



**Australia Agrees to Export Uranium to India for Peaceful Civilian Use: P4**



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## Revanth Takes Swipe At BRS, Says Opposition Should Let Govt Work

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Thursday said that the opposition party should let the government function without showing its "impatience every day" over losing power. Speaking after inaugurating 'India's Next-Gen Solar Module Manufacturing Facility' of Premier Energies on the city's outskirts, he also said the state government envisions making Telangana compete with countries such as South Korea and China and transforming the state into a USD three trillion economy by



2047. "We will do politics ahead of elections. My suggestion to opposition parties. Let the government work for some time. Don't show your sorrow, your impatience over losing power to people and government every day. People have given their verdict for five years. Whatever politics you

want to do, we will do during the last six months. We can tell people about your performance and our performance," he said. Reddy's comments came against the backdrop of a verbal duel between the ruling Congress and BRS during the last several days over irregularities in the Kalesharam irrigation project and the debt burden imposed by the previous BRS regime. The Kalesharam irrigation project is a multi-purpose project on the Godavari River in the Bhupalpally district. Citing reports of Central government agencies, he said Telangana was ranked 36 (last

in education in 2023, which rose to 18 now (during the present Congress regime). The aim is to make Telangana achieve top ranks, he said. He congratulated Premier Energies and the officials of Telangana Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TGIIC) for constructing the plant within the span of one year. He asked the government officials to show Premier Energies to prospective investors as the company has set up its facility in the Peri Urban Region (PURE), which has been identified by the government as a manufacturing zone.

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## Israel Warns Iran of More Strikes

**JERUSALEM**  
Wakeup telangana

Israel has warned that it is prepared to resume military operations against Iran if required, with Defence Minister Israel Katz declaring that any future offensive would be carried out "with even greater force." Speaking at a military ceremony on Thursday, Katz said the Israeli military remains on high alert and is fully prepared for renewed action against Iran to counter emerging threats. "The army is ready and on alert for a resumption of fight-

ing to regain air superiority and strike again in Iran, including a third time if necessary," Katz said. He added that if Israel is forced to return to the battlefield, it will do so with significantly greater intensity. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu also addressed the ceremony, saying Israel's previous military operations had severely weakened Iran and its regional network of allies. However, he cautioned that the confrontation was far from over. "The Iranian axis is weaker than ever before,

while Israel is stronger than ever before," Netanyahu said. "We proved that the long arm of the Israeli Air Force can reach anywhere, from Yemen to Iran. Yet we must acknowledge that the campaign is not over." The latest remarks come amid renewed tensions in the region after fresh fighting involving the United States and Iran reignited fears of a broader conflict, despite an April ceasefire and a June US-Iran agreement aimed at ending hostilities.

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### WEATHER

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

**First Time as CM, First Time Since Stampede: All Eyes on Vijay's Karur Visit**



The maiden visit of C Joseph Vijay as Chief Minister to Karur on Friday has caused excitement among the people as he is expected to distribute 32 appointment orders issued on compassionate grounds to relatives of the victims of the stampede on September 27, 2025, during a TVK rally, besides laying the foundation for a factory that would employ 13,500 people. During his much awaited visit, Vijay would distribute the appointment orders for jobs in various government departments at a government function at the Collector's office premises and lay the foundation for the Rs 1500 crore worth non-leather footwear manufacturing unit of Evervan

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## Telangana Govt Sanctions ₹7,345 Crore for Musi Riverfront Project



**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana government on Thursday accorded administrative sanction for the Musi Riverfront Development Project, approving an expenditure of ₹7,345.12 crore, excluding land acquisition costs, for priority stretches under Zone-1A and Zone-1B in Hydera-

bad. The ambitious project aims to rejuvenate the Musi River through integrated riverfront development, urban infrastructure enhancement, and environmental restoration. It will cover a total stretch of around 21 km, comprising Himayatsagar to Bapughat (9.2 km) and Osmansagar to Bapughat (11.8 km).

According to the government order, the project will be financed through a combination of a ₹4,500 crore loan from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and ₹2,845.12 crore from the Telangana government. The initiative forms a key component of the state's broader vision to transform nearly 200 square kilometres of Hyderabad's urban land-

scape into a sustainable, climate-resilient, and environmentally friendly riverfront corridor. The government has decided to execute the project under the Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) model to ensure efficient implementation. A Project Management Consultancy (PMC) will be appointed to oversee

planning, execution, quality control, and monitoring in accordance with ADB guidelines. The Musi Riverfront Development Corporation Limited (MRDCL) has been entrusted with taking all necessary steps for implementing the project. The Musi Riverfront Development Project is expected to significantly improve Hyderabad's

## Global Air Power Rankings: India 6th

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has secured the sixth position in the Global Air Powers Ranking 2026, while the United States Air Force (USAF) retained the top spot, according to the latest assessment by the World Directory of Modern Military Aircraft (WDMMA). The annual ranking provides a comprehensive assessment of global military aviation by analysing the overall combat capability of air

forces rather than merely comparing the size of their aircraft inventories. The WDMMA currently tracks 48,082 military aircraft across 129 air arms in 103 countries, including independent air wings operated by armies, navies and marine forces. The rankings are based on the organisation's proprietary TrueVal Rating (TVR), a formula that evaluates multiple factors such as technological modernisation, operational readiness, logistical support, strike capability, defensive strength and the

overall balance of an air fleet. According to the report, the United States Air Force achieved the highest TVR score of 242.9, maintaining its position as the world's most capable air power. India's sixth-place ranking reflects the growing strength of the IAF, supported by a mix of advanced fighter aircraft, transport fleets, helicopters, force multipliers and indigenous capabilities that continue to enhance its operational readiness.

## T Govt Tells HC Fee Reimbursement Will Be Cleared by Aug 15

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The state government on Thursday informed the High Court that fee reimbursement for the current academic year will be cleared by August 15. It also assured that dues for second, third, and fourth-year students would be paid. The submission was made during the hearing of petitions filed by several engineering colleges alleging non-payment of fee reimbursement by the

**Colleges oppose proposal, cite ₹10,000 crore pending dues; HC hears plea on delayed payments**

government. However, counsel for the petitioners opposed the government's proposal, arguing that fee reimbursements have not been cleared for several years. The counsel told the court that pending dues have mounted to nearly ₹10,000 crore and demanded immediate clear-

ance of arrears from 2023. The colleges urged the High Court to direct the government to clear pending dues at the earliest and allow a timeline for settling the remaining amounts. During the hearing, the government also requested the court to lift the stay imposed on certain clauses of G.O. 9, stating that the restrictions were causing difficulties for newly admitted students.

## India Slams US Forced Labour Tariff Policy as 1,600 Items Get Exemptions

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

India has flagged inconsistencies in the US approach to tariffs at a public hearing on the US Trade Representative's (USTR) proposal to impose levies on goods linked to forced labour. Testifying before a USTR panel on Wednesday, Brij Mohan Mishra, Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Commerce, pointed out that the US exempts 1,600 items that cannot be produced or grown within the country from scrutiny of

forced labour. "What we submit is that the exemptions provided by the USTR not only undermine the policy rationale of addressing forced labour impact in the global supply chain but also of preventing such impact caused by circumvention practices," Mishra said, in response to questions from the USTR panel. He also flagged that the US levies reduced tariff rates on exports of textile products manufactured using US cotton and related items.

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## US-Iran Strikes Escalate Despite Ceasefire Fears

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

The United States launched new airstrikes against Iran early Thursday, and Tehran responded by targeting U.S.-allied Mideast countries in an exchange of fire that threatened an interim deal intended to help end the war in the Middle East. Back-and-forth attacks, including a day earlier, have repeatedly threatened the ceasefire, but Thursday's

appeared bigger all around, with sirens sounding at least three times in Bahrain, home to the U.S. Navy's 5th Fleet headquarters, and missiles targeting Kuwait and Qatar. Sirens sounded Thursday afternoon in Jordan as well, where the U.S. has stationed troops and aircraft. An Iranian official accused the U.S. of launching an airstrike later Thursday targeting the area around Iran's sole nuclear power plant, and other explosions were re-



ported elsewhere in the country during the afternoon. The strikes came hours after U.S. President Donald Trump said recent Iranian attacks on ships in the Strait of Hormuz signalled the end of a fragile ceasefire and threatened to escalate the conflict if they didn't stop. That

raised concerns that the region could tip back into a war that would engulf several countries and could halt energy shipments through the strait that are crucial for the global economy. In Iran, the two days of American airstrikes have killed at least 14 people and wounded another 78, Iran's Health Ministry said Thursday — most of those reportedly members of the armed forces. In Kuwait, the military said falling debris wounded

one person as it shot down three ballistic missiles, a cruise missile and 10 drones. Bahrain said it shot down incoming fire, without elaborating. There was no immediate word of damage in Qatar. US strikes hit more targets The U.S. military's Central Command said it hit some 90 targets across Iran, releasing black-and-white footage of what appeared to be strikes on an airport runway and missile launchers. The U.S. said the strikes were in-

tended to "further degrade" Iran's ability "to threaten freedom of navigation" in the strait, through which a fifth of the world's traded oil and natural gas passed before the war began with U.S. and Israeli attacks on Feb. 28. Attacks on ships — and the threat of them — virtually halted traffic in the waterway during the conflict, causing the price of oil to skyrocket and raising prices on many basic

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## Congress downfall inevitable in Telangana, BRS poised for return: KTR

KTR Claims BRS Would Win 78 Seats if Polls Held Now, Urges Vigilance on Electoral Roll Revision

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

BRS working president KT Rama Rao said the ruling Congress was rapidly losing ground in Telangana, and asserted that public dissatisfaction with the State government had reached a point where the party's decline was inevitable. He declared that even if the Assembly elections were held immediately, the BRS will return to power with around 78 seats. In a special review meeting with BRS legislators and Greater Hyderabad leaders at former Minister Talasani Srinivas Yadav's residence in Jubilee Hills on Thursday, Rama Rao cited an internal survey commissioned by Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy which concluded that the Congress was facing strong anti-incumbency midway through its term. He stated that similar findings had emerged from multiple



surveys conducted by two media organisations as well as feedback gathered by Central and State intelligence agencies.

"The surveys reflected a growing public preference for BRS president K Chandrashekhara Rao to return as the Chief Minister," he said, adding that Revanth Reddy's recent remarks stemmed from his inability to accept the findings of these surveys and the increasing public discontent with the Congress government.

The BRS working president accused the Congress of attempting to divert public attention from its failures by targeting the previous BRS government over issues ranging from the Kaleshwaram

project to the Rythu Bandhu scheme. He said the Congress failed to fulfil its Six Guarantees, declarations and around 420 promises made to the people, resulting in the loss of public confidence across sections of society. "People are increasingly viewing the BRS as the only credible alternative. They are not inclined to support the BJP. The Congress had reached a stage from which it would find it difficult to regain public support, irrespective of its political strategy," he affirmed.

