historic lows, while civic authorities have failed to recharge stressed aquifers through roadside rain-water pits and other measures. "In many areas in Hyderabad, one doesn't get the first layer of water unless they drill at least 800 to 900 feet deep," said a borewell operator.

## Girl Dies as Sari Swing Tightens Around Neck

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

An 11-year-old girl died after a sari being used as a swing tightened around her neck at Kaprayipalli village in Pochampally mandal of Yadadri-Bhongir district on Monday, police said. The victim was identified as Puduta Tejasri, daughter of Shankar and Mamatha of Kaprayipalli. She was a Class VI student at the local government school. According to police, Te-

jasri was swinging on a makeshift swing made by tying a sari to a ceiling rod inside her house when the cloth twisted and wrapped tightly around her neck. She lost consciousness due to suffocation and fell. Her mother, who was at home at the time, noticed the incident and raised an alarm. Family members and neighbours rushed her to AIIMS, Bibinagar, but she died while being shifted to the hospital, police said.

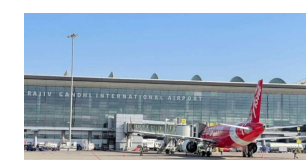
## Hyderabad police book cases over vandalism during RCB victory

The Hyderabad police registered cases against several individuals for creating a nuisance and damaging public property during the celebrations following Royal Challengers Bengaluru's (RCB) victory in the IPL on Sunday night. A huge crowd gathered near the Telangana Secretariat and NTR Ghat to celebrate RCB's victory over Gujarat Titans on Sunday. However, during the celebrations, several individuals who were allegedly drunk started damaging police barricades and other vehicles, prompting the police to resort to a lathi charge to disperse the crowd. Videos of the mob damaging public property went viral on social media platforms, drawing criticism from several quarters.

## Hyderabad Airport's passenger traffic drops by 15 pc in April

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Passenger footfall at the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (Hyderabad Airport) dropped by 15.1 per cent year-on-year in April 2026, highlighting the severe impact of the ongoing US-Israel war on Iran and its spread across the Gulf countries. Despite some major setbacks, including widespread disruptions across the Arab nations and increased airfares that hit both domestic and inter-



national travel, RGIA secured fourth position in total passenger traffic, according to data released by the Airport Authority of India. In April, Hyderabad Airport witnessed 22.49 lakh passengers compared to 26.49 lakh passengers in April 2025. The data indicates that international traffic dipped from 4.23 lakh passengers last year

to 3.40 lakh in April 2026, signifying a decline of 19.6 pc. A similar pattern emerged in March 2026, as international passenger traffic dropped 24.8 pc during the height of the war's aftermath, reflecting Hyderabad's international connectivity with the Gulf. Domestic travel also experienced a notable slowdown. The airport handled 19.09 lakh domestic passengers in April 2026, down from 22.25 lakh a year earlier, marking a 14.2 pc decline.

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