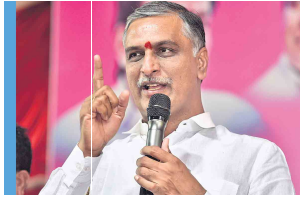




Heavy Rain Alert
Cyberabad Police **P2**



Harish Rao seeks probe into Bhupalpally DTO's death
P2

SIR in Telangana:

P8



WEATHER

MAX: 39.0°C
MIN: 27.0°C
RH: 23%
RAINFALL: 0MM
FORECAST: MAINLY CLEAR SKY
MAX/MIN temp. 40/26°C

Messi Sets World Cup Scoring Record With 17th Goal For Argentina



Lionel Messi became the leading scorer in World Cup history when the Argentina captain netted against Austria on Monday to take his total to 17 goals. Messi had equalled Miroslav Klose's all-time mark of 16 World Cup goals when hitting a hat-trick in a 3-0 win over Algeria to open his country's title defence in North America last week. He made it 17 when he swept home after 38 minutes in Argentina's second group game, to deafening roars at the home of the Dallas Cowboys in Arlington.

Massive Fire at Lucknow Coaching Centre Kills 15, Injures 7

NEW DELHI, LUCKNOW:

At least 15 people, including students, were killed and several others injured in a major fire that broke out in a three-storey commercial building in Lucknow's upscale Ali-ganj locality on Monday afternoon. Most of the victims were reportedly trapped on the second floor, where students were attending classes at an animation training centre. The cause of the fire is yet to be ascertained. According to KGMU authorities, 22 people were brought to the Trauma Centre. Fifteen were declared brought dead, five were admitted with injuries and were stated to be stable, while two others sustained minor injuries and received treatment. Fourteen fire tenders, including a



hydraulic platform vehicle, were deployed after the fire was reported around 3 p.m. Firefighters, along with NDRF, SDRF and Civil Defence teams, carried out extensive rescue operations. Witnesses said some people jumped from the building in a desperate attempt to escape the

flames. The building also housed a pet clinic, and animal rights activists feared some animals may have perished in the fire. Officials said the rescue operation continued even after the blaze was brought under control due to heavy smoke inside the building. Uttar Pradesh

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath cut short his visit to Aligarh and rushed to Lucknow to review the situation. He inspected the affected building on Usha Mehta Marg, reviewed rescue and relief operations, and later visited the injured at King George's Medical University (KGMU).

The Chief Minister announced an ex gratia of ₹5 lakh each for the families of those killed and ₹50,000 each for the injured. Prime Minister Narendra Modi also announced ₹2 lakh from the PMNRF for the next of kin of each deceased and ₹50,000 for the injured. Deputy Chief Minister Brajesh Pathak said many of the victims were children who had come to attend animation classes during the summer vacation. He said a high-level inquiry had been ordered to determine the cause of the blaze. President Droupadi Murmu, Vice-President C.P. Radhakrishnan, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge and Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi expressed grief over the tragedy.

Telangana Student Dies of Illness in US

Hyderabad: A 26-year-old man from Mahbubnagar district in Telangana died of unexplained medical reasons in the United States on June 19. The victim, Arun Sai Reddy Bollendula, who had travelled to the US to pursue higher education and build a career, died in Tampa, Florida. According to information shared by the North America Telugu Society (NATS) Helpline through a fundraising campaign, Bollendula was living in Florida on STEM Optional Practical Training (OPT), and was searching for a full-time job. He had moved abroad hoping to secure a better future for himself and support his family. He was the only son of B. Venkat Reddy and



Sa-rala Reddy. Family members described him as a caring son, a loving brother and a young man with strong ambitions. To support the family, NATS Helpline launched a Go-FundMe campaign, stating that funds will be used for the repatriation of Arun's mortal remains to India, funeral and memorial arrangements, and financial assistance for his parents. More than \$23,000 has been raised on the fundraiser.

Revanth Proposes Adilabad Airport, DRDO Project to Rajnath Singh

Telangana CM Revanth Reddy met Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in New Delhi today and expressed gratitude for transferring defence lands to develop Gandhi

New Delhi: Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has urged Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to develop the Adilabad Airport—currently being developed by the Indian Air Force (IAF)—with comprehensive civil and defence-oriented facilities and to expedite approval for a key DRDO/DRDL project at Devarakadra in Mahabubnagar district. The Chief Minister met the Defence Minister at Kartavya Bhavan in the

Ministry of Defence, New Delhi, on Monday and discussed key strategic infrastructure proposals aimed at boosting Telangana's aviation and defence ecosystem. During the meeting, Revanth Reddy expressed gratitude to Rajnath Singh for facilitating the transfer of defence land for the prestigious Gandhi Sarovar project. He also assured full cooperation from the state government in land acquisition and utility shifting required for the

development of Adilabad Airport, identifying it as one of Telangana's top infrastructure priorities. The Chief Minister stressed that the proposed Adilabad Airport, being developed under the aegis of the Indian Air Force, holds strategic importance for both national security and regional connectivity. He assured the Union Minister that the state government would extend complete support for its expansion and fast-tracked development. Revanth Reddy

also proposed the establishment of integrated facilities at the airport, including cargo terminals, Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (MRO) hubs, and hangar infrastructure alongside both the Indian Air Force and civil aviation terminals. He highlighted that such facilities would significantly enhance passenger convenience and strengthen aviation-related economic activity in the region. The Chief Minister further noted that several inter-

national airlines are currently seeking suitable locations for hangar operations due to shifting aviation dynamics in Central Asia. He stated that Adilabad Airport is well-positioned to serve as a strategic hub for such operations and urged the Defence Minister to consider its development accordingly. In addition, Revanth Reddy requested expedited approval for the proposed DRDO/DRDL facility at Devarakadra in Mahabubnagar dis-

trict, which has been identified as a potential site for a major defence establishment. He appealed for swift clearance to accelerate the project's implementation in Telangana. Senior officials including State R&B Special Secretary Vikas Raj, Chief Minister's Principal Secretary K.S. Sreenivasa Raju, Chief Minister's Secretary Manik Raj, and Special Secretary (Coordination) Advait Kumar Singh were also present during the meeting.



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Qatar Gas Facility Blast: 12 Indians

New Delhi:

Qatar on Monday confirmed that 12 Indians were among the 13 people killed in an explosion at the Ras Laffan natural gas facility late on Sunday night. Announcing the casualties, Qatar's energy minister Saad al-Kaabi said the deceased included Indian and Pakistani nationals. "I find myself today having to do something I have always hoped will never happen, and that is to

announce, the tragic loss of 13 lives of our people who hold Indian and Pakistani nationalities," he told reporters. He said 66 others were injured in the blast, which occurred during the restart of operations that had been halted following an Iranian attack in March. QatarEnergy said investigations were under way to ascertain the cause of the explosion and clarified that the incident had not affected the

country's LNG exports. It added that gas facilities and Ras Laffan Port were functioning normally. According to media reports, the explosion followed an incident at a domestic gas supply facility in Barzan during restart operations. Authorities said emergency response teams were deployed and the fire was brought under control. Ras Laffan, a key hub of Qatar's energy sector, houses major LNG production and export facilities.

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CM Revanth has signed 'death warrant' for Telangana farmers: KTR

Hyderabad
Wakeup telangana

KTR Slams Revanth Government Over Paddy Procurement, Alleges Betrayal of Farmers Says Congress Rule Has Pushed Telangana into Crisis; Assures Full Support to Party Cadre-Hyderabad, June 22: Launching a sharp attack on the Telangana government, K. T. Rama Rao alleged that Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has effectively signed a "death warrant" for Telangana farmers by deciding to procure paddy only within the limits prescribed by the Central government. Addressing a constituency-level meeting of party workers in Wardhannapet, Warangal district, on Monday, KTR accused the Congress



government of abandoning the interests of farmers and blindly following the Centre's directives on paddy procurement. "Earlier, Revanth Reddy used to question whether the previous BRS government was acting as a broker for Prime Minister Narendra Modi whenever it implemented Central policies. Today, he is doing exactly the same by agreeing to procure only the quantity approved by the Centre," KTR said. The BRS leader alleged that the Congress

government has repeatedly failed to address several critical issues affecting the agricultural sector, including shortages of fertilizers and quality seeds, frequent power interruptions, delays in the implementation of the Rythu Bharosa scheme, and the discontinuation of the Rythu Bima insurance program. KTR said that farmers across Telangana are facing uncertainty and financial distress due to the government's inability to provide timely support.

He claimed that the Congress administration has neglected the welfare of the farming community despite making numerous promises before the elections. Highlighting the achievements of the previous BRS government under the leadership of K. Chandrashekar Rao, KTR stated that borrowed funds were utilized for welfare schemes, major irrigation projects, drinking water initiatives, 24-hour free power supply to the agriculture sector, and infrastructure development across the state. "During the BRS regime, Telangana witnessed unprecedented development and welfare. Unfortunately, after a decade of progress, the state has now slipped into a crisis under Congress rule," he remarked. The former minister further

accused the Congress government of focusing more on political vendetta than governance. He alleged that the administration was misusing official machinery to target opposition leaders and party workers instead of addressing public issues. "The Congress government is more interested in harassing the Opposition than solving the problems of the people. Farmers, youth, women, and employees are all disappointed with the present administration," he claimed. Assuring party workers of unwavering support, KTR said the BRS leadership would stand firmly with its cadre and their families. He emphasized that the strength of the party lies in its grassroots workers who remained loyal during difficult times.

