

EYE SECRETS

Spy in every blink

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SHORT BRIEFS

Physical gold stock remains unchanged at 880.52 tonnes: RBI

Mumbai, June 3 : The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Wednesday clarified that its physical stock of gold remains unchanged at 880.52 tonnes, dismissing media reports that suggested the central bank had sold part of its gold reserves. In a statement, the RBI said it had come across reports in certain sections of the media regarding the sale of gold by the central bank, and emphasised that such reports were incorrect. "The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has come across reports in certain sections of the media about RBI's sale of gold. The RBI emphasises that these reports are not correct," the central bank stated. "In this context, it is clarified that the physical stock of gold is disclosed by RBI in its Monthly Bulletin. The latest edition is available on the RBI website and the physical stock of gold remains unchanged at 880.52 tonnes as on date," it added. The central bank further added that details regarding its gold holdings are regularly disclosed in its Monthly Bulletin published on the central bank's official website. The RBI also advised members of the public to rely only on official information released by the central bank from time to time in such matters. "Members of public are, therefore, advised to rely on official information published by RBI from time to time in such matters," the central bank explained. The clarification came after a Bloomberg report claimed that the RBI may have reduced part of its gold holdings to protect its foreign-currency reserves from the impact of the ongoing conflict in West Asia. According to the report, the RBI likely sold gold reserves worth around \$12 billion during the two weeks ending May 22, while purchasing \$7.5 billion in foreign-currency assets. The report further stated that the RBI's interventions in the foreign exchange market appeared to have supported the rupee, helping the Indian currency perform better than most Asian peers since May 20, when it touched a record low.

20 killed in multi-storey building fire in Delhi's Malviya Nagar

New Delhi, June 3 : At least 20 people were killed, and dozens were injured after a massive fire broke out at the multi-storied Lemon Green Restaurant in Delhi's Malviya Nagar on Wednesday morning, officials said. So far, 37 people were rescued and taken to the hospital, while a search for others is underway, they added. Officials said that some people tried to jump from the upper floors of the building to save their lives. The injured have been sent to a nearby hospital. Some of the injured are reported to be in critical condition. Senior officials from Delhi Police, Delhi Fire Services and rescue services are present at the scene and monitoring the situation. Upon receiving the information, ten fire tenders were immediately dispatched to the scene. The fire was soon brought under control. However, the damage was extensive. Speaking to the reporters, SDM Jitender Kumar said, "I received information in the morning, and teams were instructed to reach the spot

PM MODI MEETS NEPAL'S RULING RSP CHIEF RABI LAMICHHANE, SAYS LOOKING FORWARD TO CLOSE

New Delhi, June 3 : Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Nepal's ruling Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP) chief Rabi Lamichhane and welcomed his interest in collaborating closely with India for a shared and prosperous future for both nations. In a post on X, PM Modi said, "Delighted to meet the Chairman of the Rastriya Swatantra Party of Nepal, Mr Rabi Lamichhane. I welcome and fully share his desire to work closely together for a shared and prosperous future." "Nepal is a priority partner under our Neighbourhood First policy, and we look forward to collaborating with the new government to elevate the special and multifaceted relationship between our two countries to greater heights," he added. Earlier on Tuesday, Union Home Minister Amit Shah interacted with a Nepalese delegation led by RSP chief Rabi Lamichhane, re-



affirming the commitment to enhance ties between the two countries. In a post on X, the Union Home Minister said, "Union Home Minister Amit Shah with the Nepalese delegation led by Rabi Lamichhane, Rastriya Swatantra Party (RSP) Chairman, in New Delhi today." "The Home Minister congratulated Lamichhane on RSP's victory in the elections and conveyed India's best wishes for the success of the new government. Both sides expressed their firm resolve

to work together for enhancing the special ties between India and Nepal," the Union Home Ministry added. Following the meeting, Lamichhane said, "It was a pleasure meeting with India's Home Minister, Shri Amit Shah Ji, during my visit to New Delhi. We held a constructive dialogue on strengthening the Nepal-India relationship, enhancing security cooperation, and fostering greater collaboration between our parties to promote democratic values and mutual

interests." The Nepalese delegation also met Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) President Nitin Nabin on Tuesday, who shared an overview of the party's ideological foundations and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's governance model. As part of the 'Know BJP' initiative, Nabin welcomed the delegation and shared insights on the party's organisational structure and its approach to public engagement. Nabin emphasised the deep-rooted and historic ties between India and Nepal, describing the relationship as one built on "shared civilisational heritage, cultural affinity and strong people-to-people connections". Nabin also discussed the growing influence of Generation Z in politics. Both sides exchanged views on the role of young people in shaping democratic participation, influencing public discourse, and emerging as future

From seeing Lenin in Mamata to rebellion: Ritabrata's political arc



Kolkata: Not long ago, Ritabrata Banerjee used to invoke Vladimir Lenin to explain Mamata Banerjee; today, the former communist is spearheading a "legislative revolt" against the very leader he once hailed as the embodiment of mass politics, threatening the biggest split in TMC's history. The 46-year-old former CPI(M) Rajya Sabha MP, who once declared that he understood Lenin's famous dictum on mass politics by watching Mamata Banerjee work among millions of people, now finds himself leading the biggest internal rebellion in the TMC's 28-year history. With 58

MLAs rallying behind him and his camp staking claim over the TMC legislature party, Ritabrata has suddenly emerged as the unlikely face of a challenge that threatens to reshape Bengal politics and has invited comparisons with Maharashtra leader Eknath Shinde. For a politician whose career has been marked by dramatic rises, spectacular falls and repeated reinventions, the latest chapter appears almost scripted. "This is perhaps the only major Bengal politician who has been expelled by both the CPI(M) and the TMC," quipped a veteran political observer.

Shivakumar sworn in as Karnataka's 25th CM



Bengaluru, June 3 : Karnataka Congress President D.K. Shivakumar was sworn in as the 25th Chief Minister of Karnataka on Wednesday at a grand ceremony held at the Glass House within the Lok Bhavan premises in Bengaluru. Amid loud slogans from supporters, Shivakumar walked to the dais and first paid floral tributes to the portrait of Sri Veera Gangadhara Swamiji, popularly known as Ajajya, Nonavinakere Ajja, or Veera Gangadhara Ajja. After offering his respects, he proceeded to the podium to take the oath of office and the oath of secrecy. Shivakumar took the oath while holding a copy of the Constitution and invoked the name of Veera Gangadhara Ajja, the revered seer whom he regards as his spiritual guide. The swearing-in ceremony commenced with the rendition of Vande Mataram. This was followed by the National Anthem performed by the Karnataka State Police Band. The state anthem was

also played during the proceedings. Chief Secretary to the Government of Karnataka, Shalini Rajneesh, welcomed the dignitaries and guests attending the ceremony. Before the formal proceedings began, Shivakumar felicitated outgoing Chief Minister Siddaramaiah by draping a shawl over his shoulders. Several prominent national and state leaders attended the event, including Chief Justice of the Karnataka High Court Vibhu Bakhru, AICC President Mallikarjun Kharge, Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi, Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu, Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, Congress leader V.D. Satheesan from Kerala, AICC General Secretary K.C. Venugopal, AICC General Secretary Randeep Singh Surjewala and other senior Congress leaders. At the start of the ceremony, Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh sought the permission of Governor Thaaawarchand Gehlot to proceed with the swearing-in. Following the Governor's approval, the oath-taking ceremony formally commenced. The event marked the beginning of a new chapter in Karnataka politics, with Shivakumar assuming office as Chief Minister amid the presence of senior Congress leadership, constitutional authorities

