



Control political hate speech before introducing Hate Speech Bill, KTR tells State government: P8



El Nino Prompts TG Government To Redesign Kupti Project For Additional Storage: P3

PM Modi Honoured With Bobbili Ekanda Veena, A Symbol Of North Andhra's Legacy: P4



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

Kerala CM Satheesan Says Govt Prepared To Tackle Rain-Related Emergencies

Kerala Chief Minister V D Satheesan on Saturday said the government is fully prepared to tackle rain-related emergencies as heavy rain continued to batter the state, triggering landslides, flash floods and widespread disruption in several districts. The Chief Minister, in a social media post, said he had spoken to the Revenue Minister, the Chief Secretary and district collectors following reports of landslides and mudslides from different parts of the state. He said the Revenue Minister would coordinate disaster management operations and had convened a meeting of all district collectors at 11 am to review the situation. Satheesan said teams of the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), police and other emergency agencies were fully prepared to handle any eventuality. The government has also decided to en-

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Arbaeen Pilgrims Gather



Thousands gather in the city of Karbala, Iraq, on August 1, 2026, to mark Arbaeen, the 40th day following the anniversary of the death of Hazrat Hussein, the grandson of Prophet Muhammad, who was killed alongside 72 companions in the Battle of Karbala.

Relief for Businesses as Commercial LPG Prices

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

The price of a 19-kg commercial LPG cylinder has been slashed by Rs 202 in Delhi and Rs 209 in Kolkata, effective Saturday, sources said. A 19 Kg cylinder will cost Rs 2872.50 in Kolkata from today. No change in domestic cylinder prices. Earlier last



month, oil marketing companies reduced the price of 19-kg commercial LPG cylinders, slashing the retail price in Delhi to Rs 2,930 per cylinder.

Prices have been reduced by Rs 183.50, effective July 1. In addition to the cut in commercial LPG rates, oil marketing companies have also lowered the price of the 5-kg Free Trade LPG (FTL) cylinder by Rs 13. Following the revision, the retail price of a 5-kg FTL cylinder in Delhi now stands at Rs 808.50, sources said.

The latest reduction in commercial LPG prices comes after a series of price changes in recent months. Earlier, in June, domestic LPG prices were increased by Rs 29 per cylinder while the price of a 14.2-kg domestic LPG cylinder in Delhi rose to Rs 942 from Rs 913.

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Kejriwal Demands Choice Between E20 and Pure Petrol, Plans PM House March

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) convener Arvind Kejriwal on Saturday demanded that the Centre allow consumers to choose between conventional petrol and E20 fuel at filling stations, saying motorists should not be compelled to use a single fuel option. Addressing a town hall on E20 fuel at the Constitution Club, Kejriwal said the party was not seeking withdrawal of ethanol-blended petrol but wanted



consumers to have the freedom to decide which fuel best suited their vehicles.

"We are not asking the government to withdraw E20. We are saying give people a choice," he said, adding that owners of older vehicles should not be forced to use fuel they believe may not be suit-

able for their engines. Kejriwal also urged the Centre to reduce the price of E20 petrol, lower petrol prices and make public the technical studies it claims establish that E20 does not damage vehicle engines.

"The government says studies have proved E20 is safe. Let those reports be made public," he said. Announcing a public campaign, the former Delhi chief minister said petitions would be collected on August 4 before a del-

► CONTINUE ON | PAGE 4

Assam Flood Death Toll Rises to 80, Over 1.92 Lakh Affected

ASSAM
Wakeup telangana

The death toll in the Assam floods has risen to 80, with two fresh deaths reported, while more than 1.92 lakh people have been affected across five districts, according to the Disaster Reporting and Information Management System (DRIMS) report as of July 31. The flood-affected districts are Sivasagar, Golaghat, Jorhat, Nagaon and Charaideo, where 379 villages have



been impacted. Of the two new deaths, one was recorded in Sivasagar and the other in Charaideo.

The DRIMS report said that 1,92,799 people have been affected by the floods, while 15,430 hectares of crop area have

also been impacted. No urban flooding has been reported in any district, according to the report. Till July 30, 78 people had lost their lives. Earlier on Friday, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma expressed gratitude to industrialist Gautam Adani for contributing Rs 11 crore to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund to support relief and rehabilitation efforts for people affected by floods in the state.

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Abusing Not Crime: Dipke Questions Cases Against NEET Protesters

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Defending the student protesters at Delhi's Jantar Mantar, Cockroach Janata Party (CJP) founder Abhijeet Dipke on Saturday said that using abusive language was not a crime. Criticising the government over cases registered against some protesters for allegedly posting abusive remarks against Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Mr. Dipke questioned why no action had been taken against BJP leaders and supporters who, he claimed, had used equally offensive language, including against women.

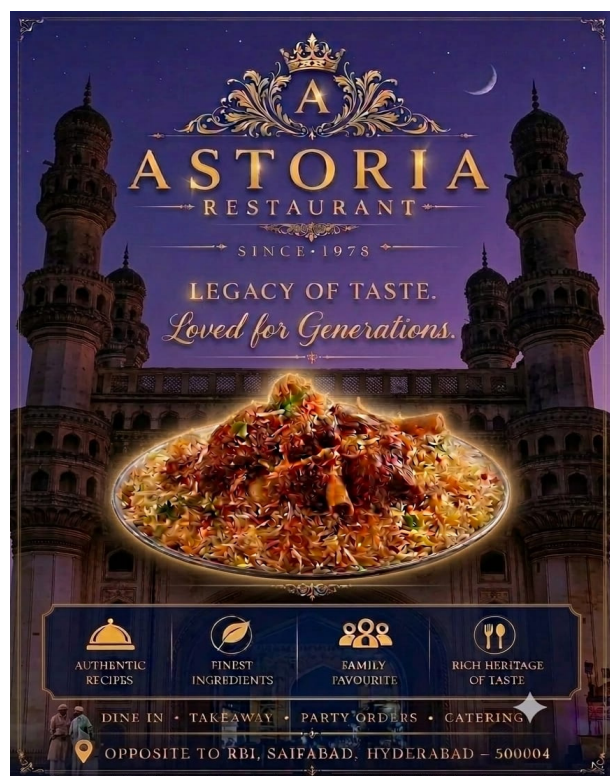
In a video shared on X, Dipke said, "I just saw that a case has been filed against a girl for using abusive language. If you are filing a case for abusing someone, when will cases be filed against the BJP IT Cell, which has been hurling filthy abuses at women online for so many years?" During the protest at Jantar Mantar over the NEET paper leak, a young woman allegedly made objectionable remarks against the



Prime Minister, following which a Zero FIR was registered against her.

Arguing that the use of vulgar language "may be inappropriate" but does not amount to a criminal offence, Dipke said, "If someone uses bad language, it might be improper. Reason with them and tell them not to use such language, but on what grounds is a legal case being filed?" The CJP founder reiterated his allegation that BJP leaders and members of the party's IT Cell had targeted women for years without facing any legal consequences. "If cases had to be filed over abusive language, the maximum number would be against the BJP IT Cell because they have hurled the most vile abuses at women. The same applies to BJP leaders who have used such filthy language over the years, even inside

► CONTINUE ON | PAGE 4



Girl In Viral PM Abuse Video Apologises, Says She Was 'Influenced'

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

A girl who said she was 15 years old, purportedly seen in a viral video using abusive language against Prime Minister Narendra Modi during a protest at Jantar Mantar, issued a public apology on social media late on Saturday, saying she had been "influenced" by others and deeply regretted her actions. In the video, the teenager said she had gone to Connaught Place with friends in July when they



came across a group of people using abusive and objectionable language against the Prime Minister.

"They influenced me and encouraged me to repeat those words, and I did," she said, adding that she had not uploaded the original viral clip herself. Expressing

remorse, the girl said she was "extremely embarrassed and ashamed" and appealed to the public to forgive her. "I am not able to look anyone in the eye. I appeal to the entire country to please forgive me. I am only 15 years old. This is my first and last mistake, and I will never repeat such an act again," she said.

The apology came after a police complaint was filed over the viral video. Delhi Police said it would examine the contents of a Zero FIR

registered in Noida on July 29 before deciding on further action.

The FIR was transferred to Delhi on Friday as the alleged offence took place in the national capital. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in a late-night video message, said it pained him that not only he but also his late mother had been subjected to "filthy abuses" during the Jantar Mantar protest.

He said the "misguided children" should be forgiven and guided on the right path.

BRS slams govt for operating Rampur pump house after calling Kaleshwaram project ‘useless’

Telangana CEO C. Sudarshan Reddy has sought ECI clarification on issuing Family Register Certificates during the SIR exercise, amid legal concerns, BJP opposition, and possible court challenges.

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The State government had contradicted its own criticism of the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project by operating the Rampur pump house, a component of the project’s reverse pumping system.

The government operated the Rampur pump house motors in Jagtial constituency to lift Godavari water into the Sri Ram Sagar Project (SRSP) flood flow canal through the reverse pumping system. The initiative is expected to provide irrigation water to nearly two lakh acres in Jagtial and Nizamabad districts.

Welcoming the move, former Minister and Balakonda MLA Vemula Prashanth Reddy said the Congress government,



which had repeatedly claimed that the Kaleshwaram project had collapsed and was of no use, had now started the Rampur pump house motors. He said the decision exposed what he described as the government’s earlier campaign against the project. Since Godavari water was being pumped into the SRSP flood canal through the Rampur pump house, Congress leaders should acknowledge that

it was an integral part of the Kaleshwaram project, he added.

Prashanth Reddy also urged the government to immediately operationalise the Rajeshwar Rao Peta pump house on the SRSP flood canal, as water was already being pumped from Rampur to the Mid Manair reservoir. Pointing to the increase in SRSP storage to 25 TMC following heavy rainfall over the past

week, he demanded that the government also operationalise the Lakshmi, Vempalli, Bodepalli, Choutpalli Hanumanth Reddy, Gutpa and Alisagar lift irrigation schemes. Meanwhile, former Minister and BRS general secretary T Jeevan Reddy also criticised the government during a visit to Rolavagu in Beerpur mandal. He said BRS president K Chandrashekhara Rao had approved the expansion of the Rollavagu project from 0.25 TMC to 1 TMC soon after the formation of Telangana, as the original storage capacity was inadequate. Officials had assured that gates would be installed before the previous Rabi season, but the work remained incomplete even after the arrival of the Kharif season, he alleged. According to Jee-

van Reddy, the delay in installing the gates and shutters led to a breach in the inspection path, resulting in the loss of stored water.

