

WAKE UP TELANGANA



THE VOICE OF THE VOICELESS



CM Revanth Reddy
Praises Nizams in
Telangana Assembly

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No alliance with BJP
ahead of 2028
Telangana Assembly
polls, says KTR

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Harish Rejects CM
Revanth's claims calls
for judicial probe: P2

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WEATHER

MAX : 32.0°C
MIN : 24.3°C
RH : 84%
RAINFALL : 7.5 MM
FORECAST : LIGHT RAIN LIKELY
MAX/MIN
temp. 32/24°C

PIL Challenges MDR on UPI Transactions

NEW DELHI

A public interest litigation has been filed in the Supreme Court challenging the Centre's decision to impose a merchant discount rate (MDR) on specified UPI person-to-merchant transactions exceeding ₹2,000. The petition alleges that the levy was introduced without adequate statutory safeguards, transparency or public consultation. The government has introduced a 0.4 per cent fee on UPI payments exceeding ₹2,000 made to merchants, with effect from October 15. No MDR will be levied on UPI transactions of up to ₹2,000.

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Revanth Targets KCR Family in Land Grab

Announces probe into 388 acres govt land at Erravalli farmhouse

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Wednesday accused former chief minister and BRS chief K. Chandrashekar Rao of encroaching 388 acres of government land at his nearly 700-acre farmhouse at Erravalli and announced the formation of a high-powered fact-finding committee to probe the land encroachment within 30 days. Giving a detailed three-and-a-half-hour reply to a debate on prohibited lands under Section 22A in the state Assembly, Revanth Reddy alleged that Chandrashekar Rao and his family members had amassed assets worth thousands of crores of rupees and acquired hundreds of acres of government, Bhoodan



and assigned land under the cover of Dharani. Revanth Reddy asked how the government lost 388 acres of land when Chandrashekar Rao and his family had purchased only 295 acres. He also promised to distribute 388 acres of the alleged government land to 800 Dalit families, whom he said, were insulted in the past. The Chief Minister asked local officials at Erravalli, local minister and the minister in charge to un-

cover the facts behind the land encroachment within 30 days. If they fail to meet the deadline, Revanth Reddy warned action would be taken against them.

He called Chandrashekar Rao a "fake and pseudo Telangana freedom fighter", contrasted him with renowned revolutionary freedom fighters, from Che Guevara to local hero Komaram Bheem, who, Revanth Reddy said, had

sacrificed everything in their lives. The Chief Minister also alleged that the Chandrashekar Rao family had illegally amassed 440 acres of government land across 31 villages in 24 mandals of nine districts in the state, in violation of the Agriculture Land Ceiling Act and the Urban Land Ceiling Act. He said Chandrashekar Rao and his wife Shobha owned 67.5 acres of wetland, against the ceiling of 27 acres mandated under the Agriculture Land Ceiling Act. Similarly, Revanth Reddy alleged BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao, his wife Shailima and their unmarried children Alekhyia and Himanshu Rao owned 123.26 acres of wetland. "Former BRS minister Harish Rao and his wife Srinitha owned

30.5 acres, while Kavita and her husband held 37.26 acres," he alleged. The Chief Minister said former Rajya Sabha MP Jogenpally Santosh Kumar, his wife Rohini and his father Ravinder Rao owned 79.2 acres of land in the state. Similarly, other close family members such as Naveen Rao owned 53.21 acres and Kondal Rao 48.38 acres, he alleged. Stating that he was not providing details of land allegedly acquired by Chandrashekar Rao's family members in the names of benamis, Revanth Reddy said the Janawada farmhouse owned by Rama Rao was illegally transferred from Shatabisha Agro Company through benami transactions.

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India Should Aspire to Be Among Early Leaders in Emerging Tech: Modi

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate SEMICON India 2026 in New Delhi on Thursday, a day after asserting that India should aspire to be among the early leaders in emerging technologies. The three-day conference and exhibition, to be held from September 17 to 19 under the theme "Silicon to Systems: Building the Ecosystem," will bring together Indian and international companies, policymakers, investors, researchers, start-ups, academic institutions and students from across the semiconductor and electronics value chain. Chairing a semiconductor roundtable with leading CEOs on Wednesday, Modi said the government was committed to providing a predictable and responsive policy environment. He also emphasised the importance of close collaboration between the government and the semiconductor industry in shaping India's technological future. The Prime Minister highlighted India's strong foundation in talent, technology adoption and infrastructure and called for greater industry



participation in skilling, innovation and emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence and quantum computing, the Prime Minister's Office said. Noting the significant progress made in the semiconductor sector, Modi said the ecosystem was moving from foundational efforts to a phase of greater scale and opportunity. He reiterated the government's commitment to providing a predictable and responsive policy environment, while emphasising that policies must evolve in line with technological advances and industry requirements. Modi invited industry leaders to suggest policy and administrative measures and assured them that their inputs would be considered while further strengthening the sector. He also encouraged them to participate actively in the next phase of India's semiconductor growth.

Pak Vessel Collides With Indian Navy Ship; India Summons Envoy

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

India on Wednesday summoned Pakistan's chargé d'affaires in New Delhi and lodged a strong protest after a Pakistani naval ship collided with an Indian Navy vessel in international waters in the North Arabian Sea on Tuesday evening. New Delhi said the collision caused no major damage but described the conduct of the Pakistani naval vessel as "unprofessional and unacceptable". It asked Is-

The Pakistani Charge d'Affaires was advised to convey to the concerned authorities in Pakistan the need for all military units to exercise due care and respect the provisions of relevant agreements between the two countries

lamabad to ensure that its military units exercise due care and adhere to a 1991 agreement between the two countries. India's chargé d'affaires in Islamabad was also instructed to lodge a similar protest with Pakistan's foreign ministry. Sources

said the Pakistani naval ship approached a front-line Indian warship, which was on a routine surveillance mission in the North Arabian Sea, at high speed. The Pakistani vessel allegedly manoeuvred in an unsafe and unprofessional manner, resulting in the collision. Some reports said the incident occurred about 220 km east of the Oman coast. The Pakistani vessel involved was reported to be the Yarmook-class corvette PNS

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Houthis Target Yanbu Aramco Facility, Saudi Air Base

RIYADH
Wakeup telangana

Yemen's Houthi forces have rejected Saudi Arabia's claim that a drone was intercepted near Mecca, calling it "fabrications and lies". The group said its operations target Saudi oil facilities and military bases, not Islamic holy sites. Saudi Arabia said it intercepted a Houthi drone heading towards Mecca and warned that the security of holy sites was a "red line". The Organisation of Islamic Cooperation condemned the

reported attack. Saudi Arabia also issued alerts over possible attacks in Mecca and southern areas after missile and drone strikes from Yemen wounded 13 people. Amid renewed fighting, the Houthis have claimed control of parts of the Red Sea coast and the Bab al-Mandab Strait. The group also said it targeted an Aramco facility in Yanbu and the Khamis Mushait air base in response to Saudi airstrikes. Houthi spokesman Yahya Saree claimed Saudi Arabia had carried out more

than 450 airstrikes during the week. The escalation has raised concerns over maritime security, trade and energy supplies. The UN estimates that 82,000 people have fled their homes since the start of September. In a tiny village perched on a mountain in Yemen, all the doors are padlocked, a children's swing hangs motionless and silence reigns after residents fled the shelling of pro-Iran Houthi fighters. Like tens of thousands of people across Yemen who have fled their homes for

less violent regions, the vast majority of residents of Al-Akad have left since the Houthis' lightning offensive engulfed their village. For now, only the bravest have returned, if only to check whether their homes are still standing. The Houthi capture of ground overlooking the Bab el-Mandeb Strait has dealt Saudi Arabia its gravest setback in Yemen in years, exposing intelligence failures, the collapse of Yemeni allies and the limits of U.S. protection. A Houthi advance

this week along the Red Sea coast and the capture of islands at the mouth of the strait, a vital artery for global oil supplies, has also left the kingdom scrambling for backing as Iran and its allies expand their reach. Oil prices fell on Wednesday as reports that Saudi Arabia was offering additional crude cargoes via Oman eased concerns about the scale of Middle East supply disruptions, while European diesel prices hovered near a record high.

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Jarange Firm On Mumbai March Despite Health Concerns

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Maratha reservation activist Manoj Jarange Patil remained firm on his decision to march towards Mumbai on Thursday, even as his health deteriorated on the 19th day of his hunger strike and doctors advised him against undertaking the journey. Jarange, who is currently in Patoda in Beed district of the Marathwada region, was administered saline after complaining of weakness. Addressing his supporters, he said he would leave for Mumbai after 1

pm on Thursday and challenged the authorities to stop him. "If I am not allowed to enter Azad Maidan, I will call members of the Maratha community," he said. The Mumbai police have so far not granted permission for Jarange to hold a protest at Azad Maidan. The activist is planning to approach the Bombay High Court seeking permission to hold the protest in Mumbai. Jarange also alleged that a conspiracy was being hatched to kill him, without providing details to substantiate the claim. Meanwhile, Maharashtra

6 Orphanage Boys Drown During Immersion

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Six boys from an orphanage drowned in Neredu pond at Pedda Kanjerla village in Patancheru mandal on Wednesday evening during Ganesha idol immersion. Four of the victims were minors, while two were aged 22. The incident occurred around 5.30 pm when inmates of Sirisha Orphanage, Indresham municipality, along with locals, headed in a DCM van for immersion. While placing the idol, six boys accidentally slipped into 12-ft-deep water and drowned, police said. Two of them tried to save

the others but also lost balance and drowned. Patancheru police, along with DRF, Fire and NDRF teams and local gaja ethargaru (lifesavers), launched a rescue operation with seven boats. After two hours, the bodies were retrieved. There were over 70 students at the immersion. SHO M. Ravinder said the victims hailed from Kukatpally, Kurnool, Warangal, Mahbubnagar and Andhra Pradesh. Families were informed and the bodies shifted to Patancheru government hospital mortuary. Relatives who rushed to the pond broke down on seeing the bodies. "This is

the first time my nephew, 17-year-old P. Siddarth, went for immersion. I still can't believe he is no more," said P. Govind. Police said the boys could not swim and slipped into deep water near the edge of the pond. Locals raised an alarm and dialled 112. Over 17 villagers and temple committee members dived in but could not locate the bodies. A case of suspicious death has been registered. SI Maheshwar Reddy said it would be altered after investigation. Police have arranged accommodation for the victims' families in the village. The deceased were identified as Nar-

simha Raju, 21, a BTech student; J. Sumanth Reddy, 17, and P. Ganesh, 18, both diploma students; Uday Kiran, 22, a third-year diploma student; Sumanth Reddy, 17, a first-year diploma student; and Siddarth, 17, an SSC student. Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has expressed shock over the death of six students who drowned during Ganesha nijamajjan at Peddakanjerla village, Patancheru, Sangareddy district. He conveyed condolences to the families of the deceased and directed the district administration to extend support to them.