TELANGANA TO IMPLEMENT REVISED LAND VALUES FROM JUNE 5: PONGULETI

Hyderabad: Telangana Minister for Revenue and Housing Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy, on Wednesday, June 3, said that revised land values will be implemented from June 5, following a cabinet decision to adjust land prices to reflect market conditions. He said the decision was taken after conducting an extensive study based on the report given by financial expert Arvind Subramaniam. The new values were determined scientifically after examining the development potential of the areas, growth rate, recent land auctions, market conditions, demand, new roads, growth corridors, Outer Ring Road (ORR), Regional Ring Road (RRR), industrial development, and infrastructure expansion, Srinivasa Reddy said. "In 2021-22, the then Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) government had increased land prices twice in six months and increased registration charges from 6 per cent to 7.5 per cent without any comprehensive exercise and using unscientific methods," he alleged. These revisions were carried out without any field study, leading to government-assigned



values at much lower or higher than the market value, the minister said. He said that many problems were arising in land transactions due to the huge gap between the actual market prices and the government values, and to rectify this, a revision of market values has been undertaken in all 144 Sub Registrar Offices (SROs) in the state. The minister said that no increase has been proposed in areas where market values are already high. On the other hand, minimum basic rates have been determined for agricultural lands, plots, and flats in the Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA), CURE area, and other areas of the state, depending on the level of development.

Telangana, South Africa partner in education and investments



Hyderabad: Telangana and South Africa on Wednesday, June 3, agreed to collaborate in the fields of education, medical tourism and investments, with an aim to boost academic exchanges, promote medical tourism and attract investments for mutual benefit. Deputy President of South Africa Paul Mashatile called on Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy here and expressed his country's interest in deepening collaboration with Telangana in the fields of science, technology, innovation, and investment. Mashatile said South Africa provides a platform from which Indian companies can enjoy preferential market access into the rest of Africa through the African Continental Free Trade Area. It paves the way for the establishment of pharmaceutical companies in South Africa, a state government release said. He assured that South Africa's High Commission in New Delhi would actively facilitate stronger business and institutional partnerships, the Telangana CMO said in a post on X. Mashatile, who is on an official visit to India, thanked the Telangana government for the warm reception extended to his delegation and conveyed his greetings to the people of Telangana on the occasion of the State Formation Day (on June 2). "Telangana's remarkable growth trajectory is a testament to the determination, innovation, and entrepreneurial spirit of its people. As one of India's youngest states, its emergence as a significant contributor to the country's GDP is highly commendable," Mashatile said. Revanth Reddy reaffirmed the state government's commitment to providing all necessary support to South African businesses interested in investing in Telangana. The CM highlighted Telangana's investor-friendly policies, robust industrial ecosystem, and the wide range of opportunities available across key sectors. The Chief Minister explained that Hyderabad's robust educational and skill training ecosystem makes the state a knowledge hub, catering to IT, pharma, defence and aerospace sectors. Hyderabad is emerging as one of the leading global destinations for setting up of Global Capability Centers (GCCs) of Fortune-500 companies, he said.

ANDHRA PRADESH TO HOLD YOGA DAY EVENT ON KRISHNA RIVER BYPASS ROAD

Amaravati, June 3 : More than 25,000 people will participate in a yoga event to be organised on the Krishna River West bypass road in Amaravati on June 21 to mark International Yoga Day, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu announced on Wednesday. The state will organise the Yoga Andhra 2026 campaign from June 7 to June 20 across the state. He told media persons on Wednesday that the state aims to engage 1 crore people in yoga activities this year. Stating



that Yoga must become a habit and a daily practice in every household, he said it should evolve into a powerful movement for building a healthy Andhra Pradesh. The Chief Minister said that efforts are on to integrate yoga into educa-

tional institutions to build a healthier and stronger generation for the future. CM Naidu said that yoga is India's invaluable gift to the world and remains one of the most effective solutions to address the growing challenges of stress,

anxiety and lifestyle-related health disorders. "Yoga is a comprehensive wellness practice that promotes physical fitness, mental peace and spiritual growth," he said. The Chief Minister highlighted the remarkable success of last year's Yoga Andhra programme, which brought national and international recognition to Andhra Pradesh. The event, organised in Visakhapatnam in the presence of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, created multiple records and earned prestigious

recognitions, including two Guinness World Records, 21 World Book of Records, Skoch award. He said during Yoga Andhra 2025, around 2.44 crore people registered for participation. Certificates were issued to 1.91 crore participants, and yoga activities were conducted at 1.33 lakh venues with 1.53 lakh trainers. The Chief Minister said special district-wise themes have been designed to encourage participation from diverse sections of society Programmes.

Public leader Anirudh Reddy, who delivered justice to Udandapur flood victims – People's cheers for the MLA who kept his word

Jadcharla: PACS Chairman Sudarshan Goud said that Jadcharla MLA Janampalli Anirudh Reddy, who has always been at the forefront of fighting for the people of Jadcharla constituency, has once again kept his word. He praised Anirudh Reddy as a living example of the saying "He who does not speak, does not turn his back". He said that after the Navodaya Vidyalayam Peddayapalli issue and IIT Chittaboynapalli Sadhana, Anirudh Reddy has also shown his determination in providing increased compensation to the farmers affected by the Udandapur reservoir flood. He said that with the aim of getting justice for the flood-affected farmers, he constantly put pressure on the ministers, deputy chief minister and chief minister levels and brought about a positive decision from the government. He recalled that MLA Anirudh Reddy had reacted strongly to the failure of farmers who lost their lands due to the Udandapur reservoir to receive adequate compensation, and had stood firmly by the farmers by announcing that he

was ready to resign from his MLA post if necessary. He said that he had finally succeeded in fulfilling the promise made and ensuring that the victims received increased compensation. He criticized that the farmers and people of the flooded villages who lost everything due to the Palamuru-Ranga Reddy Lift Irrigation Project had not received increased compensation despite several protests during the rule of the former BRS ministers in power in the last ten years. He alleged that the farmers had failed to implement the promises made to them and had ignored the problems of the farmers by giving priority to the contract work bills. However, after the formation of the Congress government, MLA Anirudh Reddy took the special initiative to ensure justice for the flood victims, said Sudarshan Goud. He revealed that a huge public meeting would be held in the Udandapur area on June 5, 2026 to celebrate the increased compensation distribution program. While Enumula Revanth Reddy will be the chief guest at this meeting, people from flooded



villages, farmers, Congress party leaders, public representatives, and Anirudh Reddy's fans participated in large numbers and called for the meeting to be successful. "Ready to resign for the farmer... A leader who challenged the authority for a guarantee... Anirudh Reddy is a leader who kept his word and delivered justice to the flood victims," people from flooded villages like Udandapur, Vallur and other places are praising the MLA.