Harish Rao seeks probe into Bhupalpally DTO's death

Hyderabad:
Wakeup telangana

BRS Legislature Party deputy leader T Harish Rao demanded a thorough investigation into the death of Bhupalpally DTO Venkanna, suspecting involvement of sand and coal mafia. He sought to know whether the officer was killed in an accident or was it a planned murder. City & Local Guides B Venkanna, who was recently posted as District Transport Officer in Jayashankar Bhupalpally, was hit by a speed-



ing coal-laden tipper on Bhupalpally-Ghanpur highway under Ghanpur police station limits. The incident took place while the DTO and his staff were conducting a vehicle check outside the Regional Transport Office (RTO) on

Monday morning. In a statement, Harish Rao questioned whether officials who stood in the way of alleged sand and coal mafias were being targeted. He urged the government to investigate and initiate stringent action against the alleged illegal operations and the individuals behind them. Politics Stating that there were suspicions over Venkanna's death, the former Minister said the government has a responsibility to uncover the facts and place them before the public. He urged the government to take measures to ensure

Ai+ Expands Nova Series with Nova 2 Neo 5G and Nova 2 Pro 5G

Hyderabad:
Wakeup telangana

Ai+ Smartphones has unveiled the Nova 2 Neo 5G and Nova 2 Pro 5G, expanding its Nova Series lineup with devices aimed at both entry-level users and performance-focused consumers. The smartphones were introduced through "India's Got Nova," a community-driven launch event hosted by comedian Samay Raina and technology expert Rajiv Makhni. The unconventional format featured live demonstrations, audience participation, product challenges, and discussions designed to showcase the devices in real-world scenarios. Ai+ also reaffirmed its commitment to transpar-



ency through its Open Review Program, which allowed reviewers, creators, journalists, and technology enthusiasts to test and evaluate the devices ahead of their commercial launch without embargoes or review guidelines. The Nova 2 Neo 5G is targeted at first-time smartphone users and value-conscious buyers. It is powered by the MediaTek Dimensity 6300 5G processor and features a 6.745-inch HD+ 120Hz display, a 48MP Sony AI camera, and a 6000mAh battery. Meanwhile, the Nova 2 Pro 5G is designed for creators and power users, offering a MediaTek Dimensity 7100 chip, a 6.9-inch FHD+ 144Hz display, enhanced camera capabilities, customizable notification lights, stereo speakers, and 33W fast charging. Speaking on the occasion,

Mahabubabad: 30 Kg Of Wild Animal Meat Seized, One Held

Mahabubabad:
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Forest officials seized around 30 kg of wild animal meat during raids conducted in Kakatiya Nagar, Bayyaram mandal headquarters, in Telangana on Monday. As per reports, the forest department teams conducted surprise inspections in the area, based on a tip-off about the illegal sale of wild animal meat in the



region. On spotting the officials, several smugglers fled the spot. During the search, officials detained one person who was selling the meat. The accused entered into an argument with the Forest Beat Officer, but officials brought

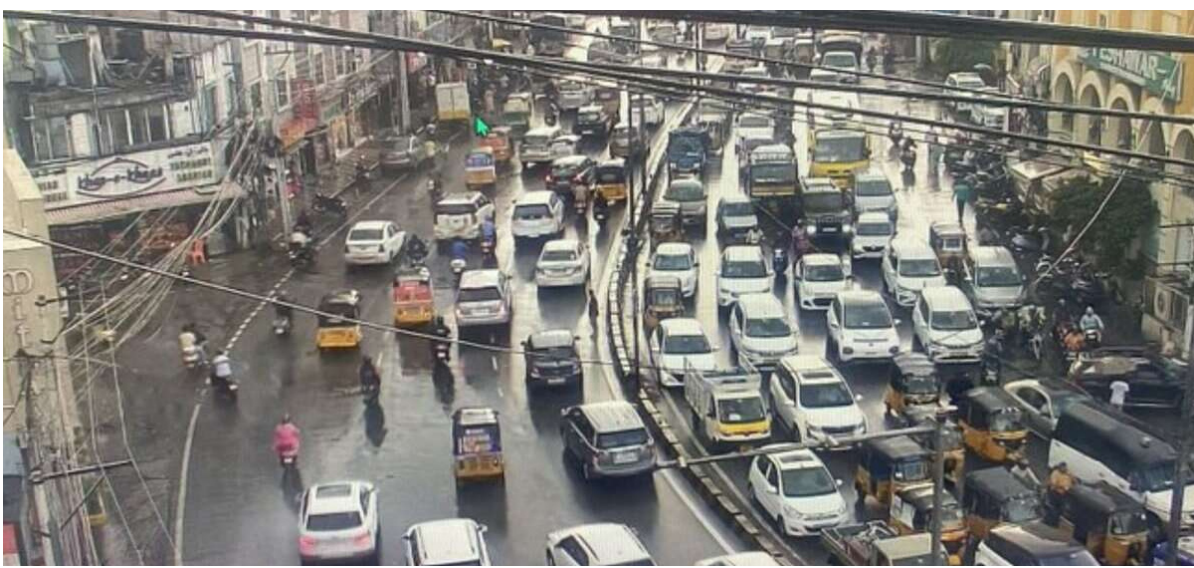
the situation under control and launched an inquiry. Officials said they recovered about 30 kg of wild animal meat and seized a two-wheeler used in the trade. A case has been registered under relevant forest laws. A manhunt is underway to nab the absconding suspects. Officials warned of strict action against hunting, sale, and transport of wild animals from the Garla Protected Forest at Bayyaram Range. They urged

the public to cooperate in wildlife conservation and immediately report any suspicious activity to the forest department. The seized meat was sent for examination to determine the species of the animal. Forest authorities are also verifying whether the accused has links with other illegal wildlife traders active in the district. Officials questioned the detained individual and collected information about the source of the

meat and potential buyers. Forest department personnel stated that special teams have been formed to trace those who escaped during the raid. Check-posts and patrol teams have also been alerted to monitor the movement of suspected poachers and smugglers. Officials reiterated that hunting and trading of wild animals is a serious offence under the Wildlife Protection Act and warned that stringent

Heavy Rain Alert

Cyberabad Police Advise Early Office Exits



Rangareddy District
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh

In view of heavy rainfall forecast across Telangana until June 27, Cyberabad Police have advised companies and educational institutions to allow employees and students to leave early to avoid traffic congestion and waterlogging. According to the advisory issued on Monday, employees are requested to log out from 3:30 PM onwards to ensure safer travel and smooth movement of emergency and essential services during adverse weather conditions. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has predicted heavy rain, thunder-

storms, lightning, and gusty winds in several districts of Telangana. In Hyderabad, moderate to heavy rainfall and thundershowers are expected until June 24. Cyberabad Police urged citizens to plan their travel in advance and exercise caution during the rainy spell. "saved all of us," one passenger said, recalling the tense moments inside the bus. Further details are awaited as the investigation continues. As part of the precautionary measures, Cyberabad Police have coordinated with traffic, disaster response, and civic authorities to ensure prompt action in case of waterlogging, tree falls, or traffic disruptions. Special teams have

been kept on alert to respond to emergencies and assist commuters during the rain spell. Officials advised motorists to avoid unnecessary travel during periods of heavy rainfall and to stay away from low-lying areas prone to flooding. Commuters were also urged to follow traffic advisories issued through official police social media platforms and other communication channels. The police requested managements of IT companies, private firms, schools, and colleges to cooperate with the advisory and facilitate staggered departures wherever possible. Authorities believe the move will help reduce peak-hour congestion on major

roads and prevent commuters from getting stranded due to sudden downpours. Meanwhile, civic agencies have been directed to monitor vulnerable locations, clear stormwater drains, and deploy emergency response teams at key junctions across Hyderabad and the Cyberabad Commissionerate limits. Residents have been advised to remain indoors during thunderstorms and report any emergencies through police helplines. With weather officials forecasting continued rainfall over the next few days, authorities said all departments are working in coordination to minimize inconvenience to the public and ensure public

KLH Celebrates International Yoga Day Across Campuses



Hyderabad:
Wakeup telangana

Hyderabad, June 2026: KLH Hyderabad marked the 12th International Yoga Day 2026 across its campuses, bringing together students, faculty, staff members, and NCC cadets to promote holistic well-being through yoga, mindfulness, and fitness activities. The celebrations transformed KLH Bachupally, KLH Aziznagar, and KLH Global Business School into vibrant hubs of wellness, with participants engaging in yoga sessions, breathing exercises, meditation practices, fitness activities, and awareness programmes

New Monks Kung Fu and Yoga Organisation. The Department of Physical Education also conducted fitness sessions focusing on endurance and physical conditioning. The event concluded with addresses by Guinness World Record Holder Dr. K.

Engineering, encouraging participants to embrace yoga and mindfulness for life-long well-being. Meanwhile, KLH Global Business School, Kondapur, conducted a wellness session under the leadership of Prof. (Dr.) Anand

"International Yoga Day reminds us that true well-being extends beyond physical fitness to include mental resilience, mindfulness, and inner balance. Yoga encourages us to cultivate harmony in our daily lives. Through such initiatives, we



aimed at encouraging healthier and more balanced lifestyles. At KLH Bachupally Campus, a two-day programme held on 20 and 21 June under the guidance of Dr. L. Koteswara Rao, Principal, featured cultural performances, self-defence demonstrations, and an interactive wellness workshop by the

Raja and Dr. L. Koteswara Rao, followed by the felicitation of student volunteers. At KLH Aziznagar Campus, the Department of Physical Education organised celebrations aligned with the global theme, "Yoga for Healthy Ageing," under the guidance of Dr. A. Ramakrishna, Principal, College of

Bethapudi, Dean, where Mr. Krishna, Yoga Trainer, introduced faculty and staff members to yoga, meditation, and breathing techniques for stress management and improved focus. Commenting on the occasion, Er. Koneru Lakshman Havish, Vice President, KL Deemed to be University, said,

hope to inspire our campus communities to adopt healthy habits and embrace wellness as a way of life. "The enthusiastic participation across all three campuses reflected the university's continued commitment to promoting holistic well-being and fostering a culture of healthy and balanced living.

