



Fake certificates issue hits Telangana Intermediate Education: P8



Bismillah Colony residents seek better roads, drainage and sanitation in Shaheennagar: P2

KTR targets Congress over weavers' welfare, demands restoration of schemes: P8



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.

Israel Shuts China Consulate in Sign of Worsening Relations

BEIJING
Wakeup telangana

Israel has closed one of its Consulates in China amid growing strain in ties between the two countries over Beijing moving closer to Iran and Arab countries reshaping its wider Middle East policy. In a sign of fraying ties, Israel has closed its consulate in Chengdu, ending its operations last month, the Hong Kong-based South China Morning Post reported on Friday. In a letter published on Wednesday, the outgoing Israeli Consul General Gadi Harpaz called his five years in the southwestern Chinese city of Chengdu as "the most



memorable of his diplomatic career" and said he was parting "with a deep sense of sadness and nostalgia". "Although the consulate general is closing, the bridges of friendship, mutual respect and shared memories we built over the last five years will endure," Harpaz said. Israel currently operates consulates in Shanghai, Guangzhou and Hong Kong, as well as its embassy in Beijing. Late last year, Israel announced it would close one of its dip-

lomatic missions in China without specifying the reason. The relations between the two countries showed signs of strain over China not immediately condemning the Oct 2023 attack on Israel by Hamas militants and Beijing's support for Palestine in the Gaza conflict. According to a poll conducted in April 2024 by the Institute for National Security Studies, a Tel Aviv-based think tank, more than half of respondents in Israel viewed China as hostile or unfriendly. Analysts say that China is unlikely to abandon ties with Israel, given the value it places on trade and technology. At the same time, it con-

tinues to support Arab states and Iran to blunt US standing in the Middle East. Zhu Yongbiao, a Middle East analyst and director of the Centre for Afghanistan Studies at Lanzhou University, described the Chengdu closure as "a natural phase in the normal development of bilateral ties". The move should not be overinterpreted, nor did it mean that China-Israel relations were sharply deteriorating, Zhu told the Post. He said that bilateral ties had already absorbed several shocks in recent years. "If Israel can realistically reassess both countries' global standing and core interests.

Revanth To Invite Foreign Universities to Future City

CM's overseas tour to focus on attracting foreign universities to Telangana

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy will invite leading universities from the US and the UK to establish offshore campuses in Bharat Future City during his overseas tour covering the US, UK, Germany and China from August 17 to September 10. The state government will offer land to these institutions in a dedicated Education Zone being developed in Future City, official sources said. Sources said Revanth Reddy's foreign tour was primarily aimed at attracting foreign higher educational institutions (FHEIs) to Future City and showcasing the state's vision of creating an international destination for higher education, research, innovation, sports and skill development. Revanth Reddy is expected to hold meetings with officials of Illinois State University in the US, the University of Aberdeen and the University of York in the UK, besides interacting with investors, sports organisations and training insti-



tutes to explore long-term partnerships. Sources said nearly 15 universities from the US, UK, Australia and New Zealand had expressed interest in establishing offshore campuses in Telangana, particularly in and around Hyderabad. The University of Colorado in the US and the University of London in the UK had already submitted applications to the University Grants Commission (UGC), seeking permission to establish campuses in Hyderabad. In addition, representatives of nearly a dozen other foreign universities have approached the Telangana government, with discussions underway to identify suitable locations for their proposed campuses. Among the institutions exploring opportunities in Telangana

are Purdue University and Northeastern University in the US, whose representatives are in discussions with state officials. The University of Birmingham in the UK and the University of Western Australia have proposed sports-focused campuses, while Newcastle University, the University of Chichester and the University of Hertfordshire are also holding consultations with the state government on establishing a presence in Telangana. The proposed campuses would offer programmes in business, economics, accounting, finance, software engineering, data science, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, game design, entrepreneurship, innovation, biomedical sciences and several other emerging disciplines aligned with global academic and industry requirements. Officials said the Chief Minister would use the visit to promote Bharat Future City as an international education and investment destination while seeking collaborations that would im-

▶ CONTINUE ON | PAGE 4

Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Pakistan Sign Defence Pact Amid Regional War

RIYADH
Wakeup telangana

Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Pakistan signed a joint defence agreement on Friday amid violence in the region from Houthi attacks and the US-Iran war. Riyadh is looking to strengthen its security ties against the backdrop of war between the United States and Iran, which has drawn in surrounding nations and disrupted shipping through the Strait of Hormuz and Red Sea. The

war has emboldened Iran and its Houthi allies in Yemen, both of which have attacked Saudi Arabia, while analysts say Washington is now seen as an increasingly unreliable partner. In a joint statement published by the official Saudi press agency and Pakistan's foreign ministry, the three countries announced the signing of the "Mecca Joint Defence Agreement". They declared a "shared commitment to further

strengthening their collective security and to promoting peace, security and stability in the region and beyond". The Pakistani foreign ministry said the pact meant an attack on any member would be regarded as an attack on all, adding it was "intended to strengthen collective deterrence". Since the onset of the regional war, Saudi Arabia has grown closer to Turkey, Egypt and Pakistan, which have been pushing

▶ CONTINUE ON | PAGE 4

No One's Seen...: Rahul's Reply to 'Are You Batman?' During Insta AMA

TEHRAN
Wakeup telangana

Are you Batman, was the poser. And Rahul Gandhi answered, equally straight up, sidestepping any comparison to the caped crusader: "Let's just say that no one has ever seen me and Batman in the same room together." Ask Me Anything', the leader of opposition in the Lok Sabha said Thursday night in a fresh outreach to Gen Z. And they did, the questions pouring in right

through the session on Instagram. Some serious, others casual and witty. The Congress leader answered accordingly, cheeky and candid in turn. To a question on the student protest in Jharkhand, Gandhi said every government should listen to what students are saying. Asked about his favourite meme from the student protests last month, Gandhi took a swipe at Prime Minister Narendra Modi. "I think the videos that came out of the PM house

at midnight, those were the best, showing a new panicked prime minister," he said. The former Congress president had got his mother's dog for some part of the interaction streamed live. To a query on what is his favourite thing about being a dog parent, Gandhi said he is not one but his mother has a dog named Noorie. "I am not a dog parent. I think we share spaces with animals, with all liv-

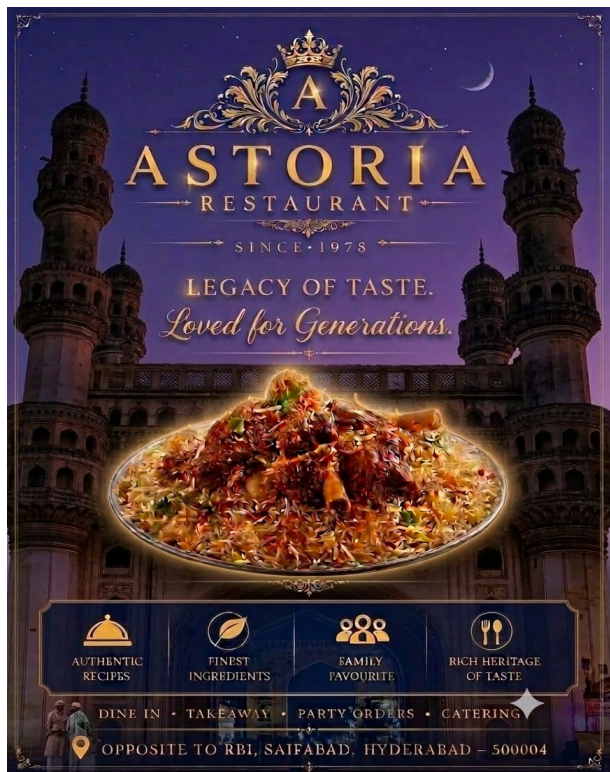
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India, China Review situation Along LAC, Boundary Delimitation

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Amid buzz of a fresh Chinese incursion and stand-off in Taksing circle of Arunachal Pradesh, India and China held their 36th meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on Border Affairs (WMCC). During the talks the two sides reviewed the overall situation along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and deliberated on key issues related to boundary delimitation, border management and trans-border cooperation. The Indian delegation was led by Mr Sujit Ghosh, Joint Secretary (East Asia), Ministry of External Affairs and the Chinese delegation led by Ms. Hou Yanqi, Director General of the Boundary and Oceanic Affairs Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China. During the talks, both sides agreed to continue to use existing diplomatic

and military channels, including the WMCC, local commander-level meetings and other agreed mechanisms, to resolve outstanding issues and avoid misunderstanding and miscalculation along the LAC. "As a follow up to the outcomes of 24th SR Talks, two sides held detailed exchanges on issues related to boundary delimitation, border management, mechanism-building and trans-border cooperation. The Indian side reiterated the need for early convening of the next meeting of the Expert Level Mechanism on trans-border rivers and emphasized the importance of sharing technical details on upstream projects," Ministry of External Affairs said in a statement on Friday. The talks came at a time when a video on social media went viral claiming fresh standoff between the armies of India and China in Arunachal Pradesh due to 60km intrusion by the Chinese army. The video shows that an Indian army commander objected to the high presence of Chinese army men in the region while saying that the Indian side had only 20.



