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### WEATHER

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

# AI Storm Will Hit Lakhs Of Jobseekers: Revanth

## Tougher US Stay Rules To Affect Indian Students

Hyderabad: The Donald Trump administration's decision to end the "duration of status" (D/S) system for international students and exchange visitors has raised concerns among Indian students planning to pursue higher education in America. India is one of the largest sources of international students in the US, with hundreds of thousands enrolled in universities across the country. Under the new rules, students will be granted a fixed period of stay, generally limited to the duration of their academic programme and capped at

### HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Hyderabad: Warning that the "AI storm" could leave millions without jobs, Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Friday said Telangana was focusing on skill development, blue-collar employment, education reforms and sports infrastructure to prepare young people for future challenges and transform the state into an education and sports hub. The Chief Minister made the remarks while launching the distribution of Young India Student Kits to 27.5 lakh students at the LB Stadium. Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla joined the programme and distributed kits to students. Revanth Reddy also laid foundation stones for sports complexes in different districts. Addressing students, the



Chief Minister said Telangana's future, as well as the future of the country, lay in classrooms and urged them to become active partners in the reconstruction of the state. "Students should grow into a force capable of leading the nation. Education alone can change your destiny," he said. Referring to the impact of artificial intelligence on

employment, he said, "The AI storm is leaving millions unemployed." To address this challenge, the government has launched skill development programmes aimed at creating more blue-collar employment opportunities. He said students were being offered German and Japanese language training alongside English to

improve overseas job prospects. Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) have been converted into Advanced Technology Centres (ATCs), while a Skill University has been established to identify and strengthen the abilities of young people. Revanth Reddy accused the previous Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) government of neglecting education

during its decade in office. The present government, Revanth Reddy said, has allocated 8.5 per cent of the state budget to education in 2026-27, amounting to ₹26,600 crore. "We do not see this as expenditure. We see it as an investment in future generations," he said. The Chief Minister said the government had introduced pre-primary education in government schools and was rebuilding the public education system to compete with private institutions. Responding to criticism over the absence of a dedicated education minister, the Chief Minister said he had retained the education portfolio himself because the education system required comprehensive reforms. He said years of neglect had caused severe damage and that the government was committed to ensuring quality education

## MEA Honours Telangana Police with Top Award

### Hyderabad Wakeup telangana

Telangana Police have been recognised as the best performing state police force in the country for passport verification services, receiving the prestigious Institutional Performance Award for State Police from the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). The award was presented by S Jaishankar to DGP, CV Anand during the Passport Seva Divas celebrations and Passport Officers' Conference held at Sushma Swaraj Bhavan from June 17 to 19. The recognition comes in view of Telangana Police's consistent performance in ensuring speedy and transparent passport verification. During the 2025-26 financial year, the department processed verification for over 8.67 lakh passport applica-



tions and cleared 99 per cent of them, with an average turnaround time of just five to seven days. In the previous financial year, it completed verification of more than 8.06 lakh applications within a similar timeframe. Anand noted that efficient passport verification plays a crucial role in the passport issuance process and that the achievement was driven by technology-based systems and effective field-level coordination. A key factor behind the State's success has been VeriFast, a technology platform developed for passport verification.

## Israel attacks Lebanon despite Iran-US peace deal



# Metro Takeover Progress Moves Ahead While TGSRTC Merger Promise Still Pending

### VISHAKAPATNAM Wakeup telangana

The Congress government's urgency in taking over Hyderabad Metro Phase I is not reflected in its approach towards merging TGSRTC with the State government. The contrast has triggered speculation in various quarters. Ahead of the 2023 Assembly elections, the Congress had promised RTC unions that TGSRTC would be merged with the State government. More than two-and-a-half years later, the

promise remains unfulfilled. In contrast, the government has moved swiftly on the Metro Phase I takeover. It has agreed to take over L&T's debt and refinancing Rs 13,583.53 crore. It will also absorb equity worth Rs 1,461.47 crore. The total commitment is estimated at around Rs 15,000 crore. Despite financial constraints, the government has taken this decision to facilitate Metro Phase II, which will cover 122.9 km at an estimated cost of Rs 38,595 crore. However, the same urgency has not been seen in the case of the RTC merger.

RTC unions had demanded that the government announce the merger on June 2, Telangana Formation Day. Their demand was not accepted. The unions had earlier staged protests and organised a strike in April to press for their demands. The TGSRTC Unions Joint Action Committee sought the merger of TGSRTC with the government, restoration of union elections, implementation of a 30 per cent pay revision for 2021 and 2025, and other demands. A group of Ministers led by Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka held

day-long discussions with union leaders on April 25. Following the talks, the Deputy Chief Minister announced that the government had agreed to a 10 per cent fitment as part of the pay revision and had also agreed to the RTC merger. However, Transport Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar later stated that the merger would be taken up only after elections to the recognised unions in the corporation. He said the process would be undertaken after consultations with the elected union representatives.

## Allu Arjun Summoned by Nampally Court in Sandhya Theatre Stampede Case



HYDERABAD: THE NAMPALLY METROPOLITAN MAGISTRATE COURT HAS ISSUED SUMMONS ON JUNE 22 TO TOLLYWOOD ACTOR ALLU ARJUN AND OTHER ACCUSED IN THE SANDHYA THEATRE STAMPEDE CASE, DURING THE 'PUSHPA-2' MOVIE

PREMIERE SHOW ON DECEMBER 2025. ALL 23 PERSONS NAMED IN THE CHARGE-SHEET HAVE BEEN DIRECTED TO APPEAR IN THE COURT IN PERSON. A WOMAN DIED AND HER EIGHT-YEAR-OLD SON WAS GRIEVOUSLY INJURED IN THE

STAMPEDE. THE CHIKKADPALLY POLICE REGISTERED AN FIR AND FILED THE CHARGESHEET AGAINST 23 PERSONS IN THE LAST WEEK OF DECEMBER 2025. AFTER TAKING COGNISANCE OF THE CHARGE-SHEET, THE COURT ISSUED

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## Hyderabad police announce diversions ahead of Elephant Trial Walk procession on June 20



FILE PHOTO

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

In connection with the Elephant Trial Walk from Bibi-ka-Alawa, the Hyderabad Traffic Police officials have placed certain traffic restrictions on June 20 from 12 pm to 1 pm. Traffic Diversion Points: The vehicular traffic will not be allowed towards BiBi-ka-Alawa and will be diverted at Sunargalli 'T' Junction towards Dabeerpura Darwaza and Ganga Nagar Nala, Yakutpura side. \* The vehicular traffic will not be allowed towards Shaik Faiz Kaman and shall be diverted at Jabbar Hotel towards Dabeerpura

Darwaza or Chanchalguda as per the need. \*The vehicular traffic coming from Etebar Chowk will not be allowed towards Bada Bazar and it will be diverted at Etebar Chowk towards either Kotla Alija or Purana Haveli side as per the need/situation. \*When the main procession reaches Ganga Nagar Nala, Yakutpura, the traffic coming from Purani Haveli will not be allowed towards Etebar Chowk and it will be diverted at Purani Haveli towards either Chatta bazar, Dabeerpura or SJ Rotary. \*When the procession reaches Ganga Nagar Nala, the traffic coming from Moghalpura and