He also alleged that lift irrigation schemes in Kolvai and Mangala villages of Beerpur mandal remained non-functional due to the absence of transformers.

He further claimed that the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) had not prohibited repairs to the Kaleshwaram project and accused the State government of failing to undertake the required works. Medigadda was only one component of the project, where two piers had subsided nearly 30 months ago, yet the government had not carried out repairs, he alleged.

AAP Slams BJP Over Political Hate Speech Culture

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) Telangana adviser and chief spokesperson Dr. Diddi Sudhakar alleged that the BJP has played a major role in promoting a culture of hate speech and personal attacks in Indian politics. He said that those seeking an end to abusive political language must first set an example within their own party.

Reacting to the ongoing debate over offensive slogans and language used during public protests, Dr. Sudhakar said AAP does not support abusive remarks or personal criticism. However, he accused the BJP of attempting to gain political advantage by selectively raising the issue while ignoring its



own past.

He alleged that over the last 12 years, Indian politics has witnessed a rise in hate-driven narratives, social media trolling, personal attacks, and attempts to label opponents with terms such as “anti-national” and “foreign agents.”

Dr. Sudhakar claimed that BJP leaders, supporters, and online networks have frequently targeted opposition leaders, women, journalists, activists, and their

families through personal remarks. He questioned why such incidents were not condemned earlier.

He said political debates should focus on policies and ideas rather than personal attacks or family criticism. According to him, criticism in a democracy should be answered through arguments and facts, not abusive language.

Dr. Sudhakar demanded that the BJP first implement strict conduct rules for its leaders, representatives, and social media workers to eliminate offensive language from within the party. He added that only when political parties follow democratic values can a respectful political environment be created in the country.

Sridhar Babu
inaugurates ICSI's
50th SIRC conference



More than 700 company secretaries from across South India gathered in Kondapur on Saturday, August 1, as Telangana's Industries and IT Minister D Sridhar Babu inaugurated the 50th Southern India Regional Conference of Company Secretaries 2026.

The event, organised by the Hyderabad Chapter of the Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI), was held at the Telangana Contractors Cultural Club.

Addressing the gathering, Sridhar Babu credited company secretaries with playing a key role in strengthening corporate governance, driving transparency, ensuring regulatory compliance, and building investor confidence in the corporate sector. He said the Telangana government remained committed to fostering a transparent, accountable, and investor-friendly business environment.

Indiramma Indla Becoming Business: J. Ramakrishna

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Former Cantonment Board Vice President J. Ramakrishna accused the Congress government of turning the Indiramma Indla housing scheme into a business opportunity at the cost of poor people. Speaking at a media conference at his office in Mahendra Hills, he questioned the government’s policies on housing, Teams Hospital and Bonalu festival funds.

Ramakrishna alleged that the government was making misleading promises without clarity on land availability and construction plans. He questioned how 400 houses would be constructed in Survey No. 844/1, which falls under Malkajgiri limits, while being linked to Cantonment development.

He also raised concerns over Survey No. 74, station-



ing that the matter is under court dispute and that the government had already faced a setback in the High Court. He demanded Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy explain how houses would be built in disputed areas.

Criticising the Indiramma Indla scheme, Ramakrishna alleged that beneficiaries are being burdened financially. He claimed applicants have to pay ₹10,000 initially and ₹6 lakh after approval. He questioned the policy of

constructing 400 sq ft houses in multi-storey buildings and asked whether the scheme was a welfare programme or a business model.

On Teams Hospital, Ramakrishna said political parties were taking credit for the project, while approvals from the Central government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi were crucial. He urged authorities to complete the required sewerage outlet works before starting hospital operations to avoid problems for Cantonment residents.

Ramakrishna also alleged discrimination in Bonalu festival funds, claiming Cantonment temples receive lower allocations compared to temples in Secunderabad and Sanathnagar constituencies. He demanded In-charge Minister Ponnamm Prabhakar clarify the alleged disparity.

Oakridge Students Launch 'Balling Beyond' Initiative, Donate 30 Laptops to Kokapet Government School

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh

Students of Oakridge International School, Gachibowli, have launched the "Balling Beyond" initiative to promote digital education in government schools. As part of the programme, they donated 30 laptops and computer tables to establish a Digital Self-Learning Centre at the Government School in Kokapet. Oakridge Principal



Deepika Rao said the initiative aims to ensure government school students have access to quality digital education. She added that the centre will help students learn computer skills, artificial intelligence (AI), and

other modern technologies. Balling Beyond founders Aryan Nadimpalli and Akshay Sandhyala said their organisation has been working to improve education and sports in government schools. They also announced the development of a free Learning Management System (LMS) with digital study material in Telugu and English, enabling students to learn independently using computers and AI-based tools.

Perika Sangham Felicitates Malkajgiri CI Sriram Vijay with Grand Civic Honour

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Malkajgiri Constituency Perika Sangham accorded a grand and respectful felicitation to Sri Sriram Vijay Kumar, Circle Inspector of Police and Station House Officer, Malkajgiri Police Station, at a special programme held on Saturday (August 1, 2026).

Fondly describing him as "Mana Perika Muddubidda" (Our Beloved Son of the Perika Community), the Sangham honoured the police officer in recognition of his sincerity, dedication, and distinguished service in the Police Department.

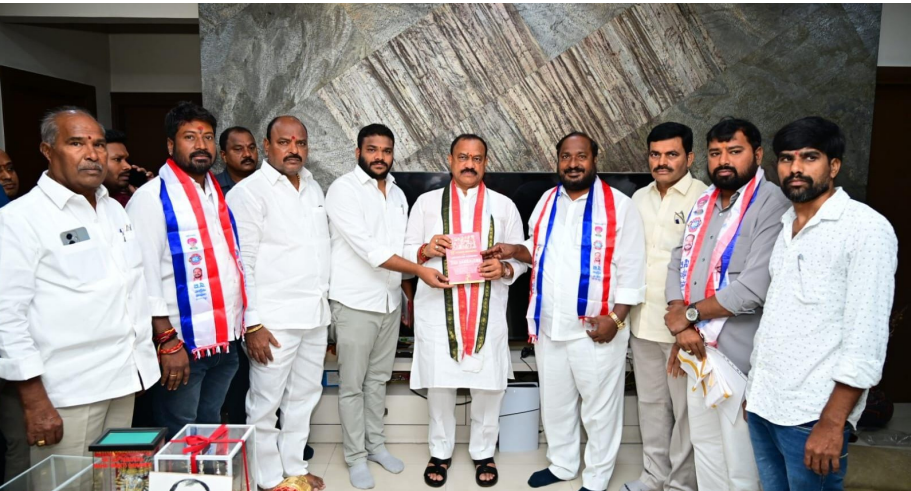
On the occasion, the association felicitated CI Sriram Vijay Kumar by draping him with a traditional shawl and presenting him with a commemorative memento. The leaders conveyed their heartfelt congratulations and wished him greater success in his professional career, expressing confidence that he would continue to uphold the highest standards of policing while serving the public



with integrity and commitment.

The felicitation programme was led by Diddi Raju, President of the Malkajgiri Constituency Perika Sangham, in the presence of R. Venkateshwarlu, President of the Ranga Reddy District Perika Sangham, along with Gorla Raju, Thota Rajesh, Diddi Ramesh, Diddi Narayana, Maidamshetty Srinivas, Singathi Shashidhar, Singathi Pradeep, P.S. Swamy, Sanda Suresh, Potharaju Veeraiah, Potharaju Sanjeev, Bolla Nares, Bolla Suresh, and several other Sangham leaders, elders, and members.

BC Leaders Invite TPCC Chief Mahesh Kumar Goud to All India BC Maha Sabha



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

In a significant move to strengthen the voice of Backward Classes (BCs) at the national level, a delegation of BC leaders formally invited TPCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud to attend the All

India BC Maha Sabha, scheduled to be held on August 7 in Karnataka. The delegation met the TPCC chief and extended a cordial invitation, emphasizing that the Maha Sabha aims to unite BC communities from across the country and deliberate on issues related to social

justice, constitutional rights, education, employment, political representation, and economic empowerment. The leaders expressed confidence that Mahesh Kumar Goud's participation would inspire the BC community and reinforce the ongoing efforts for equitable op-

portunities and inclusive development.

The delegation included National BC Welfare Association President Jajula Srinivas Goud, Central Students' Union President Vikram Goud, Shepherd Committee State President Burugadda Nagesh, Former Jogipet Municipal Chairman Mallaiah, OBC Employees' Associations General Secretary Tati-palli Pandu, Sangareddy District BC Youth President Goraganti Ramesh Kumar, and several other BC leaders. The meeting concluded with the leaders expressing hope that the All India BC Maha Sabha would serve as a powerful platform to advance the aspirations and rights of Backward Classes across India.

Health Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha Congratulates Dr. N. Vani on Taking Charge as Director of Medical Education

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Medical, Health & Family Welfare Minister Damodar Rajanarsimha on Saturday congratulated Dr. N. Vani assumed charge as the Director of Medical Education (DME), Telangana, and extended his heartfelt best wishes for a successful and impactful tenure. Dr. N. Vani paid a courtesy call on the Hon'ble Minister, who welcomed her to the new responsibility and expressed confidence in her ability to further strengthen the State's medical education system and enhance the quality of healthcare services.

The Minister stated that



Dr. Vani's extensive experience, professional expertise, and commitment to public service would play a significant role in improving medical education, expanding academic excellence in government medical colleges, and ensuring better healthcare delivery across Telangana.

Damodar Rajanarsimha emphasised that the State Government, under the leadership of Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, is committed to modernising medical education, strengthening teaching hospitals, expanding specialist healthcare services, and creating world-class infrastructure in government medical institutions. He expressed confidence that Dr. Vani would work closely with the Health Department to accelerate reforms, improve academic standards, strengthen faculty development, and ensure that Telangana continues to emerge as a leader in quality medical education and public healthcare.