Harish Rejects CM Revanths claims calls for judicial probe

Harish Rao Demands Supreme Court Judge Probe Into Telangana’s 22A Land List, Seeks White Paper

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

BRS leader and former minister T Harish Rao has demanded a judicial inquiry by a sitting Supreme Court judge into the controversy surrounding Section 22A prohibited properties and alleged irregularities in the Dharani and Bhu Bharati land portals. He also sought a white paper from the Telangana government detailing all properties currently included in the prohibited list. Addressing the media at Telangana Bhavan on Wednesday, Harish Rao rejected Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy’s allegations concerning land holdings linked to former chief minister K Chandrasekhar Rao, his family members and other BRS leaders. Harish alleged that the government was

diverting attention from public issues and the implementation of the Congress’ six guarantees by focusing on political allegations. Harish claimed that members of the Chief Minister’s family collectively owned around 308 acres in locations including Kotra village in Vel-danda mandal, Kondapreddypalle and Malkapuram near Choutuppal, and alleged that only some properties were disclosed in election affidavits. These allegations were made by Harish and have not been independently established in the reports cited here. On allegations concerning land linked to his brother, Harish said his brother had been living in the United States for about three decades and had legally purchased shares in a poultry farm



using declared funds. He maintained that the property was neither assigned land nor acquired through an illegal transfer. The BRS leader also questioned the handling of prohibited land records. He referred to claims that the extent of properties on the prohibited list had increased significantly and sought clarification from the government on the figures and the process through which the records were uploaded. Harish questioned the explanation that officials had uploaded old lists without proper verification. He asked why action

had not been taken against officials if errors occurred and pointed to differing statements from Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy. Ponguleti has described the 22A issue as largely a legacy problem and said the total extent under the prohibited list had actually declined between the Congress government taking office and August 2026. According to figures he presented in the Assembly, private land under the list stood at 3.73 lakh acres as of August 30, compared with 3.95 lakh acres when Congress assumed office. Harish further alleged that more than 9,200 registrations under Bhu Bharati had taken place without the knowledge of actual owners and cited an alleged case involving a woman undergoing cancer

treatment in Gajwel. He demanded that properties wrongly included in the 22A list be removed without imposing conditions on genuine landowners. He also argued that ordinary citizens should receive the same treatment as influential individuals in matters concerning land records. The demand comes amid an escalating political dispute over Telangana’s prohibited-property lists. The state government has announced measures to examine categories of disputed properties and provide a mechanism for resolving genuine private land cases. Harish reiterated that a judicial inquiry and a comprehensive white paper were necessary to establish how properties entered the prohibited list and to address complaints from affected landowners.

Warangal: AIRF Demands Filling of 3 Lakh Railway Vacancies

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The All India Railwaymen’s Federation (AIRF) has demanded immediate filling of around three lakh vacant posts in the Railways and sanctioning of additional posts in line with the expansion of railway assets and new stations. The demands were raised during a Permanent Negotiating Machinery (PNM) meeting with Railway Board CEO and chairman Satish Kumar and other board members at Rail Bhavan in New Delhi on Wednesday. Various issues concerning railway employees were discussed at the meeting. AIRF president N. Kannaiah, general secretary Shiv Gopal Mishra, AIRF vice-president and SCRUM zonal president K. Srinivas and others participated



in the meeting. The union sought removal of the ceiling on Productivity Linked Bonus (PLB) and demanded that the bonus be calculated on basic pay. It said the existing ‘7,000 ceiling for the 78-day bonus should be removed. On railway safety, the union demanded deployment of two employees for night patrolling instead of one and reduction of the patrol beat from 20 km to 12 km. It also sought hard-duty and risk allowances for employees working in safety-related departments. The AIRF urged the Railway Board to stop surrender-

ing posts across departments and prevent outsourcing and privatisation. It also sought dedicated funds for repairs of railway quarters and improved medical facilities for employees, pensioners and their families. The representatives also raised issues relating to the 8th Pay Commission, cadre restructuring, Modified Assured Career Progression Scheme (MACPS), enhancement of uniform allowance, special facilities for women employees, increased Staff Benefit Fund (SBF) funds and development of railway institutes and clubs.

National Flag to Be Hoisted at All Government Offices in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri

The National Flag will be hoisted at all Government offices, including Gram Panchayats, across Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district on September 17 as part of the Telangana Praja Palana Dinotsavam celebrations. The district administration has directed officials to ensure uniform observance and smooth conduct of programmes across the district. According to a circular issued by the District Collector on September 16, the district-level Praja Palana Dinotsavam programme will be held at the Integrated District Offices Complex (IDOC) at 10:00 AM on September 17. All District-level Officers and their respective office staff have been instructed to reach the venue by 9:30 AM and participate in the celebrations. The administration has also asked DRDOs, CEOs and DPOs to implement the directions and ensure that the National Flag is hoisted at all Government offices and Gram Panchayats. The instructions are intended to facilitate coordinated celebrations at the district, mandal and village levels. The circular has been marked “MOST IMMEDIATE,” with officials warned that late arrival, unauthorised absence or deviation from the prescribed instructions would be viewed seriously and could result in disciplinary action as per applicable rules. At the district-level event, the designated Minister/Dignitary is expected to attend as Chief Guest, hoist the National Flag and address the gathering. The Telangana government observes September 17 as Telangana Praja Palana Dinotsavam, with the day carrying historical significance associated with September 17, 1948. The Yadadri Bhuvanagiri administration has stressed the importance of active participation by officials and proper arrangements to ensure the successful conduct of the 2026 celebrations.

Patient-Centric Services Needed at Yashoda Hospital, Secunderabad

Busy Medical Report Dispatch Counter Causes Unnecessary Waiting for Patients and Attendants

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Patients and their attendants visiting Yashoda Hospital in Secunderabad are reportedly facing inconvenience due to delays at the medical test clinical report dispatch counter. At the report collection and dispatch area, patients and attendants were seen waiting at the counters. Of the three designated counters, only two appeared to be functioning, resulting in queues and additional waiting time. For patients who have already paid substantial amounts for medical tests, timely access to clinical reports is important, particularly when reports are required for scheduled consultations or follow-up appointments. Any delay in receiving reports can cause inconvenience and may leave patients and their families concerned. Patients and attendants have also raised concerns regarding entry arrangements near the ground-floor exit and security area. Seriously ill,



elderly, weak and mobility-impaired patients may require additional assistance while entering or leaving the hospital. Hospital security and reception personnel should, wherever permitted under hospital protocols, provide clear guidance and assistance to such patients instead of directing them unnecessarily between different entry points. Patients expect hospitals not only to provide medical treatment but also to offer efficient, compassionate and convenient support throughout their visit. The hospital management may consider measures to improve the situation, including ensuring that all available report-dispatch counters operate during peak

hours, reducing waiting times and providing priority assistance to elderly, seriously ill and mobility-impaired patients. Clear signage and consistent guidance regarding entry and exit points could also help patients and attendants navigate the hospital more easily. Training security and front-office personnel in patient-oriented communication may further improve the overall experience. Ensuring that report-collection delays do not unnecessarily affect doctor appointments would also benefit patients. With healthcare expenses placing a significant financial burden on many families, patients expect timely and efficient services alongside medical care. The hospital management is therefore requested to examine the concerns and issue appropriate instructions to the concerned departments to further strengthen patient-friendly services at Yashoda Hospital, Secunderabad.

Dr. Kota Neelima Offers Prayers at Khairatabad Maha Ganapati

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Dr. Kota Neelima, TPCC Vice President and Congress Party In-charge for the Sanathnagar Constituency, visited the Sri Panchamukha Sankatahara Maha Ganapati at Khairatabad on Wednesday and offered special prayers. Members of the Khairatabad Ganesh Utsav Committee extended a warm welcome to her on the occasion. She prayed for the well-being, happiness,



prosperity and good health of people across the state, seeking the blessings of Lord Ganesha. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Kota Neelima said that the Khairatabad Maha Ganapati en-

joys widespread recognition across the country and attracts lakhs of devotees from different parts of the region every year. She recalled that the Ganesh Navaratri celebrations at Khairatabad have been conducted with devotion and grandeur for the past 69 years. She observed that the 11-day festivities of the iconic Khairatabad Ganapati, which draws devotees for darshan, have become a significant representation of Hyderabad’s spiritual heritage and cultural vi-

brancy. Dr. Kota Neelima appreciated the arrangements made by the festival committee to ensure that devotees visiting the Khairatabad Maha Ganapati from Hyderabad and other parts of the region do not face inconvenience. She conveyed her best wishes to the committee members for their efforts to conduct the celebrations successfully, with particular emphasis on the safety and convenience of devotees.

Engineers’ Day Celebrated Grandly at ZPP Hanamkonda

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Engineers’ Day was celebrated grandly at the Zilla Praja Parishad (ZPP), Hanamkonda, on September 15, commemorating the birth anniversary of legendary engineer Sir M. Visvesvaraya. MLA Naini Rajender Reddy, SE Srinivas Rao, EEs, DEEs, AEEs and other engineering staff participated in the celebrations and paid tributes to Visvesvaraya. State Vice President of the Diploma Engineers



Association Er. Emmadi Srinivas Rao highlighted the importance of dedication, technical expertise, innovation and professional responsibility in executing quality developmental works. The programme rec-

ognised engineers’ vital role in infrastructure, public services and nation-building, while stressing that their commitment and expertise help drive development and build a better future.

TPF Round-Table Demands Better Govt Schools, Lower Dependence on Private Education

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The need to strengthen government schools and reduce families’ dependence on costly private educational institutions emerged as a major concern at a round-table meeting organised by the Telangana People’s Front (TPF) in Khammam on Wednesday as part of its Education Bus Yatra. The meeting brought together representatives from teachers’ organisations, activist groups, education circles and other sections of civil society to discuss

the challenges facing school education in Telangana. Participants emphasised that improving the quality of government education was essential to provide families with an affordable and reliable alternative to private schools. Speakers called for greater investment in government schools, particularly in infrastructure, teaching staff, learning resources and overall academic conditions. They said that well-equipped government institutions with adequate numbers of qualified teachers could play a cru-



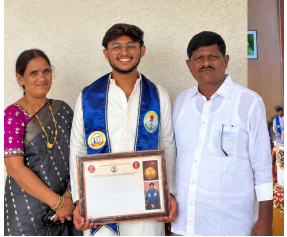
cial role in ensuring that children from different economic backgrounds have access to quality education without placing a heavy financial burden on their families. The TPF said the discussions at the Khammam meeting re-

flected a broad consensus that public demand is essential for achieving quality government education for all. Participants also observed that strengthening the government school system could create greater accountabil-

ity in the education sector and help keep private educational institutions under check. The round-table was organised as part of the Education Bus Yatra launched by the TPF in Hyderabad on September 15. The campaign is scheduled to continue until September 27, covering the ten districts of erstwhile Telangana. Through the yatra, the TPF is seeking legislative and policy measures aimed at improving access to affordable education. Among its key demands are a law

regulating fees charged by private schools and junior colleges, measures to strengthen government institutions through the Telangana Public Schools initiative, and legislation to ensure that 18 per cent of the state budget is allocated to education. Prof. Padmaja Shaw, former IAS officers Akunuri Murali and M. Champalal, N. Rubina, Srujana Yadav and other TPF members participated in the Khammam discussions. Senior journalist N. Tirumal Rao and cardiologist M. F. Gopinath were also present.