During the meeting, Rama Rao instructed the party leaders to closely monitor the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls across the State, particularly in the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation limits. He said the exercise was progressing slowly due to inadequate training and preparation of Booth Level Officers (BLOs), leading to inconvenience for

voters. Referring to feedback received from the grassroots, he said awareness regarding the distribution of forms and voter enrolment procedures remained inadequate, especially in Hyderabad. He stressed that the electoral revision was a crucial constitutional exercise aimed at ensuring "One Person, One Vote" and preventing bogus or duplicate voters.

Recalling the alleged detection of duplicate and fake votes during the recent Jubilee Hills by-election, Rama Rao asked the party functionaries and Booth Level Agents (BLAs) to ensure that no genuine voters lose their franchise during the revision process. He also alleged that there was a possibility of attempts to register duplicate voters or shift voters into constituencies where the Congress and BJP were politically influential, and urged party workers to remain vigilant.

## BRS says KCR's efforts secured Tadicherla coal block

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Former Minister Koppala Eshwar asserted that the allotment of the Tadicherla coal block to Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) was the result of sustained efforts by BRS chief and former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao and the Telangana Boggu Ghani Karmika Sangham (TBGKS). However, he said both the Congress and the BJP were attempting to claim undue credit despite being responsible for the auctioning of coal blocks. Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan on Thursday, Eshwar said safeguarding Singareni was the people's right and asserted that the coal major had been strengthened under Chandrashekhara Rao's leadership. He said Singareni had discovered the Tadicherla



block decades ago and secured it only after a 13-year struggle. He added that the Tadicherla block was not on the Centre's auction list.

The senior BRS leader recalled that former Chief Minister Chandrashekhara Rao had made sustained efforts and even wrote to Prime Minister Narendra Modi opposing amendments to the Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 (MMDR Act), as well as the auction of coal blocks. "But the Centre ignored the request. Instead, both the Congress and the BJP supported amendments to the MMDR Act and paved

the way for the auction of coal mines," he added.

He said the Congress and the BJP should stop competing for credit over Tadicherla and instead focus on restoring privatised mines to Singareni, resolving workers' pending demands and identifying those responsible for the alleged missing coal scam.

Former MLA Balka Suman alleged that while Singareni had become a profitable enterprise under the BRS rule, it had turned into a centre of scams after the Congress assumed office. He pointed to alleged irregularities in overburden (OB) tenders, a Rs. 1,600-crore coal scam involving 42 lakh metric tonnes of coal, and claimed that scams worth Rs. 16,000 crore had taken place in Singareni during the Congress government's tenure.

## Kavitha Demands Justice for Tribal Family

Kavitha Slams Government Over Gundala Maternal Deaths, Demands Justice for Tribal Family

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

BRS MLC K. Kavitha has strongly criticized the Telangana government over the deaths of a mother and her newborn at the Gundala Hospital in Bhadradi Kothagudem district, alleging gross medical negligence and administrative failure. She demanded immediate justice and comprehensive support for the bereaved tribal family. Addressing the issue, Kavitha said the tragic incident occurred about 15 days ago and that local residents believe the deaths resulted from negligence by hospital staff. She alleged that family members were not informed promptly about the deaths and that suspicions deepened when a pair of scissors was reportedly found among the ashes after the cremation of the mother and child. Kavitha questioned why the government had failed



to identify and publicly disclose those responsible for the incident. She said that suspending one or two staff members after public outrage was insufficient and accused the authorities of attempting to cover up the matter rather than ensuring accountability.

Expressing concern over the family's condition, she noted that they belong to a poor tribal household and had not received adequate assistance from the government. According to Kavitha, the family deserved permanent support and rehabilitation meas-

ures instead of symbolic action.

She further alleged that hospital authorities behaved irresponsibly by creating the impression that the newborn was alive through the administration of oxygen despite the child's condition. Kavitha also criticized the district's ministers for not visiting the family, stating that human life should be the highest priority for public representatives.

Highlighting the challenges faced by residents in remote tribal areas, she pointed out that the region lacks even basic mobile

network connectivity and requires stronger health-care infrastructure. She called for the deployment of additional ambulances and specialized medical personnel, including gynecologists, to serve tribal communities.

Referring to another recent incident in Khammam in which a young boy allegedly lost his hand following medical treatment, Kavitha claimed that healthcare services in tribal areas remain severely neglected. She accused the government of weakening institutions such as ITDA and GCC and noted that no recruitments had been made in ITDA for the past 13 years.

Warning the government against "playing with the lives of tribals," Kavitha assured the victim's family of support from the BRS and demanded meaningful reforms to prevent similar tragedies in the future.

## Mala Community to Launch Hunger Strike Today

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The National Ambedkar Sena has announced an indefinite hunger strike from July 11 at Chintal Basti Community Hall, Khairatabad, protesting the implementation of the Scheduled Castes Reservation Classification Act, 2025, in Telangana. The organisation is demanding that the roster point allotted to the Mala community be revised from 22 to 16, alleging that the present system is "unsci-



entific" and has severely affected employment opportunities for Mala youth. Community leaders said the fast-unto-death would continue until the State government provides a written assurance

on revising the roster points. They argued that the Mala community has made significant historical contributions to agriculture, irrigation, village administration, traditional medicine and cultural

preservation, yet continues to face discrimination. The protest also carries political significance, with organisers claiming the Mala community has been a strong support base for the Congress and accusing the government of betraying its trust through the new reservation classification. They maintained that reservations were intended to address social backwardness and alleged that the present sub-classification undermines that objective.

## Osmania Hospital Marks World Skin Health Day with Awareness Rally, Seminar

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Osmania General Hospital celebrated World Skin Health Day with an awareness rally and seminar aimed at promoting awareness about skin diseases and the importance of timely treatment. The programme was organized under the leadership of Dr. Katakam Bhoomesh Kumar, Head of the Department of Dermatology. Osmania Hospital Superintendent Dr. Rakesh



Sahay, the chief guest, emphasized that the skin is the body's first protective shield and urged people to consult qualified dermatologists for any skin-related ailments to ensure healthy living. Addressing the gathering, Dr. Bhoomesh Kumar said the body's immune defence begins with healthy skin, describing

dermatologists as the first line of protection for human health. He also highlighted the need for greater public awareness about skin care and disease prevention.

During the event, print and electronic media journalists were felicitated for their role in spreading public health awareness. The programme was attended by RMO Dr. Sri-mannarayana, dermatologists, house surgeons, nurses, postgraduate students, and other hospital staff.

## MATOOR VILLAGE MOURNS THE DEMISE OF VAKTI PRATAP REDDY



A pall of gloom descended over Mator village in Motakondur Mandal of Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district following the demise of Sri Vakti Pratap Reddy (80), who passed away on Thursday at around 2:30 PM. His death has left family members, relatives, friends, and villagers deeply saddened. Sri Vakti Pratap Reddy is survived by his daughter Smt. Vijayalakshmi. As he had no male heir, he had accepted Sri Chiluguri Ram Reddy of Sakampalli village, Madire, as his illarikam son-in-law, and the family has been living together with strong family values and mutual affection. Relatives and villagers remembered Sri Pratap Reddy as a humble, soft-spoken, and kind-hearted person who earned the respect and affection of everyone in the village. They described his demise as an irreparable loss to the community.

For the past few years, he had been residing in a house in Mator village. Before that, the family had spent many years living together as a joint family near their agricultural well and farmland. Agriculture remained the backbone of the family, and villagers recalled that they practised joint farming for several decades while maintaining close family ties.

## Dr. Kota Neelima Attends Oath-Taking Ceremony of Sri Ujjaini Mahakali Temple

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The oath-taking ceremony of the newly constituted Trust Board of the historic Sri Ujjaini Mahakali Temple in Secunderabad, recently appointed by the Government of Telangana, was held with solemnity at the temple premises on Thursday. TPCC Vice President and Congress Party In-charge for the Sanathnagar Assembly Constituency, Dr. Kota Neelima, attended the ceremony as the chief guest and congratulated the newly inducted members. Temple Executive Officer



Manohar Reddy and Endowments Department Inspector Sridevi administered the oath of office to the Trust Board members. Extending her best wishes, Dr. Neelima expressed confidence that the members would discharge their responsibilities with dedication and integrity under the blessings of Goddess Sri Ujjaini Mahakali and further

enhance the temple's prestige.

Highlighting the importance of the upcoming Ashada Bonalu Festival, Dr. Neelima urged the Trust Board, Endowments Department officials, and other government agencies to work in close coordination to ensure the smooth, safe, and grand conduct of the celebrations. She stressed the

need to provide a well-organized and devotee-friendly environment while serving devotees with sincerity and commitment.

The newly sworn-in Trust Board members thanked Dr. Neelima for her support in facilitating their induction and assured that they would uphold the trust placed in them by working with transparency, commitment, and devotion. They pledged to focus on the temple's development, preservation of its religious traditions, and improvement of facilities for devotees...

## JNTUH Invites Applications for International Integrated B.Tech–M.Sc. Programs

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University Hyderabad (JNTUH), in collaboration with Reutlingen University Knowledge Foundation (KFRU), Germany, has invited applications for its prestigious 5-Year International Integrated Bachelor & Master's Programs (IBMP) for the 2026–27 academic year. Admissions will be based on JEE (Main)-2026 and TG-EAPCET-2026 ranks. The integrated programs



offered are B.Tech (Computer Science & Engineering) with M.Sc. in Professional Software Engineering and B.Tech (Electronics & Communication Engineering) with M.Sc. in Digital Business Management, providing students with an internationally focused academic pathway.

The online application process began on June 24 and will remain open until July 10. Candidates who miss the deadline can apply with a late fee until July 14. Counselling is scheduled for July 15.

Interested candidates are advised to apply at the earliest. Detailed information regarding eligibility, fee structure, and admissions is available on the official JNTUH website. For assistance, applicants may contact the admission helpline at 9044115999 or 9044117999.

**Vaddiraju Ravichandra appointed as BRS Parliamentary Party leader**



BRS president and former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao appointed Rajya Sabha MP Vaddiraju Ravichandra as the party's Parliamentary Party leader and floor leader in the Rajya Sabha, replacing KR Suresh Reddy, whose term has ended. Ravichandra, who has been serving as the deputy floor leader, has now been entrusted with leading the BRS in the Upper House. The appointment was announced by the party on Thursday. A second-term Rajya Sabha member, Ravichandra was re-nominated by the BRS leadership in recognition of his contributions to the party and his representation of BC and Bahujan communities. His current term in the Rajya Sabha will expire in April 2030. He is also serving on the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Petroleum and Natural Gas and the Consultative Committee of the Ministry of Coal and Mines.