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.

BRS Slams Govt Over Krishna Water Release

Niranjan Reddy Slams Revanth Reddy Government Over Krishna Water, Demands Immediate KLI Reservoir Filling and Canal Releases to Protect Farmers and Boost Palamuru Irrigation

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Former Minister and BRS leader Singireddy Niranjan Reddy launched a strong attack on the Telangana government, accusing it of deliberately withholding Krishna River water from farmers despite heavy inflows from the upper catchment areas and substantial water availability in the Srisailem reservoir. Niranjan Reddy said nearly 2.3 lakh cusecs of water was flowing from Jurala towards Srisailem, where approximately 160 TMC of water was already available. He questioned the government’s decision to restrict canal releases when the Krishna River was receiving heavy flood inflows. He said it was “absurd” to conduct rain rituals seeking rain-fall while failing to utilise the water already avail-



able in reservoirs. The former minister alleged that Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy had instructed officials not to release water through canals. He questioned why the government was discouraging farmers from sowing crops despite the Krishna River overflowing. Niranjan Reddy also challenged the government’s reported claim that only 45 TMC of water was available, pointing out that Srisailem was holding around 160 TMC. He alleged that the Congress government was intentionally withholding irrigation water to discourage farmers from cul-

tivating paddy. He demanded that the government immediately utilise the floodwaters entering Jurala and fill reservoirs linked to the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation system. Niranjan Reddy said the Almatti reservoir, with a capacity of around 120 TMC, and the Narayanpur reservoir, with a capacity of nearly 30 TMC, were already full. Karnataka, he said, had limited scope to hold back the additional floodwaters flowing downstream. He questioned why Telangana was not taking advantage of the situation to fill its own reservoirs. The BRS leader specifi-

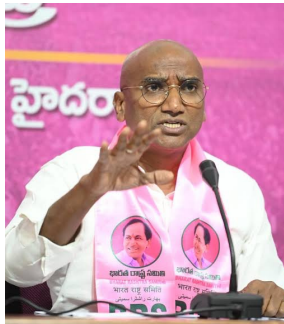
cally demanded the immediate filling of the KLI reservoirs, including Narlapur, Edula and Vattem. He said Edula could be filled through KLI and, once Edula reached full capacity, water could subsequently be utilised to fill Vattem. He also demanded the immediate operation of all three KLI pumps. Niranjan Reddy criticised the government over the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Project, alleging that there had been no meaningful progress since the Congress government came to power. He claimed that not even a basketful of soil had been excavated for the project and accused Chief

Minister Revanth Reddy and Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy of failing the people of Palamuru. He also questioned the role of irrigation officials and alleged that officials from the Andhra region were not adequately considering Telangana’s interests. He demanded clarity from the government on whether it genuinely intended to provide irrigation water to Palamuru or merely make promises to the people. Niranjan Reddy announced that BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao would visit Palamuru on August 11, with thousands of BRS cadres expected to participate. He said the party would announce its future course of action during the visit. Former Minister Sabitha Indra Reddy, former MLAs and other BRS leaders were also present.

RS Praveen Kumar Demands ED Probe Into Prem Sagar Rao Assets

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BRS State General Secretary Dr. RS Praveen Kumar has demanded a comprehensive investigation by the Enforcement Directorate (ED), Vigilance and Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) into the assets and financial transactions of Mancheril MLA Prem Sagar Rao. Addressing the alleged financial irregularities, Praveen Kumar questioned how the MLA allegedly secured a ₹470 crore loan and repaid ₹190 crore within a week. He demanded that investigating agencies establish the source of the funds and examine the financial dealings of companies linked to the MLA. He also questioned how Mumbai-based



Beacon allegedly extended ₹140 crore in loans to companies associated with Prem Sagar Rao and how those loans subsequently became Non-Performing Assets (NPAs). He further sought an inquiry into how Urmika Company, which he claimed had a valuation of only ₹10 lakh, allegedly obtained a ₹140 crore loan. Praveen Kumar alleged that a real-estate racket was operating in Mancheril under the guise of an IT park, with poor

people's lands being targeted. He also alleged illegal sand mining along the Godavari, unauthorized soil transportation, lake encroachments and demolition of poor people's houses. He questioned why Revenue, Mining, Vigilance, ACB and police officials had allegedly failed to act against these activities. He also demanded that banks examine whether properties linked to the MLA should be attached. Seeking an ED probe under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act, Praveen Kumar alleged that Prem Sagar Rao was accumulating crores through questionable means and urged authorities to conduct a thorough investigation.

Missing Woman Found Safe After Social Media Campaign Ends on a Happy Note

What began as an anxious search for a missing woman ended on a positive note after the power of social media and public support helped bring relief to her family. A missing person alert regarding Bolikonda Jyothi, daughter of Bolikonda Sathaiah from Mator Village, Motakondur Mandal, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District, was widely circulated across WhatsApp, Facebook, Telegram, X (Twitter) and other social media platforms on Thursday, drawing widespread attention across the Aleru Constituency. The family had reported that Jyothi had gone missing, prompting local residents, youth groups, journalists, and social media users to share the alert extensively in the hope of tracing her at the earliest. In a welcome development, the family later confirmed through social media that Bolikonda Jyothi has been safely traced. The update brought immense relief to relatives, friends, and everyone who had participated in sharing the missing person alert.

KTR, Harish Rao extend National Handloom Day wishes

BRS working president KT Rama Rao and party deputy floor leader T Harish Rao extended greetings to the weavers community and remembered their contribution to the nation on National Handloom Day. They criticised the Congress government for pushing the handloom sector into a fresh crisis. In a statement, Rama Rao said Telangana’s handloom workers, known for their exceptional weaving skills, faced severe hardships and migration in erstwhile Andhra Pradesh. He credited the previous BRS government with encouraging their revival through schemes including Nethannaku Cheyutha, Nethanna Bima, Bathukamma sarees, loan waivers and pensions. He called for greater support to the handloom sector and said protecting the livelihoods of weavers was essential for preserving Telangana’s traditional craft. Harish Rao said handloom workers were now struggling again with migration, debt and suicides after the Congress government allegedly discontinued several welfare programmes implemented during the BRS regime. He urged the government to provide confidence to weavers and revive the sector.

Bismillah Colony residents seek better roads, drainage and sanitation in Shaheennagar

Residents of Bismillah Colony in Shaheennagar have alleged that poor roads, inadequate drainage and irregular garbage collection continue despite the area’s merger with GHMC.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Non-motorable roads, overflowing garbage and lack of proper drainage facilities are what the residents of Bismillah Colony, in Shaheennagar, near RGI Airport, have been forced to live with for long. The working-class residents of the colony complain that muddy pathways, stagnant water and poor sanitation have become a daily struggle, posing serious health risks. The colony, which was earlier under the jurisdiction of Jalpally Municipality, was later merged with the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC). However, residents point out that basic civic infrastructure has not improved even after the merger, leaving them to cope with long-pending issues. The internal roads in several parts of the colony have turned into slush during rains, making it difficult for residents, par-



ticularly children, elderly persons and two-wheeler riders, to move around. With no dedicated drainage lines, rainwater accumulates on the roads, creating unhygienic conditions and increasing the risk of mosquito breeding and water-borne diseases. Garbage dumped at various locations in the colony adds to the residents’ woes. They allege that irregular garbage clearance and lack of sanitation measures have affected the health of people living in the area. Mohammed Abdul, a kiran store owner and resident of the colony, said, “We have been facing problems with roads and drainage for years. During rains, the entire area becomes muddy and cus-

tomers find it difficult to reach our shops. Garbage remains scattered in many places, causing health problems.” Another resident, Mohsin, an auto-rickshaw driver, said the condition of roads has made their daily lives difficult. “We have to take our vehicles through mud and potholes every day. There are no proper drainage facilities, and rainwater enters the lanes,” he said. A school teacher residing in the colony said, “Children have to walk through dirty and muddy roads to reach schools. The lack of drainage and sanitation affects everyone, especially families from the working class who cannot afford private alternatives.”

