

**KCR Consoles Peddi Sudarshan Reddy's Family, Pledges Support: P3****Old City celebrates festival with thousands of devotees: P8****KTR visits city temples amid Bonalu festivities: P3****WEATHER**

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

Delhi HC To Hear on Monday ED Plea Against Arvind Kejriwal's Bail

The Delhi High Court will on Monday hear the Enforcement Directorate's plea challenging the bail granted to former Delhi chief minister Arvind Kejriwal in the 2021-22 excise policy-linked money laundering case. The Enforcement Directorate's (ED) petition, filed in 2024, is listed for hearing before Justice Manoj Jain. Kejriwal has been since granted relief in the case by the Supreme Court. On July 12, 2024, the top court granted interim bail to Kejriwal in the alleged money laundering case while referring to a larger bench three questions on the aspect of "need and necessity of arrest" under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). Earlier, on June 20, 2024, Kejriwal was granted bail by a trial court on a personal bond of Rs 1 lakh, which was subsequently stayed by the high court on the ED's petition.

Fly Tricolour From Every Home: Modi

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday urged people to enthusiastically participate in the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign, describing the national flag as the country's pride and a constant source of inspiration to give one's best for the nation, as BJP chief ministers and senior leaders led Tiranga Yatras across several states. "Our Tricolour is our pride and a constant source of inspiration to always give our



best for the nation. Let us participate enthusiastically in the #HarGharTiranga movement and renew our collective re-

solve to contribute towards building a Viksit Bharat," Modi said in a post on X. The Prime Minister said

he was glad that this year's campaign was dedicated to the national song 'Vande Mataram' as the country marks its 150th anniversary. The 2026 edition of Har Ghar Tiranga, launched on August 6, is being observed across the country from August 9 to 17. Started in 2022 as part of the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, the initiative has since become an annual campaign encouraging people to hoist the national flag at their homes and workplaces.

Telangana Economy Shines In RBI Report

The RBI data presented Telangana as an economy registering broad-based expansion**HYDERABAD**
Wakeup telangana

RBI's latest report, Handbook of Statistics on the Indian Economy 2025-26, shows Telangana's economy recording strong growth, with services and allied activities emerging as major contributors. The RBI data presented Telangana as an economy registering broad-based expansion, with gains visible not only in overall state income and per-capita income but also across manufacturing, construction, trade, transport, financial services, and real estate-related activities. Telangana's economy continued to expand at a robust pace, with the state's net state domestic product (NSDP) at current prices rising to ₹16.15 lakh crore in 2025-26 from ₹14.58 lakh crore, up about 10.8 per cent. The data, compiled from the National Statistics Office, also showed that Telangana's NSDP at constant prices increased from ₹7.23 lakh crore to



₹7.86 lakh crore in 2025-26, reflecting real growth of around 8.8 per cent. Sectoral data drawn from the report showed that Telangana's growth was increasingly supported by a diversified economic base. At current prices, agriculture, livestock, forestry, and fishing contributed ₹2,03,341 crore last year, compared with ₹1,99,705 crore in 2024-25. Mining and quarrying contributed ₹30,137 crore, while manufacturing increased from ₹1,04,472 crore to ₹1,12,490 crore. Electricity, gas, water supply, and other utility services rose from ₹24,731 crore to ₹27,396 crore. The construction

component increased from ₹76,256 crore to ₹84,960 crore, while trade, repair, hotels, and restaurants expanded sharply from ₹2,83,799 crore to ₹3,31,528 crore. Within the broader services economy, transport, storage, communication, and broadcasting-related services increased from ₹96,233 crore in 2024-25 to ₹1,09,996 crore in 2025-26. Financial services rose from ₹71,496 crore to ₹80,183 crore, while real estate, ownership of dwellings, and professional services increased from ₹2,99,694 crore to ₹3,34,688 crore. Public administration and other services also recorded increases, with the latter rising from ₹1,18,186 crore to ₹1,33,643 crore. As a result, total NSVA at basic prices climbed from ₹13,35,894 crore in 2024-25 to ₹14,81,185 crore in 2025-26.

The constant-price figures provide further evidence of real expansion

▶ CONTINUE ON | PAGE 4

Nashik Hit By 4.3-Magnitude Quake

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Panic gripped Nashik district in Maharashtra after an earthquake of magnitude 4.3 jolted some areas of the district on Saturday night. The quake triggered tremors at several places and causing cracks in some houses. However, no casualties or loss of life have been reported so far, said district officials. An earthquake of 4.3 magnitude struck Nashik at 10 pm on Saturday, followed by a tremor of 3.3 magnitude at 5.33 am on Sunday, as

per the National Centre for Seismology (NCS). Additionally, tremors were reportedly felt in rural areas stretching from Kasara Ghat to the vicinity of Ramshet Fort. The seismic activity was recorded at a depth of 5 km in the Bhanwad area, near the Hatgad mountain range along the Maharashtra-Gujarat border, officials said. Tremors were felt in several parts of Nashik district, including Nashik city, Surgana, Kalwan, Deola, Chandwad, Peth, Dindori and Niphad talukas, triggering panic among residents, many of

whom rushed out of their homes, district administration officials said. "As of now, there is no preliminary information about any loss of life in the district. Citizens should take necessary precautions without panicking. If cracks are noticed in the walls, ceilings or structural elements of buildings, people should avoid staying in such places. Those living in houses made of stone and mud should exercise greater caution," said Disaster Management Minister Girish Mahajan.

PM Modi Pays Tribute to Quit India Movement Heroes

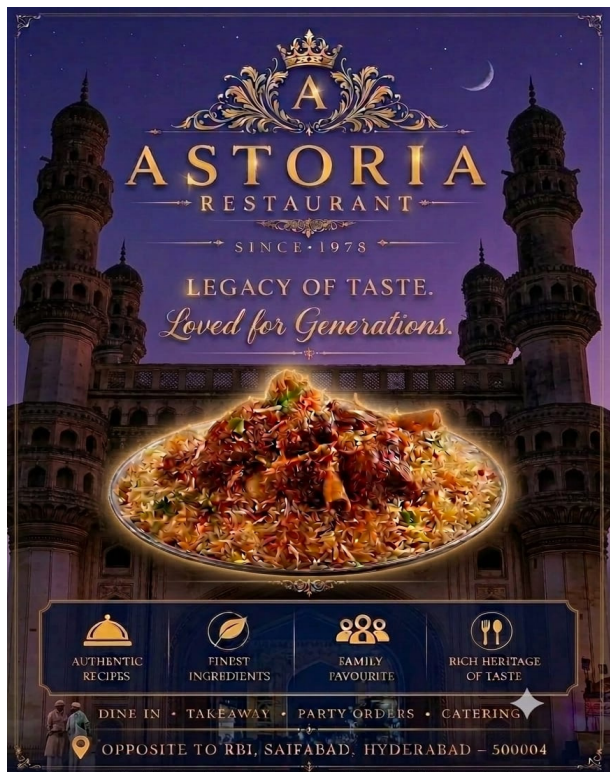
NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday paid tribute to Mahatma Gandhi and those who participated in the Quit India Movement, launched on August 9, 1942, against British colonial rule. In an X post, PM Modi noted that the Quit India Movement "infused new energy into our freedom struggle."

"Remembering all those

who participated in the historic Quit India Movement. Their courage will always remain an inspiration for every Indian. Inspired by the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi Ji, the clarion call of Quit India infused new energy into our freedom struggle and reflected the unwavering determination of our people to break free from colonial rule," the social media post read. The Quit India Movement, also known as the "Bharat

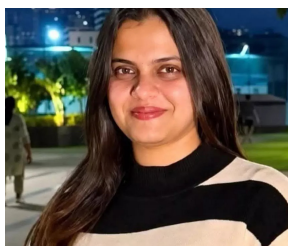
Chodo Andolan", was launched by Mahatma Gandhi and the Indian National Congress on August 9, 1942, during the Second World War, demanding an end to British rule in India. The movement was significant, particularly because it demonstrated to the British that continuing to govern India would not be possible and forced them to consider ways to leave the country.



Rajahmundry Hit-and-run: Medico Priyanka Dies

KAKINADA
Wakeup telangana

Dr Kanike Priyanka, 29, a Hyderabad resident, died in a hospital on Sunday, nearly a week after she sustained grievous injuries when she was run over by a car driven by two allegedly drunk youths in Rajamahendravaram on August 3. Her death was declared at 3.22 pm, police said. Dr Priyanka, pursuing her MD at a private college, had been declared brain dead. Sources said the family had agreed to donate her organs, though this could



not be confirmed. The two accused, Suravapu Daswanth of Morampudi and Desabhakhtula Andrew Joseph Edward of Lalacheruvu near Rajamahendravaram, were initially booked for "rash and negligent driving." It appeared that the police did not book the duo for drunk driving. The Prakashnagar police of Raja-

mahendravaram have since altered the case to one of culpable homicide. The duo is currently in judicial custody. The duo was arrested only on August 6, three days after the incident. Sources said that the family of Daswanth was in the real estate business and was friendly with local MLAs of all parties. Edward was said to be a Class 10 drop-out and was running a business. East Godavari district superintendent of police D. Narasimha Kishore said the police would approach the court seeking custody of

the duo for interrogation. Kishore said that on August 3 at 9.40 pm, Daswanth and Edward had quarrelled with the watchman of a mall at Rajamahendravaram. According to reports, the watchman had prevented the two from entering the cinema hall in the mall as they were allegedly drunk and failed a breathalyzer check. Enraged at being denied entry, police said, Daswanth and Edward drove of the mall and thrice hit the two-wheeler on which Dr Priyanka was riding pillion, with her

▶ CONTINUE ON | PAGE 4

Israel rejects Trump's Gaza deal, insists on disarmament of Hamas

SANAA
Wakeup telangana

Israel on Sunday rejected a deal announced by US President Donald Trump for Gaza. Details emerged on the potential deal between Iran and Oman on managing the Strait of Hormuz as Tehran suggested that vessels linked to "hostile countries" would be barred from the key waterway. Meanwhile, Yemen's Iranian-backed Houthi rebels struck a government-held port on the country's Red Sea coast, deepening fears over threats to strategic shipping routes and a potential return to civil war. They also said they attacked an oil facility in neighbouring Saudi Arabia. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu dismissed the deal on Gaza announced by Trump last month, saying Israel's military "will not carry out any withdrawal until Hamas is genuinely disarmed." Netanyahu told a Cabinet meeting that "Israel rejects the 15-point doc-



ument" but is still discussing plans for Gaza with Washington, after making similar comments last week. Trump had said Israeli forces would withdraw as the Hamas militant group's disarmament is completed. Israeli forces control over half the Palestinian enclave of about 2 million people, which has been largely destroyed. "We remain committed to the road map," said a member of the Hamas political bureau, Bassem Naim, adding that the group expects mediators and the US to pressure Netanyahu, who also faces domestic tensions as he struggles to hold onto power ahead of the next elections scheduled for Oct. 27. The Hamas-led attack on Israel on Oct. 7, 2023, sparked the war in Gaza. A fragile ceasefire continues.