Volta hotel will not be allowed towards Etebar Chowk and it will be diverted at Bibi Bazar X roads towards Paris café or Talab katta side as per the situation. \*When the procession reaches Etebar Chowk, the traffic coming from Mitti-ka-sheer and Madina will not be allowed towards Etebar Chowk and it will be diverted at Gulzar House towards Madina or Mitti-ka-sheer. \*When the procession reaches Kotla Alija, the traffic coming from Moghalpura water tank will not be allowed towards Chowk Maidan Khan and it will be diverted at Hafez Danka Mosque towards Paris Cafe or Bibi Bazar side

as per the need. \*When the procession reaches Charminar, the traffic coming from Shakkarkote will not be allowed towards Gulzar House and it will be diverted at Mitti-Ka-Sher Junction towards either Ghansi Bazar or Chelapura, whereas the traffic at Etebar Chowk will be diverted towards Kotla Alija or Purani Haveli. \*When the procession reaches Charminar, the traffic coming from Nayapool will not be allowed towards Charminar and it will be diverted at Madina X Road towards the City College. \*When the procession reaches Miralam Mandi, the traffic coming from Chaderghat

Rotary, Noorkhan Bazar, Salarjung Museum and Shivaji Bridge will not be allowed towards Purani Haveli and it will be diverted at Salarjung Rotary towards Nayapool, Shivaji Bridge and Noorkhan bazar sides. \*When the procession reaches Alawa Sartauq, the traffic coming from Chaderghat Rotary will not be allowed towards Kali Khabar and it will be diverted at Chaderghat Rotary towards Ranga Mahal or Koti via Chaderghat Bridge. \*Traffic coming from Gowliguda or Afzalgunj will not be allowed towards Salar Jung/ Shivaji Bridge and it will be diverted towards Afzal Gunj and Gowliguda sides at the entrance of Salar Jung/Shivaji Bridge on Gowliguda side. \*When the procession reaches Alwa Sartauq the traffic will not be allowed towards SJ Rotary and it will be diverted at Nayapool towards Madina, The APSRTC/TGSRTC district buses will be diverted towards Rang Mahal and Afzalgunj sides for entry and exit and will be allowed to come on Kalikabar and Miralam Mandi road till the procession reaches the destination.

## KTR visits ex-MLA Balka Suman's family, extends solidarity

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Friday visited the residence of former MLA Balka Suman in Hyderabad and met his family members, assuring them of the party's full support. He expressed solidarity with the family and told them not to worry as the party was standing by Suman and his family. Suman was arrested on May 30, for alleged militant activity remarks against Singareni Collieries Company



Limited (SCCL). During his visit, Rama Rao said the Congress government imprisoned Suman by filing illegal cases because he was fighting for public issues and questioning alleged corruption in Singareni. He termed Suman a strong opposition leader and said the cases were politi-

cally motivated. He accused the government of attempting to suppress opposition voices through cases and intimidation. Despite such actions, he said, BRS leaders would continue their fight and would not be deterred by what he called political vendetta. He also exuded con-

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## BJP Alleges Ex-Corporators Interfering in GHMC Works Ahead of Bonalu



Thursday alleged that former corporators in Chandrayangutta are unlawfully interfering in Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) works despite the expiry of their terms. Addressing the media, Pandarinath claimed that former corporators are exerting pressure on GHMC engineering officials and issuing directions from their private residences. He alleged that development works in the vicinity of Hindu temples are being deliberately delayed ahead of the upcoming Bonalu festival. According to Pandarinath, officials who refuse to comply with such interference are facing political pressure and threats of transfer. Demanding immediate intervention, he urged senior GHMC authorities to shield officials from undue political influence and ensure that all temple-related development works are completed well before the Bonalu celebrations.

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

BJP Bhayanagar District General Secretary Aedla Pandarinath on



Chief Guest Sri Sridhar Babu, Hon'ble Minister for IT, Industries, Legislative Affairs, Govt. of Telangana, flanked by (L-R) Dr. Preethi Reddy, Vice-Chairman, Malla Reddy Vishwavidyapeeth; Dr. G.V. Rao, Chairman, SAS INFRA & Mr. Sarvesh Singh, CEO of Life Sciences & Pharma for the Government of Telangana, inaugurating the HYDERABAD ECONOMIC FORUM 2026, organised by SAS INFRA, today at SAS Tower, Khajaguda. Sri Sridhar Babu later delivered the Keynote address on Hyderabad: Becoming India's Innovation Capital.

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**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.

**Jana Sena Expands in Telangana with Janavani Launch**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Jana Sena Party on Friday opened its Telangana state office with the party president and Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan declaring that Jana Sena will accelerate its political journey in Telangana. He called upon the party cadres to work to fulfil Telangana's aspirations and hopes. He said the first priority should be the nation's integrity and unity. The actor-politician provided direction to the party cadres on how the party's journey in Telangana should progress. He urged them to take the party's principles and ideology to the people. He urged the senior leaders to guide the newcomers, so they understand the party's ideology.



Pawan Kalyan called on them to conduct 'Janavani' in Telangana to listen to people's problems. "When someone comes to us to share their problem, we must first respect them. We must listen to their issue carefully. We must find a solution. Prepare a plan to conduct the Janavani programme in Telangana as well. Listen to people's issues from all regions. Bring the problems of those who come to us to the attention of officials and public representatives so they can be resolved. If

they still remain unresolved, let's think about how to launch public movements. First, set up a platform to fully hear people's issues. Ensure this works strongly in all regions," he said. The Jana Sena leader said that the Telangana region is like the heart of India. He recalled that with the iron man Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's vision, a five-day Police Action took place in Hyderabad. He said party leaders must fight with their lives for such a region and its

people. The spirit of struggle in Telangana should be an inspiration to the nation, he added. Pawan Kalyan stated that the Jana Sena movement has begun in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Karnataka as well. The Jana Sena chief claimed that he understands the soul of Telangana. "The soil here, the struggles, the sacrifices—all of these have inspired me. The caste-free struggles for rights led by the youth in Telangana are immensely valuable. This is a land of struggles... a blessed land. The Jana Sena movement began from the soil of Telangana," he said. Addressing the party leaders after inaugurating the party office in Manikonda, he said people's problems should be the agenda of the party.

**HONOURING INTEGRITY: K.N. Mehra Felicitated for Exemplary Public Service**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

In recognition of his outstanding commitment to public service, transparency, and administrative integrity, K.N. Mehra, President of the GHMC Town Planning Technical Staff Association Executive Body, was honoured with an Appreciation Certificate by the Society for Crusade Against Corruption at a special felicitation ceremony held in Hyderabad. The award was presented in appreciation of Mehra's decades-long contribution to the Town Planning wing of the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC), where he has earned a reputation for prompt service, professional excellence, and unwavering dedication to public welfare. The Society for Crusade Against Corruption, known for promoting accountability and ethical governance, stated that Mehra's work



serves as a model for public servants. The organization highlighted his efforts in maintaining transparency, ensuring efficient service delivery, and strengthening public trust in civic administration. Speaking on the occasion, representatives of the society praised Mehra's leadership and commitment to honest governance. They noted that his career reflects the values of integrity, accessibility, and responsibility, qualities that are essential for effective public administration. Over the years,

Mehra has played a significant role in addressing issues related to town planning and technical staff welfare while maintaining a citizen-centric approach in his professional responsibilities. His leadership within the GHMC Town Planning Technical Staff Association has been widely appreciated by colleagues and stakeholders alike. The felicitation ceremony was attended by executive members of the Society for Crusade Against Corruption, civic representatives, well-wishers, and members of

**Kapu Srinivas Reddy Leads by Example in Public Service**



**Sangareddy District, Wakeup Telangana**

**Former Karchal Sarpanch and Congress leader Kapu Srinivas**

**Reddy actively participated in the relocation of an electricity transformer along with Electricity Department officials in Rai-kode Mandal on Friday. The transformer shifting was undertaken to improve power infrastructure and ensure uninterrupted electricity supply to villagers. Residents appreciated Srinivas Reddy's hands-on in-**

**volvement, noting that he continues to work for village development even after his tenure as Sarpanch. The development activities are being carried out in coordination with the current Sarpanch, Kapu Urmila. Villagers praised Srinivas Reddy's dedication to public service and his commitment to addressing local issues and improving civic**

**Rahul Gandhi Birthday Celebrations Held in Serilingampally**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana  
Srirangam Venkatesh

The birth anniversary of Rahul Gandhi was celebrated with enthusiasm at the Congress Party office in Nallagandla under the leadership of Serilingampally Congress In-charge and TPCC General Secretary Jaga-deeshwar Goud. Party leaders and workers cut a cake and extended birthday wishes to Rahul Gandhi.