Telangana Fast-Tracks Full-Scale Launch of Dr MCR TIMS

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana Government has accelerated preparations to make the Dr. Marri Chenna Reddy Telangana Institute of Medical Sciences (Dr. MCR TIMS) fully operational, with Health Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha directing officials to ensure complete readiness before the hospital’s public rollout. Chairing a review meeting at the TGMSIDC Headquarters, the Minister assessed the ongoing trial run, infrastructure,



advanced equipment, recruitment and preparedness of various departments. He instructed officials to address all shortcomings identified during the trial and ensure seamless patient care from day one. Rajanarsimha stressed that critical services, in-

cluding OP, IP, emergency care, ICUs, operation theatres, diagnostics, laboratories, pharmacy, central sterile services, registration and IT systems, must function in coordination. He also reviewed essential support systems such as power, water, oxygen pipelines, sanitation, secu-

rity and biomedical waste management. Officials were directed to complete recruitment of doctors, nurses, paramedics, technicians and administrative staff on priority. The Minister said Dr. MCR TIMS is being developed to provide corporate-quality healthcare free of financial barriers, particularly for poorer sections. He expressed confidence that the institute would reduce the burden on NIMS, Gandhi and Osmania hospitals while strengthening Telangana’s public healthcare system.

Gandhi Reviews SIR Voter List Revision Drive in Miyapur

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh

PAC Chairman Arekapudi Gandhi held a review meeting at the MLA camp office in Miyapur to assess the progress of the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls. Former corporators Ragam Nagender Yadav, Hameed Patel, Narne Srinivasa Rao and Uppalapati Srikanth, along with senior leader Raghunath Reddy and others, attended the meeting. Gandhi urged voters to



complete their enumeration forms, sign them and submit them to the concerned Booth Level Officer (BLO) within the stipulated deadline. He also advised voters to obtain an acknowledgement or receipt after submitting the form. He directed party leaders and officials to create wider awareness about the

SIR process and ensure that all eligible voters are included in the electoral rolls. Citizens with any doubts were advised to contact their respective BLOs and rely only on official information. “Your form is your responsibility and your vote is your right,” Gandhi said, urging citizens to actively participate in the voter-list

Young Girl Portrays Rani Rudramadevi with Pride at 80th Independence Day Celebrations



Adding colour and patriotism to the 80th Independence Day celebrations, a young girl captivated the audience by portraying the legendary Kakatiya Queen Rani Rudramadevi, symbolising courage, leadership and the rich heritage of Telangana. Dressed in a traditional warrior costume complete with a sword and shield, she confidently represented one of India’s greatest women rulers, drawing appreciation from teachers, parents and guests for her impressive appearance and patriotic spirit. The participant is the daughter of Sri Thota Ramesh, Senior Assistant, Panchayat Raj Department. Her graceful portrayal reflected the bravery, determination and selfless service associated with Rani Rudramadevi, inspiring fellow students to learn about India’s glorious history and the sacrifices of its great leaders.

Mungimalla Abhayanjaneya Temple Construction Still Pending

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The long-pending construction of the Abhayanjaneya Swamy Temple at Mungimalla village has become a matter of growing concern among devotees and local residents. Despite reports that the temple project has received the required approvals and financial sanction, construction has reportedly not progressed as expected. The delay has caused disappointment among devotees, who have been eagerly waiting to see the proposed temple development take shape. Their

frustration is reflected in the emotional sentiment, “Is there no one to care for me?”—as though Lord Hanuman himself is asking why the construction of his temple continues to remain pending. For the people of Mungimalla, the Abhayanjaneya Swamy Temple is not merely a construction project. It is closely connected with the religious faith, traditions and collective sentiments of the local community. Devotees believe the temple will serve as an important spiritual centre for villagers and visitors from surrounding areas.



Residents are now seeking clarity from the concerned authorities regarding the reasons behind the delay. If the project has already received administrative approval and financial sanction, they want to know what is preventing the work from commencing or progressing. They are also seeking accountability and transparency in the implementation of the project. Devotees and local residents have appealed to public representatives and government officials to urgently examine the matter, identify any administrative or technical obstacles

and ensure that the sanctioned temple construction is taken forward without further delay. The villagers hope that their concerns will receive immediate attention and that the long-awaited project will finally move ahead. For the devotees of Mungimalla, the issue has become a matter of faith, sentiment and respect. The question now echoing among the devotees is simple but deeply emotional: When will the Abhayanjaneya Swamy Temple finally receive the attention it deserves and become a reality?

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.

Adilabad District Losing Economic Opportunities as Tourism, Forest Departments Fail

Adilabad's waterfalls, forests and eco-tourism destinations remain underdeveloped due to inadequate infrastructure and poor coordination between the Tourism and Forest departments, limiting economic opportunities for local communities.

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

The spectacular Kuntala and Pochera waterfalls, along with several unexplored and hidden waterfalls in the Khandala and Kerameri ghats and the Kawal Tiger Reserve in Adilabad district, have failed to attract tourists to their full potential. This is largely due to the Telangana tourism and forest departments' failure to create adequate accommodation and other basic facilities for visitors. Local people in these areas say it is high time that Forest and Tourism departments focused on promoting eco-tourism to its full potential throughout the district. Such efforts would boost local economies, apart from providing employment to communities in the area. The forest department has failed to set up a watch tower at the Khandala ghats. It has not taken safety measures at Pochera and Kuntala waterfalls. Khandala Valley is a place highly suitable for birding and homestay at the Adivasi gudem. Bird watchers and tourists are keen on visiting these places. But there are severe challenges of finding accommodation. Earlier, TGSRTC used to operate bus service to Kuntala and Pochera waterfalls from Hyderabad. But these bus services have been cancelled. There had been a proposal for setting up a ropeway at the Kuntala waterfall for the convenience of tourists, especially the elderly who cannot climb down the 404 steps to reach the bottom of the waterfall from the top. The proposal has remained on paper. Adilabad district tourism officer Vanga Ravi Kumar has submitted a proposal for setting up a glass bridge connecting two hills at the Kuntala waterfall at a cost of ₹17 crore to attract tourists and visitors. That would attract tourists and bring in revenue even when there is no full flow of water at the Kuntala falls during the dry summer season. Ravi Kumar said the Tourism department has constructed a Haritha Hotel with cottages, reception hall, and swimming pool at a cost of ₹3 crore near the Kuntala waterfall. ITDA Uttoor is the executive agency for the facility. Huzaif Khan of Nanded in Maharashtra, who visited the Kuntala waterfall along with his friends, said the scenic beauty of the waterfall is very attractive. It can turn into a prominent tourist spot if facilities are provided to tourists and visitors. The Shivvaram Crocodile Sanctuary abutting River Godavari in Jaipur mandal of Mancherial district is home to marsh crocodiles. The crocodile sanctuary has failed to attract tourists, conservationists, and nature lovers due to lack of coordination between the Tourism and Forest departments, even though both would benefit. Tourism department alone cannot take up any development at such spots which are the domain of the Forest department.



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BJP High Command Pushes Tgana Leaders for United Fight

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has set his sights on bringing the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) to power in Telangana, with the party's national leadership intensifying its focus on the state following the West Bengal election results. Union Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP National President J.P. Nadda recently toured Telangana for three days, meeting party workers and leaders and issuing directions to strengthen the organisation. The central leadership is closely monitoring Telangana's political situation and guiding the state unit with the aim of replicating the party's electoral success in Bengal. At a crucial review meeting in Delhi, BJP



leaders from Telangana were advised to remain united and continuously fight for public issues. Party leaders alleged that the Congress government led by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy had failed to fully implement its election promises and had discontinued certain welfare schemes, leading to growing public dissatisfaction. They also claimed that memories of the previous BRS government's ten-year rule, including allegations of arrogance and governance-related hardships, remain fresh among voters. BJP leaders said the party must emerge as an alternative capable of addressing Telangana's debt burden, corruption and alleged anti-people policies. They highlighted issues including fee reimbursement, farmers' concerns, assigned lands and demolitions carried out under HYDRA. The leaders said political discussions about Telangana are taking place across public spaces, from hotels and crossroads to local gathering points. They stressed that providing strong leadership and building confidence among people would be crucial to the BJP's efforts to capture power in the state.

Rotary Club Donates Steel Chairs to Bhuvanagiri Government Hospital

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

The Rotary Club of Bhuvanagiri donated two sets of stainless-steel seating chairs worth ₹15,000 to the Government General Hospital, Bhuvanagiri, on the occasion of the 84th birthday of Senior Rotarian Sri Shetty Balayya Yadav, former Assistant Governor and former Club President. The chairs were donated to provide better seating facilities for patients and their attendants, reflecting Rotary's commitment to community service. The programme was attended by Club President K. Satyanarayana Reddy, Secretary Kadaru Ramesh Babu, former Presidents Manchikanti Venkatesh, G. Gyanaprakash Reddy, Chenna Laxman, Karipe Nursing Rao, President-Elect Raghu Venkata Suresh Kumar, senior Rotarians, RMO Dr. David, doctors, and hospital staff.



community service. The programme was attended by Club President K. Satyanarayana Reddy, Secretary Kadaru Ramesh Babu, former Presidents Manchikanti Venkatesh, G. Gyanaprakash Reddy, Chenna Laxman, Karipe Nursing Rao, President-Elect Raghu Venkata Suresh Kumar, senior Rotarians, RMO Dr. David, doctors, and hospital staff.

