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WEATHER

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

Netanyahu Calls Up Modi, Discusses Developments in West Asia



Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Thursday received a telephone call from his Israeli counterpart Benjamin Netanyahu during which they exchanged views on the recent developments in West Asia. "The two leaders also reviewed sustained progress in India-Israel Special Strategic Partnership and reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthening the bilateral cooperation across various sectors for the mutual benefit of the two countries. The two leaders agreed to remain in touch," a statement from PM Modi's office said. Other details of the conversation were not available.

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

India's Medium Range Ballistic Missile 'Agni-4' was successfully test-fired from the Integrated Test Range in Odisha's Chandipur on Thursday, a Ministry of Defence official said. "The launch validated all operational and technical parameters. The test was carried out under the aegis of the Strategic Forces Command," the official said. The successful launch of the Agni 4 intermediate-range ballistic missile was announced on September 6, 2024. "The launch was successfully carried out from the Integrated Test Range in Chandipur, Odisha," a Defence Ministry official



had said, adding that it successfully validated all operational and technical parameters. On April 4, 2024, India carried out a successful flight test of the new-generation ballistic missile Agni-Prime. Strategic Forces Command (SFC), along with the Defence Research and Development Organisa-

tion (DRDO), had conducted that successful flight test. The Agni missiles are long-range, nuclear-capable surface-to-surface ballistic missiles. On June 15 this year, the DRDO conducted the successful flight test of the indigenously developed Long Range Land Attack Cruise Missile (LRLACM). The flight test was conducted from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha. "All the test objectives were fully met, as per the data captured by various tracking instruments deployed by Integrated Test Range, Chandipur," said the R&D wing of the Ministry of Defence in a statement. The missile had achieved

all mission objectives, validating critical technologies and demonstrating India's growing long-range precision strike capability. The launch was witnessed by senior officials from DRDO and user representatives from the Indian Navy & the Indian Air Force. Among those who monitored the launch activities were the Defence Secretary & Secretary, Department of Defence (R&D), and the Chairman, DRDO, Rajesh Kumar Singh. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh had congratulated the entire DRDO team and the Industry Partners on the successful flight test of LRLACM and commended the efforts of all team members involved.

PM Modi's 2025 foreign visits cost Rs 187 crore: Govt data

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

Over Rs 180 crore was incurred on Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to 23 countries including the US, the UK, France, China and Japan in 2025, according to data shared by the government. According to the country-wise and year-wise data shared in a written re-

sponse to a query in the Rajya Sabha on Thursday, the figure for the year 2026 so far stood at nearly Rs 74.58 crore. This includes the visit undertaken to Indonesia, Australia and New Zealand from July 6 to July 11. In their query, MPs Sanjay Singh and V Sivadasan asked the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)

for country-wise details of the foreign visits undertaken by the prime minister since 2021; and the total expenditure incurred on such visits since 2021, year-wise and visit-wise. Minister of State for External Affairs Pabitra Margherita shared the data in an annexure attached with his response. "The details of foreign visits undertaken by the

Prime Minister since 2021 and total expenditure incurred on each foreign visit, year-wise and visit-wise are placed at Annexure-I. For reference purposes, expenditure on Prime Minister's foreign visits earlier was INR 10,74,27,363 (USA, 2011), INR 9,95,76,890 (Russia, 2013), INR 8,33,49,463 (France, 2011) and INR.

Bhagwat Backs Gen Z, Says Stir Reflects Demand for System Correction

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat on Thursday said Generation Z should not be viewed as anti-national and called for dialogue with young people, against the backdrop of recent student protests over examination paper leaks. Speaking at the 15th anniversary conference of the India International Model United Nations (IIMUN) in

Mumbai, Bhagwat said Gen Z and Gen Alpha were "more honest and sincere" than the present generation and had a genuine commitment to patriotism and service. "If Gen Z is protesting, it should not be seen as anti-national. They are our own people and the next generation. Dialogue should be held with them in a warm and friendly manner. I think Gen Z and Gen Alpha are more honest and sincere than the

present generation and have a genuine commitment to patriotism and service," he said. Interacting with around 2,000 students at the event, Bhagwat said youth taking to the streets should be seen as citizens seeking "system correction". "We must understand that if Gen Z is raising its voice, it is not doing so merely for the sake of protesting, but because of a genuine problem or

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Ghalibaf Slams US 'Diplomacy,' Calls Bullying a Failed Strategy

TEHRAN Wakeup telangana

Iran's top negotiator and Parliament Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf on Thursday (local time) took a swipe at the United States, accusing Washington of pursuing "theatre diplomacy" and asserting that "using bullying, broken promises and fake news as leverage" was a failed strategy while heightened tensions prevail between the two

countries. In a post on X, Ghalibaf wrote, "Massive attack coming... wait, never mind, they want to negotiate. That's theater diplomacy on loop. Using bullying + broken promises + fake news as leverage is a failed strategy. Acknowledge the facts and fulfill your commitments. We don't need more theater." His remarks come as tensions between Tehran and Washington continue to escalate over the Strait of

Hormuz and conflicting claims about ongoing diplomatic engagement. Earlier on Thursday, Iran's Acting Defence Minister Brigadier General Majid Ebn-e-Reza asserted that the country's Armed Forces were fully prepared to counter any external threat, stressing that Iran's military strength was rooted in its indigenous defence industry. "Every day, the signs of the enemy's erosion of

▶ CONTINUE ON | PAGE 4

Meta Defends Compliance as Government Scrutiny Enters Second Day

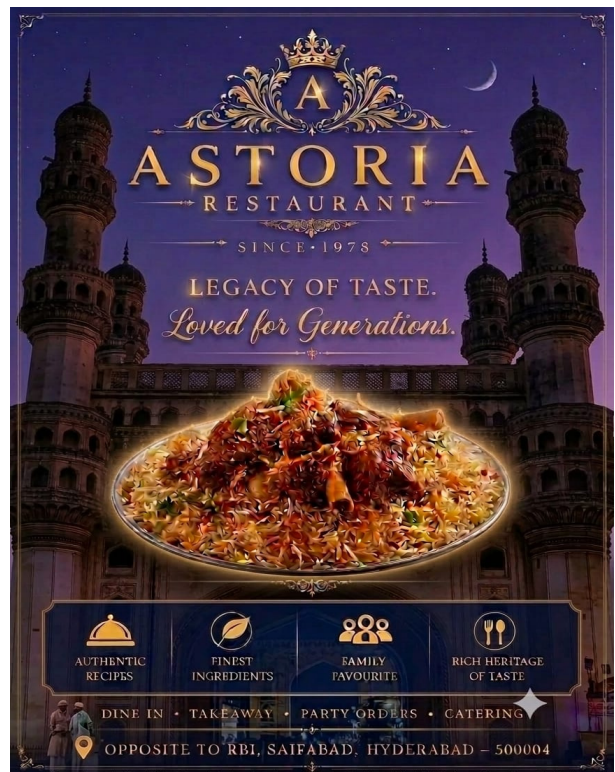
NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

Meta executives faced a second straight day of questioning by Indian government officials on Thursday over issues including Instagram's content recommendation algorithms and the social media giant's compliance with local laws, government sources said, adding that the company assured that it is working to tackle deepfakes, child sexual abuse material (CSAM) and bot accounts. The company admitted there were "serious issues" and assured it will take continuous action to resolve them, the sources told PTI after the hour-long meeting. The government will continue to press the company to undertake sustained measures, actions and improvements to address its various concerns, sources emphasised. Meta's team, including its global affairs head Joel Kaplan, met IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw for the second straight day on Thursday following the government's summons over the temporary re-



striction of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Facebook post recently. On Thursday, the Meta team faced the Centre's questions on whether it is adhering to Indian laws, the algorithmic issues, as well as guardrails to meet constitutional and legal requirements, government officials said and pointed out that the social media company assured that it is indeed serious and "working hard" to address concerns around deepfakes, child sexual abuse material (CSAM), bots and synthetic content. Technical aspects also figured prominently in Thursday's discussions, the sources said. The series of meetings will go on for 3-4 days in all, and the next round will see Meta's technical executives engaging in discussions with the technical team of the government. IT Secretary S Krishnan may lead the discussions next, sources said. "We will push them hard, and

▶ CONTINUE ON | PAGE 4



Supreme Court Denies Interim Bail to Asaram

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

The Supreme Court on Thursday declined to grant interim bail to self-styled godman Asaram, who is serving a life sentence in a 2013 minor rape case, but allowed him to engage a trained caretaker for round-the-clock assistance. A bench of Justices M.M. Sundresh and P.B. Varale kept his plea for interim bail on health grounds pending and granted liberty to mention the matter if his condition deteriorates. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta told the court that



Asaram had suppressed the fact that his counsel had moved a parole application. The defence said the parole plea was filed earlier and not on health grounds. The court had earlier been informed that a medical board from AIIMS found that Asaram did not require hospitalisation but needed continuous medical assistance. On July 21, the apex court had directed AIIMS to

constitute the board to assess his condition. The Rajasthan High Court had earlier granted 20-day parole to the 85-year-old, noting the duration of his incarceration and his conduct during previous interim releases, while observing that the State had failed to justify rejection of his parole application. On May 27, the High Court upheld Asaram's conviction and life sentence in the 2013 case of rape of a minor. It acquitted him of charges related to gang rape and certain provisions under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences

(POCSO) Act but upheld his conviction under IPC Section 376(2)(F), retaining the life sentence awarded by the trial court. The High Court also upheld convictions under other provisions, including Sections 342, 370(4), 506, 509 and 354(A) of the IPC, along with Sections 7/8 of the POCSO Act and Section 23 of the Juvenile Justice Act. Asaram was convicted by a trial court on April 25, 2018, for sexually assaulting a minor student at his ashram and was sentenced to life imprisonment under multiple provisions of law.

High Power Committee Report on Go 111 To Be Placed Before Cabinet Soon

Report proposes easing restrictions with strict safeguards around Himayatsagar, Osmansagar

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The state government is set to take a crucial decision on the future of the contentious GO 111, meant to protect the Himayatsagar and Osmansagar drinking water reservoirs, with the report of the high-power committee constituted to examine the issue scheduled to be placed before the next State Cabinet meeting. Official sources said Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy decided to place the committee's recommendations before the Cabinet, which will deliberate on the proposed repeal of GO 111 and the regulatory framework that should replace it. There is no clarity on when the Cabinet will meet. While there was



speculation that the meeting could be held before Revanth Reddy's scheduled foreign tour from August 17 to September 10, sources indicated that the meeting is more likely to take place after his return. In April 2022, the then-BRS government constituted the high-power committee under GO 69 issued to assess the continued relevance of GO 111 in the changed urban and water supply scenario. After conducting environmental studies and field inspections, the committee submitted its report to the government.