## Dry monsoon pushes Telangana towards water crisis as reservoirs shrink

A weak Southwest Monsoon has sharply depleted Telangana's reservoir storage, with poor inflows into the Krishna and Godavari rivers raising fears of a drinking water crisis. Officials warn that without widespread rainfall

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

A weak Southwest Monsoon has pushed Telangana to the brink of a potential drinking water crisis, with storage levels in major reservoirs depleting sharply and inflows into the Krishna and Godavari rivers remaining negligible. As anxiety grows over dwindling water reserves, the State government is yet to unveil a comprehensive contingency plan, despite officials warning of a worsening situation if rains fail to revive by the end of July.

As on Wednesday evening, all the major reservoirs were holding 337.46 TMCft against total capacity of 1,059 TMCft. During the corresponding period last year, water levels in major reservoirs stood at 522.31 TMCft. More than a month into



the monsoon season, rainfall has remained far below expectations across Telangana and its upstream catchments. Telangana recorded a 13 per cent rainfall deficiency during the season, with rainfall remaining largely scattered and erratic. The absence of significant rainfall has virtually halted flood inflows into reservoirs, forcing authorities to rely almost entirely on carryover storage from the previous water year.

The situation is particularly alarming in the Krishna basin. The Srisaigram reservoir, with a full capacity of 215 TMCft,

currently holds just 42 TMCft, compared to 199 TMCft during the corresponding period last year. Nagarjuna Sagar contains only 138 TMCft against its full capacity of 312 TMCft, while upstream reservoirs in Karnataka are yet to accumulate enough water to permit downstream releases.

Although Almati is receiving over 1.26 lakh cu-secs of inflows, releases are unlikely until its storage reaches at least 100 TMCft. The Godavari basin presents a similar picture. Sriramsagar, Yellampalli, Singur and Nizamagar are all recording low storage levels, while Maharashtra's Jaikwadi reservoir has also received poor inflows, limiting downstream flows into Telangana. Lone exception is the Pranahita river, where healthy inflows have pushed discharge at Medigadda above 82,000

cu-secs. However, with the barrage gates fully open, the water is flowing downstream without being retained.

Due to poor water availability, farming has become uncertain with total sown area reaching just 55.31 lakh acres which is around 42 per cent of the normal area of 1.32 crore acres.

While farmers are already struggling with uncertainty, the shrinking reserves have raised concerns over the sustainability of Mission Bhagiratha, which depends on 29 major reservoirs to supply drinking water across rural and urban Telangana. Senior officials reportedly cautioned the government that prolonged dry conditions could trigger severe drinking water shortages if fresh inflows do not materialise before the end of this month.

## Contract healthcare workers stage dharna over wage delays

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Intensifying their week-long agitation, contract healthcare workers employed in government hospitals across Telangana staged a massive protest at the Directorate of Medical Education (DME) office in Koti on Thursday. The demonstration witnessed the participation of sanitation workers, patient care assistants (bedside assistants), and security personnel, who reiterated their long-pending demands for better wages and timely salary payments.

The protesters alleged that nearly 20,000 contract healthcare workers serving in government hospitals continue to face severe financial hardship due to delayed salary disbursements. They demanded that salaries be credited on the first day of every month and called for an increase in their



monthly wages to ₹26,000, a promise they said was made by the present State government before the Assembly elections.

Speaking during the protest, M. Narasimha, representing the Telangana Medical Contract Employees and Workers Union (affiliated with AITUC), said workers have been struggling for over a year without any resolution to their grievances. He pointed out that delayed salaries force employees to borrow money from private lenders to meet household expenses, placing an unnecessary financial burden on their families. The union also high-

lighted issues such as poor implementation of labour laws, wage stagnation, and the lack of job security for thousands of contract employees who play a crucial role in maintaining healthcare services across government hospitals.

The protesters questioned why the government had failed to fulfill its pre-election assurance of enhancing their salaries despite repeated representations. They urged the State government to immediately implement the promised wage hike and establish a system to ensure salaries are paid without delay every month.

## KLIS barrages can be operated safely

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana Retired Engineers Association (TREA) has urged the State government to immediately resume water pumping operations at the Medigadda, Annaram, and Sundilla barrages of the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme (KLIS), citing concerns over below-normal rainfall linked to the emerging El Niño conditions.

In a statement issued on Thursday, TREA said the current water levels in the Godavari River provide a timely opportunity to lift and store water for irrigation and drinking purposes before inflows decline further. The association stressed that prompt action could help safeguard water availability across Telangana during the remainder of the monsoon.

According to TREA, the water level at the Medigadda barrage has already crossed the minimum requirement of 93.5 metres above mean sea level needed to operate the Kannepalli pump



house. With inflows from the Pranahita River keeping the Godavari flowing at around 97.5 metres, despite all barrage gates remaining open, the engineers said the system is capable of pumping nearly 3 TMC ft of water per day upstream.

The association explained that nearly 8.8 TMC ft of water can be pumped from Medigadda and stored at the Annaram and Sundilla barrages before being lifted to the Yellampalli Reservoir within a week. It estimated that Annaram could safely hold around 5.1 TMC ft, while Sundilla could store approximately 3.78 TMC ft, provided water levels are maintained at the minimum drawdown levels of

116.5 metres and 126.5 metres, respectively.

Addressing concerns over the structural safety of the Annaram and Sundilla barrages, TREA stated that pumping operations could be carried out safely by restricting storage to the prescribed minimum operating levels. It noted that such a strategy would minimise risks while ensuring effective utilisation of the available river flows.

Drawing on previous flood management experiences, the retired engineers maintained that carefully regulated operations would not lead to submergence of villages or cause loss of life or property.

## BRS Leader Puppala Bhaskar Conducts Awareness Drive on Special Intensive Revision in Suraram

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

As part of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of the electoral rolls, Puppala Bhaskar, President of the BRS Party's Suraram Division (Ward No. 129) in Quthbullapur Assembly Constituency, conducted a field-level awareness programme to educate residents about the voter enrolment process. During the programme, he visited Nehru Nagar and Markandeya Nagar along with Booth Level Officers



(BLOs) and Booth Level Agents (BLAs). They interacted with residents and explained the procedures for new voter registration, correction of personal details, address changes, and inclusion of eligible voters in the elec-

toral roll. Addressing the public, Puppala Bhaskar said that the right to vote is the foundation of democracy and urged all eligible citizens to ensure their names are included in the electoral rolls.

## ₹4.09 Crore Development Works Launched in Hafeezpet

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana  
Srirangam Venkatesh

PAC Chairman Arekapudi Gandhi, along with former Corporator Jagadeeshwar Goud, laid the foundation stone for CC roads and crematorium development works worth ₹4.09 crore in HUDA Colony, Janapriya Nagar Phase-1, Madhav Nagar and Ambedkar Nagar under Hafeezpet Division. Speaking on the occasion, Gandhi said the projects would improve civic infrastructure and provide better roads and



public amenities for residents. He directed officials to complete the works on time while maintaining quality standards. He also announced that open gyms would be established in parks and colonies and that the Ambedkar Nagar cre-

matorium would be upgraded with modern facilities, including a cremation platform, rest rooms and a compound wall. Local leaders, residents and colony association members participated in the programme.

## Damodar Lays ₹50L Library Stone, Inspects Kangti PHC



**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Health Minister Damodar Rajanarasimha visited the Narayankhed Assembly Constituency on Wednesday to participate in development programmes aimed at strengthening education and healthcare infrastructure. During the visit, he laid the foundation stone for a new Branch Library Building and conducted a surprise inspection of the Kangti Primary Health Centre (PHC). Accompanied by Narayankhed MLA Dr. Patlolla Sanjeeva Reddy, the Minister laid the foundation stone for the library building, which will be constructed at a cost of ₹50 lakh under the Sangareddy District Library Organisation. Speaking on the occasion, the leaders said the library would become a valuable knowledge centre for students, job aspirants, and the local community by providing better access to books and learning resources. Later, the Minister inspected the Kangti PHC and reviewed outpatient (OP) and inpatient (IP) services, medical facilities, availability of doc-

tors and staff, and the hospital's overall functioning. He interacted with officials and sought a detailed report from the District Medical and Health Officer (DMHO) on the quality of healthcare services being provided to patients. During the inspection, MLA Dr. Patlolla Sanjeeva Reddy urged the Minister to upgrade the existing six-bed Kangti PHC into a 30-bed Community Health Centre (CHC) to cater to the increasing healthcare needs of the region. Minister Damodar Rajanarasimha responded positively and assured that the proposal would be examined favourably. The Minister also directed the DMHO to upgrade the Nizampet Primary Health Centre into a 24x7 hospital to ensure uninterrupted medical services for residents. The visit underscored the Telangana Government's focus on improving public healthcare facilities and educational infrastructure while enhancing access to quality services for people across the Narayankhed constituency.

## People's Welfare Diagnostic Centre Inaugurated at Rampally X Roads

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

A People's Welfare Diagnostic Centre, established by the People's Welfare Trust, was inaugurated at Rampally X Roads in Nagaram Division on Thursday by former Nagaram Municipal Councillor Madireddy Venkata Reddy. Speaking on the occasion, Venkata Reddy appreciated the initiative of providing quality diagnostic services at affordable prices. He said access to modern diagnostic facilities, comprehensive health check-up



packages, and home sample collection services would greatly benefit the public. He also highlighted the importance of early diagnosis in preventing and managing diseases. People's Welfare

Trust member J. Chandrasekhar said the centre was established with the objective of offering reliable and affordable medical diagnostic services to the common people. He added that the trust is

committed to public health and plans to organise more welfare-oriented healthcare initiatives in the future. He appealed to residents to make use of the services offered by the diagnostic centre. Among those present were East Gandhinagar Colony Welfare Association President Satyam Sagar, Krishna Reddy, Sai, Gopi, G. Venkateswara Rao, B.V. Satyanarayana, Anand, M. Srinivas, M.L. Chowdary, Nagaraju, Sheshagiri Rao, Shashidhar Reddy, and other local residents.

## Vidhya High Schools Students Visit ISRO-NRSC for Space Education Tour

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana  
Srirangam Venkatesh

Around 100 students from Classes 8, 9 and 10 of Vidhya High Schools participated in a Space Industrial Visit at the National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) under the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) for the 2026-27 academic year. During the visit, students gained firsthand knowledge about satellite technology, remote sensing, Earth observation sys-



tems, space research and India's achievements in the field of space science. ISRO/NRSC scientists Dr. Srinivas and Shivayya interacted with the students, explaining India's space missions, scientific inno-

ventions and career opportunities in science and technology. They also answered students' questions and encouraged scientific thinking. The programme was attended by Vidhya Group of Schools Direc-

tor Lion Dr. Trimurthulu Ponnada, K.I. Labs CEO Kareem Imran, and teachers from the Gachibowli and Indra Reddy Nagar branches. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Trimurthulu Ponnada said such educational visits provide practical exposure beyond classrooms and inspire students to pursue careers in science, technology, engineering and space research. He added that more innovative educational programmes will be organised in the future.