Congress gains huge strength in Jadcharla.. BRS Sarpanch, BJP Ward Member join Congress!

Jadcharla: A key development has taken place in Jadcharla politics. Expressing confidence in the leadership of Jadcharla MLA Janampalli Anirudh Reddy, the fact that public representatives from rival parties have joined the Congress party has become a topic of discussion in local political circles. Udandapur village BRS Sarpanch Shekhar and Vallur village BJP Ward Member Venkatesh officially joined the Congress party in the presence of State Excise Minister Jupally Krishna Rao. Minister Jupally Krishna Rao warmly welcomed them into the party by covering them with the Congress shawl. Speaking on the occasion, the leaders said that the people's representatives are taking steps towards the Congress, attracted by the development programs being undertaken by MLA Janampalli Anirudh Reddy in the Jadcharla constituency, the services being provided to the people, and the implementation of the welfare schemes of the Congress government. The leaders expressed confidence that the party in Jadcharla is getting stronger with the support of the people and the village level leadership also leaning towards the Congress, and that more leaders and activists are ready to join the Congress party in the



coming days. While the joining of key people's representatives from BRS and BJP to the Congress has led to a new discussion in Jadcharla politics, the party ranks are describing this as another proof of the leadership of MLA Anirudh Reddy. The leaders said that the Congress is moving forward powerfully in Jadcharla, saying, "Development is the agenda... Anirudh Reddy's leadership is the attraction."

Bhatti Vikramarka Unfurls National Flag in Khammam; Sets \$3 Trillion Telangana Economy Goal by 2047

Hyderabad: Telangana Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister Bhatti Vikramarka on Tuesday announced an ambitious roadmap to transform Telangana into a \$3 trillion economy by 2047 while unveiling a series of welfare, education, infrastructure, and economic development initiatives during the State Formation Day celebrations held at the Khammam Police Parade Ground. Hoisting the National Flag as the chief guest and receiving the guard of honour from the armed forces, the Deputy Chief Minister said the State Government, inspired by the ideals of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, is committed to ensuring social, economic and political justice for every citizen. Telangana Economy to Reach \$3 Trillion by 2047 Bhatti Vikramarka stated that the government has set a target of expanding Telangana's economy from the present \$200 billion to \$1 trillion by 2034 and further to \$3 trillion by 2047. He said the state's economic strategy has been structured under three sectors— "Cure, Pure and Rare"—to drive planned and sustainable growth. 'Indiramma Jeevitha Bima' for 1.15 Crore Families Announcing a landmark social security initiative, the Deputy Chief Minister said the government will launch the "Indiramma Kutumba Jeevitha Bima Pathakam," providing free life insurance coverage of ₹5

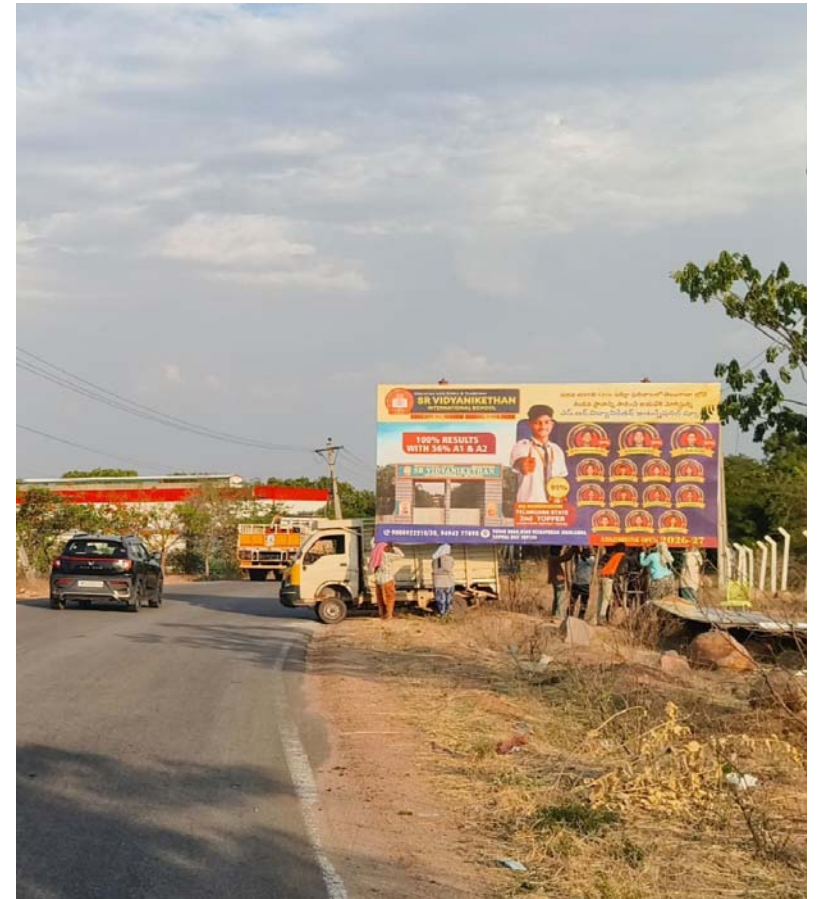


lakh to 1.15 crore families across the state, irrespective of economic status. He said the scheme would offer crucial financial support to families in the event of the death of their sole breadwinner. Major Welfare and Housing Initiatives Highlighting welfare measures implemented in Khammam district, Bhatti Vikramarka said 16,243 Indiramma Houses are under construction in the first phase, with ₹441 crore already credited to beneficiaries' accounts. House-warming ceremonies have been completed for 8,291 houses, while 2,000 houses per Assembly constituency will soon be sanctioned under the second phase. Under the Mahalakshmi scheme, ₹41 crore was spent to provide LPG cylinders at ₹500 to 2.45 lakh beneficiaries. Women in the district saved ₹303.55 crore through free travel in RTC buses. The Gruha Jyothi scheme provided subsidies worth ₹236.60

crore to over 2.50 lakh families for free electricity consumption up to 200 units. The government also sanctioned 59,448 new white ration cards, increasing the district total to 4.70 lakh beneficiaries receiving fine rice. Free Breakfast Scheme from 2026-27 Academic Year The Deputy Chief Minister announced the introduction of a free nutritious breakfast scheme for students studying in government institutions from pre-primary to Intermediate level beginning with the 2026-27 academic year. He said the initiative aims to ensure that no child attends school on an empty stomach. In Khammam district alone, more than 67,000 students will benefit from the programme. Five Young India Integrated Residential Schools are being established in the district at a cost of ₹200 crore each. He also highlighted the establishment of Young India Skill University, the modernisation of ITIs

OFFICIALS... WILL YOU WAKE UP ONLY AFTER SEEING THE DEATH TOLL? HUGE HOARDING OF 'SR VIDYANIKETAN' ON THE ROADSIDE LIKE A DEATH TRAP