Official sources said the committee recommended replacing the blanket restrictions with a calibrated development model backed by strict environmental safeguards. One of its key recommendations was to increase the permissible built-up area from the existing 10 per cent to 40 per cent, while mandating that the remaining 60 per cent be reserved for greenery, roads and open spaces. This would relax the restrictions without compromising on ecological balance. The committee had also advised against lifting re-

strictions across all 84 villages simultaneously. Instead, it proposed permitting regulated development initially in about eight villages located within the Outer Ring Road limits before extending it to other areas. It had recommended preparing a dedicated zoning policy and a new master plan to ensure orderly and scientifically planned development rather than allowing unregulated construction immediately after the withdrawal of GO 111. To safeguard the reservoirs, the committee recommended construction of pipelines around the lakes to divert sewage generated in surrounding villages away from the waters. It also proposed protecting irrigation channels and ensuring that the

reservoirs retain adequate water levels by diverting water from Kondapochamma Sagar whenever necessary. The panel recommended continuation of the ban on red and orange category polluting industries and chemical factories in the region. The report recommended scientific demarcation of catchment and non-catchment areas in every village based on studies conducted by the Environment Protection Training and Research Institute (EPTRI). Development permissions should be prioritised in non-catchment areas, while natural stormwater channels feeding the reservoirs should be geotagged using satellite imagery to prevent their encroachment during future construction.

Rakesh Reddy Slams Congress Govt Over Education Spending

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BRS leader Enugula Rakesh Reddy launched a sharp attack on the Congress government in Telangana, alleging that education has been neglected under Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy's administration. Citing an RBI report, he claimed that Telangana is spending only 5.98 percent of its funds on education, while states like Bihar are allocating nearly 20 percent for the sector. Rakesh Reddy alleged that the government's policies are affecting poor and middle-class students by reducing access to quality education. He questioned why the Chief Minister, who also holds the education portfolio, is not



increasing allocations for schools and colleges despite making promises during elections. He accused the government of prioritising projects like Musi River development and Future City while ignoring basic educational needs. He also criticised spending on promotional activities, alleging that funds are being wasted on unnecessary expenses instead of improving government schools. Rakesh Reddy said Congress had promised to allocate 15 percent of the budget to education but failed to fulfil the

commitment. He questioned the government's statements regarding the merger of government schools and alleged that the education system is being weakened. He further raised concerns over pending Dearness Allowances (DA) for employees, delay in PRC implementation, and issues faced by retired government staff. He demanded the implementation of the old pension scheme and transparency in the functioning of the Education Commission. Rakesh Reddy announced that he would file an RTI seeking details of expenditure on the Education Commission and demanded accountability from the state government.

Dr. Veeranna Felicitates Andole PR Executive Engineer Kurumaiah



Dr. Veeranna paid a courtesy visit to Lenkepally Kurumaiah, Executive Engineer (FAC), Panchayat Raj Division, Andole, and felicitated him with a traditional shawl. During the meeting, they discussed rural infrastructure development, public welfare, and the progress of Panchayat Raj projects in the Andole Division. Dr. Veeranna appreciated Kurumaiah's commitment to public service and expressed confidence in his ability to accelerate developmental works. Kurumaiah thanked Dr. Veeranna for the visit and reaffirmed his commitment to transparent, efficient, and people-centric administration. Both emphasized their shared commitment to strengthening rural development and improving public welfare across Sangareddy District.

Exclusive Breast-feeding for First Six Months is Essential



District Women and Child Welfare Officer Lalitha Kumari has urged mothers to provide only breast milk during the first six months of a child's life, describing it as the ideal source of nutrition for healthy growth and immunity. Speaking at a World Breastfeeding Week awareness programme held at the Government Hospital, Sangareddy, she said breast milk contains all the essential nutrients required for an infant's physical and mental development and helps protect newborns from infections and diseases. Lalitha Kumari advised that complementary feeding should begin from the seventh month, while breastfeeding should continue alongside nutritious foods for the child's overall development. She appealed to mothers and family members to support exclusive breastfeeding and help create a healthy start for every newborn.

Government Primary School in Ponguleti's constituency remains shut for two years

A Government Primary School in Ajmeer thanda of Khammam district has remained closed for two years due to a shortage of teachers and low student strength.

KHAMMAM
Wakeup telangana

A Government Primary School in Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy's Palair Assembly constituency has remained closed for the past two years due to a shortage of teachers and a decline in student strength. As a result, the students who studied at the school in Ajmeer thanda in Tirumalayapalem are now forced to attend a government school at Jallepalli, three kilometres away from the thanda, besides private schools in other places. A local resident, Hathiram, noted that when the school was functional, around 15 students studied there. Due to the alleged negligence of teachers in discharging their duties, the parents shifted their children to the school in Jallepalli. As the school lacked teachers, the Badi Bata programme was not conducted this year. The local



politicians as well as the Education department officials failed to motivate the parents to send their children to the school, he said. Hathiram wanted the school to be reopened at the earliest with at least two teachers so that the students could study locally. The school is equipped with the required classrooms, toilets and water facility, but due to the inattention of the officials, it has remained closed, he noted. Another resident, Balaji, said that if the school is reopened, parents are ready to send their children there. The teachers who were sent on deputation to other schools

should be reinstated at the Ajmeer thanda Primary School, he said. The Mandal Educational Officer, Babu, who took charge of the post a few days ago, stated that the school was closed due to a lack of student strength. Later, the teachers of the school were sent on deputation. Efforts are being made to reopen the school as soon as possible by cancelling the deputation of the teachers and reinstating them at the Ajmeer thanda Primary School. He said he had spoken to the local sarpanch, who also expressed willingness to support the cause.

Sri Ganesh Marks Birthday with Welfare Drive

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Secunderabad Cantonment MLA Sri Ganesh celebrated his birthday on Thursday by combining the occasion with public welfare initiatives and development works across the constituency. The celebrations began in New Boinpally, where former Cantonment Board Vice President Jampana Pratap met the MLA and conveyed his birthday wishes by presenting a bouquet. Pratap lauded Sri Ganesh's commitment to fulfilling promises made



to the people and expressed confidence that the legislator would continue to lead the constituency towards all-round development. As part of the celebrations, the MLA, accompanied by Jampana Pratap,

laid the foundation stone for the construction of a welcome arch at Mount Carmel Church, a project expected to benefit the local community. In a welfare initiative, Sri Ganesh distributed notebook sets to underprivi-

leged students. The notebooks were sponsored by Jampana Pratap, reflecting the focus on supporting education while celebrating the occasion. Several local leaders, party workers and residents participated in the programmes, making the birthday celebrations a blend of community service and development. Among those present were Muppidi Madhukar, Mukesh Yadav, Varaprasad, Pawan, Karan Singh and Jampana Ravi, who joined the MLA in the welfare activities and infrastructure programme.

ZPP Yadadri Pays Tribute to Prof. Jayashankar

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The birth anniversary of Prof. Kothapalli Jayashankar, the chief ideologue of the Telangana movement, was observed with reverence at the Zilla Praja Parishad (ZPP) Office in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri on Wednesday. Officials and employees paid floral tributes to his portrait, remembering his invaluable contribution to the formation of Telangana State. Speaking on the occasion, ZPP Superintendent



(Administration) Gaddam Gyanaprakash Reddy said Prof. Jayashankar laid the ideological foundation for the Telangana movement and dedicated his life to safeguarding the region's rights, self-respect, and development. He described the late professor as an eminent educationist and visionary whose principles of justice, equality,

and inclusive development continue to inspire public service. The gathering remembered Prof. Jayashankar as a symbol of Telangana's self-respect and reaffirmed their commitment to realizing his vision of a prosperous and progressive Telangana..

Prof. Kothapalli Jayashankar's Ideals Continue to Inspire Telangana: Golla Anjaiah



Paying rich tributes to the architect of the Telangana movement, Prof. Kothapalli Jayashankar, Sangareddy District Library Organisation Chairman Golla Anjaiah said that the visionary academic's ideals, unwavering commitment, and lifelong struggle for Telangana continue to inspire generations. The birth anniversary of Prof. Jayashankar was observed with reverence at the Sangareddy District Library Organisation office. On the occasion, Chairman Golla Anjaiah, along with library staff, public representatives, and citizens, offered floral tributes to the portrait of the legendary Telangana ideologue. Addressing the gathering, Golla Anjaiah described Prof. Jayashankar as the symbol of Telangana's self-respect and the intellectual force behind the separate Telangana movement. He said Prof. Jayashankar provided ideological strength and a clear direction to the movement while dedicating his entire life to protecting the rights, dignity, and aspirations of the people of Telangana.

Anurag University unites 5,000 students for anti-drug, road safety drive

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Reinforcing its commitment to creating a safe, disciplined, and socially responsible campus, Anurag University organized a Mega Anti-Drug, Anti-Ragging and Road Safety Awareness Programme, bringing together over 5,000 students, including NSS volunteers and NCC cadets, in one of the institution's largest awareness campaigns. Senior police officials, including DCP (Road Safety) Ainaparthi Laxmi, SP Eagle Force P. Seetaram, Inspector Eagle Force Sreenivas, and Pocharam IT



Corridor SHO Jagannadh, urged students to reject drugs, oppose ragging, and strictly follow traffic regulations to become responsible citizens.

Addressing the gathering, DCP Ainaparthi Laxmi emphasized the need to maintain a ragging-free campus based on mutual respect and inclusiveness while

stressing the importance of road safety, helmet use, and responsible driving. SP P. Seetaram and Inspector Sreenivas highlighted the devastating physical, psychological, legal, and social consequences of drug abuse, encouraging students to stay away from narcotics and spread awareness within society. Dr. M. Srinivas Rao, Director, Directorate of Admissions, called upon students to cultivate the right mindset, discipline, and positive values for a successful future. Col. R. Venkatesan (Retd.), Chief Security Officer, encouraged youth to contribute to nation-building

through discipline, service, and responsible leadership. The programme was attended by Dr. V. Vijaya Kumar, Dr. K. S. Chalapathi, Dr. V. Srinivas Rao, Dr. C. Mallesha, deans, heads of departments, NCC officers, NSS coordinators, faculty members, and students. The event concluded with thousands of students taking a pledge to reject drugs and ragging, follow road safety rules, and work collectively toward building a safe, healthy, and responsible society, reaffirming the university's commitment to holistic education and character development.

Telangana to distribute laminated PDS ration cards from August 15

The State government will begin distributing fresh laminated Public Distribution System (PDS) ration cards to 1.05 crore existing beneficiaries from August 15. The distribution will be launched at the State level by Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy in Sangareddy and will be held simultaneously across all 119 Assembly constituencies.