Seethakka to Review Rural Development Programmes

Wakeup Telangana | Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District | June 22: In a major initiative aimed at accelerating rural development and ensuring the effective implementation of government welfare schemes, the Telangana Government has scheduled a high-level review meeting of the Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Departments on Tuesday at the Telangana Institute of Rural Development (TGIRD), Rajendranagar. The meeting will be chaired by Hon'ble Minister for Panchayat Raj and Rural Development, Dr. Danasari Anasuya Seethakka. The review meeting will be attended by Additional Collectors (Local Bodies), Zilla Parishad Chief Executive Officers (CEOs), District Rural Development Officers (DRDOs),

ICFAI Law School Begins FDP on Legal Pedagogy



HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

ICFAI Law School, a constituent of IFHE, Hyderabad, inaugurated a One-Week Faculty Development Programme (FDP) titled "The Modern Law Schools: Navigating Outcome-Based Education (OBE) and Innovative Legal Pedagogy" today at the IFHE Auditorium. The programme, running from June 22 to June 28, 2026, provides a comprehensive platform for law teachers, academicians, researchers, and

legal professionals to engage with emerging trends, challenges, and innovations in legal education. The inaugural ceremony featured Prof. (Dr.) Amar Pal Singh, Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Ram Manohar Lohiya National Law University, Lucknow, as the Chief Guest. In his inaugural address, Prof. Singh highlighted the transformative impact of rapid technological advances, shifting societal needs, and globalization on legal education. He urged modern law schools to move beyond conven-

tional pedagogy and adopt Outcome-Based Education (OBE), experiential learning, clinical legal education, interdisciplinary approaches, and technology-enabled teaching to develop competent and socially responsible legal professionals. Presiding over the session, Prof. (Dr.) T. Koti Reddy, Vice-Chancellor, IFHE, Hyderabad, underlined the significance of continuous faculty development for academic excellence. He stressed that teachers play a pivotal role in shaping future lawyers and policymakers, and therefore must continually upgrade their knowledge, research skills, and pedagogical practices. He commended ICFAI Law School for organizing a timely FDP focused on the future of legal education and encouraged active engagement from all

participants. Delivering the special address, Prof. (Dr.) Elizabeth Rose, Pro Vice-Chancellor, IFHE, emphasized the importance of quality teaching, curriculum innovation, and student-centric learning methodologies in raising higher education standards. She noted that Faculty Development Programmes serve as vital forums for exchanging ideas, sharing best practices, and introducing novel pedagogical approaches. Prof. (Dr.) Pujari Ravisekhararaju, Director, ICFAI Law School, welcomed the distinguished guests, faculty, and participants and outlined the FDP's objectives, noting that the programme is designed to examine contemporary developments in legal education, OBE implementation, assessment strategies, digital learning tools,

Ambedkar Mission Marks 172nd Gnana Mala Week, Calls for Bahujan

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

The 172nd week of the Gnana Mala Programme was celebrated successfully today, 21.06.2026, at Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Statue, Lothkunta 'X' Road, Alwal. Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Mission Executive Committee Members also celebrated the 65th Birthday of Shri Ramesh Kamala, Advisor, by cutting a cake in front of the statue of Babasaheb. Addressing the gathering, Shri Ramesh Kamala emphasized the urgent need to carry forward Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's legacy and Mission to every doorstep of marginalized communities. He stressed that the Constitution is

under threat and stated, "Saving the Constitution is saving India." He further added that Dr. B.R. Ambedkar is a world icon. He made a fervent appeal to all Telangana Scheduled Castes Associations, Confederations, Federations, and Activists to come under one banner and one leadership to safeguard the legitimate rights of Bahujans enshrined in the Constitution, and more importantly, to save the Constitution itself. "United we stand - Divided we lose our benefits," he said. Recalling a past achievement, he said that during the tenure of Shri Y.S. Rajasekhara Reddy as Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, a 250-member delegation



led by Shri S.R. Guday, President, and Shri Ramesh Kamala, Secretary General of the All India Confederation of SC/ST Organisations, with the support of the Andhra Pradesh Scheduled Castes Welfare Association and Ambedkar Yuvajana Sangam, met the CM. They submitted a memorandum demanding the filling of backlog vacancies in all departments. The CM responded immediately and filled all backlog vacancies. "This was achieved

Customer Finds Chicken Pieces in Veg Sambar Rice at Kondapur



Wake Up Telangana | Rangareddy District | Srirangam Venkatesh

Hyderabad: A customer reportedly found chicken pieces in a serving of vegetarian sambar rice at Chaitanya Food Court in Kondapur, leading to concerns over food quality and hygiene standards. According to the customer,

he was shocked to discover chicken pieces mixed in the veg sambar rice. The issue became more serious as a colleague accompanying him was a vegetarian and had also been served the same dish. Expressing his displeasure, the customer alleged that restaurants charging premium prices while promoting quality service must ensure proper food handling and prevent such mix-ups. He demanded strict action against those responsible and called for greater accountability from hotel management. The incident has raised concerns among customers regarding food safety, kitchen practices, and the segregation of vegetarian and non-vegetarian food items. Authorities are yet to comment on the matter.

Malkajgiri Police Conduct Awareness Drive on Drugs, Cyber Safety and Traffic Rules



HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Malkajgiri Division Police conducted an awareness programme at a Government Junior College near YMCA, Secunderabad, on Monday, educating

around 200 students on drug abuse, cyber-crime and traffic safety. ACP Yadagiri Reddy and SHO G. Ramkrishna warned students about the dangers of drugs, online frauds and traffic violations, urging re-

sponsible behaviour and vigilance. Officials also advised students to avoid sharing personal data online and to follow road safety rules. College authorities appreciated the initiative, saying it promotes student

Bowenpally Rmembers Prof. Jayashankar



Wake Up Telangana |

Marking the solemn occasion of the death anniversary of the pioneer and ideologue of the Telangana movement, Acharya Kothapalli Jayashankar (affectionately known across the state as Professor Jayashankar Sir), a grand commemorative tribute was held on Sunday at Jayanagar Square in New Bowenpally. Organized under the auspices of the Bowenpally Pragathi Sangam, the event drew a vast gathering of prominent local leaders, cross-party political representatives, and passionate Telangana ideologues who assembled to salute the enduring legacy of the man whose intellectual grit shaped a state. A Crossroads of Solidarity: Leaders Pay Rich Tributes. The ceremony at Jayanagar Square trans-

formed into a unified forum of remembrance as leaders transcended party lines to garland the statue and portrait of Professor Jayashankar. Among the key dignitaries who spoke at the event were: Jampala Pratap (Former Vice President, Cantonment Board) Muppidi Madhukar (Senior Congress Leader) Ragiri Tinkugoud (BRS Leader) Neerud Ashok Kumar Mudiraj (State General Secretary, Janata Congress Party; State President, National Human Rights and Social Justice Commission) Om Prakash Yadav (President, Pragathi Sangam) Gadila Srinu Mudiraj & Srinivas (Organizing Secretaries). Addressing the gathering, the speakers collectively emphasized that Professor Jayashankar was not merely a leader, but the very heartbeat

Investor Meet in Hyderabad Highlights Investment Opportunities in Dholera SIR



HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

An investor meet was organised in Hyderabad to show-

case real estate investment opportunities in the rapidly developing Dholera Special Investment Region (SIR) in Gu-

jarat. The event, held under the aegis of Nestoria Fortune Park, took place at the Le Meridien Hotel in Gachi-

bowli. The session provided detailed insights into the development of the Dholera region, its infrastructure progress, and future investment potential. As India's first greenfield smart city, Dholera SIR spans approximately 920 square kilometres and is being developed with support from the Central and State governments under the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC)

project. Officials highlighted significant investments flowing into the region, particularly in semiconductors, electronics, and renewable energy sectors. Key projects include the Tata Electronics semiconductor unit, the Ahmedabad-Dholera rail corridor, and multiple NextGen semiconductor initiatives. Several industrial firms are also expanding their operations in the

area. Infrastructure development is progressing rapidly, with the Ahmedabad-Dholera Expressway, water treatment plants, hospitals, and other essential facilities under construction. Details of available residential, commercial, and industrial plots in Dholera were presented to interested investors. The event featured expert presentations, an overview of the master plan, and a live site video showcasing the project's progress. A large number of investors attended the meet and had their queries addressed by the organisers.

video showcasing the project's progress. A large number of investors attended the meet and had their queries addressed by the organisers.

SIR 2026 Training Held in Serilingampally

Wake Up Telangana Rangareddy District | Srirangam Venkatesh

Hyderabad: A comprehensive training programme on Special Intensive Revision (SIR) 2026 was successfully conducted for all Booth Level Officers (BLOs) and Booth Level Agents (BLAs) of the 052-Serilingampally As-



sembly Constituency in Rangareddy district. The programme was organized under the supervision of Narayan Amit, who serves as the Electoral Registration Officer

(ERO) for the constituency. Held at the Engineering Staff College of India in Gachibowli, the training focused on voter list revision procedures, field-level responsibil-

ities, and the preparation of accurate, transparent, and inclusive electoral rolls. Speaking on the occasion, Narayan Amit stated that participants from various

stakeholder groups actively took part in the programme and engaged in constructive discussions to strengthen the electoral revision process. The event was attended by Assistant Electoral Registration Officers (AEROs) and Deputy Commissioners from the Alwyn, Madhapur, Miyapur, and Serilingampally circles.