Har Ghar Tiranga Campaign Inspires Patriotism at Cheeryal Primary School

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

In the run-up to the Independence Day celebrations, the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign was organized with great enthusiasm at Cheeryal Primary School under the leadership of District Convener Boda Srinivasa Rao, promoting patriotism and respect for the National Flag among students and the public. Renowned senior actor and advocate CVL Narasimha Rao, who attended the programme as the chief guest, lauded the initiative and emphasized the significance of preserving the dignity and honour of the Indian Tricolour. He urged every citizen to proudly hoist the National Flag atop their homes as a symbol of unity, national pride, and commitment to the nation. Addressing the gathering, CVL Narasimha Rao said that the Har Ghar Tiranga campaign has become a powerful movement that strengthens the spirit of nationalism and encourages people, especially the younger generation, to understand the sacrifices made for India's freedom. He called upon every Indian family to actively participate in the nationwide campaign ahead of Independence Day. The programme witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, teachers, and local residents carrying Tricolour flags. BJP State Executive Member and former MPTC Singireddy Venkat Reddy, Division President Kola Balraj Yadav, Har Ghar Tiranga President Abraboyina Jangalu, Kola Mallesh Yadav, Ramidi Bhupal Reddy, Eluri Satyanarayana, Eluri Raju, Kanchamidi Sudarshan, Headmistress Sashirekha, teachers Venkat Reddy and Janardhan, along with several BJP leaders and school staff, participated in the programme, making it a vibrant display of patriotism and national unity.



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Public Awareness Begins at Home: Strong Relationships Build a Strong Society

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

In an era dominated by smartphones, social media and fast-paced lifestyles, experts and community leaders are calling for renewed efforts to strengthen family values and human relationships as part of a broader public awareness movement. They observed that while people today have thousands of contacts, followers and online connections, very few can truly stand beside them during difficult times. Genuine relationships, they said, remain life's greatest wealth, far more valuable than material possessions. The campaign highlights that excessive dependence on digital communication has reduced meaningful conversations within families. Although people remain constantly connected online, emotional bonds are gradually weakening, leading to loneliness, stress and social isolation. Social observers stressed that parents should not only encourage children to excel academically and achieve financial success but also teach compassion, respect, forgiveness, empathy and the importance of maintaining family relationships. These values, they noted, create responsible citizens and a healthier society. As part of the awareness message, citizens are encouraged to reconnect with relatives, friends and neighbours by making a simple phone call or paying a personal visit. A heartfelt "How are you?" can help rebuild broken relationships and restore emotional connections. Community leaders also emphasised that money, status and luxury cannot replace the comfort of loved ones during life's most challenging moments. They urged people to reduce ego, practise forgiveness and make the first move in restoring strained relationships. The campaign concludes with a powerful message: "Wealth may create comfort, but love, trust and strong relationships create a meaningful life." Citizens are urged to begin the change within their own families, proving that stronger relationships lead to stronger communities and a better Telangana.

Road Blocked by Construction Materials Causes Public Hardship in Tarnaka

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Residents and commuters in the Tarnaka area faced severe inconvenience on Friday morning after a residential lane was almost completely blocked by construction materials, including heaps of gravel, cement bags, and machinery placed across the roadway even bikes are not able to travel. The obstruction significantly disrupted the movement of two-wheelers, pedestrians, school-going children, senior citizens, and emergency vehicles during peak morning hours. Motorists were forced to navigate through a narrow passage, increasing the risk of accidents and traffic congestion. Local residents expressed concern that public roads are meant for free movement and should not be occupied for private construction activities. They urged builders and property owners to ensure that construction materials are stored within their premises without obstructing public roads. Citizens have appealed to the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) and the Traffic Police to inspect the site, remove the encroachments, and take appropriate action against those responsible for causing inconvenience to the public. Residents also requested the authorities to strengthen monitoring of construction activities in residential colonies to ensure strict compliance with civic norms and to safeguard public safety.



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Jayashankar Birth Anniversary Marked in New Bowenpally

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

The birth anniversary of Acharya Professor Jayashankar, a key ideologue of the Telangana statehood movement, was observed with fervor at Jayanagar Square in New Bowenpally's Cantonment First Ward on Thursday. The commemorative programme was organised under the leadership of Telangana advocate and state activist Y. Om Prakash Yadav. Political leaders, advocates, social activists and local residents gathered to pay floral tributes to Professor Jayashankar and remember his contribution to the Telangana movement. The programme began with the garlanding of Professor Jayashankar's statue. Participants raised slogans and pledged to continue working towards fulfilling his vision of a prosperous and developed Telangana.



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Pandaga Sayanna Mudiraj Jayanti Celebrated in Raidurgam

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana Srirangam Venkatesh

The birth anniversary celebrations of Pandaga Sayanna Mudiraj were held in Raidurgam under the leadership of Nakkala Praveen Mudiraj, contested MLA from Serilingampally constituency, and Ward Member Gorenka Satish Mudiraj. On the occasion, the organisers and community members paid floral tributes to the portrait of Pandaga Sayanna Mudiraj and remembered his courage and contribution to the armed struggle. Speaking on the occasion, the participants recalled Pandaga Sayanna's fighting spirit and his role in standing up for the interests of the people. Rakesh Mudiraj, Anand Mudiraj, Sharath Mudiraj, Ramakrishna Mudiraj, Vicky Mudiraj, Nitesh Mudiraj, Rajender Mudiraj, Praadeep Mudiraj and others participated in the celebrations.



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Telangana Reaffirms Support for Handloom Weavers: Damodar Rajanarsimha

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

The Telangana Government has reaffirmed its commitment to strengthening the handloom sector and improving the livelihoods of weaving families across the State on the occasion of National Handloom Day. Medical, Health & Family Welfare and Science & Technology Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha extended greetings to handloom weavers and textile workers, highlighting their contribution to India's rich cultural heritage. In a press statement, the Minister said handloom is more than an industry, describing it as a living symbol of India's traditions, craftsmanship and artistic excellence. He noted that every handwoven product represents generations of skill, dedication and creativity. Rajanarsimha said the Telangana Government is focused on protecting the dignity and livelihoods of weavers while promoting the sector through welfare measures, modern technology and better market opportunities. He said various initiatives are being undertaken to improve the economic condition of weaving communities, enhance production capacity, preserve traditional techniques and expand marketing opportunities for handloom products. The Minister stressed that a strong handloom sector can generate sustainable employment, support rural livelihoods and preserve India's centuries-old cultural traditions. He also urged citizens to support indigenous products under the "Vocal for Local" initiative by purchasing authentic handloom products and recognising the contribution of weavers. On National Handloom Day, Rajanarsimha extended heartfelt greetings to all weavers and textile workers and called for collective efforts to preserve traditional craftsmanship and ensure a prosperous future for the handloom community. The Telangana Government, he said, will continue proactive measures for the welfare, empowerment and long-term sustainability of handloom workers.



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

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

Nepal Eyes Strategic Role as Bridge Between India and China

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

Nepal wants to transform itself from a landlocked country into a "vibrant, dynamic bridge" connecting India and China, Foreign Minister Shisir Khanal said here on Friday. Nepal welcomed the continued development and prosperity of both India and China, Khanal said as he inaugurated a two-day international conference titled 'China and South Asia in a Multipolar World.' The foreign minister added that Nepal remained committed to strengthening its relations with both its neighbours based on "sovereign equality, mutual respect, mutual benefit, and sensitivity to each other's legitimate interests and concerns." The conference was



jointly organised by the Centre for South Asian Studies, Fudan University, China, and Nepal Institute for International Cooperation and Engagement. The remarks assume significance as Nepal's new government led by Prime Minister Balendra Shah has sought to pursue a balanced foreign policy towards its two immediate neighbours while placing greater emphasis on economic diplomacy, investment and connectivity. "Asia's transformation presents unprecedented

opportunities for shared prosperity," Khanal said, stressing that South Asia possesses enormous promise, although much of its economic potential remains untapped. He said economic diplomacy had become "one of the defining priorities" of Nepal's external engagement and that the country's foreign policy was aimed at improving the lives of its people through trade, investment, employment, tourism, technology, innovation and sustainable development. "Nepal sincerely welcomes the continued development and prosperity of both India and China and remains committed to further strengthening its long-standing bilateral relations with both neighbours independ-

ently, on the basis of sovereign equality, mutual respect, mutual benefit, and sensitivity to each other's legitimate interests and concerns," he said. "Nepal aspires to transform itself from a landlocked country into a vibrant, dynamic bridge connecting China and India," Khanal added. Khanal's back-to-back visits to New Delhi and Beijing in June were seen as an early indication of Kathmandu's effort to maintain balanced ties with both neighbours. He had earlier said Nepal wants to build stronger and deeper relations with both India and China, describing the southern and northern neighbours as vital partners for the Himalayan nation.

