



**Congress stages protest over NEET leak, fuel price hike: P2**



**LPG Price Hiked By Rs 29 Per 14.2-Kg Cylinder: P4**

**BRS Has 25-Year Vision, Will Return to Power in 2028, Says KTR: P2**



## CJP Protests For Pradhan's Resignation

CJP protesters demanded the education minister's resignation and an end to Hindu-Muslim politics

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Thousand of protesters gathered at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi on Saturday under the banner of the Cockroach Janta Party (CJP), demanding the resignation of Union education minister Dharmendra Pradhan over alleged irregularities in examinations and recruitment tests. The protest was led by CJP founder Abhijeet Dipke, who arrived in the capital from the United States and addressed the gathering. Protesters carried placards, wore masks and raised slogans, while police maintained security at the venue.

At a press conference later, CJP spokespersons said they would wait for a week for the Centre to act on their demand, failing which a nationwide protest would be launched. "This is not just the fear of my mother, this is the fear of the parents of any youngster who speaks on politics.... How long will we live in fear? Tell them, we are not scared," Dipke said. "My friends, this is a long struggle. It has been a



CJP Protesters demanding Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan's Resignation at Jantar Mandir.

month since we started demanding Pradhan's resignation on social media, but these individuals are so shameless that instead of taking action, they have been focused on other distractions, like hacking our accounts and getting our posts deleted. You may be able to delete our posts, but you cannot erase us from this space," he said. The demonstration saw participation from activists and leaders, including Sonam Wangchuk, Dipankar Bhattacharya and Annie Raja. Wangchuk

said he was impressed with the peaceful nature of the protest and appreciated that permission had been granted for it. "I hope that even in the future, it will allow such creative expressions," he said. According to organisers, the turnout exceeded expectations, with participation largely from students and young professionals. Protesters also carried copies of the Constitution and the national flag.

At the press meet, CJP spokesperson Ashutosh Ranka said, "We are giving the government

seven days. Either Dharmendra Pradhan should resign respectfully or Prime Minister Narendra Modi should sack him. If his resignation does not come within seven days, this movement will spread throughout the country." The protest concluded around 3.30 pm after Dipke reported feeling unwell. The CJP said the movement would continue as a peaceful campaign seeking accountability in examinations including NEET, CBSE, CUET and SSC.

**Hotel Cook Arrested in Delhi Fire That Killed 21**

Three days after a fire at a budget hotel in Malviya Nagar in south Delhi claimed 21 lives, Delhi Police on Saturday arrested the hotel's cook, alleging negligence in connection with the incident. The accused, Keshav Negi, was produced before a court and remanded to two days' police custody. Police sources said preliminary findings suggest his actions may have contributed to the June 3 fire at Flourish Stays Bed and Breakfast in Hauz Rani.

The arrest comes as investigators widen their probe into alleged safety violations, unauthorised expansion and operational lapses at the hotel, which was housing several patients and attendants. Earlier, police arrested hotel owner Lavkesh Bajaj and booked him on charges including culpable homicide not amounting to murder. Investigators are examining whether negligence, fire safety violations and structural changes contributed to the high death toll.

According to the FIR registered at Malviya Nagar police station, the hotel was operating 28 rooms despite having permission for only six. Investigators said the unauthorised expansion may have compromised safety standards and evacuation routes.

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## Modi To Focus On Ease Of Living, Biz



**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday chaired a meeting of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM) to review measures to boost India's economic growth amid global turmoil, including the impact of the West Asia conflict. According to official sources, the Prime Minister and council members discussed a range of ideas and reforms aimed at strengthening economic growth. They also assessed the implications of the West Asia conflict on India and the global economy.

In a post on X, Modi said, "Chaired a meeting of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister. Deliberated on a wide range of issues relating to India's economic transformation and long-term development priorities. Also shared perspectives on adding

more momentum to the reforms journey and ensuring 'Ease of Living' as well as 'Ease of Doing Business'." He noted that discussions covered India's economic transformation and long-term development priorities, along with steps to accelerate reforms and improve ease of living and ease of doing business. EAC is an independent body that advises the Prime Minister on economic and related issues. Principal Secretaries to the Prime Minister P.K. Mishra and Shaktikanta Das attended the meeting along with council members. The council is chaired by S. Mahendra Dev, with full-time members including Sanjay Kumar Mishra, Sanjeev Sanyal and Shamika Ravi. It also has 11 part-time members. The EAC's mandate includes analysing economic issues referred by the Prime Minister, addressing macroeconomic matters and providing advice.

## Much-Awaited Southwest Monsoon Finally Sets In Over AP

Though delayed by two days, the southwest monsoon has finally set over Andhra Pradesh on Saturday, according to IMD. But it has continued its warning of severe heat waves for another two to three days over different parts of the state beginning Sunday. The onset of rains marks the beginning of the four-month southwest monsoon season (June-September), which usually reaches the state around June 4. In 2025, monsoon arrived in AP on May 26, much before its scheduled date of arrival. Overall, the 2025 SW monsoon brought normal rainfall over the state, making a positive impact on both agriculture and water resources. Weathermen said the monsoon has set in over some parts of Anantapur, Chittoor, Sri Sathya Sai and Tirupati districts of Rayalaseema region in the state. The monsoon may take seven to 10 days to spread all over Andhra Pradesh. Sig-

▶ CONTINUE ON | PAGE 4

## Woman Killed, Grandchild Injured in Lift Mishap

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

A 57-year-old woman died and her 15-month-old grandson was injured after they fell into a lift shaft from the fifth floor of Bhavana Apartments in Anandnagar Colony, Khairatabad, on Friday evening. Police said the victim, P. Radha, was holding her grandson Joel Joy when she attempted to open the lift grills without realising the lift was not at the floor.

Both fell into the shaft. Radha, who had recently moved with her daughter's family from Uppal to Anandnagar, was rushed to Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences (Nims) but was declared dead. Joel was shifted to CARE Hospital, Banjara Hills, where he is undergoing treatment.

According to the police, the lift malfunction was caused by a technical issue. Residents, however, alleged that the problem had persisted for a consid-

▶ CONTINUE ON | PAGE 4

## Hyderabad Man Shot Dead in Philadelphia

A Hyderabad-based man was shot dead while delivering a pizza in the United States in the early hours of Friday. The victim, identified as 28-year-old Anshul Kuncha, was working as a pizza delivery driver in Philadelphia when the incident took place. Anshul, a resident of Gundlachpally, was employed in North and West Philadelphia. According to Philadelphia police, the shooting occurred shortly after 12.30 am at the Raymond Rosen Homes housing complex on Edgeley Street in North Philadelphia.

## Revanth Puts Centre On Notice Over Paddy

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Saturday warned the Central government of "serious consequences" if it failed to procure the entire 75 lakh tonnes of paddy that Telangana will procure from farmers by June 15. Addressing a public meeting at Koheda in Rangareddy district after laying the foundation stone for the proposed International Integrated Fruit Market, the Chief Minister asserted that the state government would complete procure-



ment of 75 lakh tonnes of paddy produced during the recent rabi season and demanded that the Centre purchase the entire stock.

Questioning the Centre's reported stand that it would procure only 30 to 40 per cent of Telangana's paddy stocks, Revanth Reddy asked how the Centre could refuse to buy paddy, maize and jowar produced by Telangana

farmers. "I will see how the Centre will not purchase paddy, wheat and maize stocks from Telangana after June 15," he said. The Chief Minister came down heavily on Union ministers G. Kishan Reddy and Bandi Sanjay Kumar for criticising his demand for Central procurement of foodgrains. Warning the BJP leaders, Revanth Reddy said they would find it difficult to even cross Telangana's borders if the Centre failed to purchase farmers' produce. He declared that while the state was maintaining cor-

dial relations with the Centre to secure funds and approvals, it would not hesitate to fight for Telangana's rights.

Revanth Reddy said he would press the Centre to approve Hyderabad Metro Rail expansion, provide national project status to the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme and extend support for airports proposed at Warangal and Adilabad. "After June 15, once all 75 lakh tonnes of paddy are procured by the state government, I will deal with the Centre," he said.

## India's Birth Rate Has Fallen Below Replacement: Elon Musk

SpaceX CEO Elon Musk on Saturday noted that India's birth rate has fallen below replacement. "India's birth rate has fallen below replacement. Among those most educated, India's birth rate fell below replacement many years ago," the billionaire said in a post on X. Musk was quoting data by media outlet AF Post which said on the social media site that India's fertility rate has fallen below replacement for the first time in the country's history, "declining from a TFR (Total Fertility Rate) of 2.3 to 1.9 in

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## Rahul Emerges as Oppn's Main Challenger

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

With the DMK deciding to boycott the I.N.D.I.A. bloc meeting on June 8 and the Trinamul Congress facing an existential crisis, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi appears to be emerging as the main challenger to the Modi-led NDA. At present, the Congress is in power in four states — Karnataka, Telangana, Himachal Pradesh and Kerala — and is allied with the ruling JMM in Trinamul



Congress and the TVK in Tamil Nadu.

While the DMK has decided to stay away from the I.N.D.I.A. bloc meeting, other Opposition parties expected to attend include the Samajwadi Party, Rashtriya Janata Dal, Shiv Sena (UBT), Trinamul Congress and the Left parties. Mean-

while, CPM general secretary M.A. Baby has sought clarification from the Congress over claims made by some of its leaders during the Kerala Assembly election campaign that the Left party had an understanding with the BJP.

According to sources, Baby wrote to Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge, strongly criticising the Congress for its attacks on the CPM. Copies of the letter were also sent to other I.N.D.I.A. bloc partners.

Happy Birthday

**Mir Inyath ali Baqri**

Former Setwin Chairman BRS Party Incharge Badhrupura  
Chairman ILWF

From Advocate Mir Qurram Ali  
Brsv Ghmc Coordinator

## Congress stages protest over NEET leak, fuel price hike

TPCC chief Mahesh Kumar Goud leads rally in Hyderabad, demands accountability for the NEET-UG controversy and criticizes fuel and LPG price hikes.