KCR Consoles Peddi Sudarshan Reddy’s Family, Pledges Support

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BRS chief K. Chandra-shekar Rao (KCR) on Sunday visited Nallabelli in Narsampet constituency to pay tribute to former MLA and senior party leader Peddi Sudarshan Reddy, who passed away prematurely while undergoing medical treatment, and consoled his grieving family. KCR travelled from his Erravalli residence and reached Nallabelli amid a massive gathering of BRS leaders and workers. Party cadres raised slogans hailing Peddi Sudarshan Reddy and KCR, while large crowds lined the roads to express solidarity



with their party chief. After reaching the family residence, KCR paid floral tributes to Peddi Sudarshan Reddy’s portrait and met his mother Amruta, wife Swapna, children, brothers and other relatives. Offering words of reassurance, KCR

by them. KCR comforted Peddi’s mother, consoled his wife and blessed the children, advising them to study well and build a bright future. He urged Peddi’s brothers to take care of the children and ensure they did not feel the void created by their father’s untimely death. Recalling his association with Peddi Sudarshan Reddy, KCR said he had been a loyal follower and close confidant who played an important role in strengthening the party and taking the Telangana movement to the people of Warangal district from its early days. KCR became visibly

emotional while remembering his close associate. He shed tears and embraced Peddi’s children before falling silent, overcome by grief. Senior party leaders later consoled KCR and helped him regain his composure. As announced earlier, KCR handed over cheques of ₹1 crore each to Peddi’s two children and a ₹25 lakh cheque to his mother. Before leaving, KCR interacted with party leaders and workers and encouraged them to remain strong. He also spoke with senior leader Captain Lakshmi-antha Rao and other Warangal leaders before returning to Erravalli.

Close encounter: Crocodile surfaces at Beechupally pushkar ghat, priest performs puja

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Devotees at the Anjaneya Swamy temple in Beechupally were stunned on Sunday afternoon after a priest, Anil Sharma, performed puja to a crocodile at the Krishna River Pushkar Ghat near the temple. The unusual incident left devotees and visitors shocked. Panic broke out after a crocodile, believed to have emerged from the river, reached the Pushkar Ghat. Visitors were startled after spotting the reptile, but what happened next took everyone by surprise. Earlier in the day, the police had cautioned devotees and visitors about the movement of crocodiles following the recent rains. As Sunday coincided with a series of holidays, the Beechupally Krishna



River Pushkar Ghat was crowded with visitors and devotees. After visiting the nearby Anjaneya Swamy temple, people were admiring the flowing waters of the Krishna when the crocodile suddenly emerged from the river and moved towards the ghat. The crocodile then entered a nearby building, according to reports. A video circulating on social media showed Anil Sharma, a priest at the Pushkar Ghat who usually performs rituals for deceased Hindu ancestors, sitting before the croco-

dile. He chanted mantras and performed rituals, including abhishekam. Anil Sharma explained that the crocodile is considered the vahana (vehicle) of Lord Varuna, the rain god. He said he performed the prayers seeking abundant rainfall and prosperity for the people. Later, the police alerted forest department officials about the incident. After reaching the spot, the forest personnel, along with local fishermen, caught the crocodile with ropes and released it back into the river.

Thoti tribal community face extinction in Telangana



The Thoti community, a recognised Scheduled Tribe in Telangana, is facing a rapid decline driven by a shrinking population, the loss of oral languages, hereditary health disorders, and severe economic instability. Data from the Telangana State Development Planning Society indicates that the state’s total tribal population stands at 3,177,940, representing 9.1 per cent of the total 3.50 crore residents. While Mahabubabad and Bhadrachalam districts maintain the highest concentrations of tribal populations at 37.8 per cent and 36.7 per cent respectively, smaller communities like the Thoti are struggling for survival. Telangana recognises 32 Scheduled Tribes, including the Raj Gond, Koya, Lambada or Banjara, Kolam, Chenchu, Yerukala, and Savara. Among these, the Union government classifies certain groups as Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) due to their extreme social and economic marginalisation. The Thoti, Chenchu, and Kolam have been identified as the three communities facing the most significant existential threats within the state. Population figures show that the Thoti community consists of only 4,811 members, primarily concentrated in the erstwhile Adilabad district. This makes them the smallest group among the major PVTGs in the state. By comparison, the Chenchu population is recorded at 16,912, largely situated in the Nagarkurnool district, while the Kolam population stands at 44,805. The Thoti people have historically served as village messengers, ballad singers, and folk artists, maintaining a rich heritage of storytelling and indigenous cultural practices. Today, many work as agricultural labourers. Despite their cultural contributions, the community remains on the verge of extinction, hampered by a lack of access to formal education, modern healthcare, and sustainable economic opportunities.

Ashadam Bonalu Celebrated with Devotion Across the State

MEDCHAL
Wakeup telangana

The traditional Ashadam Bonalu festivities were celebrated with devotion and enthusiasm at several villages and localities on Sunday, reflecting Telangana’s rich cultural and spiritual heritage. Women carrying beautifully decorated Bonam offerings, traditional processions and special prayers to the Goddess marked the celebrations. At Nirjipula village in Vathpally Mandal, Sangareddy district, villagers celebrated Bonalu in a grand manner. BRS leader M. Veerareddy participated in the festivities along with local leaders, devotees and villagers. Traditional Bonam processions and Pothuraju performances added colour to the celebrations. Similarly, former Sarpanch Sunke Ramesh participated in the Bonalu celebrations at R. Itikyal village, joining



devotees in offering prayers to the Goddess. At Bidekanne village in Jharasangam Mandal, Sarpanch C. Ravinder participated in the Bonalu festivities along with villagers and prayed for the welfare and prosperity of the people. Meanwhile, in Secunderabad, Usha Sree Thalka organised Bonalu celebrations at Vijaya Dairy Milk, Lalapet, with devotion and traditional fervour. Offering Bonam to the Goddess, she prayed for the well-being of all sections of society, timely and abundant rainfall, flourishing

Damodar Rajanarsimha Offers Prayers at Maisamma Temples

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Health Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha participated in Ashada Bonalu celebrations in Hyderabad on Sunday, offering special prayers at Sri Darbar Maisamma Temple in Karwan and Sri Katta Maisamma Temple in Begumpet. At the Darbar Maisamma Temple, the Minister presented silk robes (Pattu Vastralu) to the Goddess on behalf of the Telangana State Government and performed special prayers.



Temple priests and Endowments Department officials accorded him a traditional Purna Kumbham welcome. Rajanarsimha said Bonalu holds a special place in Telangana’s cultural and spiritual traditions and reflects the deep faith of people across Hyderabad and Secunderabad. He prayed for peace, good health, prosperity and happiness for the people of Telangana. During his visit to Karwan, the Minister also inaugurated a special medical camp organised by the State Health Department for devotees attending the

Bonalu festivities. He interacted with devotees, doctors, health personnel and ASHA workers and reviewed the medical arrangements. Recalling his long association with the Karwan area, Rajanarsimha said he had been connected with the locality for nearly 45 years. Later, the Minister visited Sri Katta Maisamma Temple at Begumpet and offered prayers for the welfare of the people. Temple committee members and Endowments officials felicitated him.

Uradamma-Peddamma Bonalu Celebrated with Devotion at Hothi-K

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The traditional Uradamma-Peddamma Talli Bonalu festival was celebrated with devotion and festive spirit at Hothi-K village in Zaheerabad on Sunday. Devotees offered Bonam and performed special prayers, seeking the goddesses’ blessings for good health, peace, prosperity, timely rains and abundant crops. The celebrations reflected Telangana’s rich cultural traditions and deep-rooted faith.



The programme was organised under the leadership of Maldoddi Sai Yadula and Bohini Adivaiah Mudiraj, along with committee members and local residents. Zaheerabad Municipal 7th Ward Councillor Sri Chowan

Wakeel and 37th Ward Councillor Sri Peddabai Maipal attended as chief guests and participated in the special prayers. Committee members, village elders, youth and devotees joined the celebrations in large numbers, creating a vibrant spiritual atmosphere. The organisers said Bonalu symbolises Telangana’s cultural identity, unity and devotion. They thanked residents, elders, youth and devotees for their cooperation in making the celebrations successful.

Congress Stages Dharna, Seeks KTR’s Resignation



Congress leaders and activists in Siricilla staged a dharna at Gandhi Chowk on Sunday, demanding the resignation of BRS working president and local MLA K.T. Rama Rao, alleging that he had failed to address problems in the constituency. The protest was led by Congress town president Sura Devaraju. Addressing the gathering, Devaraju said Rama Rao had promised before the Assembly elections that he would stay in the constituency twice a week and address local issues. He alleged that the MLA had not stayed in Siricilla for several months and had not visited any ward after the municipal elections. Devaraju also questioned whether Rama Rao, as a leader of the Opposition, had raised local issues with the state government and sought to know what purpose his continued representation served if he could not address constituency problems. He alleged that the previous BRS government had failed to clear ₹350 crore in pending dues to weavers and claimed that the Congress government had cleared the bills after coming to power. Devaraju further alleged that Rama Rao had failed to check corruption among BRS councillors and was concentrating on political activities in Hyderabad instead of addressing problems in Siricilla.

Adivasi Leaders Vow to Fight for Jal, Jangal, Jameen Rights

ADILABAD
Wakeup telangana

International Adivasi Day was observed across the erstwhile Adilabad district on Sunday with tribal organisations, community leaders and government officials highlighting the rights, welfare and development concerns of Adivasi communities. Adivasi organisations, including Thudum Debba, Adivasi Sena and Adivasi Sankshema Parishath, organised programmes, awareness meetings and

processions in Adilabad, Uttoor and Asifabad. During the celebrations, Adivasi leaders took a pledge to continue their struggle for rights over Jal, Jangal and Jameen (water, forests and land). Addressing a programme at Uttoor, former Adilabad MP and Raj Gond Seva Samiti state president Soyam Babu Rao urged forest officials to stop allegedly harassing Adivasi people. He said tribal communities should be able to exercise their traditional and constitu-



tional rights without fear or interference. Babu Rao also appealed to former MP Godam Na-

gesh to take up the long-pending tribal land issue with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, stating that

several aspects of the matter involved the Central government and required intervention at the national level. Khanapur MLA Vedma Bojju said the Telangana government was committed to protecting the rights and interests of Adivasis. He stressed the need for effective implementation of welfare measures and protection of tribal communities. Thudum Debba state president Godam Ganesh said Adivasis continued to face hardship, discrimina-

tion and humiliation even after 75 years of Independence. He called upon both the State and Central governments to take concrete measures to safeguard the constitutional rights of tribal communities and ensure justice. Adilabad Collector Rajarshi Shah, Superintendent of Police Akhil Mahajan, ITDA Project Officer Manda Makarandu, tribal representatives and community leaders attended the Uttoor programme.