## Indian Sailors Risk Their Lives at Sea, as Iran War Grinds On

Born to landless Indian farmers, Sunil Pooniya thought a job at sea would be his ticket out of poverty, instead his first voyage saw him diving into the ocean to escape a deadly attack driven by the Iran war. For hundreds of thousands of Indians, merchant shipping jobs are a lucrative proposition despite the inherent risks. The attack on Pooniya's ship killed two fellow Indians -- the country's sailors are among the highest merchant maritime casualties from the Middle East war.

Dalip Singh and Ashish Kumar Singh were the first Indians killed in the conflict, after their oil tanker was hit on March 1 by projectiles off Oman's Khasab port. "There was a huge noise and the whole ship shook," Pooniya recalled. "I thought something had gone wrong with the engine, but a missile had hit us," Pooniya added, who had been on the Palau-flagged MV Sky-light. "The whole ship was up in flames."

# Sonam Wangchuk Loses Over 7 kg on 11th Day of Hunger Strike

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Educator and climate activist Sonam Wangchuk's condition deteriorated further on Wednesday as doctors examining him reported a loss of over 7 kilograms in his weight on the 11th day of his indefinite fast at Jantar Mantar. The Cockroach Janta Party's (CJP) protest at the protest site demanding Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan's resignation and government accountability over alleged examination irregularities entered its 19th day.

According to a health bulletin issued on Wednesday morning, Wangchuk's weight has dropped to 59.40 kilograms, taking his total weight loss since the start of the hunger strike to more than 7 kilo-



grams. His blood pressure was recorded at 103/68 mm Hg in the sitting position and 111/73 mm Hg while lying down. His heart rate was 74 beats per minute, blood glucose level 75 mg/dL and oxygen saturation was 98 per cent. The bulletin said his hydration was fair and that he remained mentally alert.

The CJP has been demanding Pradhan's resignation, alleging that repeated examination ir-

regularities and paper leaks have devastated the lives of students and their families. On Tuesday, the outfit welcomed the Delhi High Court's order restoring its original X handle, which had been withheld in May. CJP founder Abhijeet Dipke termed the order a "big win" for the movement, free speech and digital rights.

A delegation of the Samyukta Kisan Morcha (SKM) also visited the protest site on Tuesday to

express solidarity with the agitation and reiterated support for the protesters' demands, including Pradhan's resignation, scrapping of the National Testing Agency (NTA), compensation to families of students who died by suicide and action against those responsible for the alleged examination irregularities. Meanwhile, members of the CPI(ML) Liberation-affiliated All India Students' Association (AISA) -- Neha, Manish, Hrishikesh, Deepak Kumar Verma and Aameen -- continued their indefinite hunger strike on a separate stage at the protest site. The National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (Undergraduate), or NEET-UG, for admission to medical colleges, held on May 3, was cancelled over allegations of a paper leak. A re-test was held on June 21.

## First Time as CM, First Time Since Stampede: All Eyes on Vijay's Karur Visit

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

The maiden visit of C Joseph Vijay as Chief Minister to Karur on Friday has caused excitement among the people as he is expected to distribute 32 appointment orders issued on compassionate grounds to relatives of the victims of the stampede on September 27, 2025, during a TVK rally, besides laying the foundation for a factory that would employ 13,500 people. During his much awaited visit, Vijay would distribute the appointment orders for jobs in various government departments at a government function at the Collector's office premises and lay the foundation for the Rs 1500 crore worth non-leather footwear manufacturing unit of Evervan Kothari Footwear Private Limited, which would come up at Krishnarajapuram in Karur district.



However, the opposition parties termed the move as politically motivated. DMK organization secretary R S Bharathi urged the State government and the CBI, investigating the stampede case to ensure that the Chief Minister's visit to Karur and distribution of appointment orders did not unduly influence the families of the victims of the September 27, 2025 tragedy and the witnesses to the stampede. Responding to Bharathi's representation to the supervisory committee, appointed by the Supreme Court to monitor the case, on July 7 to issue the necessary orders to the Chief Secretary of the State and the CBI to ensure that those injured in the tragedy were also not influenced by the

visit, chairperson of the committee Justice (Retired) Ajay Rastogi informed that the complaint had been forwarded to the CBI for fair investigation and appropriate action. Objecting to the distribution of appointment orders, CPM State secretary P Shanmugham said that issuing the orders even before as the CBI had completed the probe would be detrimental to the outcome of the investigation and raised the question if it was fair for the government to compensate those who were killed while attending a TVK election rally. While it was a different thing for the TVK government to procure jobs for people from the affected families in the private sector, for appointing such persons in government departments, proper guidelines needed to be framed and followed, he said, urging the government to withhold the distribution.

## Australia Agrees to Export Uranium to India for Peaceful Civilian Use

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Indian leader Narendra Modi said he clinched a uranium supply agreement while visiting Australia on Thursday, securing a fuel source that will play a crucial role in his nation's nuclear energy ambitions. Faced with an almost-insatiable appetite for electricity in the world's most populous nation, Modi has outlined plans to substantially scale-up nuclear power generation in coming years. Australia lays claim to around 28 percent of the world's uranium resource, but legal hurdles and political sensitivities have hindered exports to India.

"We have signed an important agreement today on nuclear energy," Modi said after talks with his Australian counterpart Anthony Albanese. "This will pave the way for uranium supplies from Australia to India and give our clean energy objectives fresh momentum." A joint statement said the arrangement allowed long-term uranium exports for "exclusively



peaceful purposes". The exports would fall under safeguards established by the International Atomic Energy Agency.

"The arrangement facilitates Australian uranium exports to India, to help increase the share of non-fossil fuel power capacity," Albanese told reporters. India and Australia entered a nuclear cooperation agreement in 2015 that paved the way for uranium export.

But legal hurdles remained and trade today is largely non-existent. Albanese sported a wide grin as the two leaders briefly paused to take a selfie photo earlier in the day.

The Australian prime minister has previously

referred to Modi as "The Boss", joking that he could pull bigger crowds than US rock icon Bruce Springsteen. Albanese praised Modi's leadership on Thursday for helping foster stronger ties between the two nations. "Prime Minister Modi, your leadership and your personal engagement with Australia has been absolutely central to this change," Albanese said. Australia's Indian diaspora has grown substantially in recent years, giving Modi a sizeable fanbase in the country. For the first time on record, the biggest group of Australian residents born overseas came from India, statistics for last year showed in June.

"In 2014, the Indian diaspora community in Australia was relatively small," said Teesta Prakash from the Australia India Institute. "But in 2026, it is now the largest diaspora community within Australia. It has outstripped the British, which is a huge demographic change," she told AFP. Modi is set to receive a rock-star welcome when he fronts a community rally at a stadium in Melbourne later on Thursday, with organisers anticipating more than 20,000 people could flock to the event. But Modi's visit is also expected to stir up opposition, including criticism that he has fostered a dangerous brand of Hindu nationalism at home. Australia's Alliance Against Islamophobia said it would protest outside the stadium event, drawing attention to what it said was the persecution of minority groups in India. A separate protest against Indian migration to Australia is also planned. Modi is scheduled to fly to New Zealand after Australia.

## Survey Finds Mamdani More Popular Than Trump, Netanyahu Among Jewish Adults

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

A new poll from The Associated Press-NORC Centre for Public Affairs Research finds that most Jewish adults don't feel well represented by political leaders at a troubling moment for many in their community. Most Jewish Americans, 63 per cent, say prejudice against Jewish people is an "ex-



tremely" or "very" serious problem in the US. At the same time, few believe that either party is doing a good job supporting Jewish people in the United States.

The new survey of 1,022 Jewish adults - including people who identify as Jewish by religion and religiously unaffiliated people who identify as Jewish through culture, ethnicity or family background -- offers a rare detailed accounting of a key demographic that sits at the very centre of some of the nation's most divisive political debates. It indicates that many Jewish

adults feel isolated at a moment when antisemitism is a growing concern across the political spectrum and support for Israel has become a flash point in both parties. The survey found that many Jewish adults, 36 per cent, say supporting Israel is "extremely" or "very" important to their Jewish identity, while another 26 per cent say it's "somewhat" important.

## Six Killed in Road Accident in Uttara Kannada District

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

Six persons died and three others were injured after a Cruiser vehicle carrying tourists from Dharwad collided head-on with a lorry on National Highway-52 near Aratibail in Yellapur taluk of Uttara Kannada district in the early hours of Thursday. Police said the Cruiser, carrying nine persons, including the driver, was on its way from Dharwad to Dharmas-



thala and Chikkamagaluru. The occupants were friends who had planned the trip together.

A preliminary report stated that around 1.30 am on Thursday, when the vehicle was passing through Aratibail near Balagara Cross on NH-

52, the driver of the Cruiser, Sanjeev (33), allegedly drove the vehicle at high speed in a rash and negligent manner. The Cruiser veered to the extreme right side of the road and collided head-on with a lorry coming from the opposite direction. The accident resulted in the deaths of six people, including the driver. The deceased have been identified as Akshay (26), Abhishek Eshwar (28), Abhishek (27), Basappa Devappa

Kanakanavar (38), Manjunath (33), and driver Sanjeev (33). The three injured have been identified as Shivaraj (22), Sachin (26), and Channabasur (28). All are from Dharwad district. Based on a complaint filed by Shivaraj, Yellapur police have registered a case under Sections 281, 125(B), and 106(1) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, against the deceased driver.

### FROM FRONT PAGE

#### US-Iran Strikes.....

Iranian state media reported explosions in several locations, including Bushehr, home to Iran's nuclear power plant complex, and southern port cities. In Iran's southwestern Khuzestan province, at least three people were killed Thursday, state media reported. In Iranshahr, authorities said a strike killed a firefighter at an airport. Those fatalities followed the deaths of at least nine members of Iran's armed forces in Wednesday's strikes, according to state media. It wasn't clear when the other death happened and who was killed. For the first time since April, U.S. strikes also appeared to target Iranian bridges. State media reported a strike on a railway bridge in

Iran's northeastern Golestan province, and the Revolutionary Guard said two bridges were attacked on the route to Mashhad, where officials plan to bury the late Ayatollah Ali Khamenei on Thursday. Meanwhile Thursday, the state-run IRNA news agency quoted Ehsan Jahanian, a local official in Bushehr, as accusing the U.S. of striking near Iran's Bushehr nuclear power plant. He said the strike came around noon, hours after the U.S. military's Central Command said it had ended its strikes on Iran. Central Command did not immediately respond to a request for comment. During the Iran war, several strikes hit in the area around the plant, which is managed by Russian technicians, but caused no damage to the plant itself. Trump

warns that 'it will get much worse' if attacks on shipping happen again. After leaving a NATO summit in Turkey, Trump posted several videos on his social media site of what he said were explosions in Iran and issued another warning to the Islamic Republic. "This is in retribution for yesterday's bombing of ships by Iran. If it happens again, it will get much worse!" Trump wrote.