Govt to Create 1 Crore Women Millionaires: Arekapudi Gandhi

Hyderabad: Wake up Telangana |

PAC Chairman Arekapudi Gandhi stated that the Telangana Government's goal is to empower women economically and help create one crore women millionaires through various welfare and livelihood initiatives. Speaking at the Indiramma Saree Distribution Programme held at Addagutta Multipurpose Function Hall in Hyder Nagar Division, Gandhi distributed sarees to women members of



Self-Help Groups (SHGs) from various divisions under Alwyn Circle, along with Deputy Commissioner Chamundeswari, Project Officer Suresh Reddy, and former corporators. He said around 15,000 women SHG members in the Alwyn Circle re-

ceived Indiramma sarees and highlighted that the government, under the leadership of A. Revanth Reddy, is giving top priority to women's welfare and empowerment. Gandhi noted that the government is supporting women through low-interest loans, financial assis-

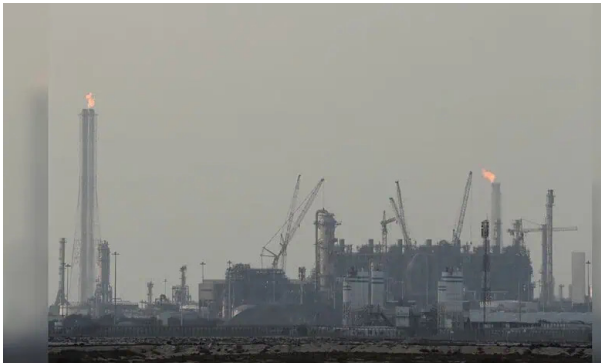
tance, skill development programmes, and self-employment opportunities. He added that SHGs are being encouraged to participate in sectors such as public transport services, petrol bunks, food processing units, and other income-generating activities. He further announced that a

petrol bunk for women's economic empowerment is planned at Ellamma-banda and urged women to make full use of government welfare schemes to achieve financial independence and improve their living standards. The PAC Chairman said women have emerged as a driving force in the State's development and that the government is committed to strengthening Self-Help Groups by providing greater access to credit, training, and market opportunities.

TN plans SOP to fast track sexual assault cases, HC seeks status report

Chennai: The Tamil Nadu government is preparing a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) aimed at expediting the investigation, prosecution, and trial of sexual offences against women and children, the Madras High Court was informed on Monday. Advocate General Vijay Narayan told a division bench of Chief Justice Sushrut Arvind Dharmadhikari and Justice G. Arul Murugan that the government has decided to accord top priority to strengthening the infrastructure required for the speedy disposal of such cases. Appearing on behalf of the state, the Advocate General said delays in sexual offence cases often arise during the investigation stage due to the time taken to obtain forensic science reports, particularly DNA analysis. To address this issue, the government is planning to expand DNA testing facilities across the state. Noting that several regional forensic science laboratories in

Indians among 13 killed in Qatar gas plant explosion



DOHA
Wakeup telangana

Indians were among 13 workers killed and 66 others injured in an explosion at a gas facility in Qatar's Ras Laffan Industrial City, authorities said on Monday. Qatar's Energy Minister Saad Sherida al-Kaabi announced the casualties at a press conference in Doha, describing the incident as an accident. Al-Kaabi said the explosion and subsequent fire occurred at around 10:30 pm on Sunday at

the Barzan local gas supply facility. He said there was no indication that the incident was the result of sabotage or any hostile activity. "I have always hoped it will never happen, and that is to announce the tragic loss of 13 lives of our people who hold Indian and Pakistani nationalities," he said. The minister did not provide a breakdown of the victims' nationalities. He added that all 66 injured workers were receiving medical

treatment and that none of the injuries was life-threatening. QatarEnergy said those injured included nationals of Qatar, Tanzania, India, Pakistan, Guinea, Nepal, Bangladesh, Kenya and Nigeria. Emergency response teams from QatarEnergy and Qatar's Civil Defence brought the fire under control shortly after the explosion. Al-Kaabi said the Barzan facility had been shut since December 2025 for urgent maintenance work and resumed operations only two days before the incident. Ras Laffan is the centre of Qatar's energy industry and hosts major liquefied natural gas production and export facilities. QatarEnergy said the affected plant serves the domestic market and is not linked to the country's LNG export operations. This will not affect in any way our exports to the world," al-Kaabi said, adding that

Qatar's energy supplies remained secure. The company did not disclose the precise location of the blast within the facility or the extent of the damage. It also said there was no environmental risk and that a technical investigation was under way to determine the cause of the incident. Indian Embassy offers support to affected families. The Indian Embassy in Qatar expressed condolences to the families of those who died in the incident and said it was coordinating closely with Qatari authorities. In a post on X, the mission said it would extend all necessary assistance to the families of those killed and injured. The embassy also shared emergency contact details for affected families and individuals seeking information. It can be contacted on +974-55647502 and +974-55384683, or by email at cons.doha@mea.gov.in.

Haj Policy 2027 Announced, Applications Open

New Delhi: wakeup telangana

The government on Monday announced the Haj Policy 2027 and invited applications from prospective pilgrims for the pilgrimage next year. The Haj Policy 2027 carries forward the Minority Affairs Ministry's sustained efforts to make the pilgrimage more comfortable, safe and dignified for every pilgrim, building on the initiatives of Haj-2026 such as sofa-cum-beds in Mecca, hotel-style accommodation in Mecca and the 20-day Short Haj Package, an official statement said. Minority Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju released the policy and announced that the Haj Committee of India would, from Monday,

invite applications from prospective pilgrims for Haj-2027. Prospective pilgrims can apply for Haj-2027 online through the portal — hajcommittee.gov.in — as well as the Haj Suvudha app, making the application process flexible, simpler and more accessible, the ministry said. The distribution of the quota between the Haj Committee of India and the private sector is expected to remain unchanged at the ratio of 70:30, with 1,22,518 seats for the Haj Committee of India and 52,507 seats for the private sector. However, the government will make efforts to increase the Haj quota for Indian pilgrims, which stood at 1,75,025 last year, the ministry

said. The announcement follows the Haj review meeting chaired by the minister on June 18, at which the conduct of Haj-2026 was reviewed and the roadmap for Haj-2027 was finalised. The early announcement of the policy and the simultaneous opening of applications reflect the ministry's emphasis on timely preparation and adherence to the timelines prescribed by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the statement said. It recalled that the Indian Haj Mission was conferred two Labbaytum Awards by the Saudi Ministry of Hajj and Umrah under the 'Best Haj Coordination and Communication' category for Haj-2026, a distinction received for the first time.

Mother's plea, a distress call capture Lucknow fire's horror



Srinagar
Wakeup telangana

Lucknow: As a mother begged Lucknow police to let her reach her trapped son, and people made frantic calls for help from inside a smoke-filled building, residents and rescue teams raced against time to save those caught in a devastating fire at a three-storey commercial building in Aliganj area here on Monday, June

22. The blaze erupted at the building housing an animation centre on Usha Mehta Marg, leaving 15 people dead and seven injured. The cause of the fire is yet to be ascertained, with authorities ordering a high-level probe into the incident. As flames rapidly started engulfing the building, local residents became the first responders even before emergency services arrived. Eyewitnesses said many tried to

break the building's glass panes to allow thick smoke to escape and create possible routes for those trapped inside. Many of those trapped were students who had come to learn animation during their summer vacation. Eyewitnesses said several people tried to help after seeing students stranded inside the building. Outside the building,

scenes of anguish unfolded as parents and relatives rushed to the spot after receiving distress calls from those trapped. Mujhe apne bete ke pass jaane do, mother pleads. Some women were seen pleading with police personnel to let them enter the building. Mujhe jaane do apne bete ke paas" (Let me go to my son), one distraught woman cried repeatedly, pleading with officials as rescue

operations continued. Among those who joined the rescue was Lance Naik Chhabhi Ram, posted in Agra and currently attached with the Lucknow headquarters, who happened to be passing by when he noticed the blaze. One of the most harrowing moments was captured in visuals showing a student jumping from an upper floor to escape the flames. People quickly spread a mattress-like

object to cushion the fall, following which locals immediately moved the student away from the area and arranged medical assistance. Speaking to PTI, Ram said his professional experience led officials to involve him in the rescue work. He said he helped in the relief operation and saw more than a dozen bodies being brought out from the building, while several people were also rescued

R. Itikyala–Chevella Road in Poor Condition, Motorists Demand CC Road

Motorists travelling on the R. Itikyala–Chevella road in Regode Mandal of Medak district are facing severe hardship due to the accumulation of loose gravel near a culvert, turning the stretch into a hazardous route. Locals said the gravel was laid long ago as part of the proposed Cement Concrete (CC) road construction, but the work remains incomplete. As a result, heaps of loose stones continue to occupy the roadway, making travel difficult and increasing the risk of accidents, particu-



larly for two-wheeler riders. Commuters allege that the unfinished road has become a serious safety concern, with frequent skidding reported on the gravel surface. Motorists are forced to navi-

gate the stretch with extreme caution, while villagers fear that continued delay could lead to major accidents. The road serves as an important link for farmers, students, workers, and daily com-

muters travelling between nearby villages and towns. Residents expressed disappointment over the prolonged delay and urged authorities to expedite the pending CC road works. Locals have appealed to public representatives and officials to inspect the stretch and take immediate action, stressing the need for a permanent solution to ensure safe and smooth transportation. Speaking on the issue, villagers questioned whether the stretch should be called a road or a gravel field,

CC Road Works Begin in Mator Village

Wakeup Telangana | Yadadri Bhuvanagiri

Mandal: Development activities have gained momentum in Mator Village of Motakondur Mandal, with Cement Concrete (CC) road construction works being taken up in the 9th and 10th wards of the village. According to local residents, the CC road is being laid from Bairapaka Ramulu's house to Kola Chandramouli's house and from Bairapaka Yadaiah's house to Chiluguri Ram Reddy's house. Preliminary ground preparation and leveling works have already commenced,



paving the way for the construction of the much-awaited road. Villagers have welcomed the initiative, stating that the road will significantly improve transportation facilities and

ease the daily commute of residents. The development work is expected to benefit hundreds of people living in the locality. With the Local Body Elections, including MPTC and ZPTC elections, expected in the near future, political activity has intensified across villages. Local leaders are actively engaging with the public and addressing long-pending civic issues. Residents observed that several leaders are extending support for developmental works and fulfilling promises made to the people. Many villagers opined that it is commendable when public represen-

tatives and aspiring leaders contribute resources for community welfare and infrastructure development. They noted that irrespective of political considerations, any initiative that improves public amenities deserves appreciation. Expressing happiness over the ongoing works, residents said that Mator Village is witnessing visible development and hoped that more infrastructure projects would be undertaken in the coming days. "Whatever the political motive may be, development reaching the people is what truly matters.