Civil Supplies Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy issued orders directing Revenue Divisional Officers (RDOs) and district administrations to coordinate the exercise, including the printing, transportation and arrangements at distribution centres. He said the initiative was aimed at strengthening food security and ensuring eligible families receive the benefits available under the public distribution system. Officials clarified that the exercise does not involve issuing 1.05 crore new ration cards and that the cards being distributed are laminated physical versions for existing beneficiaries, including newly approved eligible families.

Harish Rao Warns Congress Over T'gana Water Rights at GRMB Meet

Former Minister T Harish Rao urged the Telangana government to boycott the upcoming GRMB meeting, accusing Congress of failing to protect Telangana's water rights and alleging a secret pact with Andhra Pradesh over the Banakacharla project.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Former Minister and MLA T. Harish Rao paid rich tributes to Telangana ideologue Prof. Kothapalli Jayashankar on his birth anniversary in Siddipet district, recalling his life-long struggle for Telangana statehood and his contribution to protecting the self-respect of the region.

Harish Rao said Jayashankar Sir was not just an individual but a powerful force who dedicated his entire life to the Telangana movement. He highlighted Jayashankar's special association with Siddipet, stating that the foundation stone for the Telangana martyrs' stupa in the district was laid by him.

Paying homage, Harish Rao said the dream of Te-



langana state became a reality due to the relentless efforts of Jayashankar and the leadership of BRS chief K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR). He described Jayashankar as a guiding force and said his sacrifices and vision would remain permanently etched in history.

Criticising the present Congress government,

Harish Rao alleged that Telangana's interests were being compromised, particularly in the issue of river water sharing. He said the previous BRS government had fought for Telangana's rights and secured permissions for 383 TMC of Godavari water projects.

He alleged that even after three years in power, the

Congress government had failed to obtain approvals for a single major irrigation project. Harish Rao further criticised the inclusion of proposals against Telangana projects in the GRMB agenda, calling it a failure of the state government.

Questioning the government's approach towards water rights, he asked why action was not being taken against projects being constructed by Andhra Pradesh and why Telangana's allocated water share was being surrendered. Harish Rao urged the government to take immediate steps to safeguard Telangana's water interests. He said the real tribute to Jayashankar Sir would be protecting the state's rightful share of river waters and continuing the fight for Telangana's welfare.

Mahesh Kumar Goud denies rift with CM Revanth Reddy

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Rejecting speculation of differences within the Telangana Congress, TPCC president B Mahesh Kumar Goud asserted that he shares a cordial relationship with Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy and dismissed reports suggesting the AICC-appointed Coordination Committee was creating a divide between the party and the State government.

Responding strongly to reports that the Chief Minister was keeping him under surveillance, Goud challenged those making the claims to release any supporting evidence.

"A section of the media has reported that the Chief Minister is maintaining surveillance on me. If there are any videos or audio clips, they should be released. What is this dadagiri (intimidation) and blackmail politics? I am not afraid," he said.

Reiterating that he enjoys



a cordial relationship with the Chief Minister, Goud said they speak over the phone every day and discuss all important issues. He was speaking to media persons in Hyderabad on Thursday.

Goud also objected to reports claiming that the AICC-constituted Coordination Committee was widening the gap between the Telangana Congress and the State government. The committee held its maiden meeting in New Delhi last week.

He said the committee was formed to discuss existing flagship programmes and consider new initiatives. It would

also review shortcomings in government programmes by taking into account the views and suggestions of senior leaders. According to him, such a mechanism is a regular practice in the Congress.

Goud said all major decisions concerning both the party and the government would be taken with the committee's approval. However, he clarified that this did not mean Chief Minister Revanth Reddy had to seek the committee's approval on a daily basis. "He has to respect the party's opinions," he said. The AICC constituted the Coordination Committee in March this year to ensure smoother coordination between the Telangana Congress and the State government. The move followed complaints from party leaders over the lack of coordination between MLAs and Ministers, as well as between the party cadre and legislators.

Bonalu Celebrated Grandly at Bollaram Muthyallamma Temple

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Hundreds of devotees thronged the historic Bollaram Thota Muthyallamma Temple in Secunderabad Cantonment to celebrate Bonalu with religious fervour. Women carried traditional Bonam offerings amid devotional chants and drumbeats. Former Cantonment Board Vice President Jampana Pratap attended as chief guest and performed special pujas, praying for the welfare, prosperity, and well-



being of the community. Speaking on the occasion, he said devotees sought the goddess's blessings for timely rains, good harvests, health, peace, and happiness.

Local leaders Prabhakar, Vishwanath, Vijay, and the temple priest coordinated arrangements, ensuring smooth darshan for the large gathering of devotees.

Two years on, Rallavagu bridge remains on paper

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Residents of Rangapet and surrounding areas are facing inconvenience due to delay in construction of a high-level bridge across Rallavagu in Mancherial town.

The causeway built across the stream was constructed in 2005 at a cost of Rs 80 lakh. It caved in due to floods in 2020, necessitating the construction of a high-level bridge. A portion of the causeway across the stream was washed away due to recent heavy rains, disconnecting Rangapet,

Power House colony and Andalamma Colony with the town.

Consequently, people of not only Rangapet, but surrounding localities are now forced to take Old Mancherial road to reach Mancherial town for various needs including medical emergencies every day. They requested the officials to take steps to commence the work on the bridge and ease their connectivity. They said that they were facing inconvenience due to the lack of the high-level bridge.

On March 10, 2024, Mancherial MLA K

Premasagar Rao had laid the foundation stone for the bridge, granted at an estimated cost of Rs 13.50 crore, sanctioned by Telangana Urban Finance Infrastructure and Development Corporation (TUFIDC). He promised that the facility would be reality soon, ending the woes of the peripheral parts of the town.

Even after more than two years, the project remains on paper. The inordinate delay in creation of the facility is irking locals. "We hoped the bridge would end our woes in crossing the

stream and spur growth of Rangapet and neighbouring areas. We are struggling to reach headquarters every day," Anil, a resident of Rangapet said.

Meanwhile, officials repaired the causeway by filling earth, restoring the traffic. However, heavy vehicles are not allowed on the causeway. Only two-wheelers and auto-rickshaws need to be extra careful while crossing the stream. They are likely to fall down in the water of the stream as the cause is narrow and has no grills.

Students protest at Indira Park

over pending fee reimbursement, scholarship arrears



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Slogans demanding the release of fee reimbursement arrears and scholarship dues rent the air as the Students' Federation of India (SFI), Telangana State Committee, organised "Hello Vidyarthi - Chalo Hyderabad" protest programme at Indira Park here on Thursday.

According to protesters, the State government owes Rs 10,500 crore in fee reimbursement and scholarship arrears, which have not been released for the last three academic years. Due to non-payment of these arrears, the protesters lamented that several colleges withheld their certificates, depriving them of pursuing higher education or taking up a job.

Addressing the protest, SFI State Secretary T Nagaraju criticised the Congress government, stating that its policies imple-

mented under the banner of 'Praja Palana' have forced students to take to the streets in protest. Referring to Nizam College, he said students are being told that certificates will not be issued unless fees are paid and asked whether the government is unaware of this. He warned of a State-wide movement for release of pending fee reimbursement and scholarship dues. SFI State president S Rajinikanth alleged that the government introduced GO No 9, which weakened the system of directly crediting fee reimbursement amounts into students' accounts every year. SFI Telangana former secretary T Sagar said pending dues, which stood at about Rs 4,000 crore under the previous government, have increased by Rs 6,400 crore after the Congress government assumed office, taking dues to Rs 10,400 crore.

Cyberabad Police Pay Tribute to Jayashankar

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Cyberabad Police officials paid rich tributes to Telangana ideologue Professor Kothapalli Jayashankar on his birth anniversary at the Cyberabad Police Commissionerate office on Thursday. Senior police officers laid wreaths at his portrait and remembered his invaluable contribution to the Telangana movement and society.

Cyberabad Police Commissioner Dr. M. Ramesh IPS stated that Professor Jayashankar's lifelong



struggle, commitment, and dedication towards achieving Telangana state continue to inspire people across generations. He highlighted that Jayashankar's principles, vision, and service-oriented approach remain exemplary for everyone. He

called upon citizens to follow his ideals and contribute towards the progress and development of society.

During the programme, Admin DCP Annapurma, Crimes DCP Mutyam Reddy, CAR Headquarters DCP Sanjeev,

along with other police officials and staff, participated and paid homage to the great leader.

The officers recalled Professor Jayashankar's significant role in shaping the Telangana movement and his unwavering commitment to the aspirations of the people. They said his thoughts and values would continue to guide future generations in building a better society. The tribute programme concluded with officials remembering his extraordinary services and sacrifices for Telangana.

TNGO Employees Pay Rich Tributes to Prof. Kothapalli Jayashankar in Medak

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana Non-Gazetted Officers (TNGO) Association, Medak District, celebrated the birth anniversary of Prof. Kothapalli Jayashankar, the chief ideologue of the Telangana movement, with great reverence at the TNGO Bhavan in Medak on Thursday. The programme was conducted under the leadership of District President Dontha Narendra. TNGO members and employees paid floral tributes to the



portrait of Prof. Jayashankar and observed a solemn homage in recognition of his immense contribution to the Telangana statehood movement.

Speaking on the occasion, the participants recalled Prof. Jayashankar's visionary leadership, intellectual strength, and unwavering commitment to achieving a separate Telangana.

PAC Chairman Aarekapudi Gandhi Reviews Civic Issues Under 'One Day One Ward' Programme in Gachibowli



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh

As part of the 'One Day One Ward' initiative, PAC Chairman Aarekapudi Gandhi chaired a review meeting with CMC Commissioner G. Srujana, IAS, Zonal Commissioner Narayan Amit Malempati, Deputy Commissioner Seva Islavath, civic officials, and Residents Welfare Association (RWA) members at Gulmohar

Colony, Gachibowli.

During the meeting, residents highlighted several civic issues and requested the early completion of pending development works. Gandhi urged officials to give top priority to road repairs, drainage, streetlights, drinking water facilities, park development, and nala expansion works, especially before the monsoon.

He also stressed the importance of completing pending infrastructure projects without delay, improving parks with modern amenities and open gyms, promoting rainwater harvesting through soak pits, and maintaining cleanliness across all colonies. Gandhi assured residents that all efforts would be made to strengthen civic infrastructure and improve the quality of life in Gachibowli and the Serilingampally constituency.

BC Bill Must Be Passed Before Budget Session: Kavitha

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Santosh chowdary

Telangana Rakshana Sena (TRS) Chief Kalvakuntla Kavitha on Thursday demanded that the BC Reservation Bill be passed and forwarded to the Centre before the next Budget Session, warning that the party would launch a massive 'Chalo Delhi' protest with a convoy of 1,000 cars if the government failed to act.

