

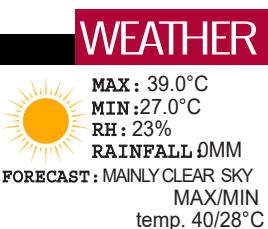
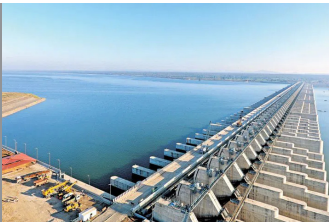


Bonalu Celebrations Begin at Golconda Fort: P2



Harish Rao warns Telangana is heading towards power crisis: P2

Kaleshwaram remains political issue while similar dam failures focus on repairs: P3



TMC MP Rukmini Mallick Steps Down from Rajya Sabha

Actor-turned-politician Koel Mallick on Thursday resigned as a Rajya Sabha member, becoming the fourth Trinamul Congress MP to quit the Upper House. She submitted her resignation to Vice-President and Rajya Sabha Chairman C.P. Radhakrishnan and later met Union minister Bhupendra Yadav in New Delhi. Mallick, daughter of actor Ranjit Mallick, was among the members nominated to the Rajya Sabha by the party in March this year. With her resignation, the TMC's strength in the Upper House has reduced to nine. TMC chief Mamata Banerjee, without naming her, said in a Facebook address that an MP had resigned and met a BJP leader. "Another MP, who I respect as an artist, resigned and met a BJP leader. Let me tell you she sent an email about it

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Modi To Unveil Rs 25,000-Cr Projects in Three States

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit Haryana, Chandigarh and Punjab on Friday to inaugurate and lay the foundation stone for infrastructure projects worth over Rs 25,000 crore, with the outreach also seen as part of the BJP's preparations for the 2027 Punjab Assembly elections. The Centre has scheduled projects worth about Rs 14,700 crore in Haryana, over Rs 6,600 crore in Chandigarh and Rs 5,470 crore in Punjab, focusing on connectivity,



railways, healthcare and road infrastructure. Key projects include flagging off a hydrogen-powered train between Jind and Sonipat, inaugurating stretches of the Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway, national highway works, railway infrastructure upgrades, healthcare facilities at PGIMER, Chandigarh and

medical colleges in Haryana. In Punjab, the Prime Minister will inaugurate 75 redeveloped railway stations under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, launch rail services linking the state with Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh, and unveil road projects including sections of the Delhi-Amritsar-Katra Expressway and the Southern Ludhiana Bypass.

The visit comes amid the BJP's preparations to contest the Punjab Assembly elections independently following its decision to end its alliance

with the Shiromani Akali Dal. The party has since stepped up organisational activities across the state. During the visit, the Prime Minister is expected to refer to initiatives related to the Sikh community, including the Kartarpur Corridor, celebration of Guru Nanak Dev's 550th Prakash Purab and observance of Veer Bal Diwas. The BJP is focusing on issues such as development, law and order, drug abuse, corruption allegations against the state government, national security and welfare schemes as part of its campaign.

Red Fort To Remain Closed To Public Till August 15

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Delhi's iconic Red Fort complex has been closed to the public from July 15 till the 80th Independence Day celebrations on August 15, according to an official order. The order has been issued by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) in view of the ongoing preparations for the Independence Day celebrations at the com-



plex. "In exercise of the powers conferred under Rule 5 of the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Rules, 1959, it is hereby directed that the Red Fort shall remain closed for the public and general visitors from 15th July, 2026, to 15th August

2026, till the end of Independence Day celebrations, 2026," reads the order dated July 9.

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Two Devotees Die Of Suffocation In Puri During Rath Yatra

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Two devotees are feared dead and several others injured following an incident during the Rath Yatra in Odisha's pilgrim city of Puri on Thursday evening. While initial reports suggested that the incident may have been caused by overcrowding or a stampede-like situation, the state government denied any stampede and said the deaths occurred due to "suffocation". However,



there was no immediate official confirmation regarding the exact number of casualties or injuries.

One of the deceased was identified as Anant Chandra Dash (35), a resident of Shirlonabagram in Cuttack district. The injured devotees were admitted to

the Puri District Headquarters Hospital, where medical teams attended to them. At least 20 persons were reported to be in critical condition. Speaking about the incident, law Minister Prithviraj Harichandan said Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi had directed Health Minister Dr Mukesh Mahaling to visit the hospital and ensure all necessary arrangements for the treatment of the injured. The Health Minister later vis-

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BRS MLC's Son Tests Ganja-Positive

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Bharat Raj, the son of a former IAS officer-turned-BRC MLC P. Venkatram Reddy, and two others were served notices by Mangalhat police after they allegedly tested positive for ganja in both urine and blood tests during an investigation into a drug consumption case. Police said the trio have been directed to undergo de-addiction and rehabilitation, while efforts are on to trace four other members of the seven-

Police said the trio have been directed to undergo de-addiction and rehabilitation, while efforts are on to trace four other members of the seven-member group identified during the probe

member group identified during the probe.

According to police, the investigation began with the questioning of Abhishek, a software professional residing under the Mangalhat police station limits, who allegedly procured ganja and hash oil from Himachal

Pradesh. Investigators said Abhishek travelled to Himachal Pradesh once every two to three months to procure the narcotic substances before returning to Hyderabad. Police alleged that Abhishek would invite his close friends to his residence, where the group consumed the drugs. During the investigation, officers identified a group of seven friends who were allegedly regular consumers. Bharat was introduced to Abhishek through mutual friends.

Wangchuk's Health Turns Critical

Wangchuk's Health Condition Has Entered Critical Stage, Next Phase Could Be Alarming: Doctors

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Activist Sonam Wangchuk's health condition has entered a critical stage due to his prolonged fast and the next phase could be alarming and his organs could get affected, doctors warned on Thursday as appeals came in from several quarters to call off his hunger strike. Wangchuk, however, remained resolute saying calling off his fast without any response from the government would send a wrong message. Instead, he urged people to strengthen the Cockroach Janta Party's (CJP) proposed Parliament march on July 20.

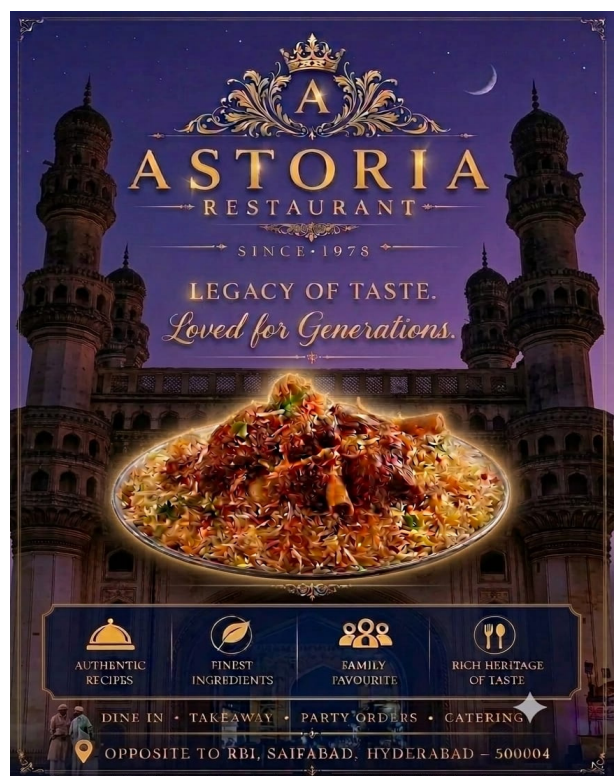
He also insisted that he can continue for many more days. With the matter reaching the Delhi High Court, which was hearing a PIL raising concern over his health, the bench directed authorities for daily monitoring and to extend medical aid if his condition deteriorates. "We observe that life of



any citizen is precious and all medical efforts ought to be made by government authorities to save the same," the court said.

Solicitor General (SG) Tushar Mehta, who appeared for the Centre as well as the Delhi government, submitted that life of every individual was precious and there was no objection to undertaking Wangchuk's regular medical checkup. According to the latest medical bulletin issued by Dr Satish Lamba, Wangchuk has lost more than nine kg since beginning his hunger strike on June 28. He now weighs 56.9 kg. Lamba warned that Wangchuk has entered a critical

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Telangana Among Top NEET Rankers

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Telangana was among the eight states represented in the top 17 ranks of NEET UG 2026, with all candidates in this group scoring above 705 marks, according to the National Testing Agency (NTA). The results were announced on Thursday as the state prepares for medical admissions with an increased intake of MBBS seats. Detailed Telangana-wise qualification figures and the counselling schedule



of KNRUHS are awaited. Punjab's Aryan Gupta and Haryana's Panshul Bansal topped the NEET-UG examination, scoring 715 out of 720, with 11.21 lakh candidates qualifying this year. According to the NTA, 19 candidates scored 700 marks, while 138 secured 690. A total of 1,492 candidates scored 650 or above, and

10,160 candidates obtained 600 or more marks. More than 58 per cent of the qualified candidates are women. The examination held on May 9 was cancelled on May 12 following allegations of a paper leak, and a re-examination was conducted on June 21. The CBI is investigating the case.

The NTA said the results were declared on schedule to ensure that the admission and counselling process remains on track. "The results were declared within time through

re-engineering of the process, with stages designed to run in parallel rather than in sequence, and with the de-linking of the OMR sheet challenge from answer key release. Each stage was completed in full and made available for candidate view," it said.