Restored by HYDRAA, Uppal Nalla Cheruvu comes alive in monsoon



Uppal Nalla Cheruvu, once reduced to a garbage dump due to encroachments and neglect, has been transformed into a rejuvenated water body by the Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency (HYDRAA). Following the removal of encroachments, the lake has expanded to nearly 70 acres and is now capable of storing large volumes of rainwater, helping prevent flooding in nearby areas during heavy monsoon rains. HYDRAA has included the lake in its first phase of restoration projects. The agency plans to develop a walking track, strengthen the main bund, create a children's play area, and establish an open gym as part of a Rs 20 crore beautification and development project. The restored lake has already filled with monsoon rainwater and is surrounded by greenery, marking a major environmental revival. HYDRAA has earlier restored Bathukamma Kunta, Kukatapally Nalla Cheruvu, and Bum-Rukn-Ud-Dowla, while also taking up restoration of several other lakes across Hyderabad.

IMD issues heavy rainfall alert for 16 Telangana districts

The spell of heavy rain in several districts across Telangana, after weeks of dry weather, is expected to continue, with the India Meteorological Department (IMD), Hyderabad, on Tuesday issuing a heavy rainfall alert for the next 48 hours for multiple districts in the State. The 16 districts placed under a heavy rainfall alert (64.5 mm to 115.5 mm) are Adilabad, Komuram Bheem Asifabad, Mancherial, Nirmal, Nizamabad, Jagtial, Rajanna Sircilla, Karimnagar, Peddapalli, Jayashankar Bhupalpally, Mulugu, Bhadradi Kothagudem, Vikarabad, Sangareddy, Medak and Kamareddy. Rainfall is also expected in Hyderabad, with the weather department issuing a thunderstorm, lightning and strong winds warning for Hyderabad, Medchal-Malkajgiri, Rangareddy, Yadadri-Bhongir, Khammam, Nalgonda, Suryapet, Mahabubabad, Warangal, Hanumakonda, Jangaon, Siddipet, Mahabubnagar, Nagarkurnool, Wanaparthy, Narayanpet and Jogulamba Gadwal.

El Nino Prompts TG Government To Redesign Kupti Project For Additional Storage

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

The Telangana government has decided to redesign the proposed multi-purpose irrigation project at Kupti village in Neredigonda mandal of Adilabad district to increase its storage capacity and ensure better water availability for drought-prone areas. The decision has been taken in view of changing climatic conditions, including the El Nino effect, prolonged dry spells, and declining storage capacity of existing irrigation projects due to heavy silt accumulation. As part of the redesign process, the government has decided to revise Government Orders (GOs) 18 and 34 related to the Kupti irrigation project. According to the revised proposal, the storage capacity of the project will be enhanced to 6.50 TMC from the earlier planned capacity of 5.30 TMC. Initially, irrigation officials had designed the



Kupti multi-purpose project with a storage capacity of 5.30 TMC, including 3.30 TMC of live storage and 2 TMC of dead storage. The project was planned to store water and release it to the Kadam Reservoir whenever required, besides generating hydro-electric power. Under the revised design, the project will have a storage capacity of 6.50 TMC, with a net available yield of around 6.480 TMC. The stored water will benefit several villages across Gudihathnoor, Ichoda, Neredigonda, Bazarhathnoor, and Sirikonda mandals in the Boath

Assembly constituency of Adilabad district. Adilabad DCC president Naresh Jadhav had earlier submitted a memorandum to the Irrigation Department seeking a revision of the project design and an increase in storage capacity. He stated that enhancing the capacity would protect the interests of tribal communities and farmers in the Boath constituency, who depend heavily on irrigation facilities. The redesigned project is expected to provide irrigation support to an ayacut area of nearly 35,000 acres. The proposed irrigation coverage includes around

6,000 acres each in Neredigonda, Boath, and Ichoda mandals, 5,000 acres each in Sonala and Bazarhathnoor mandals, and nearly 7,000 acres in Gudihathnoor mandal. Officials and local representatives have also suggested diverting additional water sources to improve the project's efficiency. Naresh Jadhav proposed that around 0.411 TMC of water from a natural stream near Teja-pur village in Neredigonda mandal could be diverted into the Kupti project. The stream has a catchment area of about 51.28 square kilometres, which could help further strengthen the project's water availability. The redesign of the Kupti project is expected to provide a long-term irrigation solution for the region, improve water security, and support agricultural development in tribal and rural areas of Adilabad district.

SIR exercise: 1.5 lakh electors face deletion in Nirmal, Adilabad

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

The process of Special Intensified Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls has reached the final stage. A massive number of duplicate voters are likely to be deleted from the rolls. Commenced on June 25, the objective of SIR is to delete fake voters from electoral rolls and to ensure eligible voters are included in the list of electors. The last date for submitting forms has been extended to August 10. Eligible voters submitted enumeration forms to booth-level officers as part of the process. Omission of fake votes, migrants and deceased persons is underway. For instance, Nirmal district comprising Nirmal, Khanapur and Mudhole Assembly constituencies has 7,55,344 voters as per the 2002 voter list. However, 6.70 lakh electors



have submitted the enumeration forms till now. Digitalisation of the forms has been completed. The remaining 85,000 voters have not submitted the forms till now. Their names are likely to be deleted from the rolls. Similarly, Adilabad district, which contains two segments, Adilabad and Boath, accounts for 4,66,784 votes according to 2002 voter list. The district has 29,761 permanent migrants, while 13,310 voters were found to be dead. It had 7,465

double electors. About 60,000 voters are expected to be omitted from the electoral rolls once the process of SIR is over. Officials said that digitalisation of the forms submitted by eligible electors was near completion in both Nirmal and Adilabad districts. They stated that the deadline has been extended to August 10. They urged the eligible electors to hand over enumeration forms to booth level officers before the last date.

Shabbir Ali Urges Urdu Journalists to Expand Role

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Telangana Government Advisor Mohammed Ali Shabbir on Saturday called upon Urdu journalists to strengthen their professional identity by actively participating in government programmes, questioning authorities and expanding their coverage beyond community-related issues. Addressing the 10th anniversary celebrations and Annual Awards 2026 of the Telangana Urdu Working Journalists Federation at the Telangana Media Academy in Nampally, Shabbir Ali said Urdu journalists must consider themselves journalists first and report on governance, development, politics and public issues affecting all sections of society. He expressed concern over the limited participation of Urdu media in press conferences conducted by the Chief Minister, ministers, Collectors and senior officials. He encouraged journalists to attend major events fearlessly and assured them of support if they faced diffi-



culties in accessing official programmes. "Ask questions, highlight issues and show your talent. Criticism is the strength of journalism," he said. Recalling his long association with Urdu, Shabbir Ali said the language had a rich history in Hyderabad but gradually lost prominence after Independence. He stressed that official recognition alone was not enough to protect Urdu and said community participation was equally important. He cited examples of efforts to ensure Urdu visibility, including adding Urdu signage at Kasu Brahmananda Reddy National Park and publishing government performance materials in Urdu during his tenure as Information and Public Relations Minister. Shabbir Ali urged Urdu

organisations to use democratic methods whenever the language was ignored in government institutions. He said memoranda, discussions and peaceful protests could help address such issues. He also highlighted the importance of encouraging children to learn Urdu, stating that a language cannot survive only through government initiatives. Parents and community members must take responsibility for preserving the language. Praising journalists and photographers who work under challenging conditions, he urged the Urdu media fraternity to restore the confidence and professional standards associated with earlier generations of journalists..

Dr. Vakulabharanam Krishna Mohan Rao Receives National Distinguished Service Award

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Former Telangana BC Commission Chairman and senior BJP leader Dr. Vakulabharanam Krishna Mohan Rao was honoured with the prestigious National Distinguished Service Award by the National Telugu Saraswata Parishat during the "Hastinlo Telugu Velugu" celebrations held at the Andhra Association Hall in New Delhi. The award was presented by Union Minister of State for Steel and Heavy Industries Bhupathiraju Srinivasa Varma in recognition of Dr. Krishna Mohan Rao's outstanding contributions to public service, backward class welfare, Telugu language and literature, and social development. The event was attended by Rajya Sabha MP Beeda Mastan Rao, National Telugu



Saraswata Parishat Working President Dr. Ram Prasad, literary personalities, artists, social activists, and several eminent personalities from the Telugu states. The celebrations highlighted the rich heritage of Telugu language, literature, and culture.

BRS Alleges Street Vendors' Livelihoods Hit by Demolition Drive

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

BRS leaders criticised the demolition of roadside business structures from TSIC Colony to Rajiv Gandhi Nagar, alleging that poor street vendors were being deprived of their livelihoods without prior notice or alternative arrangements. On learning about the demolition drive by CMC Town Planning officials, CMC Division BRS President Puppala Bhaskar visited the spot and questioned the authorities. The issue was later brought to the attention of Quthbullapur MLA K.P. Vivekanand, who reportedly requested officials to suspend the demolitions for two weeks in view of the upcoming Bo-



nalu festival and to provide relief to the affected vendors. According to the BRS, following the MLA's intervention, Town Planning officials temporarily halted the demolition drive. Several party leaders, including Doodimetla Somesh Yadav, Pole Srikanth, Rudra Ashok, Ismail, and Jai Krishna, were present during the protest.

Telangana Police Recruitment Board Invites Applications for 7,437 Vacancies Starting August 19



HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

The Telangana State Level Police Recruitment Board has invited online applications for 7,437 vacancies across the police, Special Protection Force, fire services and prisons departments from 8 am on August 19 to 5 pm September 9, with one-time fees ranging from ₹600 to ₹1,500. The Board said applications must be submitted on the official website, and any other mode will not be accepted. The recruitment covers 5,000 posts in the police, 1,424 in the SPF, 790 in fire services, and 223 in prisons and correctional services. Nearly 7,000 posts are for constables, fire-fighters, warders and equivalent ranks. SC and ST community

candidates must pay ₹750 for SI-level posts and ₹600 for constable-level posts. The fee for all other candidates is ₹1,500 and ₹1,200, respectively. The one-time payment covers application charges, written examinations, physical tests, certificate verification, biometrics, result processing and technical, driving or trade tests where applicable. Candidates applying for multiple posts under the same regimen will undergo a physical measurement test and physical efficiency test. The same readings will apply to all relevant posts. Applicants must download the Aadhaar App before completing Part I of the application for face authentication and retain a printout after final submission.