Speaking on the occasion, Jaga-deeshwar Goud praised Rahul Gandhi's efforts towards social justice, democracy, and public welfare. He also highlighted the contributions of the Gandhi family, including former

Prime Ministers Rajiv Gandhi and Indira Gandhi, to the nation's development. Congress leader Yelamanchi Uday Kiran said Rahul Gandhi's commitment to youth empowerment, national unity, and public engagement con-

tinues to inspire people across the country. Leaders also stated that the Congress government in Telangana, under the leadership of Revanth Reddy, is effectively implementing welfare and development programmes. A large number of Congress leaders, Youth Congress members, Mahila Congress representatives, party workers, women, and youth participated in the celebrations

**PAC Chairman Reviews ₹530-Crore Miyapur Flyover and Underpass Project**



**Wake Up Telangana | Rangareddy District | Srirangam Venkatesh**

**PAC Chairman Arekapudi Gandhi inspected the proposed ₹530-crore Miyapur traffic decongestion project along with CMC Commissioner Srujana, zonal commissioners, engineering officials, and HICTI project authorities. The project includes a 1.79-km, six-lane bi-directional flyover from Miyapur X Roads to Alwyn Colony X Roads, a three-lane uni-directional underpass from Hafeezpet to Miyapur, and another three-lane uni-directional underpass from Bachupally to Alwyn Colony. Speaking on the occasion, Gandhi said the project, recently inaugurated by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, will**

**significantly reduce traffic congestion in Miyapur, Hafeezpet, Chandanagar, Bachupally, and surrounding areas. He stated that the flyover and underpasses would improve connectivity, reduce travel time and fuel consumption, and provide major relief to commuters. Officials reviewed the progress of the project, land acquisition status, and pending issues. Gandhi directed departments to strengthen coordination and expedite all pending processes to ensure timely completion of the works. The project is aimed at easing traffic congestion, improving road connectivity, and meeting the growing transportation needs of the Miyapur-Kukatpally corridor.**

**MIETW, CBIT Sign MoU to Promote Indian Knowledge Systems**

**Medchal-Malkajgiri District**  
Wakeup telangana  
Thalka Anjaiah

In a significant initiative aimed at strengthening academic collaboration and promoting India's rich intellectual heritage, Megha Institute of Engineering and Technology for Women (MIETW), Ghatkesar, and Chaitanya Bharati Institute of Technology (CBIT),

Gandipet, signed an Academic Collaboration Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Friday. The MoU seeks to facilitate academic cooperation in the field of Indian Knowledge Systems (IKS) through the exchange of knowledge resources, research expertise, academic practices, and collaborative educational activities. The partner-



ship is expected to create new opportunities for students and faculty members while encouraging interdisciplinary learning and research. The agreement was formally signed by Dr. C. V. Narasimhulu,

Principal of CBIT, and Dr. B. Sai Venkata Krishna, Vice Principal of MIETW, in the presence of distinguished academicians Dr. G. Suresh Babu, Professor at CBIT, and Prof. D. Harrison Sunil of

MIETW. Speaking on the occasion, representatives from both institutions highlighted the importance of integrating traditional Indian wisdom with modern educational practices. They stated that the collabo-

ration would pave the way for joint research projects, faculty development programs, academic exchange initiatives, seminars, workshops, and student engagement activities centered on Indian Knowledge Systems. The MoU reflects the shared commitment of MIETW and CBIT towards preserving and promoting India's knowledge traditions while fos-

tering innovation, academic excellence, and cultural understanding among future engineers and technologists. Academicians expressed confidence that the collaboration would contribute significantly to the advancement of higher education and the wider dissemination of Indian Knowledge Systems in engineering and technology education.

**Former Corporator Seeks Action Against Alleged Nala Encroachment in Gopanpally**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Former Gachibowli Corporator V. Gangadhar Reddy has submitted a representation to the Serilingampally MRO seeking immediate action against alleged encroachment of a government nala and land by a construction firm in Gopanpally. According to the complaint,



the construction company is allegedly carrying out unauthorized structures on government land in Survey No. 21 while encroaching upon a natural water channel and a portion of land used for a cremation ground. Gangadhar Reddy stated that such encroachments could obstruct the natural flow of rainwater and increase flood risks for nearby colonies during heavy rains. He urged revenue authorities to conduct a site in-

spection, remove the alleged encroachments, restore the nala and government land to their original condition, and initiate legal action against those responsible. The former corporator warned that if immediate action is not taken, local residents may launch protests to safeguard public land, water channels, and community resources.

**IT Corridor Prepares for Monsoon; Authorities Issue Traffic Advisory**



**Wake Up Telangana | Hyderabad:**

A high-level coordination meeting was held between Cyberabad Traffic Police, Cyberabad Municipal Corporation (CMC), the Society for Cyberabad Security Council (SCSC), and IT company representatives to strengthen monsoon preparedness, improve traffic manage-

ment, and ensure quick emergency response in the IT corridor. The meeting was attended by Cyberabad Police Commissioner M. Ramesh, CMC Commissioner Srujana, Traffic DCP Sheshadri Reddy, SCSC CEO Naved, and other officials. Officials announced the establishment of the Cyberabad Convergence Centre (CCC) to coordi-

nate rapid responses to civic and traffic emergencies during heavy rains. Waterlogging-prone locations have been identified, while towing cranes, water pumps, and quick-response patrol teams have been deployed for emergency situations. To reduce congestion during sudden downpours, IT companies were advised to implement staggered employee logouts, encourage carpooling, and promote the use of Metro Rail and RTC buses. Officials noted that nearly 10 lakh IT employees commute through the corridor and around 1.2 lakh single-oc-

cupancy vehicles enter the area daily. Authorities also directed commercial complexes and IT parks to maintain rainwater harvesting pits and drainage systems to prevent water stagnation. A dedicated Cyberabad Weather App is being developed to provide real-time weather updates and emergency alerts. Officials said Cyberabad Traffic Police and SCSC volunteers will remain on duty round the clock and urged commuters to follow the Traffic Pulse app and official traffic social media channels for live traffic updates and travel planning

**Bengali Filmmaker Anik Dutta Dies After Fall from Terrace**

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

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

**Lokesh Projects AP As Investment Hub, Meets 17 Industry Leaders in Kolkata**

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Lokesh Projects AP As Investment Hub, Meets 17 Industry Leaders in Kolkata

Among those he met were Visa Steel vice-chairman Vishal Agarwal, Emami group director Aditya Agarwal, Shree Cement vice-chairman Prashant Bangur, ITC chairman Sanjiv Puri, Vikram Solar chairman Gyanesh Chaudhary, CEO Arun Mittal, Himadri Speciality Chemicals CMD Anurag Choudhary and executives of Shyam Metals, Super Smelters and Rashmi Metals. Nara Lokesh highlighted the state's strengths, like its long coastline, world-class ports, improving logistics network, industrial corridors, availability of land and power and investor-friendly policies. Andhra Pradesh, he said, is strategically implementing reforms to attract investments, create employment and emerge as a leading



manufacturing and industrial hub. The minister said work on the integrated steel plant being established by ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel near Anakapalli had commenced, positioning the state as a major steel production centre. He invited metal and steel companies to establish EV-grade aluminium manufacturing units, integrated steel plants and

ductile iron pipe facilities in AP. In discussions with ITC, Lokesh sought investments in crop value-chain clusters, climate-resilient agriculture, agro-forestry and model village initiatives. He noted that nearly 220 national and international companies had signed agreements to establish industries in Visakhapatnam and begun implementation.