Gadwal: Danger bells are ringing every moment on the single road from Erravalli Chowrasta to Putanpally. The reason for this is the huge hoarding erected by the SR Vidyaniketan management in complete disregard of road safety rules. This board, which was erected very close to the road and completely obstructed the view of motorists, is now playing with people's lives. "Playing with lives for profit!" There are criticisms that the institution that is supposed to provide education has now become a center of accidents. Due to the huge advertisement board erected for student admissions, the lives of innocent people traveling on the road have become like lamps in the wind. Motorists are avoiding accidents by applying brakes at the last moment, unable to see the vehicles coming from the opposite direction. Road turned into a blind spot This road, which was already a narrow single road, has become a complete blind spot due to the hoarding. Especially at the turn, the oncoming bikes, cars, and lorries were not visible at all, so it was fortunate that accidents were avoided. "All the conditions are ready for an accident to happen here... the only thing left to happen," locals are expressing concern. Is there no limit to the negligence of the R&B officials? It is surprising that the R&B officials, who are supposed to monitor road safety, have not recognized this dangerous situation so far. Did



the officials, who travel on the same route every day, not see this huge hoarding? Or are they acting as if they did not see it? Questions are pouring in from the public. Will they respond only if lives are lost? There is criticism that it has become a habit for the officials to conduct inquiries, reviews, and take action in a hurry after a serious accident occurs and innocent people are killed. If the responsibility to prevent the accident before it happens is ignored, who is responsible for the loss of life? People are asking. It

should be removed immediately... otherwise, there will be a movement! Motorists and locals are demanding the immediate removal of this huge hoarding that is putting people's lives in danger. They are warning that if the authorities do not wake up from their slumber and take action, public organizations and motorists are likely to take to the path of agitation. "Real governance is not about reacting after an accident... it is about preventing it from happening," the locals are accusing the authorities.

TUTF LEADERS PAY COURTESY VISIT TO DISTRICT EDUCATIONAL OFFICER

ADILABAD : : TUTF district leaders paid a courtesy visit to Mrs. Madhavi, who recently assumed charge as the District Educational Officer (DEO) of Adilabad, and extended their congratulations by presenting her with a bouquet. On this occasion, TUTF District President Sairee Srikanth and District General Secretary Jalander Reddy stated that TUTF would always extend its support for the development of education in the district and for addressing the issues faced by teachers and students.

They also expressed the organization's willingness to work in coordination with the District Education Department in educational as well as social welfare activities. Among those who accompanied the delegation



were Bhimpur Mandal Education Officer Radhakrishna Reddy, TUTF Honorary President Jadav Balaram, and other TUTF members. Speaking on the occasion, District Educational Officer Mrs. Madhavi appreciated the role of TUTF and stated that the organization's

cooperation would always be valuable in implementing educational development initiatives. She assured that the Education Department would work in coordination with TUTF to enhance educational standards across the district.

Case registered against two for cheating farmers

ADILABAD : : Indravelli SI Eddolla Sayanna said that a case has been booked against two people from Andhra Pradesh, Thanniru Hemanth Kumar and Muddirala Anand, for cheating farmers and they have been sent to remand. They convinced the innocent farmers that they would provide red sandalwood saplings to innocent farmers of Dongar Gaon village in Indravelli mandal in October and November of 2025, and that they would provide solar fencing and CCTV cameras to protect them. For this, they took about Rs 5,20,000 in cash from the farmers. But they are getting away with cheating the farmers without giving them any plants or other equipment. The SI stated that a case was registered against two people based on the farm-



ers' complaint, two phones were seized from them and they were remanded.

TELANGANA FORMATION DAY CELEBRATED BY PRESS CLUB IN VEMULAWADA

Karimnagar: Telangana Formation Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm on Tuesday under the auspices of the Telangana Union of Working Journalists (TUWJ-H 143), Vemulawada Press Club. The celebrations were led by State Vice President and District President Layak Pasha. Vemulawada Press Club President Kolipaka Narsaiah hoisted the National Flag at the Press Club premises. Journalists also paid floral tributes to the portrait of Telangana Thalli.

Later, a massive bike rally was organized from Korutla Bus Stand to the Martyrs' Memorial via Thippapur Main Bus Stand. Participating journalists raised slogans such as "Jai Telangana," "Johar Telangana Martyrs," and "Long Live Journalists' Unity," reflecting the spirit of the Telangana movement. Paying homage at the Martyrs' Memorial, Layak Pasha and Press Club President Narsaiah said that the sacrifices made by Telangana martyrs for

the achievement of a separate state would never be forgotten. They stated that Telangana was realized because of the relentless struggle and supreme sacrifices of the martyrs and called upon everyone to work for the continued development and welfare of the state. Senior journalist Rasool, General Secretary Syed Ali, Honorary Advisor Kotwal Srinivas, Press Club Vice Presidents Devaraj and Vishnu, Treasurer Pampari Nagaraju, Joint Secretary etc.

LAWYERS' ROLE IN TELANGANA MOVEMENT UNFORGETTABLE: JUDGE JAYAPRASAD

Siddipet: Additional District Judge Jayaprasad unfurled the national flag at the Siddipet District Court premises as part of Telangana Formation Day celebrations. Speaking on the occasion, he said the contribution of lawyers to the Telangana statehood movement was invaluable and recalled the participation of Siddipet advocates in the Chalo Delhi agitation. He also noted that the judiciary had extended support to the movement through fair and sympathetic judgments in cases involving Telangana activists. Jayaprasad emphasized the need to honor the martyrs of the Telangana movement and urged the government to support those who contributed to the state's formation. He said the creation of Telangana had led to improved governance, greater transparency, employment opportunities, and the establishment of the Siddipet District Court. Several judges, court officials, Bar Association members, advocates, and court staff attended the programme.



TELANGANA FORMATION DAY CELEBRATED AT VEMULAWADA MUNICIPAL * CHAIRMAN PULKAM RAJU UNFURLS NATIONAL FLAG; PAYS TRIBUTE TO TELANGANA MARTYRS.

Karimnagar: Telangana State Formation Day celebrations were held with enthusiasm at the Vemulawada Municipal Office on Monday. On the occasion, Municipal Chairman Pulkam Raju unfurled the National Flag at the municipal office premises and received the ceremonial salute. Later, he paid rich tributes to the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the achievement of a separate Telangana State. Addressing the gathering, Pulkam Raju said that the credit for granting Telangana State goes to senior Congress leader Sonia Gandhi, who fulfilled the aspirations of millions of people after a prolonged struggle. He recalled that Telangana, which came into existence on June 2, 2014, has been celebrating its Formation Day with great pride every year. The Chairman stated that Telangana movement activists have received proper



recognition and respect after the Congress government came to power in the state. He highlighted several welfare initiatives being implemented by the government, including Indiramma Housing, distribution of fine rice, free electricity, and free bus travel for women. Expressing confidence in the state's future, he said Telangana

would witness significant progress in all sectors under the Congress-led government. Municipal Vice-Chairman Narala Shekhar, Municipal Commissioner Lokesh, councillors, co-option members, leaders of various political parties, municipal officials, and staff members participated in the celebrations in large numbers.