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana Congress organised a massive protest rally from Bashirbagh Crossroads to the Dr BR Ambedkar Statue at Tank Bund on Friday, June 5, condemning the central government over the alleged NEET-UG 2026 examination paper leak, rising fuel and LPG prices, CBSE-related issues, and the depreciation of the Indian rupee. The rally witnessed participation from several senior Congress leaders, including TPCC President and MLC Mahesh Kumar Goud, AICC Sec-



retary Sachin Sawant, Minister Ponnampalapati Prabhakar, Rajya Sabha MP Anil Kumar Yadav, Khairatabad DCC President Motha Rohith, and other party leaders and workers. Addressing the gathering at Liberty Circle, TPCC president Mahesh Kumar Goud launched a sharp

attack on the BJP-led Central government, alleging that its failures have jeopardised the future of lakhs of students across the country. "The incompetence of the Prime Minister and the central government has pushed lakhs of students into uncertainty. The government is play-

ing with the future of students nationwide," he said.

Referring to the alleged NEET-UG 2026 paper leak controversy, Goud said the cancellation of the examination was a clear indication of the Centre's failure to ensure transparency and accountability in conducting one of the country's most important entrance tests.

"Students spend months preparing for the examination, but due to the negligence of the Central Government, their hard work has gone in vain," he remarked. Demanding accountability, the TPCC

chief called for the resignation of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, stating that he should take responsibility for the alleged failures surrounding the NEET examination process.

He further criticised the Centre's handling of national security issues, alleging that the government's weakness had emboldened external threats, including China's alleged incursions. Mahesh Kumar Goud assured affected students and their families that the Congress party would stand firmly with them in their fight for justice.

## Uttam Calls For Modernising Rice Storage, Value Addition

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Civil supplies and irrigation minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Saturday said the Telangana government is examining a new incentive policy to promote export-oriented rice mills in the state. Addressing the International Rice and Grains Tech Expo-2026 at HITEX, he said new mills set up for exports, as well as existing units shifting towards export operations, would be considered for special incentives to strengthen Telangana's presence in global rice markets. Stating that Telangana has emerged as the country's leading paddy-producing and procuring state, the minister said the focus is now on positioning the state as a global hub for rice tech-



nology and value addition. He urged millers to adopt mechanisation and automation to improve productivity and address labour shortages during peak milling seasons. He also called for investment in modern grain storage infrastructure, including steel silos, automated systems, AI-based grain monitoring and digital inventory management. Private players were invited to submit proposals for large-capacity storage facilities under public-private partnership models. On parboiling, he said

mills should adopt water-saving and energy-efficient technologies. For value addition, he urged adoption of controlled whitening, precision polishing, nutrient-retention systems and AI-based quality assessment to improve the quality of rice. The minister said Telangana produces nearly 300 lakh tonnes of paddy annually and accounts for around 60 per cent of the country's Rabi paddy procurement, indicating the scale of production targeted for export expansion.

## Eye Check-Up Camp Held at Pensioners' Bhavan

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

An eye check-up camp was organised on Saturday at Pensioners' Bhavan under the joint aegis of the Telangana All Pensioners' Association and Lions Club. The camp was conducted by the Lions Club, Bodhan, using modern medical equipment brought in a specially equipped vehicle. Eye examinations were carried out for cataracts and various other eye-related problems. Doctors also provided necessary medical advice and guidance to the pensioners. Red Cross Society Chairman Bussa Anjaneyulu inaugurated the camp. Speaking on the occasion, he said senior



citizens must take special care of their eyesight and warned that negligence could lead to serious complications. He appreciated the All Pensioners' Union for organising such useful health camps. Eye specialists Dr. Omana Reddy and Dr. Alekhya, along with Ajay and Sathayya, conducted the examinations. Pensioners' Union leaders Ram Mohan Rao, Sirpa Hanumanlu, Prasada Rao, EVL Narayana, Sambasiva Rao, Radhakrishna, Madhusudan and others participated in the programme.

## Jahangir Baba Urges Plant Protection to Improve Human Lives

Jahangir Baba Calls for Plant Protection to Improve Human Lives and Safeguard the Environment

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

AI Faiz Welfare Society observed World Environment Day in Mahabubnagar with a program highlighting the importance of protecting plants and preserving the environment.

The event focused on raising public awareness about increasing greenery and conserving natural resources for a healthier future. Addressing the gathering, Society President Jahangir Baba said that the well-being of humanity depends on the protection of



nature. He emphasized that natural oxygen produced by plants and trees is essential for humans, animals, and birds, making environmental conservation a collective responsibility.

He urged citizens to reduce pollution and plant more saplings in their surroundings to maintain ecological balance and protect the earth's natural beauty.

Jahangir Baba also appealed to people to use water wisely, avoid wastage, and consume electricity responsibly to conserve valuable natural resources. He noted that World Environment Day is observed globally every year on June 5 to promote environmental awareness and strengthen efforts to safeguard nature. Calling for stronger institutional

measures, he urged governments to establish a dedicated department for the protection and conservation of trees and plants. He said preserving forests and greenery is vital for ensuring a sustainable future and improving human lives. The program was attended by Secretary Mohammed Yaqoob, Sheikh Mahmood, Mahboob Ali, Mohammed Muqeet, Mohammed Younus, and several other members and supporters of the organization.

## PRPS Demands 50,000 Double-Bedroom Houses in Medchal-Malkajgiri

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana  
Dp S rinivas rao

The Praja Porata Samithi (PRPS) staged a protest outside the Keesara Municipality office, demanding the construction and allotment of 50,000 double-bedroom houses for homeless families in Medchal-Malkajgiri district. PRPS State President Noone Venkat Swamy said that nearly 70,000 people had applied for the housing scheme, with around 60,000 found eligible, but only 6,500 houses have been built so



far. He urged the government to immediately sanction and construct the remaining houses, warning against repeating past failures. After the protest, a memorandum was submitted to Deputy Commissioner Narra Vasantha in the presence of district leaders and activists.

## BRS Has 25-Year Vision, Will Return to Power in 2028: KTR

KTR Confident of BRS Return in 2028, Unveils 25-Year Telangana Vision and Urges NRIs to Drive Future Development and Growth Together

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Expressing confidence that the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) will return to power in Telangana in 2028, BRS Working President K. T. Rama Rao (KTR) said the party has already prepared a comprehensive 25-year vision for the State's future development. He made these remarks while addressing Telangana Formation Day celebrations organized jointly by the Malaysia Telugu Association (MAITA) and the BRS NRI Malaysia Chapter in Kuala Lumpur on Saturday. KTR asserted that BRS president K. Chandrashekhar Rao would once again become the Chief Minister and lead Telangana into its next phase of growth. According to him, the BRS remains the only political party with a long-term roadmap focused on sustainable development and economic progress.



Launching a strong attack on the ruling party, KTR accused its leaders of attempting to undermine Telangana's achievements through false propaganda. He alleged that some leaders, whom he described as "four-foot leaders," lacked knowledge of Telangana's history, development, water resources, and economic transformation but continued to spread misinformation about the State. He stated that despite political challenges, public opinion was gradually shifting back in favor of the BRS. Using a metaphor, he remarked that

when circumstances change, even harmless creatures begin to hiss like cobras, urging people to remain cautious of such political forces. Highlighting the BRS government's decade-long record, KTR said Telangana had become a national model in agriculture, irrigation, industrialization, per capita income, and overall economic growth. Drawing comparisons with countries such as Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan, and Vietnam, he argued that Telangana's rapid progress within ten years of its formation was

unmatched. KTR credited K. Chandrashekhar Rao with transforming Telangana from a drought-prone and migration-affected region into one of India's most prosperous States. He added that the former Chief Minister's governance experience makes him best suited to implement the party's long-term vision.

Outlining future priorities, KTR said the next phase of development would focus on providing uninterrupted safe drinking water, strengthening public transportation, building future-ready infrastructure, and leveraging emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence to accelerate economic growth. He also emphasized the crucial role of Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), urging overseas Telangana communities to contribute through investments, expertise, and knowledge-sharing while staying connected to their roots.

## Congress Leaders Extend Grand Birthday Greetings to Aleru MLA and Government Whip Beerla Ilaiah

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana  
Thalka Anjaiah

Aleru Assembly Constituency MLA and Telangana Government Whip Beerla Ilaiah celebrated his birthday on June 6 amid grand festivities and warm greetings from Congress leaders, public representatives, Youth Congress activists, government employees, supporters, and well-wishers across the district. A large number of Congress leaders personally met Beerla Ilaiah to extend their birthday wishes,



while many others conveyed greetings through phone calls and social media platforms. Party workers and admirers organized digital campaigns, making the occasion widely celebrated across Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district.

Social media was flooded with birthday posters, digital banners, songs, reels, and status messages highlighting his leadership and public service. The celebrations reflected his growing popularity among Congress workers and the people of the constituency. Members of the Thalka Family from Mator Village in Motakondur Mandal also conveyed their heartfelt wishes and expressed confidence that his dedication, hard work, and commitment to the development of Aleru Constituency and Telan-

gana would earn him a place in the State Cabinet in the future. Supporters and political observers described Beerla Ilaiah as a dynamic leader who has consistently worked for public welfare and effectively represented constituency issues. They hoped the Congress leadership would recognize his services by entrusting him with greater responsibilities. Well-wishers also prayed for his good health, long life, and continued success in serving the people of Telangana.

## Dadige Satyanarayana Greets Yenugu Sudharshan Reddy on Birthday

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana  
Thalka Anjaiah

Dadige Satyanarayana of Mator Village, Motakondur Mandal, along with his supporters and team members, met BJP leader and Medchal-Malkajgiri MLA aspirant Yenugu Sudharshan Reddy on Saturday and conveyed heartfelt birthday wishes. On the occasion, Satyanarayana wished him continued success in his public and political life.