NEET-UG is the largest undergraduate entrance examination in the country, with nearly 25 lakh candidates appearing. It is conducted for admission to medical courses, in-

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Bonalu Celebrations Begin at Golconda Fort

Ministers Ponnam Prabhakar and Konda Surekha offered the first Bonam to the presiding deity at Langar Houz crossroads, marking the formal start of the Ashada month celebrations.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Bonalu festivities in Telangana commenced on Thursday with devotees offering the traditional first bonam at the Jagadamba Mahankali temple at Golconda Fort. Ministers Ponnam Prabhakar and Konda Surekha offered the first Bonam to the presiding deity at Langar Houz crossroads, marking the formal start of the Ashada month celebrations. Women carrying Bonam, accompanied by Pothuraju performers, took part in the procession amid drumbeats and ritual dis-



plays. The procession moved from Golconda through Chotta Bazaar, halting at the temple priest's residence, where the deity's idol was brought out and joined the procession. It later converged with groups of women carrying Bonam at Banjara Darwaza before proceeding to the temple at the fort. The festival, which begins at Golconda, is observed across the Ashada month and will be held on Thursdays and Sundays over nine days. Officials said the tradition dates back to 1813, when devotees are believed to

have vowed offerings to Goddess Mahankali during a plague epidemic in Hyderabad. The practice has continued annually since. Speaking on the occasion, Surekha said that Ashada Bonalu had commenced with the First Bonam and prayed that the blessings of Goddess Jagadamba of Golconda be upon us. She said that the Bonalu tradition has been continuing with grandeur in the twin cities for several hundred years and that Goddess Jagadamba of Golconda is a Goddess of great glory. A Bonalu handicrafts fair was also inaugurated

at the HMDA grounds, scheduled from July 16 to July 26. The fair provides artisans from across the State an opportunity to market their products directly. Exhibits include terracotta items, earthenware, jute products, Gadwal sarees, Pochampally Ikat textiles, Nirmal toys and paintings, silver filigree, Warangal durries, Narayanpet handlooms, Pembarthi brass artefacts, bead craft, traditional medicines, and organic products, along with clay Ganesh idols for the upcoming Ganesh Chaturthi festival.

Harish Rao warns Telangana is heading towards power crisis

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BRSRP deputy leader T Harish Rao raised alarm over Telangana heading towards a power crisis due to coal shortages, poor planning and mismanagement by the Congress government. He said thermal power stations were operating at just 44 per cent of their 7,180 MW capacity, forcing the State to purchase 80 million units of electricity every day from the power exchange at high prices, even as people faced unannounced power cuts. He demanded the restoration of 24-hour free power for agriculture and warned that the BRS would intensify its protests if the government failed to address the crisis. Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan on Thursday,



Harish Rao said power outages had affected farmers, students, traders and households across the State. He cited protests by farmers in front of substations in 11 districts over erratic power supply. He alleged that inadequate coal stocks had crippled thermal generation, with Kothagudem, Kakatiya, Bhadradi and Yadadri thermal power stations left with coal reserves for only six to seven days. "Two units at the Yadadri plant had stopped generation due to a lack of coal," he said, blaming maintenance failures for the dis-

ruption at the Bhadradi plant. The BRSRP deputy leader said Telangana had an installed generation capacity of about 23,000 MW, but thermal generation stood at only 3,190 MW on Tuesday despite demand being around 15,000 MW. He accused the government of failing to ensure coal supply, maintain water reservoirs and operate power plants efficiently. Harish Rao pointed out that the Congress government had ignored his repeated warnings about dwindling coal production and a possible shortage of coal stocks since January this year. He alleged that the Singareni website, which carried daily coal production data, had been shut to prevent public access to information on coal production, supply and quality.

Traffic Police Action Appreciated, But Citizens Seek Uniform Enforcement Across Hyderabad

Commuters welcome strict no-parking enforcement but urge Hyderabad Traffic Police to ensure equal action across all roads without selective implementation.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Hyderabad Traffic Police are receiving appreciation from commuters for their continued efforts to enforce No Parking regulations and improve traffic movement across the Twin Cities. As part of a special enforcement drive, traffic officials were seen generating e-challans against vehicles parked in designated No Parking Zones, including near the Tarnaka Metro Station side road. Department vehicles equipped with camera systems were used to capture violations and issue challans, a move that many citizens have welcomed. However, several commuters have raised ques-



tions over what they perceive as uneven enforcement of traffic rules. According to local residents and daily commuters, while strict action is being taken on vehicles parked near the Tarnaka Metro Station side road and the Suzuki showroom/service lane, similar violations on busy main roads allegedly continue

without enforcement. Citizens pointed to stretches on the Tarnaka-Moulali Main Road, where vehicles are reportedly parked along the roadside near hotels, shopping establishments and other commercial areas, often affecting the free flow of traffic. They questioned why enforcement appears to be more visible in some locations than in others. Many commuters have urged the Hyderabad Traffic Police to adopt uniform and impartial enforcement of No Parking rules across all areas, regardless of whether the violators are individual motorists or vehicles parked near commercial establishments. Residents said that consistent implementation of traffic regulations at all locations would help reduce congestion, improve road safety and strengthen public confidence in traffic enforcement. "Traffic rules should apply equally to everyone. Uniform enforcement is the key to better traffic management," was the common view expressed by several commuters.

Jampana Pratap Distributes Indiramma Sarees

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Former Vice President of the Cantonment Board, Jampana Pratap, distributed Indiramma sarees to eligible and underprivileged women in the locality as part of the Telangana government's welfare initiative aimed at supporting both beneficiaries and handloom weavers. Speaking on the occasion, Jampana Pratap said the Revanth Reddy-led government is committed to strengthening the livelihood of handloom weavers by placing continuous orders for the manufacture



of Indiramma sarees, thereby creating sustained employment opportunities. At the same time, the government is ensuring that deserving women receive the benefit directly. He stated that the distribution process is being carried out with complete transparency through Aadhaar-based authentication and

facial recognition technology, ensuring that the sarees reach only genuine and eligible beneficiaries without any irregularities. "The Revanth Reddy government is committed to uplifting handloom weavers by providing them continuous employment. By using Aadhaar and facial recognition technology, we are ensuring that these Indiramma sarees reach the actual, eligible beneficiaries with absolute transparency," Jampana Pratap said. Local leaders Sharath Varaprasad and Mukesh, along with colony residents and several local women, participated in the programme.

Traffic Police Action Appreciated, Citizens Seek Uniform Enforcement Across Hyderabad

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Hyderabad Traffic Police have earned praise from commuters for intensifying action against vehicles parked in No Parking Zones, including near the Tarnaka Metro Station side road, where e-challans are being issued using camera-equipped enforcement vehicles. Citizens welcomed the initiative, saying it helps improve traffic flow and road discipline.



However, many commuters have urged the authorities to ensure uniform enforcement across the city. Residents pointed out that while strict action is being taken near the Tarnaka Metro Station and the Suzuki showroom service lane, vehicles allegedly parked illegally along the busy

Tarnaka-Moulali Main Road near hotels and commercial establishments often go unchecked, causing congestion. Commuters appealed to the Hyderabad Traffic Police to enforce No Parking rules impartially in all locations, irrespective of the violator. They said consistent implementation of traffic regulations would ease traffic congestion, enhance road safety and strengthen public confidence in law enforcement.

Superintendent Gaddam Gnanaprakash Reddy Accorded Warm Farewell at Bommalararamaram

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Superintendent Gaddam Gnanaprakash Reddy was accorded a warm and heartfelt farewell by the officials and staff of the Mandal Praja Parishad (MPP), Bommalararamaram, following his transfer to the Zilla Praja Parishad (ZPP), Yadadri Bhuvana-giri under the Telangana Government's General Transfers. A farewell and felicitation programme was organized by the Mandal Praja Parishad in recognition of his dedicated services and commitment during his tenure at Bommalararamaram. On



the occasion, colleagues honoured him with a shawl and presented him with a memento as a token of appreciation. Speaking at the programme, the speakers praised Gnanaprakash Reddy for his sincerity, discipline, and cordial relationship with employees, public representatives, and the public. They appreciated

his administrative efficiency and wished him success in his new assignment. The farewell programme was attended by Special Officer and DEO Bikshapathi, MPDO Shyamala, MPO Sreemalini, Supervisor K. Ramesh Reddy, office staff, Panchayat Secretaries, EGS personnel, and other employees, who extended their best

Karchal Gram Panchayat Reviews Development Agenda at Members' Meeting

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A meeting of the Karchal Gram Panchayat was held on Thursday at the Gram Panchayat Office under the chairmanship of Sarpanch Mrs. Kapu Urmila Srinivas Reddy to review key development initiatives and civic issues in the village. During the meeting, members held detailed discussions on several important subjects, including drinking water supply, sanitation management, construction and maintenance of drainage systems, upkeep of streetlights, and the effective implementation of



various government welfare schemes. The members shared their suggestions and emphasized the need for coordinated efforts to ensure timely execution of development works and improve civic amenities for the benefit of villagers. It was unanimously resolved that all elected representatives and officials

should work together to accelerate the overall development of Karchal Village. The meeting was attended by the Deputy Sarpanch, Ward Members, and the Panchayat Secretary, who reviewed ongoing works and discussed future plans aimed at enhancing public services and village infrastructure.

Agniveer Recruitment Rally From Aug. 29



The 1 EME Centre in Secunderabad will conduct unit headquarters quota recruitment rally from August 29 for Agniveer technical, Agniveer tradesman, Class X chef, and outstanding sportsperson categories. The rally is open to sons of war widows, widows, ex-servicemen and serving personnel, as well as own brothers of servicemen and ex-servicemen. Outstanding sportspersons may apply under the open category for swimming and diving, or volleyball. Candidates must be between 17.5 and 22 years old, with dates of birth between July 1, 2005 and July 1, 2009. Applicants for Agniveer technical must meet one of the prescribed qualification routes. These include Class XII Science with Physics, Mathematics and English and 50 per cent aggregate, recognised vocational qualifications or Class X with specified marks and technical training through ITI or an approved diploma. Applicants for the chef category need a Class X pass and at least 33 per cent in each of five basic subjects.