Revenue officials demolish illegal pre-school in Musi catchment area

Hyderabad Wakeup telangana

Amid heavy police presence, Gandipet mandal revenue authorities on Monday razed a pre-school that was allegedly constructed illegally in the Musi River catchment area in Narsingi. City & Local Guides N Srinivasa Reddy,

MRO, Gandipet, said, "The management of the private school built a pre-school in the catchment area of the Musi River, which is a violation. We had served notices to the management, but they ignored them." He said the government was keen on the Musi Riverfront Development Project and

that specific orders had been received from higher authorities to remove illegal structures built in the buffer zone of the Musi River. "The pre-school was built in violation of the buffer zone norm," he said. Reddy said the authorities had given ample time to vacate the school premises, but the

management ignored their requests and continued its activities. "The pre-school was built in the catchment area and there is a serious threat of flooding, thereby endangering the lives of children. Sensing danger to their lives, we demolished the structure by deploying four JCBs. It took almost

four hours to demolish the illegal structure," he added. Revenue authorities in Gandipet demolished a pre-school allegedly built illegally in the Musi River catchment area in Narsingi. Officials said repeated notices were ignored and cited flood risks, buffer zone violations and the Musi

Riverfront Development Project as reasons for the action. N Srinivasa Reddy, MRO, Gandipet, said, "The management of the private school built a pre-school in the catchment area of the Musi River, which is a violation. We had served notices to the management, but they ignored them



The deal with Iran may be imperfect but it is what the American

When it comes to the war with Iran and the subsequent peace deal, there are four distinct reactions in the United States. There are those who supported the war and now support the peace. There are those who supported the war and are not satisfied with the peace. There are those who were against the war and are now against the peace. And there are those who were against the war and are now for the peace. This last group is the largest and most important because it represents the vast bulk of the American people who have consistently voiced their displeasure with another Middle East war but are applauding any peace deal that will offer them relief at the gas pump and at the grocery store. The smallest group is the first, which is largely contained to the White House communications team and President Donald Trump.

The third group is made up of congressional Democrats who are united only in their opposition to whatever the president does. The second group, of course, is congressional Republicans who cheered loudly when the bombs started drop-

ping but have jeered quietly while examining the details of the memorandum of understanding and seeing nothing that gives them hope that this will lead to a better place than President Barack Obama's nuclear deal with the Iranian regime in 2015. This only becomes problematic for Trump and his administration if he decides that Congress does have a role in approving whatever more permanent agreement emerges after a couple of months more of negotiations. It is hard to say with a straight face that what the president achieved here was that much better than what Obama achieved in the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). But we did learn several things during this exercise, which might be useful for the future. First, we learned that taking out the Iranian regime and replacing it with something more friendly to both Israel and the US is impossible to do without boots on the ground. It became pretty clear early on that the American people had no interest in any attacks involving ground troops, even on Kharg Island. Second, we learned that when push comes to

shove, the Americans and the Israelis have the will and ability to take out the Iranian leadership and are not bound by laws that typically frown upon the assassinations of foreign leaders.

Third, we learned that the Iranians have plenty of assets at their disposal that can make life uncomfortable for the global economy and for their neighbours in the Middle East. Attacking them comes at a cost. Fourth, we learned that Israel can't be trusted when it comes to its promises for a short and sweet war. There is no such thing as a short and sweet war, not in the Middle East. Things are always more complicated than they seem. Fifth, we learned that our allies won't support us when we attack another country. In wars of choice, NATO is not "gonna play". Sixth, we learned that the Iranians are impossible to negotiate with, and so it is important to understand that no agreement is really completely settled with them. The president has retained the right to bomb Iran if it doesn't keep up its end of the bargain, and I think he has to make clear that he is not bluffing on this point

Seventh, we learned that Trump knows when to fold a bad hand and he is more than willing to ditch his friends in Israel to achieve his objectives.

Eighth, we learned that there can be no revolution in the streets of Tehran if the US and Israel are jointly bombing those streets. We strengthened the regime when we started a war with it. The best way to compel change is by tightening the economic screws, not by killing Iran's leadership.

Which leads me to the ninth thing we learned. Leave yourself somebody to negotiate with if you are going to try to decapitate the regime. One of the unexpected challenges of this negotiation was finding a partner willing and able to speak for the Iranian people. Finally, we learned that the only group that truly has the interests of the American people in mind are the American people. They have been consistent during this whole operation and have been more than happy to make their views known. They didn't want this war in the first place, and now they want it finished, once and for all. They want gas

EDITORIAL

IS THE FRENCH JUDICIARY AGAINST PALESTINE?

On May 27, the Court of Appeal of Aix-en-Provence sentenced me to pay a fine of €17,000 (\$19,500), which includes compensation to Zionist associations that were civil parties to the case. It was a clear example of the troubling evolution in the French judiciary's treatment of the Palestinian cause. Today, another case deserves greater attention because of what it signifies and reveals, because it is difficult to distort, and above all because it sheds light on a profound transformation in the French judicial system's approach to Palestine. In March 2024, the Criminal Chamber of the Court of Cassation, the highest court in the French judicial system, upheld the conviction of Mohamed Makni, a businessman, father, and deputy mayor of Echirolles. The statement attributed to him did not exceed a single sentence: "They are quick to qualify as terrorism what in our eyes is a clear act of resistance." This statement did not come from a Palestinian military commander or a Hamas official. Rather, it was a quote from Ahmed Ounaies, Tunisia's former foreign minister and former ambassador under the regime of President Zine El Abidine Ben

Ali to Russia and India, a figure far removed from any revolutionary discourse. Because he cited this political analysis, Makni was sentenced to four months in prison, suspended and barred from holding any public office for four months – a ruling upheld by both the Court of Appeal and in March this year, by the Court of Cassation, in a decision that can by no means be considered ordinary. For the first time since October 7, 2023, France's highest court intervened directly in the political and legal battle surrounding the classification of Palestinian resistance. At the heart of the issue, for more than a century, has been a fundamental question: do people living under prolonged military occupation have the right to resist? While international law answers in the affirmative, and much of the Arab, African, Asian and Latin American world shares that view, official France now appears to answer differently. Makni's conviction does not punish incitement to kill or commit attacks; rather, it punishes the mere linking of occupation and resistance. In other words, it criminalises a political framework shared by people far bey-

ond Hamas supporters. The Court of Cassation has provided a troubling answer, one that leads us to believe that French courts are not only operating under the influence of the government, but that the government itself is operating under foreign influence. This development did not emerge on its own. Following the events of October 7, 2023, the French government chose to use the charge of glorifying terrorism as a primary tool for controlling public debate on Palestine. The function of this charge gradually changed after having originally been established to combat Islamic State (ISIL) propaganda and jihadist recruitment, becoming instead a means of policing discourse that refuses to separate the events of October 7 from their historical context. It is there that the core of the disagreement lies. The dominant narrative among Western elites insists on treating October 7 as an isolated event, detached from any preceding history. The majority of the world, however, sees it as part of a historical process marked by occupation, colonialism, forced displacement and the ongoing denial of Palestinian national rights. It

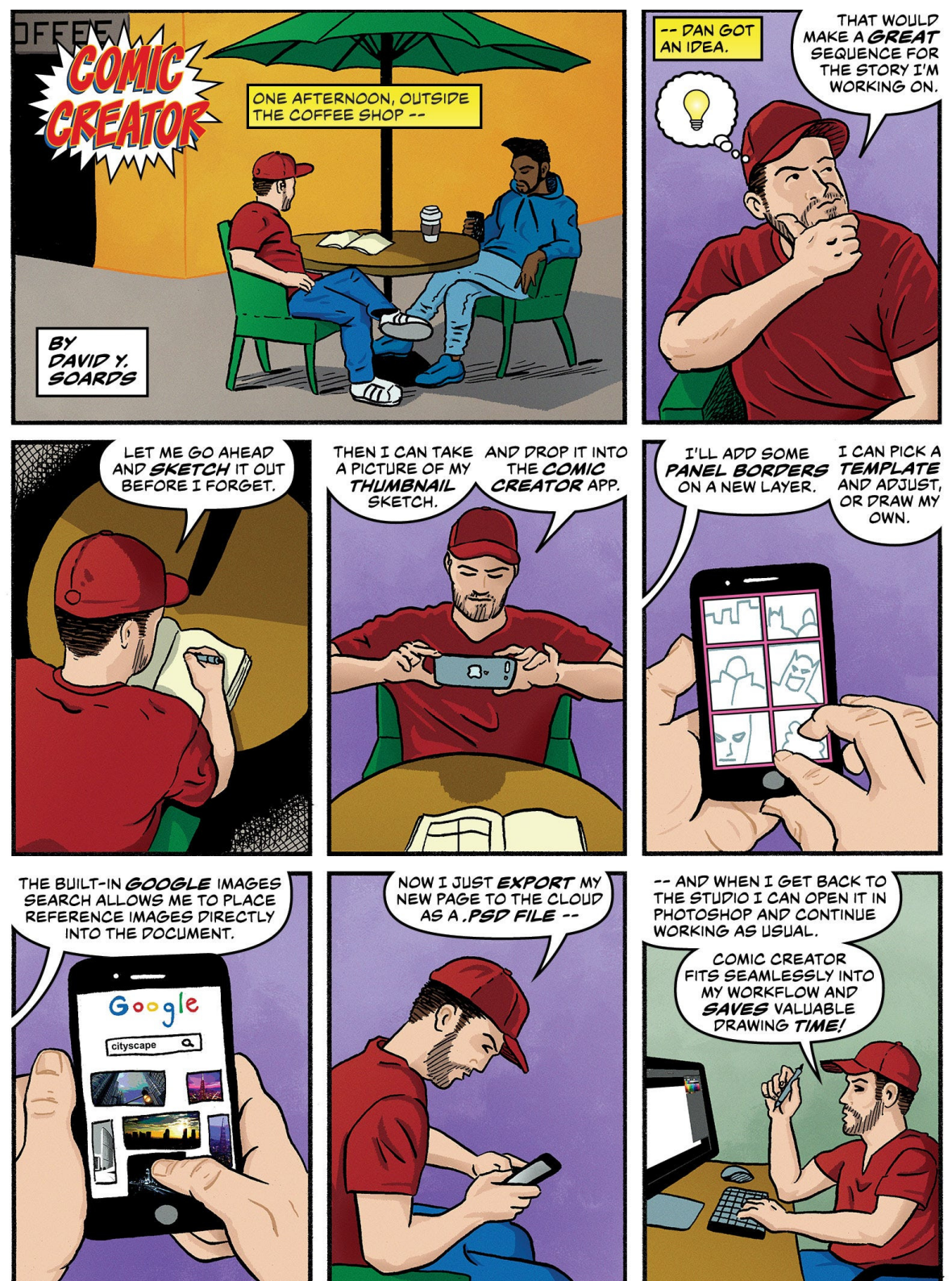
US representative to visit India for trade deal talks