Speaking to the media, Satyanarayana expressed confidence that the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) would perform strongly in the forthcoming local body elections across Telangana. He stated that the party has the potential to secure a majority of MPTC and ZPTC seats in the erstwhile Nalgonda district with

public support. He also announced his readiness to contest the upcoming local body elections as an MPTC or ZPTC candidate from the Mator territorial area of Motakondur Mandal, subject to BC reservation provisions. Reflecting on his previous Sarpanch election, he said the experience and challenges he faced had strengthened his political approach. Satyanarayana added that he is maintaining cordial relations with leaders across parties while preparing strategies for the upcoming elections.

**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.

**Revanth Reddy says govt to cut schools from 27,000 to 4,000**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

In a statement that is likely to trigger a political row, as well as concerns among teachers and poor students, Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy said the government had instructed officials to reduce the number of government schools in the State from 27,000 to 4,000.

He maintained that these schools would provide quality education from nursery to Class XII. Students would receive free education, transportation, breakfast and lunch. The Chief Minister made these remarks while speaking at The Hindu Huddle Dialogue programme in Bengaluru on Saturday. Revanth Reddy said single-teacher schools were established in tandas, gudams and remote areas in



the past due to lack of transportation facilities. He described the model as outdated and said the government now planned to have one school for each cluster. The Chief Minister, who also holds the Education portfolio, said many government schools currently function with a single teacher. In several schools, there were only two or three students in each class from Class I to Class V, with a total enrollment of around 10 students. "How is a teacher going to teach them?" he asked. To address the issue, officials had been directed to

rationalise the system by ensuring at least 30 students in each class. He said the government would also focus on making all subjects teachers available in schools. "This model will yield positive results. We also want to adopt technology and have appointed Khan Academy and other academies to teach the students and my teachers," Revanth Reddy defended. He said there were 27,000 government schools in Telangana with an enrollment of 18 lakh students. In comparison, 12,000 private schools had more than 35 lakh students. According to him, government school teachers were well qualified, but student enrollment remained low. In some schools, there were only three to five students in a class. He attributed this

mainly to poor families being unable to afford nursery, LKG and UKG education in private schools. Considering these factors, the State government had revised its education policy to provide free education from nursery to Class XII along with breakfast and lunch. Free transportation was also being provided to students attending government schools. "The success formula of private schools is to pick up and drop students at their homes," he stressed. However, contradicting his own statements, the Chief Minister also stated that enrollment in government schools had increased by one lakh students this year. Revanth Reddy said IAS officers had traditionally been sent abroad on study tours. But, they were

**BJP Alleges Education Collapse, Seeks Rs 14,000 Crore Fee Reimbursements**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The BJP on Saturday accused the Congress government of neglecting the education sector and demanded the immediate release of nearly ₹14,000 crore in pending fee reimbursement dues accumulated over the past five academic years. Addressing a press conference, Kamareddy MLA Katipalli Venkataramana Reddy, accompanied by Sirpur MLA Dr Palvai Harish Babu, MLC C. Anji Reddy and BJP Kisan Morcha president B. Laxminarayana, said fee reimbursements for the academic years 2022-23 to 2025-26 remain unpaid. The dues included over two years carried over from the previous BRS government and three years under the present Congress administration. He alleged that no reimbursement funds had been released during the past



three years. Venkataramana Reddy said the delay has pushed nearly 40 lakh students, who depend on the scheme for pursuing intermediate, degree, postgraduate, professional and non-professional courses, into financial uncertainty. He noted that around 12 to 14 lakh students enter higher education every year and nearly 60 lakh students had enrolled over the past five years. He claimed that many colleges, particularly in rural areas, depend heavily on fee reimbursement funds for their functioning. With payments pending, several institutions are reportedly operating at reduced capacity or facing closure, leading to higher dropout

rates. He further alleged that students completing professional courses are unable to obtain their certificates because of unpaid fees, forcing some to take up low-skilled jobs. Highlighting the state's higher education infrastructure, Venkataramana Reddy said Telangana has 43 universities, over 3,000 intermediate colleges, more than 1,100 degree colleges and around 2,700 higher education institutions that rely on the reimbursement scheme. He urged Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy to clear the dues in phases, suggesting an initial release of ₹3,000 crore to ₹4,000 crore to provide relief to educational institutions, particularly in rural areas. Warning of agitation, Venkataramana Reddy said BJP legislators would undertake statewide visits and organise protests with students if the government failed to act within the next 10 to 15 days.

**81 Days of Service: 4 Lakh Buttermilk Glasses Distributed**

**Sreeja Helping Hands Foundation Distributes Over 4 Lakh Glasses of Buttermilk in 81-Day Summer Service Campaign Across Secunderabad**



**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Demonstrating a remarkable commitment to public welfare, the Sreeja Helping Hands Foundation has successfully conducted its fifth consecutive annual Free Buttermilk Distribution Camp, offering relief to thousands of people during the peak summer season. The initiative, which began on March 19 (Ugadi) at Sainthapuram, AS Rao Nagar, has become a much-awaited service for commuters, workers, and residents facing extreme heat. The camp serves over 5,000 people every day and will conclude on June 7, completing 81 days of uninterrupted service. During this period, the Foundation is expected to distribute more than 4

lakh glasses of buttermilk free of cost. Beneficiaries include delivery personnel from Swiggy, Zomato, and Porter, RTC bus drivers and conductors, passengers, pedestrians, and other members of the public. The distribution takes place daily from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., including Sundays and public holidays, ensuring that those exposed to the harsh summer conditions receive timely refreshment and hydration. Extending its compassion beyond human welfare, the Foundation has also installed 100 concrete water tubs at various locations to provide drinking water for birds, stray dogs, and other animals during the summer months. The entire project in-

volves an expenditure of around ₹5 lakh, with ₹3.25 lakh contributed by donors, while the remaining amount has been borne by the Foundation and its family members. Organizers said the initiative reflects their commitment to community service and expressed hope that wider publicity would encourage more individuals and organizations to support similar humanitarian efforts. Over the past five years, Sreeja Helping Hands Foundation has undertaken several welfare activities, including assistance for girls' education, free blanket distribution, medical camps, and food support for the underprivileged, earning appreciation for its consistent service to society.

**Mala Mahanadu Demands Probe into Alleged RTI Misuse in GHMC**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana  
Dp S rinivas rao

Rajesh of Mala Mahanadu alleged that certain individuals are misusing the Right to Information (RTI) Act to blackmail lower-level employees in GHMC zonal offices across Hyderabad and Secunderabad. Addressing the media, he claimed that RTI applications and follow-up procedures are being exploited to intimidate junior staff and disrupt the functioning of the civic body. He urged all



GHMC zonal commissioners to order a thorough inquiry into the allegations and take action against those involved. Rajesh announced that Mala Mahanadu will submit representations to every GHMC zonal commis-

sioner seeking an independent investigation into the alleged misuse of RTI provisions. The organization has also demanded safeguards for targeted employees, stricter monitoring of RTI processing, and disciplinary action against any officials found colluding with such practices. Stating that the RTI Act is intended to promote transparency rather than harassment, Rajesh warned that Mala Mahanadu would launch public protests if the authorities fail to conduct a prompt and impartial inquiry.

**Mahila Congress Celebrates Govt Whip Beerla Ilaiah's Birthday**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Mahila Congress, under the leadership of District President Neelam Padma Venkataswamy, celebrated the birthday of Beerla Ilaiah Garu, Government Whip, Aleru MLA and DCC President, at the Yadagirigutta camp office. Speaking on the occasion, Mahila Congress leaders described Beerla Ilaiah as a people's leader, tireless worker and strong supporter of the poor. Neelam Padma Venkataswamy, along



with district executive members, block, mandal and village-level women Congress presidents, conveyed warm birthday wishes and prayed for his continued success in public service. The programme was held in a grand manner with enthusiastic participation from Mahila Congress leaders and party workers.

**CM Revanth to Launch ₹2,000-Cr Development Projects in Serilingampally**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana  
Srirangam Venkatesh

PAC Chairman Arekapudi Gandhi inspected arrangements at Khanamet for the foundation stone-laying ceremony to be led by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on June 8 at 5 PM. Gandhi said the Chief Minister will launch development projects worth nearly ₹2,000 crore, including the new Cyberabad Municipal Corporation (CMC) Headquarters and the Miyapur Flyover. He urged residents and local leaders to participate in large numbers. Major projects include: ₹530 crore Miyapur Junction Flyover, ₹200 crore Young India Integrated School



₹459 crore Gachibowli IT Junction Flyover, ₹220 crore Khajaguda Junction Flyover, ₹308 crore Lingampally ROB Flyover, ₹100 crore Core Urban Schools in Kondapur and Chandanagar. Gandhi said these projects will strengthen infrastructure and accelerate the development of the Serilingampally constituency. The inspection was attended by CMC and engineering officials, including EE Govardhan, SE Srikanthini, DE Durga Prasad, DE Varun, and AE Srinath.

**Class 10 Student Eliezer Makes History With Guinness Record**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana  
Dp Srinivas rao

M. Eliezer, a Class 10 student from Bansilalpet in Secunderabad, has brought pride to the city by earning a place in a Guinness World Record through a global keyboard music performance organized by Hallel Music School. The record-setting event was held in Hyderabad on February 2, 2026, in the presence of Guinness World Records representatives. Around 2,000 keyboard players from 22 countries performed con-



tinuously for one hour, creating a remarkable international musical achievement. Among the participants, 777 students who demonstrated outstanding performance were specially recognized by the organizers, with Eliezer being one of them. Eliezer, son of Pastor M. Praveen Kumar of Hebron Fellowship, received a

certificate of achievement from Hallel Music School founder Augustine Dandangi. The achievers were also honored during the "Guinness Achievers Meet" held at Victory Auditorium in Gachibowli on May 29. On Friday, former minister and Sanath Nagar MLA Talasani Srinivas Yadav felicitated Eliezer

in the presence of his parents and family members. He personally presented the Guinness World Record certificate and placed a medal around the student's neck, congratulating him on his achievement. Talasani wished Eliezer greater success in the future and assured the family of his continued support and encouragement. Eliezer's parents, M. Praveen Kumar and M. Sumathi, along with family members and BRS senior division leader G.D. Vijay Pal, attended the felicitation ceremony.