Graduation Day: Kangti MPP Venkat Reddy Congratulates Dr. Sai Kiran Reddy



A proud moment for a family from Kangti Mandal was witnessed as Dr. Malipatel Sai Kiran Reddy successfully completed his medical education and participated in the graduation ceremony. Dr. Sai Kiran Reddy is the son of Venkateshwar Reddy and the former MPP of Kangti Mandal. On the occasion, Venkat Reddy, MPP of Kangti Mandal and BRS leader, congratulated the young medical graduate and conveyed his best wishes for a successful professional career. The graduation ceremony was held in a grand setting, with a large number of medical graduates receiving their certificates and being honoured. Dr. Sai Kiran Reddy was seen proudly wearing his graduation sash and holding his certificate, marking an important milestone in his academic journey. Thalka Family Members conveyed heart felt congratulations to young doctors and wished their future success.

Eco-Friendly Ganesh Celebrations Gain Momentum in Bhuvanagiri



Senior Congress youth leader Gurumalla Sanith Kumar has formally requested the Telangana government to consider his candidature for a nominated post in any state government corporation. A 35-year-old B.Com graduate from Ratna Nagar, Barkatpura, Sanith Kumar has been actively associated with the Congress for several years. He served in Secunderabad Parliament Youth Congress from 2019 to 2020 and as Youth Congress Secretary from 2020 to 2022. He also campaigned extensively for the Congress candidate in Amberpet during the 2023 Assembly elections and participated in the Prajapalana programme, citing his organisational experience and public service.

Families of Telangana’s Vallala Student Martyrs of 1948 Still Awaiting Recognition

NALGONDA
Wakeup telangana

Razakars, the private militia of Nizams, shot dead 10 students on premises of their school at Vallala in Shaligowraram mandal of Nalgonda district in Telangana on August 15, 1948, for hoisting the Indian National Flag on the school when the Hyderabad State of the erstwhile Nizams integrated into the Indian Union following Operation Polo. But the families of these martyrs of Telangana liberation have received no recognition even as Thursday, September 17, is being commemorated by the central government as the Hyderabad Liberation Day, while the state government is celebrating the occasion as Praja Palana Day. Families of the Vallala martyrs say even though successive governments and political leaders promised recognition of their sacrifice, their fam-



ilies have not received even a token of respect for the martyrdom. Gunnala Malla Reddy, grandson of the martyr Gunnala Ramaiah, deplored that families of Vallala martyrs have not even received invitations from the district authorities for the state celebrations. Due to poverty, he has migrated to Hyderabad and is working as a car driver. Leaders had promised to families of the 10 martyrs that they would pursue the matter with the state government and get pucca

houses sanctioned for them. But, their promise has still remained unfulfilled. “At least the families should get recognition and respect,” Malla Reddy maintained. Pasunoori Lingamma, who belongs to the family of martyr Anumula Srihari, said she never expected any benefits from anyone for the sacrifice of her family members. But political leaders conducted a meeting at Vallala on September 17 in 2025 and made big promises to the families of val-

lala martyrs. The assurance of ₹5 lakh financial assistance to each family of Vallala martyrs from the state government has not materialised even though a year is elapsing. Gaddapati Laxmaiah, a grandson of another martyr, Gaddapati Latchamma, said as per the eyewitnesses, Razakars came to the school and opened fire on the students, who hoisted the national flag. Among them, 10 students, including his grandfather, died and the remaining five students managed to escape. Laxmaiah requested the state government to introduce a meritorious scholarship for students of the school in the name of the 10 student martyrs of the Telangana Liberation Movement. However, the families of Vallala martyrs are thankful to former Rajya Sabha member V. Hanumantha Rao for constructing a memorial for the student martyrs at their school in Vallala.

Bandi Sanjay Alleges Misuse Of Dharani, Bhu Bharathi

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Union minister of state for home affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar on Wednesday alleged that the previous BRS government had misused the Dharani portal for land-related “exploitation” and claimed that the Congress government was now using Bhu Bharathi for the same purpose. Speaking to the media in Karimnagar, Sanjay alleged that the family of former Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao had used Dharani to grab large tracts of land and make money. He also alleged that Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy had failed to act against land encroachments and was now using the Bhu Bharathi system for similar purposes. Sanjay questioned why the Chief Minister had taken 1,000 days to disclose details of the alleged land scam in the Assembly. He alleged that BRS MLAs



had sold government lands and amassed money, while poor people cultivating podu lands for decades were yet to receive pattas. He claimed that 25 lakh families in the state did not have land to construct houses and alleged that several villages had seen no development as their lands were classified as forest areas. Sanjay further alleged that Revanth Reddy was raising funds for the Congress whenever elections were held in other states and linked this to the Chief Minister’s disclosures on alleged land scams. He said he had raised the issue of land scams during his paday-

atra. Referring to the Chief Minister’s disclosure on the alleged land scam involving nine persons, Sanjay questioned how long it would take to disclose alleged irregularities involving 90 MLAs. He demanded that the Chief Minister constitute an SIT, seize encroached lands and assets of legislators disproportionate to those declared in their election affidavits, and disqualify them if they were found guilty. Sanjay also questioned the status of investigations into alleged irregularities relating to electricity purchases, phone tapping, farmhouse deals, the Formula E race and Kaleshwaram. He alleged that 10,000 acres had been grabbed in Sircilla and claimed that political leaders and influential persons had encroached on lakhs of acres across the state.

Begumpet ACP Urges Strict Safety Measures for Ganesh Festival



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Begumpet ACP Gopala Krishna Murthy has urged Ganesh mandal organisers to prioritise safety during festival celebrations and idol immersion. Addressing an awareness programme, he said ensuring a safe environment is the collective

responsibility of organisers, volunteers and devotees. As part of Ganesh Suraksha Sankalp-2026, the ACP advised organisers to take strict precautions against electrical short circuits and fire accidents at pandals and immersion points. He stressed vigilance and adherence to safety protocols to prevent untoward incidents during the festivities.

Protesters Detained During Assembly Gherao Over SC Roster Points

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Police on Wednesday foiled an Assembly gherao organised by the National Ambedkar Sena demanding immediate revision of roster points. At around 1 pm, a group of Ambedkarite activists reached the Assembly’s main gate and allegedly attempted to enter the premises. Police personnel deployed at the spot stopped them, detained them and shifted them to Goshamahal Police Station in a police vehicle. The protesters were re-



leased on their own bonds later in the evening. Speaking to the media, National Ambedkar Sena national president Manne Sridhar Rao and Mala Mahanadu national president Tallapalli Ravi alleged that the state government was implementing SC categorisation and roster points in a

unilateral manner, which they claimed would adversely affect the Mala community’s opportunities in education and employment. They alleged that the Congress had overlooked the support extended by Mala organisations during the previous elections, including statewide campaigns and door-to-

door outreach. They further alleged that the government’s roster policy benefited the Madiga community. The leaders demanded that the roster points allocated to the Mala community be reduced from 22 to 16 immediately. They warned of statewide protests with Mala organisations if their demand was not addressed. Among those detained were Mana Malala Society secretary Parshapu Sridhar, Mekala Satyanarayana and Mohammed Jameel.

Srinivas Goud Demands Immediate Release of Gram Panchayat Funds



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Former minister and BRS leader V. Srinivas Goud demanded that the Telangana government immediately release pending bills and funds due to Gram Panchayats and lift restrictions on their accounts. Addressing a meeting, Goud said Sarpanches play a crucial role in coordinating government departments and resolving people’s issues, as villagers approach them first for concerns related to electricity, irrigation, drinking water, agriculture schemes and school facilities. He recalled that after Telangana was formed, several village development programmes were undertaken under the leadership of KCR, including drainage, sanitation, parks and piped

drinking water connections. He said Gram Panchayats previously received funds without political discrimination and Sarpanches were also provided training in village administration. Goud said the government released some pending bills following the Sarpanches’ agitation but urged it to clear all outstanding payments. He alleged that the state government was not releasing its matching share alongside Central funds and that restrictions had prevented Gram Panchayats from utilising available funds. He said Sarpanches had undertaken development works despite financial difficulties and demanded immediate financial support and an increase in their honorarium.

Battu Sridhar Demands Action Against Hamara Prasad

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Mumbai Telangana Joint Action Committee (MTJAC) coordinator Battu Sridhar Gangaputra has demanded that a case be registered and immediate action be taken against Hamara Prasad over alleged objectionable remarks against Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. He alleged that Hamara Prasad had described Ambedkar as a “fictional leader” in a book and called for legal action. A protest was organised on Wednesday morning at the Jyotirao Phule statue



in Mortad mandal headquarters in Nizamabad district by representatives of several organisations. Speaking at the programme, Battu Sridhar urged the authorities to examine the allegations and take action in accor-

dance with law. Ambedkar Yuvajana Sangam leaders Anguli Mala, journalist Mamidi Raju, singer Samrat Ashok, advocate Mamidi Rajeshwar, Kanshiram Mala, Malluri Sunil, Gautham Mala, Prasad Maharaj and

Moolanivasi Malaji were among those who participated in the protest. Human rights leader Syed Avez announced that another protest against Hamara Prasad would be held at the Ambedkar statue in Armur at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday. He appealed to SC, ST, BC and minority leaders and activists from across the Armur division to participate in large numbers. The Rotary Club reiterated its commitment to promoting health, nutrition and community welfare through sustained service programmes.

Fake GHMC Complaints Allegedly Used to Pressure Builders

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

An alleged serial complainant, identified in local accounts as Srisailam, has reportedly been accused of using the GHMC grievance mechanism to pressure builders and developers in Ramgopalpet. According to allegations, he allegedly identified active construction sites and filed repeated complaints claiming unauthorised construction or structural violations. The complaints were said to be followed by GHMC no-

tices or inspections, creating pressure on the concerned developers. It is further alleged that he then approached some builders and demanded money in exchange for withdrawing the complaints. Following the alleged payments, the complaints were reportedly withdrawn, only for a similar pattern to allegedly emerge at another construction site. The allegations require verification by the authorities, and no guilt has been established.

Rotary Club of Bhuvanagiri Central Honours 22 TGSPDCL Engineers on National Engineers’ Day

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Rotary Club of Bhuvanagiri Central felicitated 22 TGSPDCL engineers on National Engineers’ Day, recognising their contribution to the power sector, infrastructure development and public service. The programme marked the birth anniversary of legendary engineer Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya. Engineers from Operations, Technical, Commercial and DPE



wings were honoured with traditional shawls. Former Rotary Club president and Kakatiya Region Chairman–Social Media Gaddam Gnana Prakash Reddy participated in the celebrations. Rotary Assistant Governor Fakir Kondal Reddy and Secretary Baddam

Srinivas Reddy felicitated the engineers. Nine Sub-Engineers were also honoured for their services. Rotary representatives highlighted the crucial role of engineers in maintaining reliable power infrastructure for households, agriculture, businesses and public institutions. Treasurer Kontham Padma Reddy and Rotary members Gudur Ashok Reddy, Gummula Malle-sham and Nemuri Ashok Kumar also attended the programme.