Maharashtra BJP Leader Held After FIR Over Alleged Casteist, Derogatory Remarks

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

The Maharashtra BJP was left red-faced after its prominent leader from North Maharashtra Vijay Choudhary was arrested by police in connection with allegedly making derogatory and casteist remarks against former BJP MP Heena Gavit and other senior women leaders. Choudhary, who is from Nandurbar, was arrested late Thursday night by the Crime Branch. Following his, he underwent a medical examination and have since been remanded to police custody. The FIR was registered against Choudhary under provisions of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act and other relevant sections relating to the alleged remarks. A political contro-



versy had erupted after audio recordings featuring Chaudhari have gone viral on social media. The clips allegedly contain remarks against Union minister of state Raksha Khadse and former Nandurbar MP Heena Gavit. Following a complaint by Heena's brother Rohan Gavit, Nandurbar City police registered an FIR against Chaudhari on July 26 under relevant provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) and the SC/ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act. This incident sparked strong reactions on social media and the opposition also targeted the ruling party.

Chaudhari resigned as the BJP's North Maharashtra organising secretary after the clips surfaced. In his resignation letter to state BJP president Ravindra Chavan, he sought an inquiry into the matter. However, Choudhary has denied the allegations, claiming that the audio clip was fabricated using AI technology. This was a political conspiracy hatched by opponents to defame him and the party, he said before adding that he has approached the Nandurbar cyber police seeking an investigation into the authenticity of the clips. Police said the probe will examine the origin of the audio clip and its authenticity. "The basis of the complaints, the audio clips, are unverified. Investigations are being carried out," an official said.

India Clarifies Stand on Sheikh Hasina Presser, Says 'No Endorsement'

"The event in question was organised by the Foreign Correspondents' Club (FCC) of South Asia, a private media entity."

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Friday clarified that New Delhi had no role in former Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's media interaction in the national capital, reiterating that the press conference was hosted independently by a private press organisation. Addressing a weekly media briefing, MEA Spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal emphasised that India does not endorse the remarks made during the event, stating, "The Government had no role to play in what was an event by a private media entity. The Government does not endorse anything said at the forum, especially with regard to the duly constituted Government of Bangladesh. "The event in question



was organised by the Foreign Correspondents' Club (FCC) of South Asia, a private media entity. The clarification follows Hasina's first virtual press briefing from New Delhi on Wednesday, marking her first media address since departing Bangladesh in 2024. During the interaction, she expressed her resolve to return to her homeland later this year despite potential risks. "Whatever fate awaits me, I will return to my people. I cannot stay away while my beloved countrymen are suffering... I want to go back in December," she said, speaking two years

after stepping down following the student-led movement in 2024 that led to the end of her administration. The live media interaction drew criticism from Dhaka, with Bangladesh's Ministry of Foreign Affairs issuing a statement on Wednesday describing the press briefing as an "affront to the sovereignty of Bangladesh" and warning that such events could affect efforts to strengthen bilateral relations. In its official statement, issued on the second anniversary of the July Revolution, the Bangladesh Ministry of Foreign Affairs accused Hasina of using the platform to unleash "venomous vitriol" against the country and its citizens, calling the event conducted from Indian soil "a grievous insult" to the "martyrs of the July Revolution".

Dispelling concerns regarding official involvement prior to the event, Jaiswal had earlier affirmed New Delhi's complete detachment from the private briefing. "The interaction being referred to is being organised by a private media entity. The Government has no involvement whatsoever in it and does not endorse any views that may be expressed at the forum," Jaiswal stated in response to queries regarding the August 5 event. This development follows diplomatic signals from Dhaka, in which Bangladesh Foreign Affairs Advisor Humayun Kabir requested New Delhi's assistance in preventing Awami League figures, including Hasina, from utilising Indian soil to make political remarks, local media reports noted.

JNUSU Protests Against ISKCON-Linked Event; Programme Cancelled

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

The Jawaharlal Nehru University Students' Union on Friday staged a protest outside the central library against an event that was to feature an ISKCON representative, following which the programme was cancelled, according to the student body members. The programme, titled 'Empowering Youth for a Brighter Future', was scheduled at the university's central library and included a session on "Balancing EQ, IQ and SQ", according to

posters and information shared by the union office bearers. The Jawaharlal Nehru University Students' Union (JNUSU) general secretary Sunil Yadav said objections were raised last year as well with the university administration over the permission granted to ISKCON to hold an event on the Bhagavad Gita on the campus. "Back in November 2025, JNUSU had even written a letter to the administration, flagging the permission given to ISKCON to conduct an event on the Gita. On Friday, a speaker

representative from the same organisation was supposed to speak at the library," Yadav told PTI. "Following the protest, they had to cancel the event," he added. In an email addressed to the JNU vice-chancellor on November 30, 2025, the JNUSU had referred to the university's rules governing the booking of its convention centre, which state that the facility "cannot be made available to any political/religious organisation". The union had sought clarification from the administration on the provision under

which organisations such as ISKCON were allegedly being allowed to hold religious events at the convention centre. JNUSU had also sought details of bookings of such events and the basis on which the administration's Internal House Administration (IHA) was organising them. The email further alleged that a registration form circulated by ISKCON for the event sought details such as hostel names and had separate contact numbers for "girls" and "boys".

Internal Matter: MEA Dismisses Us Lawmaker's Criticism of FCRA Bill

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on Friday rejected foreign criticism of India's proposed Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Amendment (FCRA) Bill saying the issue is an internal matter on which Parliament will take a deci-

sion. MEA spokesperson Mr Randhir Jaiswal underlined that several countries, including the United States of America, regulate foreign funding and financing and India is well within its right to check money coming from abroad. His response came following criticism by US Congressman Riley

Moore who said the proposed changes to the FCRA amounted to "a clear attack against Christians" and urged India not to proceed with the legislation in its current form. In a post on X, Mr Moore, the Republican Congressman from West Virginia, said, "Christians have been in India since St. Thomas

the Apostle travelled to the Malabar Coast just decades after the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. But despite this long Christian history, India's Parliament is considering amending FCRA rules to permit government takeovers of churches and religious charities.

FROM FRONT PAGE

Revanth To Invite.....

Officials said the Chief Minister would use the visit to promote Bharat Future City as an international education and investment destination while seeking collaborations that would improve educational standards in Telangana, equip students with globally competitive skills and strengthen the state's sports ecosystem. Revanth Reddy is also scheduled to visit leading universities and skill development centres in the US, UK, Germany and China, with the possibility of signing Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) with several educational institutions to elevate higher and skill education in Telangana to international standards. The initiative comes as the

UGC has opened the door for globally reputed universities to establish offshore campuses in India under the University Grants Commission (Setting up and Operation of Campuses of Foreign Higher Educational Institutions in India) Regulations, 2023. The regulations permit eligible foreign universities to establish independent campuses in the country through a structured approval process. Under the framework, the UGC has introduced a single-window clearance mechanism and constituted a high-powered Standing Committee to evaluate applications from foreign universities. The committee scrutinises proposals and submits recommendations to the Commission, based on which the UGC grants in-principle approval through a Letter

of Intent. Only foreign universities ranked among the world's top 500 institutions are eligible to apply, and they are required to furnish the latest accreditation and quality assurance reports from recognised agencies.

Saudi Arabia,.....

The alignment "is clearly oriented towards Iran and meant to address Iran's new strategic approach which is geared towards dominance of the broader Gulf region".The fact that Turkey and Pakistan border Iran means they could "exercise a different kind of leverage" on Tehran, he added. A source close to the Saudi military and government told AFP before the signing that although the agreement had been under discus-

sion for a long time, "the latest developments in the region expedite it". Andreas Krieg of King's College London said the deal showed a clear desire to diversify alliances beyond the United States. "Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Pakistan are not trying to replace the United States. They are building the capacity to protect their interests when Washington cannot or will not do so." Riyadh, in particular, he said, "wants several layers of security rather than one American umbrella", after the shock of the Iran war. The deal will support Saudi Arabia's ambitions to become an organiser of regional security and diversify its defence umbrella, while Turkey and Pakistan gain political clout and access to potential Saudi investments, he

said. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan met Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman in Mecca on Friday, the Turkish presidency said on X, sharing an image of the meeting. Pakistani Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and army chief Asim Munir also travelled to the Gulf kingdom for the signing. "Although taking place against the backdrop of heightened tensions in the Gulf, the visit will carry significance beyond the immediate crisis and short-term considerations," Pakistani foreign ministry spokesman Tahir Andrabi said on Thursday.