Addressing the 'Social Justice Telangana Sankalpa Sabha' at Saroornagar Indoor Stadium, Kavitha

said she had dedicated her life to achieving social justice and political empowerment for backward and marginalized communities in Telangana. She asserted that her struggle would continue until equitable representation is ensured for all sections of society.

Responding to criticism over her advocacy for Backward Classes despite being born into an upper-caste family, Kavitha said birth is not a matter of personal choice, but serving marginalized communities is. She cited historical figures such as



Gautama Buddha, Shahu Maharaj, V.P. Singh, and Jayalalithaa as leaders from upper-caste backgrounds who championed the cause of the oppressed.

Kavitha announced that the party would carry forward its social justice campaign across Telangana for the next five months through village-level meetings, culminating on Savitribai Phule's birth anniversary. She said the progress of the movement would be reviewed on August 6 next year.

Alleging that the Congress government had failed BC communities, Kavitha accused it of misleading people on reservations by proposing only 42% reservation despite BCs and BC Muslims together accounting for a

much larger share of the state's population. She also alleged attempts to delay the implementation of the BC Reservation Bill.

Reiterating her demand for 50% reservation for BCs in legislative bodies, Kavitha said social justice means ensuring equal opportunities for the majority rather than concentrating benefits among a privileged few. She also stressed that caste discrimination continues despite progress in reducing economic inequalities among SCs and STs.

Delhi Police Book X Handles Over Anti-Modi Posts

The Delhi Police on Wednesday intensified its crackdown on social media activity linked to the anti-exam paper leak protests by registering an FIR against several X (formerly Twitter) handles for allegedly posting "derogatory, malicious and defamatory" content targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The FIR was registered by the Intelligence Fusion and Strategic Operations (IFSO) unit of the Special Cell under Sections 351(3) (criminal intimidation), 353(2) (circulating false information or rumours) and 356(2) (defamation) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). Police also issued notices to X directing the platform to remove or disable access to the identified posts within three hours, preserve all electronic records related to the accounts and furnish subscriber details, including names, addresses, contact information, email IDs and login/logout records. Officials said the investigation was underway and further action would depend on the digital evidence received from the platform.

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

The Congress on Thursday said it would go ahead with Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi's interaction with students at KP Ground in Prayagraj on August 8, despite the Kayastha Pathshala Trust revoking permission for the venue. Gandhi alleged that the BJP government was attempting to stop the programme and said it could not prevent him from raising students' issues. In a post in Hindi on X, he said students of Allahabad University were protesting against fee hikes and seat cuts, and alleged that cases were being filed against them instead of addressing their concerns. Gandhi claimed that the Modi government's policy



was to suppress the voice of the youth. "Ask a question, and you get a lathi charge; protest and you face cases, and raise your voice and you get pellet guns," he said. Referring to the proposed visit, Gandhi said, "Ever since I decided to come to Prayagraj to hear the students' issues, the administration has been trying every possible way to stop my programme... It's clear that they are even afraid of 'Chhatron ki Goonj'." "I stand with the students. No matter how hard the government tries, it can-

not stop me from raising their voice," he asserted. Uttar Pradesh Congress president Ajay Rai said the party would hold the programme at the same venue and shared Gandhi's itinerary. According to the schedule, Gandhi will leave Delhi at 2 pm on August 8, reach Prayagraj at around 3.30 pm, visit Anand Bhavan, and attend the 'Chhatron Ki Goonj' interaction at KP Ground from 6 pm to 8.30 pm before returning to Delhi the same night. The development comes a day after the KP Trust cancelled permission, citing an Allahabad High Court order dated August 14, 2025, which bars use of the ground for purposes other than sports and educational activities. The trust also cited waterlogging at the venue and said permission was subject to approval from the district

magistrate, which had not been obtained. Rai said the party had engaged with the district administration and claimed officials had assured co-operation. "We will hold the programme at the same venue (KP Ground)," he said. Alleging political interference, Rai accused the BJP governments at the Centre and in Uttar Pradesh of pressuring the trust to cancel the event. Rejecting the allegation, BJP MLA Siddharth Nath Singh said the matter was between a private institution and the Congress. "Where does the government come into this? If the Congress has any written or verbal evidence that the government got Rahul Gandhi's programme cancelled, it should produce it," he said.

Anil Menon Undertakes First Spacewalk

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

Nasa astronaut Anil Menon achieved a major milestone in his space career on Thursday by undertaking his first-ever spacewalk outside the International Space Station (ISS). The extravehicular activity (EVA), carried out with veteran Nasa astronaut Jessica Meir, was part of a mission to upgrade the orbiting laboratory's power system for future operations. The spacewalk, designated US Spacewalk 96, began at 8.33 am and was scheduled to last about 6.5 hours. Menon and Meir worked on the ISS's 3B power channel, in-



stalling hardware that will enable the future installation of a new ISS Roll-Out Solar Array (iROSA) later this year. The upgraded solar array will provide additional electrical power to support the station's scientific missions and future operations, including preparations for its eventual controlled deorbit. Meir, who was making her sixth spacewalk, served as EV-1 wearing the spacesuit with red stripes, while Menon, on his maiden

EVA, served as EV-2 in an unmarked suit. The pair had spent the previous day preparing spacesuits, configuring tools and reviewing procedures inside the Quest airlock before stepping into the vacuum of space. Menon, a physician and mechanical engineer selected by Nasa in 2021, is of Indian origin with family roots in Kerala. His maiden spacewalk marks another significant milestone for the Indian diaspora in global space exploration. Nasa has scheduled two more US spacewalks this month as part of its continuing effort to modernise the ISS power system and communications infrastructure.

Yemen warns Saudi regime:

Persistence in colonial policies will lead to its collapse

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

Yemen's Foreign Ministry has warned Saudi officials that continued pursuit of colonial policies will result in the collapse of the ruling regime in Riyadh and bring an end to its long history of criminal aggression. In a statement on Thursday, the ministry emphasized that Saudi Arabia, through its ongoing colonial activities and interference, is heading toward a point of no return, a trajectory that could mark the final chapter of the regime's criminal record against the Yemeni people and the region. The Yemeni body reiterated that the drive for colonialism and domination will ultimately lead only to the destruction of the Saudi regime itself. It called on Saudi officials to abandon their aggressive and expansionist ap-



proach or face the inevitable consequences of their actions. The warning comes amid escalating tensions, as Yemeni armed forces continue to respond firmly to the Saudi-imposed blockade and aggression that has persisted for over a decade. Yemeni officials have repeatedly stressed that Riyadh's attempts to maintain a siege on Yemeni ports and airports, plunder national resources, and occupy parts of Yemeni territory represent a blatant colonial project that the Yemeni people will never accept. Recent statements from Sana'a have underscored that any further Saudi escalation or "escape for-

ward" will be met with comprehensive responses whose consequences the regime will be unable to bear. Yemeni forces have already demonstrated their capability to enforce the principle of "blockade for blockade" and target vital Saudi interests when necessary, in legitimate defense of sovereignty and the right to lift the unjust siege. Yemen remains committed to restoring its full rights, ending the aggression, and achieving a just peace while making clear that persistence in colonial policies offers the Saudi regime no path other than decline and eventual downfall. The Yemeni Foreign Ministry statement comes amid heightened tensions between Yemen and Saudi Arabia. The escalation follows Saudi airstrikes on Sana'a International Airport last month to halt humanitarian flights car-

rying patients and stranded civilians. In response, Yemeni forces struck Saudi Arabia's Abha International Airport with ballistic missiles and drones. They also announced a naval blockade on Saudi Arabia to end the 12-year Saudi-led siege. President of Yemen's Supreme Political Council Mahdi al-Mashat has said the only path to ending the ongoing hostilities and establishing peace is an unconditional halt to Saudi Arabia's blockade and aggression against the Arab country. "Should the aggression persist and the siege is not lifted, any dialogue and agreement will be nothing but an illusion and a mirage," Mashat warned recently. Saudi Arabia and its Arab allies imposed the blockade on Yemen as part of a full-scale military campaign launched.

Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve Signs MoU With Airbnb

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

The Tadoba-Andhari Tiger Reserve (TATR), located in Maharashtra's Chandrapur district, has signed an MoU with short-term lodging platform Airbnb to boost homestays and build community-based tourism around the reserve, officials said on Thursday. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Airbnb India Pvt Ltd was signed in Nagpur in the presence of Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis on July 29 on



the occasion of International Tiger Day. It aims to help homestays attract more domestic and international visitors, said an official release. Nearly 100 homestays

operate in and around the tiger reserve's buffer villages, the release said, adding that under the partnership, Airbnb will hold training workshops for homestay and bed-and-

breakfast hosts. In the first phase, 30 homestays have been selected for training, it said. TATR Field Director Prabhu Nath Shukla said that community-owned homestays are central to sustainable ecotourism and the arrangement will enhance livelihoods, visitor experience and conservation through community participation. Airbnb's country head for India and South-East Asia, Amanpreet Bajaj, said the MoU aims to make tourism flow directly to communities, making it sustainable.

Nilekani Task Force Is PM's Damage Control Exercise: Congress

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

The Congress on Thursday attacked the government over the exam paper leak issue, saying the Nandan Nilekani-led task force is simply a "damage control exercise" by Prime Minister Narendra Modi as his "image has taken a battering" even within his ecosystem. Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh recalled

that in 2024, after the NEET-UG paper leak that year, the Modi government had set up the K Radhakrishnan-led High-Level Committee of Experts to suggest reforms to the examination system. In 2026, after the NEET-UG paper leak this year, the Modi government set up the Nandan Nilekani-led High Powered Task Force to focus on examination reform, he said on X. Ramesh cited a new

analysis of the Nilekani Committee's terms of reference by a newspaper which he said shows that seven of its nine mandates were fully addressed and the remaining two of its nine mandates were partially addressed by the Radhakrishnan Committee. "As has been previously highlighted, the Modi Government has not even implemented 27 of the Radhakrishnan Committee's 101 recommendations so far. It didn't

even appoint a full-time Director General of NTA for the 2 years between the 2024 and 2026 paper leaks," Ramesh said. The Modi government showed no political will or sincerity in implementing the Radhakrishnan Committee Report, he alleged. "The Nilekani Task Force is simply a damage control exercise by a PM whose image has taken a battering even within his ecosystem," the Congress leader said.

FROM FRONT PAGE

Bhagwat Backs.....