The minister also pitched Andhra Pradesh's ambitious renewable energy programme, which targets 78.5gw of capacity over the next five years, with investments worth `10 lakh crore and creation of 7.5 lakh jobs. He urged Vikram Solar to establish an integrated solar hub in Rayalaseema and expand energy storage operations. To strengthen the state's electric mobility ecosystem, Lokesh invited Himadri Speciality Chemicals to set up a silicon-carbon anode unit and advanced materials research facility in Andhra Pradesh. Industrialists who attended the meetings appreciated the state's proactive industrial policies and assured the minister that they would examine the investment proposals placed before them. Later, Lokesh visited the famous Kali temple in Kolkata and offered special prayers for AP's progress and prosperity.

**BEST Strike Cripples Mumbai Bus Services**

**Mumbai: Commuters across Mumbai faced major disruptions on Friday after employees of the Brihanmumbai Electric Supply and Transport (BEST) undertaking launched an indefinite strike, severely affecting bus services often regarded as the city's second lifeline after the suburban railway network. According to BEST officials, only 32 buses were operational on city roads on Friday morning, a steep drop from the thousands of buses that normally serve Mumbai's daily commuters. Meanwhile, Maharashtra**

**Transport Minister Pratap Sar-naik held discussions with the BEST Sanyukt Kamgar Kruti Samiti in an effort to resolve the deadlock and restore services. The action committee is expected to hold another meeting with its members before deciding its next course of action. The indefinite strike was called by the BEST Sanyukt Kamgar Kruti Samiti, an umbrella body representing 12 employee unions, after negotiations with the administration failed to yield a breakthrough. The agitation, which began at midnight on June 18, stems from a**

**series of long-pending demands related to employee welfare and the functioning of the undertaking. Among the key demands raised by the unions are the merger of the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation's (BMC) dedicated 'C' budget for BEST with its main 'A' budget, settlement of pending legal dues of retired employees through a one-time payment, reduction in dependence on contractual bus operators, and regularisation of wet-lease workers through their absorption into the BEST workforce.**

**Rozgar Scheme Created 70 Lakh Jobs**

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said the Pradhan Mantri Viksit Bharat Rozgar Yojana (PM-VBRY) has generated over 70 lakh jobs across the country, as he released incentives worth Rs 2,400 crore to 15 lakh first-time employees and their employers through direct benefit transfer. Addressing an

event, Modi said the scheme supports employment generation while encouraging employers to create new jobs and strengthening social security for youth. "Through PM-VBRY, we are supporting the employment generation, empowering youth and building a stronger workforce for the future. The scheme is about empowering first-time employees

and building a bridge between the youth and the industry. The aspirations, skills and potential of our youth shape the path to a Viksit Bharat," he said.

He said nearly 20 lakh young people have completed six months in their first job under the scheme, of whom around 10 lakh have received incentives. "More than Rs 2,000 crore has been trans-



ferred directly to their bank accounts and this amount is not just financial assistance, it is recognition of their hard work," he said.

The Prime Minister said coordinated efforts between the government, youth and industry would accelerate job creation.

"And the world is preparing for the economy of the future, and India is preparing to lead the economy of the future. The world is moving towards future technology, and India is working to make its youth future-ready. This is the biggest opportunity for the youth of India, and we must take full advantage of this opportunity," he said. He said the government was focused

on ensuring opportunities for youth based on their skills and potential. "Those who have talent should get opportunities, those who have ideas should get a platform for innovation, and those who want to do something on their own should get full support," he said. Highlighting sectoral growth, Modi said new opportunities had emerged across infrastructure, manufactur-

ing, digital economy, space and start-ups. "Once upon a time, there were only about 500 start-ups in the country. Today, there are over 2-lakh registered start-ups, and you'll find them in every district of the country. These figures give confidence that India's youth will lead the world's growth, innovation, and entrepreneurship in the coming years," he said.

**Two Key TMC Leaders Quit Posts, Party**

**Kolkata: In a fresh jolt to Trinamool Congress supremo Mamata Banerjee, 10 rebel TMC MLAs lodged a complaint with the cyber crime cell of the Bidhanagar City Police on Thursday, seeking a probe into the deposit of ill-gotten money in the party's bank account. Leader of the Opposition Ritabrata Banerjee said, "We want to know if any**

**proceeds of cut-money or theft and dacoity or any illegal or criminal activity were sent to party's bank account." On Friday, former ministers Jyotipriyo Mullick and Gautam Deb, who were appointed national executive members just two weeks ago, resigned from their posts. They had lost the recent Assembly elections. While Mullick**

**stepped down from all party posts citing ill-health, Deb resigned as Siliguri Mayor. They also announced their exit from politics. Mullick, in his letter to Banerjee, said he was suffering from high sugar levels and his kidney had stopped functioning. "According to the doctor's advice, I need a complete rest. It is also not possible for me to**

**undertake any mental and physical stress," he said. Deb stepped down as Siliguri Municipal Corporation Mayor in the afternoon, saying: "I was in politics for 52 years during which I saw many ups and downs. I thank the people of Siliguri for allowing me to serve them. Many welfare projects are underway for them. I tried to give them**

**BJP Chief Summons Karnataka Leaders Over Cross-Voting**



**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

A blame game has erupted with the BJP alleging that the cross-voting was caused by the entry of the alliance partner Janata Dal (Secular) into the fray

BJP president Nitin Nabin has summoned top Karnataka party

leaders on June 23, following cross-voting in the Legislative Council elections. While the Congress won five seats and the BJP two, as expected, the Congress received 11 additional votes. A blame game has erupted with the BJP alleging that the cross-voting was caused by the entry of the alliance partner Janata Dal (Secular) into the fray.

**SIT Probe Will Bring Out Absolute Truth on Ayodhya Temple Funds: Yogi**

**New Delhi, Lucknow, Ayodhya: Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Friday expressed confidence that the SIT probe into the alleged embezzlement of funds at the Ram temple in Ayodhya would bring the truth to light and urged all parties to refrain from making base-**

**less comments that could hurt the feelings of devotees. In an address to all devotees of Lord Rama, Adityanath encouraged anyone with evidence related to the case to present it to the SIT for examination. He also warned that anyone found guilty, regardless of their position, will not be spared.**

**"I have an appeal for all devotees of Lord Ram regarding the news reports concerning Ayodhya. At the trust's request, we have ordered an SIT investigation, and I can assure you that this probe will bring the absolute truth to light. There is no doubt about that," Adityanath said in Ayod-**

**hya, where a three-member SIT constituted by the UP government is at work. The government constituted the SIT on June 13, following a request from the temple trust to probe allegations of misappropriation of donations received at the Ayodhya temple. The issue came to light on June 7,**

**when Samajwadi Party president Akhilesh Yadav cited reports and claimed that crores of rupees from donations offered at the temple were missing and urged the courts to take cognisance of the matter. On Friday, Adityanath also laid the foundation and inaugurated 126 development projects**

**worth over `378 crores, as well as the statue of warrior Jhalkari Bai. Making a fervent appeal, Adityanath said, "I humbly request all devotees of Lord Ram to remember that he has taught us the lesson of 'maryada' (righteous conduct). He has shown us how to live with dignity and restraint. For**



**EDITORIAL**

# Trump's Iran deal: A victory lap before the victory



Here is a long-form rewritten version in a newspaper-style analytical format:

### Trump-Iran Deal Ends War, But Raises Questions Over Israel's Place in U.S. Strategy

The memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed this week between the United States and Iran has been hailed by supporters of President Donald Trump as a major diplomatic breakthrough. By bringing an end to active hostilities and creating a pathway toward a broader settlement, the agreement has undoubtedly achieved something many believed impossible just months ago. Yet beneath the celebration lies a more complicated reality—one that could have far-reaching consequences for the Middle East and for America's closest regional ally, Israel.