Third flood warning issued as Godavari crosses 53 ft at Bhadrachalam

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Third warning has been issued as river Godavari crossed 53 feet (third warning level) at Bhadrachalam in the district on Saturday. The river has been flowing at 56.10 feet level with a discharge of 15.96 lakh cusecs at 11 am. The rising flood flow affected transportation in many low lying villages in different mandals on the banks of the river. Traffic has come to a halt on the main road connect-

ing Bhadrachalam with Dummugudem and Cherla mandals as the flood waters inundated the road at Thurubaka. Traffic to the Chintoor, Kunavaram and VR Puram mandals in Andhra Pradesh has been disrupted after floodwaters accumulated on the main road at Murumuru, which connects Bhadrachalam to the mandals. On Saturday morning, District Collector Ankit inspected the Godavari bathing ghats, the flood embankment area, and the flood situation along the Bhadrachalam-

Kunavaram main road. A temporary barrier across Kunavaram road near Godavari flood embankment has been laid to prevent floodwaters from entering the town. On the other hand, the farmers complained that Godavari floodwaters seeped into agricultural fields due to leaks in the sluices of the newly constructed embankment on Kunavaram Road. Farmers from Shantinagar Colony contacted the irrigation department to address the issue. The locals said that the ir-

rigation department had transported sand for three days claiming it was for use during the floods, but the officials who initially promised to supply sandbags, subsequently failed to take action allowing floodwaters to inundate the crops. Farmers warned that if irrigation department officials do not respond immediately, they would block the vehicles from transporting sand from the Kunavaram road site. District Collector Ankit inspected the flood situation at Godavari bathing ghats, flood em-

bankment area in Bhadrachalam and on Bhadrachalam-Kunavaram main road on Saturday. He directed the district officials to remain vigilant and to work in coordination. The Collector told residents of flood-prone villages to move to relief centres without delay and strictly follow official instructions to avoid endangering their lives. He advised them to carry essential items such as medicines, drinking water, important documents and others with them.



Delhi Police Book X Handles Over Anti-Modi Posts

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

PM Modi Honoured With Bobbili Ekanda Veena, A Symbol Of North Andhra’s Legacy

VIZAG Wakeup telangana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday expressed heartfelt gratitude to the artisans of Andhra Pradesh after receiving an exquisitely handcrafted Bobbili Ekanda Veena. The Prime Minister was presented with the traditional instrument during his visit to Vizianagaram district to inaugurate the Alluri Sitarama Raju International Airport in Bhogapuram. One may recollect that Chandrababu Naidu had gifted the Bobbili Veena to former US president Bill Clinton during the latter’s visit to Hyderabad in the year 2000. The Bobbili Veena is also a Saraswati Veena and is celebrated for its fine tone, intricate craftsmanship and deep connection with the cultural history of North Andhra. Each professional veena is painstakingly handcrafted by artisans belonging to families that have preserved



the skill for generations in the Gollapalli and Vadada villages near Bobbili. The process generally takes between 20 and 25 days, with craftsmen working for nearly eight hours daily. Jackfruit wood is considered ideal for making the instrument because it is light, durable, and strong. Its distinctive grain also helps produce the desired swara, or tonal quality. Unlike instruments assembled from several wooden sections, the Bobbili Veena is carved largely from a single piece of wood. This construction gives it the name Ekandi Veena. The craft is believed to have developed under the patronage of the Bobbili royal family popular known as the Bobbili Samsthanam. Local tradition traces its beginnings to the 17th century during the reign of Pedda Rayudu, when Bobbili’s rulers encouraged music and supported instrument makers. Some historical accounts, however, credit Sarvasiddhi Acchanna, a craftsman from the Viswa Brahmin community, with developing the Bobbili Veena during the 19th century under Raja Ravu Venkata Kumar Krishna Ranga Rao. Over time, the instrument’s construction, tonal quality and playing technique evolved into

what became known as the Bobbili Veena Sampradayam. The Sarvasiddhi artisan community played a central role in preserving and developing the craft. Their knowledge was passed from one generation to another, helping the Bobbili Veena survive despite changing musical tastes and declining demand for handmade instruments. Recognising its unique geographical origin and traditional craftsmanship, the Bobbili Veena received a Geographical Indication tag in 2011. In an X post, PM Modi lauded the Andhra Pradesh artisans for preserving Andhra Pradesh’s musical legacy."Delighted to receive the exquisitely handcrafted Bobbili Ekanda Veena in Bhogapuram. The Veena has a special place in India’s musical traditions. It embodies the skills of Andhra Pradesh’s artisans. My compliments to them for preserving the culture of the state, he wrote.

Kerala CM Satheesan Says Govt Prepared To Tackle Rain-Related Emergencies

KERALA Wakeup telangana

Kerala Chief Minister V D Satheesan on Saturday said the government is fully prepared to tackle rain-related emergencies as heavy rain continued to batter the state, triggering landslides, flash floods and widespread disruption in several districts. The Chief Minister, in a social media post, said he had spoken to the Revenue Minister, the Chief Secretary and district collectors following reports of landslides and mudslides from different parts of the state. He said the Revenue Minister would coordinate disaster management operations and had convened a meeting of all district collectors at 11 am to review the situation. Satheesan said teams of the National Disaster Response Force



(NDRF), police and other emergency agencies were fully prepared to handle any eventuality. The government has also decided to ensure the best possible treatment for those injured and to expedite rehabilitation measures for affected families, he added. At least three people were killed in separate landslides in Idukki and Kottayam districts on Saturday. Apart from the fatal incidents, minor landslides were reported from several hilly regions of the state following heavy rain since the early hours of Saturday. In Pathanamthitta district, the Pampa river overflowed, inundating

several parts of Ranni and nearby areas. Authorities advised people living along the riverbanks to remain vigilant as water levels continued to rise. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has forecast continued heavy rainfall across parts of Kerala, prompting authorities to keep rescue teams on alert. The weather office issued a red alert for Pathanamthitta, Kottayam, Idukki, Malappuram, Kozhikode, Wayanad, Kannur and Kasaragod districts, warning of extremely heavy rainfall. An orange alert has been issued for Ernakulam, Thrissur and Palakkad districts. In view of the adverse weather conditions, district administrations declared a holiday for educational institutions in several districts on Saturday.

Ceuta Migration Crisis: Everything We Know So Far

The numbers of migrants suddenly flowing into Ceuta is outsized for the territory's population of 80,000.

MADRID Wakeup telangana

The massive and sudden influx of 60,000 migrants into Spain's enclave of Ceuta, located in the north of Morocco, has triggered a crisis for Spain, and the European Union. How big an influx? The numbers of migrants suddenly flowing into Ceuta is outsized for the territory's population of 80,000. Some 60,000 migrants have so far entered over the past two or three days, estimated the local regional president Juan Jesus Vivas. Around 200 migrants were arriving "every minute", according to Ignacio Cembrero, a journalist specialised in migration in North Africa. Spain's interior ministry counted 25,000 who have since left Cueta to return to Morocco, Spain's interior minister said later on Friday. The scale is far bigger than that in May 2021 when, over a few days, some 12,000 migrants flowed into Ceuta,



according to the Ceuta and Melilla Observatory. According to Cembrero, since Wednesday it appeared that Moroccan security forces "have been sitting on their hands." "To reach the breakwater that marks the border between Ceuta and Morocco, there are cordons of police and auxiliary forces, and it's obvious they've been allowed through. Otherwise, this would not have happened," he said. Carolos Echeverria, the head of the Ceuta and Melilla Observatory, said that there was an argument to use

the controversial term "invasion" because "thousands of people cross an international border illegally, exerting pressure on a neighbour". According to experts consulted by AFP, there are several possible explanations. One would be the ruling by Spain's Supreme Court on July 8, which determined that the immediate return of a migrant without opening an administrative expulsion procedure does not apply in the case of sea arrivals. "Without a doubt, the July 8 ruling ... has played a role. But that doesn't ex-

plain the level of mobilisation, which is very high," Cembrero said. The mass arrival could have been encouraged by Spanish government's recent move to regularise people who arrived in the country illegally. Or that Spain's government could change, to be replaced by one with a firmer line on immigration. But both of these hypotheses are difficult to confirm, analysts say. "The most important thing, the backdrop, is that permanent blackmail" by Morocco, Echeverria said. Analysts say that the recurring migration crises and the alleged laxity of Moroccan security forces are tools of diplomatic pressure. Morocco has claimed sovereignty over Ceuta and Melilla since its independence in 1956, while Spain has flatly rejected any negotiation over the two enclaves. According to Cembrero, "the Moroccan authorities have seen an opportunity to force Spain to negotiate the future of these cities".

Rahul Meets Families of NEET Victims Who Ended Their Lives

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Saturday on Saturday met the families that have lost their loved ones to NEET-related suicides in Tamil Nadu. He asserted that students are told to work honestly in a system that is not honest with them. Interacting at Mamallapuram with the relatives of those who took the extreme step vis-a-vis NEET, Gandhi said: "Nothing is more painful than seeing a parent grieve their child. Rahul Gandhi said Prime Minister Narendra Modi



should apologise to the country's students for giving them a "corrupt" exam system and that they don't want his "forgiveness". Gandhi said he (Modi) has not met a single grieving parent. "He has not sat with a single student whose future was stolen by a leaked paper." LoP Rahul said. "India's stu-

dents do not need his forgiveness. They all owed his apology," the Congress leader said. In a post on X, Gandhi said the prime minister has the audacity to speak of "forgiving" students even when he did not visit a single parent whose children committed suicide after they felt their

career was destroyed due to leaked papers and cancelled exams. "Nothing is more painful than seeing a parent grieve for their child. "Behind every young life lost is a family carrying pain that will never leave them - and serious questions about a broken education system," he said in his post after meeting the families of those who lost their children during his day-long visit to Tamil Nadu. "Leaked papers. Cancelled exams. Years of preparation were destroyed overnight. Our students are told to work honestly in a system that is not honest with them.

Akhilesh Links Ayodhya Donation Row to Paper Leaks

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav on Wednesday alleged that the reported embezzlement of donations at the Ayodhya Ram temple reflected the BJP government’s failure to safeguard public faith, linking it to concerns over examination integrity. Speaking in the Parliament House Complex, Yadav said, “The issue is the same. Those who could not protect donation



boxes and the offerings made by devotees cannot be expected to prevent paper leaks or stop examinations from being cancelled. Those who can play with people's faith can also play with the fu-

ture of our youth.” Samajwadi Party MPs staged a protest in the complex, holding placards and raising slogans against the government over the alleged donation theft. Yadav further al-

leged that the government itself was the “biggest crisis” facing the country. “The biggest crisis is this government itself. Until this government goes, these problems will continue,” he said. SP MP Awadhesh Prasad, who represents the Faizabad constituency that includes Ayodhya, also criticised the BJP over the alleged incident, accusing it of shielding those involved. “I congratulate Akhilesh Yadav for exposing the matter. But it is unfor-

FROM FRONT PAGE

Abusing Not Crime.....