State Asks Centre for Minimum Guaranteed Price for Oil Palm

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana government on Wednesday urged the Centre to declare a minimum guaranteed price (MGP) for oil palm, with agriculture minister Tummala Nageswara Rao informing the Assembly that Telangana had emerged as the number one state in the country in oil palm cultivation. Responding to a slew of questions from MLAs on horticulture and agriculture-related topics, Nageswara Rao said 88,282



farmers in the state were currently cultivating oil palm on 3.20 lakh acres. Against a target of 85,000 acres for 2026-27, planting has so far been completed on 29,053 acres, he said.

The government, he said, is also providing incentives of up to ₹46,250 per acre for oil palm cultivation, covering planting material, drip irrigation, fertilisers for the first four years, intercropping and

other components. “Farm ponds can be added at no cost to farmers through the VB-G RAM G employment generation scheme,” he added. Even as the state is demanding that the Centre fix an MGP for oil palm, under the Oil Palm Act, 1993, every oil palm company allotted a factory zone must purchase oil palm bunches every month at the price fixed by the government. He said that the current price for oil palm bunches was Rs 24,025 per tonne. He added that four oil

palm processing mills are currently operating in the state. Three operated by Oilfed at Aswaraopeta, Apparaopeta and Nar-metta, and one by Godrej at Anjanapuram. Construction of six more mills is under way at Kallurugudem, Incherla, Peddara-thu, Regonda/Chinnapaka, Yacharam and Shankaramreddypalli. He said that for a factory to operate efficiently, it requires crop from 10,000 acres, and called on all MLAs to encourage oil palm cultivation in their constituencies.

ED Raids Amrit Group; Arrests man In land Case

The Enforcement Directorate on Wednesday conducted searches at several premises in Kolkata and Indore as part of a money-laundering investigation into an alleged investment fraud in which numerous investors were cheated. Agency officials said about 17 premises linked to the Amrit Group of companies and its promoters were searched in the two cities under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act. The companies and their directors allegedly collected money from the public through various deposit schemes by promising high returns but failed to make the promised repayments. In a separate case, the central financial investigation agency arrested a Kolkata-based man in connection with a money-laundering probe involving alleged land grabbing and the forgery of land records. Officials said the accused, Amit Ganguly, was taken into custody in Kolkata on Tuesday.

PIL Challenges MDR on UPI Transactions

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

A public interest litigation has been filed in the Supreme Court challenging the Centre's decision to impose a merchant discount rate (MDR) on specified UPI person-to-merchant transactions exceeding ₹2,000. The petition alleges that the levy was introduced without adequate statutory safeguards, transparency or public consultation. The government has introduced a 0.4 per cent fee on UPI payments exceeding ₹2,000 made to merchants, with effect from October 15. No MDR will be levied on UPI transactions of up to ₹2,000. The plea, filed by advocate Anjan Datta, challenges the Centre's September 14 notification and the MDR framework

announced on September 15. The petitioner has sought the quashing or suspension of the framework insofar as it imposes MDR on UPI transactions exceeding ₹2,000. Alternatively, he has sought its reconsideration following transparent consultation, the publication of empirical data and an impact assessment, besides safeguards for micro and small enterprises. The plea also seeks an independent review by the Reserve Bank of India and the Union government. According to the petition, the new framework provides for a 0.4 per cent MDR on general person-to-merchant UPI transactions exceeding ₹2,000, subject to a cap of ₹300 on transactions of ₹75,000 or more. It also provides for a flat MDR of ₹5 on transactions exceeding

₹2,000 in specified essential and low-margin sectors, including railways, telecommunications, insurance, fuel and agricultural inputs. Capital-market transactions will attract an MDR of 0.02 per cent, capped at ₹300. The petitioner said UPI transactions of up to ₹2,000 and all person-to-person transfers would remain free, while small merchants receiving up to ₹1 lakh a month through UPI QR codes would be exempt. The plea challenges the constitutional validity of amended Section 10A of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007, alleging that it gives the executive unguided powers to decide which electronic payment modes should receive no-charge protection. It questions the fixation

of rates, transaction thresholds, caps and sectoral classifications through what the petitioner described as a press release. It alleges that the complete operative instrument prescribing the charges has not been published in the Official Gazette. The petitioner has also questioned the distinction between UPI transactions and RuPay debit-card payments, pointing out that the notification continues no-charge protection for RuPay debit cards without a monetary ceiling. The plea alleges that the framework is arbitrary and discriminatory and could adversely affect merchants, particularly those with low margins. It also raises concerns over a possible indirect burden on consumers and digital exclusion.

Nabin Hails Maharashtra's Role In National Development

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

BJP national president Nitin Nabin, on his first visit to Maharashtra after taking charge of the party, said the State was playing a significant role in the country's development and described Maharashtra as the "holy land" of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj. Mr. Nabin was in Maharashtra on a one-day visit during Ganeshotsav. He said India was witnessing a phase of "cultural revival" under Prime Minister Narendra Modi and that the country was moving in the right direction. The BJP president was accorded a grand welcome at Mumbai Airport by Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis, Maharashtra BJP president Ravindra Chavan, Mumbai BJP president Amit Satam, Mumbai BJP Yuva Morcha chief Deepak Singh, party of-



office-bearers and workers. Addressing BJP office-bearers and workers at the airport, Mr. Nabin described Mr. Fadnavis as a representative of the younger generation and said the Chief Minister represented the aspirations of youth, farmers, workers, women and the business community in the country's financial capital. Referring to Maharashtra's cultural and historical significance, Mr. Nabin said the slogan "Jai Bhavani, Jai Shivaji" reflected India's rich culture and traditions. He also said Maharashtra was playing a crucial role in the country's devel-

opment. "India has witnessed a phase of cultural revival under Prime Minister Narendra Modi over the last 12 years. The country is moving in the right direction," he said. Mr. Nabin said the visit, undertaken during Ganeshotsav, was his first to Maharashtra since becoming BJP national president. He added that he would return to the State for organisational meetings. Later, Mr. Nabin proceeded to Prabhadevi, where he visited the Siddhivinayak Temple and offered prayers and performed the customary rituals. Pawan Tripathi, treasurer of the Siddhivinayak Trust, welcomed Mr. Nabin and other dignitaries. He subsequently visited Lalbaugcha Raja and sought blessings. In the afternoon, Mr. Nabin visited Mr. Fadnavis's official residence, Varsha, at Malabar Hill, where he sought the blessings of Lord Ganesha.

20 Killed, Dozens Trapped After Gaza Building Collapse

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

Gaza rescuers on Wednesday combed through the wreckage of a bombed-out apartment building that collapsed overnight, killing at least 20 Palestinians, including five children, and trapping dozens of others beneath the rubble. The incident highlights the ongoing danger for tens of thousands of Palestinians who live in an estimated 2,000 damaged buildings due to Israeli airstrikes across Gaza. Rescue workers from the civil defense said at least 12 people, including five children, were killed and 14 others injured when the seven-storey building collapsed. Nearly 100 more people were believed to be trapped under the rubble. A video obtained by Reuters showed rescue workers trying to pull out two people from under a collapsed wall. Another video circulated on social media showed Gaza's civil defense spokesperson, Mahmoud Basal, carrying a little girl, wrapped in a blood-stained scarf, in his hands. Raed Al-Dahshan, the director of Gaza City's civil defense service, said at least 10 families lived in the collapsed building and there was still hope of



finding survivors. "We are still hearing voices from under the rubble, so there is still hope to find people," said Dahshan. Alessandro Mrakic, head of the U.N. Development Programme's Gaza office, said rescuers from some U.N. agencies were taking part in the rescue efforts, which he described as difficult due to the lack of proper machinery. Egypt's relief agency was also taking part in rescue efforts. "The situation, as you see, is tragic because we don't have the equipment and machinery that is needed. So there are actually people that are digging with their bare hands. We need to prepare (for more deaths)," said Mrakic. "There are approximately 400 buildings at risk of collapse. And we know that these buildings will collapse, especially now

with the upcoming winter," he added. Palestinian and U.N. officials blame Israel's restrictions on Gaza for the lack of heavy machinery in the territory. Israel says its curbs aim to keep equipment out of the hands of militant groups. Israel's assault on Gaza — launched after Hamas' deadly raid into Israel in October 2023 — has generated around 61 million, opens new tab tons of wreckage and debris that could take seven years to clear, according to the United Nations. Hamas accuses Israel of violating the ceasefire and undermining efforts to implement U.S. President Donald Trump's broader plan to end the Gaza conflict, which includes an Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and the disarmament of Hamas. Israel says Hamas has been violating the deal.

Army Chief Begins Russia Visit

Army chief General Dhiraj Seth began an official visit to Russia on Wednesday to further strengthen the long-standing defence partnership and military-to-military co-operation between the two countries. General Seth will hold talks with Colonel-General Andrei Nikolayevich Mordvichev, Commander-in-Chief of the Russian Land Forces, on matters of mutual interest, including professional military cooperation and training. During the visit, he is also expected to raise the issue of spare-part supplies for India's existing Russian-origin platforms and examine some of the weapon systems offered by Russia. General Seth will receive a ceremonial guard of honour and pay tribute to fallen soldiers at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Moscow. The Army chief will visit the National Defence Control Centre in Moscow and interact with senior officials of the Russian defence ministry, including Deputy Defence Minister Vasily Sergeyevich Osmakov, who handles the defence industry and procurement.

Punjab Polls: Congress Woos Capt Amarinder Singh, Sunil Jakhar for 'Ghar Wapsi'

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

With the Punjab elections closing in, the Congress is trying to pull a BJP in the poll-bound state. After sending feelers to its former leader and chief minister Capt. Amarinder Singh to quit the BJP and return to the Congress, the party has set its sights on Sunil Jakhar, another saffron functionary who was earlier in the Congress, for a "homecoming". Political circles are abuzz that Mr Jakhar is also not averse to switching back

his allegiance to his former party. Though there has been no official confirmation, With Sachin Pilot as the new general secretary in charge, the buzz is that many leaders who had left the Congress will be rejoining to strengthen the party. This is also indicative of the fact that the Congress is being seen as the best alternative in Punjab to dislodge the AAP government in the state. The Congress insiders claim that a senior party leader, who has also served as former chief

minister of a North Indian state, close to both Capt. Singh and the party high command, is mediating for the last three months to get the old war horse back in the party. "If Capt. Singh is back in the Congress, Mr Jakhar will also come back," said a senior leader in the know. Sources say that if Capt. Singh and Mr Jakhar are back in the Congress fold, a "semblance of discipline" will be back in the party. While the talks about the homecoming of senior Punjab Congress leaders

gain ground, all eyes are on the proposed visit of Lok Sabha Leader of the Opposition Rahul Gandhi to the state from the third week of September to launch a unity bus yatra from Amritsar's Golden Temple to project a united face of the party ahead of the Assembly polls. During his maiden visit to the state as Punjab in-charge, Mr Pilot ensured that the leaders of rival factions -- state unit chief Amarinder Raja Warring and former CM Charanjit Singh Channi -- shared the same stage.