Palaram Bandi Program in Satya Nagar on August 11



The Satya Nagar Team Maisamma will organise the Palaram Bandi program on Tuesday, August 11, at 6 PM. Amberpet MLA Kaleru Venkatesh and Khairatabad District DCC President Motha Rohit will attend the event as chief guests. National Ambedkar Sena State President Taluka Rajesh will be a key dignitary and lead the community participation. Other prominent leaders, including Prem Kumar, Manoj Kumar, Bittu and Nitin Kumar, are also expected to participate. The organisers said the programme is being held with the participation of local residents and community members. They appealed to people from Satya Nagar and surrounding areas to attend the event in large numbers and make the programme a grand success.

Two-Day Rain Boosts Water Levels In Karimnagar Projects

Mid Manair rises to 21.3 TMC ft after fresh inflows: Reports

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Despite a prolonged rainfall deficit attributed to El Nino, major irrigation projects in the erstwhile Karimnagar district have received substantial inflows following two days of rain triggered by the recent weather system, improving water availability for irrigation. While several small tanks and ponds are yet to fill completely, Yellampally, Mid Manair and Upper Manair reservoirs have received good inflows. Yellampally project is receiving around 13,000 cusecs, with 12,600 cusecs being lifted through four motors at the Nandi and Gayatri pump houses. The project currently has around 18 tmc



ft of water against its capacity of 20.175 tmc ft. Water from Yellampally is being diverted to Mid Manair through the flood flow canal. Irrigation officials said around 11 tmc ft had so far been lifted from Yellampally. Mid Manair reservoir has also recorded a significant rise in storage. Its water level has reached 21.334 tmc ft against its full storage

capacity of 27.55 tmc ft. The reservoir is receiving 15,411 cusecs, including 12,600 cusecs from the Gayatri pump house and 2,811 cusecs from its catchment area. With storage improving, officials have started releasing water from Mid Manair into Lower Manair Dam (LMD). Around 5,000 cusecs is being released into LMD through three flood

gates. LMD storage has risen to around 6.5 tmc ft from 5.5 tmc ft three days ago. Its full storage capacity is 24 tmc ft. The reservoir is also receiving around 850 cusecs from its catchment area. Upper Manair reservoir, with a capacity of around 2 tmc ft, is overflowing. It is located near Narmala in Gambhiraopet mandal of Rajanna Sircilla district. Officials said the recent rainfall had provided some relief after the region received little rain during the first two months of the monsoon. The improved inflows are expected to support water management and irrigation requirements in the region.

KTR visits city temples amid Bonalu festivities

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

BRS working president K. T. Rama Rao participated in Bonalu festivities at several prominent temples across Hyderabad on Sunday and extended greetings to the people of Telangana on the occasion. He offered special prayers and sought the blessings of the presiding deities for the welfare and prosperity of the State. Rama Rao visited the Sri Edugulla Pochamma Temple in Nampally, Sri Bhagyalakshmi Temple near Charminar, Bangaru Maisamma Temple, Akkanna Madanna Mahankali Temple, Lal Darwaza Simhavahini Mahankali Temple and Miralam Mandi Mahankali Temple. He also offered prayers at the Sri Mahankali Temple in Amberpet constituency. During his temple visits, Rama Rao interacted with devotees and organisers and conveyed his wishes for a peaceful and prosperous Telangana. At the Lal Darwaza Simhavahini Mahankali Temple, he prayed for abundant rainfall, the well-being of farmers and prosperity for businesses and people in Hyderabad.



He later participated in special prayers at the residence of BRS leader Resham Malleshham in Ram Nagar under the Musheerabad constituency. Rama Rao also visited the Sri Kanakalu Katta Maisamma Temple near Lower Tank Bund and Sri Yellamma Temple at Balkampet to offer prayers. BRS deputy leader Talasani Srinivas Yadav and several senior BRS leaders accompanied Rama Rao during his temple visits and Bonalu engagements across the city.

PAC Chairman Gandhi Extends Bonalu Greetings

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

PAC Chairman Arekapudi Gandhi participated in Bonalu celebrations at Sri Tulja Bhavani Temple in Tara Nagar, under Serilingampally constituency. Gandhi, along with EO Satya Chandra Reddy, temple chairman B.K. Rajasekhar Reddy and senior leader Raghunath Reddy, offered special prayers and presented silk clothes to the Goddess. Speaking on the occasion, Gandhi extended Bonalu greetings to the people and said the festival represents the cultural heritage and traditions of Telangana. He said the



Telangana government sanctioned ₹20 crore for this year's Bonalu celebrations, including ₹30.71 lakh for 92 temples in Serilingampally constituency. He said arrangements covering sanitation, drinking water, electricity, security, traffic management and medical facilities had been made to ensure devotees celebrate the festival peacefully. Leaders, party workers, devotees and local residents participated in the celebrations.

Devotees Gather at Sec'bad Cantonment Temples for Bonalu Prayers

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Devotees gathered in large numbers at temples across the Secunderabad Cantonment area on Sunday as special prayers and religious rituals marked the conclusion of the traditional Ashada Bonalu festival. Former Cantonment Board Vice Chairman Jampana Pratap visited several temples and offered special prayers. He also interacted with devotees and local community members during his



visits. Pratap prayed at the Sri Devi Nallapochamma Temple in Ward 1, New Bowenpally-Bapuji Nagar, besides Mutyalamma Temple, Edu Gullu (Seven Temples)

Durga Mata Shrine, Chinna Thokatta and Pedda Thokatta temples, and shrines in Mahatma Nagar and Rasoolpura. The temples were beautifully decorated, while the presiding deities were

adorned in traditional attire and elaborate floral decorations. Devotees offered Bonam and participated in special rituals seeking the blessings of the goddess for peace, prosperity and good health. Temple committee members and local community leaders actively participated in the celebrations. Durgaya, Prem Mudiraj, Ajith, Sri Kanth, Raju, Raghu Raman, Shyam, Varaprasad and several residents were among those present.

Bodishettipally Bonalu Celebrated with Devotion



HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

The traditional Sri Sri Maisamma Thalli Bonalu Mahotsavam was celebrated with great devotion and festive fervour at Bodishettipally village in Municipally Mandal of Sangareddy district, drawing large numbers of devotees. BRS State Leader Paitara Saikumar attended the celebrations as the chief guest and offered special prayers to Maisamma Thalli. He sought the blessings of the Goddess for abundant rainfall, bumper crops, farmers' prosperity and the overall well-being of every family. Speaking on the occasion, Saikumar prayed for good health, happiness, peace and prosperity for the people. He also called for unity among residents of the village and mandal, urging them to maintain harmony and work collectively for the development of their communities. Saikumar highlighted

the cultural and spiritual importance of Bonalu, describing the festival as a symbol of Telangana's rich traditions and heritage. He said such celebrations help preserve age-old customs while strengthening devotion, social bonding and unity among people. Earlier, village elders, temple committee members, women and youth warmly welcomed and felicitated Saikumar. The festivities continued amid devotional chants, traditional rituals and enthusiastic participation by villagers. The programme was attended by Sarpanches Irfan Patel, Dayanand and Raju; Mandal leader Gaddam Bhaskar; village elder Gollapally Maniah; former Sarpanches Venkatesh Goud, Pandu and Hanumanthu; leaders Jamshed, Thudum Durgayya, Bandari Pandu and Dattu Mudiraj; Deputy Sarpanch Basavaraj, former Deputy Sarpanch Raju, Burra Suresh, Ibrahimpoor Mahesh, ward members,

Kanaka Durga Colony Celebrates Nallapochamma Ammavari Bonalu

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Kanaka Durga Colony in Karwan came alive with devotion, colorful decorations and traditional drumbeats as the annual Sri Sri Sri Nallapochamma Ammavari Bonalu celebrations were held with great fervor. Thousands of devotees from across the twin cities participated in the festivities and offered Bonam to the deity, seeking blessings for health, prosperity and protection. The celebrations were organized under the guidance of the Sri Sri Sri



Nallapochamma Temple Committee, whose members worked extensively to ensure smooth arrangements, crowd management, security and adherence to traditional practices. Committee members Vipari Mukesh, Ceemala Anand, Jagan Goud and

Chintu Patel played key roles in coordinating the festivities and supporting the large gathering of devotees. Youth leader and committee member Adarsh Mourya emerged as one of the prominent organizers of this year's celebrations. He personally

supervised temple decorations, prasadam distribution and arrangements for the cultural procession. Adarsh Mourya said the Bonalu festival reflects Telangana's rich cultural heritage and strengthens unity among communities. He highlighted the committee's efforts to provide devotees with a peaceful and well-organized spiritual experience. With active participation from local youth and residents, the grand celebrations turned Kanaka Durga Colony into a vibrant center of devotion and Telangana tradition.

Gandhari Maisamma bonalu celebrated in Mancherial

MANCHERIAL Wakeup telangana

The annual Gandhari Maisamma bonalu festival was celebrated on a grand note in Bokkalagutta village on Sunday. The festival is organised in the month of Ashadam of the Hindu calendar year. Around 30,000 devotees from Mancherial town and surrounding villages flocked to the temple located near Mancherial-Chandrapur National Highway 363. Serpentine queues were formed from early morning, and special prayers were offered. They

presented a bonam, a sacred dish cooked using rice, jaggery and milk, to the deity to thank her for their well-being and fulfilled desires. The devotees then camped under makeshift tents. They cooked dishes after sacrificing goats and chickens. They dined along with family members and friends. The premises of the shrine came alive following the presence of the devotees. Youngsters and children visited Gandhari Vanam, an urban forest, after visiting the temple.

Bonalu Celebrations Reflect Telangana's Culture and Traditions

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana Srirangam Venkatesh

Bonalu festivities were celebrated with devotion in Gopanapalli, NTR Nagar and Raidurgam villages under Gachibowli division. Special prayers were held at temples on the occasion of Ashada Bonalu, with former Gachibowli corporator V. Gangadhar Reddy participating as the chief guest and offering prayers to the Goddess. Temple committee members welcomed and felicitated him with a shawl. Speaking on the occasion, Gangadhar Reddy extended Bonalu greetings and wished for the Goddess's blessings upon everyone. He said Bonalu is an important



symbol of Telangana's culture and traditions, with devotees offering bonam to village deities and seeking protection from diseases and hardships. Senior leaders, colony association members, BJP leaders, temple committee members, devotees and party workers participated in the celebrations.