At its core, the agreement delivers what the Trump administration has long promised: an end to a costly military confrontation without becoming trapped in another prolonged conflict. The deal reportedly includes measures to halt military operations, reopen the strategically vital Strait of Hormuz, lift naval restrictions, and stop attacks between the opposing sides. In a region accustomed to endless cycles of escalation, any framework capable of reducing violence carries undeniable significance.

Supporters of the agreement argue that Trump followed

a consistent strategy. The administration first applied military pressure on Iran and then used that leverage to bring Tehran to the negotiating table. From this perspective, force and diplomacy were not contradictory tools but complementary ones. Military action demonstrated American resolve, while negotiations provided a way to translate battlefield pressure into political gains.

For many observers, that sequence represents a pragmatic approach. The alternative was not necessarily a stronger agreement waiting to be signed but the continuation of a dangerous conflict with no clear endpoint. In that sense, the administration can claim a measure of success in preventing a wider regional war.

However, the deal's critics point to what they view as its most glaring weakness: the apparent exclusion of Israel from the negotiation process.

For more than two decades, Israel has stood at the forefront of efforts to counter Iranian influence across the Middle East. It has faced repeated attacks from groups aligned with Tehran, including Hezbollah in Lebanon and the Houthis in Yemen. Israeli leaders have consistently argued that Iran's regional network of armed proxies represents one of the greatest threats to the country's security.

Throughout the recent conflict, Israel

played a crucial role by providing intelligence, military assessments, and strategic support that helped shape Western understanding of Iranian capabilities. Yet despite this involvement, reports suggest that Israel was not directly included in the talks that ultimately produced the ceasefire framework.

Negotiations reportedly involved Washington, international mediators, and diplomatic venues ranging from Geneva to Versailles. Critics argue that one notable absence from those discussions was the very ally most directly affected by the outcome.

To them, this raises an uncomfortable question: how can a lasting regional settlement be achieved without the participation of the country that has arguably borne the greatest security burden in confronting Iran?

The structure of the agreement itself has also drawn scrutiny. One controversial provision involves the release of frozen Iranian assets before the completion of a final verification process. Under the framework, sanctions relief and access to funds appear linked to the progress of negotiations rather than to fully verified compliance.

Skeptics see this as a familiar pattern. They argue that Iran receives immediate economic benefits while more difficult verification requirements are postponed to future negotiations. The

final agreement is reportedly expected within 60 days, though extensions remain possible if both parties consent.

Critics contend that such sequencing weakens American leverage. Once significant financial restrictions are lifted, they argue, it becomes far more difficult to compel compliance with future commitments.

Another contentious aspect of the agreement is a proposed reconstruction fund reportedly valued at approximately \$300 billion. While administration officials emphasize that the United States will not directly finance the initiative, opponents argue that such distinctions may prove largely symbolic.

From Israel's perspective, concerns center on the possibility that large financial flows into Iran could indirectly strengthen networks and organizations aligned with Tehran. Israeli officials have long argued that economic relief for Iran often translates into increased resources for groups such as Hezbollah and other regional proxies.

This issue carries particular political significance because Trump and many of his supporters previously criticized the Obama administration's nuclear agreement with Iran on similar grounds. At that time, opponents warned that sanctions relief would provide Tehran with resources that could be used to expand its regional influence.

Now, critics argue, the current agreement could potentially involve even larger sums while offering fewer guarantees about how those resources might ultimately be used.

The nuclear provisions of the deal have generated additional debate.

According to reports, Iran has pledged not to ac-

# BEHIND THE NOISE OF AN 'IRAN DEAL', PALESTINE CONTINUES TO BURN

Here is a longer rewritten feature article in a neutral newspaper style: # Palestine Remains at the Center of Regional Conflict Despite Shifting Global Focus As international headlines continue to be dominated by developments involving Iran, Israel, and broader Middle East security concerns, many observers and human rights advocates warn that the ongoing crisis in the Palestinian territories has faded from global attention despite showing few signs of ending. While diplomatic negotiations, military confrontations, and ceasefire announcements have captured worldwide interest in recent months,

conditions in Gaza and the occupied West Bank remain a source of deep concern. Analysts argue that the Palestinian issue continues to shape regional instability and remains unresolved despite changing geopolitical narratives. ## Human Cost of the Conflict The recent death of seven-month-old Palestinian infant Sam Fahd Abu Hail near Hebron in the occupied West Bank has drawn attention from Palestinian organizations and rights groups, who view the incident as a tragic example of the continuing impact of the conflict on civilians. Although individual cases rarely receive extensive international coverage, Palestinian

families continue to face the consequences of ongoing violence, displacement, and uncertainty. Humanitarian organizations have repeatedly expressed concern about civilian casualties, particularly among women and children, in both Gaza and the West Bank. For many Palestinians, daily life remains defined by security restrictions, military operations, and economic hardship. Residents in several communities report limitations on movement, difficulties accessing farmland, and concerns over safety as tensions persist across the occupied territories. ## Gaza's Continuing Humanitarian

Crisis Despite periods of reduced fighting and ceasefire arrangements, humanitarian agencies say Gaza continues to experience severe challenges. Large portions of the territory have suffered extensive damage to homes, schools, hospitals, and public infrastructure. Access to food, clean water, medicine, electricity, and other essential services remains limited for many residents. Aid organizations have repeatedly called for increased humanitarian access and the protection of civilians, warning that living conditions remain critical. According to various humanitarian



# India to Drive Next Phase of Global Steel Growth: Lakshmi Mittal Marks ArcelorMittal's 20-Year Journey



**New Delhi, WAKE UP TELANGANA**

**June 19:** As ArcelorMittal approaches its 20th anniversary on July 31, Executive Chairman Lakshmi Mittal reflected on two decades of transformation in the global steel industry, highlighting India's emergence as a key engine of future growth driven by infrastructure expansion, urbanisation and the energy transition. Speaking through a video message at the annual Global Steel Dynamics Forum 2026 in New York, Mittal said the merger of