New Zealand Parliament Clears India FTA Law

NEW DELHI Wakeup telangana

As part of the ratification process, New Zealand's Parliament on Wednesday passed legislation to implement its Free Trade Agreement (FTA) with India. The agreement was signed in April this year after its conclusion was announced in December last year. According to reports, the legislation was approved by a vote of 93-29, with the Opposition Labour Party also supporting it. New Zealand

trade minister Todd McClay was cited as saying that the agreement would deliver "immediate and substantial" benefits to exporters. He said the trade deal was expected to come into force later this year. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his New Zealand counterpart Christopher Luxon had in December last year jointly announced the "successful conclusion" of what they described as a historic, ambitious and mutually beneficial FTA, negotiated

in a record nine months. The Indian commerce ministry had said the FTA provided zero-duty market access in New Zealand for all Indian exports, including textiles, pharmaceuticals, leather, engineering goods and agricultural products. It said India had excluded several products, including dairy items, coffee, onions, sugar, spices, edible oils and rubber, from market-access concessions to protect farmers and domestic industry. India had offered tariff

liberalisation to New Zealand on 70 per cent of tariff lines covering 95 per cent of bilateral trade. This would result in the elimination or reduction of Indian tariffs on 95 per cent of New Zealand's exports to India. Modi and Luxon had also expressed confidence that bilateral trade would double over the next five years. The two sides also envisaged investments of \$20 billion from New Zealand into India over the next 15 years to support manufacturing.

FROM FRONT PAGE

Revanth Targets.....

Similarly, Revanth Reddy alleged BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao, his wife Shailima and their unmarried children Alekhya and Himanshu Rao owned 123.26 acres of wetland. "Former BRS minister Harish Rao and his wife Srinitha owned 30.5 acres, while Kavita and her husband held 37.26 acres," he alleged. The Chief Minister said former Rajya Sabha MP Joginipally Santosh Kumar, his wife Rohini and his father Ravinder Rao owned 79.2 acres of land in the state. Similarly, other close family members such as Naveen Rao owned 53.21 acres and Kondal Rao 48.38 acres, he alleged. Stating that he was not providing details of land allegedly

acquired by Chandrashekhar Rao's family members in the names of benamis, Revanth Reddy said the Janawada farmhouse owned by Rama Rao was illegally transferred from Shatabisha Agro Company through benami transactions. He said the property was earlier seized by the income-tax department from Satyam Computers founder Ramalinga Raju in connection with the accounting fraud. The Chief Minister also asked Harish Rao to disclose how he acquired 14 acres near the Ranganayaka Sagar reservoir from farmers at a price lower than the compensation offered by the government for land acquisition. He asked whether the farmers who sold the land had been threatened or offered black money, as they

had formally withdrawn their claims for government compensation and sold the land to Harish Rao for `2.5 lakh per acre, against the government's offer of `6.25 lakh per acre. Revanth Reddy said Harish Rao's alleged illegal acquisition of land must be probed by the Enforcement Directorate. He further alleged that Harish Rao, during the previous BRS government, had laid a BT road to his farm at a cost of `5.33 crore without inviting tenders. Pak Vessel Collides.... The ministry said the incident occurred in international waters and did not cause any major damage. It said the Pakistani naval ship's conduct was in direct contravention of Article 10 of the April 1991 Agree-

ment between India and Pakistan on Advance Notice on Military Exercises, Manoeuvres and Troops Movements. The Pakistani diplomat was asked to convey to the authorities in Islamabad the need for military units to exercise due care and respect agreements between the two countries to prevent a recurrence of such incidents. The incident comes 15 years after a similar encounter involving the Indian Navy's INS Godavari and the Pakistan Navy's PNS Babur in June 2011. In a late-evening statement, Pakistan said it had also summoned the Indian chargé d'affaires and lodged a protest over the incident, which it claimed occurred within Pakistan's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). Islamabad said the Pakistan Navy

ship was participating in a biennial exercise, Seaspark-26, when the incident occurred. It accused the Indian naval vessel of carrying out an "aggressive manoeuvre" that resulted in contact between the two vessels. Houthis Target..... Brent crude futures were down \$1.30, or 1.2%, at \$107.45 a barrel by 1307 GMT. U.S. West Texas Intermediate futures were down \$1.96, or 1.85%, at \$103.87. Saudi Arabia on Wednesday condemned the targeting of Mecca as a "cowardly terrorist attack" after Yemen's Houthis denied launching a drone at the holy city. The Gulf kingdom "reaffirms its legitimate right to take all necessary measures to defend the security of the two

holy mosques, the pilgrims, and the entire Saudi territory, its citizens, and its residents," the foreign ministry said in a statement. Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Araghchi on Wednesday said Tehran is not interested in continuing the conflict with the US and looks forward to returning to a diplomatic solution, as he held talks with his Chinese counterpart Wang Yi and briefed him on the latest developments in West Asia. His visit to Beijing comes in the midst of an escalation of hostilities in West Asia following the military advances made by Yemen's Houthis, formally known as Ansar Allah. The Iran-aligned Yemeni political and armed movement has stepped up attacks on Saudi Arabia and taken control of the strategic.

CRIME

Collector, TGIIC vice-chair appear in contempt case

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Rangareddy district collector C. Narayana Reddy and special deputy collector Kanduri Chandra Reddy appeared before the Telangana High Court, while Telangana State Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TGIIC) vice-chairman K. Shashanka appeared virtually in a contempt case. The case — which was heard by the division bench comprising Justice K. Lakshman and Justice Jukanti Anil Kumar — was related to alleged interference of revenue staff and TGIIC in a three-acre land at Nanakramguda, which is adjacent to the US Consulate General office at

Hyderabad, in Serilingampally mandal, Ranga Reddy district. Despite the orders of the High Court and the Supreme Court, petitioners allege revenue staff, police and TGIIC have allegedly demolished the walls. According to the petitioners, the High Court had earlier set aside the land acquisition proceedings of 2003 of the said land and the Supreme Court subsequently upheld the High Court’s decision in SLP. Despite being aware of the court orders, the petitioners alleged that the TGIIC officials attempted to enter the land. They further alleged that Kavitha Reddy, Zonal Manager, TGIIC, Nanakramguda, along

with S. Aksheeta, the then sub-Inspector of police, Gachibowli, and Mohd Habibuallah Khan, the then station house officer, Gachibowli police station, Cyberabad, came to the property in October 2025 along with workers and a JCB and demolished and removed fencing erected by the petitioners around the land. After the contempt petitions were filed, the petitioners alleged that they received several telephone calls from the Gachibowli police station from different numbers, allegedly threatening them with consequences if they did not withdraw the contempt cases. They also accused TGIIC of deploying private security guards at the

site. During a previous hearing of the case, the High Court had directed the district collector and other officials to appear before it. Following the court directions, the officials appeared before the court. During Wednesday’s hearing, the Bench considered the rival submissions and directed the officials not to enter the subject land. The Bench directed the contempt petitioners not to raise any compound wall or undertake any construction activity on the property. However, it permitted them to erect blue tin sheets around the land, without disturbing the US Consulate General office.

Trusts Challenge Waqf Control; HC Directs Govt to Supervise Affairs

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana High Court has directed the principal secretary of minority welfare department to supervise the affairs of the trusts of Mecca Madina Alladdin Wakf, Alladdin Charities & Zakat Waqf, Alladdin Charities Waqf, and Alladdin Educational Endowment Trust and collect the rents from the 452

tenants presently in occupation of these trusts. The court further directed the principal secretary to open a bank account in any nationalised bank and deposit the rents in an Escrow account until further orders. Justice N.V. Shravan Kumar issued the directions as interim measure, while hearing a writ petition filed by the said trusts contending that trust properties

are outside the purview of the Waqf Act, after its amendment with effect from 8th April, 2025. The petitioners also contended that the Telangana State Waqf Board had committed financial irregularities in respect of the rents of the properties of the said trusts after taking over direct management with effect from January 17, 2012.

Drunk man dies after touching transformer in Madhapur

A 40-year-old man died after reportedly coming into contact with an electric transformer at Siddiquenagar, under Madhapur Police Station limits, on Wednesday. Police said the man was reportedly under the influence of alcohol at the time of the incident. His body was shifted to Osmania Hospital for post-mortem examination. As his identity has not yet been established, police have circulated his photographs among police stations across Cyberabad to identify him. Further investigation is underway.

HC rejects bail plea of suspended inspector

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana High Court on Friday dismissed the anticipatory bail petition of suspended former Jubilee Hills inspector U. Srinivasulu Reddy, who faces allegations of sexual assault, harassment, intimidation and misuse of his official position. The case was registered at Ameenpur police station in Cyberabad following a complaint by a 31-year-old woman from Sangareddy district. Public Prosecutor Palles Nageshwar Rao submitted that the officer abused his power when the woman,

involved in a family dispute, approached him while he was serving as inspector and SHO of Ameenpur. According to the prosecution, Reddy repeatedly contacted her, threatened her by invoking his official position and sexually assaulted her against her will. She alleged continuing exploitation, physical assault, intimidation and blackmail. The complaint further stated that she became pregnant and that the accused provided abortion tablets in January 2024. She later underwent a DNC procedure at a private hospital.

No coercive action against KTR staff: HC

WARANGAL
Wakeup telangana

The Telangana High Court on Friday directed the police not to take any coercive action against two staff members of the BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao in connection with a case registered over the September 7 Assembly session incident. However, Justice J. Sreenivas Rao made it clear that the investigation would continue. The judge was hearing criminal petition filed by the PRO-cum-media coordinator Ma-

hesh Manikya and PA to K. T. Rama Rao Mahender Kumbala alias Mahender Reddy, seeking quashing of FIR No.371 of 2026 registered at Saifabad police station on September 9. The petitioners were accused of allegedly instigating BRS leaders against police personnel and marshals and creating hurdles in the discharge of their duties during the first day of the Assembly session. The court issued notice to the complainant and adjourned the matter to September 21 for further hearing.

Former MLA Mahareddy Bhupal Reddy Consoles Family of Man Who Died in Electric Shock

KALHER
Wakeup telangana

Former Narayankhed MLA and BRS leader Mahareddy Bhupal Reddy visited the family of Jaipal, a resident of Indiranagar Thanda in Kalher Mandal, who reportedly died recently after suffering an electric shock. Bhupal Reddy visited the bereaved family at their residence, expressed his condolences and spoke to the family members, offering them courage



and support during their difficult time. The former MLA conveyed his sympathies to the family and said that the loss of a family member in such circumstances was deeply

distressing. He also interacted with the family members and enquired about their situation. Bhupal Reddy served as the MLA representing the Narayankhed Assembly Constituency

from 2016 to 2023. BRS Leaders Accompany Former MLA-Former ZPTC member Narsimhareddy, Sarpanch Sangaiah, ward member Gopi, and local leaders Vitthal, Narsimhulu, Srinivas, Prakash, Naresh, Laxman Naik and Omkar, among others, accompanied Bhupal Reddy during the visit. The leaders expressed their condolences to the bereaved family and assured them of their support.