The CJP founder reiterated his allegation that BJP leaders and members of the party’s IT Cell had targeted women for years without facing any legal consequences. “If cases had to be filed over abusive language, the maximum number would be against the BJP IT Cell because they have hurled the most vile abuses at women. The same applies to BJP leaders who have used such filthy language over the years, even inside Parliament,” he said. Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in a video released late on Friday night, said he had forgiven the protesting students who used abusive language. “These children have lost their way; showing them the

right path is our duty. Punishing them or making them make rounds of the court will not change the situation. I want to forgive them,” the Prime Minister said. Responding to the Prime Minister’s remarks, Dipke asked, “Will you forgive them only in reels, or will you also withdraw the court cases?”

Kejriwal Demands.....

Announcing a public campaign, the former Delhi chief minister said petitions would be collected on August 4 before a delegation marches to the Prime Minister's residence at Lok Kalyan Marg to submit them. Participants at the meeting, including motorists, delivery workers and academics, raised concerns over fuel efficiency, compatibility with older vehicles and the lack of

transparency in the rollout of E20 petrol. They also demanded that fuel stations clearly display the type of petrol being dispensed. The campaign drew a sharp response from Delhi BJP president and Union minister of state Harsh Malhotra, who accused Kejriwal of spreading misinformation. Defending the ethanol-blending programme, he said it helps reduce crude oil imports, improves farmers' incomes and lowers emissions, while challenging Kejriwal to identify vehicles damaged solely due to E20 fuel. Separately, activist Tehseen Poonawalla alleged that Delhi Police prevented him from leaving his residence ahead of his proposed march and hunger strike against the E20 policy. He claimed he was placed under house arrest

without any written order, an allegation the police have not commented on.

Assam Flood.....

In a post on X, Sarma said the contribution would strengthen the state government's efforts to assist flood-affected families. "I was heartened to learn that Shri Gautam Adani Ji has made an online contribution of Rs 11 crore to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund to strengthen our efforts to assist those affected by the Assam floods," Sarma said. The Chief Minister said Adani had also been mobilising resources to support relief efforts for thousands of affected families on the ground. Praising the contribution, Sarma said, "His genuine affection for the

people of Assam and his instinct to stand by them in their hour of need are truly commendable." Sarma also assured that every rupee contributed to the Chief Minister's Relief Fund would be utilised with "utmost care, integrity and accountability" to help rebuild the lives of those affected by the floods. "My sincere appreciation to Adani for standing firmly with the people of Assam," he added.

Relief for.....

Oil companies had also raised LPG prices by Rs 60 per cylinder on March 7, following disruptions in global energy markets linked to the conflict in West Asia. In April, oil marketing companies increased the prices of commercial LPG gas cylinders by Rs 195.50 across metro-

politan cities amid tensions in West Asia. With that revision, commercial LPG prices were raised to Rs 2,208 in Kolkata, Rs 2,031 in Mumbai, and Rs 2,246.50 in Chennai. Oil marketing companies raised the price of the 19-kg commercial LPG gas cylinder by Rs 111 in January. Following the revision, the retail price of a 19-kg commercial LPG cylinder in Delhi stood at Rs 1,691.50. Alongside the increase in commercial LPG rates, the price of the 5-kg Free Trade LPG (FTL) cylinder was also raised by Rs 27, effective January 1. The revision in commercial LPG prices is significant for sectors that depend heavily on such cylinders, including eateries, catering services and small businesses.

CRIME

No Impact of Supreme Court Green Permit Verdict on Telangana Projects

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana government on Wednesday got a huge relief on the Palamuru Ranga Reddy Lift Irrigation Scheme project and the Seethamma Sagar project as the Supreme Court has exempted the ongoing projects from its judgment that quashed a mechanism devised by the Central government to issue environmental clearances. A three-judge Supreme Court bench comprising Chief Justice Surya Kant, Justice Joy-malya Bagchi, and Justice Vipul M. Pancholi ruled that the 2021 Office Memorandum was legally unsustainable as it sought to alter the statutory environmental clearance framework established under the Environment



(Protection) Act, 1986 and the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Notification, 2006, through an executive order. The court, however, made it clear that environmental clearances already issued under both the 2017 Notification and the 2021 Office Memorandum will continue to remain valid, unless they are individually challenged and set aside in accordance with law. If this

exemption was granted, some irrigation projects in Telangana, including Palamuru and Seethamma Sagar projects, could have suffered serious setbacks over the issue of environmental clearances. "Environmental compliance is a mandatory statutory requirement and not a procedural formality capable of being regularised through executive instructions," the court said. The Supreme Court, however,

also made it clear that any project in the future can be taken up and work started only after it receives all required environmental clearances before commencement. The Bench held that prior environmental clearance under the 2006 Notification is mandatory for projects falling within its ambit and cannot be replaced by a perpetual mechanism permitting retrospective approvals through an administrative office memorandum. The Bench held that the memorandum fundamentally altered the nature of environmental scrutiny envisaged under the 2006 Notification by allowing projects to seek approval after construction had already begun or operations had commenced.

Madhapur Police Solve House Theft Case, Recover 100 Grams of Stolen Gold

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh

The Madhapur Police solved a house theft case within five days and recovered 100 grams of stolen gold jewellery, arresting the victim's cousin for the offence. According to police, Vadla Tara had travelled to Sanga-reddy to visit her pregnant daughter-in-law when her cousin, Vi-



naya Bhanu, allegedly entered her house in Ayyappa Society on the pretext of collecting a saree and stole around 100 grams of gold jewellery. After Tara lodged a complaint on July 24, police examined CCTV

footage and questioned several suspects before identifying Vinaya Bhanu. During interrogation, the accused allegedly confessed to the theft, leading to the recovery of the stolen ornaments. Police said the recovered jewellery will be produced before the court and later handed over to the complainant as per legal procedure.

8-Foot Python Halts Traffic in Gachibowli Amid Heavy Rains

Traffic came to a brief standstill in Gachibowli on Friday night after an eight-foot-long python was spotted crossing a busy road, drawing the attention of commuters and on-lookers. Motorists slowed down as the snake calmly crossed the road before disappearing into nearby vegetation. Several people stopped to record videos, leading to temporary traffic congestion. Wildlife experts believe the recent heavy rains may have forced the python out of its natural habitat in search of dry ground. Fortunately, no injuries or damage were reported, and the reptile safely moved into a nearby green area.

19-Year-Old Youth Dies by Suicide in Kapra

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

Massive Jewellery Theft at Balaji Jewellery Shop in Chandanagar

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh

A major burglary took place at Balaji Jewellery Shop under the Chandanagar Police Station limits in the early hours of Friday. The burglars allegedly entered the shop by removing an exhaust fan, creating a hole in the rear wall, and breaking through a door separating the back room from



the showroom. According to preliminary estimates, the accused stole around 7 tolas of gold ornaments and 4 kg of silver jewellery before fleeing the scene. On receiving the information, DCP Chintamaneni Sri-

nivas, ACP Ch. Y. Srinivas Kumar, along with CCS, SOT, and Chandanagar Police teams, inspected the spot. Forensic experts and the Clues Team collected evidence, while police examined CCTV footage and other technical evidence. Special teams have been formed to identify and arrest the accused. Further investigation is underway.

Excise STF Arrests Drug Peddler with 14.77 kg Ganja in Chandanagar

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana
Srirangam Venkatesh

The Excise Special Task Force (STF) arrested a 28-year-old man in Chandanagar and seized 14.77 kg of ganja worth around ₹7.50 lakh. The accused, Sunny Kumar, a migrant labourer from Patna, Bihar, allegedly turned to drug trafficking after struggling to support his family. Police said



he procured the contraband from Visakhapatnam and brought it to Hyderabad for sale. Acting on credible information, the STF intercepted

him near Lingampally while he was on his way to deliver the ganja in Chandanagar. The accused and the seized contraband were handed over to the Excise Station, Serilingampally, for further investigation. A case has been registered, and officials are probing the source of the contraband and possible links to a wider drug network.

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 policy says so. They grow when businesses can actually set up shop without getting lost in paperwork.



Paper Industry Must Focus on Innovation, Sustainability: Nikhil Chakravarth

Paper Industry Urged to Embrace Innovation, Sustainability and Technology for India's Economic Growth at National Paper Day Seminar

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Federation of Paper Traders Association (FPTA), in association with the Telangana Paper Merchants' Association (TPMA), organised a seminar at FTCCI, Red Hills, Hyderabad, to mark National Paper Day. The event brought together leaders from the paper, printing, packaging and allied sectors to discuss the future growth of the industry. The seminar was inaugurated by Nikhil Chakravarth, IA&AS, Director of Industries, Government of Telangana. Sushil Agarwal, Managing Director of Deevyashakti India Private Ltd., attended as the Guest of Honour. Addressing the gathering, Nikhil Chakravarth highlighted the importance of the paper industry in India's economic ecosystem and called upon stakeholders to adopt innovation, sustainable practices and advanced technologies. He said the sector plays a crucial role in education, publishing, packaging, pharmaceuticals, FMCG, c-



(L-R) Shri Ashish Jain Bhansali, Hon. Secretary, TPMA; Shri Dinesh Rath, convenor, Paper Day Celebrations; Shri Radha Krishna, President, Telangana Offset Printers Association (TOPA); Guest of Honour Shri Sushil Agarwal, Managing Director, Deevyashakti India Private Ltd.; Chief Guest Shri Nikhil Chakravarth, IA&AS; Director of Industries, Government of Telangana; Shri Vimal Kumar Nahar, President, Telangana CAIT Confederation of All India Traders; Shri Adhitya Sharma, President, Association of Corrugated Case of Telangana (ACCT); Shri Narendra Paruchuri, Managing Director, Pragati Offset Pvt. Ltd.; Shri T. Kishan Singh, President Elect, FPTA; Shri Abhishek Vijaywargiya, President, TPMA; Shri Anand Bajaj, convenor, Paper Day Celebrations; & Shri K. K. Maheshwari, President, FTCCI; at the inauguration of the National Paper Day Celebrations hosted by Federation of Paper Traders Association (FPTA) & Telangana Paper Merchants' Association (TPMA); today at FTCCI, Red Hills.

commerce and manufacturing. He assured that the Telangana government would continue supporting the paper and packaging industries through investor-friendly policies, infrastructure development and ease of doing business initiatives. He also spoke about TG-iPASS and upcoming reforms aimed at simplifying approvals and strengthening Telangana as a preferred industrial destination.