Washington: Wakeup telangana

US Trade Representative Jamieson Greer is visiting India to take forward the discussions on the interim trade deal agreed to by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Donald Trump in February. This week, Ambassador Jamieson Greer will travel to New Delhi, India, to meet with the Minister of Commerce and Industry of India, Piyush Goyal, and other senior Indian officials to discuss the historic US-India joint statement and the interim agreement as part of the broader US-India Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA) negotiations," the office of the US Trade Representative said in a statement on Sunday, June 21. Trump

and Modi met on the sidelines of the G-7 meeting in France last week where the US president said that India and the US were very close to finalising the trade agreement. Trump also called Modi a tough negotiator and highlighted the personal rapport he enjoyed with the Indian prime minister. The meeting between Greer and Goyal comes close on the heels of negotiator-level discussions on the pact held from June 2-4 in New Delhi. Earlier, Commerce Secretary Rajesh Agrawal had said that the discussions between the two ministers are expected to be centred around giving final touches to the framework deal. On June 5, Goyal said India and the US are moving towards closing all the open ends of the interim trade agreement, and both sides are likely to execute the "very, very vibrant" first phase of the BTA by the middle of next month. Following the trip to India, Greer will travel to Uzbekistan, where he will meet President Shavkat Mirziyoyev, the Head of the Presidential Administration Saida Mirziyoyeva, and Deputy Prime Minister Jamshid Khodjaev. Greer's discussions in Uzbekistan will focus on achieving fair, balanced, and reciprocal trade with the US. The meeting between Greer and Goyal comes close on the heels of negotiator-level discussions on the pact held from June 2-4 in New Delhi.

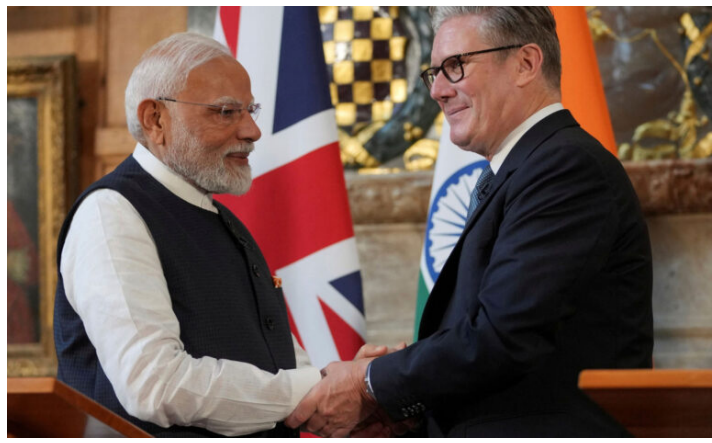


Keir Starmer: The UK PM Who Finally Delivered the Long-Awaited India-UK Free Trade Agreement

LONDON

Keir Starmer, the human rights barrister elected as Britain's Prime Minister with a landslide victory in July 2024, had pledged to get the much-anticipated Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with India over the line. Just days before announcing his resignation at the steps of 10 Downing Street in London on Monday morning, he met Prime Minister Narendra Modi on the sidelines of the G7 Summit in France, where both leaders set July 15 as the date for the FTA to come into force. Now, around the same time as the implementation of the India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) – expected to significantly boost the 48 billion pounds bilateral trading relationship – the

UK is expected to have a new leader in his place. "It's not just a piece of paper, it's a launchpad for growth. With India set to be the third biggest economy in the world by 2028, and trade with them about to become quicker and cheaper, the opportunities waiting to be seized are unparalleled," Starmer said, during his visit to Mumbai last October. The 63-year-old MP for Holborn and St Pancras in London was credited with achieving an impressive reversal of fortunes for Labour after the party's crushing election defeat in December 2019. Work on rebuilding connection with British Indians. The other turnaround he worked hard on rebuilding was his party's connection with British Indians, alienated under former leader



Jeremy Corbyn over a perceived anti-India stance on Kashmir. As Prime Minister, his approach towards India was reflected in Labour's 2024 election manifesto, which committed to seeking a "new strategic partnership with India, including a free trade agreement, as well as deepening cooperation in areas like security, education, technol-

ogy and climate change". I have a clear message for you all today: this is a changed Labour Party," he declared just before the general election. During a visit to the Shree Swaminarayan Temple in Kingsbury, north London, on the campaign trail, he sought to reassure British Hindus that there is "absolutely no place for Hindu-

phobia in Britain". It is a message he has been reiterating over the past few years, including during celebrations of Diwali at 10 Downing Street. Sir Keir, who was knighted by the late Queen Elizabeth II for his services to law and criminal justice, spent much of his career in the legal profession before stepping into the world of politics, first elected as Labour's member of Parliament from London in 2015. Starmer's family. He is the father of two teenage kids kept out of the political spotlight by him and his National Health Service (NHS) employee wife, Victoria. Born in London to a toolmaker father and an NHS nurse mother, Starmer grew up in the town of Oxted in Surrey. He has spoken emotionally about his mother, Josephine, suf-

fering from the debilitating condition of Still's disease, which she succumbed to a few weeks before he first became an MP in 2015. He believes he has inherited the grit and determination of his mother and the strong work ethic of his father. Rodney, whose manual labour drives much of Starmer's vision to ensure respect for those who work hard. In the televised general election debates, Starmer often played second fiddle to the natural debating charm of Rishi Sunak, his Tory predecessor, and was often branded as being quite dull. But just like Sunak, he also has a University of Oxford background, where he studied law and rose the ranks to be appointed the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) under a Labour-led govern-

ment. He drew upon this experience as the chief prosecutor of the country in debates in the House of Commons and go head-to-head with sharp quips during weekly Prime Minister's Questions (PMQs). ExperienceAs a new MP in 2016, the staunch anti-Brexit-iteer assumed the key role of shadow Brexit secretary under then leader Jeremy Corbyn and supported the latter to fight for what he says was the "future of the Labour Party". Following the debacle of the 2019 general election, he stepped up as party leader and has sought to distance himself from the past party line to stress that Labour under his leadership now has a fully costed manifesto that focusses on the key public concerns of house-

Air India to launch direct Guwahati-Dubai and Abu Dhabi flights from August 4

Guwahati:

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Monday announced that Air India will commence direct flights from Guwahati to Dubai and Abu Dhabi from August 4, describing the move as a major step towards strengthening Assam's international connectivity and positioning Guwahati as a key travel and transit hub in the region. In a post on X, Chief Minister Sarma said the launch of the two international routes comes just days after European Union member states lifted their travel advisory for Assam, opening new avenues for the state's engagement with the global community. Opening new avenues to connect Assam to the global community. Just days after EU member states lifted their travel advisory for Assam, I am happy to share that from August 4, Air India will commence direct flights from Guwahati to Dubai and Abu Dhabi," the Chief Minister wrote. According to Sarma, the introduction of the non-stop services will significantly enhance international access to Assam and the Northeast. With the addition of the two routes, Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi



International Airport in Guwahati will be directly connected to four countries – the United Arab Emirates, Thailand, Singapore and Bhutan. The Chief Minister said the state government is continuing its efforts to further expand Guwahati's international air network. He revealed that his next objective is to facilitate direct flight services between Guwahati and Vietnam, adding that updates on the proposal would be shared in due course. The announcement marks another milestone in Assam's strategy to improve global connectivity, boost tourism, attract investment and facilitate easier travel for businesspersons, students and the large Assamese and North-eastern diaspora residing abroad. Over the past few years, the state government has prioritised the expansion of international air links as part of its broader vision of

transforming Guwahati into the gateway to Southeast Asia. Improved connectivity is also expected to support trade, cultural exchanges and economic cooperation with countries in the region. Sarma described the upcoming flights as a "big fillip" to the government's efforts to establish Guwahati as a major aviation hub connecting Northeast India with Southeast Asia and the wider global economy. Officials in the aviation and tourism sectors welcomed the move, saying the new routes would reduce travel time and eliminate the need for passengers from Assam and neighbouring Northeastern states to transit through major metros such as Delhi, Kolkata or Mumbai for international travel. The direct connectivity is expected to benefit thousands of travellers who frequently visit the Gulf region for employment, business and educational purposes.