Public leader CM Revanth Reddy coming to Palamuru to fulfill water promises: DCC President Sanjay Mudiraj

Mahabubnagar: Public leader CM Revanth Reddy is coming to Palamuru to fulfill water promises, DCC President Sanjay Mudiraj said. The land of Palamuru, which has been shaken by drought, migration and water shortages for decades, is now flowing with streams of hope. The fact that Telangana Chief Minister Anumula Revanth Reddy is coming on a two-day extensive tour on June 4 and 5 to fulfill his promise to the united Mahabubnagar district, which has suffered due to negligence, corruption and incomplete projects of the previous rulers, and to provide water rights to the people, is filling the district residents with new enthusiasm. On behalf of the Mahabubnagar District Congress Committee (DCC), we extend a warm welcome to the child of Palamuru and the people's Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. During the last ten years of BRS rule, irrigation projects have become centers for collecting commissions rather than providing water to the people. Despite spending thousands of crores of public money, the distribution systems have not been completed. The projects have been limited to inauguration ceremonies. Water has not reached the farmers' fields. The hopes of the people of Palamuru have remained half-hearted. However, after the Congress government came to power, the situation has completely changed. Chief Minister Revanth Reddy is personally stepping into the field to review the progress of the projects, determined not to limit himself to words but to complete the work at the field level and provide irrigation water to the farmers. As part of this visit, the Chief Minister will inspect the key parts of the Palamuru-Ranga Reddy Lift Irrigation Scheme (PRLIS) such as Narlapur reservoir, Elluru lift, Wattem reservoir,



Karivena reservoir, Uddanpur reservoir and other works. He will formulate a clear action plan to complete the works pending for years and provide water to the farmers. The steps taken by the Congress government to ensure water security for future generations are becoming clear by examining the proposed barrages on the Krishna and Bhima rivers. The government is moving forward to resolve inter-state water disputes with maturity and protect the rights of Telangana, not for political gain. The inauguration of the new irrigation office complex in Uyyalawada is a testament to the government's commitment to decentralization of administration in Palamuru and providing speedy services to the people.

The Mahabubnagar DCC is calling on farmers, youth, women, Congress cadres and democrats to gather in large numbers for the Mahasabha to be held at Uddanpur in Jadcharla constituency on June 5 at 4 pm in support of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, who is leading a great yagna to make the drought-stricken land of Palamuru beautiful with green crops.

TELANGANA FORMATION DAY CELEBRATED WITH PATRIOTIC ZEAL AT NTPC RAMAGUNDAM & TELANGANA

Peddapalli, Ramagundam, : NTPC Ramagundam & Telangana celebrated Telangana Formation Day with great enthusiasm and patriotic spirit at Jyothi Function Hall, PTS, on Tuesday. The event witnessed the participation of employees, CISF personnel, representatives of various associations, and senior officials. The celebrations began with the hoisting of the Telangana State Flag by the Chief Guest, Shri Mukul Rai, General Manager (O&M), Telangana, followed by the Telangana State Anthem. Employees and dignitaries gathered to commemorate the occasion, reflecting on Telangana's remarkable journey of progress and development since its formation. Speaking on the occasion, Shri Mukul Rai extended his warm greetings to employees and their families and appreciated their dedication towards NTPC's growth and excellence. He reaffirmed the organization's commitment to sustainable development, operational excellence, and nation-building. Representatives of various employee associations highlighted the significance of



Telangana Formation Day and paid tribute to the aspirations and sacrifices that led to the creation of the state. A ceremonial cake-cutting and symbolic balloon release added color to the celebrations, symbolizing unity, progress, and collective aspirations.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks and the National Anthem, leaving participants inspired by the spirit of Telangana and the shared commitment to growth, service, and development.

EDUCATIONAL MILESTONES MARK TELANGANA FORMATION DAY CELEBRATIONS

Kapulapalli :: Telangana Formation Day celebrations were held with great enthusiasm at the Upper Primary School (UPS), Kapulapalli, on Tuesday. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from villagers, students, teachers, and community representatives, reflecting a spirit of patriotism and pride in Telangana's achievements. The programme began with the hoisting of the National Flag by Village Sarpanch Meda Ravena Mallesham. The event was attended by Deputy Sarpanch Gajula Praveen, Amma Adarsha School Committee Chairperson Meda Ravena Suguna, village elders, educated citizens, representatives of women's self-help groups, the Village Secretary, and several other dignitaries. The participants paid tribute to the martyrs of the Telangana movement and appreciated the state's remarkable progress since its formation. On the occasion, students Nallapu Vishwagna, Nallavelli Sai Charan, and Nampalli Varshith, who secured outstanding results in the Class X Annual Examinations, were felicitated by the school in the presence of the Sarpanch, Deputy Sarpanch, and village elders. The dignitaries congratulated the students on their achievements and encouraged them to strive for



greater success in the future. Later, Headmaster Srinivas announced that, as part of the government's initiative to strengthen public education, Pre-Primary Classes (Nursery, LKG, and UKG) would be introduced in the school from the current academic year. He stated that the initiative aims to provide quality early childhood education through government schools and create a strong educational foundation for young children. As part of the programme, a brochure introducing the Pre-Primary Classes was formally

unveiled by the Village Sarpanch and village elders. The villagers welcomed the initiative and assured their full support for the development and progress of the government school. The event not only marked Telangana Formation Day with pride and patriotism but also highlighted the importance of education and academic excellence. The recognition of meritorious students and the launch of Pre-Primary Classes made the celebrations particularly meaningful and memorable for parents, students, and the local community.

SUNDARKAND RECITATION AND GRAND COMMUNITY FEAST ORGANIZED AT MUNSHIGANJ POLICE STATION COMPLEX

Amethi, : On the auspicious occasion of 'Bada Mangal' (Grand Tuesday), a religious and social program was organized within the premises of the Munshiganj Police Station. Under the leadership of Station In-charge Shivakant Tripathi, a recitation of the Sundarkand was held, in which police personnel and local devotees participated with deep reverence. During the program, prayers and rituals were offered to Lord Hanuman, seeking the happiness, prosperity, and peace of the region. Following this, Station In-charge Shivakant



Tripathi organized a grand community feast (Bhandara). Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP) Akhilesh Verma attended the event as the Chief Guest. A large number of devotees, local citizens, and police personnel partook of the Prasad (sacred food offering) served at the feast. The atmosphere throughout the program was imbued with deep

FORMER MINISTER V SRINIVAS GOUD DEMANDS IMMEDIATE OPERATIONALIZATION OF 1,000-BED SUPER SPECIALTY HOSPITAL IN

MAHABUBNAGAR : Former Minister V Srinivas Goud on Tuesday inspected the 1,000-bed Super Specialty Hospital and the Tourism Plaza in Mahabubnagar district headquarters and expressed concern over the delay in making the projects operational despite the completion of major construction works. Speaking on the occasion, Srinivas Goud stated that the first Medical College for Mahabubnagar was brought during his tenure and that extensive infrastructure was developed by constructing new buildings within the existing hospital premises and improving healthcare facilities. He said the need for advanced medical services in Mahabubnagar was identified after observing the growing number of patients suffering from cancer, cardiac ailments and liver diseases across the district. He recalled that the proposal for a 1,000-bed Super Specialty Hospital was approved after convincing former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao about the urgent healthcare needs of the region.