Karkana Nagaraju Extends Birthday Wishes to Bandi Ramesh



Kukatpally Congress Party In-charge, TPCC Vice-President, and Kamma Corporation Chairman Bandi Ramesh celebrated his birthday in a grand manner at N.K.N.R. Function Hall in Kukatpally on Wednesday, with party leaders, trade union representatives, and supporters extending their greetings. On the occasion, Kukatpally Constituency INTUC President and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) Workers Union Working President Karkana Nagaraju met Bandi Ramesh and conveyed his heartfelt birthday wishes. As a mark of respect, Nagaraju felicitated him with a shawl and presented a floral garland during the celebrations. Speaking on the occasion, Karkana Nagaraju lauded Bandi Ramesh's commitment to public service and expressed hope that he would continue to scale greater heights in public life.

Kaleshwaram remains political issue while similar dam failures focus on repairs

Nearly three years after structural distress at the Medigadda barrage, the Kaleshwaram project continues to dominate Telangana's political debate. Unlike similar infrastructure failures elsewhere in India, the focus has remained on political confrontation rather than repair, reconstruction and restoration.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

When major dams or hydropower projects fail elsewhere in India, governments typically respond with technical reviews, reconstruction and safety audits. However, nearly three years after three piers in the Medigadda barrage (out of 86) developed structural distress, the entire Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme continues to dominate Telangana's political discourse.

Since assuming office in December 2023, the Congress government has made Kaleshwaram the centre of its sustained political campaign against the previous BRS government, alleging financial irregularities and engineering failures under the former BRS government. Investigations,



probes by commissions, technical studies and criminal cases have kept the project in the political spotlight. However, the reconstruction or repair of the two piers that sank in one of the barrages has never engaged the government's attention, for reasons best known to it. Interestingly, while being critical of the Congress government's handling of irrigation, the BJP has broadly echoed the Congress' political narrative on Kaleshwaram, ensuring that the project re-

mains under constant political scrutiny. Elsewhere in the country, however, the response to similar infrastructure failures has been markedly different, with governments prioritising repair and restoration.

For instance, the Teesta-III hydropower project in Sikkim was devastated by the October 2023 glacial lake outburst flood, with the dam breached, the powerhouse submerged and downstream infrastructure washed away. The disaster claimed

scores of lives, and subsequent studies pointed to planning deficiencies and regulatory lapses. Yet, the official response centred on rescue operations, technical assessment and reconstruction. The project is now being rebuilt at a cost of Rs 6,000 crore, with the focus firmly on restoration.

Andhra Pradesh's Polavaram project is another example. Audits by the Comptroller and Auditor General pointed to damage to the diaphragm wall, cost overruns, contract management failures, expenditure irregularities and rehabilitation gaps involving thousands of crores. Yet, the response revolved around expert reviews, revised execution plans, fresh audits and rehabilitation, rather than a prolonged political campaign against those who conceived the project.

District Collector Anuraag Jayanti Makes Surprise Inspection at Mothkur PHC, Interacts with Patients

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Collector Anuraag Jayanti paid a surprise visit to the Primary Health Centre (PHC) at Mothkur on Thursday to assess the quality of healthcare services being provided to the public. During the inspection, the Collector personally interacted with patients visiting the hospital and enquired about the availability of medicines, medical treatment, and the



behaviour of the hospital staff. He also reviewed outpatient services, the availability of essential drugs, cleanliness, and overall hospital management. The Collector instructed doctors and healthcare personnel to provide prompt and compassionate treatment to every patient and ensure

that government health services are delivered efficiently without inconvenience to the public. He emphasized maintaining hygiene, adequate medicine stocks, and patient-friendly services at all times. Medical officers and health staff accompanied the District Collector during the inspection and briefed him on the functioning of the Primary Health Centre and the healthcare services being provided to the local community.

Family Seeks Blessings at Tirumala

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Chevella Vittal, President of the Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS), Raikode Mandal, Sangareddy District, along with his family, offered prayers at the sacred Sri Venkateswara Swamy Temple, Tirumala, and had a divine darshan. During their visit,



the family participated in the temple rituals and prayed for the well-being, prosperity, and happiness of the people of Telangana. They also sought

the blessings of Lord Venkateswara for peace, good health, and strength to continue serving society with dedication.

Overflowing Drain, Broken Road Anger Public

Residents urge GHMC and HMWSSB to repair overflowing drainage and damaged road near CTC Building before health risks worsen.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A major civic issue opposite the CTC (Chenoy Trade Centre) Building in Parklane, Secunderabad, has triggered widespread public outrage after an overflowing drainage leak and damaged road remained unattended for nearly ten days. Residents, commuters and shopkeepers have demanded immediate intervention from the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) and the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB).

The continuous drainage overflow has resulted in stagnant sewage water spreading onto the busy road, creating foul odour, unhygienic conditions and serious inconvenience for thousands of daily commuters. The affected stretch has also deteriorated into a gravel-filled, pothole-ridden road, posing risks to motorists and pedestrians.

Locals alleged that despite repeated complaints, neither GHMC nor HMWSSB has taken effective steps to resolve the issue. They expressed disappointment over the lack of coordination between the two civic agencies, stating that a major commercial locality has been left neglected for days.

Residents also questioned the priorities of local public representatives, alleging that while illegal construction activities receive prompt attention, basic civic infrastructure and public safety continue to be ignored.

Responding to the public grievances,



Maddala Prabhakar, representing the Scheduled Caste Protection Society, demanded immediate restoration of the drainage system and urgent road repairs. He said it was unacceptable for sewage to overflow on a busy commercial road for ten consecutive days and warned that continued inaction would force the organisation, along with local residents, to launch a large-scale protest.

Citizens have urged HMWSSB to immediately stop the drainage leakage and GHMC to restore the damaged road before the situation leads to accidents or public health concerns. Residents said the authorities must act without further delay to restore normalcy and ensure safe movement in one of Secunderabad's busiest commercial corridors.

CMC Commissioner Reviews Gosai Kunta Lake Development, Road Widening Proposal

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Cyberabad Municipal Corporation (CMC) Commissioner G. Srujana, IAS, along with Serilingampally Zonal Commissioner Narayan Amit, IAS, Bhongir MP Chalmala Kiran Kumar Reddy, and officials, inspected Gosai Kunta Lake and the Gaulidoddi area in Gachibowli following requests from former corporator Gangadhar Reddy. During the inspection, Gangadhar Reddy urged the Commissioner to develop Gosai Kunta Lake



with a walking track, children's play area, open gym, greenery, CCTV cameras, high-mast lighting, and proper drainage to prevent sewage inflow.

He also requested the widening of the road from Gaulidoddi to Wipro Circle to ease increasing traffic congestion, along with footpaths, cycle tracks,

streetlights, and storm-water drains. The Commissioner directed officials to prepare plans for the comprehensive development of the lake and to expedite the Gaulidoddi-Wipro Circle road widening works to improve public infrastructure and traffic flow.

Health Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha Inaugurates ISKCON Jagannath Rath Yatra 2026

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Medical, Health & Family Welfare Minister Sri Damodar Rajanarsimha inaugurated the grand Sri Jagannath Rath Yatra-2026, organised by ISKCON Temple, Kukatpally, in Hyderabad. On the occasion, the Minister participated in the special religious ceremonies and offered prayers to Lord



Jagannath. Amid a massive gathering of devotees chanting "Jai Jagannath," "Hare Rama," and "Hare Krishna," the ceremonial chariot procession commenced with great devotion and spiritual fervour. The Minister

joined devotees in pulling the sacred chariot and later distributed prasadam to thousands of devotees attending the event. The Rath Yatra witnessed enthusiastic participation from people of all age groups, creating a vibrant atmosphere of devotion, faith, and unity. The organisers expressed gratitude to the devotees and dignitaries who participated in making the annual Rath Yatra a grand success.

HYDRAA Acts to Protect Anaghapuri Colony Park Land from Encroachment



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

HYDRAA officials initiated measures to safeguard a 498-square-yard park site in Anaghapuri Colony under Boduppall Circle of Malkajgiri Municipal Corporation following repeated representations by the colony welfare association against alleged encroachment attempts. According to the association, the park land in Survey No. 92 has been protected by residents since the colony was formed. In 2014, the then welfare association obtained official records related to the park through the Right to Information (RTI) Act and has since been maintaining the site for community ac-

tivities. The association alleged that repeated attempts were made to encroach upon the land in 2024 and again in 2026. Following representations to municipal authorities, the RDO, District Collector, GHMC officials, and HYDRAA Commissioner Ranganath, the matter was taken up for action. On Thursday, HYDRAA officials inspected the park site and initiated preventive measures to ensure that no further encroachment takes place. Welfare Association President Ravula Srinivas Reddy and colony members welcomed the action and thanked the authorities for protecting the public open space.

Sri Ganesh Launches Borewell in Bowenpally

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Residents of Bapuji Nagar in New Bowenpally received a major boost to their drinking water supply as Cantonment MLA Sri Ganesh inaugurated a new power borewell in Ward 1 on Wednesday.

The project, taken up through special development funds, is aimed at addressing the area's recurring water shortage and ensuring a steady supply of clean drinking water. MLA Sri Ganesh formally launched the borewell by performing



the traditional coconut-breaking ceremony in the presence of local leaders, officials, and residents.

The newly installed high-yield power borewell is expected to benefit hundreds of families who have been facing irregular water supply, particularly during peak demand

periods. Speaking on the occasion, the MLA reaffirmed his commitment to strengthening basic civic infrastructure across the Cantonment constituency. He said access to safe and reliable drinking water remains one of the government's top priorities and assured residents

that development funds would continue to be utilized for projects that directly improve public welfare. "Our goal is to ensure that every household has access to essential amenities.

This borewell is a step toward resolving the long-standing water issues in Bapuji Nagar, and similar works will be taken up wherever needed," Sri Ganesh said. Residents welcomed the initiative, expressing hope that the new borewell would provide long-term relief from water scarcity and improve the quality of life in the locality.