"We must understand that if Gen Z is raising its voice, it is not doing so merely for the sake of protesting, but because of a genuine problem or grievance. Their concerns should therefore be taken seriously and addressed," he said. On education, Bhagwat reiterated support for allocating six per cent of GDP to the sector and said it should not be treated as a commercial activity. He also cautioned against excessive dependence on social media and urged verification of information through authentic sources. "Those who have become role models and public icons should act responsibly, keeping in mind that they must not push their supporters into a pit," he said. He said protests

should aim at improving systems rather than targeting individuals and described them as a healthy part of the democratic process if intended to bring reforms. He added that timely dialogue could prevent escalation. "If an effective process of dialogue had been maintained from the outset, the situation might not have escalated into protests. Timely dialogue and resolution of grievances are the most important aspects of a democracy," he said. On LGBTQ+ rights, Bhagwat said members of the community were an integral part of society but added that marriage, in Indian tradition, was an institution for family formation. "The LGBTQ+ community is an integral part of our society. However, in our tradition,

marriage is not merely an arrangement for two people to live together; it is a social institution that creates a family. Therefore, instead of altering the institution of marriage, a separate legal framework should be created under which same-sex partners can live together. Society will accept such an arrangement," he said. Now, BJP cadres..... The series of meetings will go on for 3-4 days in all, and the next round will see Meta's technical executives engaging in discussions with the technical team of the government. IT Secretary S Krishnan may lead the discussions next, sources said. "We will push them hard, and technical discussions will continue," the source said. Asked

about discussions on the fairness of algorithms, sources said that Meta informed the Centre about its mechanisms and parameters in place to deal with the issue. Kaplan, who served in the administration of George W Bush -- including as White House Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy -- before joining Meta (then Facebook) in 2011, did not take questions from the media after the meetings on Wednesday and Thursday. Sources further said that the government asked Meta if the company is putting enough 'guardrails' in place in the context of legal and constitutional requirements. The rule of law and the constitution are supreme, and platforms cannot operate in India as per the US or European constitution, the sources pointed out.

"The fundamental question is whether Meta is following India's laws. That has multiple dimensions; there is a technical dimension and a policy dimension. We want to know if their team understands the law," sources said. The government is not mulling a separate regulator for social media for now, the sources said, adding that the current approach is to address such issues within the existing constitutional framework. Ghalibaf Slams..... His remarks come as tensions between Tehran and Washington continue to escalate over the Strait of Hormuz and conflicting claims about ongoing diplomatic engagement. Earlier on Thursday, Iran's Acting Defence Minister Brigadier

General Majid Ebn-e-Reza asserted that the country's Armed Forces were fully prepared to counter any external threat, stressing that Iran's military strength was rooted in its indigenous defence industry. "Every day, the signs of the enemy's erosion of power become more evident; however, our Armed Forces, relying on the country's defence industry, are fully equipped to respond to any threat," Iran's official state news agency IRNA quoted Ebn-e-Reza as saying in a post on his social media handle. He further warned that countries relying on foreign suppliers for military superiority would soon realise that Iran's domestically developed defence technology surpasses regional military hardware.

CRIME

SHE Teams Awareness, Menstrual Hygiene Drive Held at KGBV Kondapur

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A comprehensive awareness programme on women's safety, menstrual hygiene, personal hygiene, nutrition, adolescent health, and girls' empowerment was organized at Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV), Kondapur, Sangareddy district, under the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) initiative. The programme, jointly organized by the Women and Child Welfare Department, the District Hub for Empowerment of Women, and SHE Teams, witnessed the participation of hundreds of girl students. District Women and Child Welfare Officer K. Lalitha Kumari stressed that every adolescent girl has the right to live with dignity, safety, and good health. She encouraged students to maintain



proper menstrual hygiene by using quality sanitary pads, changing them regularly, maintaining personal cleanliness, and following safe disposal practices to prevent infections. She also emphasized that menstruation is a natural biological process and urged girls to speak openly about menstrual health without fear or hesitation. She noted that the BBBP initiative is dedicated to promoting girls' education, health, safety, and empowerment. SHE Teams conducted an

interactive session on eve-teasing, cybercrime, stalking, harassment, child safety, and women's legal rights. Students were educated about emergency helplines, complaint mechanisms, and the importance of reporting incidents promptly, with officials assuring confidentiality and strict legal action against offenders. District Medical and Health Officer Dr. K. Lalitha Devi highlighted the importance of nutritious food in preventing anaemia among adolescent

girls. She advised students to include iron-rich foods, leafy vegetables, pulses, milk, eggs, fruits, millets, proteins, calcium, and vitamins in their daily diet. As part of the programme, 3,000 sanitary pads were distributed through the Sanitary Pad Bank initiative, accompanied by demonstrations on their proper use, storage, and safe disposal. District Coordinator Pallavi, CDPO Chandrakala, SO Kavitha, MPDO, MEO, Sarpanch, police officials, Panchayat Secretary, Medical and Health Department officials, doctors, ANMs, ASHA workers, Anganwadi teachers, SHE Teams personnel, and school staff attended the programme, reaffirming their commitment to ensuring the health, safety, dignity, and empowerment of every girl child.

Telangana HC seeks response on plea against non-tribal voters in Scheduled Areas

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Chief Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh and Justice G.M. Mohiuddin of the Telangana High Court on Thursday heard a writ petition seeking deletion of allegedly illegal non-tribal voters from the electoral rolls in the Fifth Scheduled Areas of Telangana during the ongoing Special Intensive Revision (SIR) 2026 and directed the respondents to file their counters within two weeks.

The writ petition was filed by Adivasi Sena through its State General Secretary, contending that electoral authorities were conducting the Special Intensive Revision in the Fifth Scheduled Areas without adhering to the provisions of the Telangana Scheduled Areas Land Transfer Regulation, 1959, as amended by Regulation I of 1970, the PESA Act, 1996 and the constitutional safeguards applicable to Scheduled Areas. The petitioners alleged

that non-tribal migrants were being illegally continued and enrolled in the electoral rolls, thereby diluting the political rights of Scheduled Tribes. Counsel for the petitioners, Ch. Ravi Kumar, contended that despite repeated representations, including one submitted during the ongoing SIR exercise, the authorities had failed to evolve a mechanism to verify and remove ineligible non-tribal voters from the electoral rolls in the Scheduled Areas.

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.

Alam Duo Files Petition Against Arms Seizure

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Prime conspirators of advocate Khaja Moizuddin's murder who hold nine imported firearms approached the court against the police seizing their firearms and cancelling their arms licences. Mahbub Alam Khan, No. 2 accused in the case, through his counsel Adnan, filed a writ petition (WP) with the High Court. The petition named the principal secretary (home), the DGP, city police commissioner, Secun-

derabad DCP, Reserve Inspector of the City Armed Reserve headquarters and the sub-inspector of Jubilee Hills police. It is reported that the nine imported weapons that have been seized as per the law are estimated to have a market value of over Rs 1 crore or even more, an arms dealer said. Mahbub Alam Khan, in his petition, challenged Memo No. L&O/ARMS3/0173/2026 issued on July 3 for the cancellation of their arms licences and directing them to place.

Cyberabad SOT Raids Prime Pharmacy in Madhapur, Seizes 6,568 Tramadol Tablets

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh

The Cyberabad SOT and Madhapur Police conducted a raid at Prime Pharmacy in Ayyappa Society, Madhapur, and seized 6,568 Tramadol tablets (821 strips) that were allegedly being sold without valid doctor's prescriptions. Police arrested pharmacy owner Torri Venkatesham (32) and delivery boy Barlakadi Srikanth (32). During the investigation, officials found that the banned psychotropic tablets had allegedly been

procured illegally from Rathod Prakash of Narayanekod, who is currently absconding. According to police, the accused had allegedly sold the tablets to over 100-150 customers during the past few months without prescriptions. The arrested persons were produced before the court, while efforts are underway to trace the absconding accused and identify the buyers. Police warned that strict legal action will be taken against anyone found illegally selling psychotropic medicines without a valid medical prescription.

ACP Shankar Raju Urges Youth to Save Lives

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

As part of the ongoing "Arrive Alive" Road Safety Awareness Campaign, the Traffic Police of Trimulgherry Division conducted a road safety awareness programme at PM Shri Kendriya Vidyalaya, Pension Lane, Bowenpally, benefiting nearly 200 students of Classes X, XI and XII. Assistant Commissioner of Police G. Shankar Raju, the chief resource person, urged students to become responsible road users and ambassadors of road safety by motivating



their families and friends to follow traffic rules. He emphasized that road safety is a shared responsibility and that disciplined road behaviour can significantly reduce accidents and save lives.

During the interactive session, ACP Shankar Raju highlighted the importance of wearing ISI-marked helmets, fastening seat belts, avoiding mobile phone use while driving, obeying traffic

signals and speed limits, and never driving under the influence of alcohol. He also explained the legal consequences of traffic violations and encouraged students to strictly adhere to road safety regulations. The programme concluded with an interactive question-and-answer session, where students actively participated and clarified doubts on traffic rules. Principal Kusuma Latha, teachers M. Ramesh, Ch. Venugopal Rao, Babita Verma, and other faculty members attended and appreciated the initiative.

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.



PhonePe Launches Digital Fixed Deposits and Daily RD SIP Starting at Rs 100

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

PhonePe has announced the launch of Fixed Deposit (FD) distribution on its platform, expanding its financial services offerings by enabling users to open and manage fixed deposits digitally through the PhonePe app. The company has partnered with leading banks and NBFCs to provide customers with easy access to secure savings options. Along with FD services, PhonePe has introduced a first-of-its-kind digital micro-savings product — Daily Recurring Deposit (RD) SIP — in collaboration with Shivalik Small Finance Bank. The new product allows users to develop disciplined saving habits by investing

small amounts starting from just Rs 100 per day. The FD facility allows users to discover, compare, and instantly book deposits from trusted partner institutions directly through the PhonePe application. Fixed deposits booked through partner banks will receive deposit insurance coverage of up to Rs 5 lakh from the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC), according to Reserve Bank of India (RBI) guidelines. The platform also enables customers to invest across multiple banks and manage all their fixed deposits from a single interface within the PhonePe app. The initiative aims to simplify the traditional FD process and make savings products more ac-



cessible through digital platforms. A major highlight of the launch is the Daily RD SIP, which combines the convenience of daily automated investments with the security of bank deposits. The product is designed for a wide range of users, including millennials, Gen Z, and people from underbanked communities. Through UPI Autopay, users can automate daily investments ranging from Rs 100 to Rs 1,000. The product offers flexibility with instant liquidity, allowing users to withdraw funds after seven days or stop the mandate anytime. Customers will also receive a 15-day grace period without penalties for missed investments. PhonePe VP and Head of Payments Deep Agrawal said the launch reflects the company's vision of enabling

Indians to access financial services easily and securely. He added that the digital FD journey will provide customers with convenience, confidence, and capital safety. Users can access the services by opening the PhonePe app and selecting Fixed Deposits or Daily RD under the "Mutual Funds & Deposit" section. Customers can choose their preferred bank or NBFC, select tenure ranging from seven days to 10 years, complete PAN and Aadhaar verification, add nominee details, and make payments through UPI or net banking. The PhonePe app also provides users the flexibility to withdraw their FDs and Daily RDs anytime through a seamless digital process.