According to him, the hospital was strategically planned near the bus stand to ensure easy access for patients arriving from different parts of the district and neighboring areas. He said construction works were completed during the previous administration and only a few final procedures remained pending. Srinivas Goud noted that medical equipment worth nearly ₹500 crore was required to make the hospital fully functional. He expressed disappointment that despite assurances regarding its inauguration, the government had not yet completed the procurement process or provided the necessary facilities. He stressed that the hospital would serve people from five to six districts and urged authorities to immediately invite tenders, install equipment and commence Super Specialty medical services without further delay. He criticized what he described as prolonged inaction over the past two-and-a-half years and said the focus should be on providing quality healthcare rather than merely conducting inau-

guration ceremonies. He urged officials to ensure that patients receive advanced treatment facilities at the earliest. Referring to tourism projects, the former minister stated that several major initiatives undertaken during his tenure had significantly enhanced the tourism potential of the region. He said Somashila was transformed into a major tourist destination with modern amenities after development works were completed. He also highlighted tourism infrastructure created at Eagalapenta, Mannanur and Jogulamba. V Srinivas Goud said the Tourism Plaza adjacent to the hospital was conceived to provide accommodation facilities for patients and their attendants while also housing a convention center. However, he alleged that construction activities had remained stalled since the 2023 elections. He urged the government to review the project, hold discussions with the contractor and resume works immediately. The former minister also expressed concern over the halt in the proposed ropeway

project at Manyamkonda. He stated that preliminary works, including soil testing, had been completed before the contractor withdrew. He said the ropeway would substantially increase pilgrim footfall at the popular temple destination and contribute to local economic growth. He further pointed out that the Haritha Hotel project near Manyamkonda had remained incomplete despite substantial progress. While 18 rooms were nearing completion and foundation work for an additional 100 rooms had been initiated, the project had seen no significant advancement in recent years. He appealed to the government to complete the accommodation facilities for the benefit of devotees and tourists. Srinivas Goud also criticized the closure of Shilparamam, which was established to support traditional artisans and occupational communities. He said the Children's Amusement Park project had also been left unfinished. Highlighting pending developments at the Tank Bund, he called for the completion of the



Necklace Road, Women's Park, Food Court, Senior Citizens' Walking Track, Cycling Track, Children's Park, facilities for musical events and a bridge connecting the island area. He said these projects should be completed and opened to the public instead of being left neglected. Appealing to Minister Jupally Krishna Rao, Srinivas Goud said projects initiated in the minister's constituency had been completed during the previous administration and urged him not to allow tourism and healthcare projects in Ma-

habubnagar to remain unfinished. He called for a comprehensive review and immediate action to complete all pending works for the benefit of the public. Former Library Institution Chairman Rajeshwar Goud, former MUDA Chairman Ganji Venkanna, Town Party President Shivraj, Mahabubnagar Mandal President Devender Reddy, former Market Committee Chairman Anjaneyulu, senior leaders and corporators accompanied the former minister during the inspection.

DEMOCRACY - PROGRESS PLAN" ENVIRONMENT WEEKS SHOULD BE CELEBRATED

Nirmal : Plans should be prepared for rainy season preparation: * Gram sabhas should be held on 4th, 6th, 8th and 10th of this month: ** State Government Chief Secretary Ramakrishna Rao.* Chief Secretary (CS) Ramakrishna Rao ordered the officials to organize the environmental celebrations as part of the public governance progress planning program. A meeting was held with CS Ramakrishna Rao, State DGP CV Anand and other high officials from Hyderabad on public governance, progress planning, environmental festivals, monsoon preparations, management of gram sabhas, etc. Speaking on this occasion, he said that the public governance progress plan should be conducted successfully. All the programs should be carried out according to the plan. He said that on the 4th, 6th, 8th and 10th of this month, village and ward meetings should be organized and people should be made aware of various issues. In these meetings, especially to the farmers, many things like the upcoming rainy season, weather conditions, crop cultivation should be explained. He mentioned that people should be made aware of the SIR process. In gram sabhas, starting from the mandal level officials, the public representatives should take measures to ensure



that the members of the women's groups participate on a large scale. The authorities should prepare advance plans for the upcoming rainy season, sudden floods and catastrophic situations.

Police, administrative departments should coordinate with each other. District Collector Bhavesh Mishra participated in this VC from District Collectorate meeting hall. Speaking on this occasion, the collector said that the environmental week celebrations will be conducted under strict conditions. He said that keeping in mind the upcoming rainy season, early measures will be taken so that the people do not face any problems. Village ward meetings will be organized on 4, 6, 8, 10 of this month to educate farmers and

people on various issues. Along with this, people will also be made aware of the SIR process. After that, the Collector held a video conference meeting with the Tehsildars.

Speaking on this occasion, he said that the Gram Sabhas should be organized successfully. Pending Bhubharati, plain anonymous applications should be resolved immediately. In this VC, District SP Janaki Sharmila, Additional Collectors B. Venkateshwarlu, Kishore Kumar, DRO Rathod Ramesh, SDCLA

Nayakwadi Jala Kumari, DSP Srinivas Reddy, DRDO Vijayalakshmi, DPO Srinivas, CPO Ganga Reddy, officers and staff of various departments participated.

GRAND STATE INCARNATION DAY CELEBRATIONS AT SP CAMP OFFICE

Nirmal : * District SP Dr. G. Janaki Sharmila IPS who unveiled the national flag * In honor of Telangana State Independence Day, a grand celebration was held today at District SP Camp Office. On this occasion, District SP Dr. G. Janaki Sharmila unveiled the IPS national flag and received salute from the police officers and staff. On this occasion, he congratulated the people of the district on the Telangana State Incarnation Day and remembered the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the birth of the state and praised their services. He said that Telangana state is developing in all fields and is setting an example for the country. Before that, Additional



SP (Admin) Upender Reddy in District Police Office, RI Ram Niranjan Rao (Admin) in District Police AR Head Quarters launched

the national scheme. Along with District SP Dr. G. Janaki Sharmila IPS, Additional SP Upender Reddy, Nirmal DSP Srinivas,

BRS Leaders Celebrated Telangana Formation Day, Call for KCR's Return to Restore State's Glory

MAHABUBNAGAR :Telangana Formation Day celebrations were held at the BRS district party office in Mahabubnagar on Monday, former Minister V Srinivas Goud hoisted the National Flag. And party leaders paid tribute to the movement that led to the creation of Telangana and recalled the achievements of the previous BRS government under the leadership of K. Chandrashekar Rao (KCR). Addressing the gathering, party leaders said that KCR had united people from all sections of society and across political lines to achieve the long-cherished dream of a separate Telangana state. They stated that after achieving statehood, the BRS government transformed Telangana into one of the most progressive states in the country through extensive development in agriculture, irrigation, welfare, and infrastructure sectors. The speakers highlighted that Telangana recorded remarkable agricultural growth during the BRS regime, with farmers benefiting from uninterrupted free electricity, investment support schemes, and improved irrigation facilities. They said initiatives such as financial assistance for farmers, safe drinking water supply to households, and large-scale environmental conservation programs significantly improved the quality of life across the state. Criticizing the Congress government, the leaders alleged that it came to power by making false promises and accused it of pursuing vindictive politics. They claimed that a "bulldozer-style administration" was being carried out in the state and that false cases were being filed against political opponents. The leaders also expressed concern over the appointment of an official who



had previously served in Andhra Pradesh as an advisor in the Irrigation Department, alleging that major irrigation projects, including the Palamuru project, had come to a standstill under the present administration. They asserted that Telangana could regain its former pace of development and prosperity only under the leadership of KCR and called upon party leaders and cadre to work tirelessly to bring the BRS back to power in the state. Former Library Corporation Chairman Rajeshwar Goud, former Urban Development Authority Chairman Ganji Venkanna, town party president Shivraj, Mahabubnagar Mandal president Devender Reddy, former Market Committee Chairman Anjaneyulu, senior party leaders, corporators, and party workers participated in the celebrations.