**Cancel GO 99, Restore Reservation Rights: Ambedkar Sena**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana  
Dp Srinivas rao

The National Ambedkar Sena on Saturday demanded the immediate withdrawal of GO 99, claiming that changes in the Group 3 roster system have caused serious injustice to 58 Scheduled Caste communities by reducing their reservation opportunities in education and government employment. At Pragathi Bhavan, a delegation led by National President Mane Sridhar and State President Taluka Rajesh, along with Telangana State



Planning Commission Vice-Chairman Chinna Reddy and other Dalit leaders, submitted a representation seeking correction of the roster, particularly Group 3 roster point 16. Addressing the media, Mane Sridhar alleged that the revised roster had effectively removed reservation bene-

fits for several Malala communities, impacting nearly 40 lakh people. He said the decision has affected admissions to educational institutions and access to government jobs, calling for the immediate cancellation of GO 99. Chinna Reddy stated that Scheduled Caste classification should be based

on scientific data and argued that the present roster revision had created fresh inequalities instead of ensuring justice. The delegation demanded a transparent review of the policy, scientific SC reclassification, and restoration of reservation rights for the affected communities. Several Dalit leaders and activists, including Satiri Praveen Kumar, Gokula Kalyan Rao, Punya Bhanu Prakash, Kadaram Vinay Kumar, Bapanapalli Pramod Kumar, Arun Kumar, Sudhakar Babu, and Sudarshan, participated in the protest.

## 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'.

## CBSE OSM Row: Congress Says Pradhan's Continuance Reflects Desire for Power

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

The Congress on Saturday said Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan's continuance in office only speaks of his desire for power and accused him of being "incompetent" in running a "compromised ministry." In a post on X, Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said that had the education ministry shown more integrity in organising the CBSE exams, the entire debacle that stressed lakhs of students across the country could have been avoided.

"The skeletons in the Education Ministry's closet are tumbling out fast and furious," Ramesh said in his post while citing media reports that COEMPT submitted two cybersecurity certificates to



CBSE to satisfy the tender's cybersecurity requirements. "It is now reported that both these certificates were tied to other clients. One of them had expired (it was nearly two years old when submitted by COEMPT) and the other was audited as a temporary application rather than as an application in a production environment.

"The CBSE, instead of calling out this deception, awarded the contract to COEMPT at inflated rates," the Con-

gress leader alleged. He said Gen-Z ethical hackers had exposed critical flaws in cybersecurity all the way back to February 2025, which the CBSE denied until it could no longer do so. "In fact, in a final admission that COEMPT's portal was irretrievably compromised, the CBSE has now stopped using COEMPT's platform and built its own website for the re-evaluation process," he claimed, citing media reports.

Ramesh said if the 'Mantri' Pradhan's Ministry had shown more integrity in organising the CBSE exams, the On-Screen Marking (OSM) system, and the revaluation process, the whole debacle, which has stressed lakhs of students and their families, could have been avoided. "Mantri Pradhan's continuance in office only speaks to his shameless desire for power. He has been totally exposed as an arrogant and incompetent hack running a deeply compromised Ministry," Ramesh alleged.

The Congress on Friday said that only Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan can answer as to why the CBSE was "made to adopt an expensive OSM system at inflated rates", and asserted that he must resign so that an independent investigation can take place.

## LPG Price Hiked By Rs 29 Per 14.2-Kg Cylinder

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Domestic cooking gas LPG price has been raised by Rs 29 per cylinder, marking the second increase in three months as state-owned fuel retailers continue to grapple with elevated global energy costs. The price of a 14.2-kg LPG cylinder in Delhi will rise to Rs 942 from Rs 913 with effect from June 7, according to industry sources. The increase follows a Rs 60-per-cylinder hike on March 7 after the conflict in West Asia disrupted global energy supplies and drove up international fuel prices. Industry sources said that the increase had only partly offset losses incurred on domestic LPG sales.

State-run oil marketing companies were esti-



lated to be losing about Rs 703 on every LPG cylinder sold before the latest revision, the sources said. The LPG price hike comes amid a broader round of fuel price increases. Petrol and diesel prices have been raised by a cumulative Rs 7.50 per litre since mid-May, while compressed natural gas (CNG) rates have increased by about Rs 6 per kg. Despite the recent increases, oil companies

continue to sell petrol and diesel below cost, incurring losses of around Rs 11 per litre on petrol and Rs 33.6 per litre on diesel, according to industry sources. The government has so far avoided a full pass-through of higher international energy prices to consumers, absorbing part of the increase through state-owned fuel retailers as global crude oil and fuel markets remain volatile.

## Biodiversity-Linked Downgrades Could Push India Closer To Sovereign Default : Research

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Financial markets are underestimating the economic risks of biodiversity loss, potentially exposing countries to sovereign debt crises and sharply higher borrowing costs, according to research published on Friday. The study led by economists from the Universities of Sussex, Sheffield and Heriot-Watt, presented what they described as the world's first biodiversity-adjusted sovereign

credit ratings model. It said existing ratings frameworks fail to incorporate environmental degradation, leaving some \$83 trillion of global assets vulnerable to mispricing. Using an adjusted version of S&P Global's ratings methodology, the researchers estimated that even a partial collapse of key ecosystems – including wild pollinators, marine fisheries and tropical forests – could increase annual global sovereign debt interest payments by \$162 billion. "Finan-

cial markets are effectively blind to nature-related risks," said the University of Sussex's Matthew Agarwal. "As biodiversity loss undermines economic performance, it becomes harder for countries to service their debt, raising borrowing costs and fiscal strain." Ecosystems underpin the global economy through "ecosystem services" like crop pollination and sea-food production. Partial disruption to these could cut global GDP by around \$2 trillion per



year. The effects on vulnerable nations' creditworthiness could be severe. India's sovereign rating

could fall by four notches under such a scenario, while China's could drop by more than five on a 20-point scale,

the research found. As lower credit ratings typically force governments to pay higher risk premiums on debt, the result could add roughly \$50 billion to India's annual debt interest bill and \$70 billion to China's. Sovereign downgrades could ripple across domestic economies, affecting businesses, financial institutions and pension funds, the study found. Pati Klusak of Edinburgh Business School said the findings echo past financial crises. "The 2008 global

financial crisis showed what happens when markets ignore emerging threats," she said. "We risk repeating that mistake if ecological risks remain excluded from credit assessments." The research also said the likes of Indonesia, Bangladesh and Malaysia could face rating downgrades of four to six notches. Across the 23 countries studied, home to 5.5 billion people, biodiversity-linked downgrades could push many closer to sovereign default. The additional

debt servicing costs would represent almost three-quarters of global annual overseas development aid and a large chunk of the UN Global Biodiversity Framework's target of mobilising \$200 billion annually across 196 countries. The authors urged regulators, central banks and rating agencies to integrate nature-related risks into financial models, saying the cost of protecting biodiversity is far lower than the economic consequences of its loss.

## US Approves \$2 Billion Anti-Drone Weapons Sale to Kuwait

**WASHINGTON**  
Wakeup telangana

The United States announced Friday its approval of a \$1.98 billion arms sale to Kuwait, one of the Gulf countries hit by Iranian strikes during the Middle East war. In a statement, the US State Department said it would allow purchases of counter-drone technology from defense company Anduril, which was founded by a supporter of President Donald Trump. "This proposed sale will support the foreign policy



and national security objectives of the United States by improving the security of a major non-NATO ally that has been

an important force for political stability and economic progress in the Middle East," the statement said.

Earlier this week, Kuwait officials "condemned Iranian aggression" when a drone strike on its international airport killed one person and injured 63 others. Tehran denied involvement in the attack, saying it was "an error in the American Patriot systems," referring to a US anti-missile battery. The attacks came despite the April 8 ceasefire that paused the war sparked by the February 28 US-Israeli bombing of Iran, and has largely held despite sporadic exchanges of fire.

## India's Birth Rate Has Fallen Below Replacement: Elon Musk

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

SpaceX CEO Elon Musk on Saturday noted that India's birth rate has fallen below replacement. "India's birth rate has fallen below replacement. Among those most educated, India's birth rate fell below replacement many years ago," the billionaire said in a post on X. Musk was quoting data by media outlet AF Post which said that India's fertility rate has fallen below replace-



ment for the first time in the country's history, "declining from a TFR (Total Fertility Rate) of 2.3 to 1.9 in just a decade. Delhi's fertility rate now sits at 1.2, lower than Finland's." AF Post cited a June 4 article from The Economist

titled 'India's population will soon be falling—probably quite fast.' Last year, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) 2025 State of World Population (SOWP) Report said that India's total fertility rate has declined to 1.9 births per woman, falling below the replacement level of 2.1, which means that on average, Indian women are having fewer children than needed to maintain the population size from one generation to the next, without migration. India's current population is over 1.46 billion and

the country surpassed China in 2023 to become the world's most populous nation. "Although its fertility rate has declined over the years, India has a population of well over a billion, and wide inequalities persist, despite significant improvements in health and education. Maternal mortality and gender discrimination remain high. Early marriage and pregnancy contribute to excessive maternal death among women under the age of 24," according to information on the UNFPA website.

### FROM FRONT PAGE

#### Much-Awaited.....

The rainfall during these months replenishes the various reservoirs in the state, helps raise groundwater levels and is vital for the rain-fed Kharif cultivation in the state. However, during 2026, Andhra Pradesh is expected to receive below normal rainfall during the southwest monsoon due to the emergence of El Nino conditions in the Pacific. The IMD has forecast that El Nino conditions will develop during the monsoon season, a pattern that usually suppresses rainfall over India. Forecasters have predicted that there is a possibility of short-duration, high-intensity

rains in a few places during the southwest monsoon this year. Nation-wide, the Met department said conditions are favourable for further advance of southwest monsoon into some more parts of central Arabian Sea, Maharashtra, Karnataka, and Andhra Pradesh, some parts of Telangana, remaining parts of Tamil Nadu and southwest Bay of Bengal, some more parts of west central and north Bay of Bengal and north-eastern states during next two to three days. Lower tropospheric south westerly winds will prevail over Andhra Pradesh and Yanam. The IMD said many parts of the state have

recorded hot, humid and most uncomfortable weather conditions over the past few days.