QTFSF Launches Hyderabad Office to Empower Youth Through Future Skills

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Quality Thought Future Skills Foundation (QTFSF) inaugurated its new office at Siddhivinayak Nagar, Madhapur, Hyderabad, marking a major step towards strengthening skill development, employment generation, and social empowerment. The office was inaugurated by British Deputy High Commissioner Gareth Wynn Owen in the presence of Quality Thought Group Chairman & Managing Director Ramana Bhupathi, QTFSF CEO Krish Chintaluri, corporate leaders, academicians, and social representatives. During the event, the dignitaries unveiled the brochure for the Future Skills Summit & Awards, scheduled to be held on August 8 at T-Works, Hyderabad. The summit is expected to be attended by Telangana Ministers Duddilla Sridhar Babu and Gaddam Vivek, Hyderabad Police Commissioner V.C. Sajjanar, and international delegates from the United Kingdom, Japan, Russia, and other countries. Addressing the gathering, Ramana Bhupathi said the Foundation aims to provide free industry-oriented skill training to underprivileged students and unemployed



individuals, enabling them to secure sustainable livelihoods through industry-ready skills. Krish Chintaluri said QTFSF will serve as a bridge between education and employment by collaborating with governments, universities, corporates, startups, NGOs, and CSR partners to promote innovation, entrepreneurship, and workforce development. Speaking on the occasion, Gareth Wynn Owen praised the Foundation's commitment to education and future-ready skills, stating that such initiatives play a vital role in empowering youth, fostering innovation, and creating sustainable social impact. The Foundation will focus on livelihood development, women empowerment, girl child education, future skills, industry certifications, employment generation, entrepreneurship, CSR initiatives, scholarships, and social impact programmes.

Swiggy targets Rs 10,000-Crore EBITDA by FY31 on food, quick commerce

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Food delivery and quick commerce platform Swiggy on Thursday said it is targeting an adjusted EBITDA of around Rs 10,000 crore by FY31, backed by growth across its food delivery and quick commerce businesses. For the April-June quarter of this financial year, the company's consolidated adjusted EBITDA improved by Rs 162 crore on a year-on-year basis, following

which the company's loss narrowed to Rs 651 crore. The company, at Capital Markets Day 2026, said it expects to more than triple its consolidated Gross Order Value (GOV) to around Rs 2.5 lakh crore by FY31 from Rs 67,734 crore in FY26, a compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of over 30 per cent. The company also highlighted progress towards becoming an Investor-Owned Commerce Company (IOCC), stating that domestic ownership crossed 50 per cent on

July 1, 2026. Its board has approved raising the foreign shareholding cap to 49.5 per cent ahead of its 13th annual general meeting on August 18, 2026. "We are operating three of India's largest and fastest-growing consumer opportunity spaces, food-delivery, quick commerce and out-of-home consumption, with each of these businesses having the potential to compound over the coming years," Swiggy Managing Director and Group CEO Sriharsha



Majety said. The company said by FY31, its food delivery business is expected to grow its GOV by 2.5-3.5 times and generate around Rs 5,000 crore in adjusted EBITDA, driven by af-

fordability-led initiatives and operational improvements. Swiggy said India's food services market is projected to expand from about USD 90 billion in 2026 to nearly USD 150 billion by 2031, with higher order frequency and affordability expected to drive category growth. Its food delivery business reported a GOV of Rs 9,490 crore in the first quarter of FY27, up 18 per cent year-on-year, while adjusted EBITDA run rate rose to Rs 292

crore. The company's out-of-home consumption business, Dineout, completed its first full year of positive adjusted EBITDA in FY26, posting a GOV of Rs 4,600 crore, up 51 per cent year-on-year. Swiggy said Dineout is targeting five-fold topline growth and around Rs 1,000 crore in adjusted EBITDA by FY31, with projected GOV of Rs 20,000-25,000 crore. The business currently serves more than 52,000 monthly active restaurant partners across 75 cities.

The company's quick commerce business, Instamart, reported a GOV of Rs 7,907 crore in the first quarter of FY27, registering 40 per cent year-on-year growth, while narrowing its contribution margin loss to 0.2 per cent of GOV from the levels seen in the fourth quarter of FY25. Instamart now serves over 14 million monthly transacting users across more than 130 cities through a network of over 1,200 dark stores. The company attributed the improvement to

stronger unit economics, including higher revenue per order and lower cost per order. More than 45 per cent of Instamart's store network is now contribution margin-positive, while five of its seven largest cities, including Bengaluru, are operating profitably. Swiggy said Instamart is targeting a GOV of over Rs 1.5 lakh crore by FY31, from Rs 28,000 crore in FY26, supported by a monthly transacting user base of more than 40 million.

CFA Institute Hosts First Finance Network Roundtable in Hyderabad



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

CFA Institute, the global association of investment professionals, conducted its first Finance Industry Network (FIN) Roundtable in Hyderabad on August 6, 2026, bringing together academic leaders and finance educators to strengthen collaboration between academia and the investment industry. The event focused on bridging the gap between finance education and industry requirements by discussing ways to enhance students' skills, employability, and career readiness. Participants were introduced to the CFA Program® and other learning initiatives aimed at developing practical knowledge, ethical deci-

sion-making, and industry-focused capabilities among finance students. Saim Fakhri, Manager, University Relations—India, CFA Institute, said the Hyderabad roundtable marked an important step towards deeper engagement with academic institutions. He highlighted Hyderabad's growing importance as a financial services hub, with increasing opportunities emerging through Global Capability Centers (GCCs). Representatives from institutions including IMT Hyderabad, Woxsen University, NMIMS Hyderabad, GITAM University, University of Hyderabad, and St. Joseph's Degree & PG College participated in the discussions.

Rupee falls 14 paise to close at 95.22 against US dollar on dollar recovery

The rupee depreciated 16 paise to close at 95.24 against the US dollar on Thursday, weighed down by a firmer dollar index and foreign fund outflows. Lower crude oil prices limited losses, while domestic equity markets ended higher

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The Indian rupee depreciated by 14 paise to close at 95.22 against the US dollar on Thursday, weighed down by a mild recovery in the US Dollar Index and a rise in US Treasury yields. Forex market participants said the domestic currency remained under pressure due to foreign fund outflows, although lower crude oil prices offered some support and prevented a sharper decline. At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened at 95.13 against the greenback and moved in a narrow range of 95.12 to 95.24 during the trading session. It finally settled at 95.22, registering a decline of 14 paise compared with its previous closing level of 95.08 on Wednesday. The rupee had gained 20 paise in the previous session.



Market analysts attributed Thursday's weakness to renewed strength in the US dollar and moderate gains in American bond yields. "Indian Rupee declined today on a slight bounce in the US Dollar Index and modest gains in the US Treasury yields," said Anuj Choudhary, Research Analyst at Mirae Asset Sharekhan. However, he added that softer crude oil prices and expectations of a possible agreement between the United States and Iran helped limit losses for the Indian currency. Choudhary said the rupee could maintain a slightly positive bias if global risk sentiment im-

proves amid hopes of a US-Iran deal. "Any bounce back in the dollar index and US Treasury yields may cap sharp gains," he said, adding that traders would closely monitor upcoming US weekly unemployment claims data for further direction. According to him, the USD-INR spot price is expected to trade in the range of 94.80 to 95.50. The dollar index, which measures the strength of the US currency against a basket of six major currencies, was trading at 99.78, down 0.11 per cent. Meanwhile, Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, gained marginally by 0.09 per cent to trade at USD 79.52 per barrel in futures markets. Experts said crude prices near the USD 80 per barrel mark are relatively favourable for India, as the country is heavily dependent on oil imports. "For India,

Brent near USD 80 per barrel substantially reduces the pressure on the import bill, inflation and the current account compared with the USD 100-plus levels seen in July," said Anil Kumar Bhansali, Head of Treasury and Executive Director at Finrex Treasury Advisors LLP. In the domestic equity market, benchmark indices ended higher. The Sensex gained 373.76 points to close at 78,954.76, while the Nifty edged up by 11.35 points to settle at 24,636. Foreign institutional investors remained cautious, selling Indian equities worth Rs 17.86 crore on a net basis on Thursday, according to exchange data. Market participants will continue to track global currency movements, crude oil trends, and foreign investment flows for further cues on the rupee's direction.

Technology Push Helps ICICI Pru Cut Cost Ratio to 13.6%

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

ICICI Prudential Life Insurance has reduced its savings business cost-to-premium ratio to 13.6% in Q1 FY2027, supported by technology investments, automation and cost optimisation initiatives. The ratio has improved by 50 basis points compared to the previous year, even as the company continues to expand its operations. Ganessan Soundiram, Chief Technology Officer, ICICI Prudential Life Insurance, said the company's focus on digital transformation has helped enhance customer experience while improving operational efficiency. He highlighted that technologies such as artificial intelligence, analytics, ICICI Pru Partner Stack and IPRU Edge are strengthening customer acquisition, distributor productivity and policy servicing. The company has streamlined the policy journey through digital processes, with nearly 58% of policies issued using digital KYC and around 54% of savings policies issued on

the same day during Q1 FY2027. Digital claim registration, chatbot-based assistance through Ask Khushmani, WhatsApp services and AI-driven claim assessment have further improved customer support. AI-powered underwriting models are helping predict policy persistency and support faster claim decisions. The company reported a 99.3% claim settlement ratio, with non-investigated individual claims processed in an average turnaround time of one day during the quarter. The AI-based chatbot Ask Khushmani handles a significant portion of customer servicing, while multilingual voice assistants support renewal communication with thousands of customers simultaneously. Advisor platforms like IPRU Edge are also enabling distributors to manage operations efficiently and provide faster services. As ICICI Prudential Life completes 25 years, the company said technology-driven efficiency will remain a key pillar of its growth strategy.

Netflix’s Operation Safed Sagar Pumps Over \$24 Million Into India’s Economy

As Netflix completes a decade of operations in India, Co-CEO Ted Sarandos has highlighted the economic and creative impact of its largest-ever Indian production, ‘Operation Safed Sagar’, revealing that the project contributed more than US\$24 million (over ₹215 crore) to the Indian economy.

The production stands as a major example of ‘The Netflix Effect’ — the broader impact of Netflix films and series beyond entertainment, including job creation, support for local businesses, advancement of creative technology, and investment in India’s talent ecosystem.

Speaking at the premiere event, Netflix Co-CEO Ted Sarandos said that every Netflix production is also a local production, involving thousands of people whose creativity, skills, and dedication bring stories to life.

“The scale of this series and the production demonstrates that India today has the talent, technical expertise, and production capabilities to create entertainment that stands confidently alongside the very best in the world,” Sarandos said.