Rahul Gandhi's Call to Raise Muslim Issues Directly is Welcome: Shaikh Farooq Hussain

MAHABUBNAGAR :All India Mewa State Chairman and Congress leader Shaikh Farooq Hussain has welcomed Rahul Gandhi's recent call urging minority leaders in the Congress Party to openly address issues concerning the Muslim community and work directly for the protection of their rights. In a statement, Farooq Hussain said that minority leaders serving in the Congress Minority Department should identify themselves as Muslim leaders while highlighting the challenges faced by the community. He

stated that it is important to bring to public attention the injustices and discriminatory policies allegedly being faced by Muslims under the Central Government and to actively advocate for their rights and welfare. He expressed appreciation for Rahul Gandhi's directive and said that Muslim leaders would continue striving for the resolution of issues affecting the community. Farooq Hussain noted that they had recently taken up the concerns of the Qureshi community and brought them to the attention of both the public



and government authorities while seeking appropriate solutions. He further stated that, from today onwards, they would strictly follow Rahul Gandhi's guidance and remain fully committed to addressing the problems faced by Muslims. He reaffirmed that they would work tirelessly for the protection of Muslim rights and ensure

South Coast Railway Zone Operations Commence, Headquartered in Visakhapatnam A New Chapter in the State's Railway Development

Visakhapatnam: The South Coast Railway Zone (SCRZ)—a long-cherished aspiration of the people of Andhra Pradesh—officially commenced its operations on Tuesday, headquartered in Visakhapatnam. This marks the culmination of a prolonged struggle for a dedicated railway zone following the bifurcation of the state. Established as the 18th railway zone in the country, the South Coast Railway will encompass the major divisions of Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada, Guntur, and Guntakal. With approximately 380 railway stations, a workforce of 62,000 employees, and a freight handling capacity of 100 million tonnes, this zone is poised to secure a pivotal position within the nation's railway sector. Officials estimate that the zone's annual revenue is likely to reach Rs 15,500 crore. *A Boost to Development* The establishment of this new zone is set to accelerate the expansion of railway infrastructure within the state, the modernization of stations, improvements to signaling systems, and the enhancement of freight transportation capabilities. Furthermore, it will facilitate the introduction of new trains, provide improved amenities for passengers, and expand the transportation facilities essential for industrial growth. *Permanent Headquarters in Visakhapatnam* The Central Government has approved an allocation of Rs 183 crore for the construction of the permanent headquarters building in the Mudasarlova area of Visakhapatnam. Additionally, it is reported that a proposal for civil works worth ₹200 crore, aimed at infrastructure development, is currently under consideration. *Growth in Employment Opportunities* The establishment of the South Coast Railway Zone is set to create new avenues for



development in the North Andhra and Coastal Andhra regions. In addition to generating thousands of direct and indirect employment opportunities, this initiative is expected to facilitate the faster implementation of administrative decisions. It will also provide a significant boost to the transportation of agricultural and industrial produce. * Congratulations to the Centre* Several public representatives and leaders from various social groups have extended their congratulations to the Central Government—specifically to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Minister of Railways, Ashwini Vaishnav—for fulfilling a long-cherished wish of the people of the state. They expressed their hope that the South Coast Railway Zone would emerge as one of the premier railway zones in the country. — Pittala Sridevi Chairperson, Agricultural Market Committee (AMC)

Collector Praises Youth Services at GGH Youth Time Bank Services Reach 73rd Day; Orders Issued to Expand to PGRS and Indrakeeladri

Vijayawada | Collector Dr.G. Lakshmisha stated that the 'Youth Time Bank' initiative—being implemented innovatively at the Vijayawada Government General Hospital (GGH)—stands as a model program, fostering a spirit of service among the youth. On Tuesday, he inspected the services being rendered as the program entered its 73rd day. As part of the Youth Time Bank services, students from the Community Service Projects of Danekula Institute of Engineering and Technology and SRR & CVR Government Degree College, along with volunteers from Vasavya Mahila Mandali, are actively participating and providing assistance by guiding patients and their attendants. The Collector expressed his satisfaction with the proactive manner in which the youth are acting to provide necessary



information and facilitate hospital services. Speaking on the occasion, he remarked that the increasing participation of youth in community service is commendable and that such initiatives foster responsible citizenship. He noted that through the Youth Time Bank, young people are demonstrating a service-oriented mindset by dedicating their time to society.

He further described the expansion of Youth Time Bank services to the Public Grievance Redressal System (PGRS) conducted every Monday at the Collectorate in Vijayawada—as a significant milestone. Furthermore, he directed Dr. Kolleti Ramesh, the District Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Youth Welfare, to take measures to extend these services to Indrakeeladri

SPECIAL FOCUS ON VOTER LIST REVISION NO ELIGIBLE PERSON SHOULD BEMISSED: CM CHANDRABABU DIRECTS AT MEETING WITH MLAS

Mangalagiri | Chief Minister N.Chandra babu Naidu has instructed the party's elected representatives to undertake the special comprehensive revision program for the voter list with the utmost priority. He addressed a special meeting of MLAs held on Tuesday at the Telugu Desam Party central office in Mangalagiri. He directed the MLAs to implement a rigorous registration and revision process, starting from the booth level, to ensure that not a single eligible voter is left out of the list. He ordered the formulation of a special action plan to register young people who have turned 18 as voters on a large scale. Furthermore, he emphasized the need to expedite the process of removing duplicate votes and the names of deceased individuals from the list. Suggesting that measures be taken to compile an accurate voter list through door-to-door surveys, the CM remarked that the voter list is a critical factor



that influences electoral victories and defeats. Against this backdrop, he called upon party workers and elected representatives to work together in close coordination. The meeting also featured extensive discussions regarding the party's organizational structure. It was decided to further strengthen booth committees and reinforce the party's presence at the grassroots level. Leaders were instructed to formulate an action plan to extend

organizational activities down to the village and ward levels. Several MLAs and party leaders, including Tangirala Sowmya, participated in the meeting and shared their views. During the meeting, it was decided that the voter list revision process should be completed in accordance with the schedule prescribed by the Election Commission of India, and that party workers should extend their full cooperation to the officials.