SIR Awareness Drive Held at Nallagandla HUDA Colony

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh

PAC Chairman Arekapudi Gandhi inspected the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) voter enrolment programme at Nallagandla HUDA Colony in Gachibowli Division. He urged all eligible voters to correctly fill, sign, and submit their Enumeration Forms to the Booth Level Officers (BLOs) before the July 24 deadline to ensure their names remain in the electoral roll. Gandhi described



voting as a valuable constitutional right and appealed to every citizen aged 18 years and above to participate in the SIR process. He advised voters to collect an acknowledgement receipt

from the BLO after submitting the form. The PAC Chairman also highlighted the challenges faced by BLOs, including delayed form distribution and restricted access to gated communities. He

appealed to residents, RWAs, volunteers, youth, and public representatives to cooperate and help make the SIR programme successful. He clarified that supporting documents are not required while submitting the Enumeration Form, but may be requested later by election authorities if verification is needed. He also urged citizens to rely only on official information and avoid rumours or misinformation circulating on social media.

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.

UN Warns Of Cracks In Global Immunisation System

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Global infant vaccination levels improved slightly last year, the UN said Wednesday, but warned that drastic funding cuts, conflicts and misinformation were deepening dangerous coverage gaps and allowing outbreaks to surge. In 2025, 90 percent of infants globally, or nearly 116 million, received at least one dose of the vaccine against diphtheria, tetanus and pertussis (DTP), while 85 percent completed the full three-dose series, according to data published by the World Health Organization (WHO) and UNICEF, the United Nations' health and children's agencies.

On the surface, those numbers look promising, with both indicators up one percentage point from



2024 and up four points since 2021. But they remained one point below the levels in 2019 -- before the Covid pandemic wreaked havoc on global vaccination programmes. This means "millions of vulnerable children are still being left unprotected due to conflict, displacement, and poverty", UNICEF chief Catherine Russell said in a statement.

"No child should suffer from a disease that a simple vaccine can prevent,"

she insisted. According to the data, an estimated 13.5 million so-called zero-dose children did not receive a single shot in their first year during 2025. That was 750,000 fewer than in 2024, and around one million fewer than in 2023.

The UN agencies warned that a growing number of children, mainly in poorer countries, start on the vaccine schedule but do not complete it.

Globally, the data showed that an estimated 7.3 mil-

lion infants had received their first DTP dose in the first months of life, but did not go on to receive their first measles dose, usually given at between nine and 12 months.

While there can be many reasons for such dropouts, "we think that this is clearly related in some settings to false information, misinformation that is provided around measles vaccination", the WHO's vaccines director Kate O'Brien told reporters, adding that this was of "very significant concern".

Dropouts have contributed to measles coverage stalling at 84 percent of children globally receiving their first measles dose, and just 77 percent receiving the second dose -- far short of the 95 percent needed to avert the spread of the highly contagious disease.

Sule Seeks 33% Women's Quota, Rejects Delimitation Link

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Nationalist Congress Party (Sharadchandra Pawar) working president and Baramati MP Supriya Sule on Wednesday asserted that the INDIA bloc has never linked the proposed delimitation exercise with women's reservation, insisting that the Centre should implement the long-pending 33 per cent reservation for women in Parliament. Addressing a press conference, Sule said neither the NCP (SP) nor the INDIA alliance had held discussions with anyone regarding the proposed delimitation exercise and that the Opposition would formulate its position only after the Centre introduced a formal bill in Parliament.

"We have neither held discussions with anyone regarding delimitation, nor has anyone approached us about it. We will formulate our stance



once the bill is introduced," she said. Sule stressed that the INDIA bloc's consistent demand has been the implementation of 33 per cent reservation for women in Parliament, rejecting suggestions that the alliance had sought to link the issue with delimitation. "The INDIA alliance never demanded delimitation. We have demanded that the 33 per cent reservation for women should be implemented," she said.

She added that any decision on the proposed legislation would be taken collectively after consultations within the INDIA bloc. "We will discuss any upcoming bill in detail within the INDIA alliance. Earlier,

parties such as the DMK, Samajwadi Party and ourselves had also raised concerns over the 50 per cent quota issue. We cannot comment until we see the legislation," she said. Sule said the Opposition had earlier written to Union Home Minister Amit Shah seeking a joint meeting with all INDIA bloc constituents instead of separate consultations on the proposed legislation.

"During the previous Budget Session, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju invited parties individually. We met Amit Shah and Kiren Rijiju, but under Mallikarjun Kharge's leadership, we wrote to the Home Minister requesting that all INDIA bloc parties be invited together," she said. Her remarks came amid renewed political debate over the proposed Constitution (131st Amendment) Bill, which seeks to expand the strength of the Lok Sabha.

Punjab Farmers Stage Motorcycle March Against India-US Trade Deal

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Farmers took out a motorcycle march on Wednesday here to protest against the proposed India-US trade deal, alleging it would adversely impact the country's farming sector. The march was taken out on a call given by different farming bodies under the banner of 'Desh Bachao Morcha' in Punjab. The march was taken out by the Kisan Mazdoor Sangharsh Committee (Piddi Group). Led by the outfit's district president Paramjit Singh Bhulla and district general secretary Kuldeep Singh Begowal, the march commenced after an 'ardas' (prayer) at Gurdwara Pull Pukhta Sahib near Tanda and passed through Tanda, Dasuya and Miani.

The protesters later reached the office of Dasuya Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) Kan-



waljit Singh and submitted a memorandum addressed to the prime minister, demanding the immediate withdrawal of the proposed India-US trade agreement. In the memorandum, the protesters alleged that the proposed trade pact would adversely affect farmers, agricultural labourers, livestock rearers, small traders and micro industries.

They claimed the agreement would allow cheaper agricultural imports into India, affecting domestic farm incomes and the country's agricultural economy. Addressing a gathering, Bhulla alleged that the proposed trade agreement would

be detrimental to farmers, particularly small and marginal cultivators, by exposing them to competition from cheaper imported agricultural produce. The protesting farmers claimed that the agreement would prove to be a "death decree" for farmers, asserting that it would not be acceptable under any circumstances.

Demanding immediate intervention by the Centre, they urged it to abandon the proposed trade pact and safeguard the interests of farmers and the common people. "The India-US Free Trade Agreement should be terminated with imme-

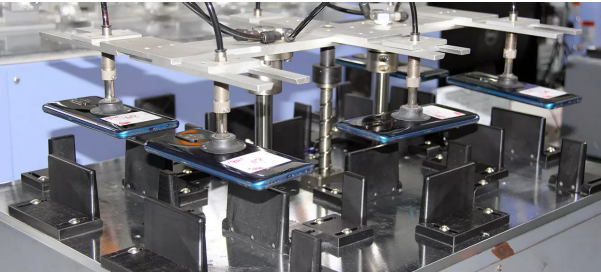
diated effect and the interests of the country's farmers and ordinary citizens must be protected," they said. They warned that if the government failed to address its demand, it would launch a nationwide mass movement through democratic and constitutional means.

Bhulla also criticised the Punjab government's land pooling policy, alleging that it would divert fertile agricultural land for residential and commercial projects, reduce cultivable land and adversely affect the livelihood of farming families. He further claimed the policy would primarily benefit large builders and real estate companies. The protesters raised slogans against the Centre and the Punjab government and urged farmers, agricultural labourers and the youth to unite over issues concerning the farming sector.

Cabinet Approves Rs 62,500 Cr For Mobile Phone PLI Scheme 2.0

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The Union Cabinet has approved Rs 62,500 crore for the second edition of the mobile phone production-linked incentives scheme, IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said on Wednesday. "Cabinet has approved mobile PLI," Vaishnaw said. According to a presentation shared by the minister, the Cabinet has approved Rs 62,500 crore for the



scheme. Smartphones have emerged as India's top exported commodity in CY 2025. The country exported smartphones worth Rs 2.62 lakh crore, with iPhone maker Apple dominating the segment.

Following a push to mobile phone production, India has emerged as the second-largest mobile manufacturer in the world. The mobile phone production in the country more than doubled to Rs. 5.5

lakh crores in FY 2024-25, from Rs. 2.14 lakh crores in FY 2019-20. The mobile phone exports have increased around eight-fold from Rs 0.27 lakh crores in FY 2019-20 to Rs 2 lakh crores in FY 2024-25. From being an importer of mobile phones back in 2014, India has now become a net exporter, with more than 300 mobile manufacturing units being operational in the country.

NGT Steps In Over Illegal Mining Allegations Near Temple in UP's Ghaziabad

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has constituted a joint committee to ascertain allegations of illegal mining being carried out under the guise of de-silting a pond near the ancient Siddha Peeth Devi Temple in Dasna village of Ghaziabad in Uttar Pradesh. The green body was hearing a plea alleging illegal mining at the instance of respondent no. 6, the Nagar Palika Parishad of Dasna; and respondent no. 7, a private entity.

In an order dated July 10, a bench of NGT Chairperson Justice Prakash Shrivastava and expert member Afroz Ahmad noted the allegations that the illegal activity was being carried out using heavy



machinery. It noted the claim that while the executive officer of the municipality had filed a report in May 2026 stating that de-silting work was complete, deep digging was still in progress. "The OA (Original Application) raises substantial issues relating to compliance with environmental norms," the bench said.

It appointed a joint committee comprising representatives from the

Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB), the member secretary of the Uttar Pradesh Pollution Control Board (UPPCB), the secretary of the Directorate of Geology and Mining (Uttar Pradesh), and the district magistrate (DM) of Ghaziabad. The tribunal designated the DM as the nodal agency for coordination. It said,

"The joint committee will visit the site, ascertain the extent of desilting work which has been done by the respondent 7 (private entity) and also find out the correctness of the allegation made in the OA and the person responsible for carrying out the said de-silting work in excess of the limit by indulging in illegal mining and the official who had extended the cooperation and help in that process."