No One's Seen...:

"I am not a dog parent. I think we share spaces with animals, with all living beings. I don't think we own them, I think they are on this planet

with us and they deserve respect, love and affection," Gandhi said. "Yes Noorie, do you agree with me? This is Noorie, she is my mum's dog. My mum will be very angry that I put her on video but too bad. So I will deal with that problem when it arises," Gandhi said with the dog in his lap. Who is your favourite politician from the BJP? Gandhi quickly named Captain Amarinder Singh, who switched from the Congress to the BJP in 2022. "I get along with him, he is cool. He is an expert on military history... Hello, uncle Amarinder," Gandhi said, setting off speculation over whether the veteran leader could make his way back to the Congress ahead of the Punjab elections.

CRIME

Telangana HC Warns Freebie Culture Could Weaken Economy

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana High Court on Friday cautioned that indiscriminate spending on freebies and encouraging a culture in which people expected sops from the government could pose a serious threat to the state's financial stability and the country's future. Justice Nagesh Bheemapaka made the observations while hearing a contempt petition arising out of the state's delay in complying with court directions to release outstanding stamp duty surcharge dues in a matter related to the Secunderabad Cantonment Board (SCB). J. Ramakrishna, SCB former member, had complained that the government had not complied with the court's directions



in 2024 to remit Rs 33.42 crore towards stamp duty surcharge dues payable to the SCB. Contempt proceedings were initiated, and a bailable warrant had been issued against finance department principal secretary Sandeep Kumar Sultania, directing the Hyderabad commissioner of police to secure his presence before the court on Friday. Following the directions, Sultania appeared before the court and stated that Rs 25.7 crore had been released to the SCB and that

the balance amount would be paid in instalments within six months. The court observed that it was never its intention to place senior officers in the dock, but constitutional courts were sometimes compelled to take stringent measures to ensure compliance with judicial orders. Noting that thousands of contempt petitions had been filed against the officer, despite his reputation as an efficient administrator, the court remarked that such situations often arose be-

cause of systemic administrative failures rather than individual fault. Further, the Judge remarked that the mindset of society had undergone a worrying transformation, observing that in earlier times, inspired by Mahatma Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Tanguturi Prakasam Pantulu, citizens believed they had a duty to contribute to the nation. Today, the tendency appeared to have shifted towards expecting the country and the government to provide benefits. The court described the trend as alarming and an unhealthy sign for the nation's future, observing that the spirit of contributing to nation-building had gradually been replaced by an increasing expectation of receiving government benefits.

Bonalu Restrictions: Liquor Shops, Bars to Remain Closed in Parts of Cyberabad on Aug 9

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh

In view of the Vishal Bharathi Bonalu festival, Cyberabad Police Commissioner Dr. M. Ramesh has ordered the temporary closure of liquor outlets in several parts of the Cyberabad Police Commissionerate limits on August 9. The restrictions have been imposed under Section 20 of the Telangana State Excise Act, 1968,



with the aim of preventing untoward incidents and maintaining law and order during the festival. According to the orders, wine shops, toddy compounds and bars attached to restaurants falling under the limits of Kukatpally, Allapur, Rai-

durgam, Jeedimetla, Medchal and Chandanagar police stations will remain closed from 10 am to 10 pm on August 9. However, bars located in five-star hotels and registered clubs will be exempted from the closure order. Police officials said the restrictions are intended to ensure that devotees can celebrate the Bonalu festival peacefully and that law and order is maintained across the affected 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.

Food Safety Officials Find Hygiene Lapses at Santosh Dhaba in Miyapur

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh



CMC Food Safety officials inspected Santosh Dhaba 100% Pure Veg Exclusive in Miyapur on August 6, 2026, and found several hygiene and food safety violations. Officials found unlabelled semi-prepared food, while workers were handling food without hairnets, aprons and gloves. Poor maintenance of the chiller and exhaust systems, damaged wall tiles and inadequate lighting in the store room were also

observed. The establishment failed to produce mandatory medical, pest-control, water-testing and food-testing records during the inspection. The outlet received a hygiene score of 58% (55/96). Officials issued an improvement notice directing the management to rectify the identified hygiene and safety deficiencies.

Miyapur Rescue Operation Continues as Balaiah Remains Missing

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh

The search for 70-year-old Balaiah, who was swept away in a stormwater drain at Vaishali Nagar, Miyapur, has entered its 10th day, with rescue teams yet to trace him. Teams from CMC, HYDRAA, NDRF, Fire Services and Police are continuing the search using drones and advanced equipment. Officials are also clearing silt and debris from the drain to facilitate the operation. Miyapur Inspector N. Jayaram said teams have

searched nearly 5 km of the stormwater drain, but no breakthrough has been reported so far. Balaiah's family has appealed to authorities to continue the search until he is found. The incident occurred on July 28 when Balaiah reportedly fell into the drain amid heavy rains near the Vaishali Nagar underpass, where nala works were underway. Local residents and the family have also raised concerns over the alleged lack of adequate barricades and safety measures at the work site.

Traffic Awareness Drive Held at Karkhana School

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana



A traffic awareness programme under the "Arrive Alive" initiative was conducted at Sri Chaitanya School, Karkhana, Secunderabad, on August 7, 2026, to educate students about road safety and responsible driving. The programme was organised under the jurisdiction of the Trimulgherry Traffic Police Station as per the directions of B. Sumathi, IPS, Commissioner of Police, Malkajgiri, and K. Rahul Reddy, IPS, Deputy

Commissioner of Police, Traffic-I, Malkajgiri. The session focused on the dangers of over-speeding, drunken driving, under-derage driving, triple riding, rash and negligent driving, and using mobile phones while driving. Stu-

dents were also sensitised to the importance of helmets and seat belts, lane discipline, traffic signals and giving priority to pedestrians at zebra crossings. The students were briefed about the legal con-

sequences of under-derage driving and advised to operate vehicles only after reaching the eligible age and obtaining a valid driving licence. G. Shankar Raju, Assistant Commissioner of Police, Traffic, Trimulgherry Division, attended the programme along with the school principal, management, teachers and students. Students actively participated in the interactive session and took a pledge to follow traffic rules and encourage others to become responsible road users.

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.



US Jobs Drop Amid Iran War Fallout, Unemployment Rate Falls to 4.1%

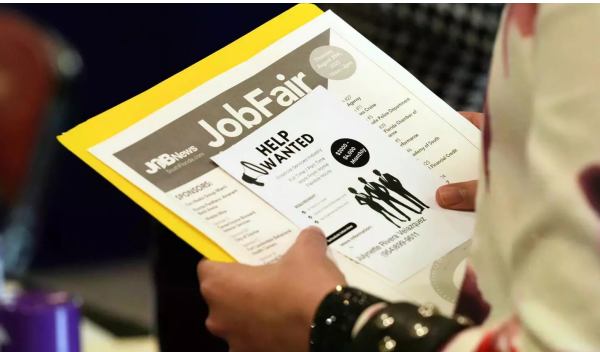
NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

U.S. employers unexpectedly cut 23,000 jobs last month, and Labor Department revisions shaved 103,000 jobs off payrolls in May and June. The unemployment rate dipped to 4.1% only because Americans left the job market. The June jobs numbers from the Labor Department Friday marked a sharp reversal for the American labor market and a political setback for President Donald Trump less than three months before his Republican party seeks to keep full control of Congress in the midterm election .

Forecasters had expected job creation to approach 100,000 last

month. Local public schools cut 50,000 jobs in July, restaurants and bars 26,000, retailers 19,000. The 4.1% unemployment rate was the lowest since June 2025 – but it dropped for the wrong reasons: Fewer people were competing for work as 264,000 dropped out of the labor market. The share of those working or looking for work fell to 61.4%, the lowest since February 2021.

The Trump administration, which has imposed massive tariffs in an attempt to create manufacturing jobs, noted that jobs were up 22,000 at construction companies and 5,000 at factories. “The Trump industrial resurgence is on schedule. Manufacturing and factory construction jobs



grew again in July even as government payrolls continued to significantly shrink,” said White House spokesman Kush Desai.

Hiring had rebounded this year from a lackluster 2025 in the face of the conflict in the Persian Gulf that has sent energy prices surging and put a strain on family budgets. Job growth had been solid, if unspectacular. Some businesses are having trouble filling vacancies.

Others are using technology to do the work humans used to do. Americans who have jobs are enjoying unusual job security. Lay-offs are low by historical standards. Companies, scarred by the surprise labor shortages that followed COVID-19 lockdowns a few years ago, don’t want to risk giving up the staff they have. One week in July the number of Americans filing for unemployment benefits dropped to the

lowest level in more than 50 years. The jobless rate tumbled to 4.2% in June, the lowest in a year, and is expected to have stayed there last month, according to a survey of forecasters by the data firm FactSet. But Americans who have lost their jobs – or are seeking to bust into the job market for the first time – are struggling to catch a break. Economists have used the term “no hire, no fire” to describe the unusual job market conditions. So far this year, employers are adding 61,000 jobs a month, up from 9,700 in 2025, the weakest outside a recession since 2002. The United States doesn’t need as many jobs as it used to to keep the unemployment rate from rising.