EDITORIAL

IS LATEST JOINT SECY REJIG PAVING ROAD TO 2029?

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The Centre’s latest appointment of 48 babus at the joint secretary level across ministries looks routine on the surface. It isn’t. When postings cut across agriculture, commerce, defence, civil aviation and home, it’s less about filling vacancies and more about recalibrating the government’s operating system. Joint secretaries sit at that crucial junction where policy leaves the drawing board and meets the real world. Change the people there, and you often change how things actually get done. The headline move is the appointment of Hardik Satishchandra Shah as private secretary to Narendra Modi at the joint secretary rank. That’s not just a posting — it’s a signal. It tells you who’s in the room when decisions are shaped, who filters information and who gets to nudge priorities. Clearly, this isn’t an iso-

lated reshuffle; it’s part of a longer game. The Narendra Modi government has been steadily tightening coordination across ministries, favouring officers who deliver, move files efficiently, and stay aligned with the larger political direction. With another round of changes expected later this year, this looks like scaffolding being put in place for the road to 2029. There’s a logic to it. Governments don’t run on announcements; they run on execution. And execution, in India, is only as good as the babu handling the file. Put the right people in the right slots, and things move. Get it wrong, and even flagship schemes start gathering dust. But let’s not pretend this is purely technocratic. Babu reshuffles have always doubled as political messaging. There’s also the issue of churn. Move people around too often, and institutional memory takes a hit. Projects that need steady hands

don’t always benefit from musical chairs. Still, the intent is hard to miss. This is about tightening the system, placing trusted officers where they matter most, and getting the machinery ready for the next phase. Whether it delivers sharper governance or just smoother optics will depend on one simple thing: Are these officers empowered to act, or just expected to comply? Bihar is about to do what Indian states do best when power changes hands: reshuffle the bureaucracy and call it a reset. The difference this time? There’s a clearer sense of what that reset is meant to achieve. Bihar is about to do what Indian states do best when power changes hands: reshuffle the bureaucracy and call it a reset. The difference this time? There’s a clearer sense of what that reset is meant to achieve. Former chief minister Nitish Kumar has left a

deep imprint, but if the early signals around Samrat Choudhary hold, this isn’t just about moving babus around. The idea is to build a compact core team, bring in technocrats who understand industry, and push Bihar toward manufacturing-led growth, which it has long promised but rarely delivered. The logic is sound. States like Gujarat and Tamil Nadu didn’t attract investment by accident. They got the basics right — land, power, roads — and ensured the bureaucracy didn’t become a bottleneck. Bihar, for all its ambition, has struggled precisely here. The sectoral focus on food processing, textiles and automobiles is sensible. These are scalable, job-heavy industries. But sectors don’t grow because policy says so. They grow when businesses can actually set up shop without getting lost in paperwork.



itel Muzik 450L Brings Super Loud 3D Sound and 2500mAh Battery

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

itel has launched the Muzik 450L (it5095L), a music-first feature phone designed around its key proposition, “Super Loud 3D Sound – More music. More FM. More calls.” Priced at ₹1,659, the device combines powerful audio, a large battery and a slim design for everyday entertainment and communication.

The phone features an F20 2-in-1 Super Loud Speaker designed to deliver Super Loud 3D Sound for music, FM and calls. Its 13.4mm slim body combines the large-speaker setup with a compact form factor, making it suitable for travel, outdoor use and social gatherings.

Powering the device is a 2500mAh Mega Battery,



aimed at supporting extended usage for music, wireless FM, Bluetooth and calls. The phone also sports a 2.4-inch QVGA

display for everyday viewing. For entertainment, the Muzik 450L comes with Bluetooth connectivity

and Wireless FM with recording, allowing users to listen to FM without wired earphones. The feature phone also includes a VGA camera, powerful torch and Type-C charging.

Several utility-focused features have been added for everyday convenience, including King Talker, support for up to 1,000 contacts with visual icons, vibration alert, Auto Call Recording and a long-press ‘0’ shortcut for time readout. A free back cover is included in the box, while the phone will be available in three colour options.

According to Arijeet Talapatra, CEO, itel India – Transsion Holdings, the Muzik 450L is designed to address situations where standard phone audio may be difficult to hear, particularly during

travel, outdoor activities and social occasions. He said the device combines powerful audio with a 2500mAh battery and slim design to offer a purposeful feature-phone experience.

itel says its products are supported by a network of 1.3 lakh+ retail outlets and more than 1,000 service centres across India. The company also offers a one-year Counter Replacement Guarantee for manufacturing defects across its feature-phone portfolio.

With its focus on loud audio, long battery life, FM entertainment and practical features, the Muzik 450L targets consumers seeking a straightforward feature phone with a strong emphasis on music and everyday usability.

UPI Fees Breach 'Ease of Doing Business' Policies: Traders' Board Member

NEW DELHI
Wakeup telangana

Citing larger interests of consumers and businesses, a member of the National Traders' Welfare Board (NTWB) on Wednesday said the Centre should immediately withdraw its decision to impose a 0.4 per cent merchant discount rate (MDR) on UPI transactions above Rs 2,000. He cautioned that charges on UPI transactions would adversely impact business growth. Ramesh Khandelwal, who represents Madhya Pradesh on the government-constituted NTWB, told PTI, "The decision to impose MDR on UPI transactions is against the

government's policies on ease of doing business. This will impact business growth and may lead to higher prices."

He urged the central government to immediately withdraw its decision to impose MDR on UPI transactions in larger interests of consumers and businesses. Khandelwal said he will raise the issue of levying MDR on UPI transactions in the upcoming meeting of the NTWB. The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has set up NTWB to advise the central government for the fulfilment of various welfare measures of traders and their em-

ployees.

Ending nearly 6 years of fully free UPI payments, the Centre on Tuesday introduced a 0.4 per cent fee on transfers worth more than Rs 2,000 made to merchants through the platform from October 15, while ring-fencing person-to-person transactions as well as small payments from any charge. The charge will be borne by merchants, not consumers, and will be capped at Rs 300 for transactions of Rs 75,000 or more, according to the new framework. Person-to-person UPI transfers and merchant transactions of up to Rs 2,000 will remain free.

VBN Founder’s Day Meet Draws 400 Entrepreneurs in Hyderabad

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

More than 400 entrepreneurs, business owners and self-employed professionals from across Telangana gathered at the HICC–Novotel, Hitech City, Hyderabad, on September 15 for the Founder’s Day & All Chapters Meet organised by the Vysya Business Network (VBN).

The event brought together members representing VBN’s six existing chapters, providing a platform to

strengthen professional relationships, expand business networks and explore new opportunities for collaboration. The organisation currently has five chapters in Hyderabad and one in Nizamabad, with each chapter comprising up to 70 unique business owners.

Founded by Emmadi Siva Kumar, VBN has emerged as a business networking platform focused on connecting entrepreneurs and facilitating mutual growth. The organisation is now planning to expand



its network to Warangal and Siddipet, further extending its presence across Telangana. Speaking at the event, VBN Founder Emmadi Siva Kumar said the orga-

nisation was established with the vision of bringing business owners together and creating meaningful connections that support business growth.

“The participation of more than 400 entrepreneurs at the Founder’s Day reflects the strength of this community,” he said. He added that VBN aims to build a stronger business network and create greater opportunities for members across Telangana and the Telugu States.

The gathering also highlighted the contribution of entrepreneurs as job creators, employers and participants in Telangana’s economic development. Several eminent business personalities from across

the Telugu States attended the programme.

Apex Chairman Radhakrishna, Apex Secretary Saichand, Veeresh Juluri, Apex Social Coordinator Mogadampalli Shankar, along with other VBN representatives and members, participated in the celebrations. The Founder’s Day and All Chapters Meet concluded with members reiterating their commitment to networking, collaboration and mutual business growth through the VBN platform.

TSCS Leaders Honoured with Indian Humanitarian Award

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Thalassemia & Sickle Cell Society (TSCS) President Dr Chandrakant Agrawal and Senior Vice President Mrs Ratnavali Kottapalli have been honoured with the prestigious Indian Humanitarian Award by the Indian Book of Records for their contributions to healthcare, philanthropy and community welfare.

The recognition acknowledges their leadership and sustained efforts in voluntary blood donation, patient welfare, education, healthcare awareness and community development. Their work through TSCS has focused on supporting patients and families affected by thalassemia and sickle cell disorders while promoting awareness, prevention and access to care.

The Indian Book of Records also recognised their efforts in strengthening community participation by engaging blood



donors, healthcare professionals, volunteers, social organisations and families in humanitarian initiatives.

The award certificate was adjudicated by Dr Pavani, M. Akshaya Gayathri and Chakilam Vishal, recognising distinguished humanitarian leadership and social impact.

Dr Chandrakant Agrawal said the honour was a tribute to patients, families, voluntary blood donors, healthcare professionals and volunteers. He added that the recognition would strengthen his resolve to continue supporting healthcare, awareness and community welfare initiatives.

Rishi Institutions Pays Tribute to Dr. M. S. Subbulakshmi



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Rishi M.S. Institute of Engineering and Technology for Women (UGC Autonomous), Kukatpally, Hyderabad, paid rich tributes to legendary Carnatic vocalist and Bharat Ratna Dr. M. S. Subbulakshmi on her birth anniversary on September 16.

Faculty members, students and staff of Rishi Institutions gathered to honour the iconic musician and remember her unparalleled contribution to Indian classical music and culture. The programme highlighted her extraordinary musical journey and her role in taking the richness of Indian music to audiences across the globe.

Secretary Ms. Rajasree, Academic Director Ms. Madhavi and Principal Dr. S. K. Althaf Hussain Basha, along with faculty members and staff, paid

heartfelt homage to the legendary vocalist. Speaking on the occasion, Secretary Ms. Rajasree recalled Dr. M. S. Subbulakshmi’s remarkable life, achievements and dedication to music. She highlighted her contribution to popularising Indian classical music internationally and inspiring generations through discipline, simplicity and devotion.

Ms. Rajasree encouraged students to draw inspiration from the legendary singer’s values, commitment and disciplined lifestyle. She also shared personal experiences and cherished memories of her association with Dr. M. S. Subbulakshmi.

The programme concluded with a heartfelt remembrance of the iconic musician, whose musical legacy continues to inspire audiences worldwide.