FROM FRONT PAGE

Two Devotees Die.....

The injured devotees were admitted to the Puri District Headquarters Hospital, where medical teams attended to them. At least 20 persons were reported to be in critical condition. Speaking about the incident, law Minister Prithiviraj Harichandan said Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi had directed Health Minister Dr Mukesh Mahaling to visit the hospital and ensure all necessary arrangements for the treatment of the injured.

The Health Minister later visited the hospital and reviewed the medical arrangements. He ruled out reports of deaths due to a stampede and said the casualties were caused by "suffocation."

Delhi HC to Hear.....

NEET-UG is the largest undergraduate entrance examination in the country, with nearly 25 lakh candidates appearing. It is conducted for admission to medical courses, including MBBS, with around 1.08 lakh seats available, comprising about 56,000 in government institutions and 52,000 in private colleges.

The examination is also used for admissions to courses in dentistry, Ayurveda, Unani and Siddha. Following the controversy over the paper leak, the Centre has decided to conduct NEET-UG as a computer-based test in future instead of the pen-and-paper mode.

CM Revanth To.....

The Cabinet is also expected to discuss the government's strategy to counter allegations by BRS leaders that the Congress government has failed to lift Godavari waters through the Kaleshwaram and Devadula projects. Apart from irrigation, the Cabinet is likely to finalise an agriculture contingency plan for the ongoing kharif season in view of drought-like conditions. Telangana has recorded a severe monsoon deficit, with only five districts receiving normal rainfall between June 1 and July 14, while 27 districts reported deficient rainfall and one district fell under the "large deficit" category.

The deteriorating groundwater situation is also expected to come up

for review. Average groundwater levels declined in 18 districts in June 2026 compared with the corresponding period last year and are projected to fall further if rainfall remains about 30 per cent below normal through August. The Cabinet is expected to approve measures to reduce the impact of drought by encouraging farmers to shift to less water-intensive crops, avoid expanding water-intensive cultivation, adopt short-duration and drought-tolerant crop varieties, diversify into pulses, oilseeds and millets, and promote rainwater harvesting.

Congress Invite.....

TMC chief Mamata Banerjee, without naming her, said in a Facebook address that an MP had re-

signed and met a BJP leader. "Another MP, who I respect as an artist, resigned and met a BJP leader. Let me tell you she sent an email about it recently. Thanks to her for tendering the resignation today physically," she said. She also asked party leaders facing pressure from investigative agencies to leave the party ahead of its July 21 Shahid Dibos event. "I request them to go with lota-kambal wherever they want following BJP's words for their survival from the pressure of state police, STF, CID, CBI, ED, I-T and other cases. They are free to make their own decisions. But please don't stigmatise the party we have built. We will not become weak anyway," she said. Banerjee alleged that families of those killed

in past political incidents were being approached to attend rival events.

Congress Invite.....

"The next stage can be alarming. Organs can be impacted. We are keeping him under 24x7 vigilance and hope it does not reach that stage. I urge the government to intervene as soon as possible because he is a precious gem and we do not want to lose him. If organs get impacted, it can be really alarming for us," Lamba said.

The health update came hours after Wangchuk, in a video message released late on Wednesday night, ruled out ending his fast despite appeals from political leaders and supporters.

CRIME

SCAC Seeks Criminal FIRs Against Builders Violating GHMC Sanctioned Plans

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Society for Crusade Against Corruption (SCAC) has urged the Telangana Government, Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC), and law enforcement agencies to register criminal FIRs against builders who allegedly violate sanctioned building plans after obtaining official permissions, arguing that such acts should not be treated merely as municipal violations.Raising concerns over the growing number of unauthorized constructions, SCAC stated that several builders reportedly secure GHMC approval based on one sanctioned plan but later construct additional floors or make major deviations from the approved drawings. The organization said such deliberate violations under-



mine the integrity of the building approval system and warrant criminal investigation wherever evidence supports intentional wrongdoing.According to SCAC, unauthorized construction goes beyond technical breaches of municipal regulations and can create serious public safety hazards. Illegal additions and deviations may compromise structural stability, obstruct fire safety measures, reduce mandatory parking space, and place residents and the public at risk.The organization questioned

why such cases are generally limited to penalties, notices, or demolition proceedings instead of being examined for potential criminal offences. It argued that where there is evidence of intentional deception, misrepresentation, or other violations under applicable law, authorities should initiate criminal proceedings, including registration of First Information Reports (FIRs), in accordance with legal provisions.SCAC emphasized that effective enforcement requires a coordinated approach involving GHMC, the State Government, and police authorities. It called for a review of existing enforcement practices to ensure that willful violations of sanctioned building permissions are dealt with through appropriate legal action rather than relying solely on administrative

measures.The anti-corruption organization further stressed that accountability should extend beyond builders. It urged authorities to take equal legal action against any public officials who, after due investigation, are found to have facilitated, ignored, or failed to act against serious building violations.SCAC maintained that consistent, impartial, and transparent enforcement of the law would serve as a strong deterrent against unauthorized construction while restoring public confidence in Hyderabad's building permission and regulatory framework. The organization said strict compliance with sanctioned plans is essential to protect public safety, uphold urban planning norms, and ensure that all stakeholders are held accountable under the law.

Miyapur Police Arrest Robbery Accused Targeting Delivery Executives

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh

The Miyapur Police arrested Basodi Abhishek, a repeat offender, in connection with a robbery targeting a Zepto delivery executive in Miyapur. According to police, the incident occurred in the early hours of July 13 near Shilpa Avenue Colony. The victim was intercepted by two men on a scooter while delivering an order. The accused al-



legedly assaulted him, threatened him, forced him to unlock his mobile phone, transferred ₹900 from his bank account, and robbed ₹5,000 in cash before fleeing. During the investigation,

police arrested Basodi Abhishek, who has multiple criminal cases registered against him in Madhura Nagar, Miyapur, Jubilee Hills, and Gachibowli police stations. Police recovered ₹400 from his possession. The Cyberabad Police have advised the public to avoid travelling alone in isolated areas at night and to immediately report any suspicious activity to the police by calling 100. Further investigation is underway.

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.

19-Year-Old Youth Dies by Suicide in Kapra

A 19-year-old youth allegedly died by suicide at his residence in BJR Nagar, Ambedkar Nagar, Kapra, on Sunday night. According to the police, the deceased, Lingala Ganesh, was alone at home after his parents had gone to their native village in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district, while his siblings were staying at a relative's house. When Ganesh did not respond to phone calls during the night, the family assumed he was asleep. On Monday morning, the victim's father, Lingala Ramulu, was informed by his elder son that Ganesh had allegedly hanged himself.

HC Fines Retired Teacher Rs 1 Lakh for Abusing Court Process

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana High Court has imposed costs of ₹1 lakh on a retired government school teacher for suppressing material facts and misusing the judicial process. Justice E.V. Venugopal dismissed a writ petition filed by P. Srinivas, a retired school assistant, and directed him to pay the amount to the Government Girls' School for the

Blind, Malakpet, within one month. The petitioner, who had earlier served as headmaster of a Mandal Parishad Upper Primary School in Nirmal district, sought action against a fellow teacher alleging violations of service rules and dereliction of duty based on incidents said to have occurred in 2016. Counsel for the petitioner argued that disciplinary proceedings should have been initiated. However, the government pleader

informed the court that an inquiry had already been initiated and sought time to complete the process. After examining the record, the court noted that the petitioner had raised the complaints only in 2022 and 2023, several years after his retirement in 2017, and had remained silent during his service. The court also observed that cross-complaints existed between the petitioner and the respondent.

HC Dismisses HMWS&SB Review in Compassionate Appointment

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana High Court has dismissed a review petition filed by the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWS&SB), holding that review jurisdiction cannot be used to reargue a case or introduce new grounds not raised earlier. Justice Surepalli Nanda, while deciding the review petition along with a connected contempt case, held that the Board had



failed to comply with the spirit of the court's earlier directions in a compassionate appointment claim filed by P. Kavitha, daughter of a deceased employee. Appearing for the

Board, Advocate General A. Sudarshan Reddy contended that the writ petition ought to have been dismissed on grounds of delay, as the petitioner challenged the rejection

order dated September 4, 2018 only in 2023. The Board also argued that the petitioner had suppressed the fact that her brother was employed as a police constable and was an earning member in the same household, and therefore she could not claim financial dependency. Rejecting the submissions, the court observed that these objections were not raised during the original proceedings and could not be introduced at the review stage.

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.