#### Sidda's Son.....

Officials also flagged deficiencies in fire safety measures. The FIR stated that the basement entrance was found locked during rescue operations, forcing firefighters to break it open. Investigators are examining whether this hampered rescue efforts. Police said fire extinguishers were found on the premises, but preliminary findings suggest they were either not used or not deployed effectively. Search operations are underway for Jay Mishra, an associate and accountant of the

hotel owner, who has been absconding since the incident. Multiple teams have been formed to trace him, including one sent to Bihar. Forensic experts are examining evidence collected from the site, including burnt electrical wiring and devices. Investigators are exploring possible causes such as a short circuit or electrical overloading. Preliminary forensic findings indicate that most victims died due to suffocation caused by dense smoke rather than burn injuries. Police said questioning of staff and associates is continuing to establish accountability. In a separate development, Max Hospital, Saket, said five in-

jured patients had been taken off ventilator support and were stable, while one patient remained on life support.

#### Woman Killed.....

According to the police, the lift malfunction was caused by a technical issue. Residents, however, alleged that the problem had persisted for a considerable period despite repeated complaints being lodged with the apartment committee and the lift maintenance agency. They claimed that the maintenance contractor failed to respond promptly to the complaints, allowing the fault to continue unresolved.

### Disintegration in Mamata's camp



CRIME

# Telangana High Court Admits St Mary's University RCI Petition

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana High Court has admitted a writ petition filed by St Mary's Rehabilitation University in Bhuvanagiri district, challenging the decision of the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) to declare six of its academic programmes ineligible for inspection. Justice Nagesh Bheemapaka directed the respondents to file their response after hearing the matter. The university contended that it had submitted the required compliance documents for six programmes within the stipulated deadline through the official email prescribed by the RCI.

However, it alleged that a technical failure in the RCI's online portal prevented the documents from being uploaded through the designated system. The disputed programmes include MA Clinical Psychology, Bachelor of Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (BASLP), MSc Audiology, and three Integrated Special and Inclusive Teacher Education Programme (ISITEP) courses related to Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), Learning Disability (LD), and Intellectual Disability (ID). According to the petition, despite receiving the compliance documents through email before the deadline, the RCI issued an office memorandum/list declaring

these six programmes ineligible for inspection. The university argued that the decision was arbitrary and unreasonable, especially when the failure to upload the documents resulted from a technical issue rather than negligence on its part. The petitioner further maintained that the RCI's action violated the principles of natural justice and was contrary to the objectives of both the Rehabilitation Council of India Act, 1992, and the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016, which aim to promote quality education and professional training in the rehabilitation sector. The university requested the High Court to direct the RCI to accept and consider the compli-

ance documents already submitted through email. It also sought to set aside the impugned list insofar as it affected the six programmes and asked for inspections to be conducted for those courses along with four other programmes that had already been declared eligible for inspection. After considering the submissions, Justice Nagesh Bheemapaka admitted the writ petition and instructed the respondents to file their counter before the court. The matter will now proceed after the respondents submit their reply, with the university seeking judicial intervention to secure inspection and approval for the six academic programmes.

# Cyberabad SHE Teams Conduct 118 Decoy Operations; 31 Caught for Indecent Acts

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana  
Srirangam Venkatesh

Cyberabad SHE Teams conducted 118 decoy operations from May 31 to June 6, 2026, catching 31 persons for indecent acts in public places. Police booked 34 petty cases and counseled others. SHE Teams also received 21 complaints from women. The AHTU rescued two victims, arrested two accused in a PITA case, and rescued a 5-year-old boy found begging at a traffic signal in Hitech City, Madhapur. The child was shifted to a rescue home through the Child Welfare Commit-



tee. Family Counselling and CDEW Centres helped reunite 37 families involved in marital disputes. AHTU and SHE Teams conducted awareness programs for 1,897 people on women's safety, child trafficking, cyber frauds, cyberbullying, stalking, child rights, and emergency helplines. As part of the 99-Day Prajapalana Pragathi Pranali-

Campaign, a Women's Safety Awareness Session was held at PBEL City, Peeramcheruvu, educating residents about SHE Teams, Bharosa Centres, CDEW, AHTU, the T-Safe App, POSH, and POCOS laws. Police urged citizens to use available safety services and support efforts to create a safer environment for women and children.

# Chain-Snatching Bid on Woman Foiled in Kompally

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

The accused entered an oil shop on the pretext of a customer and tried to snatch gold from a woman sitting inside. When she raised an alarm, local residents rushed to her rescue and caught hold of the accused. The residents assaulted the accused before handing him over to the police, who booked a case and took up investigation.

# Boy drowns in Kushaiguda pool

An 11-year-old boy drowned in a swimming pool at a sports complex in Kushaiguda on Monday evening. The deceased, a Class VI student at ECIL, and resident of BN Reddy Nagar, Cherlapally, had gone to the pool at Sportivo Sports Arena when the incident occurred. According to initial information, he drowned under circumstances yet to be ascertained. Staff and others rushed him out of the water and shifted him to a nearby private hospital, where doctors declared him dead on arrival.

# Cyberabad CP Reviews Student Mobility Program with Private Travel Operators

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana  
Srirangam Venkatesh

Cyberabad Police Commissioner Dr. M. Ramesh held a meeting with private travel operators and transport officials to discuss the Student Mobility Program, aimed at making student transportation safer and more technology-driven. The CP directed that all student transport vehicles be equipped with CCTV cameras, GPS tracking, and emergency safety systems, while ensuring strict checks on driver qual-



ifications and vehicle fitness. A dedicated mobile app is being developed to help parents monitor vehicle location, driver details, route information, and overcrowding in real time. Vehicles will also be monitored through the Command and Control Centre to improve emergency response and student

safety. The program aims to reduce traffic congestion, improve safety standards, and provide efficient transport services for students travelling to schools, colleges, coaching centres, and sports academies. Private travel operators raised issues related to permits, registrations, and traffic management, to which the CP assured coordination with concerned departments for solutions. Officials said that if successful in Cyberabad, the project may be proposed for implementation across Telangana.

# Police Crack Down on IT Corridor Bike Stunts

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

Raidurgam police intensified action against dangerous bike stunts and illegal racing in the city's IT corridor, particularly around the T-Hub area, after identifying social media-driven reckless riding that endangered commuters and disrupted public movement. According to Kukatpally DCP Ritiraj, during a special enforcement drive police identified 35 social media accounts involved

in promoting and performing bike stunts and illegal racing on public roads. Officials said bikers were not only performing risky manoeuvres but were also recording videos and uploading them on platforms such as Instagram and YouTube, encouraging others to gather and imitate the acts. Police apprehended five persons along with their motorcycles and brought them to the police station for investigation. Cases were registered, the ve-

hicles seized and produced before the court as per law. The officer said stunt riding had become a source of fear and inconvenience for commuters, residents and visitors in the IT corridor. In some incidents, riders failed to stop during vehicle checks and obstructed police personnel from discharging their duties. Police invoked multiple provisions under the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Motor Vehicles Act and Information Technology Act against

offenders involved in rash driving, dangerous riding, racing, public nuisance, vehicle violations and promoting unlawful acts online. Raidurgam police appealed to parents, residents' welfare associations and commuters to report stunt riding and illegal racing, warning that strict legal action, including vehicle seizure and prosecution, would continue against those participating in or promoting such activities on social media or public

EDITORIAL

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

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

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

about 90 lakh voters were removed from the voters' list. There are about 27 lakh people who were denied their voting rights in the recently held Assembly election there on account of "logical discrepancies" in their document, a term even the apex court found to be inappropriate. Natural justice demands that a person is convinced as to why a right previously enjoyed by him is going to be denied to him before it is finally taken away. The Supreme Court has now given its stamp of approval to the injustices caused by the EC's inefficiency. Instead of penalising the floundering authority, it has now punished its victims. The argument the Supreme Court presents to legitimise a process gone awry is that it cannot be invalidated just because it did not adhere strictly to modalities. It also said that the SIR is in consonance with

the Representation of the People Act and the 1960 Rules. It is "intended to secure the constitutional mandate of free and fair elections by ensuring that the roll on which the election rests is accurate and reliable", the court has stated. But this is a strawman argument as nobody was questioning the idea in the first place. It is not the first time that such an exercise has been conducted in India. For instance, there were no complaints about the last SIR in West Bengal when it was conducted in 2002. It is unsettling that the top court in the country makes light of the procedural mandates of such an important exercise. That the law does not prescribe a fixed process for the periodic clean-up of the voters' list does not mean that the Election Commission has got a free run on deciding who can vote and who cannot. It is the duty of the courts

to come to the aid of the citizen when they are faced with the threat of losing a critical constitutional right and unacceptable that the Supreme Court in this case has refused to do so. The Supreme Court is of the opinion that examining questions bearing upon citizenship "must be undertaken with due regard to the presumption operating in favour of an elector whose name is already borne on the roll" but has chosen not to make it binding on the EC. It is a costly contradiction. Universal adult franchise is the bedrock of representative democracy and the Constitution is the document that guarantees it. The Supreme Court has practically washed its hands of the matter of protecting voting rights. It is up to the Parliament now to ponder over ways to ensure justice for the unsuspecting voter.



# India-UK FTA historic moment, calls for joint arbitration framework: CJI

Chief Justice of India Surya Kant said the India-UK Free Trade Agreement marks a historic milestone, urging both nations to jointly strengthen arbitration and mediation systems. He stressed accessible, efficient dispute resolution mechanisms to boost investor confidence, trade growth, and deeper economic cooperation.