Sensex, Nifty Rebound in Early Trade on Value Buying

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Benchmark equity indices Sensex and Nifty rebounded in early trade on Wednesday, supported by value buying after suffering a sharp decline in the previous session. However, elevated crude oil prices, continued foreign fund outflows and caution ahead of the US Federal Reserve’s policy decision limited gains in the domestic markets. The 30-share BSE Sensex gained 244.02 points, or 0.33 per cent, to reach 74,293.25 in early trade. The broader NSE Nifty50 advanced 77.20 points, or 0.33 per cent, to 23,201.85. Among the Sensex constituents, Mahindra & Mahindra, Reliance Industries, Hindustan Unilever, HCL Technologies, ITC and



State Bank of India were among the major gainers. InterGlobe Aviation, Tata Steel, Tata Consultancy Services and Eternal were among the stocks trading lower. Global market cues remained mixed. Brent crude, the global oil benchmark, was trading 0.63 per cent lower at USD 108.10 a barrel.

In Asia, South Korea’s Kospi, Japan’s Nikkei 225, Shanghai’s SSE Composite and Hong Kong’s Hang Seng were trading in positive territory. US markets, however, closed lower on Tuesday. Market re-

covery remained vulnerable as crude prices stayed elevated and global bond yields continued to weigh on investor risk appetite, according to Hariselman Radhakrishnan, Founder and CEO of HST Wealth. He said the Federal Reserve’s policy decision would be the key market trigger. While a 25-basis-point rate increase was widely expected, investors were likely to closely watch the Fed’s guidance on the outlook for further monetary tightening. Radhakrishnan noted that hawkish guidance could strengthen the

US dollar and put additional pressure on global equities, the rupee and foreign investment flows, while balanced commentary could support a relief rally. Foreign Institutional Investors (FIIs) remained sellers in Indian equities, offloading shares worth Rs 2,977.86 crore on Tuesday, according to exchange data. The domestic market had witnessed a sharp sell-off in the previous session. The Sensex plunged 777.94 points, or 1.04 per cent, to close at 74,003.82, its lowest level in three months. The Nifty declined 279.50 points, or 1.19 per cent, to settle at 23,118.60, marking its lowest closing level since April 6. Investors are now closely tracking crude oil prices, foreign fund flows and the Federal Reserve’s policy guidance for further

Felicitation Program at Kohir Government Junior College



ZAHEERABAD
Wakeup telangana

A felicitation program was organised at Kohir Government Junior College to honour and encourage the Intermediate students for their academic achievements. The program was organised and sponsored by Er. Md Majid Ahmed, who attended the event as the Chief Guest. The Guest of Honour was Mr. Ashok, Kohir Municipal Chairman. The program was graced by Ahmed, Municipal Councillor; Jagdish, Municipal Councillor; M.A. Muzammil, Youth President; Md. Sat-

tar, Ex-Deputy Sarpanch; Md. Mohsin, Ex-Deputy Sarpanch; Md. Ashraf Ali, Ex-Co-option Member, along with the College Principal, Lecturers, students and other Kohir Town Congress leaders.

The guests felicitated and congratulated the Intermediate students for their achievements and encouraged them to pursue higher education with dedication, discipline and confidence. The speakers highlighted the importance of education in building a better future and urged the students to make full use of the opportunities available to them.

The Red Carpet goes Indian: Penélope Cruz wears Zoya at TIFF

Penélope Cruz brought an unmistakably Indian expression of luxury to the Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) red carpet, wearing high jewellery from Indian luxury house Zoya. Her appearance marked more than a celebrity jewellery moment—it offered a global platform for an Indian design language rooted in colour, craftsmanship and cultural memory. Cruz wore Zoya's Rekindle Necklace, centred on a striking 19-carat golden heliodor surrounded by yellow and pink sapphires. She paired it with a 13-carat amethyst ring featuring Zoya's patented Bloom Cut and the Iconic Lattice Bangle. The pieces offer an early glimpse into Zoya's upcoming high jewellery collection, inspired by the colours, memories and rituals associated with Indian spices. The Rekindle Necklace particularly reflects this creative approach. Its golden heliodor draws inspiration from the warmth of turmeric, a colour deeply connected with Indian kitchens, rituals and traditions. Zoya transforms that familiar



reference into an elaborate high jewellery creation requiring more than 1,200 hours of craftsmanship. The Wildflower Heart Ring carries the same philosophy. Its 13-carat amethyst, shaped in Zoya's proprietary Bloom Cut, is surrounded by pink sapphires and diamonds. The distinctive cut was developed through nearly a year of experimentation and precision craftsmanship, giving the floral inspiration a contemporary, sculptural interpretation. Zoya Business Head Amanpreet Ahluwalia said the brand believes the future of luxury will be defined by originality and by houses developing a language of

their own. She added that Zoya seeks to create meaningful jewellery rooted in Indian cultural stories while expressing them through contemporary colour, design and craftsmanship. Cruz's TIFF appearance therefore represents an important moment for Indian luxury design. Rather than presenting Indian influences simply as traditional embellishments, Zoya places them at the centre of its aesthetic. Turmeric becomes heliodor, flowers become sculptural gemstone forms, and lattice becomes an expression of gold and diamonds. The significance lies in the fact that these refer-



ences remain recognisably Indian while being expressed for a contemporary international audience. Cruz's global visibility gives the creations an international stage, while the jewellery itself communicates the identity and design philosophy of its Indian creator. For Zoya, the TIFF red carpet becomes a meeting point between Indian cultural inspiration and global luxury. Penélope Cruz's appearance offers audiences around the world a glimpse of an Indian jewellery house developing a vocabulary of its own—and carrying that vocabulary confidently onto one of the world's most photographed red carpets.

Dollar BigBoss Extends Association with Mahesh Babu for South India

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Dollar Industries Limited has extended its association with superstar Mahesh Babu as the brand ambassador of Dollar BigBoss for the South Indian market, with a new television commercial featuring the actor set to be filmed soon. The new TVC will be specially created for audiences in South India and will showcase Mahesh Babu in a dynamic avatar. The campaign will highlight the core attributes associated with Dollar BigBoss — strength, dependability and style — while presenting the brand as suitable for different weather conditions. Dollar Industries Managing Director Vinod Kumar Gupta said the company has witnessed significant demand and growth across its product categories since entering the South Indian market in 2024. He said the association with Mahesh Babu has contributed significantly to the brand's growth and visibility in the region. "Since the introduction of Dollar's range of products in the South Indian market in 2024, we have seen significant demand and growth across all our product categories," Gupta said. He added that the company was pleased to continue its association with Mahesh Babu and would soon present a new advertising film featuring the actor. The latest campaign is ex-



Dollar BigBoss Extends Association with Superstar Mahesh Babu for the South Indian Market

pected to strengthen Dollar BigBoss' presence across the South Indian market. Dollar Industries Limited has grown from a hosiery brand into a major player in India's innerwear and knitted garment industry. The company manufactures a broad range of knitted garments, covering products from basic wear to outerwear. According to the company, its growth has been driven by business transformation, product development, quality and a focus on consumer requirements. Dollar said its products are positioned around quality and value for money, with the brand having a substantial presence across India and international markets. The company has expanded its overseas presence into markets including the UAE, Oman, Jordan, Qatar, Kuwait, Bahrain,

Yemen, Iraq, Nepal and Sudan. Dollar Industries is listed on both the NSE and BSE. The company claims to hold approximately 15 per cent of the organised hosiery market. It also operates a fully integrated manufacturing facility equipped with modern processing and finishing technologies. The facility enables the company to manufacture finished products using advanced processing systems and a wide range of colours. With its continued focus on the South Indian market, Dollar BigBoss is seeking to build on its existing brand presence through its renewed association with Mahesh Babu. The upcoming TVC is expected to bring together the actor's popularity and the brand's positioning around strength, reliability and style.

Badruka College Hosts Inter-College Swimming Tournament

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana Waheed uddin

Badruka College of Commerce and Arts, Department of Physical Education, organised the Inter-College Swimming Tournament 2026–27 for men and women under the aegis of Osmania University. The competition was held at the GHMC Swimming Pool, Amberpet, on September 16, with participants from around 26 colleges. In the men's category, NGIT, ACME College of Arts and Science, and Keshav Memorial College of Engineering jointly secured the Overall Championship with 8 points. K. Manish Goud of St. Joseph College delivered an impressive performance, winning two gold medals in the 100m and 200m breaststroke events and a silver medal in the 50m breaststroke. In the 50m breaststroke, G. Virinchi Reddy of Keshav Memorial College finished first in 36.77 seconds, followed by Manish Goud in 37.96 seconds and Tanmay Srivastava of Tapasya College in 39.73 seconds. Mohammed Ammar Hamza of ACME College won the 50m freestyle in 28.21 seconds. G. Virinchi Reddy secured second place, while M. Krishna Gopi of Loyola College finished third. In the 100m backstroke, J. Raj Likhit of Matrusri College and R. Aravind of



Loyola recorded 1:31.49, while Mohammed Furqaan Khan of GCPE finished third. Manish Goud won the 100m breaststroke in 1:29.22, ahead of Karthik Srivastava of Tapasya and B. Amith of Badruka College. He also won the 200m breaststroke in 3:35.61. The 100m butterfly was won by Amogh Revelli of NGIT in 1:40.03, followed by M. Sushanth Desai of CBIT and Abhinav Deverakonda of MVSR. Prof. B. Sunil Kumar, Principal, UCPE, Osmania University, presented the Overall Championship trophy to the winning institutions. Prof. K. Deepla, Secretary, IUT, OU, Dr. B. Mohan Kumar, Principal, Badruka College, Assistant Professor B. Manoj Kumar and Manager Naseer were also present.

Record 50-Horse Field at EFI National Qualifier in Hyderabad

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana Waheed Uddin

Hyderabad witnessed a record response to the Equestrian Federation of India (EFI) National Qualifier hosted by the Nasr Polo & Equestrian Academy. A total of 50 horses representing riders from 11 equestrian clubs and academies are competing for qualification to the EFI Junior National Equestrian Championship 2026, scheduled to be held later this year. The event began with a mandatory veterinary inspection conducted by Dr.



K.C.S. Reddy, Col. Nanda and Col. Yadav. The horses underwent detailed examinations to assess their health, fitness and readiness for competition. Riders and horses from leading institutions, including Archi Horse Rid-

ing Academy, Flying Sea Stallion, Telangana Horse Riding Academy, Royal Caballo Club, Nasr Polo & Equestrian Academy, The Ashva Collective, HPRC, Covai Stables, Japaloupe Equestrian, The Hyderabad Equestrian

Centre and Embassy International Riding School, are participating. The competition features several accomplished and promising riders, including Aizah Mir, Mir Najamuddin Azam, Prabhnoor Singh Madan, Dhruva Po-

tineni, Siddharth Dutta, Samyukta Vanapalli, Gudur Vedic, Ayaan Verma Nadimpalli, Mohammed Aamir Shanawaz and Megh Vahni Dontireddy. The record participation highlights the growing popularity of equestrian sport in Hyderabad and across India. Participants appreciated the hospitality, infrastructure and support provided by Nasr Polo & Equestrian Academy. The upcoming competitions are expected to deliver intense action as horse-and-rider combinations compete for coveted places in the national championship.