Heritage Gives Us Our Roots, Innovation Keeps Us Moving Forward

As Cathay Pacific marks 80 years, Regional General Manager Rakesh Raicar reflects on the airline's journey, why India remains central to its growth strategy, and how investing in customer experience, technology and people will define its next chapter.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

As Cathay Pacific celebrates its 80th anniversary, the airline is looking ahead with a strategy that combines its legacy with fresh investments in customer experience, technology and network expansion. For Rakesh Raicar, Regional General Manager, South Asia, Middle East and Africa (SAMEA), the milestone is about understanding what has consistently driven the airline's success. "The biggest lesson for me is that we have never achieved anything alone. We have grown alongside Hong Kong, we have grown alongside our customers, and we have grown alongside our people," Raicar says. He



points to the anniversary theme, '80 Years and Together', as a reflection of that philosophy. "Our success has always been built together on relationships and shared ambition." While aviation continues to evolve through technology and changing traveller expectations, he believes the fundamentals remain unchanged. "Technology will definitely evolve and customer expectations will continue to change. But the importance of connecting people and building these

meaningful relationships will not change. That's why we continue to invest in our products, services and digital capabilities while keeping people at the heart of everything we do." The anniversary has also brought back memories through the return of Cathay Pacific's vintage 'lettuce leaf' livery, a design Raicar associates with his own early years at the airline. "I joined during that time, and that livery brings back wonderful memories for many cus-

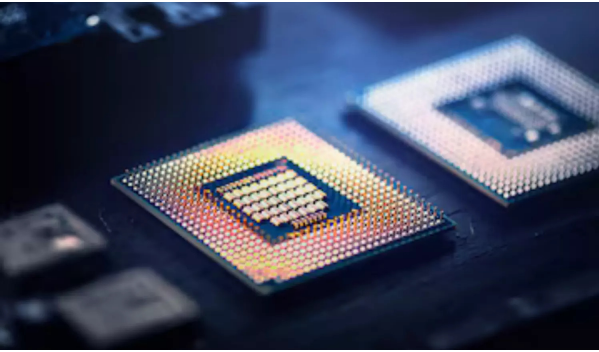
tomers, aviation enthusiasts and even our own people," he says. At the same time, he believes the airline's anniversary art livery represents the company it has become today. "It reflects a much more contemporary, modern side of Cathay and Hong Kong. It says we are creative, progressive, and connected to the world. Heritage gives us our roots, but innovation is what keeps us moving forward." That balance between tradition and change is also reflected in Cathay Pacific's investment of more than HK\$100 billion in enhancing customer experience. While much of the attention has focused on new aircraft cabins and premium products, Raicar says the larger objective is to improve every stage of

travel. "When people hear about our investment, they often think about aircraft or seats. Those are important, but the bigger change is really the overall experience," he says, adding, "Whether you are booking a trip, spending time in one of our lounges or flying long haul, everything should feel more intuitive, more comfortable and more personalised. Ultimately, we are investing in making every part of the journey better." Having spent over three decades with Cathay Pacific across multiple international markets, Raicar has witnessed a significant shift in customer expectations. While safety, reliability, and service remain non-negotiable, travellers today demand far more from an airline.

India Clears \$13 Billion Semiconductor Push

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

India approved a new semiconductor programme on Wednesday, offering more than \$13 billion in financial assistance to accelerate local chip production, as it seeks to become a global electronics powerhouse. India's Union Cabinet approved the "Semicon 2.0" initiative, expanding on a drive launched five years ago to reduce reliance on imports and attract investment in one of the world's most strategically important industries. It comes as countries race to secure semiconductor supply chains following pandemic-era disruptions and growing geopolitical tensions that exposed vulnerabilities in global chip production. The programme will focus on strengthening the local semiconductor ecosystem,



encouraging domestic production of key materials and attracting global manufacturers to establish fabrication plants in India. The plan recognised the need for "sustained and long-term support" to the industry and aimed to place India "on the semiconductor map of the world", the cabinet said in a statement, without providing more details on how the money will be used. An earlier semiconductor incentive scheme "Semicon 1.0", which was unveiled in 2021, offered support covering up to

half the cost of setting up chip projects. The incentives helped launch 12 manufacturing projects across fabrication, packaging and related segments, with at least three already entering commercial production. Among them is a semiconductor assembly and test facility established by US memory giant Micron Technology. India's chip market has grown from about \$38 billion in 2023 to an estimated \$45 billion-\$50 billion in 2024-25. The government is targeting a market size of \$100 billion-\$110 billion by 2030.

Sensex jumps over 550 points, Nifty rebounds in early trade

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Indian benchmark equity indices bounced back sharply in early trade on Wednesday after witnessing a significant decline in the previous session. The recovery was led by strong buying in banking and financial stocks, while softer-than-expected US inflation data boosted investor confidence by strengthen-

ing hopes of a less aggressive monetary policy from the US Federal Reserve. The 30-share BSE Sensex surged 553 points to 77,603.57 during early trading, while the NSE Nifty 50 climbed 148.15 points to 24,198.40, recovering a large part of Tuesday's losses. Among the top gainers on the Sensex were Bajaj Finance, Axis Bank, State Bank of India, Eternal, Inter-Globe Aviation, and Ul-

traTech Cement, which witnessed strong buying interest. However, technology stocks remained under pressure, with Infosys, Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), Tech Mahindra, and Power Grid trading in the red. Global market sentiment remained positive following encouraging inflation data from the United States. US consumer price inflation for June came in



at 3.5 percent, lower than the market expectation of 3.8 percent, reinforcing expectations that the Federal Reserve may slow the pace of monetary tightening or

consider rate cuts in the coming months. According to Rajesh Palviya, Head of Research at Axis Direct, US equity markets closed higher overnight, with the S&P

500 gaining 0.38 percent and the Nasdaq rising 0.90 percent, supported by optimism over easing inflationary pressures. Asian markets also reflected positive sentiment. South Korea's Kospi jumped 7.66 percent, while Japan's Nikkei 225 and Hong Kong's Hang Seng traded in positive territory. China's Shanghai SSE Composite was the only major Asian index trad-

ing lower. Meanwhile, global crude oil prices remained volatile. Brent crude traded around USD 85.63 per barrel, despite easing concerns after US President Donald Trump withdrew the proposed 20 percent transit fee through the Strait of Hormuz, a move that helped reduce fears of supply disruptions. Despite the market rebound, Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) continued to

remain net sellers, offloading equities worth ₹739.69 crore on Tuesday. Market experts believe easing US inflation and improving global cues have provided short-term support to equities. However, investors are expected to remain cautious amid geopolitical uncertainties and upcoming domestic and global economic data releases.

Gold Rebounds After 3-Day Decline



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Gold prices snapped a three-day losing streak on Wednesday, July 15, 2026, registering sharp gains in domestic retail markets even as global headwinds and MCX futures faced downward pressure. Retail silver prices, meanwhile, held steady. In India's retail market, on Wednesday safe-haven buying pushed physical gold prices higher across all major purities: 24-Carat Gold: Advanced by ₹770, settling at ₹1,43,570 per 10 grams. 22-Carat Gold: Rose by ₹700 to trade at ₹1,31,600 per 10 grams. 18-Carat Gold: Logged a gain of ₹570, bringing the price to ₹1,07,670 per 10 grams. Sovereign Gold: A standard eight-gram sovereign

climbed to ₹1,05,440. While retail prices ticked upward today, the broader market sentiment remains fragile. Domestically, gold futures traded lower on the Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX), mirroring weakness in international benchmarks. MCX Gold August Futures: Slipped 0.47% (down ₹669) to trade at ₹1,41,588 per 10 grams during morning hours. Global Spot Gold: Erased early morning gains to trade down 0.65% at \$4,026.44 per ounce. US Gold Futures (August): Declined 0.9% to \$4,032.87 per ounce. Today's correction comes after Tuesday's session, where a softer-than-expected US consumer inflation print briefly propelled bullion to a historic record high of \$4,100.49 per ounce.

Ladakh Steps Into Global Spotlight as First Apricot Consignment to Dubai Takes Off

The agreement envisions the export of more than 1,000 metric tonnes of fresh apricots during the current harvest season—a staggering rise from the mere 1,500 kilograms exported over the past two years.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In a significant development, Lieutenant Governor Vinai Kumar Saxena on Wednesday flagged off the first major export consignment of Ladakh's premium apricots—5 metric tonnes of the famed high-altitude fruit—destined for the United Arab Emirates. This moment marks the beginning of Ladakh's largest-ever fresh apricot export programme, a bold leap that positions the region as a global supplier of organic, premium-quality produce while significantly boosting farmers' incomes, officials in Leh said. They asserted that Ladakh has entered a defining moment in its economic and cultural journey with a series of landmark initiatives that promise to reshape its horticulture sector, uplift farming communities, and elevate its traditional crafts on the world stage. This export push is anchored in a strategic MoU signed in April 2026 be-



tween the Ladakh Administration and Lulu Retail, facilitated by the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), a statutory body under the Government of India responsible for promoting and developing the export of agricultural and processed food products. The agreement envisions the export of more than 1,000 metric tonnes of fresh apricots during the current harvest season—a staggering rise from the mere 1,500 kilograms exported over the past two years. "Such an exponential scale-up stands as one of the most transformative milestones in Ladakh's horticultural history," a statement issued in Leh said. Rec-

ognising the delicate nature of apricots, which must be stored and transported at temperatures between 0°C and 4°C, the Ladakh Administration—with support from Container Corporation of India Ltd (CONCOR)—implemented a robust cold-chain logistics system to ensure that the fruits retain their freshness from orchard to international shelves. At the heart of this initiative are Ladakh's indigenous apricot varieties—Raktsey Karpo and Halman—celebrated globally for their exceptional sweetness, rich flavour, high nutritional value, and completely organic cultivation. Grown under Ladakh's pristine high-altitude conditions and abundant sunshine,

these apricots are widely regarded among the finest in the world. Their rising international demand underscores Ladakh's potential to emerge as a premium horticulture hub. Speaking at the flag-off ceremony, Lt. Governor Saxena described the moment as the dawn of a new era for Ladakh's farmers and horticulture sector. He emphasised that the initiative would connect local growers directly with global markets, ensuring fair and remunerative prices while dramatically improving livelihoods. Traditionally, farmers faced immense challenges in harvesting, sorting, grading, cleaning, packaging, and marketing their produce—often leading to heavy post-harvest losses. Under the new arrangement with Lulu Retail, farmers will simply hand over their orchards at harvest time, after which the company will manage the entire value chain, from plucking and processing to packaging and export.