Mittal Steel and ArcelorMittal had created a stronger and more resilient enterprise capable of navigating major global challenges, including the Global Financial Crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic. "Over the last 20 years, the merger delivered greater scale, diversification, resilience and strategic reach. While unforeseen challenges emerged, we were better equipped to face them together than we would have been separately," Mittal said. Reflecting on the changing global landscape, he noted that the past two decades were largely defined by China's rapid eco-

nomie rise and industrial expansion. Looking ahead, he expressed confidence that India is now poised to become the next major driver of steel demand. "Massive infrastructure investments, rapid urban housing development and energy-transition projects will fuel significant growth in steel consumption across India," he said. Mittal observed that the steel industry of 2026 is vastly different from that of 2006, with markets moving faster, competition becoming increasingly global, and technological innovation reshaping business operations. He

said steelmakers now operate in a more data-driven and environmentally conscious environment, requiring greater adaptability and innovation. Despite the challenges facing the sector, Mittal expressed optimism about its future, citing strong demand prospects from emerging economies, infrastructure renewal programmes in developed nations and the growing need for steel in renewable energy and industrial projects. He also emphasized the increasing importance of domestic industrial policies in maintaining competitive steel industries and ensur-

ing long-term economic growth. Having spent more than five decades in the steel business, Mittal said he remains enthusiastic about the industry's future. "There will always be challenges and unexpected events, but after 50 years in steel, there is no place I would rather be," he remarked. As ArcelorMittal celebrates two decades since its landmark merger, the company continues to position itself at the forefront of a rapidly evolving global steel industry, with India expected to play a central role in shaping the next chapter of growth

## UoH Scientist Co-Authors Three Breakthrough Plant Immunity

**HYDERABAD**

**Wake up telangana**

HYDERABAD, INDIA — In a significant advancement for global plant science and agricultural biotechnology, Dr. J. Madhuprakash, Assistant Professor in the Department of Plant Sciences at the University of Hyderabad, has co-authored three groundbreaking research papers published in the high-impact international journal Science Advances. The studies mark a major leap in understanding how plants defend themselves against deadly pathogens and how these pathogens, in turn, evolve sophisticated mechanisms to bypass plant immunity. The research, carried out during Dr. Madhuprakash's study leave at the globally renowned The Sainsbury Laboratory (TSL), places India firmly within the frontier of structural plant immunity research. Working under the guidance of internationally acclaimed plant biologist Sophien Kamoun, Dr. Madhuprakash collaborated with an international team to decode the molecular "arms race" between plants and pathogens that continues to threaten global food security. The three publications together provide a deeper structural and mechanistic understanding of plant immune receptors known as NLRs (nucleotide-binding leucine-rich repeat receptors), which are central to how plants detect infections and activate defense responses. **BREAKTHROUGH IN PLANT IMMUNE ARCHITECTURE** At the heart of the research is the discovery of how a key helper immune receptor, NRC2, operates at a molecular level. One of the studies reveals that NRC2 undergoes a dramatic structural transformation when activated by pathogen detection signals. The research shows that NRC2 assembles into a hexameric complex (six-unit molecular structure) upon activation. This transformation effectively acts as a biological switch, triggering a cascade of immune re-



Dr. J. Madhuprakash



Prof. Sophien Kamoun

sponses inside the plant cell. Scientists describe this as one of the clearest structural explanations yet of how helper NLRs convert pathogen detection into immune activation. This discovery is particularly important because it provides a physical blueprint of plant immune signaling — a long-standing question in molecular biology. **TARGETING THE DEADLY POTATO BLIGHT PATHOGEN** The remaining two studies focus on one of the most destructive plant pathogens in agricultural history: *Phytophthora infestans*, the organism responsible for potato late blight, which famously caused the 19th-century Great Irish Famine. The research uncovers how this pathogen uses a specialized effector protein known as AVRcap1b to sabotage plant immunity. The effector targets host cellular machinery and interferes directly with helper NLR proteins, particularly NRC2 and NRC3, effectively disarming the plant's internal defense system. By suppressing immune signaling pathways, the pathogen is able to establish infection and spread rapidly across crops, leading to devastating agricultural losses. The studies reveal, in unprecedented detail, how this molecular sabotage operates at the structural level. Together, these findings provide a dual perspective: how plants activate immune defenses, and how pathogens evolve counter-

strategies to suppress them. **IMPLICATIONS FOR GLOBAL FOOD SECURITY** Scientists believe the implications of these discoveries extend far beyond basic research. By understanding exactly how plant immune receptors function and how pathogens disable them, researchers can begin engineering crops with enhanced, durable disease resistance. This could pave the way for next-generation agricultural biotechnology solutions aimed at reducing crop losses, improving yield stability, and strengthening global food security in the face of climate change and evolving pathogens. Experts suggest that structural insights like those provided in these studies are critical for the rational design of disease-resistant crop varieties using gene editing and synthetic biology tools. **BUILDING A NEW RESEARCH FRONTIER AT UoH** Following his return to India, Dr. Madhuprakash is now channeling his expertise into establishing a dedicated research program on Plant NLR (immune receptor) biology at the University of Hyderabad. The initiative is expected to significantly strengthen the university's position in cutting-edge plant molecular biology research, particularly in the area of plant-microbe interactions and structural immunity. By building this program, the university aims to foster advanced

research in agricultural biotechnology and contribute to global scientific efforts addressing food security challenges. Dr. Madhuprakash expressed his gratitude for the opportunity, stating that the research experience at TSL was transformative. He acknowledged the mentorship of Prof. Kamoun and the collaborative environment at the Sainsbury Laboratory, noting that the exposure to world-class structural biology research played a crucial role in shaping the studies. He also thanked the University of Hyderabad administration for supporting his study leave, which enabled him to participate in this international research collaboration. **INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR INDIAN SCIENCE** The publication of three high-impact papers in Science Advances is being viewed as a notable achievement for Indian academia, particularly in the field of plant sciences. It highlights the growing global presence of Indian researchers in elite scientific collaborations and advanced molecular biology research. Researchers and academic observers say the work underscores the importance of international partnerships in tackling global challenges such as crop disease, climate resilience, and sustainable agriculture. **ABOUT THE RESEARCH CONTEXT** Plant immune systems rely on complex intracellular sensors to detect invading pathogens and activate defense mechanisms. These systems are not only essential for plant survival but also crucial for global agriculture, as crop diseases remain one of the leading causes of yield loss worldwide. The new studies contribute significantly to this field by offering structural clarity and mechanistic understanding of how immune receptors assemble, activate, and are suppressed by pathogens. **CONCLUSION** Dr. J. Madhuprakash's contributions to the three Science Advances publications represent a

## CBIT Hosts Workshop on Examination Reforms



**HYDERABAD**

**Wake up telangana**

sions.

Hyderabad, June 19, 2026: The Chaitanya Bharathi Institute of Technology (CBIT), Hyderabad, through its Academic and Examination Cell (AEC), organized a One-Day National Workshop on "Enhancing Quality, Integrity and Excellence in Examination and Evaluation Systems" at its Assembly Hall on Thursday. The event brought together academicians, examination administrators, policymakers, and industry experts to discuss emerging challenges and innovations in examination reforms, digital evaluation, and quality assurance in higher education. The workshop highlighted the growing need for transparent, technology-driven, and student-centric assessment systems to strengthen academic credibility and institutional trust in higher education. CBIT reaffirms its commitment to Academic Excellence. Prof. C. V. Narasimhulu, Principal of Chaitanya Bharathi Institute of Technology, reflected on the institute's 47-year journey of academic excellence. He emphasized CBIT's focus on innovation, research, industry collaboration, and quality education, which has earned national recognition and strong accreditation. He stressed that integrity, transparency, and consistency in examination and evaluation systems are essential for maintaining institutional reputation and ensuring quality outcomes for students. Focus on Transparent and Modern Examination Systems. Prof. V. Kamakshi Prasad of Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University Hyderabad stressed the importance of enforcing quality parameters in evaluation systems. He emphasized consistency, objectivity, and strong institutional governance to ensure academic integrity. Wide Participation and Knowledge Exchange. The workshop witnessed active participation from