Operation Safed Sagar engaged more than 850 local businesses, over 200 cast and crew members, and created employment opportunities for nearly 4,000 daily hires. The production



was filmed over 115 days across 11 cities, including Patiala, Patna, Noida, New Delhi, Mumbai, Manali, Keylang, Gwalior, Gurugram, Chandigarh, and Bikaner.

The project generated business opportunities across multiple sectors, including construction and set-building, hospitality, transport and logistics, catering, equipment rentals, lighting services, VFX, post-production, and other professional services. A significant contribution came from India’s growing creative technology sector. Netflix collaborated with 15 India-based VFX studios from Bengaluru, Mumbai, Hyderabad, and Chennai, involving nearly 1,200 artists to create around 50 minutes of high-quality aerial sequences featured in the series.

These VFX and creative technology partnerships alone contributed over US\$5 million (₹49 crore) to India’s economy, accounting for around 20% of the production’s total economic contribution. Sarandos said the project represents the journey Netflix has witnessed in India over the

last ten years. “After ten years in India, we’ve seen The Netflix Effect come to life through every story we’ve had the privilege of making here. Tonight, Operation Safed Sagar is one of the most powerful expressions of that journey,” he said.

The series premiered in New Delhi on August 6, bringing together senior military officials, veterans, and members of India’s creative community to honour the bravery and sacrifice of those who served during the Kargil War.

The premiere was attended by Minister of State for Defence Shri Sanjay Seth, Chief of Defence Staff General N.S. Raja Subramani, Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal A.P. Singh, Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Krishna Swaminathan, Chief of the Army Staff General Dhiraj Seth, former Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal B.S. Dhanoa, along with veterans, members of the Indian Air Force’s Golden Arrows Squadron, and the cast and creators of the series. The production was also filmed at operational Indian Air Force bases, including Nal, Chandigarh, and Gwalior, as well as high-altitude locations in Himachal Pradesh reaching nearly 16,000 feet.

Netflix has completed ten years in India in 2026 and, during this period, has launched more than 200 Indian Originals.

Vedang Raina and Sharvari’s Main Vaapas Aaunga Set for Digital Debut

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana

After a successful theatrical run, filmmaker Imtiaz Ali’s latest outing ‘Main Vaapas Aaunga’ is set to reach a wider audience with its digital debut. The film will premiere on Netflix on Friday, August 7. Sharing the news on Instagram, the OTT platform wrote, “8 saal pehle jo kahaani adhoori reh gayi thi, woh ab poori hogi. Watch Main Vaapas Aaunga, out 7 August, on Netflix!”

Earlier, director Imtiaz Ali marked a special milestone as ‘Main Vaapas Aaunga’ completed 50 days in theatres. In a nod to the milestone, Imtiaz Ali penned a long note. “50 days in cinemas!! this is a rare feat for any film. Main Vaapas Aaunga achieves this today and my first thought is of gratitude towards the audience - the good people that watch cinema, who invested emotionally in the film and convinced others to watch it, who created the extraordinary word of mouth - for no reason except that they liked the film. may the tribe increase!”

The filmmaker expressed



gratitude toward the audience’s response, adding that it inspires him to make more entertaining cinema. “The positive reaction of the audience to MVA is a beacon of hope for all contemporary filmmakers. The love that the audience has shown us will always be in my heart and inspire me to make better and more entertaining cinema in its service. The love that the stellar cast and crew put into the film has been reciprocated by the audience and I am very happy about that. The support of exhibitors and distributors to this film that did not have a good opening was crucial for its unusual success. Many thanks to all there,” he continued.

Directed by Imtiaz Ali, ‘Main Vaapas Aaunga’ stars Diljit Dosanjh, Naseeruddin Shah, Sharvari and Vedang Raina in pivotal roles. Set against the backdrop of personal history and Partition-era memories, the period drama follows 95-year-old Ishar Singh Grewal, played by Naseeruddin Shah, who suffers a stroke while attempting to travel to Sargodha in present-day Pakistan. As memories from his pre-Partition life resurface, his grandson Nirvair, portrayed by Diljit Dosanjh, returns from England to uncover long-buried family secrets. The mystery surrounding Ishar’s emotional journey forms the core of the narrative.

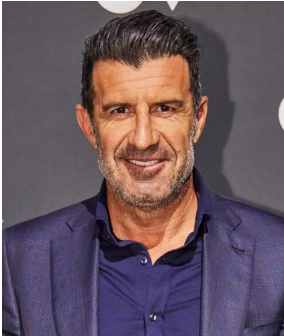
‘Deceitful’ Infantino ‘Must Go’, Says Luis Figo

LONDON
Wakeup telangana

Former Real Madrid and Barcelona star Luis Figo has called for “deceitful” Gianni Infantino to quit as pressure mounts on the under-fire FIFA president. Infantino is fighting to save his job after a fierce backlash against his plan to sell off stakes in the World Cup. The 56-year-old wanted to sell a 20 per cent stake in the World Cup to private equity investors through his FIFA Forward Enterprise.

The plan sparked a cascade of criticism for Infantino and has been rejected by three continental confederations, forcing the FIFA chief to ditch his divisive idea. In a bid to win back support after his divisive plot, Infantino held emergency talks with other FIFA directors in Morocco on Wednesday, a source told AFP. But former Portugal forward Figo heaped pressure on Infantino as he blasted the plan and demanded his resignation.

“I could write 10,000 words on the problems at FIFA. But the solution needs only three: Infantino must go,” Figo wrote in the Daily Mail on Wednesday. “I have loved football all my life. I was a professional player for 20 years. And believe me, I have met some rogues in my time in the game. “But what I have seen exposed in the last 10 days is the lowest, most deceitful and cravenly self-interested behaviour I have ever witnessed.



“The man who would do that -- the man who would try to force through such major changes just to enrich himself and his friends -- is a relic of the game’s past and should have no part in its future.” Infantino had defended his proposal by claiming it would increase revenue for all FIFA member nations. But his attempt to rush through the deal without consulting Football Associations across the world, along with

concerns about potentially playing an increased World Cup every two years instead of every four, sparked a furious backlash.

Several senior FIFA officials -- including former Arsenal manager Arsene Wenger -- have lambasted Infantino’s behaviour. Figo, who pulled out of the race to become FIFA president in 2015, wants Infantino to step down immediately rather than wait for his attempt to be re-elected next year. “Infantino has debased the office of FIFA president that he promised to elevate,” said Figo, who won a host of trophies in his glittering playing career. “He has lied, deceived and tried to feather his own nest at the expense of the game he is supposed to serve.”

The 53-year-old added: “He has lost the support of his senior staff, his closest advisers, the vast majority of people who devote their lives to this sport and even, it would seem, the FIFA Peace Prize winner (US president Donald Trump).” “It is too late to save his dignity but it is not too late to save football. He should go. Now.”

Joshi Tightens Grip on J&K Open 2026 with Commanding Six-Shot Lead

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Bengaluru golfer Khalin Joshi continued his dominant run at the J&K Open 2026 with another impressive performance on the third day, strengthening his grip on the tournament at the picturesque Royal Springs Golf Course in Srinagar. Joshi fired a superb six-under 65 to take his three-day aggregate to a commanding 19-under 194, opening up a six-shot lead heading into the final round of the ₹1 crore tournament.

Starting the day with a seven-shot advantage after rounds of 63 and 66, Joshi showed remarkable consistency and composure under pressure. His third-round effort included six birdies without dropping a single shot, marking his second consecutive bogey-free round. The 33-year-old has now played 37 straight holes without a bogey, with his only dropped shot of the week coming on the par-four 17th during the opening round.



Although Joshi admitted that his ball-striking was not at its best early in the round, he managed to stay patient and make the most of his opportunities. The Bengaluru professional found his rhythm on the back nine, producing accurate approaches and confident putting to maintain his strong position at the top of the leaderboard.

Speaking about his performance, Joshi said he was happy with the way

he handled challenging moments, especially when he missed some fairways. He credited his ability to remain focused and trust his game plan for helping him maintain momentum throughout the round. Despite holding a sizeable lead, Joshi insisted that his strategy for the final day would remain unchanged — focus on hitting fairways, stay in the present, and continue following the process that has de-

livered three outstanding rounds.

Delhi’s Rashid Khan, a former Asian Tour winner, produced the best round of the day with a brilliant seven-under 64. His outstanding performance lifted him to second place at 13-under 200, though he still trails Joshi by six shots. Chandigarh’s Ajeetesh Sandhu also impressed, carding a five-under 65 to move into third position at 11-under 202.

Panipat’s Shubham Jaglan and Chandigarh’s Angad Cheema are tied for fourth place at nine-under 204. DP World PGTI Ranking leader Saptak Talwar, along with Kshitij Naveed Kaul, occupies a share of sixth position at eight-under 205.

The third round also witnessed a memorable moment when Panchkula golfer Brijesh Kumar recorded a hole-in-one on the par-three 11th hole. The hole, originally designed as a par-four but shortened due to waterlogging caused by heavy rain before the tournament, saw

Kumar’s ace help him move to a share of 20th place at three-under 210.

Beyond the competition, Royal Springs Golf Course has provided a unique experience for players. Joshi revealed that he spotted a bear crossing the third fairway during the Pro-Am event, joking that the unusual encounter could prove lucky for him. The course’s natural surroundings, including mulberries, apricots, and apples, have also added to the charm of the championship.

The J&K Open 2026, powered by J&K Tourism as the Event Title Partner, continues to showcase Jammu and Kashmir as an emerging destination for professional golf. The tournament is supported by DP World, the PGTI Umbrella Partner, along with Axis Bank, Amul, Amrutanjan Enerlyte, Campa, Air India Maharaja Club, and Kalyani. The event highlights the growing stature of Indian professional golf while bringing global attention to the region’s stunning golfing landscape.

KT Rama Rao accuses Congress, BJP of compromising Telangana’s interests

BRS working president KT Rama Rao accused the Congress and BJP of compromising Telangana’s interests and failing to protect its water, financial and employment rights.