#### Revanth Takes.....

He congratulated Premier Energies and the officials of Telangana Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TGIC) for constructing the plant within the span of one year. He asked the government officials to show Premier Energies to prospective investors as the company has

set up its facility in the Peri Urban Region (PURE), which has been identified by the government as a manufacturing zone. Referring to the high pollution levels in Delhi, he said "unlivable conditions" arose in the national capital as appropriate decisions were not taken at the right time (which could have prevented the situation). Citing the monsoon fury in Mumbai and the traffic jams in Bengaluru, Reddy said the state government has decided to take steps to make Hyderabad pollution-free.

#### India Slams US.....

"By providing reduced tariff rates on the basis of imports of US-origin textile inputs, the textiles mechanism operates as an arbitrary requirement that influences and

constrains the sourcing decisions of foreign manufacturers, without fully addressing the concern of forced labour," Mishra said. At the same time, he said India remained open to dialogue, and all concerns need to be dealt with in the framework of the India-US bilateral trade negotiations and not in a specific unilateral manner as is being provided in the Section 301 investigations.

Representatives of industry bodies FICCI and CII also presented their views on the US proposal to impose tariffs ranging from 10 to 12.5 per cent on imports from 60 economies that Washington says have failed to prevent goods made with forced labour from entering global supply chains. "An additional tariff will increase costs not only for In-

dian exporters, but also for US manufacturers, importers, retailers and ultimately American consumers," Poornima Shenoy, FICCI representative in the US, said in her testimony before the USTR panel.

#### Israel Warns Iran....

Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu also addressed the ceremony, saying Israel's previous military operations had severely weakened Iran and its regional network of allies. However, he cautioned that the confrontation was far from over. "The Iranian axis is weaker than ever before, while Israel is stronger than ever before," Netanyahu said. "We proved that the long arm of the Israeli Air Force can reach anywhere.

CRIME

HC Orders Telangana Govt to Submit Report on Police Vacancies and Recruitment Within a Week

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana High Court on Tuesday directed the state government to submit in a week, a comprehensive counter-affidavit detailing the number of vacancies in the police department and the status of recruitment initiated to fill those posts. A division bench comprising Chief Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh and Justice G. M. Mohiuddin was hearing a public interest litigation (PIL) filed by Help the People Charitable Trust chairman Keethinedi Akhil Sri Guru Teja, alleging that the state had failed to fill a substantial number of posts despite persistent



vacancies across various ranks. Chikkudu Prabhakar, counsel for the petitioner, argued that the inaction was adversely affected public administration, depriving eligible candidates of employment opportunities and was contrary to the principles laid down by the Supreme Court regarding timely public recruitment. The petitioner urged the court to

direct the government to immediately fill all sanctioned vacancies and to evolve a transparent annual recruitment calendar with a time-bound mechanism for issuing notifications and completing the selection process. Special government counsel Rahul Reddy, representing the state, informed the bench that the government had recently issued a recruit-

ment notification for 7,437 posts of sub-inspectors, assistant sub-inspectors and constables. He submitted that the government was also assessing the remaining vacancies for future recruitment exercises. When petitioner's counsel sought an interim direction to fill all outstanding vacancies without further delay, the bench declined to grant such relief at this stage. Observing that the government had initiated the recruitment process by issuing a fresh notification, the court said the broader issues raised in the PIL would be considered after examining the state's detailed response.

Attapur Police arrest 5 in MDMA, psychotropic drugs case

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

The Attapur Police, in a joint operation with the Task Force (Rajendranagar) team, arrested five persons for their alleged involvement in the illegal possession, transportation, sale and purchase of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, including MDMA, Mephentermine Sulphate injections and Alprazolam tablets. Two other suspects, including the alleged supplier, are absconding. According to the police, the raid was conducted on July 8 at a room near a scrap shop in New Jalal



Baba Nagar, Attapur, following credible information about an alleged drug distribution network operating from the premises. Syed Abul Hassan, 34, an auto driver; Saif Ali Mirza, 21, a signboard worker; Ahmed Hussain, 24, an auto driver; Shaik Ayub, 27, a hardware worker; and Mir Shabbir Ali alias Shabbir, 38, a labourer and sales coordinator employed in Dubai,

have been arrested. All five were allegedly involved as sub-peddlers and consumers. The alleged supplier, identified as Baqar of Darul-ul-Shifa, and another alleged sub-peddler, Mujahid alias Mujju, remain absconding. Police seized 6.65 grams of MDMA, five Hyter-M (Mephentermine Sulphate) injections, five sachets of Alprazolam tablets, two unused syringes, one packet of paper glass tips, one knife, five mobile phones, Rs 16,930 in cash, and a black carry bag from the suspects.

Auto Driver Jailed for 20 Years in Minor Assault Case

The Rangareddy district Fast-Track Special Court on Monday sentenced Shadnagar Arun, an autorickshaw driver from Hanuman Nagar Colony, Rajendranagar, to 20 years' rigorous imprisonment for abducting and sexually assaulting a minor. The court also imposed a fine of ₹8,000 and directed payment of ₹3 lakh compensation to the victim. Police said that on February 12, 2019, Arun lured the victim with a false promise of marriage, took her to a temple, and performed a sham marriage. He then subjected her to repeated sexual assault despite knowing she was underage.

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.

Van Mahotsav Celebrated with Tree Plantation Drive at Kondapur

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

As part of Van Mahotsav, Geetanjali The Global School, Kondapur, organised a tree plantation drive at the Telangana State Special Police (TGSP) 8th Battalion campus in Kondapur to promote environmental conservation. Students, teachers and police officials actively participated in planting saplings. The school also distributed saplings to local residents and created awareness about the im-



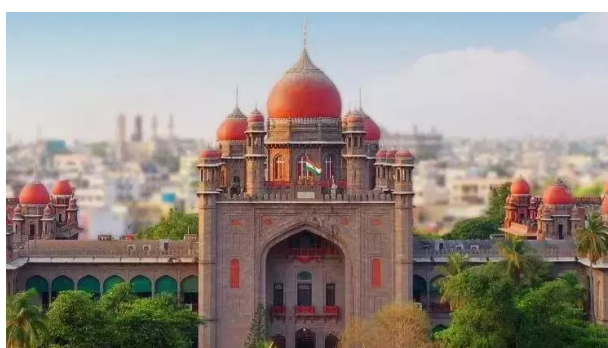
portance of protecting the environment. Speaking on the occasion, the organisers urged everyone to plant and nurture at least one tree to help preserve nature for future generations. The programme was attended by TGSP 8th Battalion Commandant

M. Ramakrishna, Assistant Commandant S. Rambabu, SI Satyanarayana, PRO SI A. Mahender Reddy, Geetanjali The Global School Director DVN Rao, Principal Akshita Agnihotri, along with teachers, staff and students.

HC Seeks Jagtial Resident Aravind's Whereabouts in Saudi Arabia

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

In a petition seeking to rescue and repatriate a person from Saudi Arabia, the Telangana High Court on Thursday directed counsels for the Centre and the state government to obtain the instructions from the authorities concerned and inform the court within a week. The case will now be heard on July 16. Justice B. Vijaysen Reddy was hearing a petition filed by Dasari Rajava a resident of Bhattu Butam Rajapalle in



Gollapalli mandal of Jagtial district, seeking intervention of the court to rescue and repatriate her son, who was allegedly stranded in a remote desert region of Saudi Arabia after being deceived by a recruitment agent.

According to the petitioner, her son Aravind travelled to Saudi Arabia after being promised employment by a recruitment agent but was allegedly abandoned in a remote desert location in inhuman conditions. The plea

stated that he has been living without adequate food, drinking water, shelter or medical care and has allegedly been prevented from returning to India. The petitioner alleged that Aravind's mobile SIM card was confiscated, leaving him unable to communicate with his family for prolonged periods. Despite repeated representations to the authorities over the past two months, no effective measures have been taken to trace or repatriate him, the petition contends.

EDITORIAL

IS LATEST JOINT SECY REJIG PAVING ROAD TO 2029?

HYDERABAD  
Wakeup telangana

The Centre's latest appointment of 48 babus at the joint secretary level across ministries looks routine on the surface. It isn't. When postings cut across agriculture, commerce, defence, civil aviation and home, it's less about filling vacancies and more about recalibrating the government's operating system. Joint secretaries sit at that crucial junction where policy leaves the drawing board and meets the real world. Change the people there, and you often change how things actually get done. The headline move is the appointment of Hardik Satishchandra Shah as private secretary to Narendra Modi at the joint secretary rank. That's not just a posting — it's a signal. It tells you who's in the room when decisions are shaped, who filters information and who gets to nudge priorities. Clearly, this isn't an iso-

lated reshuffle; it's part of a longer game. The Narendra Modi government has been steadily tightening coordination across ministries, favouring officers who deliver, move files efficiently, and stay aligned with the larger political direction. With another round of changes expected later this year, this looks like scaffolding being put in place for the road to 2029. There's a logic to it. Governments don't run on announcements; they run on execution. And execution, in India, is only as good as the babu handling the file. Put the right people in the right slots, and things move. Get it wrong, and even flagship schemes start gathering dust. But let's not pretend this is purely technocratic. Babu reshuffles have always doubled as political messaging. There's also the issue of churn. Move people around too often, and institutional memory takes a hit. Projects that need steady hands

don't always benefit from musical chairs. Still, the intent is hard to miss. This is about tightening the system, placing trusted officers where they matter most, and getting the machinery ready for the next phase. Whether it delivers sharper governance or just smoother optics will depend on one simple thing: Are these officers empowered to act, or just expected to comply? Bihar is about to do what Indian states do best when power changes hands: reshuffle the bureaucracy and call it a reset. The difference this time? There's a clearer sense of what that reset is meant to achieve. Bihar is about to do what Indian states do best when power changes hands: reshuffle the bureaucracy and call it a reset. The difference this time? There's a clearer sense of what that reset is meant to achieve. Former chief minister Nitish Kumar has left a

deep imprint, but if the early signals around Samrat Choudhary hold, this isn't just about moving babus around. The idea is to build a compact core team, bring in technocrats who understand industry, and push Bihar toward manufacturing-led growth, which it has long promised but rarely delivered. The logic is sound. States like Gujarat and Tamil Nadu didn't attract investment by accident. They got the basics right — land, power, roads — and ensured the bureaucracy didn't become a bottleneck. Bihar, for all its ambition, has struggled precisely here. The sectoral focus on food processing, textiles and automobiles is sensible. These are scalable, job-heavy industries. But sectors don't grow because policy says so. They grow when businesses can actually set up shop without getting lost in paperwork.