FPTA President Elect T. Kishan Singh said National Paper Day is an opportunity to celebrate the industry's contribution while preparing for future challenges. He urged the government to reduce GST on paper and paperboard packaging products from 18% to 5%, stating that the move would benefit both businesses and consumers. TPMA President Abhishek Vijaywargiya said Telangana has

emerged as an important hub for paper, printing and packaging industries. He emphasised that paper continues to be a symbol of knowledge, progress and sustainable development. TPMA Honorary Secretary Ashish Jain Bhansali said paper remains an eco-friendly and recyclable product with a vital role in daily life. He requested GST rationalisation for the industry to support growth. FTCCI President K.K. Maheshwari highlighted India's remarkable growth in paper production and assured the chamber's support in representing industry concerns before relevant authorities. The event was attended by industry leaders including Narendra Paruchuri, Radha Krishna, Adhitya Sharma, Vimal Kumar Nahar, Dinesh Rath and Anand Bajaj. National Paper Day commemorates the establishment of the Handmade Paper Institute, Pune, and celebrates the growth and contribution of India's paper sector.

Dr. Venugopal Rao Honoured with Business Excellence

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Dr. Chikkala Venugopal Rao, Founder and CEO of Verch Consulting LLP, has been honoured with the prestigious Business Excellence Award by Telangana Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla at the INDIA & ASIA Business Conclave 2026 held at HITEX Exhibition Centre, Hyderabad. The award recognised Dr. Rao's outstanding contributions to Human Resources, Executive Search, Leadership Consulting, and organisational development. With years of experience in the HR sector, he has played a key role in helping organisations build strong leadership teams and implement effective talent strategies across various industries. Expressing gratitude after receiving the honour, Dr. Venugopal Rao thanked the Governor, conclave organisers, his team, clients, and professional associates for their continued support. He said the recognition would motivate Verch Consulting LLP to further strengthen its efforts in developing innovative HR solutions and creating future-ready organisations. Founded with a vision to transform talent acquisition and leadership consulting, Verch Consulting LLP has emerged as a leading HR consulting firm, offering executive search, leadership hiring, and advisory services to businesses across sectors.



Shiv Pratap Shukla, Hon'ble Governor of Telangana; presenting the coveted Business Excellence Award to Dr. Chikkala Venugopal Rao, Founder & CEO of Verch Consulting LLP; at the INDIA & ASIA Business Conclave 2026, at HITEX Exhibition Centre, Hyderabad.

Dr. Rao is also recognised as an HR thought leader, author, mentor, and speaker. Through his initiatives and guidance, he has contributed to the growth of the HR profession and supported the development of young professionals. The Business Excellence Award marks another significant achievement in Dr. Venugopal Rao's professional journey and highlights his commitment to excellence, innovation, and leadership development.

CBIT Welcomes New Students with Orientation Programme-2026

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Chaitanya Bharathi Institute of Technology (CBIT), Hyderabad, organized its Orientation Programme-2026 for the newly admitted B.E./B.Tech students of the academic year 2026-27 and their parents at the CBIT Cricket Ground. The event witnessed participation from thousands of students and parents, marking the beginning of their academic journey at the prestigious engineering institution. The programme began with the traditional lighting of the

lamp and an invocation, followed by a welcome address to the dignitaries, students, and parents. Raghu Boddupally, Vice-President and Delivery Head, Hyderabad Development Centre, Infosys Ltd., attended as the Chief Guest. Addressing the gathering, he advised students to focus on future-ready skills, continuous learning, innovation, problem-solving, and professional ethics to succeed in the evolving technology sector. He encouraged students to utilize CBIT's academic resources, industry collaborations, research opportunities,

and innovation platforms. Srinivas Talabattula, Professor, Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, as the Guest of Honour, stressed the importance of curiosity-driven learning, interdisciplinary research, critical thinking, and creativity. He encouraged students to build strong engineering fundamentals and develop solutions for real-world challenges. CBIT Principal Prof. C. V. Narasimhulu welcomed the students and parents to the institution. He highlighted



CBIT's 47-year legacy, academic excellence, autonomous status, NBA-accredited programmes, NAAC A++ accreditation, NIRF recognition, research achievements, industry

partnerships, placement record, entrepreneurship initiatives, and student development activities. He also introduced the CBIT leadership team, Deans, Heads of Departments, faculty members, and administrative officials, assuring students of continuous guidance and mentorship throughout their academic journey. The orientation programme provided students and parents insights into academic regulations, curriculum structure, mentoring systems, examinations, placements, research facilities, innovation activities,

student clubs, sports, cultural programmes, library services, and campus support facilities. Prof. B. Sreenivasa Reddy, Head of the Department of Physics and First-Year Coordinator, welcomed the gathering and explained the objectives of the programme. Dr. Swatmaram Ram proposed the vote of thanks. Prof. Suresh Pabboju, Director, AEC & Controller of Examinations and Chairman of the Organizing Committee, along with Prof. B. Sreenivasa Reddy, faculty members, and staff, coordinated the successful conduct of the event.

Kia India Posts Record July Sales with 28,200 Units



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Kia India achieved its highest-ever July wholesale performance since entering the Indian market, dispatching 28,200 units in July 2026, registering a strong 27.4% year-on-year growth compared to 22,135 units in July 2025. The company also recorded impressive year-to-date (YTD) sales of 191,949 units during January-July 2026, marking a 16.8% growth over the same period last year. The growth momentum was driven by strong customer demand for Kia's popular models, including Seltos, Sonet, Carens Clavis EV, and MY26 Syros. Kia India Senior Vice President - Sales & Marketing, Atul Sood, said the record performance reflects growing customer

confidence in Kia's product portfolio and commitment to innovation. He highlighted strong responses for the newly launched Syros EV, which offers advanced technology, over 500 km range, and enhanced ownership benefits. Seltos remained the company's key growth driver, consistently achieving over 10,000 monthly sales since launch, while Sonet also continued its strong performance. Kia's electric vehicle portfolio gained further momentum with the Carens Clavis EV and Syros EV receiving encouraging customer acceptance. With 905 touchpoints across 412 cities and 135 Certified Pre-Owned outlets, Kia India continues to expand its presence and strengthen its mobility ecosystem nationwide.

Mahindra reports 26 per cent rise in July auto sales

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Automobile major Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. reported a strong sales performance in July 2026, with total auto sales reaching 1,03,860 vehicles, registering a 26 per cent year-on-year growth, including exports. The company's Utility Vehicle (UV) segment continued to drive growth, with domestic SUV sales touching 60,048 units, marking a 20 per cent increase compared to the same period last year. Including exports, Mahindra's total UV sales stood at 60,887 units. Nalinikanth Gollagunta, CEO, Automotive Division, Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd., said the company delivered robust SUV performance with sales of over 60,000 units during the month. He highlighted that the company's strong product portfolio



and customer confidence continued to support growth across key segments. Mahindra also witnessed significant momentum in its commercial vehicle business. Domestic commercial vehicle sales stood at 25,204 units in July, reflecting a year-on-year growth of 23 per cent. The company recorded impressive growth across light commercial vehicle categories. Sales of LCVs below 2 tonnes reached 3,870 units, registering a 40 per cent rise, while the 2-tonne to 3.5-tonne LCV segment recorded sales of 21,334 units, growing 21 per cent year-on-year. The three-

wheeler segment, including electric three-wheelers, also performed strongly, with sales increasing 53 per cent to 14,538 units during July. Mahindra's year-to-date performance further reflected the company's sustained growth. From April to July 2026, utility vehicle sales reached 2,34,793 units, growing 16 per cent over the previous year. Three-wheeler sales during the same period stood at 50,793 units, registering a significant 69 per cent increase. The company's light commercial vehicle segment also maintained positive

momentum, with LCVs below 2 tonnes recording 31 per cent year-to-date growth, while the 2-tonne to 3.5-tonne category grew 19 per cent. Mahindra's Farm Equipment Business also reported healthy tractor sales. Domestic tractor sales during June 2026 stood at 58,177 units, reflecting 12 per cent year-on-year growth. Total tractor sales, including exports, reached 59,935 units, compared with 53,392 units during the same period last year. With continued demand across SUVs, commercial vehicles, and farm equipment, Mahindra closed the financial year 2026 with record volumes of 6,60,276 SUVs and 2,89,597 light commercial vehicles under 3.5 tonnes, achieving year-on-year growth of 20 per cent and 13 per cent respectively.

MLRITM Celebrates Graduation Day Grandly



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Marri Laxman Reddy Institute of Technology and Management (MLRITM) and Marri Laxman Reddy Institute of Pharmacy (MLRIP) jointly conducted a grand Graduation Day Ceremony, awarding degrees to students who successfully completed B.Tech, B.Pharmacy, and MBA programmes. The event was attended by Professor V. Balakista Reddy, Chairman, Telangana Higher Education Department, and Ms. Padmaja Sriram, Regional Leader - Talent Acquisition (AP & Telangana), as Chief Guests. They presented degrees to the graduates and congratulated them on their academic accomplishments. Addressing the gathering, Professor Balakista Reddy highlighted that engineering goes beyond technical

knowledge and focuses on developing innovative thinking to solve real-world challenges. He urged students to adapt to emerging fields like Artificial Intelligence, Robotics, Data Science, and Sustainable Technologies through continuous learning and skill development. MLRITM Director Dr. P. Sridhar advised graduates to embrace lifelong learning, maintain integrity, and contribute positively to society. He encouraged them to treat challenges as opportunities and build successful careers with confidence and perseverance. The ceremony was attended by Chairman Sri Marri Laxman Reddy, Board Member Smt. Anu Shreya Reddy, principals, faculty members, parents, and graduating students. The occasion marked a memorable milestone as students stepped into their professional journeys.