BRICS adopts industrial cooperation declaration

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The 10th BRICS Industry Ministers’ Meeting, held under India’s chairship, concluded in Jaipur on Thursday, August 6, with member countries adopting a joint declaration for strengthening industrial cooperation and promoting innovation-driven growth.

Held under the theme “Building for Resilience, Innovation, Cooperation and Sustainability”, the meeting brought together industry ministers and senior representatives from BRICS nations to deliberate on enhancing industrial capabilities, leveraging technological transformation and expanding collaborative opportunities.

Addressing the gathering, Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said BRICS countries must convert aspira-



tions into practical innovation and cooperation, and leverage their complementary strengths to build resilient industries. He noted that the BRICS Partnership on New Industrial Revolution (PartNIR) has emerged as a key mechanism for such collaboration.

Minister of State for Commerce and Industry Jitin Prasada reaffirmed India’s commitment to deepening industrial partnerships among BRICS nations and highlighted the importance of cooperation, innovation and mutual trust in building an inclusive industrial future. Goyal also recalled the evolution of BRICS since its first summit in 2009

and appreciated Brazil’s leadership in 2025, adding that India aims to carry forward the agenda through a pragmatic and proactive approach. Officials said significant progress was made under India’s chairship through PartNIR, including finalisation of a cooperation framework for MSMEs, adoption of terms of reference and an action plan for the photovoltaic industry working group, and an innovation-led growth plan for startups. The meeting also emphasised strengthening transport and logistics systems linked to industrial resilience, including GIS-based infrastructure and city logistics planning.

US Court Orders Meta To Pay \$567 Million For Teen Mental Health Fund

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

A New Mexico state court ordered Meta on Thursday to pay \$567 million into a teen mental health fund and change how its platforms function for young users after finding the company is to blame for harming children's well-being. Judge Bryan Biedscheid in Santa Fe ruled the company had created a public nuisance in New Mexico, siding with Attorney General Raúl Torrez, a Democrat.

Torrez had accused the social media company of designing products to addict young users and failing to protect children from sexual exploitation on its platforms.

The ruling comes five months after a New Mexico jury in an earlier phase of the case ordered Meta to pay \$375 million after finding it violated consumer protection law by misrepresenting the safety of Facebook and Instagram for young users. The case was being closely watched amid a growing

wave of litigation accusing social media companies of harming young users. While many lawsuits have been brought by children and families over alleged injuries to individuals, states, municipalities and school districts have also pursued lawsuits seeking broad changes to the industry. More than 40 states and over 1,300 school districts have filed public nuisance lawsuits against social media companies, seeking damages as well as court orders requiring



changes to products and practices. Biedscheid on Thursday ordered Meta to implement youth-safety measures, including monthly limits on teens' use of Facebook and Instagram, restrictions on

notifications, tighter controls on adult contact with minors, safeguards for AI chatbots, and enhanced review of child sexual abuse reports, under a decree that will be in place for five years.

Meta said it will appeal the ruling and that it has been working to identify and remove harmful content from its platforms. "We remain confident in our record of protecting teens online and will continue to defend ourselves against claims that misrepresent the facts," Meta

said in a statement. New Mexico's Torrez said in a statement that Meta chose profit over child safety, and that the ruling was the first to force a social media giant to make changes protecting children.

"This is not just a judgment against one company. It is a blueprint," Torrez said. "Now other states, and other countries confronting the same crisis, have a roadmap they can follow." Reuters last year reported on company documents that showed

Meta's AI chatbots could "engage a child in conversations that are romantic or sensual," part of a series of investigations into Meta profiting from ads peddling fraud and banned products. In Thursday's ruling, Biedscheid ordered Meta to prevent children in New Mexico from "engaging in romantic or sexualized interactions with Meta's artificial intelligence chatbots" and to prevent adults in New Mexico from using chatbots to simulate or discuss a sex-

ualized interaction with a child.

Biedscheid heard three weeks of testimony during the second trial over the lawsuit, which did not involve a jury. It focused solely on whether Meta's platforms created a "public nuisance" under New Mexico law. Public nuisance claims traditionally have targeted conduct that endangers public health or safety, such as blocking roads or polluting waterways, but state governments have also invoked them in litigation.

Bonalu Celebrations Showcase Telangana's Rich Cultural Heritage at London Kids School



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In a vibrant celebration of Telangana's rich cultural heritage, London Kids School, Sangareddy, organized the traditional Bonalu Festival with great devotion, enthusiasm, and grandeur on Friday.

The school campus was beautifully decorated in traditional style, creating a festive atmosphere that reflected the spirit of one of Telangana's most cherished cultural festivals. Teachers and students enthusiastically participated in the celebrations, dressed in colorful traditional attire.

The event featured devotional rituals and cultural activities that highlighted the significance of Bonalu, while providing young children with an opportunity to experience and understand the state's customs, traditions, and values. The school emphasized that preserving cul-

tural heritage is an essential part of education and that introducing children to Telangana's traditions at an early age helps nurture respect for the state's rich legacy and identity. School representatives stated that education is not limited to academics alone but also includes instilling cultural values and social responsibility in students.

They noted that such celebrations help strengthen children's connection with their roots while fostering pride in Telangana's heritage. The management, Principal, teaching staff, and students were appreciated for organizing the Bonalu celebrations in a meaningful and colorful manner.

The event concluded with prayers seeking the blessings of Goddess Mahankali for the good health, prosperity, and success of all students, staff, and their families.

Raising Cubs to Open Environment-Led Early Years School in Jubilee Hills

Raising Cubs to Launch Environment-Led Early Years School in Jubilee Hills. Offering Child-Centred Learning, Global Pedagogy, Sustainability, Creativity and Strong Indian Cultural Grounding for Young Learners

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Raising Cubs – Foundational Years School of Learning is set to open in April at Jubilee Hills, introducing an environment-led early years education model that places children at the centre of learning and encourages curiosity, independence and agency.

Spread across a 10,000-square-foot purpose-built campus, Raising Cubs integrates the surrounding environment into everyday learning. The school believes children learn best when they are trusted as thinkers, with observation, exploration and hands-on experiences forming the foundation of its pedagogy.

Global Pedagogy, Indian Context

Raising Cubs follows a hybrid educational model rooted in India’s cultural and educational context and aligned with the National Education Policy 2020 and National Curriculum Framework 2022. The approach also incorporates developmental benchmarks from the Early Years Foundation Stage and the child-led philosophy of Reggio Emilia.

The school uses observation and documentation to understand each child’s development rather than treating them merely as records. Art, storytelling, movement, construction and music are encouraged as meaningful forms of expression and thinking, while literacy and numeracy develop through real-world engagement.



Environment as a Classroom

The campus has been designed to stimulate curiosity and independent learning. Classrooms function as ateliers, with open-ended wooden resources crafted by artisan communities and carefully selected materials that encourage children to experiment and construct their own understanding.

Gardens serve as living laboratories where children observe seasonal changes, weather patterns and natural cycles. Sustainability is embedded into daily activities, including composting, tending edible gardens and engaging with locally crafted, GI-tagged materials that introduce children to India’s artisan heritage.

Programs for Early Years

Raising Cubs will offer programs for children aged 8 months to 6

years, supported by a 1:6 teacher-child ratio. Infant and Toddler programs focus on sensory integration and motor exploration, while Nursery and Pre-Nursery develop social confidence and foundational literacy.

KG 1 and KG 2 will focus on school readiness while balancing academic, emotional and social development. Extended Daycare, After-School programs and a hands-on Summer Camp will also be available.

Educators as Facilitators

The school places educators in the role of facilitators who guide children through questioning and exploration rather than simply providing answers. Teachers are trained in pedagogy and emotional intelligence, with continuous observation helping them adapt learning experiences to individual interests and developmental needs.

Founded by Aashna Reddy, whose professional background spans law, mediation and education, Raising Cubs aims to combine global early childhood practices with Indian cultural grounding.

“We believe children learn best when they are trusted as thinkers,” Reddy said. “The environment is not a backdrop or a field trip. It is a daily classroom that invites curiosity, observation and independence.”

She believes the earliest years are not merely preparation for life, but life itself, deserving of respect, care and meaningful learning.

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.

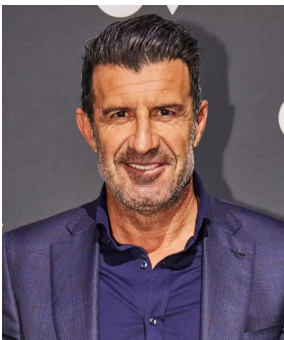
‘Deceitful’ Infantino ‘Must Go’, Says Luis Figo

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.