# Hyderabad Sees Record Office Leasing in First Half, GCCs Lead Demand

Hyderabad recorded a record 7.5 million sq ft of office leasing in H1 2026, with Global Capability Centres accounting for 45 per cent of total demand.

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Hyderabad has recorded its strongest-ever first-half office leasing performance, with office space transactions touching 7.5 million square feet during H1 2026, marking a 29 per cent year-on-year growth, according to a Knight Frank India report. The robust performance reinforces the city's position as one of India's leading commercial real estate destinations, driven by sustained demand from Global Capability Centres (GCCs) and flexible workspace operators. The report noted that Global Capability Centres (GCCs) remained the primary growth engine, leasing 3.4 million sq ft, which accounted for 45



per cent of the total office absorption during the six-month period. Flexible workspace operators emerged as the second-largest occupier segment, contributing 27 per cent of total leasing activity, highlighting the continued demand for agile office solutions.

Despite the addition of 3 million sq ft of new Grade A office space, Hydera-

bad's office market witnessed a significant decline in vacancy levels. Vacancy dropped by 296 basis points year-on-year to 11.5 per cent, reflecting a healthy balance between supply and demand. The city's strong leasing momentum also pushed average office rentals up by 7 per cent, reaching ₹80 per sq ft per month.

On the residential front,

Hyderabad maintained stable growth. The city registered 19,249 housing sales during H1 2026, reflecting a marginal 1 per cent increase over the corresponding period last year. New residential project launches moderated slightly by 2 per cent to 20,466 units, indicating a measured approach by developers amid steady demand.

Residential property prices also continued their upward trajectory. The average residential price increased by 7 per cent year-on-year to ₹8,258 per sq ft, with Banjara Hills emerging as the top-performing micro-market in terms of price appreciation.

Commenting on the findings, Joseph Thilak, National Director – Occupier

Strategy and Solutions (Hyderabad & Chennai), Knight Frank India, said Hyderabad continues to offer one of the country's deepest office ecosystems, supported by a large skilled workforce and relatively competitive occupancy costs. He emphasised that the timely addition of high-quality Grade A office spaces will be crucial to meeting future expansion requirements and sustaining Hyderabad's appeal as a preferred destination for global and domestic occupiers.

The report highlights Hyderabad's continued strength across both commercial and residential real estate, underlining its resilience and long-term growth potential.

# Telangana Student Secures AI Internship at Mamearth

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Keshav Makkad, a fourth-year student from Telangana's Kothagudem studying at Scaler School of Technology (SST), has secured an Artificial Intelligence (AI) engineering internship at Mamearth, marking a significant milestone in his journey from a beginner with no coding background to an AI professional while still in college.

Keshav, who joined SST's inaugural batch in 2023 after completing his schooling in Kothagudem, chose the institution over conventional engineering colleges for its practical, coding-first approach. Despite having just a month to prepare for JEE and securing an 86.6 percentile, he pursued his interest in technology through hands-on learning.



Before joining SST, Keshav had no prior programming experience. Over the past three years, he developed strong computer science fundamentals, completed real-world projects, and gained industry exposure through internships.

His professional journey began as a full-stack developer intern at TradeIndia in Noida, followed by another internship with Bengaluru-based startup ZippMat. He is now working as an AI engineering intern at Mamearth while continuing his undergraduate studies,

which are scheduled to conclude in 2027.

Among his notable contributions is an automated examination seating plan generator developed for SST, replacing the institution's manual process and remaining in active use for over 18 months.

Apart from academics, Keshav has served as a teaching assistant, mentored junior students through SST's Buddy System, and founded the institute's Media Club, which has grown into one of the campus's most active student-led communities.

Reflecting on his journey, Keshav said discipline and consistency mattered more than academic rankings, encouraging students from smaller towns to pursue opportunities without being limited by their background or resources.

# Telangana Unifies School Monitoring to Strengthen Foundational Learning Across Statewide Education

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Telangana has transformed school monitoring from a routine administrative exercise into a technology-driven governance system that directly supports classroom learning, helping improve foundational literacy and numeracy (FLN) outcomes across government schools. Inspired by the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and the NIPUN Bharat Mission launched in 2021, the state has

created an integrated system connecting school visits, review meetings, and learning data into a single platform.

The reform has benefited over 10.34 lakh children studying in 24,000 government schools offering FLN grades, with support from nearly 60,000 primary teachers. According to the state, learning outcomes have improved significantly between the 2024-25 and 2025-26 academic years. Telugu sentence reading scores increased by 6 percentage points, English sentence

reading by 9 percentage points, while Mathematics addition and subtraction scores improved by 8 and 6 percentage points, respectively.

Before 2022, school visits largely functioned as checklist inspections with little focus on classroom teaching or learning outcomes. Review meetings mainly discussed administrative matters, and fragmented data systems prevented officials from getting a real-time picture of school performance.

To address these challenges, the State Council

of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), Directorate of School Education, and Samagra Shiksha jointly developed a connected governance model. School visits were redesigned as structured mentoring exercises using a common observation tool integrated into the Telangana School Education Application. Officials from cluster to state level now record classroom observations digitally, with follow-up actions tracked systematically.

Monthly review meet-

ings have also been made mandatory with fixed agendas centred on student learning rather than administrative compliance. These discussions are supported by live monitoring dashboards instead of manual reports.

The governance system is backed by five integrated digital platforms — the Integrated School Management System Portal, Telangana School Education Application, Teaching-Learning Material (TLM) Tracking System, Training Management System, and

the Vidya Sameeksha Kendra (VSK) Monitoring Centre. Together, they provide real-time monitoring across all 33 districts, enabling officials to identify gaps and respond quickly.

More than 2,100 officials now conduct school visits and facilitate block and cluster-level reviews, while over 100 senior officials regularly review district performance using live data dashboards. As a result, school visits increased 2.5 times to more than 1.5 lakh during the 2025-

26 academic year, with 98% of schools receiving visits every quarter. Teaching-learning materials now reach over 90% of students within the first month of the academic year.

To ensure learning improvements are measured independently, SCERT Telangana, with technical support from Central Square Foundation (CSF), introduced an annual sample-based assessment for Grade 2 students across all districts. Conducted since 2022-23, the assessment

covers around 8,500 children from over 1,750 schools in Telugu, Urdu, English, and Mathematics.

Narayanpet district recorded some of the state's strongest gains, including a 19-point increase in Telugu word reading, 29-point improvement in English sentence reading, and 28-point rise in subtraction skills, demonstrating the impact of data-driven educational governance and targeted interventions.

# Generali Central Life Launches Sunehra Pension Plan

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Generali Central Life Insurance Co. Ltd. (GCLICL) has launched the Sunehra Pension Plan, a participating, non-linked pension and savings-oriented life insurance product aimed at helping customers build a secure retirement corpus while offering complimentary wellness benefits.

The plan provides policyholders with flexible policy terms ranging from 5 to 40 years and multiple premium payment options, including Single Pay, Limited Pay and Regular Pay. As a participating (PAR) plan, bonuses begin accruing from the first policy year, enabling long-term wealth creation through compounding. Under the plan, customers receive the higher of the Sum Assured on Vesting with accrued bonuses or 105% of the total premiums paid upon surviving the policy term. In case of the policyholder's death during the policy term, nominees receive the higher of the Assured Benefit on Death

with accrued bonuses or 105% of the premiums paid. The plan also offers partial withdrawal options during financial emergencies and allows customers to strengthen their coverage through optional riders. At vesting or surrender, policyholders can purchase an immediate or deferred annuity from Generali Central Life Insurance or another insurer, or opt for a combination of a lump sum withdrawal and regular income. In the event of a death claim, nominees can withdraw the full amount as a lump sum.

To enhance customer well-being, the Sunehra Pension Plan includes complimentary wellness services such as discounted annual health check-ups, diagnostic test discounts, online doctor consultations and second medical opinions through teleconsultation. Launching the product, Managing Director and CEO Alok Rungta said the growing elderly population and low pension penetration in India highlight the need for structured retirement planning.

# Lava Stone Fire World Opens Premium Buffet Restaurant in Hyderabad

Lava Stone Fire World Opens in Hyderabad, Introducing a New Benchmark in Premium Buffet Dining

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Lava Stone Fire World, a premium buffet restaurant by Lava Flames Restaurants Private Limited, officially opened its flagship outlet at Gachibowli, Hyderabad, on Thursday. The restaurant was inaugurated by former IPS officer J. D. Lakshmi Narayana in the presence of students and representatives from Government Boys High School, YMCA, Secunderabad, highlighting the brand's commitment to community engagement.

The newly launched restaurant introduces a unique dining experience featuring signature lava stone grilling, where starters are served on electrically heated lava stones that keep food warm and flavorful throughout the meal. The restaurant also offers an extensive international buffet, live cooking stations, handcrafted desserts, entertainment, and a family-friendly ambience.

Speaking at the launch, Lakshmi Narayana said Hyderabad's hospitality



Chief Guest Shri J.D. Lakshmi Narayana, Former IPS Officer, along with the students and representatives from Government Boys High School, YMCA, Secunderabad, inaugurating the Lava Stone Fire World, a premium buffet restaurant, today at Janardana Hills, Gachibowli. Mr. Rishi Baimeedi, Director, Lava Stone Fire World; & Dr Chandra Sekhar Pulli, Gastroenterologist, London Gastro Care; looks on.

sector is witnessing rapid growth, with customers increasingly seeking innovative dining experiences. He said the lava stone concept ensures food remains hot and fresh, while the restaurant also provides spaces for family dining, celebrations, kitty parties, and social gatherings complemented by live music and recreational activities.

Dr. Chandra Sekhar Pulli of London Gastro Care praised the restaurant for serving authentic Telugu cuisine in a hygienic envi-

ronment. He noted that the open kitchen reflects transparency and reinforces customer confidence in food quality and cleanliness.

Director Rishi Baimeedi said the restaurant aims to combine authentic cuisine, premium hospitality, and a memorable dining atmosphere. CEO Abhilash Kumar Yalamanchili said Lava Stone Fire World also features an exclusive "Old City" section serving authentic Hyderabad delicacies, along with North Indian, Chi-

nese, Continental, Italian, Mexican, Thai, and Asian cuisines. Dedicated children's play areas, live food counters, and an elaborate dessert section further enhance the dining experience.

As part of its corporate social responsibility initiative, the restaurant hosted a special lunch for around 60 orphaned children from Secunderabad and presented them with gifts. The management also announced that a portion of the restaurant's quarterly profits will be donated to support the orphanage.