The Gulf countries host a significant population of workers and professionals from Assam and the Northeast. The new services are likely to provide greater convenience for expatriates travelling home while also creating opportunities for increased people-to-people exchanges between the regions. Industry experts believe that enhanced air connectivity will strengthen Assam's position as an emerging investment destination. Improved access to international markets is expected to encourage foreign investors to explore opportunities in sectors such as tourism, hospitality, agriculture, information technology and manufacturing. The development also aligns with India's Act East Policy, which seeks to strengthen economic and strategic ties with Southeast Asian nations. Guwahati's growing aviation network is increasingly being viewed as a key pillar in con-

Kunal Shah steps down as CRED CEO to lead WhatsApp



New Delhi: Wakeup Telangana

Fintech platform CRED on Monday, June 22, said it will raise Rs 8,550 crore in a funding round led by Meta, a mega deal that will see its founder, Kunal Shah, step down as Chief Executive Officer and lead the global tech giant's messaging platform WhatsApp. Shah will transition to the global leadership team at Meta but will retain his personal shareholding in CRED, the Bengaluru-headquartered company said in a statement. Taking to social media platform X, Shah said, "Team CRED, I'll still expect you to be a 10x version of yourselves. As for me, I'll be joining Meta to lead WhatsApp globally. While it's come very far, the WhatsApp to day and its full potential is massive." Kunal Shah will join Meta as WhatsApp's next leader. Kunal built CRED into one of India's most important technology companies, and he brings the kind of builder mentality and global perspective that will serve him well in running the world's biggest messaging app. I look forward to working with Kunal to continue to make WhatsApp the best service for billions of people and millions of businesses," Meta CEO Mark Zuckerberg wrote on Facebook. Following the leadership change, Miten Sampat, who has headed strategy and finance for the company since 2020, has been appointed as the interim CEO with immediate effect.

"CRED will raise Rs 8,550 crore (~USD 900 million) in its Series H round led by Meta, as part of its acceleration plans, structured through a combination of primary and secondary share purchases. CRED will raise this round at a post-money valuation of Rs 43,239 crore (USD 4.5 billion) and a pre-money valuation of Rs 38,819 crore (USD 4.03 billion). Under the terms of the investment, Meta will join the CRED cap table as a minority investor and will not receive access to CRED customer information," the company said. The fresh capital will be utilised to accelerate growth, build institutional muscle, and extend CRED's leadership across categories. "I started CRED in 2018 with a belief that creditworthiness deserves to be rewarded. In under eight years, that belief has turned into a new category: millions of members, (about) Rs 3,200 crore in revenue, profitability, a full stack of licences and a strong brand. On this foundation, with additional capital and an extraordinarily talented team, CRED is poised to become an enduring institution for decades to come. I'm stepping back with gratitude and with conviction that the team will keep raising the bar," Shah said. CRED currently claims to process over 40 per cent of credit card bill payments in India, with 1.7 crore members engaging with the platform monthly. Its lending business has grown to Rs 24,000 crore in assets under management.

Petrol, Diesel Margins Back Conflict Levels: Report



DELHI Wakeup telangana Profitability at state-run

oil marketing companies (OMCs) is set to improve as falling crude oil prices lift fuel marketing margins, although rising debt

levels and uncertainty over fuel taxes could limit the sector's longer-term earnings outlook, according to a JP Morgan report. Composite margins on petrol and diesel sales at state-run refiners and fuel retailers are now above levels seen before the recent Middle East conflict, with gains driven by lower crude prices and reduced central excise duties, it said. The start of the West Asia conflict triggered a

surge in global oil prices but retail pump rates in India remained steady for large parts and rising only by a fraction of the required increase. Even after the Rs 7.50 per litre increase in petrol and diesel prices in May, retail pump rates were lower than the cost. "Our estimates for OMC composite margins on petrol and diesel are now higher than pre-war levels. Losses on LPG are still elevated, but should

also start to track oil down soon," JP Morgan said adding earnings in April-June - the first quarter of current fiscal year - will likely be hurt by large inventory losses, but 2Q profitability should be better. Two issues limit our excitement around this improvement in margins: the OMC will have acquired material debt during the last few months - affecting valuations, and a major part of the restoration of

Mumbai Dreamers Stay Unbeaten Bengaluru Bravehearts Register Comfortable Win



Vasu Sports Reporter
Wake Up Telangana*

Mumbai Dreamers extended their unbeaten streak in the HSBC Rugby Premier League Season 2 with a thrilling 12-10 victory over hosts Hyderabad Heroes at the Gachibowli Stadium. Lucas Mignot scored a late try in extra time to seal the win after Diego Ardao had twice given Hyderabad the lead. In the other men's match, Bengaluru Bravehearts defeated Chennai Bulls 33-12. Ryan Apps starred with two tries, while Ganesh Majhi and Devendra Padir also crossed over as Bengaluru dominated the contest. Later, the women's fixtures featured Chennai Bulls vs Mumbai Dreamers and Kolkata Banga Tigers vs Delhi Redz, while Delhi Redz faced Kolkata Banga Tigers in the final men's match of the day

Hyderabad Heroes Crush Bengaluru Bravehearts in HSBC Rugby Premier



VasuSports Reporter
Wake Up Telangana
Hyderabad

Hyderabad Heroes registered a commanding 45-7 victory over Bengaluru Bravehearts on Day 7 of the HSBC Rugby Premier League powered by Avid Season 2 at the Gachibowli GMC Balayogi Athletic Stadium on Monday. Despite Bengaluru enjoying early possession, Hyderabad's strong defense held firm. Maurice Longbottom opened the scoring before Taitafono Tavita dominated the contest with a brilliant performance, scoring a try and setting up another for Ravuama Seruvakula. Sumit Kumar Roy and Diego Ardao also crossed the line as Hyderabad built a comfortable lead. Tavita added another try in the final quarter, while Akuila Rokolisoa scored Bengaluru's only points of the match. Longbottom capped off the victory with a late drop goal as Hyderabad sealed an emphatic win.

Viral claim about Salman Khan's health leaves fans worried

Mumbai: Bollywood superstar Salman Khan has often spoken openly about the serious health challenges he has faced over the years. The actor has previously revealed that he suffers from multiple neurological conditions, including trigeminal neuralgia, a brain aneurysm and arteriovenous malformation (AVM). Despite these health issues, Salman has continued to work on films, perform action sequences and fulfill his professional commitments. Now, a viral post on X has sparked fresh discussion about the actor's health. However, it is important to note that the claims remain unverified and neither Salman Khan nor his team has issued any official statement on the matter. What The Viral Post Claims The post, which has been widely shared on social media, claimed



that Salman Khan's family has been urging him to travel to the United States for treatment, but that the actor is allegedly determined to complete director Vamshi Paidipally's upcoming film before taking any. The user shared a video from Salman's recent public appearance and wrote: HEALTH CONCERN I had posted a

few days ago that Salman Bhai was having some health issues, but no one believed it. Yesterday bhai went to Supriya Sule's daughter's wedding and here you can clearly see that Salman Khan's weight has increased again, his belly has come out. The post further claimed, "Bhai's family is repeatedly forcing him to go to

USA for treatment but Bhai wants to complete the Vamsi movie at any cost so that no one can point fingers at him later for movie delay like Murugadoss. The steroids used in the treatment of trigeminal are causing disproportionate weight gain and loss. I want all Salman fans to come together and request Bhai to complete his treat-

ment first. break. As of now, there is no official confirmation regarding these claims. While many social media users dismissed the post as speculation, several Salman Khan fans expressed concern and urged the actor to prioritize his health. Many supporters wrote that films and professional commitments can wait, while the actor's well-being should come first. Salman Khan's Upcoming Projects On the work front, Salman Khan has a busy schedule ahead. The actor is set to star in an upcoming action entertainer directed by Vamshi Paidipally, with Nayanthara playing the female lead. He also has the war drama Maatrubhumi (previously titled Battle of Galwan) lined up for release. In addition, Salman is expected to return to television as the host of



Wimbledon is ready to make the English summers memorable and star-studded once again with its beautiful grass courts and the famous delicacy, strawberries and cream! The tournament is set to start on July 29th and will be followed by an action-packed 2-week show until July 12th in Southwest London, England. This year, the tournament starts with a lot of controversies from the payout disputes to the absence of the world number 2 and injury updates to unpack. For the first time in its 149-year history, the tournament has introduced video review technology. This season is also a comeback season not only for the William sisters but also for the rising British star Emma Raducanu with her runner-up show in Queens. The payout disputes have already been settled by the All England Lawn Tennis Club which announced a record prize money fund of 62 million dollars, 20% increase. Ladies and



Ahmedabad: The 79th Senior National Aquatic Championships concluded in Ahmedabad with Karnataka dominating the proceedings, completing a double by winning both the men's and women's team titles and finishing as the overall swimming champion with 334 points. Among individual performers, Gujarat's Aryan Nehra was named Best Swimmer in the men's category after winning three gold medals and a bronze, while also registering two National Meet Records and an Indian Best Performance. Saanvi Deshwal of Maharashtra, on the other hand, earned the Best Swimmer award in the women's category with three gold medals and a silver, alongside a Na-

Former India handball player and SAI coach G Chenna Reddy passes away at 79

HYDERABAD: G CHENNA REDDY, A WELL-KNOWN HANDBALL COACH WITH THE SPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA AND MENTOR TO GENERATIONS OF ATHLETES, PASSED AWAY HERE ON MONDAY. HE WAS 79, AND IS SURVIVED BY HIS SON AND TWO DAUGHTERS. CHENNA REDDY WAS ALSO A PROUD MEMBER OF THE INDIAN HANDBALL TEAM THAT TOOK PART IN THE 1982 ASIAN GAMES. HE SERVED AS A SENIOR HANDBALL COACH WITH THE SAI AND WAS ASSOCIATED WITH THE INDIAN TEAMS OVER THE YEARS IN DIFFERENT CAPACITIES. HE WAS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE INDIAN HANDBALL

TEAM THAT PARTICIPATED IN THE 1982 ASIAN GAMES HELD IN NEW DELHI. HIS ACHIEVEMENTS AS A PLAYER BROUGHT GREAT PRIDE TO THE NATION AND INSPIRED COUNTLESS YOUNG ATHLETES. THE SPORTING FRATERNITY, ESPECIALLY THE HANDBALL FRATERNITY, MOURNED HIS DEMISE AND EXPRESSED CONDOLENCES TO THE BE-REAVED FAMILY MEMBERS. HE LATER DEDICATED HIS LIFE TO COACHING AND NURTURING YOUNG TALENT ACROSS THE COUNTRY, TAKING HANDBALL BEYOND MAJOR CITIES AND INTO EMERGING SPORTING REGIONS. UNDER HIS