KTR targets Congress over weavers’ welfare, demands restoration of schemes

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BRS working president KT Rama Rao blamed the Congress government and its failure to implement welfare schemes for deepening distress in the handloom sector in Telangana. He demanded for the immediate restoration of welfare schemes introduced during the K Chandrashekhkar Rao government, to prevent weavers’ suicides and ensure them assured income. In an open letter to Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on National Handloom Day on Friday, Rama Rao said none of the promises made by the Congress to weavers before the Assembly elections had been



implemented. He demanded the revival of “Nethanna Bima” and “Nethannaku Cheyutha”, along with pending payments and other support measures. The former Minister reminded the Congress had promised an annual assistance of Rs 18,000 under “Nethanna Bharosa” scheme, Rs 6,000 for allied sector workers, loan

waiver up to Rs 1 lakh for individual weavers, waiver of cash-credit loans of handloom co-operatives and reimbursement of the five per cent GST burden imposed on handloom products. He alleged that all these commitments remained unfulfilled even after two and a half years of Congress rule. Rama Rao recalled that the previous BRS

government provided Rs 5 lakh life insurance to around 55,072 weavers under “Nethanna Bima”, with the government bearing the premium. Under “Nethannaku Cheyutha”, it also supported workers’ savings, while cooperatives received concessional loans and marketing rebates. He questioned why the government orders, including those for Bathukamma sarees and school uniforms, were being diverted to private entities, which in turn reduced livelihood opportunities for weaver families. Targeting the BJP-led Centre as well, the BRS working president said the abolition of the All India Handloom Board, Handicrafts Board and Power-

loom Board, withdrawal of schemes such as house-cum-work sheds and imposition of GST on handlooms, had hurt the sector. He stated that both the Congress and BJP governments in Telangana and at the Centre respectively, adopted similar approaches towards handloom workers. Calling for action beyond ceremonial observance of National Handloom Day, Rama Rao urged the State government to revive all discontinued welfare schemes, clear arrears and implement its electoral commitments. “Handloom survives only when the weaver survives,” he said, urging the government to stand by weaver families and protect the sector.

HC Advocates’ Association Chief Invited to Welfare India Awards

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Advocate Mir Qurram Ali, Chairman of the Society for Civil Legal Aids, along with Syed Taher Hussain, Founder of Welfare India Social Welfare Federation, paid a courtesy visit to S. Surender Reddy, President of the Telangana High Court Advocates’ Association, and members of its executive body. During the meeting, the delegation formally invited Surender Reddy to attend the Welfare India National Excellence Awards 2026 as a distinguished guest. The meeting was held in a cordial atmosphere, with discussions focusing on legal awareness, social welfare initiatives and strengthening cooperation between the legal fraternity and civil society organisations.



Several office-bearers of the Association were present, including Advocate P. Shravan Kumar, Secretary; Advocate K. Niranjan Reddy, Secretary; Advocate Balaji Banoth, Treasurer; Advocate V. Vardhan Jayasurya, Sports & Cultural Secretary; and P. Naik Ramavath, former Executive Member, along with other advocates. The delegation expressed

gratitude to the Association’s leadership for its warm reception and extended best wishes for the continued success of the legal fraternity in Telangana. The representatives also expressed hope for stronger collaboration between legal professionals and social welfare organisations in promoting legal awareness and community welfare.

Strong Winds Damage Power Infrastructure, Cause Tarnaka Outage

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Strong winds accompanied by adverse weather conditions caused significant damage to electricity infrastructure in Tarnaka on Friday, disrupting power supply in several localities. The incident occurred on Street No. 11 near Bank of Baroda, Tarnaka, where large tree branches collapsed onto an iron electricity pole. The impact reportedly damaged the electric pole, transformer, and associated power lines, resulting in a power outage affecting parts of the Tarnaka area. Residents witnessed tree branches and electrical cables scattered across the



road, while the damaged transformer and utility pole posed a temporary safety concern. Electricity officials immediately secured the area and initiated emergency restoration works. Teams of Telangana State Southern Power Distribution Company Limited (TGSPDCL) rushed to the spot with technical staff and equipment. Engineers and line personnel began replacing the damaged infrastructure, clearing

fallen branches, and repairing the transformer and power lines to restore electricity at the earliest. Traffic movement in the affected stretch experienced temporary disruption as repair operations continued. Residents appreciated the prompt response of TGSPDCL personnel working to normalize the power supply despite the challenging conditions. Authorities have advised the public to stay away from damaged electrical installations, avoid touching fallen wires, and immediately report any electrical hazards to the nearest TGSPDCL office until restoration work is completed.

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 Elkaspur 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.

Hyderabad Collector Inspects Karwan Hospitals, Colleges

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Hyderabad Collector Dr. Priyanka Ala, IAS, along with Karwan MLA Kausar Mohiuddin, conducted an inspection of key healthcare and educational institutions in the Karwan constituency. The team visited Area Hospital Golconda, Basti Dawakhana, UCHC Panipura Hospital, BJR Government Degree College and New Boys Degree College, Golconda, to assess facilities and address public concerns. During the hospital inspection, officials highlighted severe leakages in the building structures, delays in sanctioning essential repair works, and shortages of doctors and staff nurses. The urgent need for a full-time radiologist was also brought to the Collector’s attention. Dr. Priyanka Ala patiently heard the



concerns and assured that necessary steps would be taken to resolve the issues at the earliest. She stressed the importance of strengthening healthcare infrastructure and ensuring better medical services. The MLA was accompanied by Golconda MRO, hospital doctors and staff, former corporators, party unit presidents and active workers.



BJP leaders strongly condemned the arrest of former MLA Guvvala Balaraju, alleging that the Revanth Reddy government is using the police to suppress democratic protests. Balaraju was arrested near Kalwakurthy while protesting the removal of Sayanna’s statue. Leaders demanded his immediate release and urged the government to reinstall Sayanna’s statue without delay, respecting public sentiments.

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Fake certificates issue hits Telangana Intermediate Education

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The issue of fake educational certificates has surfaced as a serious concern in Telangana’s Intermediate Education Department, with authorities identifying certificates submitted by 37 government junior lecturers during the process of regularising their services in 2023. The development came to light during a fresh verification drive initiated by the department. Officials re-ex-

amined the educational certificates of nearly 360 government junior lecturers who had earlier been regularised after serving as contract employees. The department sought confirmation from the respective universities regarding the authenticity of the postgraduate and BTech certificates submitted by the lecturers. According to officials, the universities informed the department that certificates submitted by some lecturers had not been issued by the con-

cerned institutions. Following the findings, the department recently issued show-cause notices to the 37 lecturers. The lecturers have been asked to explain within seven days why disciplinary action should not be initiated against them. The department has also warned that criminal cases could be filed for alleged forgery and cheating under the relevant provisions of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) if the allegations are established. The latest action

follows a series of complaints and verification exercises concerning the credentials of contract junior lecturers. Due to vacancies in government junior colleges, contract lecturers had been appointed during the Congress and Telugu Desam Party governments in the erstwhile undivided Andhra Pradesh. After the formation of Telangana, the previous BRS government regularised the services of several contract junior lecturers. However, allegations subsequently

emerged that some lecturers had used fake educational certificates to qualify for regularisation. The Intermediate Education Department consequently undertook multiple rounds of certificate verification. During the initial verification, 20 junior lecturers were found to have allegedly submitted fake educational certificates and were dismissed from service. Another 20 lecturers were terminated during the regularisation process after similar discrepancies

were detected in their educational credentials. More recently, a woman junior lecturer posted in Hyderabad was also dismissed after the department found that the certificates submitted by her were allegedly not genuine. The latest discovery of 37 more suspected cases has raised concerns over the effectiveness of earlier verification mechanisms. Officials are now examining the records received from universities and are expected to take further action.

Kavitha Leads Social Justice Push: Roop Singh

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Rakshana Sena leaders Roop Singh and Ismail said people increasingly believe that social justice in Telangana can be achieved under the leadership of Kalvakuntla Kavitha. Speaking to the media at the party office in Banjara Hills on Friday, they praised the success of the “Social Justice Telangana” meeting held



at Saroornagar Stadium. Roop Singh said Kavitha had raised important issues concerning social justice and demonstrated her commitment to ensuring equal opportunities for all sections. He alleged that both the previous BRS government and the

present Congress government had treated Backward Classes merely as a vote bank. Ismail said the meeting marked the beginning of a broader movement for social justice. He claimed the resolutions adopted at the gathering had received a positive public response. Both leaders thanked party workers, supporters and the public for making the meeting a major success.

HMWSSB seizes 7 illegal motors from two Hyderabad localities

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) on Friday, August 7, seized seven illegal motors from Rangareddy and Vijayanagar Colony. According to the HMWSSB, the motors were attached to water connections and were affecting the supply to other



consumers in the area. It has warned consumers not to use illegal motors and that strict action will be taken against violators. The water board has intensified its crackdown on the use of illegal motors

for the past few months, with recent operations being conducted in Srinagar Colony, where it seized 11 motors and in Boduppal, where it seized 12 motors.