To mark the launch, Lava Stone Fire World announced inaugural buffet offers, including a 50% discount from July 10 to July 20 and a 25% discount from July 21 to July 31. Located at Jyothi Imperial in Gachibowli, the restaurant aims to become one of Hyderabad's leading premium buffet destinations through innovative cuisine, quality service, and world-class hospitality.

# BMW Overtakes Archrival Mercedes in Jan-June Sales

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

BMW Group India on Wednesday said it overtook its compatriot archrival Mercedes-Benz in January-June luxury vehicle registrations in India for the first time in over a decade. BMW's aggressive sales push was driven in the entry-level luxury and electric vehicle markets, notably with the BMW iX1 and BMW 5 Series. "We not only overtook Mercedes-Benz in Q1 by selling 200 plus units more than them but we also outnumbered them by retailing over 300 units in Q2," Hardeep Singh Brar, President and CEO at BMW Group India told Financial Chronicle, citing government Vahan registration data.

As per Vahan dashboard, BMW retailed a total of 10,043 units in January-June period while Mercedes-Benz registered 9,472 units. "We are now well positioned to hit the pole position in the luxury car market at the end of CY2026," Brar said, adding that BMW would

continue to ride ahead with double-digit growth. In the second quarter (April-June), BMW retailed 4,507 cars clocking 17 per cent year-on-year growth.

Brar said in the electric luxury segment too, BMW achieved number one brand selling 2,359 EVs units, growing by 78 per cent and contributing a whopping 26 per cent in total sales. "Our decisive hold on electric cars too with 69 per cent market share in luxury EVs has solidified BMW India as the number one choice in the luxury EV segment," he noted, adding that every fourth BMW car sold today is an EV.

In the popular SUV segment, which it calls Sports Activity Vehicles, BMW and MINI sales climbed 35 per cent y-o-y to 5,926 units. BMW SUVs clocked a growing share in sales at 65 per cent, the company said. Brar said BMW will introduce 14 more new models till December 2026 to attract younger customers into its fold.

## Diljit Dosanjh's Satluj removed from OTT sparks political row

**D**iljit Dosanjh's *Satluj*, which chronicles the life of an activist in Punjab during the turbulent 1990s and has been taken off OTT, was at the centre of a furious debate on Monday, with political parties and the SGPC pushing for the film's release and the actor-singer asking people to watch it wherever and however they can.

The film, which was stuck with the censors for more than three years, was released uncut on ZEE5 on Friday and removed on Sunday evening. While Dosanjh said this was bound to happen and the film had already been downloaded by many, ZEE5 appealed to people not to support piracy.

The matter quickly gained political traction, with the Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD), Congress and the state's ruling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) condemning the film's removal from the OTT platform and saying Punjab must confront its past. People should know what happened during those days in Punjab, said Kulwant Singh Manan, chief secretary of the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee.

"The film should not have been removed from the platform. The government should ensure that people



see this film. What is wrong if reality is shown and the public comes to know what happened during those days in Punjab?" Manan told PTI over the phone.

The Honey Trehan-directed film, originally titled *Punjab '95*, features Dosanjh as human rights activist Jaswant Singh Khalra, who was abducted in 1995 and was never seen again. The director and actor refused to release it with the 127 cuts suggested by the Central Board of Film Certification.

On Friday, the movie quietly arrived on ZEE5 without any cuts but with a different title and zero promotion, which Dosanjh said was because they did not want to spoil whatever

little chance the film had.

Criticising the film's removal, SAD president Sukhbir Singh Badal said, "This is not mere censorship, it is an assault on our collective memory, truth and freedom of expression... Punjab deserves to confront its past with honesty, not suppression."

Senior Congress leader Sukhpal Singh Khaira echoed him.

"I strongly condemn the removal of *Satluj*, enacted by Diljit Dosanjh, about police brutality in abducting and eliminating Prof Jaswant Singh Khalra, a human rights activist, in 1995." AAP leader and MP Malvinder Singh Kang said censorship becomes its most dangerous weapon when a nation be-

gins to fear its own history.

AAP's Baltej Pannu said, "The younger generation wants to know what happened in Punjab during 1978, 1984, the 1990s and other crucial periods. If they are denied books and documentaries, films become an important way of preserving historical truth." When asked to comment on the film's removal from OTT, Punjab BJP chief Kewal Singh Dhillon said, "I am finding out the reason. We are taking up the matter."

In an expansive session on Instagram Live from the US, where he is on tour, Dosanjh expressed his anguish.

"I had a feeling on Friday that something like this would happen. This was already on my mind. It is not something to be shocked about (the ban). I thought it would be banned on Monday when the offices opened..."

"But I did not have any idea that it would happen on Sunday evening itself. We did not even promote the film, we released it just like that. If we had promoted it, it would not have lasted even two days. But I am satisfied that people have seen the film, it has reached them," Dosanjh said in Punjabi.

## Preity Zinta Deepfakes: Bombay HC Orders Removal, Warns of Rights



**MUMBAI**  
Wakeup telangana

The Bombay High Court on Wednesday ordered the removal of all deepfakes, morphed images, fake videos and other unauthorised online content featuring actor Priety Zinta, holding that misuse of such content affects a person's fundamental rights. As it gave relief to Zinta, a single bench of Justice Madhav Jamar also reminded online platforms of their due diligence obligations under the Information Technology Rules.

The court also raised the issue of the role of intermediaries in tackling such content, as even their platform was being misused. "If the intermediaries start taking action, such type of offenders will stop. Otherwise, you are part of affecting fundamen-

tal rights of the citizens of this country," HC said. The bench ordered the immediate take-down of all such unauthorised and fake images and videos of Zinta uploaded on various platforms.

In her suit, Zinta had referred to videos, images and chatbot-style interactions depicting her through deepfakes and morphed visuals. The actor's counsel Venkatesh Dhond pointed to around 275 websites that contained AI-generated, morphed or superimposed images and videos using the actor's likeness. He submitted that such material violated her personality, publicity and moral rights. The court said that Zinta, who has been associated with the film industry for over 25 years, had built a valuable public identity through her career. The unauthorised use

of her image, likeness and mannerisms in AI-generated content could damage her reputation and violate her rights, it said. "The plaintiff's personality rights, publicity rights and moral rights are violated by creation of such morphed and superimposed content," the court said. It added that these rights flow from the constitutional guarantee of free speech under Article 19 and the right to life and personal liberty under Article 21, which includes the right to live with dignity. The court held that a prima facie case had been made out and granted interim relief. A deepfake is synthetic media -- like an image, audio or video recording -- created using artificial intelligence (AI) to convincingly replace or alter a person's likeness or voice.

## Brook, Salt Power England To Series-Clinching Win Over India

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Shreyas Iyer's valiant unbeaten 80 went in vain as Harry Brook and Phil Salt made a mockery of the 159-run target with blazing unbeaten half-centuries, powering England to a series-clinching nine-wicket win over India in the fourth T20 International here on Thursday. Opting to bat, Iyer appeared to be batting on a different surface, in his 49-ball 80 not out, his second as skipper, to guide India to 158 for 7. He struck five sixes and four fours, holding the innings together as wickets tumbled around him on a typical pacy English wicket.

In stark contrast to the India innings, England were never troubled by the modest target and dominated the Indian bowlers from the outset as the home side romped home in 13.5 overs to take a 3-0 unassailable lead in the five-match series. Brook led from the front, blazing 79 not out off 35 balls, laced with eight fours and four sixes, while Phil Salt played perfect fiddle in a 42-ball 59 not out (9x4, 1x6) as the Indian bowlers struggled to get the wickets.

The defeat will be particularly alarming for the



reigning T20 world champions, who have now lost back-to-back series within four months of their title triumph in Ahmedabad on March 8. For skipper Iyer, who succeeded Suryakumar Yadav after India's title triumph, it was a fifth defeat in six matches as he continues to search for his maiden victory as captain. India had earlier suffered a humiliating 0-2 defeat to Ireland, while they now trail 0-3 to England after the series opener was washed out.

The final T20I will be played at Southampton on Saturday. Missing Harshit Rana and Varun Chakravarthy because of injuries, India had Prasad Krishna with the new ball and England had a slow start before Jos Buttler was removed in the second over by Arshdeep Singh. From there on, it was a one-way traffic for England as Salt,

fresh from his match-winning 70 at Nottingham, took on a wayward Prince Yadav who bowled a no-ball and a wide and was hit for two fours by the English opener.

It seemed baffling that the Indian think-tank didn't persist with Arshdeep after he gave the breakthrough as Salt and Brook took Yadav and Prasad to cleaners to race to 62/1 in the power play. Brook then unleashed his full range of shots against the spin pair of Washington Sundar and Axar Patel, who conceded 37 runs across the eighth and ninth overs, effectively sealing the contest in England's favour. After missing on Washington's first delivery, Brook clobbered the second down the ground for four and followed it with a swiped six into the leg-side and then hit back-to-back fours.

## It's Disappointing, We Fell Short on Our Execution: Shreyas Iyer

**NEW DELHI**  
Wakeup telangana

India captain Shreyas Iyer admitted his team failed to execute its plans in all departments after England secured an emphatic nine-wicket victory to seal the T20I series. Despite Iyer's unbeaten 80, India could only manage 158/7, a total England chased down comfortably in just 13.5 overs to take an unassailable 3-0 lead in the series. Leading from the front with the bat, Iyer anchored India's innings with a composed knock after the visitors struggled to build momentum. However, England's bowlers kept the scoring in check before their batters produced a ruthless chase, leaving the Indian skipper disappointed with his team's overall performance.

Reflecting on the defeat, Iyer admitted that 158 was never an ideal total on the surface and said India failed to execute their bowling plans effectively. "It was disappointing once again. We knew 158 wasn't the perfect total on the board, and they



showed that by chasing it down so quickly. When we went out to bowl, the plan was to keep hitting the same lengths because deliveries targeting the top of middle and leg stump were difficult to score from. Unfortunately, we fell short in our execution," he said.

Although satisfied with his personal performance, Iyer stressed that individual milestones carry little value without a team victory. "I'm happy with my innings, but if it doesn't contribute to a win, it doesn't mean much. Whenever I play, I want to perform and help my team

win. Sadly, today wasn't our day, but we'll look to bounce back in the next match," he added. The Indian captain also described the current squad as one undergoing a transition, urging his teammates to learn quickly from setbacks. "This is a transition phase,

and mistakes are bound to happen. The important thing is to adapt as quickly as possible. We have players who are quick learners, and I'm confident they'll assess themselves and improve," Iyer said.