Sotefin Bharat SME IPO From July 16



NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Kolkata based Sotefin Bharat a subsidiary of Switzerland based Sotefin SA, a turnkey provider of robotic & automated parking solutions, announced Rs 89.76 crore initial public offering with shares to be listed on the BSE SME platform. The public issue of equity shares with a face value of Rs 10 each and a price band of Rs 178 - Rs 187 per equity share opens on July 16 and closes on July 20, 2026. Sotefin Bharat incorporated in 2012, is engaged in the business of providing mechanized and automated parking solutions. The Company operates across India with support from Swiss promoter Sotefin SA, Switzerland, a global innovator in automated parking systems since 1956. The net proceeds from the IPO will

be utilized for funding capital expenditure requirements for setting up a manufacturing facility in Kolkata, West Bengal, funding capital expenditure requirements for the proposed new office premises, funding working capital requirements of the Company and for general corporate purposes. Arup Choudhuri, managing director, Sotefin Bharat said, "Since our inception Sotefin Bharat has consistently focused on delivering innovative automated parking solutions backed by engineering excellence and technological innovation. Our upcoming IPO marks an important milestone in our growth journey, enabling us to expand our manufacturing capabilities, strengthen our technology offerings, and enhance our execution capacity."

Thalapathy Vijay's 'Jana Nayagan' Set for Grand Worldwide Release on July 23, 2026

The makers of 'Jana Nayagan', starring Tamil superstar and Tamil Nadu Chief Minister Thalapathy Vijay, have officially announced that the much-awaited film will hit theatres worldwide on July 23, 2026. The announcement has generated immense excitement among fans, as the film is widely regarded as Vijay's final appearance as a leading actor before fully dedicating himself to public service.

Directed by acclaimed filmmaker H. Vinoth and produced by KVN Productions, Jana Nayagan is being positioned as one of the biggest cinematic events of the year. The film is expected to celebrate Vijay's remarkable journey in Indian cinema while serving as a fitting farewell to his illustrious acting career that has spanned over three decades.

The release date announcement has further heightened anticipation, with millions of fans across India and overseas preparing to witness what is expected to be an emotional and grand theatrical experience. Known for delivering blockbuster entertainers and commanding an enormous fan following, Vijay's final film is already being hailed as a landmark moment in Indian cinema.



Producer Venkat K. Narayana described the project as a historic occasion, saying that Jana Nayagan represents a once-in-a-generation cinematic event. He expressed pride in being associated

with Vijay's final film and thanked audiences for the unwavering love and support they have shown the actor throughout his career. "There are very few moments in cinema that truly feel historic, and Jana Nayagan is one such moment. As Thalapathy Vijay prepares for his final outing on the big screen, we are hon-

oured to be part of this incredible journey and to present this special film to audiences around the world," Narayana said.

He also reflected on Vijay's extraordinary transformation from one of India's most celebrated film stars to the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, describing it as a testament to the deep bond the actor shares with the people. According to the producer, the film is designed to honour that unique journey while delivering an unforgettable theatrical spectacle.

Jana Nayagan has been mounted on a grand scale with a highly accomplished creative team, promising top-notch storytelling, action, music and visual grandeur. While details about the film's plot remain under wraps, expectations continue to soar as fans eagerly await more updates.

With its official release now locked for July 23, 2026, Jana Nayagan is poised to become one of the biggest releases of the year, marking the end of an extraordinary cinematic era and celebrating Thalapathy Vijay's enduring legacy as one of Indian cinema's most influential and beloved stars.

Vijay Deverakonda Makes Fan Emotional at TG20 Cricket League Grand Finale



MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Tollywood star Vijay Deverakonda has once again proved why he enjoys an immense fan following, not just for his films but also for his humble personality. A heartwarming video of the actor interacting with an emotional fan has taken social media by storm, earning widespread appreciation from netizens.

The viral clip captures a touching moment where a young, die-hard fan breaks down in tears after finally meeting Vijay Deverakonda. Instead of rushing through the interaction, the actor patiently listens to the fan, speaks to him with warmth, and comforts him throughout the emotional exchange. His calm and compassionate demeanor has won hearts across the internet, with many cal-

ling it one of the most genuine celebrity-fan moments in recent times.

The video quickly spread across social media platforms, where fans praised Vijay for treating his admirer with kindness and respect. Many users commented that moments like these showcase the actor's grounded nature despite his massive stardom. Others remarked that some emotions cannot be described in words, highlighting the deep connection the actor shares with his fans.

Vijay Deverakonda is one of the biggest stars in Telugu cinema today and commands a loyal fan base across India and overseas. His approachable personality and frequent interactions with fans have contributed significantly to his popularity beyond the silver screen.

The emotional fan encounter happened shortly after Vijay attended the grand finale of the inaugural Sreenidhi University TG20 Cricket League on July 12. Serving as the brand ambassador for the tournament, the actor inaugurated the final match by ringing the ceremonial opening bell at the Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium in Hyderabad.

The championship clash saw Hyderabad E-Champions emerge victorious over Anvita Khammam Aces to lift the maiden TG20 League title. Vijay's presence added glamour to the event, drawing huge cheers from cricket lovers and his fans alike.

On the professional front, Vijay Deverakonda is gearing up for the release of his upcoming film Ranabaali, directed by Rahul Sankrityan.

Sunderland sign Belgian defender Thomas Meunier on two-year contract

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Belgium great Thomas Meunier has joined Premier League club Sunderland ahead of the upcoming 2026/27 season. The 34-year-old defender has signed a two-year deal, having been a free agent following his departure from Lille.

Meunier, with more than 550 senior club appearances and 83 international caps to his name, recently represented his country, Belgium, in the ongoing FIFA World Cup 2026. Born in Sainte-Ode, Meunier came through the lower leagues in his homeland before going on to firmly establish himself at Club Brugge, where he won the first honours of his professional career, winning the Belgian Pro League and Belgian Cup. A move to Paris Saint-Germain (PSG) in 2016 saw his stock rise further, enjoying a trophy-laden four-year spell in the French capital, which included three domestic



league and cup successes with the Parisians. He was transferred to Borussia Dortmund in 2020, where he continued to enhance his ever-growing reputation, before spells at Trabzonspor and, latterly, Lille. Meunier, who will link up with the Sunderland squad in early August, is excited about the prospect of representing Sunderland in both domestic and European competition this season. "I am hugely excited and honoured to join Sunderland. I'm very happy to be here and to begin this new chapter in my career. The Premier League is one of the most competitive and exciting leagues in the world, and it's a challenge

I've wanted to experience," he said in an official release by the club. "When I spoke with the club, I was impressed by the ambition, the project, and the desire to keep moving forward. Competing in Europe was also a big factor in my decision because, as a player, you always want to test yourself against the best teams and compete for trophies. I hope I can bring my experience to the squad, both on and off the pitch. I've been fortunate to play in some fantastic teams throughout my career, and now I'm looking forward to giving everything for this club, helping my team-mates and building a strong connection with the supporters," he added.

Harry Kane is England's greatest striker of all time, says Geoff Hurst

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

England's 1966 FIFA World Cup final hero Sir Geoff Hurst has declared Harry Kane the greatest striker in the history of the England men's national team, praising the captain's remarkable goal-scoring record, leadership and influence ahead of England's high-stakes FIFA World Cup 2026 semi-final against Argentina. Hurst, who remains the only England men's player to score a hat-trick in a FIFA World Cup final after his iconic performance against West Germany in 1966, said Kane has surpassed every forward to represent the Three Lions. Speaking at Wembley Stadium before England's last-four clash, Hurst said Kane's achievements have placed him above all previous England strikers. "It's going to be hard to beat the goals he's scored, so I'd say he's England's best," Hurst said. He highlighted Kane's



extraordinary consistency, noting that the Bayern Munich striker has maintained an exceptional scoring rate while delivering in the biggest matches. "His record now is just amazing for his appearances and the goals he's scoring and doing it in important games as we've seen in this tournament," Hurst said. Beyond his goals, Hurst praised Kane's leadership qualities, describing him as an inspirational captain who leads by example

both on and off the pitch. "His leadership is obvious, and that's important. He's talking to the players after a game, when they're in the huddle and so on. Of course, he's also a great example with his attitude, behaviour and the way he plays," he added. Kane has once again been central to England's FIFA World Cup 2026 campaign, scoring crucial goals during the knockout stages and becoming the country's all-time leading World Cup goalscorer.

During the tournament, he also surpassed 1966 World Cup-winning captain Bobby Moore to become England's most-capped captain, adding another milestone to his distinguished international career. England secured their place in the semi-finals after defeating Norway in extra time, with Kane playing a decisive role through his finishing, creative link-up play and leadership as manager Thomas Tuchel's side pursues the nation's first

FIFA World Cup title since 1966. Drawing comparisons with legendary captain Bobby Moore, Hurst said Kane possesses the same natural leadership qualities that made Moore one of England's greatest captains. "There are certain people in walks of life, whether it's business or football, that emerge from within a group of people who automatically see them as the boss, the captain," Hurst said. "In my time it was quite evidently Bobby Moore. I think Harry Kane is absolutely in that same mould, not just on the field but off the field with all the stuff they do together," he added. With England standing just one victory away from another World Cup final, Hurst believes Kane's goals, experience and leadership could prove decisive in ending the nation's six-decade wait for football's biggest prize.

Future of policing will revolve around cybercrime: Telangana DGP

The DGP stressed that cybercrime is evolving rapidly and directed officers to adopt innovative approaches.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telangana DGP C V Anand on Thursday, July 16, emphasised that the future of policing will increasingly revolve around cybercrime and asked every officer to acquire strong technological skills and enhance their expertise in cyber investigations.

The DGP conducted a comprehensive review of the functioning of the Telangana Cyber Security Bureau and its initiatives aimed at strengthening cybercrime prevention, enhancing technological capabilities, and ensuring faster assistance to cybercrime victims, an official release said.

Addressing the officers after the review, he stressed that cybercrime is evolving rapidly and directed officers to adopt in-



novative approaches, artificial intelligence, advanced analytics, and cutting-edge technologies to stay ahead of cyber-criminals.

Referring to national performance indicators released by the Central government, he observed that Telangana has the potential to become the country's leading state in cyber policing by continuously upgrading technology and strengthening institutional capabilities. Expressing concern over the sharp rise in investment frauds, online trading scams, and digital

financial frauds, the DGP warned that if failed to control such crimes now could lead to far more serious consequences in the future.