‘KJQ’ makers unveil Yukti Thareja’s character ‘Bhargavi’ ahead of August 7 release

The makers of the upcoming Telugu period crime drama ‘KJQ’ (King, Jackie, Queen) have unveiled actress Yukthi Thareja’s character from the much-awaited film, creating excitement among fans and movie enthusiasts. The production house SLV Cinemas revealed that Yukthi will be seen portraying the role of Bhargavi, the ‘Queen’ of the film.

SLV Cinemas shared a special video clip introducing the actress and her character on social media platforms. The production banner announced, “Meet ‘Bhargavi’ as the Queen of #KJQ in 6 days. Grand release worldwide on August 7th.” The character reveal has further increased curiosity around the film, which is gearing up for a grand theatrical release.

The excitement surrounding KJQ has been steadily growing following the release of its trailer a few days ago. The trailer opens with a powerful voiceover that introduces the three key characters through symbolic comparisons with personalities representing contrasting shades of human nature. The narration explores how circumstances can shape individuals, turning them into a ruthless force, a visionary figure, or an ordinary person.

The trailer offers glimpses of an



intense storyline filled with power struggles, ego clashes, friendship, and revenge. It showcases the journey of two close friends whose relationship takes a dramatic turn, leading them into a fierce conflict. The performances of Deekshith Shetty, Shashi Odela, and Yukthi Thareja appear to be central to the emotional and dramatic depth of the narrative.

Produced by Sudhakar Cherukuri under the banner of SLV Cinemas, KJQ is a period crime drama set in the backdrop of the 1990s. The film explores the darker shades of human emo-

tions while presenting a gripping story of ambition, loyalty, and betrayal.

Deekshith Shetty, who has impressed audiences with his performances in films like ‘Dasara’ and ‘The Girlfriend’, plays the lead role in the movie. He is joined by debutant Shashi Odela and actress Yukthi Thareja, who appear in significant roles.

The film holds special significance as it marks the final directorial venture of late filmmaker KK, who passed away last year. The makers are planning to present KJQ as a heartfelt tribute to his creative vision, passion, and dedication towards cinema.

On the technical front, the film features cinematography by Nagesh Banell, while Poornachandra Tejaswi has composed the background score. The technical crew also includes editor Shravan Kantikaneni and production designer Srikanth Ramishetty, who have contributed to creating the film’s period setting and visual appeal.

With its intriguing storyline, strong performances, and emotional connection to the late director’s legacy, KJQ is expected to be one of the notable Telugu releases this season. The film is scheduled to hit theatres worldwide on August 7.

Mumbai police trace Sweden VPN in Aamir Khan threat probe

MUMBAI
Wakeup telangana



As per the latest update in the Aamir Khan threat case, police sources revealed that a Sweden-based VPN was allegedly used to send the viral threatening audio message received by the actor.

Police authorities are now examining the digital trail to trace the person behind the message. According to sources, the threatening audio message was allegedly linked to the Lawrence Bishnoi gang. In the clip, a person claiming to be Arzu Bishnoi allegedly made remarks against Aamir Khan and accused him of promoting “love jihad,” claiming it was against Indian culture and Sanatan Dharma. The audio message further contained a threat to “teach Aamir Khan a lesson.”

Police have not registered an FIR in the case so far. Sources said that officials are working to identify the person responsible for sending the message. As part of the investigation, police officials reportedly traced the initial IP address to Sweden. However, authorities suspect that the actual location may have been concealed as

the message was allegedly sent using a VPN and Tor browser.

The use of such tools can make it difficult to identify the original source of an online activity, and investigators are now analyzing available digital evidence to trace the sender.

On July 18, Aamir Khan allegedly received a threat from individuals claiming links to the Lawrence Bishnoi gang through a purported social media post. The alleged threats were issued by people identified as Arzu Bishnoi and Tyson Bishnoi. The purported post allegedly accused Aamir of promoting “love jihad,” with the claim seemingly linked to his recent marriage.

An excerpt from the post read, “I, Aarzu Bishnoi and Tyson Bishnoi (Lawrence Bishnoi Group), want to say that people like Aamir Khan are pro-

moting what is being called ‘Love Jihad’ in our country, which is against our culture. We will not tolerate this man, and he will soon be made to face the consequences. This is against Sanatan Dharma and against the nation. We promise our brothers, sisters, and fellow citizens that whoever promotes such disgraceful acts will be dealt with in our own way. Those who are encouraging this in the name of stardom will be silenced.”

According to sources, police became aware of the alleged threat through a Facebook post and a voice note. Aamir Khan recently tied the knot with his longtime partner Gauri Spratt in a private registered marriage ceremony held at his Mumbai residence on July 5. The wedding marked the 61-year-old actor’s third marriage.

Meru International School Hosts Grand Merutsav 2026 Finale



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Meru International School, Miyapur, concluded its flagship inter-school festival Merutsav 2026 with a grand prize distribution ceremony, celebrating the achievements of thousands of students who participated in sports, cultural, academic, and innovation competitions.

Founded by Ms. Meghana Gorukanti Jupally, Merutsav has grown into a major student platform that encourages creativity, talent, teamwork, and leadership among young learners. The 2026 edition, themed “Future Skill Readiness: Learn. Adapt. Lead.”, focused on preparing students with essential skills such as critical thinking, collaboration, communication, and problem-solving.

The 10-day sports championship and two-day cultural festival witnessed participation from more than 4,500 students representing over 45 schools. Around 2,200 students competed in sports events, while over 2,300 students showcased their talents in cultural competitions.

The festival featured more than 120 competitions across academics, technology, performing arts, visual arts, literature, innovation, and creative challenges.

Special attractions included the Circuit Hackathon, conducted under Meru’s STREaM initiative, which tested students’ robotics and engineering skills, and Budget Masters, a financial literacy competition aimed at developing analytical thinking and decision-making abilities.

The closing ceremony

honoured winners with trophies, medals, certificates, and awards, recognising their dedication, creativity, and sportsmanship. The event also highlighted the importance of participation, teamwork, resilience, and leadership beyond academics.

Speaking on the occasion, Ms. Meghana Gorukanti Jupally, Founder & Director, Meru International School, said that Merutsav continues to provide students with opportunities to explore their abilities, embrace challenges, and build confidence for the future. Merutsav 2026 concluded successfully, reinforcing Meru International School’s commitment to creating future-ready learners through innovative education, experiential learning, and holistic development.

Ahmedabad begins 2030 Commonwealth Games journey with Glasgow baton handover

GANDHINAGAR
Wakeup telangana

Ahmedabad will officially begin its journey as the host of the 2030 Commonwealth Games when the Host Baton and the Commonwealth Games flag are handed over during the closing ceremony of the Glasgow 2026 Games on Sunday, officials said.

“The Host Baton and the Commonwealth Games flag will be formally handed over to Ahmedabad on Sunday during the closing ceremony of the Commonwealth Games 2026 in Glasgow,” an official release said.

The 2030 edition in Ahmedabad will also coincide with the centenary of the Commonwealth Games, the first edition of which was held in Hamilton, Canada, in 1930.

Gujarat Deputy Chief Minister Harsh Sanghavi is attending the ongoing Commonwealth Games in Glasgow and will be present at the closing ceremony, where Ahmedabad will be welcomed as the next host through a cultural handover segment.

The handover ceremony will feature three acts, the release said.

The first will commemorate the 150th anniversary of ‘Vande Mataram’, followed by a classical Indian jugalbandi



featuring sitar player Rishabh Rikhiram Sharma and Scottish piper Ross Ainsley. The final segment will present a cultural journey across India, with a special focus on Gujarat, it said.

The King’s Baton Relay, one of the enduring traditions of the Commonwealth Games, celebrates the diversity of the 74 Commonwealth nations and territories. For the first time, each Commonwealth nation and territory has been given its own baton, allowing it to customise the symbol to reflect its culture and creativity, the release said.

Each baton carries a portion of

a message from Britain’s King Charles III, while the individuals chosen to carry it are recognised for their contributions to society, it said. The Baton Relay tradition began in Cardiff in 1958.

“This handover is not a formality. This event will express the spirit of two nations on the same stage. There will be an extraordinary jugalbandi between the sitar and the pipes, which will also include the celebration of ‘Vande Mataram,’” said Glasgow 2026 Chief Marketing and Ceremonies Officer Louisa Mahon. Glasgow audiences will also be given a first glimpse of

what is to come in Ahmedabad 2030, she said.

Chanda Singh, Ceremony Director for the India Handover Segment, said the programme is designed to showcase an India that is confident while remaining rooted in its traditions. Ahmedabad 2030 will celebrate 100 years of the Commonwealth Games, and the handover ceremony is the first chapter of that journey, Singh added.

Meanwhile, Indian athletes have won 11 gold, 15 silver and eight bronze medals so far at the Commonwealth Games, which began on July 23.

Control political hate speech before introducing Hate Speech Bill, KTR tells State government

BRS working president KT Rama Rao criticised the proposed Hate Speech Bill, saying the Congress should first restrain its own leaders. He also alleged increasing censorship of social media, defended freedom of expression and questioned claims made on several political issues

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Saturday said the Congress government should first ensure that its own leaders refrain from making hate speeches before introducing the proposed Hate Speech Bill in the Assembly. Addressing a programme in Hyderabad, he said the Bill should begin with the government itself. Congress leaders should first control their language before accusing others of indulging in hate speech, he remarked. Rama Rao alleged that both the State and Central governments were attempting to impose censorship on media content

and publications. He claimed that several posts and reels shared on social media platforms over the last four days had been forcibly removed. He further alleged that people were being jailed for speaking or sharing the truth. Citing an example, he said a person identified as Nalla Balu was jailed for 15 days in Telangana for merely reposting a post on X that did not contain any objectionable content. Speaking at a seminar organised by Nava Telangana, a Telugu newspaper, here on Saturday, KT Rama Rao referred to TPCC president Mahesh Kumar Goud's remarks on curbing fake news on social media. He said



content on both mainstream and social media should be fact-checked. He stressed that a false campaign was launched claiming that Pragathi Bhavan had 150 rooms and gold commodities. "Who is staying there now? Are there 150 rooms? And who spread this misinformation?" he asked. Rama Rao also questioned allegations surrounding the Kaleshwaram project. "A

project worth Rs 84,000 crore was branded as a Rs 1 lakh crore scam. Is that not fake news?" he asked. He further claimed that reports alleging that film actors' phones were tapped later turned out to be baseless after police officials said they had no details of the actors or their phone numbers. Recalling recent Gen Z protests at Jantar Mantar, Rama Rao said Prime Minister Narendra Modi had responded with a social media post at midnight. While traditional media could be managed, social media remained crucial for ensuring accountability in governments, he said. He also referred to a complaint of sexual as-

sault allegedly involving the son of a Union minister and questioned whether the issue would have received attention without social media. Similarly, he asked which media organisation had highlighted the alleged assaults on people at Lagacherla or questioned the government's alleged intolerance towards journalists. Stating that the youth had become more politically aware, Rama Rao said they were neither afraid of central investigation agencies nor could they be intimidated. "We have seen who emerged victorious in the battle between WhatsApp uncles and Instagram youth," he said.

Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar Unveils Mission-80 World Record Poster

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Telangana Legislative Assembly Speaker Shri Gaddam Prasad Kumar unveiled the poster of the "Mission-80" World Record Attempt organized by GVR Karate Academy as part of India's 80th Independence Day celebrations. The Speaker, while unveiling the poster at his office in Hyderabad, appreciated the efforts of karate exponent V. Sudhakar and said the unique world record attempt would bring pride to Telangana and the nation. He extended his best wishes for the successful completion of the challenge. The world record attempt is scheduled to be held on August 9, 2026, at 9 AM



at Dr. G.S. Melkote Park, Narayanguda, Hyderabad. As part of the challenge, V. Sudhakar will attempt to break 80 Shabad Tiles using nine different karate techniques within eight minutes. The organizers said the event is dedicated to the sacrifices of India's freedom fighters and aims to promote patriotism, discipline, self-confidence, and fitness among youth. The poster unveiling

event was attended by Smt. Mahalakshmi Ramanna Goud, former Corporator of Himayatnagar; Dr. G.S. Gopal Reddy, Founder and Director of GVR Karate Academy; V. Sudhakar; and Amrutha Reddy. The organizers invited sports enthusiasts, students, and the public to participate in large numbers and support the historic world record attempt.

Metro Rail expansion: Hyderabad loses steam, other city Metros gain pace

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

As uncertainty looms over the approval of Metro Phase II and the takeover of Phase I by the State government, Hyderabad is lagging behind in the expansion of its Metro rail network while several other cities are adding significant stretches. This comes amid the BJP-led Central government's indifference towards Telangana. At present, Hyderabad Metro Rail covers a 69.2-km network across three corridors. In 2021, the previous BRS government submitted a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for Metro Phase II covering 26 km from BHEL to Lakdikapul and a 5-km extension from LB Nagar to Nagole. Besides this, it also proposed a Mass Rapid

Transit System for the Kokapet area and the Warangal Neo Metro. The DPRs for these routes were prepared by the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) and the Maharashtra Metro Rail Corporation, the same agencies that prepared DPRs for Metro projects in other cities. Former Municipal Administration and Urban Development Minister KT Rama Rao met the then Union Ministers Nirmala Sitharaman and Hardeep Singh Puri several times, urging them to expedite the approvals. However, the Central government rejected Telangana's proposal for Hyderabad Metro Phase II in 2023, citing reasons such as lower Peak Hour Peak Direction Traffic (PHPDT) and insufficient projected

ridership. After the Congress government came to power in December 2023, it proposed seven routes covering 122 km under Phase II-A and three additional routes under Phase II-B. However, none of these proposals has seen the light of day over the last six years. In addition to the delay in approving the Hyderabad Metro Phase II expansion plans, there has been no progress on the takeover of Phase I by the State government. It has been a month since the Central government agreed to entrust SBI Capital Markets Limited (SBICAPS) with the valuation and financial assessment of Metro Phase I. Besides this, the same agency may also examine the financing structure for Phase II.

Water Board lauds Hyderabad resident for conserving rainwater

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A Hyderabad resident received applause from the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) for his rainwater harvesting system. Vinod Sri Bhashyam from Prakash Nagar, Motilal Nehru Nagar, constructed four recharge pits, which help collect rainwater from the rooftop and return it to the ground. The house also has a borewell, which preserves water during summer due to its system-



atic groundwater recharge, demonstrating the effectiveness of the rainwater harvesting system. "These measures help improve groundwater levels, enhance the sustainability of borewells, conserve valuable water resources and reduce dependence on government drinking water supply and water tankers," said Water Board Managing Director Ashok Reddy.

Cyberabad Police rescue 664 children during Operation Muskaan-XII

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Cyberabad Police rescued 664 children during Operation Muskaan-XII, a month-long special drive conducted across the commissionerate from July 1 to July 31. The operation is aimed at tracing missing children and rescuing minors from child labour, begging, rag-picking and other hazardous situations. As part of the operation, the Cyberabad Police constituted seven special teams, each comprising one Sub-Inspector, four police constables and one woman police constable. The teams conducted inspections at industries, factories, companies,



shops, construction sites and other establishments to identify and rescue children engaged in child labour. They also carried out a special drive to identify children involved in begging. The details of all rescued children were uploaded to the DARPAN (Digital Analysis for Reunification and Protection of At-Risk Children) ap-

plication for rehabilitation and further monitoring. Among the 664 rescued children, 644 were boys and 20 were girls. Of them, 162 children were from Telangana, including 159 boys and three girls, while 502 children belonged to other States, comprising 485 boys and 17 girls. Telangana government updates

Rank wise list released for Telangana's NEET candidates

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Kaloji Narayana Rao University of Health Sciences (KNRUHS) on Saturday, August 1, released the rank-wise list of Telangana candidates who qualified in NEET UG 2026 for MBBS/BDS admissions. Candidates can check their state rank and download the list from the official website. Veeriahgari

Sahyu secured the highest score in Telangana at 705, achieving All India Rank (AIR) 13. This was followed by AIR 19 Bura Sai Sharan with a score of 701 and AIR 21 Kandagala Haneesh with a score of 700. Andem Sai Charan Reddy and Mayuk Jayasimha both scored 700, securing AIR 38 and 42, respectively. The university has clarified that the list is meant only for information.

Old City Bonalu celebrations to begin in Hyderabad on Sunday

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The stage is set for the much-awaited Old City Bonalu celebrations, which will commence on Sunday and continue throughout the week before culminating in the grand Bonalu procession on August 11. Thousands of devotees are expected to participate in the annual festivities, one of Hyderabad's most vibrant and revered religious and cultural events. The highlight of the celebrations is the Bonalu festival at the historic Simhavahini Mahankali Temple at Lal Darwaza, where devotees, particularly women dressed in traditional attire, offer bonam to Goddess Mahankali as an expression of gratitude and devotion during the Ashada month. Ahead of the celebrations, VC Sajjanar visited the Simhavahini Mahankali Temple on Friday, offered prayers and reviewed the security arrangements for the main Bonalu celebrations on August 10 and the grand procession the following



day. He directed officers to ensure effective crowd management, smooth traffic movement and adequate safety measures for devotees. Around 2,000 police personnel will be deployed across the temple premises, procession routes and other sensitive locations to ensure the festivities pass off peacefully. The Simhavahini Mahankali Temple occupies a special place in Hyderabad's history. According to historical accounts, the devastating Musi floods of 1908 claimed thousands of lives and left large parts of the city submerged. As the calamity unfolded, the then Nizam of Hyderabad, Mir Mahbub Ali Khan, is believed to have been advised by his Prime Minister, Maharaja Sir Kishen Pershad, to seek the blessings of Goddess

Mahankali. The Nizam visited the Lal Darwaza temple, offered special prayers and presented a jewel-studded tilak to the deity. It is said that the floodwaters began to recede thereafter and, since then, the temple has remained an enduring symbol of hope and protection for the people of Hyderabad. The temple derives its name from "Simhavahini", a term meaning "the one who rides a lion". The lion, regarded as a symbol of strength, courage and the triumph of good over evil, is closely associated with the goddess, who is revered as an incarnation of Durga or Mahakali. Local legends also trace the temple's origins to a divine vision in which the goddess appeared in a devotee's dream and instructed that a shrine be built in her honour.

H-FAST raids snacks unit, discards oil being used for five days

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Over the past few days, Hyderabad Food Adulteration Surveillance Team (H-FAST) conducted raids at several manufacturing units across the city, uncovering unhygienic conditions and unsafe practices. On July 31, a raid was conducted at Sri Sai Ram Foods in Jaipuri Colony, Nagole, and where officials allegedly found food handlers using the same cooking oil for the past five days for preparing

murukulu. Around 60 litres of unfit oil was discarded, and samples were collected for laboratory analysis. A video shows a barrel of oil being dumped into a hole in the ground. Other violations found at the place include non-maintenance of pest control records, medical fitness certificates, and food and water analysis reports. A fryum manufacturing unit called JSR Products at Babul Reddy Nagar in Mailardevpally was raided on July 29.

TGSPDCL increases ex gratia for electrocution deaths to Rs 8L

Southern Power Distribution Company of Telangana (TGSPDCL) on Tuesday, July 28, enhanced the ex gratia amount for electrocution deaths to Rs 8 lakh. This order applies to deaths that occurred from April 1 this year. Earlier, the ex gratia amount for electrocution deaths of non-departmental persons was Rs 5 lakh. The amount will be payable to a legal heir, with Rs 7.2 lakh being paid as a fixed deposit and Rs 80,000 being paid in cash. For animals, the amount is still Rs 40,000 for cattle and Rs 7,000 for goats and sheep.

MeeSeva clocks highest-ever single-day transactions at 2.2 lakh

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

MeeSeva recorded 2,20,172 daily transactions on July 31, the highest-ever registration since its inception, IT Minister D Sridhar Babu said on Saturday, August 1. The Telangana Family Register Certificate received the highest number of requests, followed by transport and IT (income tax) applica-

tions. "Usually, the digital citizen service platform clocks between 70,000 and 80,000 registrations on a daily basis. The new digits reflect the growing confidence of citizens in this government," Babu said. He attributed the record to technological upgrades and the integration of new services on the platform. "The MeeSeva platform is handling an unprece-

ded transaction load without any technical disruptions," Babu said. MeeSeva currently provides a range of government services, including Family Card applications, income, caste and residence certificates, transport-related services, registrations, utility bill payments and several other departmental services through its network of centres and digital platforms.

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