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

The India-UK Free Trade Agreement (FTA) is a "historic moment" for both nations that provides the commercial impetus for co-creation in the arena of mediation and arbitration, Chief Justice of India (CJI) Surya Kant said in London on Friday. Delivering the inaugural address at the Indian Council of Arbitration's (ICA) international conference on 'Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) as a Catalyst for Strengthening India-UK Economic Partnership', CJI Kant called for ensuring a level playing field and procedures proportionate to the value and urgency of disputes. He

highlighted that as both economies work towards a deeper commercial partnership, confidence in dispute resolution mechanisms is equally important. "Just last year, the India-UK Free Trade Agreement was concluded, which was an unquestionable historic moment for both nations, because at a time when international trade discourse is marked by strain and uncertainty, India and the UK showed the world a better way forward," said CJI Kant. "We meet at a very significant moment in the relationship between India and the United Kingdom. Ours are two common law descriptions with a long legal conversation between them. They are also



two economies seeking to give fuller meaning to a deeper commercial partnership." "This significant endeavour requires confidence that when disagreements arise, they will be resolved fairly, efficiently and with respect for commercial realities," he said. The CJI noted that the FTA, which is in the process of being implemented in the coming months, has created the "commercial impetus" for

developments across two sophisticated common law jurisdictions to cohere. "What is needed now is not comparison, but co-creation. The task is to design together an ADR corridor in which both systems lend each other credibility, talent and standards, ultimately building something neither could build alone," he said. Kant drew parallels between modern arbitration mechanisms and India's ancient panchayat system, which placed trust in elders to resolve commercial disputes. "In principle, I would say, justice is most legitimate when it is chosen freely, delivered by someone who understands your world and

proportionate to what is actually at stake. Arbitration is simply what happens when you take this instinct and give it a framework," he said. The CJI said the commercial reality of the FTA demands an arbitration mediation protocol that preserves commercial relationships, a joint institutional framework that builds shared arbitration panels, and digital platforms that make these mechanisms accessible to businesses of every scale. This is where co-creation must begin," he said, flagging concrete steps towards achieving that goal. He suggested a joint India-UK arbitrator accreditation and training programme to build a shared pool.

## Kriti Sanon Joins Shahid Kapoor for Vogue Eyewear Campaign

**MUMBAI**  
Wakeup telangana

Vogue Eyewear has announced actor Kriti Sanon as its new female Brand Ambassador, joining Shahid Kapoor in the brand's latest campaign, "Vogue Eyewear Journeys." The campaign highlights the themes of individuality, confidence, and self-expression while strengthening the brand's appeal among a new generation of fashion-conscious consumers. Built around the idea that style evolves alongside personal growth, the campaign presents a visually engaging narrative in which the protagonists encounter different versions of themselves across various moments in time. Through symbolic windows and the poetic line, "When you meet you, you find you," the campaign reflects the journey of self-discovery and changing perspectives. National Award-winning



actor Kriti Sanon said the brand aligns with her personal sense of style and versatility. She noted that the campaign celebrates constant reinvention and explores how fashion plays an important role in expressing different aspects of one's personality throughout life. Shahid Kapoor, who has enjoyed a longstanding association with Vogue Eyewear, said the partnership has always matched his evolving and personal approach to style. He added that Kriti brings a fresh dynamic to the brand with her distinct point of view, complementing its identity. The campaign positions eyewear as more than a functional accessory, por-

traying it as an essential element of everyday fashion that naturally enhances different styles and personalities. Each frame is designed to seamlessly accompany the transitions between various versions of oneself. Conceptualised by Network Advertising, the campaign has been directed by Emmy-nominated Suraj Wanvari and photographed by Prasad Naik. It is being promoted through an integrated rollout across digital, social media, print, and out-of-home platforms nationwide. The featured Vogue Eyewear collection is available at leading stores and online platforms, priced between ₹3,000 and ₹10,000.

# Gold and silver fall sharply amid stronger US economic data

**MUMBAI**  
Wakeup telangana

Gold and silver prices witnessed a sharp decline this week after a stronger-than-expected US jobs report strengthened expectations that the US Federal Reserve could maintain higher interest rates for a longer period. The development boosted the US dollar and Treasury yields, reducing the appeal of precious metals and triggering widespread

selling in global markets. On Friday, MCX gold August futures fell 2.47 per cent, while MCX silver July futures plunged 6.27 per cent. Gold futures are currently trading at Rs 1,55,600, while silver futures stand at Rs 2,48,201 per kilogram. According to data from the India Bullion and Jewellers Association (IBJA), the price of 10 grams of 24-carat gold dropped to Rs 1,54,238 on Friday from

Rs 1,55,599 recorded at the beginning of the week, reflecting a weekly decline of 0.87 per cent. International markets also witnessed significant losses. COMEX gold fell by as much as \$136 to touch an intraday low of \$4,369 per troy ounce, its weakest level since late March, leaving the metal nearly 5 per cent lower for the week. Silver suffered an even steeper correction, declining by \$5.34 to



\$68.63 per ounce and recording a weekly loss of around 9 per cent. It marked silver's fourth consecutive week of declines. Market analysts attributed the weakness to the stronger US employment data,

which pushed the dollar index close to 99.5 and lifted Treasury yields. Since gold and silver do not generate interest income, rising yields make these non-yielding assets less attractive to investors. Analysts also noted that inflation in the United States remains above the Federal Reserve's target, increasing expectations that policymakers could keep interest rates elevated into 2026. The prospect of prolonged tight mone-

etary policy has further weighed on sentiment in the precious metals market. Silver has remained comparatively weaker than gold, facing sustained selling pressure due to profit booking and concerns over industrial demand. While gold has managed to hold near important technical support levels, silver continues to display a cautious trend. According to market participants, COMEX gold is currently trading near

the crucial support zone of \$4,350, with immediate resistance expected between \$4,460 and \$4,500. In the coming days, geopolitical developments in the Middle East, movements in crude oil prices, fluctuations in the US dollar, central bank commentary, and key macroeconomic data releases are expected to determine the short-term direction of gold and silver prices.

## India's GDP growth may slow to 6.6 per cent in FY27: Crisil

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

India's GDP growth is expected to moderate in FY 2027 at 6.6 per cent after a stronger-than-expected 7.7 per cent expansion in fiscal 2026, a report has said. The report from Crisil Ratings said that a sharp rise in crude prices, a below-normal monsoon and higher inflation will weigh on consumption and growth. "Growth outperformed expectations in fiscal 2026 due to fiscal support to private consumption, rate cuts by the Reserve Bank of India, healthy global growth, low inflation, favourable monsoon and low crude oil prices," the report said. In FY27, many of these factors are expected to turn adverse and weigh on growth, it added. Crude oil prices have surged to decadal highs after the onset of the West Asia crisis and are expected to remain high this fiscal, averaging \$90-95 per barrel, according to Crisil Intelligence. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has

expected rainfall at 90 per cent of the long-period average in the 2026 south-west monsoon season, indicating below-normal rains. The likelihood of El Niño conditions will add to the pressure on agricultural production. The report forecasted inflation to rise sharply to 5.1 per cent in fiscal 2027 from 2.1 per cent in fiscal 2026, putting pressure on private consumption. Producers are expected to pass on the sharp rise in the cost of energy and other inputs, as well as trade and transportation, to consumers, which will likely raise core inflation. Global demand is expected to be weaker this year due to the West Asia conflict and this will likely impact India's exports, the report said. Notably, the growth momentum in India sustained despite headwinds from the West Asia conflict that began towards the end of February and intensified in March. Private final consumption expenditure (PFCE) growth remained healthy at 7.1 per cent vs 8.2 per cent in the previous

## Daily Meals Transform Lives Through Compassion and Rehabilitation Efforts

**One Meal Can Change Lives: Hunger Free World by Malabar Group Highlights the Transformative Impact of Daily Meal Outreach**

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Marking World Hunger Day, Hunger Free World, a humanitarian initiative of Malabar Group, released its Rehabilitation Impact Report: Impact Stories, How a Daily Meal Opens the Door to a Transformed Life, highlighting how its Street Meal Distribution Programme is changing lives beyond addressing hunger. The initiative has enabled rehabilitation, healthcare access, shelter, dignity restoration, and even family reunification for vulnerable people living on the streets. Implemented on the ground by Thanal, the programme demonstrates that providing a nutritious meal consistently creates trust between outreach workers and beneficiaries. This trust allows volunteers to identify health concerns, emotional distress, and social needs while connecting individuals with rehabilitation and support services. The



programme currently operates across 20 states in India and nine countries, including six GCC nations, the USA, the UK, and Zambia. Through its Street Meal Distribution Programme and Micro Learning Centres, Hunger Free World reaches nearly 1,43,000 beneficiaries. Malabar Group Chairman M. P. Ahammad said that a meal delivered with consistency and compassion becomes much more than food. According to him, regular outreach builds relationships that often lead to rehabilitation, healthcare support, emotional care, and the restoration of dignity, proving that sustained engagement can significantly change a per-

son's life. The report documents several inspiring success stories. In Nagercoil, an elderly man receiving meals near a bus stand was eventually helped into a care home after expressing his desire for a safer life. In Kumbakonam, months of meal support paved the way for hygiene care, clean clothing, and rehabilitation assistance for a bedridden man. In Chennai, a woman living in distress gradually accepted help through consistent twice-daily meal outreach and was later shifted to a care facility. Another remarkable case involved a man in Udipi, whose regular interactions with outreach workers enabled them to trace his

## Bolarum Challenge Cup Kicks Off with Grand Sporting Celebration



**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Bolarum Challenge Cup was inaugurated with great enthusiasm by Sri Ganesh Garu, MLA of the Cantonment Constituency, in the presence of several distinguished sports personalities, public representatives, and football veterans, marking the beginning of the tournament on a high note. The inaugural ceremony was further graced by Mr. Victor Amal Raj, former Indian footballer, along with GP Vijay Kumar (IRS) and Pratapselan Chandrashekar of APSRTC, who joined the event to encourage sporting talent and community participation. The ceremonial kick-off took place in the presence of Chairman Dr. Narsimhan Kannan, President Mr. Murthy, Vice President Dr. P. Navin Raj, Hon. Secretary Mr.