He observed that cyber frauds are pushing many families into severe financial distress, with victims losing their lifetime savings.

The DGP reiterated that Telangana should strive to become a national model in cyber policing through technology-driven investigations, rapid response systems, enhanced public awareness, and coordinated enforcement efforts.

The DGP also advised citizens to report cyber frauds immediately. Anand inspected various specialised wings/units of the Cyber Security Bureau, including the Cyber Lab, Security Operations Centre (SOC), Central Monitoring Unit, Social Media Unit, Child Protection Unit, and Digital Forensic Unit. He reviewed their operational capabilities, technological infrastructure, investigation methodologies, and ongoing initiatives to combat emerging cyber threats.

On the occasion, Telangana Cyber Security Bureau Director Shikha Goel, along with senior officers, made a detailed presentation highlighting the latest cybercrime trends, investigative techniques, adoption of advanced technologies, victim assistance mechanisms, and the Bureau's

future roadmap. As part of the review, the DGP personally observed with the Bureau's AI-powered Cyber Call Centre. During the demonstration, when a caller informed the AI system that she had lost money in a cyber fraud, the system immediately responded empathetically, collected essential details such as the victim's name, location, nearby police station, and incident particulars, and simultaneously alerted the concerned police station for immediate action. Impressed by the system's capabilities, the DGP appreciated the use of Artificial Intelligence in providing quick assistance to victims and directed officials to further strengthen and expand such AI-driven citizen services.

Task force busts gambling den in Attapur, 7 arrested

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Police busted a gambling racket in the Rajendranagar zone of Hyderabad and arrested seven persons who were allegedly playing cards for stakes at an open ground in Attapur, officials said on Thursday, July 16.

Acting on a tip-off, a joint team of the Task Force, Rajendranagar Zone, and Attapur Police raided the spot behind a Hanuman temple in Panduranganagar late Wednesday evening, July 15, and caught the seven accused in the act, the police said. The accused, all aged between 26 and



50 and working as labourers, are residents of Panduranganagar and Attapur, with some hailing originally from Karnataka's Gulbarga and Yadgir districts, according to the police. Police said cash amounting to Rs 17,740, five mobile phones and two sets of playing cards were seized from the

spot. A case was registered at Attapur Police Station under Section 112 read with Section 3(5) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and Section 9(i) of the Gaming Act, police said, adding that the accused were taken into custody after a confession-cum-seizure panchnama was drawn up.

Hyderabad school's kalma homework row: Parents withdraw complaint

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Father of the Class 2 student who was asked to learn the kalma and Surah Fateha as homework has accepted the school's apology and decided to "resolve the issue" and "withdraw the complaint." A controversy had erupted earlier in the day after parents of a Class 2 student at a private school in Hyderabad alleged their six-year-old son was asked to learn an Islamic verse as part of his homework. According to the parents, the teacher had noted "Read Surah Fatiha" and "Read kalma" in the school diary under the subject "Deeniyyath." "We,

the parents of [name withheld], Grade 2, son of GAYAKWADA RAJA SHEKAR, resolve the issue happened in the school on 15 July 2026 regarding the homework given in the diary to my son by the Mother teachers, we have accepted the apologise from the teacher and will not repeat this mistake in future. We expect full co-operation from the management and teachers and request the authorities to withdraw the complaints," stated a letter addressed to the school principal. Meanwhile, Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP) demanded action against the private school and urged the state government to

ascertain whether this was part of a "conspiracy." Claiming that there is widespread anger among the people of Hyderabad over the incident, VHP international president Alok Kumar demanded that the state government conduct a thorough investigation into the matter to identify those involved. "There is widespread anger among the people of Hyderabad over this incident, and rightly so. We want the state government to conduct a thorough investigation into the matter. It should not be taken lightly. The government should ascertain whether this was the act of a single teacher or part of an organised conspiracy."

Family of Hyderabad man stabbed in US appeals to MEA for help

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The family of Syed Sohailuddin, a Hyderabad native who was allegedly stabbed multiple times in a suspected hate attack in the United States, has appealed to External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar to facilitate emergency visas so they can travel to America and support his wife and children. According to family members, they initially learned about the attack on July 14 and believed

the injuries were minor. However, after watching videos of the incident circulating online, they realized the seriousness of the assault and became deeply distressed. Sohailuddin's sister-in-law, Asma Firdouse, said his wife, Amreen Firdouse, collapsed after hearing the news and has been suffering from low blood pressure due to the emotional trauma. Amreen is currently in Utah with the couple's two young children—a five-year-old son and a three-

year-old daughter—and is managing hospital visits while caring for them alone. The family has requested the Ministry of External Affairs to issue emergency visas, enabling close relatives to travel to the United States and provide emotional and logistical support during this difficult period. Meanwhile, Majlis Bachao Tehreek (MBT) spokesperson Amjed Ullah Khan visited Sohailuddin's family at their residence in Musheera-

bad, Hyderabad. He urged the External Affairs Minister to intervene immediately and assist the family in obtaining urgent travel clearance to the US. Sohailuddin, a native of Tolichowki in Hyderabad, has been working in Utah for the past two years. According to media reports, he was attacked inside the Valley Fair Mall in West Valley City, near Salt Lake City, on Monday afternoon. The alleged attacker, identified as Peter Michael Larsen, reportedly questioned So-

hailuddin about his religion before stabbing him approximately 15 times in what authorities are investigating as a possible hate-motivated attack. Sohailuddin remains hospitalized in Utah, where he is receiving treatment. The incident has sparked concern among the Indian community, with family members and community leaders urging both Indian and US authorities to ensure justice and provide all necessary assistance to the victim and his family.

Minor violations found at Itihas, Kanchi Cafe during food raids

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Cyberabad Municipal Corporation's (CMC) food safety inspection at two restaurants on Thursday, July 16, revealed only minor violations, with both restaurants scoring over 90 per cent in hygiene ratings. Officials observed several good practices at Itihas Restaurant, located near Nexus Mall in

KPHB, including proper segregation of vegetarian, non-vegetarian and raw food items and proper maintenance of records of meat sourced from licensed vendors. Food handlers were using hairnets and gloves and no stale food, synthetic colours or Ajinomoto was found on the premises. No visible pest infestation or expired food items were found either and the cleaning schedule.

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Govt Rental Vehicle Drivers' Strike Enters Second Day

Telangana Four-Wheeler Drivers Association pointed out that thousands of owner-cum-drivers and their families are facing severe financial hardship due to low rental charges and delayed payments.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The indefinite strike, launched by the owner-cum-drivers of vehicles hired for government departments, has entered its second day and is continuing peacefully across all 33 districts of Telangana. Thousands of drivers attached to various departments are participating in the agitation, demanding an increase in monthly rental rates from Rs 34,000 to Rs 55,000 and the immediate clearance of pending bills. Telangana Four-Wheeler Drivers Association pointed out that thousands of owner-cum-drivers and their families are facing severe financial hardship due to low rental charges and delayed payments. The association urged the Chief Minister and Deputy Chief Minister to re-



solve the issue at the earliest through positive dialogue and immediate action. Despite submitting multiple representations to the transport minister, chief secretary, finance department, transport department and other senior officials, no concrete decision has been taken so far, it said. Meanwhile, the Telangana App-Based Drivers Forum also gave an ultimatum that if the government and platform companies continue to ignore its legitimate demands, workers will be left

with no option but to intensify their agitation. The forum has announced a statewide flash strike on Wednesday and said that if the demands remain unresolved, it will go for an indefinite strike from 10th of August. The forum's strike will be joined by cab drivers, autorickshaw drivers, goods transport drivers and delivery workers. Representatives of employees associated with Ola, Uber, Rapido, Swiggy, Zomato, Zepto, Blinkit and other digital platform companies are likely to participate.

Jahangir Baba Urges RTC Merger, School Reforms

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Al-Faiz Welfare Society President Jahangir Baba has submitted a memorandum to Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, urging the government to address several key public welfare, education, employment, and minority-related issues. At the top of the memorandum, Jahangir Baba demanded that the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (RTC) be merged with the State Government from August 15, 2026. He also sought the restoration of the Old Pension Scheme (OPS) for RTC



employees, implementation of an eight-hour duty system, filling of staff shortages through fresh recruitment, and immediate clearance of all pending arrears. He further appealed to the government to strengthen public education by prioritizing the construction of permanent government school buildings on government land instead of functioning from private buildings.

He requested adequate budgetary allocations to improve infrastructure in government schools, stating that quality educational facilities would benefit economically weaker sections and ensure better learning opportunities for poor children. Highlighting the importance of linguistic inclusion, Jahangir Baba urged the government to promote the Urdu language at the grassroots level by appointing Urdu-knowing personnel in government offices from the Mandal level up to the State Secretariat, thereby improving public access to government services.

Hyderabad Police Step Up Action against Unauthorized Number Plates

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Following surge in citizen complaints, the Hyderabad traffic police launched an intensified special enforcement drive against vehicles using fake, tampered or unauthorized registration number plates. These violations strictly contravene the Motor Vehicles Act and other relevant legal provisions. As part of this ongoing crackdown, five criminal cases were registered over the

past week against individuals using fraudulent registration plates to conceal vehicle identities, evade traffic enforcement and violate regulations. Multiple vehicles were identified and seized during the operation. The criminal cases were registered at Jubilee Hills, Malakpet, Begum Bazaar, Abids and Kacheguda police stations. Hyderabad Traffic Joint Commissioner of Police, D. Joel Davis said only government-approved high-secu-

rity registration plates (HSRP) are legally permitted. Any custom alterations, missing digits, or temporary stickers are strictly illegal. The Hyderabad traffic police reiterated its zero tolerance policy toward fraudulent vehicle registration practices. Citizens are strictly cautioned that using fake or manipulated registration plates will result in severe legal consequences, including criminal prosecution.