Hyderabad Zoo Marks World Lion Day With Conservation Message

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Nehru Zoological Park marked World Lion Day with an awareness programme highlighting the urgent need to protect the world's dwindling lion population and conserve their natural habitats. Observed globally on August 10, World Lion Day seeks to draw attention to the threats faced by lions and encourage stronger conservation efforts. At the Hyderabad zoo, animal keepers and caretakers conducted



informative sessions focusing on lion behaviour, daily routines, feeding schedules, vaccination and breeding programmes. The zoo houses both Asi-

atic and African lions in separate enclosures, providing visitors with an opportunity to understand the differences between the two species and learn about their conservation

needs. A major attraction at the zoo is its lion safari, which has a long history. The safari concept was introduced at Nehru Zoological Park in 1974 with the establishment of the first lion safari park. Spread across 45 acres, the safari allows a pride of lions to move freely within the designated area while visitors remain inside protected vehicles, offering a closer experience of the animals in a naturalistic setting. Speaking on the occasion, J. Muralidhar, Dep-

uty Curator of Nehru Zoological Park, said the zoo has remained at the forefront of wildlife education and public outreach programmes conducted on important eco-days. He thanked visitors, staff and participants for actively joining the World Lion Day celebrations and contributing to the success of the educational initiative. The programme underscored the importance of public awareness, habitat protection and scientific breeding efforts in securing the future of lions.

Chhattisgarh Anti-Conversion Law Comes Into Force, Says Dep CM Sharma

The Chhattisgarh Freedom of Religion Act – 2026, providing stringent provisions against illegal conversions, has come into force in the state. Chhattisgarh deputy chief minister Vijay Kumar Sharma said that the new Act, aimed at curbing illegal religious conversions, was published in a gazette on August four and consequently came into force in the state. The gazette of the Act has clearly clarified the process of complaints, investigation, and action in cases related to religious conversions, he said. "The objective of the state government is to enforce the new Act strictly to curb illegal religious conversions in the state effectively", he said. Special courts will be set up to hear such cases and dispose of them within six months of registration of the case. The Chhattisgarh Freedom of Religion Act- 2026 was passed in the state Assembly recently.

Leader appoints veteran IRGC commander Mohsen Rezaei to security council

TEHRAN Wakeup telangana

Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Mojtaba Hosseini Khamenei has appointed Dr. Mohsen Rezaei as his representative to the Supreme National Security Council (SNSC), Iran's highest national security decision-making body. The appointment was formalized in a decree issued by the Leader on Sunday, citing Rezaei's extensive experience, particularly his role as one of the pioneering military commanders during the eight-year Sacred Defense (Iran-Iraq War) in the 1980s.

In the decree, the Leader also expressed his gratitude to Dr. Mohammad Bagher Zolqadr for his "round-the-clock efforts" while serving as his representative to the SNSC. Following the Leader's



decree, President Masoud Pezeshkian appointed Rezaei as the new secretary of the SNSC. Mehdi Tabatabaei, a spokesperson for the Iranian President's Office, announced the appointment, saying that Zolqadr had stepped down from the secretary position to assume a new responsibility. Zolqadr, a veteran military commander, served in the position since March following the assassination of Dr. Ali Larijani in a US-Israeli terrorist attack. In a separate decree, Ayatollah Khamenei ap-



pointed Zolqadr as his political adviser. Rezaei, a former long-serving commander of the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps (IRGC), has been a prominent figure in Iran's political and military establishment for decades. He served as secretary and a member of the Expediency Discernment Council and, previously, as vice president for economic affairs under the administration of President Ebrahim Raeisi. More recently, Rezaei was appointed by the Leader as a senior military ad-

viser. His appointment comes as tensions between Iran and the United States remain high, with Washington continuing to escalate in brazen violation of the memorandum of understanding (MoU) signed between the two sides to end the third imposed war. Iran and Oman are also currently engaged in negotiations over the management of the Strait of Hormuz, with Tehran insisting that US interference in the strategic waterway must immediately end. In a social media post on X last week, Rezaei warned that if the illegal US blockade continues, American vessels and forces will face serious risks and casualties. He also ruled out opening a second corridor under US pressure in the strategic waterway.

Shah: Puducherry Police Earned President's Colour Through Commitment

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

Union Home Minister Amit Shah presented the President's Colour to Puducherry Police on Sunday and praised the force for its commitment and dedication in ensuring the country's internal security. Referring to the government replacing the British-era criminal laws, including the Indian Penal Code (IPC), Shah said its replacement, the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) was enacted with the intention of ensuring justice to citizens. In his address after presenting the President's Colour to the Union Territory's police force, he said the new criminal laws are based on the "three pillars of technology, timeline and trust." Underlining Centre's



commitment for the UT's growth, he said Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision over the last 12 years has been to strengthen it. To make Puducherry strong, a number of many development initiatives, including investments to the tune of Rs 39,000 crore in the last nine years and road expansion activities worth thousands of crores of rupees have been taken up, he said. While the UT received about Rs 3,500 crore in Central fund allocation between 1950 and 2014, the NDA government provided Rs 13,762 crore during the 2014-26

period to it, he added. Various government initiatives, including Lakhpati Didi, Ujjwala and PM Awas schemes, direct benefit transfer and construction of toilets have benefited seven lakh citizens in Puducherry, he said. "Puducherry police has received the Nishaan (President's Colour). In this golden hour, let me assure on PM Modi's behalf, the government is committed to the union territory's development," Shah underlined. Shah praised the UT police force for its dedication and commitment to maintain law and order in Puducherry, which is geographically spread across different states in south-Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh (Yanam) and Kerala (Mahe).

CPCB To Act Against States, UTs Over Biomedical Waste Rule Violations

NGT flags gaps in deep burial practices across 17 states and Union territories

BEIRUT Wakeup telangana

The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) has informed the National Green Tribunal (NGT) that strict action will be taken against states and Union Territories that fail to comply with prescribed rules for the disposal of biomedical waste. The matter concerns alleged violations in the handling, treatment and disposal of biomedical waste by healthcare facilities and waste treatment centres. During a hearing on August 5, a bench headed by NGT Chairperson Justice Prakash Shrivastava, along with expert member Afroz Ahmad, examined a CPCB report on the practice of "deep burial" of biomedical waste. According to the CPCB report, deep burial is being practised across 17 states and Union Territories. The Biomedical Waste Management Rules permit deep burial only in rural or remote areas where a Common Bio-

Medical Waste Treatment Facility (CBWTF) is not available. The method can



be adopted only after obtaining prior approval from the prescribed state authority and must comply with specified environmental safeguards. The tribunal noted that 9,178 Healthcare Facilities (HCFs) were using the deep-burial method. However, only 5,715 facilities were found to be compliant with the prescribed provisions, highlighting substantial gaps in implementation. One of the major violations involved the requirement that the groundwater table should be at least six metres below the burial pit. As many as 477 healthcare

facilities were found to have failed to meet this condition. Another 341 fa-

cilities were operating without obtaining the required authorisation from the prescribed authorities. The NGT also pointed to serious compliance failures in several states. In Uttar Pradesh, all 111 healthcare facilities examined under the report were found to be non-compliant. Similarly, all 33 facilities assessed in Rajasthan were reported to have violated the prescribed requirements. The CPCB informed the tribunal that communications had already been sent to the concerned State Pollution Control Boards and Pollution Control Committees di-

recting them to ensure compliance. The board warned that if the violations are not rectified within eight weeks, it will initiate stronger enforcement measures. The CPCB may invoke Section 5 of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986, which empowers the Central Government to issue binding directions for environmental protection. Such directions can include regulating or shutting down operations and stopping or regulating essential services. The NGT directed the CPCB to continue monitoring compliance and submit a further progress report at least one week before the next hearing, scheduled for October 28, 2026.

The tribunal's intervention underscores the need for strict adherence to biomedical waste disposal norms to prevent contamination of groundwater and other environmental risks.

Jairam Ramesh Demands NGT To Make Great Nicobar Project Report Public

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

Senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh on Sunday welcomed the Centre's bid to introduce the Tribunal Reforms Bill, 2026, stating that the proposed legislation will be consistent with the Supreme Court's Madras Bar Association judgment in 2025. In an X post, Jairam Ramesh argued that with the Bill, the Tribunals, especially the National Green Tribunal, will "rediscover their voice" and demanded NGT make public the High-Powered Com-



mittee report on clearance for the Great Nicobar Project. The 2025 judgement struck down certain provisions of the Tribunals Reforms Act, 2021, which brought in the 50-year age limit and four-year tenure for the Chairperson of a Tribunal. The 2021 Act also proposed a Search-cum-Selection Committee for the appointment of the

Chairperson. The then Chief Justice of India (CJI) said that the Act included the provisions of the 2021 Ordinance, which was struck down by the top court. Jairam Ramesh was among the petitioners challenging the constitutional validity of the law. The Congress leader said, "Tomorrow the Lok Sabha is scheduled to take up The Tribunal Reforms Bill, 2026 that may well chart a new future for 16 semi-judicial Tribunals set up over the years, including the very important National Green Tribunal

(NGT) that came into being in October 2010 by an Act of Parliament itself." "This Bill seeks to implement the Supreme Court's directions in the landmark Madras Bar Association judgment of November 19, 2025, that had struck down key provisions of the Tribunals Reforms Act, 2021 and called for an independent National Tribunals Commission for appointments," he added. Further, Jairam Ramesh alleged that the NGT was the "main target" of the Centre when it brought the 2021 law.

Gen Z Aspirations Important Than Ministership: Dharmendra Pradhan MP

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

BJP MP Dharmendra Pradhan said the aspirations and resolve of the younger generation are more important than any ministerial position, asserting that the country's interests remain the top priority. He said he had tried to explain the aspirations of the younger generation to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who later engaged directly with Gen

Z. Addressing the 'Matira Mahaka' programme organised to felicitate Padma awardees of Western Odisha on Saturday, Pradhan said, "Gen Z belongs to us. Some people tried to deceive Gen Z. The ministerial position was not at all a prestige issue for me... My responsibility is nothing compared to the resolve of the new generation." "I tried to explain the reality of the resolve of the new generation to the PM,

who later engaged directly with Gen Z. There is nothing more important than the country's interest. We are committed to fulfilling the aspirations of the younger generation," he further said. Last month, on July 25, Pradhan resigned from the Union Council of Ministers amid nationwide protests over the NEET-UG 2026 paper leak controversy. He said he was stepping down in the larger interest of students to ensure that

the country's youth do not become "trapped in a web of confusion". In his resignation letter to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Pradhan highlighted his long-standing association with the education sector and reaffirmed his commitment to the aspirations of India's youth. "For more than four decades, I have been associated with students, teachers, and the cause of education reform.