Bhagirath Chary, Treasurer Mr. Sunil, and senior committee members, reflecting the strong organizational support behind the tournament. The event also witnessed the participation of renowned football personalities, including Mr. Shyam Raj, Coach of the Andhra Pradesh Football Team, Mr. Mani Bhushan, Mr. Prabhakar Reddy, Mr. Sreenivas (AGORC), Mr. Deepak, and Mr. Vinod of NIS Telangana Sports School. Among the other dignitaries present were Mr. Kareedavan, Mr. G. Aravind, State General Secretary of Youth Congress, Mr. Pradhu from the AG Office, and several former and current Indian football players. The ceremony highlighted the spirit of sportsmanship, unity, and healthy competition, setting the stage for an exciting Bolarum Challenge Cup.

# Varun Dhawan's 'Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai': Day 1 Collections

Actor Varun Dhawan's latest romantic comedy, *Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai*, has made a promising start at the box office by collecting Rs 8.65 crore nett in India on its opening day. The film, directed by David Dhawan, exceeded pre-release trade expectations and has been welcomed with a stronger-than-anticipated response from audiences. According to trade analyst Taran Adarsh, the film benefited significantly from the 50 per cent ticket discount offer, which helped attract moviegoers to theatres on its first day. Before its release, industry estimates had projected an opening collection in the range of Rs 7 crore to Rs 7.5 crore. However, the film comfortably surpassed those predictions, indicating positive initial momentum. Sharing the Day 1 figures on social media platform X, Adarsh wrote that *Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai* had opened better than expected and cred-



ited the promotional discount scheme for boosting footfalls. He noted that the film's first-day earnings reflect encouraging audience interest and provide a solid foundation for its weekend performance.

The movie stars Varun Dhawan in the lead role alongside Mrunal Thakur and Pooja Hegde. It also features a strong supporting cast that includes Chunky Panday, Jimmy Shergill, Rakesh Bedi, and Maniesh Paul in significant roles. Actress Mouni Roy makes a special appearance, adding to the film's entertainment value. Produced by Ramesh

Taurani, the film was re-released in theatres on June 5 and marks another collaboration between Varun Dhawan and veteran filmmaker David Dhawan. The father-son duo has previously delivered several commercially successful entertainers, making this reunion one of the major attractions for audiences. The better-than-expected opening suggests that the film has generated considerable curiosity among movie lovers, especially fans of light-hearted family entertainers. While the coming days will determine its long-term box

office trajectory, the Day 1 performance has given the makers reasons to be optimistic. Industry observers will now closely watch the weekend collections to see whether positive word-of-mouth and continued audience interest help the film register substantial growth. If the momentum continues, *Hai Jawani Toh Ishq Hona Hai* could emerge as a successful addition to Varun Dhawan's box office record and strengthen its position in the competitive theatrical market.

## Pune Porsche Case: Actor Vishal condemns family

**MUMBAI**  
Wakeup telangana

A viral video showing members of the Agarwal family celebrating after securing bail in a case linked to the 2024 Pune Porsche crash has sparked widespread public outrage and renewed debate over justice, accountability, and the influence of wealth in high-profile criminal cases. The controversy stems from the tragic accident that took place in Pune in May 2024, when a luxury Porsche allegedly driven by a juvenile rammed into two young IT professionals. Both victims lost their lives in the crash, which shocked the nation and drew attention to issues surrounding reckless driving and juvenile justice.

The latest wave of criticism emerged after the Supreme Court granted bail to three accused in a connected evidence-tampering case. While the court imposed strict conditions to ensure that the accused do not misuse their liberty, a video allegedly showing members of the



Agarwal family celebrating the bail order quickly went viral on social media, triggering strong reactions from the public. Among those who strongly condemned the celebrations was South Indian actor Vishal. Taking to social media, the actor expressed anger over what he described as an insensitive display by the family in the aftermath of a tragedy that claimed two innocent lives.

In a direct message aimed at juvenile accused Vedant Agarwal, Vishal stated that there was nothing about the incident that should make the family proud. He emphasized that two young individuals had lost their lives due to alleged drunk and reckless driving and questioned the appropriateness of celebrating while the victims' families con-

tinue to suffer.

The actor further remarked that wealth, influence, and powerful connections may help individuals exploit loopholes within the legal system. However, he warned that moral accountability extends beyond courtroom proceedings. Referring to the principle of karma, Vishal wrote that actions inevitably have consequences and urged the accused to remember that justice is not limited to legal technicalities.

"What goes around comes around. Not cursing you. But honestly, you don't deserve to rejoice even if your dad has managed to plug all the loopholes in your case," Vishal reportedly posted on social media.

The actor also appealed to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Maharashtra

## I didn't want to restrict my shots says KI Rahul

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

India opener KL Rahul said he deliberately avoided curbing his natural strokeplay while transitioning from T20 cricket to the Test format, a mindset that helped him compile a patient century on the opening day of the one-off Test against Afghanistan.

Rahul's 100, along with captain Shubman Gill's unbeaten 103 and Sai Sudharsan's 81, powered India to a commanding 368/3 at stumps on Day 1 at the Maharaja Yadavindra Singh International Cricket Stadium.

Reflecting on the challenge of moving from months of T20 cricket straight into the longest format, Rahul admitted that overthinking can often become a trap for batters.

"Sometimes you sit and overanalyse and try to play completely differently to T20 cricket. Something that I consciously tried was not to restrict my shots, but

also be aware of what kind of shots I can play on this wicket against what kind of bowlers," Rahul said after the day's play.

The right-hander revealed that maintaining a balance between attacking instincts and Test-match discipline was central to his preparation. "That's something that I thought about in the last week leading up to this Test match. That's what I tried to do. In the morning, I think I did play a few shots more than what I would have played ideally, but it didn't make me frustrated or angry at myself."

Rahul said he was keen to continue backing his strengths rather than become overly cautious simply because he was playing red-ball cricket. "I was okay with playing shots and playing to the merit of the ball. That's what I was trying to do more," he added.

The opener also expressed satisfaction at how quickly he was able to adjust from the fast-paced nature of the IPL to the patience required

in Test cricket. "I'm really happy that I could get some time in the middle and make that switch from T20 to Test cricket in a couple of days. That was the most pleasing thing." Rahul credited India's preparation in New Chandigarh for helping him understand the nature of the surface before the match.

"It wasn't coming on at all. It was a really slow and low sort of wicket, which we did expect. We had a few days of training here, and it was pretty similar to this. I had to get used to spending time in the middle and letting the ball come to you. The few days that we spent here really helped, and I just carried that same training into the game and enjoyed being out in the middle and playing some good old Test cricket," he said. Rahul's century, his 12th in Tests, anchored India's innings after an early wicket and set the platform for a dominant opening day against Afghanistan.

## India beats Bangladesh to reclaim SAFF Women's Championship title

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

The Indian team's wait finally got over as it reclaimed the SAFF Women's Championship title after seven years, defeating defending champions Bangladesh 3-1 in a gripping final at the Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in Margao, Goa, on Saturday.

Pyari Xaxa gave India the lead in the 42nd minute before Ritu Porna Chakma equalised in first-half stoppage time. Sanfida Nongrum restored the Blue Tigresses' advantage just 40 seconds into the second half, while substitute Lynda Kom Serto sealed the victory in the 82nd minute as India lifted a record-extending sixth trophy.



As the final whistle sounded, the Indian side and their supporters erupted in joy because the significance of the achievement was evident across the Indian camp. Sanfida Nongrum, who played a decisive role throughout the tournament, scoring in both the semifinal and the final, dropped to her knees before embracing teammate Dangmei Grace, who announced her retirement after the match. Around them, players and staff celebrated as India returned to the summit of South Asian women's football for the first time since 2019. Grace, a legend of the Indian women's game, represented the country 95 times since her debut in 2013, and ended her international career on

a high after winning her third SAFF title. The triumph capped a remarkable campaign for the hosts, who won all four of their matches, scoring 18 goals and conceding just one, while ending Bangladesh's hopes of securing a historic third consecutive title. The final had all the ingredients expected from a meeting between the region's two strongest sides. Bangladesh arrived as defending champions, while India were chasing a title

that had eluded them for the last two editions. Manisha Kalyan made her first start of the tournament as India looked to make an early statement. The hosts enjoyed much of the possession during the opening stages and created the better opportunities. Sanfida Nongrum was first to threaten, trying her luck from a difficult angle before sending her effort over the bar. India came even closer in the 16th minute when Bangladesh

goalkeeper Mile Akter failed to deal with a long ball from Nirmala Devi Phanjoubam. The loose ball fell kindly for Astam Oraon, but the defender could not keep her effort on target.

Bangladesh, however, remained dangerous. Ritu Porna Chakma nearly repeated her semi-final heroics against Nepal in the 23rd minute, curling a corner directly towards the crossbar.

Crispin Chettri's side continued to push forward. Aveka Singh headed narrowly wide from a Nirmala cross before Mile Akter produced an excellent save to deny Manisha Kalyan's powerful half-volley in the 38th minute. The breakthrough finally arrived three minutes before half-time. Pyari Xaxa showed quick feet inside the penalty area before getting away a shot. Su-rov Akter attempted to block the effort, but the deflection looped over the advancing Mile Akter and into the net.

## Second Sudanese national tests negative for Ebola

The second of two Sudanese nationals admitted to the state-run Gandhi Hospital here with complaints of fever also tested negative for Ebola, officials said on Saturday, June 6.

The student in his 20s, was referred to hospital on the evening of June 4 from a private healthcare facility in the city. An attendant of the student was advised to remain in home isolation.

Earlier, another Sudanese national tested negative after being admitted to the hospital when he was found to have a fever during thermal screening at the RGI airport. He had come to Hyderabad for knee surgery.

The Telangana government has set up a special 10-bed isolation ward at Gandhi Hospital for suspected Ebola cases. Last month, Hyderabad airport issued an advisory stating it was implementing enhanced public health preparedness measures in accordance with directives from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) and the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) regarding the ongoing Ebola virus disease outbreak reported in certain countries. The advisory applies to passengers arriving from or transiting through affected regions, including Uganda, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), and neighbouring.