GUIDANCE, SEVERAL STATE-LEVEL PLAYERS WENT ON TO REPRESENT NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS, REFLECTING HIS DEEP COMMITMENT TO GRASSROOTS DEVELOPMENT OF THE SPORT. COLLEAGUES REMEMBER HIM AS A DISCIPLINED MENTOR WHO COMBINED TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE WITH A STRONG EMPHASIS ON FITNESS, TEAMWORK AND SPORTSMANSHIP. HE WAS KNOWN FOR SPENDING EXTRA HOURS WITH ASPIRING ATHLETES, OFTEN PERSONALLY SUPERVISING TRAINING SESSIONS AND MOTIVATING THEM TO PUSH BEYOND THEIR LIMITS. IN RECOGNITION OF HIS CONTRIBUTION TO INDIAN

HANDBALL, HE WAS WIDELY RESPECTED BY COACHES, OFFICIALS AND FORMER PLAYERS ALIKE. HIS PASSING MARKS A SIGNIFICANT LOSS TO THE SPORTING COMMUNITY, PARTICULARLY AT A TIME WHEN HANDBALL CONTINUES TO GROW AND SEEK GREATER VISIBILITY IN THE NATIONAL SPORTS ECOSYSTEM. VARIOUS SPORTS ASSOCIATIONS AND FORMER TEAMMATES HAVE PAID TRIBUTE TO HIS LEGACY, HIGHLIGHTING HIS ROLE IN SHAPING THE EARLY YEARS OF STRUCTURED HANDBALL COACHING IN INDIA. MANY HAVE STATED THAT HIS INFLUENCE WILL CONTINUE TO BE FELT THROUGH THE PLAYERS AND COACHES HE

Samsung Unveils Smart Air Care and WindFree Cooling for Premium Homes



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Samsung has announced the deployment of its

next-generation residential climate solutions in India.

combining WindFree™ cooling technology, PM1.0 air purification, SmartThings connectivity and AI-enabled VRF systems to enhance comfort, air quality and energy efficiency in premium residential living. The initiative marks a significant milestone in luxury housing infrastructure, powered by a 4.864 HP AI-enabled VRF system designed to deliver smarter, healthier and more connected indoor environments tailored to Indian urban conditions. According to Samsung, the integrated ecosystem is engineered to address rising temperatures,

deteriorating air quality and increasing demand for smart home connectivity in major cities. "At Samsung, our innovation philosophy begins with understanding real consumer needs and everyday living challenges. Today's homeowners expect healthier air, connected experiences and intelligent energy management," said Vipin Agrawal, Head of SAC Business, Samsung India. "Our WindFree™ climate solutions combine these capabilities into a single integrated ecosystem." The company highlighted its collaboration with Central Park Flower Val-

ley's The Orchard in Gurugram, where its advanced residential climate technologies have been deployed at scale. Samsung's WindFree™ technology disperses cool air through thousands of micro air holes, creating a "Still Air" environment that avoids direct cold drafts while maintaining consistent cooling comfort. The system is designed to address discomfort commonly associated with prolonged air conditioner use. To improve indoor air quality, the solution integrates an optional PM1.0 purification system capable of filtering ultrafine dust particles as small

as 0.3 microns and eliminating up to 99% of bacteria trapped in filters using electrostatic technology verified by Intertek. The SmartThings-enabled ecosystem allows users to remotely control air conditioning systems, monitor energy consumption and automate cooling through mobile apps and voice assistants, enabling a fully connected home experience. On the efficiency front, Samsung's DVM S2 VRF system uses AI-based optimization to dynamically adjust refrigerant pressure and operational performance based on environmental conditions and

usage patterns. The company claims this can improve energy efficiency by up to 15% while enhancing cooling performance. The deployment at Central Park Flower Valley's The Orchard includes 284 luxury residences and represents one of the largest residential installations of Samsung's integrated WindFree™, PM1.0 and AI-enabled VRF solutions in India. Samsung said the project serves as a blueprint for future-ready housing developments that combine wellness, intelligent climate control and energy-efficient infrastructure to redefine

Telangana Returns Waqf Record Room



Hyderabad,
Wake Up Telangana

The Telangana Revenue Department has handed back control of the Waqf Board's record room to the board after nine years, ending an arrangement put in place by the then chief minister K Chandrasekhara Reddy (KCR) in November 2017. Hyderabad Collector Dr Priyanka Ala communicated the development to Waqf Board CEO Mohammed Asadulla in a letter, stating that the handover was being made to facilitate the transfer of old records to Andhra Pradesh and to enable the uploading of Waqf property details onto the central government's UMEED portal. KCR had ordered the Revenue Department to seal the record room in 2017, citing the need to prevent tampering of land records. The Hyderabad Collector was subsequently appointed custodian, and a Tehsildar was posted at Haj House in Nampally to manage the retrieval of files. Why it matters The record room holds historical, legal and administrative documents spanning decades — including the Nizam period — written in Urdu, Persian, Arabic and English. The doc-

uments pertain to thousands of Islamic endowment properties, including mosques, dargahs and graveyards across the state. In her letter, Ala noted that old records of the Andhra Pradesh State Waqf Board had remained with the Telangana board despite repeated requests from the AP government, the Central Waqf Council and the Government of India for their transfer. The CEO had sought release of the record room to resolve this and to complete the UMEED portal uploads, she said. The handover comes days after several Muslim organisations, at a meeting convened by Tehreek Muslim Shabban on June 15, demanded the record room be reopened. The groups had flagged difficulties in accessing legal documents, settling ownership disputes and addressing encroachments on Waqf properties. 35,000 properties on portal Waqf Board CEO Asadulla told Siasat.com that details of around 35,000 Waqf properties in the state have already been uploaded to the UMEED portal. Of these, 2,800 pre-date the Central Waqf Act of 1954 and were under the Nizam government's Department of

SIR in Telangana:

No System to Detect Duplicate Voters Across States

Hyderabad |
Wake Up Telangana
|Zaffer Abedi

As the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) is set to commence in Telangana from Thursday, election officials have acknowledged that there is currently no established mechanism to identify or filter individuals who are registered as voters in two different States. The issue has raised concerns ahead of the large-scale voter verification exercise across the State. State-level Training Nodal Officer B. Chennaiah stated that possessing dual voter registrations is a punishable offence under the Representation of the People Act, 1950. He clarified that individuals found to be enrolled in more than one electoral roll are liable for legal action. He made these remarks during a detailed presentation on the SIR process held at the Telangana Press Academy on Monday, organised by the office of the Chief Electoral Officer (CEO), Telangana. According to officials, the preliminary examination of the State's electoral database has revealed discrepancies affecting approximately 89.88 lakh voters. These inconsistencies include errors in personal details, outdated entries, and mismatches in voter information. Authorities have stated that these issues are being systematically addressed to ensure accuracy and transparency in the electoral roll.

Chennaiah assured that there is no reason for panic among voters, emphasising that corrective measures are being undertaken in a structured manner. He explained that voters whose records show discrepancies will be issued official notices and will be required to submit valid supporting documents for verification and correction of their details in the electoral roll. He further highlighted that the Election Commission of India is giving special priority to ensuring voting rights for destitute and homeless individuals. Such persons are encouraged to approach their respective Booth Level Officers (BLOs) to obtain Enumeration Forms, which will enable them to register as voters under the ongoing revision process. Addressing public concerns, Chennaiah clarified that fears regarding the deletion of names due to lack of "vote mapping" are unfounded. He stated that every eligible individual will be provided an Enumeration Form to ensure proper verification and inclusion, rather than exclusion. The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) exercise has been initiated with the objective of removing ineligible voters, eliminating names of deceased individuals, and correcting duplicate or outdated entries, while simultaneously adding all eligible citizens to the electoral roll. As per the official schedule, the door-to-door distribution of



Enumeration Forms will take place from June 25 to July 24. Following this, the draft electoral rolls will be published on July 31, allowing citizens to review their details. The final electoral roll will be released on October 1, 2026, after completion of the claims and objections process. Officials explained that Booth Level Officers will distribute pre-printed Enumeration Forms in duplicate format. After filling in the required details, electors will retain one copy of the form as acknowledgement, while the second copy will be collected by the BLO after verification. In addition to the physical process, electors will also have the option to fill and submit Enumeration Forms online through the official Election Commission of India (ECI) portal. The election authorities have also issued a set of frequently asked questions (FAQs) to guide voters through the process. If an elector does not receive an Enumeration Form due to absence, the form will be



handed over to any adult member of the family. Voters may also contact BLOs directly using contact details available on the Chief Electoral Officer's website or through the "Book a Call with BLO" feature on the ECI website and ECINET application. Officials clarified that electoral data from SIR 2002 can be accessed through the CEO Telangana website or ECI portal using the "Search by Elector Details" option. Additionally, part-wise electoral rolls in PDF format are available online, and printed copies are maintained with BLOs for reference and assistance. In cases where an elec-

tor's name is not found in the SIR 2002 records despite participation in the 2024 parliamentary elections, officials stated that it may indicate the person was not enrolled during the earlier period. In such cases, individuals are advised to trace parental or grandparent details and provide them in the Enumeration Form for verification purposes. If an elector is unavailable at home during BLO visits, any adult family member is authorised to fill and submit the form on their behalf. Authorities also confirmed that there is no requirement to obtain a fresh Enumeration Form in case of

errors, as corrections can be made directly on the provided form before submission. Providing Aadhaar details has been made optional, and voters may choose whether or not to include it in the form. If the photograph printed on the Enumeration Form is outdated or incorrect, voters are instructed to affix a recent photograph in the designated space. BLOs will conduct at least three visits to each household to ensure maximum coverage and collection of filled forms, which must be completed before July 24, 2026. Officials also clarified provisions for new voters.