stated that modern evaluation practices must reduce subjectivity while — improving efficiency and fairness across disciplines. Dr. Devesh Nigam, Registrar of University of Hyderabad, as Guest of Honour, highlighted the importance of innovative assessment methods aligned with evolving higher education needs, stressing outcome-based education and digital integration. Insights on Examination Reforms and Digital Transformation. Prof. K. Shashikanth, Controller of Examinations, Osmania University, spoke on examination reforms and future directions, focusing on digitization, policy evolution, and continuous improvement in assessment systems. Dr. Devesh Nigam, in his keynote, emphasized outcome-based assessment, academic transparency, and the role of artificial intelligence in improving fairness and reducing bias in evaluation processes. Industry Perspectives on AI and Digital Evaluation. Mr. Mohammed Mustafa Khan, CEO of Orientrix Pvt. Ltd., highlighted the role of artificial intelligence in next-generation assessment systems, focusing on improved trust, efficiency, and automated evaluation. Mr. Srikanth Yellapragada, CTO of CampX Edutech Private Limited, discussed digital evaluation systems, outlining standard procedures, benefits, and challenges such as infrastructure gaps and data security concerns. Focus on Quality in Evaluation Systems. Prof. V. Kamakshi Prasad of Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University Hyderabad stressed the importance of enforcing quality parameters in evaluation systems. He emphasized consistency, objectivity, and strong institutional governance to ensure academic integrity. Wide Participation and Knowledge Exchange. The workshop witnessed active participation from

# FIFA World Cup 2026: Game Day 9 Promise Goals Galore, Brazil in Action



**F**IFA World Cup's match day 9 will bring to the stage the co-hosts, USA against underdogs Australia at the Seattle stadium. Right after, will be the

declared AFCON winners Morocco taking on Scotland as giants Brazil prepare for their outing against Haiti. Rounding off the day will be Turkey against the talented South American

squad of Paraguay. USA Vs Australia (12:30 AM Kickoff) An electric match for all the wrong reasons, the USA and the Australian squad have found flare and disdain at each other's throats on the big stage. With a feisty confrontation in last year's friendly, the wounds will still be fresh for both teams as they look to secure their spot in the knockouts. Among a turbulent geopolitical situation, this match holds more than just 3 points and a knockout spot for the nations and their fans. The two teams were victorious in both of their opening matches. The USA dismantled the Paraguayan defence with 4 goals while the Socceroos held a steadfast 2-0 lead from a tactical master class. With tensions already running high with months of preparation behind both teams, the Socceroos will surely try to get the Americans' skins at their home to promise an entertaining match up.

## Aryan Karra Selected for National Ice Hockey Championship



**Hyderabad**  
**Vasu Sports Reporter**  
Wakeup telangana

Telangana athlete Aryan Karra has been selected to represent the Telangana State Ice Hockey Team at the 15th IHAJ National Ice Hockey

Championship 2026. He will attend the State Training Camp from June 16 to 30 and compete in the National Championship from July 1 to 8. Aryan has an impressive sporting record, having represented India at the World Inline Hockey Championship in Italy, won a Bronze Medal for India at the 2018 Asian Roller Skating Championship, and represented the country at the 18th Asian Roller Skating Championship in South Korea. He also captained the Telangana State Inline Hockey Team at the 61st National Roller Skating Championship and scored a memorable hat-trick for Telangana in the National Championships. Sports officials described his selection as a proud moment for Telangana, highlighting his dedication, leadership, and consistent performances at national and international levels. Aryan's achievement is expected to inspire many young athletes across the state

## Nasr Girls Win Telangana Pre-Subroto Title



Mir Hafizuddin Ahmed, Principal of Nasr Boys School, Gachibowli, felicitates the Under-17 Girls champions, Nasr Girls School, Khairatabad, during the closing ceremony of the CISCE Sports & Games AP & Telangana Pre-Subroto Cup Football Tournament 2026 in Hyderabad.

**H**yderabad, Wakeup Telangana,

from June 15 to 18. In a closely contested first semifinal, Nasr Girls School edged past Future Kids School, Nanakramguda, with a solitary goal to secure a place in the final. In the second semifinal, Sherwood Public School, Pet Basheerabad, registered a convincing 2-0 victory over Gitanjali Devshala to advance to the title clash. The final witnessed an intense bat-

tle between Nasr Girls School and Sherwood Public School. Nasr Girls School maintained its impressive form and secured a hard-fought 1-0 victory to lift the championship trophy. The tournament showcased exceptional talent, sportsmanship, and competitive spirit among young footballers from across Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. During the closing cer-

emony, Mir Hafizuddin Ahmed, Principal of Nasr Boys School, Gachibowli, congratulated the winning team and presented the trophies and certificates. The victorious players of Nasr Girls School, Khairatabad, along with their coach, were felicitated for their outstanding performance throughout the tournament.



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## Delhi HC Defers Hearing on Salman Khan's Plea Against 'Kala Hiran'



**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

New Delhi: The Delhi High Court on Friday deferred hearing on actor Salman Khan's plea seeking to restrain the filming, promotion and release of the proposed movie Kala Hiran: The Battle for Legacy, after counsel appearing for the filmmakers sought time to respond to the application. The matter was heard by the vacation bench of Justice Madhu Jain. Senior Advocate Sandeep Sethi, appearing for Khan, urged the Court to grant interim protection, contending that the filmmakers were attempting to commercially exploit the actor's life and persona without his consent.

"He is producing a film on my life and tearing up the notice. He has no right to make a film of my life. I am seeking an interim injunction. The teaser has already been released," Sethi submitted. Counsel appearing for the filmmakers sought time to place their response on record, stating that he had received only a copy of the application on Wednesday. Opposing the request, Sethi argued that the respondents had already been duly served and that an affidavit of service had been filed before the Court. During the proceedings, counsel for the filmmakers informed the Court that he had allegedly been receiving death threats and had lodged an FIR regarding the same. Sethi

further submitted that promotional material connected with the film had already been released and argued that the respondents could not continue to use Khan's identity and public image without authorization. The respondents opposed the grant of any interim relief. After hearing the parties, the Court recorded that counsel for the producer and director had recently received the plaint and directed Khan's counsel to furnish the complete set of pleadings to the respondents during the course of the day. The matter has now been listed before the roster bench on July 1. The dispute arises from Khan's application seeking to restrain the release and promotion of Kala Hiran: The Battle for

Legacy, which he alleges infringes his personality and publicity rights and harms his reputation. Earlier, the Delhi High Court had issued notice on the application after being informed that the film's trailer had been released despite an earlier indication that it would be released on June 20. According to Khan, the proposed film and its promotional material are based on events relating to the 1998 blackbuck hunting case. The actor contends that although his name is not expressly used, the posters, promotional content and public statements made by those associated with the project make him readily identifiable.