England captain Harry Brook praised his side's adaptability and the strong communication between players and the coaching staff for their commanding display. "That was good fun. It's always special to beat India, and to go 3-0 up with one game remaining is very satisfying. We've adapted brilliantly to the conditions, and the communication between the coaches and players has been outstanding," Brook said.

Brook also hailed fast bowlers Jofra Archer and Josh Tongue for laying the foundation with another impressive spell before England's batters completed a clinical chase. England will now aim for a 4-0 series sweep in Southampton, a result that would see them replace world champions India as the No. 1 ranked T20I team in the world.

## Telangana to set stage for 2036 Olympics: CM Revanth

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has announced that the Young India Sports University will be inaugurated by December 2028 as the world's largest sports university spread across 82 acre land, and that Hyderabad will be the stage for hosting the Olympics being planned to be held in India in 2036.

During the launch of Gachibowli Sports District, YIPESU at Gachibowli Stadium on Thursday, July 9, Revanth Reddy said that India needs a policy for sports, training facilities in sports academies, and sports universities.

Recalling how sports infrastructure was created in



Hyderabad from 1999 to 2004, Revanth Reddy said that it had enabled the then state governments to conduct Afro-Asian Games, World Military Games and the Asian Games.

"For the past 20 years there have been no important sports events in Telangana, despite the sports infrastructure in place 23 years ago. Today that in-

frastructure has become a stage for hosting private weddings and political programmes. It needs to change," the chief minister said.

Elaborating on the Young India Sports University, he said that the state government would only be a facilitator, and would not interfere in the matters of the academy of the university, and would give

full freedom to the apolitical nominees in the board of directors to run the university free from politics. He also said that Telangana would host the upcoming Khelo India competitions in Telangana, in November 2026. "I don't know if all educated people will get jobs, but those who excel in sports will definitely be encouraged by the state government," he said, referring to World Boxing Champion Nikhat Zareen and Indian Cricket Player Mohd Sirajuddin, who were appointed in the rank of Deputy Superintendents of Police (DSP) by the Telangana government for their achievements in sports.

Concluding his speech, Revanth Reddy exhorted the players not to be dis-

heartened by failures, by giving his own example of losing the 2018 Kodanagal assembly election, but winning the election to the Malkajgiri Lok Sabha segment just four months later.

He encouraged the youngsters to excel in sports, and to achieve medals for the country in Olympics, which he felt, were scarce in the present scenario despite the fact that India has a population of 140 crore. Cash awards were presented to sports persons including boxing world champion Nikhat Zareen, team India cricketer Mohd Siraj, paralympics champion Deepthi Jeevanji among others on the occasion.

## Rythu Bharosa Fund Release Welcomed in Keesara;

### Congress Leaders Perform Milk Abhishekam

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Congress leaders in Keesara Mandal performed a milk abhishekam to the portrait of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy to welcome the Telangana Government's release of ₹9,000 crore under the Rythu Bharosa scheme within nine days. The programme, led by Keesara Mandal Rythu Congress President Pinninti Krishna Reddy, highlighted the government's commitment



to farmers' welfare and timely financial assistance. Leaders said the swift transfer of funds to farmers' bank accounts re-

fects the Congress government's focus on strengthening the agricultural sector. The event was attended by Keesara Division Congress President Ramidi Swapna Vijay Reddy, Keesaragutta Trust Board Members Morugu Muthyalu, Praveen Kumar and Pochaboyina Raju Yadav, Thimmaipally Village Congress President Suresh, and several Congress leaders and party workers.

## Centre Strengthening Healthcare Network Across India: Nadda

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Union health minister J.P. Nadda on Thursday said the Centre has developed a uniform and integrated healthcare framework by strengthening tertiary institutions while expanding secondary and primary healthcare across the country. Speaking after reviewing facilities at AIIMS Bibinagar in Yadadri-Bhongir district, he said the health sector had witnessed significant expansion in infrastructure and capacity under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He noted that while the country had only one AIIMS till the end of the 20th century, six more were established during the tenure of former Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee, and 16 ad-



ditional AIIMS have since been added, taking the total to 23. Of these, 18 are operational and the rest are under construction.

He said the government has strengthened tertiary healthcare while expanding primary and secondary services, adding that 1.85 lakh Ayushman Arogya Mandirs are serving nearly 1.5 billion people. He also said the number of medical colleges has increased from 387 in 2014 to 820 at present. Nadda appreciated AIIMS Bibinagar for adopting six villages and organising 547 mobile medical

campus. The institute, he said, has served 66,148 patients through its Rural Health Training Centre and Urban Health Training Centre. A community radio station with a reach of about 10 km has also been launched, with 43 educational programmes broadcast so far.

He said the Centre had sanctioned ₹1,000 crore for the development of AIIMS Bibinagar, of which about 87.4 per cent, amounting to around ₹902 crore, has been completed. Construction of key facilities, including hospital blocks, the AYUSH building, Amrut Nivas, the academic block and hostels, has been completed, while retrofitting of older structures is in progress. The radiotherapy and operation theatre complex is expected to be completed soon.

## Students protest over grace marks allocation at JNTU

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Students staged a protest at Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University (JNTU) at Kukatpally on Thursday, July 9, demanding extra grace marks to help them pass their exams.

Grace marks are governed by a set of academic regulations revised periodically by the University Grants Commission (UGC). R22 regulations, the trigger for the protests, apply to students admitted in 2022. With new revisions in 2025, batches



of 2022, 2023 and 2024 were left in a lurch with much fewer grace marks, students have alleged. A student leader and member of the Student Protection Forum, Mohammad Nehaal-ur-Rehman, claimed that the R22

regulation originally did not allow any grace marks for students. According to him, previous batches (up until R16) had an exemption to skip one exam. This was done away with in the R18 regulation, as stu-

dents who had written all their exams were getting a lower percentage than students who had skipped one of their exams. Students passing out under the R18 regulation were still given grace marks as per their demand after staging protests in 2023.

The R25 regulation allows both an exemption of four credits and grace marks. Neither provision is available in the R22 regulation, Nehaal said. He said that students had staged a protest last month and submitted a representation demanding

grace marks, after which they were granted 0.15 per cent grace marks. This, he claims, is "for name's sake" and does not help students clear even one subject.

With their demands still not met, dozens of students gathered for a protest at the campus on Thursday, now demanding an allocation of 0.50 per cent grace marks and subject exemption. The students have been assured by the college management that a committee will be formed to review their demands, Nehaal said.



Police personnel underwent a medical health camp in Kulsumpura, conducted by Hyderabad City Police in collaboration with Maitri Hospital on Thursday, July 9. About 200 officers from Mangalhat, Kulsumpura, Tappachabutra, and Gudimalkapur police stations participated.

## Uttam Calls for Comprehensive Contingency Plans

Collectors told they are key in coping with El Nino hit monsoon

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Irrigation minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Thursday directed officials to be ready with comprehensive contingency plans to effectively tackle any challenges that may arise from El Nino's impact on the rest of the monsoon season. With forecasts indicating the possibility of El Nino continuing to influence the monsoon, Uttam Kumar Reddy said Telangana could not remain immune if the climate system impacted the country. He called for seamless coordination among irrigation, agriculture, and meteorological departments to minimise risks to agriculture and protect farmers' livelihoods.

Chairing a high-level review meeting on El Nino preparedness here, with agriculture minister Tumala Nageswara Rao joining online, Uttam Kumar Reddy stressed that there was no reason for farmers to panic, as comprehensive contingency measures were being put in



place to respond swiftly to any emerging situation. During the video conference with district collectors, and Chief Secretary Sanjay Jaju joining in, the ministers said the collectors should ensure intensive coordination between agriculture and irrigation departments, and to educate farmers on contingency plans and availability of water for irrigation. Uttam Kumar Reddy said planning must be made based on developing conditions along with rainfall projections, groundwater availability, reservoir storage, irrigation potential and local cropping patterns. He said every district should be equipped with a clear response strategy to address any adverse impact arising

from deficient rainfall or prolonged dry spells. The irrigation minister emphasised scientific crop planning, and advised farmers not to depend exclusively on traditional water-intensive crops wherever water availability was uncertain. Grama sabhas, Rythu Vedikas and field-level extension programmes should be extensively utilised to create awareness among farmers about appropriate cropping choices and climate-resilient farming practices, he said.

He directed irrigation department officials to provide transparent information on reservoir storage and water availability so that farmers can make informed cultivation decisions.

## 56 truckloads later, Aghapura nala is finally clear: HYDRRA

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

Mattresses, pillows, chairs, bedsheets and tonnes of silt that had blocked the Aghapura nala in Darussalam, Old City, were finally cleared with HYDRRA removing 56 truckloads of waste in its week-long desilting drive.

Aghapura Nala, which merges into the Musi River through Mehdiapatnam, Mallepally and Vijayanagar Colony, was in a dire state with mounds of plastic, silt and garbage blocking the flow of rain-

water.

On Thursday, July 9, the Hyderabad Disaster Response Asset Protection Agency (HYDRRA)'s Monsoon Emergency Teams (MET) and Disaster Response Force (DRF) cleared the garbage, giving a new lease of life to the flowing water. During the week-long operation, workers were provided with gloves and other safety equipment. However, some personnel were seen working without protective gear, drawing criticism on social media.

## Zepto facility in Narsingi raided, fifth inspection in 3 weeks

Food safety officials raided a Zepto warehouse in Narsingi, making it the fifth raid across Hyderabad in three weeks. On Thursday, July 9, Cyberabad Municipal Corporation (CMC) raided a Zepto facility in Narsingi, flagging multiple hygiene violations.

Officials found racks, crates, flooring, walls, air curtains and ceilings in an unclean condition with visible dirt accumulation. Food waste was observed on racks, crates and the floor, while food bags were stored directly on the ground without pallets.

Food and non-food items were not properly segregated. A Pest-o-Flash unit in the fruits and vegetables section was found to be improperly positioned, posing a potential risk of physical contamination.

## Sri Nallapochamma Temple Marks 17th Anniversary

**HYDERABAD**  
Wakeup telangana

The 17th anniversary celebrations of Sri Nallapochamma Temple at Bajpuji Nagar, New Bowenpally, were held with religious fervour on Thursday, drawing a large number of devotees and local leaders. Former Secunderabad Cantonment Board Vice President Jampana Pratap attended the celebrations as the chief guest. He participated in the special pujas offered to Goddess Nallapochamma, received Tirtha prasadam, and was felici-



tated with a traditional shawl by the temple authorities. Addressing the gathering, Jampana Pratap described Goddess Nallapochamma as a divine mother who fulfills the wishes of her devotees. He congratulated the temple committee for successfully completing 17 years and appreciated its

efforts in developing and maintaining the temple. Several local leaders, committee members, including Durgayya, Ajith, Karan, Srikanth, and Narendra, and numerous devotees participated in the celebrations, making the event a grand spiritual occasion.

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