FROM FRONT PAGE

Telangana Economy...

The constant-price figures provide further evidence of real expansion across several sectors. Agriculture, livestock, forestry, and fishing rose from ₹94,195 crore in 2024-25 to ₹96,785 crore in 2025-26, while manufacturing increased from ₹75,413 crore to ₹79,025 crore. Electricity, gas, water supply, and other utility services rose from ₹8,838 crore to ₹9,132 crore. Construction increased from ₹34,343 crore to ₹37,769 crore, while trade, repair, hotels, and restaurants recorded a substantial increase from ₹1,24,905 crore to ₹1,45,624 crore. The constant-price data for services-related activities also show continued expansion. Transport, storage, communication, and

broadcasting-related services increased from ₹47,280 crore in 2024-25 to ₹48,664 crore in 2025-26; financial services rose from ₹42,272 crore to ₹46,771 crore; real estate, ownership of dwellings, and professional services increased from ₹1,33,803 crore to ₹1,44,300 crore; and other services rose from ₹46,806 crore to ₹50,903 crore. Total NSVA at basic prices consequently increased from ₹6,44,126 crore to ₹6,94,972 crore at constant prices. The latest figures indicate a sustained expansion of the Telangana economy over the past few years. At current prices, the state's NSDP rose from ₹8.49 lakh crore in 2020-21 to ₹16.15 lakh crore in 2025-26. At constant prices, NSDP increased from ₹5.29 lakh crore in 2020-21 to ₹6.95 lakh

crore in 2025-26.

Rajahmundry Hit.....

Sources said that the family of Daswanth was in the real estate business and was friendly with local MLAs of all parties. Edward was said to be a Class 10 drop-out and was running a business. East Godavari district superintendent of police D. Narasimha Kishore said the police would approach the court seeking custody of the duo for interrogation. Kishore said that on August 3 at 9.40 pm, Daswanth and Edward had quarrelled with the watchman of a mall at Rajamahendravaram. According to reports, the watchman had prevented the two from entering the cinema hall in the mall as they were allegedly drunk and failed a breathalyser

check. Enraged at being denied entry, police said, Daswanth and Edward drove the mall and thrice hit the two-wheeler on which Dr Priyanka was riding pillion, with her colleague Dr V.V.D. Sai Umesh driving the vehicle. When the duo hit the car the third time, Dr Priyanka fell down and the car ran over her. She had been shifted to a local private hostel from where her parents shifted her to a Hospital in Hyderabad, where she died on Sunday. Prakashnagar police arrested Daswanth and Edward four days later, and produced them before the court on August 7, which remanded them up to August 21. In the interim, Dr Priyanka's father K. Venkatesh, who was in Rajamahendravaram when her death was declared, told media that

while his daughter had been injured and undergoing treatment in Hyderabad, Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu had bothered to inquire about her well-being and offer words of reassurance.

Jharkhand Students...

The agitators were also assured that all reforms will be finalised after consultation with students and a committee involving senior bureaucrats and academicians will be made part of the process. The protesters, however, held on to their demand for a CBI probe into the Jharkhand recruitment irregularities. The fresh round of talks between an eight-member delegation of the JPSC-JSSC Reform Manch and four state ministers was held after discussions between the gov-

ernment and several student groups over Friday and Saturday failed to break the deadlock. Although the student representatives expressed satisfaction over the talks, they said their peaceful agitation will continue until concrete decisions are taken and formal orders issued on their demands. The health of student leader Devendra Nath Mahto, who has been on an indefinite hunger strike for nearly a week, deteriorated as his blood glucose level was recorded at 53. In all, six protesters are on hunger strike. Another student on fast, Rahul Kranti, is under medical supervision at the Sadar Hospital's intensive care unit. The governor has also urged the students to solve the matter through "dialogue" and not agitation.

CRIME

Cyber Crooks Siphon ₹102 Crore From Senior Citizens

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Cybercriminals have siphoned off more than ₹102 crore from senior citizens in Hyderabad over the past 19 months, exploiting their vulnerability, isolation and limited familiarity with digital technology, Hyderabad Police Commissioner V.C. Sajjanar said during a cybercrime awareness drive on Sunday.

According to statistics released by the Hyderabad Cybercrime Police Station, 403 cases involving victims aged above 60 were reported between January 2025 and July 31, 2026. The total amount lost in these cases stood at ₹102.02 crore. Of these, 113 cases accounted for losses of ₹55.88 crore. Se-

nior citizens were primarily targeted through trading frauds, digital arrest scams, OTP frauds and investment scams. Digital arrest scams emerged as one of the most damaging methods, with 69 victims losing more than ₹31.93 crore.

In OTP-related frauds, elderly victims were persuaded to disclose one-time passwords, enabling criminals to conduct unauthorised transactions, resulting in losses of ₹4.94 crore. Investment scams caused losses of ₹2.79 crore across 22 cases. Sajjanar urged senior citizens to remain cautious and immediately report suspicious calls, messages, online investment offers and banking transactions. He said awareness campaigns, proactive monitoring,

prompt police action and timely intervention by banks had contributed to a decline in cybercrime cases during 2026. In 2025, 285 cases were registered, involving losses of ₹71.81 crore, with an average of 24 cases a month.

So far this year, the monthly average has fallen to 17 cases. However, 118 cases registered in 2026 have already resulted in losses of ₹30.20 crore. The Commissioner stressed the importance of the “golden hour” after a cyber fraud. Immediate reporting enables police to quickly freeze fraudulent bank accounts and improve the chances of recovering stolen funds. He also highlighted the crucial role played by bank employees. In sev-

eral instances, alert staff prevented major losses by questioning unusual transactions, including premature closure of fixed deposits and large RTGS or NEFT transfers to unfamiliar accounts. Investigations also pointed to inadequate family supervision as a major factor.

Children and relatives often fail to monitor elderly parents’ digital activities, banking transactions and sudden behavioural changes caused by panic. As a result, fraud is sometimes discovered only after substantial savings have been lost.

Sajjanar appealed to families to maintain regular communication with elderly relatives and help them follow safe digital banking practices.

Cyberabad Weekend Drunk & Drive: 311 Cases Registered

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh

Cyberabad Traffic Police conducted extensive weekend special drunk-and-drive checks across the Cyberabad Commissionerate limits, resulting in cases against 311 motorists. According to Traffic ADCP (Admin) G. Narender, cases were registered against 238 two-wheeler riders, 16 auto drivers, 56 car drivers and one heavy vehicle driver.



Based on Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC), 255 offenders recorded 36–200 mg/100 ml, 38 recorded 201–300 mg/100 ml, and 18 recorded 301–550 mg/100 ml. All offenders will be produced before the court. Police warned that drunk driving is a serious offence and that those causing fatal ac-

cidents while intoxicated may face action under Section 105 of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), 2023, which carries a maximum punishment of up to 10 years’ imprisonment and a fine.

During the previous week (August 3–8), courts disposed of 283 drunk-driving cases. Of these, one offender received a fine and jail sentence, 11 were given fines along with social service, and 271 were fined.

Woman Dies After Getting Trapped in Lift at Chandanagar Apartment

A 43-year-old woman died in a tragic lift accident at an apartment in Annapurna Enclave, Chandanagar, under the Chandanagar Police Station limits on Tuesday. According to police, Anasuya, a resident of Nallagandla SC Colony, had visited her relative’s residence at Chatwaz Mansion Apartment along with her husband, Dhadi Srinivas. As the couple entered the lift, Anasuya was reportedly still stepping inside when the lift suddenly moved upward before the doors had completely closed, trapping her between the lift and the entrance. Apartment residents rushed to the spot after hearing cries for help and managed to stop the lift before rescuing her. She was immediately shifted to a private hospital.

Man Caught with 4.2 Kg of Ganja Chocolates in Rangareddy District

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh

The State Task Force (STF) of the Prohibition and Excise Department apprehended a 39-year-old man and seized 4.2 kg of ganja-laced chocolates from his possession on Saturday, August 8.

Acting on credible information, the STF team apprehended Ajay Singh, son of Sitaram Singh and a resident of Nanakramguda in Serilingampally, Rangareddy district. Police



recovered the contraband along with a mobile phone from his possession.

The accused, seized contraband and relevant documents were handed over to the Kondapur Police for further investigation and necessary legal action.

Two youths attacked with knives, injured

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Two youths were injured in a group clash at Kisanannagar in Karimnagar town on Sunday evening. According to police, Guguloth Srikanth and his brother Shekhar were allegedly attacked by a group of six youths with knives and broken beer bottles. Srikanth sustained stab injuries, while Shekhar also suffered injuries. The injured brothers were shifted to the district

headquarters hospital for treatment. Srikanth alleged that followers of BJP corporator from the 29th division, Somidi Venu, attacked him and his brother. He said an old rivalry between the two groups was behind the attack. Srikanth alleged that the group had consumed liquor before attacking them. Shekhar identified the alleged attackers as Bhanuchander, Madhukar, Chintu, Nagaraju, Nagender and Charan. Police visited the hospital.

Elderly woman killed for gold chain, two arrested

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Tirumalayapalem police arrested two persons in connection with the murder of an elderly woman at Pindiprolu village in Khammam district and recovered the gold ornaments allegedly stolen from the victim. The arrested persons were identified as Aithaboina Prashanth, 26, a native of Pindiprolu, and Saraganla Mahesh, 20, of Balinidharmaram village in Marripeda mandal of Mahabubabad district. Addressing a media confer-

ence in Khammam, Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP), Khammam Rural, B. Thirupathi Reddy said the victim, K. Suguna, was found dead at her residence on the night of July 17. She had sustained severe injuries to her head.

According to the police, the investigation revealed that Mahesh, who was from the same village, allegedly targeted Suguna when she was alone at home. Police said Mahesh was addicted to liquor and online betting and had allegedly attempted to snatch the elderly

woman’s gold chain. Suguna reportedly resisted the robbery attempt, following which Mahesh allegedly attacked her with an iron rod.

The assault caused serious head injuries, resulting in her death. After allegedly committing the crime, Mahesh sought the assistance of Prashanth to dispose of the stolen jewellery.

The duo allegedly pledged the ornaments with a bank and raised ₹1.5 lakh. Based on the investigation, police traced the accused and recovered the gold ornaments alleg-

edly belonging to the deceased woman. Both Mahesh and Prashanth were subsequently arrested and taken into custody.

Police said further investigation is under way to establish the complete sequence of events and determine whether anyone else was involved in the crime.

The case has highlighted concerns over crimes targeting elderly persons living alone, with police urging residents to remain vigilant and report suspicious activities in their neighbourhoods.

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.