HYDERABAD
[Wakeup telangana](#)

BRS working president KT Rama Rao charged the Congress and the BJP with failing to protect the interests of Telangana and pushing the State once again into a subordinate position under Delhi’s control. He called for a renewed fight for Telangana’s identity, self-respect and self-rule. Speaking at Telangana Bhavan on the birth anniversary of Telangana ideologue Prof K Jayashankar on Thursday, Rama Rao said Andhra Pradesh was attempting to undermine Telangana’s water interests by influencing the Centre. He

said such a situation would not have arisen if the BRS, which was formed for Telangana, had been in power. Referring to the proposed review of clearances for seven Telangana projects by the Godavari River Management Board (GRMB) following Andhra Pradesh’s request, he said BRS deputy leader T Harish Rao had already explained how Telangana’s interests were being compromised. “Delhi parties have once again left Telangana struggling,” he said. Rama Rao stated that Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy had travelled to Delhi 75 times in 32 months, terming his



frequent visits a sign of dependence on his Delhi bosses. He accused the Chief Minister of failing to protect Telangana’s water, financial and employment interests, while even the available water was not being utilised as the pumps of the Kaleshwaram and other lift irrigation projects remained inactive. “Revanth Reddy appears to be working to protect the interests of his mentor and Andhra Pradesh Chief

Minister N Chandrababu Naidu rather than Telangana’s interests,” he remarked, adding that the Congress and BJP leaders had mortgaged their self-respect before their Delhi bosses without asserting Telangana’s identity. The BRS working president questioned the silence of Congress and BJP MPs after a BJP MP allegedly compared the formation of Telangana with the creation of Pakistan in Parliament. “Would a BRS MP have remained silent?” he asked. Recalling his association with Prof Jayashankar, Rama Rao described him as an encyclopaedia with deep knowledge of every

subject and immense patience in sharing it with others. He said Jayashankar strongly believed that the Telangana movement had three dimensions: ideological propagation, agitation and its transformation into a political force. “For KCR and several others like us, Prof Jayashankar was a guru and mentor who guided us throughout the Telangana movement,” he said. He ridiculed Revanth Reddy for not recognising ideologues like Prof Jayashankar and R Vidyasagar Rao as Telangana’s intellectuals and instead praising politicians like S Jaipal Reddy and K Keshava Rao during a recent meeting.

Bhatti reviews US tech to prevent accidents in Singareni mines

HYDERABAD
[Wakeup telangana](#)

Telangana Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka on Thursday, August 6, visited the Caterpillar and Komatsu mining equipment manufacturing centres in Arizona and Texas as part of his United States tour. He was accompanied by senior officials of the Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) and GMMCO Ltd. In Arizona, the delegation reviewed live demonstrations of Caterpillar’s latest heavy earth-moving and mining equipment, including autonomous and tele-remote operated machinery, and discussed operator training and safety systems relevant to opencast coal mining operations. At the Komatsu facility, the delegation inspected the manufacturing



and assembly of large-scale mining machinery and held discussions on technology collaboration, equipment supply and after-sales support for SCCL’s mining operations. The visits to Caterpillar and Komatsu are expected to yield direct benefits for SCCL’s operations by allowing the company to modernise its opencast fleet and improve operator safety by reducing manual exposure to hazardous zones. Discussions with original equipment manufacturers will open the possibility of better equipment procurement terms, faster after-sales and spares support and localised maintenance tie-ups, which can reduce machine downtime and operating costs at SCCL’s mines, a release stated. The tour will also prove crucial for the development of the newly acquired Tadicherla Open Cast-2 and PKOC-2 blocks, as well as for achieving Singareni’s annual production target of 100 million tonne, Bhatti said.

Woman, son die after car crashes with mini truck on Greenfield NH

HYDERABAD
[Wakeup telangana](#)

A woman and her teenage son died after the car they were in rammed into a speeding mini-truck from the opposite direction on the newly opened Khammam-Devarapalli Greenfield National Highway in the district on Thursday, August 6. Although the Khammam-Devarapalli Greenfield National Highway is open to the public, it awaits an official inauguration, which is expected in a week, Siasat.com had reported. Cab driver Narasihma Rao was travelling with his now deceased Poka-



bathini Sujatha (38) and son Pavan (17) to Hyderabad. The teenager had recently secured admission to an engineering college in the city. Khammam Rural Police told that the family took an alternate route after finding the Khammam-Hyderabad road closed. “They entered the Khammam-Devarapalli Greenfield National Highway through a wrong route,” the officer said. When asked why the

Khammam-Hyderabad road was closed, the officer said he did not know. The mini truck crashed into Narsimha’s car, leaving both vehicles heavily damaged. A crane was used to separate them. While Sujatha and Pavan died on the spot, Narsimha miraculously escaped with minor injuries. He is under medical care at the Khammam Government Hospital. The mini bus driver is at large. Khammam Rural police registered a case under Section 106(1) (death caused by rash or negligent act) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), and efforts are on to nab the driver.

Eight-year-old dies due to snake bite in Telangana govt school

HYDERABAD
[Wakeup telangana](#)

An eight-year-old boy died on Thursday, August 6, after being bitten by a snake at a government school in Elkasapur village of Narayanpet district, Telangana. The deceased, identified as Ranjith, was reportedly bitten by the snake while he was at the school. Following the incident, Ranjith was immediately rushed to the Narayanpet Government Hospital for treatment. However, despite medical efforts, he succumbed to the snakebite while undergoing treatment. Further details regarding the circum-

stances of the incident are awaited. The tragedy comes a month after a similar incident was reported from Chinnashankarampet mandal in Medak district. A nine-year-old girl, Harika, died after being bitten by a snake while she was asleep. Snakebite incidents remain a serious concern in rural parts of India, particularly during the monsoon and post-monsoon seasons. Heavy rains and flooding can drive snakes out of their natural habitats, increasing the chances of encounters with people in homes, schools and other human settlements.

South Central Railway, IIT Bombay team up for railway tool

HYDERABAD
[Wakeup telangana](#)

South Central Railway (SCR) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay on Thursday, August 6, to develop a software tool that can analyse large volumes of railway signalling data and help ease congestion at junctions and yards across the network. IIT Bombay has been working on the problem for the past two years, drawing on yard diagrams, train speed and length data, acceleration

characteristics, interlocking records and historical data logger information, along with scenario simulation tools. The MoU formalises this existing partnership, a press release said. Under the agreement, IIT Bombay will undertake a pilot project to build a software tool that converts raw signalling data from railway data loggers into readable information on train movements, complex detentions and operational patterns. The tool will generate visual representations of train operations, including through movements,

crossings, shunting and detention, to help railway officials identify bottlenecks, study detention patterns and improve the efficiency of train handling. The pilot will be implemented in phases, starting with data validation, movement analysis and the development of safety and efficiency metrics. Based on the outcomes, the collaboration envisages expanding to larger station layouts, enhanced analytics dashboards and eventual integration with live railway signalling systems for real-time operational support.



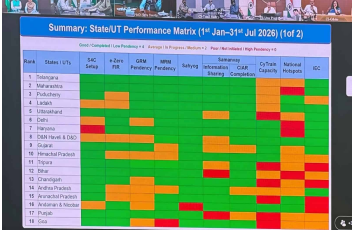
A young physiotherapist from Telangana, P Aishwaryarani, secured a job in Germany that pays Rs 3.5 lakh a month, with assistance from Telangana Overseas Manpower Company (TOMCOM).

Telangana tops key cybercrime initiatives in India, says PMO

HYDERABAD
[Wakeup telangana](#)

Telangana was ranked first in the country in several cybercrime initiatives, in a nationwide review meeting held by the Prime Minister’s Office (PMO) on Thursday, August 6, a senior official said. The “PRAGATI” review meeting was conducted to assess the implementation and performance of various states in cybercrime as well as performance and utilisation of the digital platforms developed by the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C), Ministry of Home Affairs.

“During the review, Telangana was applauded for its efforts in the country for setting up the first S4C, implementation of e-Zero FIR and in the effective utilization of key I4C portals, including the Samanvaya portal, Sahyog portal, GRM portal and MRM,” Telangana Cyber Security Bureau (TGCSB) Director Shikha Goel said in a release. As part of its citizen-centric initiatives, the TGCSB has launched a dedicated helpline number (8712665600) to enable citizens to seek assistance regarding grievances related to the Grievance Redressal Mechanism (GRM) and Money Restoration Module (MRM)



through telephonic support, she said. Goel in a post on X said, “Attended the video conference chaired by the PMO to review cybercrime performance along with Telangana Chief Secretary and Telangana Director General of Police (DGP). Glad to share that Telangana has been recognised as the no 1 state in performance with respect to cybercrime control and handling

in the country.” Under the GRM, which is a platform to facilitate the registration, processing, tracking and resolution of grievances relating to the freezing/unfreezing of bank accounts and the removal of debit freezes, liens or holds imposed during law enforcement investigations, as many as 2,368 grievance requests were made in Telangana as of August 2, in which Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) took action in 2,086. Under MRM, which facilitates the restoration of frozen cyber fraud proceeds to victims through coordinated action between LEAs and Financial In-

termediaries, an amount of Rs 16.42 crore was restored. Under the Sahyog portal, which provides a centralised mechanism for content blocking/removal, data disclosure requests, and other lawful requests, as many as 20,070 URLs were removed or disabled out of the total 22,447 URLs, it said. Under the Samanvaya portal, which facilitates the sharing of cybercrime intelligence, accused profiles, crime links, investigation requests, and analytical reports between states and Union Territories, a total of 3,524 cases and profiles of 5,493 arrested persons were uploaded.

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ACB traps Jagtial Grama Palana Officer in Rs 5,000 bribe case

HYDERABAD
[Wakeup telangana](#)

A Grama Palana Officer (GPO) posted at Atmakur village in Jagtial district was caught by the Telangana Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Thursday, August 6, while allegedly accepting a bribe of Rs 5,000 from a complainant in exchange for an official favour. According to the ACB, the accused, Maathe Rajesh, 37, was serving as the Grama Palana Officer

at Atmakur village in Metpalli mandal. Acting on a complaint, officials of the ACB’s Karimnagar Unit laid a trap at the GPO office and apprehended him while allegedly demanding and accepting the bribe. The officer had allegedly sought the money to submit an enquiry report prepared by him regarding the correction of the complainant’s name in a patta passbook to higher revenue authorities. During the trap, the ac-

cused allegedly instructed the complainant to place the bribe amount in his handbag. ACB officials recovered the tainted cash from the bag, and a chemical test conducted on the relevant portion of the handbag yielded a positive result, confirming contact with the treated currency notes. The ACB said the officer had abused his official position by demanding and accepting illegal gratification.

SCCL receives first coal stock from Odisha’s Naini block

HYDERABAD
[Wakeup telangana](#)

The first rail rake carrying 4,000 tons of coal from the Naini coal block in Odisha reached the thermal power project of state-run Singareni Collieries (SCCL) in Telangana on Thursday, August 6. Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) is a coal mining company jointly owned

by the Telangana government and union government on a 51:49 equity basis. Telangana Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka hailed the arrival of the coal from the Naini coal block. “Heartfelt congratulations to the management and workers of Singareni. It is a proud moment for us all as the first rail rake of coal arrives from the ‘Naini Coal Block’ allocated for the Singareni

Thermal Power Project (STPP),” he said in a post on X. This marks a historic milestone in the legacy of Singareni, whose role in fulfilling Telangana’s power needs and driving the state’s development is unparalleled, he said. Under the leadership of Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, the state government is extending its complete support to further strengthen the mining company, he added.