Rohit, Kohli in India's ODI Squad for West Indies Series

HYDERABAD Wakeup telangana

Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli were named in India's ODI squad on Wednesday for the West Indies series starting this month, as the team continues to prepare for next year's World Cup. Both Rohit, 39, and Kohli, 37, only play the 50-over for-

mat internationally after retiring from Test and T20I cricket. Shubman Gill will lead the 15-man squad for the three-match series starting September 27 in Thiruvananthapuram. According to media reports, Rohit's place was in doubt despite hitting 138 in his last ODI outing against England at Lord's

in July. The two stalwarts of Indian cricket are keen to play in next year's ODI World Cup, but fans and pundits are divided over their places in the side. All-rounder Ravindra Jadeja returns to the squad, having last played an ODI in January. Medium-pace bowler Auqib Nabi and batting all-rounder Naman Dhir

could be in line for their international debuts after receiving their maiden call-ups. India will also play the Caribbean tourists in five T20 internationals, starting on October 6 in Lucknow. Selectors also made changes to India's Asian Games squad, with spinner Varun Chakravarthy ruled out due to a side

strain injury he suffered during the ongoing Afghanistan T20 series in New Delhi. He will also miss the one-off T20 against Japan in Sano on September 22. All-rounder Nitish Kumar Reddy, who was originally included in the Asian Games squad, has been withdrawn and will instead feature.

No alliance with BJP ahead of 2028 Telangana Assembly polls, says KTR

BRS working president K T Rama Rao said the party would contest the next Telangana general elections independently and ruled out an alliance with the BJP. He also discussed delimitation, artificial intelligence, governance, Telangana's development and its innovation ecosystem

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

K. T. Rama Rao, Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) Working President and former Minister, has ruled out any alliance with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) ahead of the 2028 Telangana Assembly elections. He made the statement while delivering a Distinguished Public Lecture at O.P. Jindal Global University in Sonapat, Haryana, on Wednesday. Speaking on "Innovation in Governance: The Story of a Startup State," KTR also interacted with students and answered questions on politics, governance, delimitation, artificial intelligence and emerging technologies.



Responding to a question on a possible BRS-BJP alliance, KTR said, "There will be no alliance with the BJP." On delimitation, he said the BRS would have no objection to supporting a delimitation Bill if the overall number of Lok Sabha seats is increased proportionately. He noted that southern states

currently account for 24 per cent of Lok Sabha representation and stressed the importance of proportional representation. On artificial intelligence, KTR said apprehensions had accompanied every major technological transition. He said AI should be adopted rather than

resisted, urging young people to adapt to technological change. During his lecture, KTR outlined Telangana's development journey through the concepts of "certainty and possibility." He said governance should provide certainty through basic infrastructure and reliable public services while creating ecosystems that encourage innovation, entrepreneurship and new opportunities. He highlighted initiatives in irrigation, agriculture, drinking water and power, describing the Kaleshwaram Project as an engineering response to the challenge of taking Godavari water to drought-prone regions. He also cited the increase in rice produc-

tion from around 44.4 lakh tonnes in 2014-15 to 168.8 lakh tonnes in 2023-24. KTR further highlighted Telangana's innovation ecosystem, including T-Hub, WE-Hub, T-Works and TASK, and cited Skyroot as an example of entrepreneurship supported through incubation and innovation. The lecture was followed by an interactive session, with students raising questions on public policy, politics, delimitation and technology. KTR thanked the university, students and faculty for the opportunity. Earlier, O.P. Jindal Global University Vice Chancellor Prof. Dr. C. Raj Kumar welcomed KTR.

CM Revanth Reddy Praises Nizams in Telangana Assembly

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana



Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Wednesday praised the Nizams of Hyderabad in the state Assembly, a day before the 78th anniversary of Operation Polo, the military action that ended the erstwhile Hyderabad State's rule and led to its integration with India in 1948. Revanth Reddy said the Nizams had made significant contributions to Hyderabad's development over more than two centuries, while making a distinction between their broader rule and the final years marked by the Razakar movement. "The Nizam was so good that he was one of the best among rulers," Revanth Reddy said, adding that excluding the final 10-12 years associated with the Razakars, the Nizams had undertaken considerable development work.

The Chief Minister highlighted several major public institutions and infrastructure projects established during the Nizam era. He said around 60 per cent of the revenue collected was utilised for public infrastructure, including man-made lakes, the Nizam Sugar Factory and the Assembly building. He also referred to Osmania University, Osmania General Hospital and the Telangana High Court building, describing the erstwhile rulers as having invested substantially in public development. Revanth Reddy's remarks came against the backdrop of continuing political and historical debate over the

significance of September 17. While the Centre and BJP have increasingly described the day as Hyderabad Liberation Day, the previous BRS government had observed it as National Integration Day during its final years in office. Former Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao had also previously spoken about the developmental contributions of the last Nizam, Mir Osman Ali Khan, although the political discourse surrounding the Nizam era later became more cautious. However, Revanth Reddy's remarks about the Razakars contained a historical error. The Razakar organisation emerged under Qasim Razvi, who became president of the Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen in 1946. The organisation operated during the turbulent period surrounding Hyderabad's refusal to immediately join the Indian Union.

BJP to Observe Liberation Day

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Reflecting divergent political positions, September 17, the day the princely state of Hyderabad merged with the Indian Union in 1948, will be observed as 'Liberation Day' by the BJP, while the BRS will continue to observe it as 'Integration Day'. According to BJP leaders, the Union government has officially celebrated the occasion as 'Telangana Liberation Day' in each of the past four years. As part of the celebrations, special

parades by paramilitary forces and various cultural programmes will be organised. Vice-President C.P. Radhakrishnan will attend this event, which will be held at the Parade Grounds on Thursday, as the chief guest. Others attending the event include Governor Shiv Pratap Shukla; Union tourism minister Gajendra Singh Shekawat; Union coal and mines minister G. Kishan Reddy; Union minister of state for home affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar; MP Eatala Rajender; and BJP Telangana state president

N. Ramchander Rao. The celebrations are scheduled to be held from 7.30 am to noon. BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao will unfurl the national flag at Telangana Bhavan. Some socio-political groups have decided to observe the occasion in remembrance of the 'police action', while leaders of Tahreek Muslim Shabban will pay their respects to Mir Osman Ali Khan, the 7th Nizam, at his grave in Masjid-e-Judi at King Koti.

Hyderabad Water Charges to Rise 5% Every Year Under CURE Bill

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Hyderabad water charges are set to rise by 5 per cent every year as the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) seeks to bridge its growing revenue gap. The move will mark the first revision in water tariffs in nearly 15 years, with rates having remained around Rs 10 per kilolitre since the last revision. The annual hike has been enabled under the CURE Bill 2026, which allows the Telangana government



to revise water charges every year instead of imposing a steep one-time increase. According to a report by The Times of India, the cumulative rise could reach around 25 per cent over five years if the annual 5 per cent escalation continues.

The decision comes at a time when Hyderabad is already facing a significant water supply deficit. The city currently has a shortfall of around 150 million gallons per day (MGD), which could in-

crease to nearly 230 MGD. Daily supply has remained at around 600 MGD for more than a decade, while demand has risen to an estimated 750 MGD due to population growth and expanding urban needs. The proposed tariff revision is expected to affect around 10 lakh consumers across Greater Hyderabad. However, nearly 5 lakh consumers receiving up to 20 kilolitres of free water every month under the existing scheme are expected to remain outside the impact of the hike.

HMWSSB currently collects around Rs 110 crore every month through water charges. Officials have said the gradual annual increase would help narrow the gap between the board's revenue and expenditure without placing the burden of a sharp one-time tariff revision on consumers. The CURE Bill 2026 also proposes separating sewerage charges from water tariffs. Domestic and non-domestic consumers covered under the legislation will have to pay a separately notified sewerage charge to the water board.



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Osman Al Hajri Congratulates Mahesh Kumar Goud

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Contested MLA and In-charge of the Karwan Assembly Constituency, Janab Osman Bin Mohammed Al Hajri, extended heartfelt congratulations to Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee (TPCC) President and MLC Janab B. Mahesh Kumar Goud on completing two years in office. Al Hajri appreciated Mahesh Kumar Goud's leadership and organisational efforts in strengthening the Congress Party across Telangana. He particularly highlighted his engagement with party workers and initiatives aimed at strengthening the organi-



sation at the grassroots and booth levels. He said the TPCC President had worked consistently to energise the Congress cadre and consolidate the party organisation across the state during his tenure. Al Hajri conveyed his best wishes to Mahesh Kumar Goud for continued success and further achievements in strengthening the Congress Party and serving the people of Telangana.

Jagadish Reddy Accuses Revanth Reddy of Misleading Assembly on Land Issue

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Former Minister and BRS MLA G. Jagadish Reddy strongly criticised Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy over allegations concerning land ownership and government land, accusing him of making contradictory statements in the Assembly. Jagadish Reddy said the government had been "caught" in the controversy surrounding 22A land records and alleged that the Chief Minister's statements on the issue were inconsistent. Referring to Revanth Reddy's



earlier claims, he questioned how the Chief Minister could first allege that former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao owned around 1,000 acres and later acknowledge in the Assembly that the claim was incorrect. He maintained that KCR had been purchasing land in the area since 2008 and asserted that the allegations against KCR, KTR, Harish Rao

and other BRS leaders were baseless. Jagadish Reddy said the election affidavits submitted in 2018 and 2023 contained details of the relevant assets and could be examined to establish the facts. He further alleged that Revanth Reddy was misusing the privileges of the Assembly by making what he described as false statements on the floor of the House. He questioned the Chief Minister's claim that KCR possessed 67 acres while simultaneously alleging that more than 300 acres in the area constituted government land.

CM Revanth to Unfurl Tricolour at Public Gardens



HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

The state government will celebrate September 17, when the princely state of Hyderabad was merged into India in 1948, as 'Praja Palana Dinotsavam' on Thursday. Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy will unfurl the National Flag at an official function to be held at Public Gardens, Nampally. Government Orders were issued nominating ministers and dignitaries to unfurl the National Flag and take the salute at the Guard of Honour at district headquarters. Flag-hoisting has also been mandated at all government offices, urban local bodies and gram panchayats. All officials have been instructed to attend the events at the respective district headquarters where the dignitaries will unfurl the Tricolour.

Medical Check-Up Begins for Haj 2027 Pilgrims

HYDERABAD
Wakeup telangana

Medical checkups for 3,809 selected Haj 2027 pilgrims from Hyderabad, Rangareddy and Medchal districts began at nine government hospitals on Wednesday and will continue till September 22,

the Telangana State Haj Committee said. Committee chairman Syed Shah Ghulam Afzal Biabani stated that medical check-ups are being organised to ensure the health and well-being of the selected pilgrims. He added that the process will continue through September 22 and

appealed to all pilgrims to reach their respective designated hospitals ahead of time. Afzal Biabani thanked Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy for releasing an additional '10,000 to each Haj-2026 pilgrim which they had to pay earlier for increased fuel charges.