Titan sees continued growth momentum in July, MD Ajoy Chawla says

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The growth momentum witnessed in the first quarter of the current fiscal has continued in July, Titan Managing Director Ajoy Chawla said, adding that the company is on course to deliver the improvement targets after a strong start to this fiscal year. “The growth we have seen in the first quarter, and we are also seeing that July is not bad. I am seeing a certain positivity so far in the last four months,” Chawla said, addressing analysts after the company’s June quarter earnings. While acknowledging that near-term performance would depend on external factors, he said Titan remains on track to achieve the growth trajectory outlined earlier and could even do better this year. “We think we are on trajectory for delivering

the kind of growth that we had promised on the Investor Day, and we hope that we can, in fact, better it in the current year because we have started very well,” he said. On the jewellery business, which contributes around 90 per cent of Titan’s topline, Chawla reiterated his commitment to delivering healthy double-digit value growth in the segment, saying it is essential to achieving Titan’s FY30 goals. “We are committed to healthy double-digit growth in value in the jewellery business because that is the only way we will get to our committed FY30 goals that we have said. In a particular quarter or in two quarters, it may be looking like a power play where we have hit the ball out of the park. It is not just us. The market also has done very well,” he said. He, however, cautioned against reading too much



into short-term performance swings, whether positive or negative. Earlier this year, Titan Company set a strategic roadmap to double its consolidated revenue and operating profit (EBIT) by FY30 compared to FY26 base levels. The Titan management also pointed to a resurgence in studded jewellery demand, which he said began in the fourth quarter of the previous fiscal and has continued into the first quarter of the current year. “We began seeing a resurgence of studded in the fourth quarter of last year,

and we are seeing that continue to play out in quarter one,” he said, adding that buyer growth in the studded segment has been rising since Q4 of last year – a trend he described as the “heartening part of the story”. On the international business, they said the rest of the portfolio, barring UAE-based jewellery brand Damas, continues to post a mid-single-digit EBIT margin of 5-6 per cent, which he expects to sustain. Damas’ contribution to the international business will remain limited, with its performance contingent on the current situation it faces, he pointed out. On buyer growth trends during the quarter, Titan said April and June saw healthy footfalls, while sentiment was somewhat subdued in May. He attributed the fluctuation largely to gold price movements.

“If gold rates stay stable, we always see that sentiments are positive and people come back and they don’t sit on the fence,” he said, adding that volatile or consistently falling gold prices tend to prompt buyers without an urgent need to defer purchases, whereas stable or marginally rising prices support demand. Moreover, as gold prices remain high, Titan is using lightweight jewellery and exchange schemes to provide affordable purchase options. “Accessibility comes from keeping it lightweight, looking at a variety of caratages, looking at an exchange programme that is strong to get them to recycle. All these are different levers that we are using to keep jewellery accessible to a wide set of consumers across the different town classes that we are present in,” the company said.

MDR May Take Shape as Platform Fee Says Expert

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Even as the government on Saturday issued a clarification that a future Merchant Discount Rate (MDR) on UPI payments would apply to a limited set of merchants and not to customers, payment experts believe that there is a high probability that merchants would pass on the MDR charges disguised as ‘platform fee’, ‘convenience fee’ or may embed the costs directly into the price of the product or service. The debate on levying MDR on large merchants have gathered steam after the government proposed amendment to Section 10A of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007, through the Taxation and Other Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2026 to remove the blanket ban on charging MDR on UPI, which was enforced over six years ago. “MDR will be an expense on the busi-

ness of the merchants. There is a 200 per cent chance that merchants may pass MDR charges to customers in the product/service pricing, and customers may not even notice it. In some cases the merchant could camouflage the MDR charge as a platform fee or give it a different name” said Sai Krishna Musunuru, Director & CEO, Payinstacard. “Another factor that should be considered is that the payment aggregators who are running the UPI payment infrastructure for the entire ecosystem have been bearing losses for a very long time and would want to monetise UPI. If UPI is monetised, the payment aggregators’ books will make decent profits,” added Musunuru. Another payment expert emphasised on protecting the smaller merchants. “As and when MDR for UPI transactions is introduced, it is important to have

guard rails to ensure that only such merchants and transactions are charged MDR as is intended by the government, RBI and there is no indirect charging of other (small) merchant transactions by way of hidden platform fees or charges,” added an expert. According to an industry official, MDR charges on UPI transactions that may be introduced would be similar to MDR on debit card transactions as both are debited from the customer’s account. MDR is the commission that merchants pay to the banks and other payment companies for facilitating the transaction. There is no MDR on UPI payments, while debit cards transaction for small merchants (with turnover upto Rs 20 lakh) have MDR of 0.40 per cent while for other merchants it is 0.90 per cent. The MDR is much higher for credit cards.

Crude oil, West Asia tensions to guide stock market this week

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Crude oil prices, geopolitical tensions in West Asia and upcoming inflation data will dictate stock market direction this week, according to analysts. Moreover, developments surrounding the Strait of Hormuz, foreign investor trading activity and domestic quarterly earnings will also remain key monitorables for the

Indian stock market, experts added. “Domestically, investors will closely monitor the July CPI inflation print, WPI inflation and the latest foreign exchange reserves data for fresh insights into inflation trends and external sector stability. The Q1 FY27 earnings season will gather further momentum, with several companies, including HAL, Bharat Forge, Grasim Industries and Tata

Motors, scheduled to announce their quarterly results,” Ajit Mishra – SVP, Research, Religare Broking Ltd, said. Globally, market participants will continue to monitor developments surrounding the Strait of Hormuz, movements in crude oil prices and broader geopolitical negotiations involving Iran, he added. “This week is likely to be shaped by two dominant themes: devel-



opments in the Middle East and the July US inflation report. Attention will remain firmly focused on the Middle East, where negotiations over the Strait of Hormuz remain fluid,” Ponnudi R, CEO – Enrich

Money, an online trading and wealth tech firm, said. On the macroeconomic front, the July US inflation report will be the key global event in the week ahead, he said and added that crude oil will

remain another key monitorable for Indian markets. Meanwhile, Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) maintained their buying spree in Indian equities, investing Rs 12,921 crore in the first week of August. Last week, the BSE benchmark Sensex climbed 404.53 points, or 0.51 per cent, and the NSE Nifty went up by 187.05 points, or 0.76 per cent.

“Markets ended the week with modest gains despite heightened volatility, as investors navigated the roll-out of the new Closing Auction Session (CAS) framework for F&O stocks, the Reserve Bank of India’s monetary policy decision and lingering geopolitical uncertainties,” Mishra said. The closing auction session remained the key highlight of the last week, as it was the first

week of the new system, Santosh Meena, Head of Research at Swastika Investmart Ltd, said. “The week will also be important from a macroeconomic perspective, with India scheduled to release CPI inflation on August 12 and WPI inflation on August 14. In the US, CPI and PPI (Producer Price Index) data will be released on August 12 and 13, respectively,” he added.

Centre Mulls Raising CCEA Approval Threshold For FDI Proposals To ₹15,000 Crore

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Centre is mulling a proposal to raise the threshold for foreign direct investment (FDI) proposals requiring approval from the cabinet committee on economic affairs (CCEA) to Rs 15,000 crore from Rs 5,000 crore at present to further improve the country’s overseas investment climate, according to a top source. The CCEA is a high-level panel headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi with its key members include Union cabinet ministers such as the home minister and finance minister. As per the existing FDI policy, in case of proposals involving total foreign equity inflow of more than Rs 5,000 crore, the competent authority places the application for consideration of the CCEA. Below this limit, respective line ministries take a decision. The existing limit has remained unchanged since November 2015. “The prevailing economic conditions, inflation, the growing scale of investments over the years, and

the objective of promoting ease of doing business necessitate a review of the existing threshold,” the source said. Earlier, a committee of secretaries, in its meeting, also suggested upward revision of the CCEA approval limit for FDI proposals requiring the government approval route. “The proposal is at a discussion stage. Besides, the government is also considering a proposal to ease FDI norms for downstream investments to boost overseas fund inflows and create jobs,” the source added. As per the proposal, the government is considering exempting indirect foreign investment in Indian companies from obtaining its fresh nod where the upstream domestic firm has already received such approval. At present, prior government approval is required for downstream or indirect foreign investment in two cases -- sectors under the government approval route for FDI and investments from countries sharing a land border with India.

QTFSF Launches Future Skills Mission to Build AI-Ready India

Future Skills Summit & Awards brings together top government, industry, academic and international leaders

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Quality Thought Future Skills Foundation (QTFSF) launched its Future Skills Mission at the Future Skills Summit & Awards held at T-Works, Raidurg, Hyderabad, with a focus on preparing India’s youth and workforce for artificial intelligence, emerging technologies and the evolving world of work. The summit, themed “Empowering Tomorrow’s Leaders with the Skills of the Future,” brought together government representatives, industry leaders, academicians, entrepreneurs, technology experts and international delegates. QTFSF Founder and Chairman Ramana Bhupathi said the mission aims to connect education with industry, technology and real-world opportunities to create a globally competitive workforce. CEO Krish Chintaluri stressed the need for continuous upskilling and reskilling as AI transforms workplaces and learning



systems. Telangana IT Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu said a degree alone cannot guarantee employment and urged students to develop industry-relevant skills, communication abilities, problem-solving capabilities and a habit of lifelong learning. He highlighted the Telangana government’s plan to transform 65 government ITIs into Advanced Technology Centres (ATCs) in collaboration with Tata Sons at an investment of around ₹2,400 crore. The centres will focus on robotics, automation, artificial intelligence, electronics and advanced manufacturing. He also highlighted the Young India Skills University as a new approach to skill

development. Labour, Employment, Training and Factories Minister Vivek Venkataswamy said skill development could provide young people with employment opportunities both in India and abroad. He encouraged students not to fear AI but to upgrade their skills to remain competitive in the global job market. Hyderabad Police Commissioner V. C. Sajjanar, IPS, said degrees must be complemented by practical skills and urged youth to continuously adapt to technological changes. He also highlighted emerging opportunities in cybersecurity and entrepreneurship. The summit featured discussions on future skills,

India’s readiness for the AI era, agritech, technological disruption and India 2047. A key highlight was the launch of “Mastering Generative Engine Optimization for the AI Search Era”, authored by Dr. Pavani Kadiyala. The book offers practical frameworks and strategies for businesses seeking greater visibility in AI-driven search ecosystems. The event also witnessed multiple MoUs involving organisations from technology, education, healthcare, human resources and international collaboration. Partnerships included BSNL, Meril, Braincode, GIET University, Medicovert Hospitals, Indo-Japan Connect, Global HR Federation and the BRICS Culture Media Forum, among others. QTFSF said the initiative aims to create a collaborative ecosystem connecting government, industry, academia and global partners, with the broader goal of positioning India as a global future-skills capital.