## Hyderabad Sees Widespread Rainfall, Brings Relief from Heat



Several parts of the city witnessed rainfall on Saturday, offering much-needed relief to residents from the prolonged summer heat. Areas including Gachibowli, Jubilee Hills, Film Nagar, Borabanda, Yousufguda, SR Nagar, Sanathnagar, Raidurgam, Hyderguda, Upparpally, LB Nagar, Vanasthalipuram, and Hayathnagar received showers. The sudden change in weather brought down temperatures and eased the discomfort caused by the recent humid conditions, bringing respite to citizens who had been struggling with the sweltering heat.

## Only 13 pc of Hyderabad slum children go to govt schools

Hyderabad's children are falling through the cracks of its public school system, and the people who work in its slums every day have the numbers to prove it.

At a meeting held at Sundaraiah Vignana Kendram (SVK) in Baghlingampally on Saturday, June 6, social activists and grassroots workers from across 34 municipal divisions in Hyderabad came together with ward-level data, field surveys and personal testimony. They all point to the same conclusion – the city's government school infrastructure has failed to keep pace with its population and children, especially in its poorest neighbourhoods, are paying the price.

On average, only around 13 per cent of children living in these divisions attend government schools. The rest are either enrolled in private schools, which charge anywhere between Rs 20,000 and Rs 50,000 or more a year, or are out of school entirely.

## Telangana Police launches 'Stree Ride' for women drivers



**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Director General of Police (DGP) CV Anand on Saturday, June 6, launched "Stree Ride," an initiative aimed at promoting women's empowerment by creating employment opportunities for women in the transport sector.

Launched under the aegis of the Women's Safety Wing, the programme seeks to encourage women to take up driving as a profession while enhancing their economic independence and participation in public transport services.

As part of the first phase of the initiative, 50 women bike riders, four women autorickshaw drivers and one woman cab driver were provided specialised training.

Officials said greater participation of women in public and private transport services would help improve the sense of safety among women passengers, particularly in urban areas, bus stations and railway stations.

The training programme was conducted under the leadership of MAWO chief executive officer Jai (CEO) Bharati. Companies, including Zippi, Bigili and MAWO, have

extended employment opportunities to trained candidates, while Mahindra Auto provided vehicles for the initiative.

Speaking after flagging off the programme, Anand said women's empowerment, safety and skill development remained central to the government's development agenda. He said women entering professions traditionally dominated by men was a positive sign and stressed the importance of family support in helping women succeed in their chosen careers.

"With encouragement from husbands, parents and family members, women can excel in any field," he said.

The DGP also highlighted measures taken by the police for women's safety, including initiatives such as SHE Teams and SHE Cabs, and said efforts were continuing to strengthen safety mechanisms for women across the state.

Anand urged women to enter emerging sectors instead of limiting themselves to traditional occupations and said the "Stree Ride" initiative would help them achieve financial independence while improving their families' economic well-being.

## Air Force to deliver papers to Telangana for NEET 2026 on June 21

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

For the first time the Indian Air Force is being roped in, to transport the question papers for the rescheduled National Eligibility cum Entrance Test (NEET) Under Graduate (UG) 2026 scheduled to be held on June 21.

The earlier NEET UG 2026 that was held on May 3, was cancelled on May 12, after a large-scale paper leak was exposed spanning states across the country. Stressed over the paper leak, at least 6 well-performing candidates died by suicide.

The Cockroach Janta Party (CJP), which held a protest at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi on Saturday, June 6, has demanded the sacking of Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan, holding him responsible for the NEET 2026 paper leak and the irregularities in the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).

Telangana Chief Secretary K Ramakrishna Rao held a video conference

with all the district collectors and reviewed the arrangements being made for the smooth conduct of the exam at Dr BR Ambedkar Telangana State Secretariat on Saturday, June 6.

Addressing the meeting virtually, Director General of the National Testing Agency (NTA) Abhishek Singh informed the meeting that enhanced security protocols were being implemented for the rescheduled NEET UG 2026.

He said the transportation of the question papers for the rescheduled exam reflected the importance being accorded to maintaining the integrity and security of the examination process. Addressing the collectors, the Chief Secretary stressed the importance of ensuring fool-proof arrangements for the successful conduct of the NEET examination. He directed district administrations to work in close coordination with all the departments concerned, and ensure that candidates were provided a hassle-free environment on the examination day.

## 6,700 Couples Reunited, 9,700 Disputes Resolved in Malkajgiri

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Telangana DGP C.V. Anand on Saturday advised couples to avoid escalating arguments, remarking humorously that husbands should not confront their wives during heated moments. Addressing a gathering of over 150 reunited couples at the 'Mee Suraksha — Kalasi Unte Kaladu Sukham' programme in Malkajgiri, the DGP said nearly 6,700 couples have been reunited through counselling across Telangana, while

more than 9,700 family disputes have been handled by family counselling centres (FCCs) under the Malkajgiri Commissionerate.

"In a marriage, don't go against your wife during an argument," the DGP said. "If there is a fight, keep quiet, step outside for five minutes, take a deep breath and then come back," he said, stressing that patience and mutual understanding are essential for a successful marriage. The special programme, organised by the Women Safety Wing (WSW) of

the Malkajgiri Commissionerate, under the Centre for Development and Empowerment of Women (CDEW) — FCCs initiative, focused on promoting family harmony, women's safety, peaceful conflict resolution and marital well-being through counselling and mediation.

The event saw participation from more than 150 reunited couples and their family members where the couples shared stories of reconciliation and highlighted the importance of dialogue and mutual respect in preserv-

ing relationships and families. DGP Anand said women's safety, dignity and empowerment remain among the top priorities of the Telangana government and police. He highlighted various initiatives such as SHE teams, Bharosa centres, women police stations, anti-human trafficking units, SHE shuttles and family counselling centres, which collectively strengthen women's safety through prevention, legal assistance, counselling, rehabilitation and support services.

## Fish Prasadam Distribution

Telangana Completes Massive Arrangements for June 8 Event

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana government has completed extensive arrangements for the annual fish prasadam distribution at the Nampally Exhibition Grounds, scheduled to begin on June 8, with lakhs of devotees expected from across the country on the occasion of Mrugasira Karthi.

State Transport and BC Welfare Minister Ponnamb Prabhakar, the minister-in-charge for the event, on Saturday inspected the venue along with Fisheries Minister Vakiti Srihari, Rajya Sabha MP Anil Kumar Yadav and Fisheries Corporation Chairman Mettu Saikumar. The team reviewed distribution counters, queue management systems and barricading to ensure smooth conduct of the two-day programme. The fish prasadam distribution will start at 9 a.m. on June 8 and continue through June 9. The 176-year-old tradition, carried out by the Bathini family, involves administering a herbal preparation placed inside a live Murrel fish



free of cost to patients. It is widely believed to provide relief from asthma and breathing-related ailments. The Fisheries Department has arranged around 1.4 lakh high-quality Murrel fishlings for the event.

To manage the anticipated crowds, the government has directed officials to install fans and coolers along queue lines, ensure uninterrupted power supply, provide safe drinking water and keep standby generators ready. Ambulances, medical camps and CPR teams will remain stationed at the venue to respond to emergencies.

Security arrangements have also been strengthened, with CCTV surveillance, a dedicated control room and comprehensive traffic management plans for the Nampally area.

SHE Teams will be deployed, while public announcements will caution visitors against pickpocketing.

Officials said voluntary organisations will provide breakfast, meals and accommodation to visitors arriving from other states. Fisheries Minister Vakiti Srihari stated that all departments are working in coordination to ensure the event is conducted smoothly, while both ministers said they would remain at the venue until the programme concludes. Meanwhile, District Collector Dr. Priyanka Ala and Additional Commissioner of Police Tafseer Iqbal conducted a separate inspection, reviewing drinking water facilities, electricity supply, stage arrangements and VIP queue management.

## Man kills wife of 13 yrs over disputes, suspicion of infidelity

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Attapur Police have arrested an accused person within 24 hours of a brutal murder case in which a woman was allegedly killed by her husband following prolonged family disputes and suspicions over her character.

The accused has been identified as Avinash Irbaji Kalne, 37 years, an auto driver and mason, resident of Tejaswini Nagar, Attapur, originally from Bela Nagar, Nanded District, Maharashtra

State. According to police, the incident occurred on Friday, June 5, at Tejaswini Nagar, Attapur, Rajendranagar.

The deceased has been identified as Soni alias Komal Avinash Kalne, wife of the accused. She was working as a housemaid. The couple, married in March 2013, has two male children. Police said that the family initially lived peacefully for about eight years, after which the accused allegedly developed bad habits, including alcohol consumption.

## Mega job mela for minority youth to be held in Hyderabad

The Telangana Minorities Finance Corporation (TGMFC) will organise a "Mega Job Mela" for unemployed minority youth in Hyderabad on June 9 as part of efforts to enhance employment opportunities in the community.

The recruitment drive will be held at Red Rose Palace in Nampally and will be inaugurated by Minority Welfare, Public Enterprises and Government Relations Minister Mohammed Azharuddin, according to a statement issued by the corporation. Around 40 to 50 companies from sectors such as information technology, banking, finance, healthcare, manufacturing, logistics, hospitality and customer services are expected to participate.

## Telangana govt encourages Malaysian companies to invest in state

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Telangana IT minister Sridhar Babu on Saturday, June 6, met a high-level Malaysian delegation urging it to encourage their companies to invest in the state. He stated that the state government is working systematically to bring into existence a semiconductor 'ecosystem' equipped with world-class facilities to align with future needs and address the chal-

lenges that will arise in the coming days.

The delegation led by Malaysia-Penang Deputy CM VYB Jagdeep Singh Deo, met Sridhar Babu at the Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Telangana State Secretariat. They specifically discussed opportunities for mutual cooperation between 'Telangana-Malaysia (Penang)' in areas such as semiconductors, electronics manufacturing, AI, innovations, human capital development, and related

fields. The Telangana IT minister also noted that Hyderabad is emerging as an international center in chip design, electronics, and advanced technology sectors. He added there are immense opportunities in sectors such as semiconductors, electronics manufacturing, advanced manufacturing, emerging technologies, life sciences, biotechnology, clean energy, aerospace, defense, precision engineering.

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