## Congress buried Rythu Declaration by restricting procurement of grains: Harish Rao

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

**Siddipet:** Former Minister T Harish Rao has accused the Congress government of burying the Warangal Rythu Declaration on the day of party leader Rahul Gandhi's birthday by restricting the procurement of grains. Speaking to reporters on Friday, Harish Rao said Rahul Gandhi had announced the Rythu Declaration during a public meeting in Warangal ahead of the 2023 Assembly elections, making several promises for the welfare of farmers. Stating that the Congress had already failed

to keep those promises, Rao said the Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy-led government had buried the entire declaration with its decision to restrict the procurement of agricultural produce in line with the quota prescribed by the Centre. When the Congress was in the Opposition, the former Minister said Revanth Reddy had assured farmers that every grain of paddy would be procured, encouraging them to cultivate the crop without restrictions. Recalling how the BRS government led by former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Reddy had assured farmers that every grain of paddy would be procured, encouraging them to cultivate the crop without restrictions. Recalling how the BRS government led by former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Reddy had assured farmers that every grain of paddy would be procured, encouraging them to cultivate the crop without restrictions.



eral challenges and despite the Centre not procuring grain, he said BRS MLAs and MPs had staged protests in New Delhi against the Centre's restrictions on procurement. Rao expressed concern that the Revanth Reddy

government would not procure maize, jowar and other grains if the Centre stopped purchasing them. He further said that the Centre was purchasing only 25 per cent of pulses and oilseeds besides imposing restrictions on several grains. While

Telangana farmers were producing more than 90 lakh metric tonnes of agricultural produce in a season, the Revanth Reddy government was procuring only 50 lakh metric tonnes as prescribed by the Centre, pushing farmers into dis-

tress, he alleged. Telangana State Updates Elaborating on the struggles faced by farmers under the Congress government, he said that hikes in diesel, seed and fertiliser prices, coupled with the digital urea booking system,

had left farmers struggling. Accusing the Congress of cheating farmers after promising a bonus for all crops, Rao said the government had restricted the bonus to only seven varieties of fine rice. Seeking an apology from the Congress

for going back on its promise, the former Minister demanded that the government explain why it had restricted the bonus to just seven varieties of fine rice, down from the earlier 33. He also alleged that Revanth Reddy had gone back on the promise of releasing the Yasangi instalment of Rythu Bharosa after making a statement during the inauguration of an oil palm factory at Narmetta. Rao further sought an explanation from the Congress on why Rythu Bheema benefits had allegedly not been released to 7,600 farmers since January.

### Rahul Gandhi's Birthday Marked by Welfare Activities in Hyderabad



**Hyderabad, June 19, 2026:** To mark the birthday of Leader of Opposition in Parliament, Rahul Gandhi, Al Faiz Welfare Society organized a week-long series of social welfare and community outreach programmes in Hyderabad. The celebrations featured a painting competition for students and children, distribution of fruits among the underprivileged, and the circulation of special birthday greeting cards commemorating the oc-

casation. The commemorative greeting cards were formally released by Ubaidullah Kotwal, Chairman of the Telangana Minority Finance Corporation. Addressing the gathering, members of the society emphasized the importance of promoting social service, community welfare, and public participation through such initiatives. Society President Jahangir Baba, Advocate Malik Shakeer, and several other dignitaries a

### Free RTC Bus Travel for NEET Re-Exam Candidates

**Hyderabad, June 20:** In a major relief to thousands of students appearing for the National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) re-examination, the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC) has announced free bus travel for all candidates on June 21 across the State. The initiative has been taken to ensure hassle-free transportation for students travelling to and from their ex-

amination centres and to help them reach venues on time without facing financial or logistical difficulties. According to TGSRTC officials, candidates can avail the free travel facility by producing their NEET re-examination hall tickets while boarding buses. The concession will be valid from the first bus service on June 21 until midnight on the same day. The free travel facility

will be available on all TGSRTC bus services except air-conditioned (AC) buses. Students travelling in ordinary, express and other non-AC RTC services can make use of the benefit across Telangana. Nearly 73,000 Candidates Expected The NEET re-examination is expected to witness the participation of nearly 73,000 candidates from different districts of Telangana. Consid-

ering the large number of examinees and the need for timely transportation, TGSRTC has made elaborate arrangements to handle the increased passenger traffic. RTC authorities have deployed additional buses on routes connecting major towns, cities and examination centres. Special focus has been placed on areas where large numbers of students are expected

to travel during the early morning and afternoon hours. Officials said the corporation is committed to ensuring that students reach their examination venues comfortably and without delay. Depot managers and field staff have been instructed to monitor passenger movement and operate extra services wherever necessary. Support for Students and Parents The decision

has been widely welcomed by students, parents and educational institutions. Many candidates travel long distances from rural and semi-urban areas to reach designated examination centres. Free transportation is expected to reduce the burden on families and help students focus on the examination rather than travel arrangements. Parents have appreciated the RTC's

### Can Telangana fund Metro Phase II alone? Concerns grow over

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

**Hyderabad:** With the takeover of Hyderabad Metro Rail Phase I acquiring political overtones, questions are being raised about the State government's claim that it can execute the Metro Phase II project on its own, particularly in view of its financial constraints. Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has repeatedly acknowledged the financial challenges facing the State in implementing welfare and development programmes. On a few occasions, he has stated that the government was finding it difficult to spend even Rs 500 crore a month on capital expenditure. He has also maintained that Telangana's monthly revenue stands at Rs 18,500 crore. Of this, around Rs 6,500 crore is spent on salaries and pensions, while another Rs 6,500 crore goes towards loan repayments and interest payments. This leaves about Rs 5,500 crore for welfare and de-



velopment activities. Telangana State Updates Despite these constraints, the State government has expressed its willingness to take up Metro Phase II on its own. It has already submitted proposals for the project, which comprises seven corridors spanning 122.9 km at an estimated cost of Rs 38,595 crore. The Telangana government had requested the Centre to sanction Metro Phase II as a 50:50 joint venture. However, in a letter addressed to Union Minister G Kishan Reddy on Tuesday, the Chief Minister stated that if approval for the project as a 50:50 joint venture was delayed, the State government was prepared to proceed using its own resources and in-

stitutional financing arrangements. He urged the Centre to grant the required approvals at the earliest so that implementation could begin without further delay. Meanwhile, the delay in the release of the Rs 13,527 crore loan from the Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC) has affected the State government's plans to take over Metro Phase I. Although the agreement was signed three weeks ago, the loan amount has not yet been released. The Centre has also made seamless integration of the privately operated Phase I network with the proposed Phase II network a mandatory condition. Until the takeover of Phase I is completed,

### Pan India Jewels Show Shines Bright in Hyd

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

**Hyderabad:** The Pan India Jewels Show, one of the country's premier jewellery exhibitions, concluded successfully at OM Convention, Narsingi, Hyderabad, after drawing an overwhelming response from jewellery enthusiasts, buyers, designers, and industry professionals during its three-day run from June 19 to 21. Founded by Sajja Annapurna and Niranjan, the exhibition featured more than 60 leading jewellery brands from across India, making it one of the largest and most diverse jewellery showcases in the region. Visitors explored an extensive collection of over two lakh jewellery designs, highlighting a blend of traditional craftsmanship, artistic excellence, and contemporary innovation. The exhibition showcased a wide range of jewellery categories, including Gold, Diamond, Polki, Jadau, Kundan, Silver Jewellery, and the increasingly popular Lab-Grown Diamond Jewellery. From everyday elegant ornaments to exclusive bridal collections, the event catered to a broad spectrum of customer preferences. One of the major attractions of the exhibition was the exclusive discounts and special offers presented by



participating brands, allowing customers to purchase premium jewellery at attractive prices. The event was attended by several distinguished guests, including Dr. Preeti Reddy, Vice Chairwoman of Malla Reddy Vishwavidyapeeth, who graced the occasion as Chief Guest. Speaking on the success of the exhibition, founders Sajja Annapurna and Niranjan thanked participating brands, exhibitors, partners, and visitors for their enthusiastic support. They noted that the strong turnout reflects Hyderabad's growing prominence as a key destination for premium jewellery and luxury retail. The Pan India Jewels Show provided a unique platform for leading jewellery brands to connect directly with customers, showcase their finest creations, and celebrate India's rich jewellery heritage alongside evolving design

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