Crude oil prices may stay volatile as Hormuz tensions persist

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Crude oil prices are likely to remain volatile next week as markets track developments around the Strait of Hormuz, while the Indian rupee could gain further ground against the US dollar if geopolitical risks remain contained, commodity market experts said on Saturday. Brent crude futures rose 1.29 per cent to \$83.55 a barrel on Friday but remained below the previous week’s close of \$90.12. While US West Texas Intermediate (WTI) crude for September delivery settled at \$78.18 a barrel, down from \$84.67 at the end of the previous week. The energy market witnessed sharp swings during the week as investors responded to changing expectations over a possible agreement to reopen shipping through the Strait of Hormuz which is a key global oil transit route. WTI crude fell sharply at the beginning of the week after US President Donald Trump paused a planned strike on Iran in favour of

pursuing a diplomatic agreement. Prices subsequently recovered as markets weighed reports of progress towards a temporary shipping arrangement. Experts said a confirmed agreement to reopen the Strait could put further downward pressure on crude prices, while renewed tensions could quickly restore a geopolitical risk premium. On the domestic market, MCX crude oil fell to around Rs 7,100 before recovering to close near Rs 7,400. The commodity experts see immediate resistance at Rs 7,500-7,550, while Rs 7,380-7,300 is expected to provide near-term support. A break below the support zone could push MCX crude towards Rs 7,250, with a stronger base seen around Rs 7,100-7,000, they said. Meanwhile, the Indian rupee strengthened during the week with the USD/INR pair settling around Rs 95.2 after touching a low of about Rs 94.9.

Yash's Bold Scene in Toxic Triggers a Storm

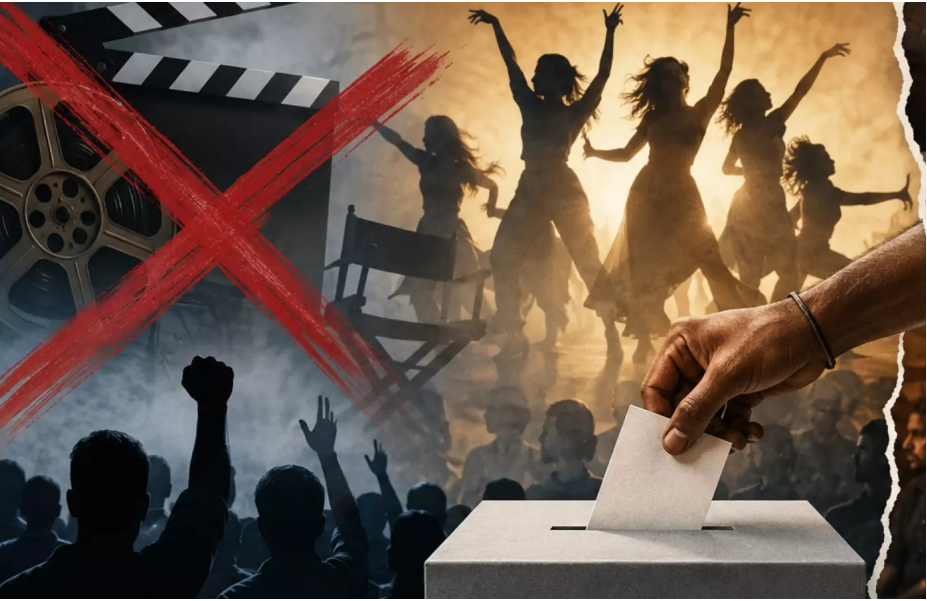


Kannada superstar Yash's latest film Toxic is pushing the boundaries of mainstream Indian cinema, with a bold nude sequence featuring the actor in the recently released trailer triggering widespread discussion on social media. The scene has reignited debate over how far leading Indian stars are now willing to go to portray complex and unconventional characters. Filmmaker Ashok Teja said the sequence could have been presented purely for shock value but was instead handled aesthetically. He compared Yash's decision with Ranbir Kapoor's bold scenes in Animal, noting that Yash appears to be the latest major star willing to experiment with boundaries that mainstream heroes have traditionally avoided. Teja pointed out that Telugu

cinema's leading stars have generally been more restrained in intimate and bold portrayals. Stars including Prabhas, Ram Charan, Allu Arjun and Jr NTR have largely preferred conventional romantic portrayals, he observed. Despite their enormous popularity, they have generally avoided scenes that could potentially surprise or unsettle their vast fan bases. According to Teja, Yash possesses the screen presence and acting ability required to make unconventional choices work. His physical stature, looks and ability to portray vulnerability alongside strength give him an advantage, he said. The filmmaker also believes younger audiences are becoming increasingly receptive to stars who challenge established conventions. Producer Lagadapati Sridhar said Yash's transformation from

KGF to Toxic reflects a broader change in the definition of a mainstream hero. The traditional image of a purely virtuous protagonist is fading, he said, with contemporary characters increasingly occupying shades of grey. Sridhar highlighted Yash's contrasting upcoming roles, including Ravana in Ramayana and a ruthless gangster in Toxic, as evidence of his expanding range. He also noted that Yash's involvement as a co-producer and co-writer demonstrates his growing creative control over his projects. The producer said audiences today are increasingly interested in a character's motivations, goals and journey rather than simply categorising the protagonist as good or evil. In this changing landscape, unpredictable heroes can become a major attraction in action-driven films. Yash's rise from a regional star to a major pan-Indian name has been remarkable, Sridhar said, adding that his films increasingly blend action, emotion and romance while presenting him in different avatars. With Toxic, Yash appears determined to challenge conventional expectations once again. The question now is how far the actor is prepared to push the boundaries of the mainstream hero.

Dancers' Union Conducts Elections Despite Federation Boycott?



MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

Overlooking the boycott threat issued by the Telugu Film Industry Employees Federation (TFIEF), the Telugu Film & TV Dancers Association, led by Ms. Sumalatha, conducted its elections today from 9 am to 5 pm. "One team participated in the elections, while several other members boycotted them. Of the 10 executive committee members who had resigned recently, six members were elected unopposed to key positions, including general secretary and treasurer," says a source. Of the around 600 members of the union, only about 120 members participated in the voting, which amounts to roughly 20

per cent of the total membership. "The majority of the members boycotted the elections. Some members who turned up at the venue also chose not to exercise their franchise," the source adds. "We have to see whether the Federation will accept or reject the newly elected members," the source says. Earlier, the Federation had issued a letter stating that it would no longer support the Dancers' Union or take up its issues. It alleged that the Federation's advice was being ignored despite the intervention of Megastar Chiranjeevi and objected to the union's continued defiance of its decisions. The Federation also expressed concern over the Dancers' Union's failure to re-

voke the suspension of some of its members. It made it clear that the remaining 23 affiliated crafts would not extend support to the Dancers' Union or its members. The Federation further stated that it would not negotiate wage-related issues on behalf of dancers and asked the union to address them independently. "Camera, editing and fighters' unions, among others, will not support the Dancers' Union from now onwards," the Federation stated in its communication. The dispute, which initially emerged as a disagreement between choreographers Jani Master and Sekhar Master, has now escalated into a larger confrontation between the Federation and the Dancers' Union.

GVR Karate Academy Sets World Record with 80 Tile Breaks

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

GVR Karate Academy marked India's 80th Independence Day celebrations with a remarkable world record attempt at Dr. G.S. Melkote Park in Hyderabad on Sunday. As part of the special "Mission-80" event, national-level karate athlete and police constable V. Sudhakar showcased extraordinary strength, speed and precision by breaking 80 Shabad tiles using nine different karate techniques in just 3 minutes and 6 seconds. The feat was completed well within the allotted time of eight minutes. Sudhakar, who is serving at Alwal Police Station under the Malkajgiri Commissionerate, demonstrated his skills before officials and a gathering of sports enthusiasts, students and parents. His performance was conducted under the supervision of Wonder Book of Records International. Bingi Narendar Goud, India Chief Coordinator of Wonder Book of Records International, officially observed the at-



tempt and declared that Sudhakar had successfully completed the record according to the prescribed rules. Speaking at the event, former Himayatnagar corporator Mahalakshmi Ramanna Goud said the objective of Mission-80 was to promote discipline, determination, physical fitness and patriotism among youngsters. She said achievements of this nature could motivate the younger generation to pursue sports and maintain a healthy and disciplined lifestyle. She also urged youth to stay away from drugs and other harmful habits, stressing the importance of physical fitness and sporting activities. She congratulated Sudhakar for achieving the record through sustained practice, dedication and determination.

The programme was attended by Congress senior leader Ramanna Goud, GVR Karate Academy Director Dr. G.S. Gopal Reddy, and academy black belts Narsing Rao, Kareem, Amrutha Reddy, Gana Santoshi Reddy, Raju and Avighna Venkata Reddy. Melkote Park President Bhushan Rao, Bharathwaj, Abhishek Reddy, Jaiswal, Jackie Hussain, Aryan Kishan, Raghu, cricket coaches, academy students, parents, sports enthusiasts and other dignitaries also participated in the event. The successful Mission-80 feat highlighted the role of martial arts in promoting physical fitness, discipline and confidence among the youth while adding a special sporting achievement to the Independence Day celebrations.

Telangana Swimmers Shine at Sub-Junior Nationals with Two Medals

JAIPUR
Wakeup telangana
Waheed uddin

Telangana's young swimmers delivered a strong performance at the 42nd Sub-Junior National Aquatic Championships 2026 in Jaipur, winning two medals in key events. Aarush Das clinched a bronze medal in the Boys' 50m Backstroke Final, clocking 29.44 seconds. The achievement marks Aarush's first national-level medal and is being seen as an important milestone in his emerging swimming career.



Aarush, who represented Telangana with determination, is trained by Ayush Yadav, Head Swim Coach, Sports Authority of

Telangana. His performance reflects the swimmer's consistent training, hard work and growing potential at the national level. In the Women's 100m Freestyle, Telangana's Shivani Karra secured the silver medal, finishing the race in 1:01.28. Dhivashree Kesavan of Tamil Nadu won gold with a timing of 1:00.23, while Indraany M. Menon of Kerala took bronze in 1:01.66. In the Boys' 50m Backstroke, Krishiv Doshi of Madhya Pradesh and Shlok Sunil Jadhav of Karnataka were listed among the leading finishers alongside Aarush.

The championship, held from August 6 to 9, was organised by the Rajasthan Swimming Association under the aegis of the Swimming Federation of India. The performances by Aarush Das and Shivani Karra have brought pride to Telangana swimming and highlighted the state's emerging young talent. The Sports Authority of Telangana and Telangana Swimming Association congratulated the swimmers, coaches, parents and support teams for their achievements and wished them continued success in future competitions.

Sarfaraz Likely To Replace Injured Sai Sudharsan in SL Test Series: Report

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

India batter Sarfaraz Khan is likely to replace injured Sai Sudharsan in the upcoming Test series against Sri Lanka, according to BCCI sources. Sudharsan is understood to have sustained an injury, which could rule him out of the forthcoming series. According to the source, Sarfaraz is likely to be brought into the squad as his replacement. The final decision on the squad is expected to be taken by the Board of Control for

Cricket in India (BCCI). "Sarfaraz Khan is likely to replace injured Sai Sudharsan in the upcoming Test series against Sri Lanka," a BCCI source told ANI. Sudharsan has been undergoing rehabilitation at the Centre of Excellence (COE) in Bengaluru and has also participated in batting and fielding drills. However, the batter was unlikely to regain full fitness in time for the opening Test against Sri Lanka, scheduled to begin in Galle on August 15. Sudharsan also did not



take the flight when the Indian team departed for Sri Lanka and thus missed the ongoing three-day warm-up match against Sri Lanka Cricket XI in Colombo, which began on Friday (August 8). Mean-

while, Indian skipper Shubman Gill also sustained an injury to his right ring finger during a practice session ahead of the first Sri Lanka Test. BCCI posted on X, "Update: Captain Shubman Gill sustained an impact injury to his right ring finger during India's practice on Thursday. As a precautionary measure, he will not take the field on Day 1 of the warm-up game against SLC XI. The BCCI Medical Team is monitoring his progress. KL Rahul will lead the team in Gill's absence."

On the other hand, seamer Jasprit Bumrah was also ruled out of the series as he has not fully recovered from the left knee injury he sustained during the ODI series against England. The Men's Selection Committee has included Aquib Nabi in the squad as Bumrah's replacement. India are also grappling with multiple injury concerns ahead of the series, with Harshit Rana and Nitish Kumar Reddy sidelined due to hamstring and quadriceps injuries, respectively.

Old City celebrates festival with thousands of devotees

The two-day Bonalu festival began in Hyderabad's Old City on Sunday with thousands of devotees visiting temples. Women carried decorated Bonam pots, while Thottalu processions and Potharajus added colour to celebrations. Police made elaborate security arrangements for the festival.



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The two-day annual Bonalu festival began on a colourful and grand note in the Old City of Hyderabad on Sunday, with thousands of devotees thronging temples and taking part in traditional celebrations. A festive atmosphere prevailed across several localities including Lal Darwaza, Uppuguda, Gowlipura, Puranapul, Chatrinaka, Doodh Bowli, Begum Bazaar and Madannapet. Since early morning, women carrying decorated Bonam pots on their heads were seen making their way to temples to offer prayers to Goddess Mahankali. Long queues of devotees were witnessed at prominent temples including the Sri Simhavahini Mahankali Temple and the Ak-

kanna Madanna Temple. Devotees offered cooked rice mixed with milk, jaggery and curd to the Goddess as part of the Bonam ritual. The decorated earthen pots were adorned with neem leaves and topped with lamps. The traditional Thottalu processions drawn from various colonies added vibrancy to the celebrations. Youngsters danced to drum beats, while Potharajus, smeared with turmeric and dressed in traditional attire, led the processions, joining in the festive spirit. Several political leaders, film personalities and government officials visited the temples and offered prayers. Food distribution camps were also organised at various places across the Old City for devotees and visitors.

Elaborate security arrangements were made by the police to ensure the smooth conduct of the festival, which will continue on Monday with more religious programmes and processions. Hyderabad City Police Commissioner VC Sajjanar on Sunday inspected the security arrangements at the Sri Simhavahini Mahankali Temple at Lal Darwaza in connection with the Ashada Masam Bonalu celebrations. After reviewing the arrangements, he offered prayers to the Goddess and participated in special rituals at the temple. Sajjanar said elaborate security measures had been put in place in and around the temple for 48 hours to ensure the smooth conduct of the festival. He said the celebrations were progressing peacefully with the co-operation of devotees.



Sajjanar Inspects Bonalu Security at Laldarwaja Temple

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

City police commissioner V.C. Sajjanar on Sunday inspected the security arrangements at Lal Darwaza Sri Simhavahini Mahankali Ammavari Temple on the occasion of Ashada Masa Bonalu. After performing a special puja to the goddess, he greeted women devotees on the festival and assured them that the police had been deployed for their safety and security. Around 2,400 police personnel have been divided into two shifts and assigned security duties. For the protection of devotees, crime teams have been deployed and picketing arranged at the temples,



Sajjanar said. He added that drones and additional CCTV cameras had been installed in the temple premises as well as along the procession routes, with a special command control room set up at Laldarwaja for monitoring. Speaking to the media, Sajjanar said security arrangements had been made for 48 hours in the surrounding areas of

the temple to ensure peaceful celebrations. He noted that with the co-operation of devotees, festivities were proceeding without problems. He explained that the latest AI technology was being used to maintain law and order, with AI cameras constantly monitoring to quickly identify thieves and chain snatchers.

104th Sabjimandi Annual Bonala Festival in full swing



Devotees from 14 bastis celebrated the 104th annual Bonalu festival of Nalla Pochamma Mahankali Devi Mandir in Sabjimandi with grand processions, folk dances and Potharaju performances. Women offered Bonalu at Nalla Pochamma Temple in Nataraj Nagar. BJP leaders Gaddam Vivek Venkataswamy, Bandi Sanjay and others attended the festivities.

Bonalu Procession Held in Chappal Bazar

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A grand Bonalu procession of Goddess Kalika was held in Chappal Bazar, Hyderabad, attracting a large number of devotees. The procession was conducted under the leadership of Temple Chairman Laddu Yadav. The streets were filled with spiritual fervour as devotees gathered to seek the blessings of Goddess Kalika. Devotees danced enthusiastically to the rhythmic beats of drums, reflecting the deep faith and devotion of the local community. Traffic Po-



lice personnel Vijay Kumar and Narayana Reddy, under the guidance of Kachiguda Traffic Inspector Kaushik, made arrangements to regulate traffic and ensure smooth vehicle movement. Their efforts helped maintain order and allowed the procession to proceed peacefully.

Telangana Top Cop Wants Policing in Line With the Changing Nature of Crime

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Director General of Police (DGP) C.V. Anand has called for changes in policing in line with the changing nature of crime, with special focus on emerging challenges, such as cyber-crime, spread of narcotic drugs, financial offences, and road accidents. Speaking at a review meeting on the functioning of Warangal Commissionerate at NIT Warangal on Saturday, the DGP directed officials to prevent in the initial stage itself

attempts to target youth and children, and push them into drug addiction. He called for effective use of emerging technologies to control cybercrime and provide better services to the public. Anand revealed that people in Telangana have lost around Rs 1,700 crore to cybercrimes during the last year. He said the chances of recovering money decline when victims fail to report fraud immediately. He asked people to remain cautious about investment frauds promising high returns. The DGP revealed that



Telangana has secured the first position in the country in controlling cyber-crime in the Prime Minister's Pragati review. During the review meeting, officials of the Telangana Cyber Security Bureau (TGCSB), T-SPARK, and CID made presentations on cyber-

crime trends, investigation procedures, and new technological systems. Anand made it clear that technology should supplement policing and not replace it. He directed police stations to receive and resolve complaints immediately, with greater focus on monitoring in-

vestigations and court cases. DCPs, ACPs, and DSPs should spend more time in the field and remain accessible to the public, he underlined. The DGP expressed concern over attempts to lure children into narcotic use by disguising drugs as chocolates. He warned that stringent action would be taken against those involved in such offences. He asked educational institutions to play a crucial role in preventing drug abuse. Warangal police commissioner N. Swetha, in a presentation, said the commissionerate

has 50 police stations. Only 2,976 personnel are available against a sanctioned strength of 3,758, leaving 782 posts vacant. She said the commissionerate has intensified surveillance of inter-state gangs arriving by trains from Bihar, Chhattisgarh, and Odisha, committing chain-snatching and motorcycle thefts in Warangal, Hanamkonda, and Kazipet and leaving immediately afterwards. Information sharing and surveillance systems are being strengthened with the assistance of NAT-GRID, she explained.

9966806010

whole sale & retail

9966228274

AL BUSHRA

PERFUME CENTER

ONLY CENTRE FOR FAMOUS AND PURE SANDAL AND ATTAR IN HYDERABAD

PROPRIETOR: MD AKRAM ALI

MACHLI KAMAN, CHARMINAR ROAD HYDERABAD

KTR's temple visit shows power of Bhagyalakshmi: Bandi

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Union Minister and senior BJP leader Bandi Sanjay Kumar on Sunday, August 9, took a swipe at KTR for visiting the Bhagyalakshmi temple, saying the deity had finally bestowed "wisdom" upon him. This was obviously Sanjay's response to KTR's earlier remarks mocking his temple visits. It was during the GHMC elections that KTR had ridiculed Sanjay's visit to the temple. Speaking at the Bonalu

celebrations of the Lal Darwaza Simhavahini Mahankali temple in the Old City, Sanjay said KTR's visit to the temple showed the "immense power" of Bhagyalakshmi Mata. Sanjay sought to question the funds allocated for the Lal Darwaza Mahankali temple. While the festival attracted over a lakh devotees, Sanjay said, the government had set aside only Rs 5.5 lakh for the temple's Bonalu celebrations. "How can such a small amount be sufficient for a temple visited by over one

lakh devotees?" he asked, according to DC. At the same time, he pointed out, the government had allocated Rs 33 crore for Ramzan-related programmes and only Rs 20 crore for Bonalu celebrations, though the state's 80 per cent population was Hindu. Accusing the then CM, KCR, of deceiving the Hindu community, Sanjay claimed that the previous BRS government had promised Rs 20 crore for the development of the Lal Darwaza Ujjaini Mahankali temple but failed to fulfil it.

Telangana launches TG-VEER for families of police martyrs

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telangana DGP CV Anand on Sunday, August 9, launched 'TG-VEER', a dedicated grievance portal for the families of police martyrs. Anand, who visited Warangal district, interacted with the family members of 28 police martyrs of the Warangal Commissionerate, who died while fighting Maoists, an official release said. The DGP launched 'TG-VEER' portal, which provides a single platform for



families to register grievances relating to financial assistance, compassionate appointments, plot allotment and other benefits to which they are entitled. It also brings together the martyr's service profile, family details and benefits received, along with a centralised repository of relevant government orders. Senior officers can

monitor and track grievances at the unit and state levels, it said. On the occasion, the DGP issued QR-code-enabled family cards to the martyrs' families. Scanning the QR code will directly take the family member to the TG-VEER grievance portal. The DGP directed the Special Intelligence Branch (SIB) officials, who developed the portal, to immediately communicate to all units to collect grievances of all martyrs' families and submit a consolidated report.