TDP Focuses on Voter List Revision

NOT A SINGLE ELIGIBLE PERSON SHOULD BEMISSED: CM CHANDRABABU DIRECTS MLAS

Mangalagiri: The Telugu Desam Party (TDP) has placed special emphasis on the special comprehensive revision program for the voter list. On Tuesday, Party Chief and Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu held a special meeting with MLAs at the TDP central office in Mangalagiri. They engaged in extensive discussions regarding the action plan to be implemented at the grassroots level, covering both the revision of the voter list and the party's organizational structure. The CM instructed the MLAs to ensure that not a single eligible voter is left out of the list. He ordered that the voter registration and revision process be conducted meticulously, starting from the booth level. He specifically directed them to pay special attention to registering youth who have turned 18



as voters. He further clarified that measures must be taken to remove duplicate entries and the names of deceased individuals from the list. He provided directives to compile an accurate voter list through door-to-door surveys, and to further strengthen booth commit-

tees in order to fortify the party's organizational structure. The CM remarked that the voter list is a critical factor that significantly influences electoral outcomes. He called upon party workers to cooperate fully with officials during this exercise and to complete the revision

process in strict accordance with the schedule released by the Election Commission. Several MLAs and party leaders—including Mylavaram MLA and TDP State Official Spokesperson Vasantha Venkata Krishna Prasad—participated in the meeting and shared

Free Sewing Machines for 120 Women Distribution under MEPMA's aegis; Certificates presented to those who completed Beautician Course

Vijayawada | At an event held on Tuesday at the Gujjala Sarala Devi Kalyana Mandapam in Singhnagar, free sewing machines were distributed to 120 women who had undergone training under the aegis of MEPMA. Government Whip and Central Constituency MLA, Bonda Umamaheswara Rao, attended as the chief guest and handed over the sewing machines. Certificates were also presented to women who had successfully completed a beautician course. Speaking on the occasion, he stated that women's empowerment is the primary objective of the state government. He noted that the development of families and society at large is contingent upon the economic strengthening of women. He affirmed that the government is striving to create employment and self-employment opportunities for women, thereby enabling them to achieve financial stability. He recalled that, through skill development programs in the past, thousands of women were trained in sectors such as Tally, IT, and



software, leading to the creation of employment opportunities. He added that, currently, women are being encouraged toward self-employment through courses such as beautician training and tailoring. He mentioned that the government is actively promoting thrift societies by providing collateral-free loans of up to ₹10 lakhs to DWCR women. He further stated that by providing free sewing machines to trained women, they are empowered to generate income

right from the comfort of their own homes. He stated that the government is continuously striving to ensure the economic self-reliance of women. MLA Office Secretary Ghanta Krishnamohan, TDP State Nagavamsa Empowerment Chairman Erubothu Ramana Rao, State Executive Secretary Dasari Udayasri, division leaders, officials, and others participated in this program.

FOOD DONATION PROGRAM AT NANDIGAMA GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL

Nandigama | A food donation program (Annadanam) was organized at the Nandigama Government Hospital on Tuesday under the aegis of the Sadguru Bodhanandaswami Charitable Trust. Meals were distributed to patients, their attendants, and visitors to the hospital, courtesy of the family members of Sura Radhakrishna—including his son Lakshmana Rao, Lavanya, and others. The event was attended by Eepuri Nageswara Rao, Chairman of the Government Hospital Development Committee, and Akula Venkatanarayana, Vice President of the APWJF (NTR District), who actively participated in the food donation service. On this occasion, they highlighted the significance of community service initiatives. Ashram Committee Chairman Boggavarapu Ramakrishna, Ramesh, Bujji, Sura



Radhakrishna, and others also participated in the food donation program. Several individuals commended the organizers for successfully conducting the event.

DAY 2 OF SKILL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME CONDUCTED SUCCESSFULLY

Visakhapatnam: The second day of the Skill Development Programme was conducted successfully with enthusiastic participation from the attendees. The sessions were designed to enhance communication skills, career readiness, and professional networking capabilities among the participants. The day commenced with an insightful session on Effective Communication by Dr. T. S. Poornachandrika, who explained the need and importance of communication in personal and professional life. She discussed various types of communication and engaged participants through an interactive communication activity that helped them understand practical aspects of effective communication. Dr. Lavanya further emphasized the significance of public speaking and conducted a team-building activity that fostered

collaboration, confidence, and interpersonal skills among the participants. In the post-lunch session, Dr. Sowmya provided valuable guidance on effective resume writing, highlighting key elements required to create impactful resumes. She also discussed diverse career opportunities available to aspiring professionals. Subsequently, Dr. Bhagalakshmi oriented the participants on the importance of professional networking and demonstrated how platforms such as LinkedIn can be effectively utilized to connect with recruiters, build professional profiles, and explore career opportunities. The sessions were highly informative, interactive, and well-received by the participants. The day concluded on a positive and motivating note, equipping attendees with essential skills for personal growth and career development.

MGU celebrates Telangana Formation Day

Nalgonda: "The establishment of Telangana State is a monumental achievement born from countless sacrifices, struggles, and the courage of martyrs," stated Vice Chancellor of Mahatma Gandhi University Prof. Khaja Althaf Hussain. Participating as the chief guest at the Telangana State

Formation Day celebrations on Tuesday, he expressed his warmest greetings to all citizens and the university community after hoisting the national flag. In tribute to the martyrs who gave their lives for Telangana, he urged every individual to embrace a renewed commitment to the state's progress,

so their sacrifices may not be in vain. "We have a responsibility not just for the advancement of Telangana, but for the betterment of India as a whole," the Vice Chancellor emphasized. He further conveyed that honouring the martyrs goes beyond celebrating their anniversaries; it calls for a life marked

Hyd: Vamsiram Builders Acquires Raidurgam Land Parcel for ₹1,040 Cr, Plans 20-Lakh-Sq-Ft IT Park

New Delhi: In one of the biggest commercial land transactions in Hyderabad's real estate market, Vamsiram Builders has acquired a prime 5.09-acre land parcel in Raidurgam for approximately ₹1,040 crore and announced plans to develop a landmark 30-storey mixed-use commercial tower with a built-up area of 20 lakh square feet. The strategically located Plot P4, situated adjacent to ITC Kohinoor in Hyderabad's prime commercial corridor, was secured through an e-auction conducted by the Telangana Government Infrastructure and Investment Corporation (TG-IC), the Hyderabad based Real Estate company said in a release here on Wednesday. The winning bid of ₹204 crore per acre represented a premium of 46.76 per cent over the reserve price of ₹139 crore per acre, underlining the strong investor demand for premium commercial assets



in Hyderabad's rapidly expanding business districts. The proposed development will comprise premium IT office space, retail zones and a hotel within a single integrated project. Designed in a distinctive 'U'-shaped configuration, the tower will feature a landscaped central garden and rise to a height of 145 metres across 30 floors. Vamsiram Builders Chairman and Managing Director B. Subba Reddy said Raidurgam has emerged as the nerve centre of Hyderabad's new economy and the company intends to create a landmark project that reflects the city's growing global stature.

"We are building a project that is worthy of the location and Hyderabad's global ambitions, setting new benchmarks in commercial design and functionality," he said. The company plans to engage an international architectural firm for the project and aims to complete construction within four years. The project comes at a time when Hyderabad's office market continues to witness robust leasing activity, particularly in large-format transactions. Technology and software companies account for more than 65 per cent of commercial space demand in the city, while vacancy levels

New Delhi, Jan 10 : The government should consider enhancing standard deduction for salaried employees, allowing more time for belated tax returns and several measures to improve ease of doing business in the upcoming Union Budget, a report has said. The report from KPMG India said India's top expectations from the budget include a raise in the standard deduction for salaried employees to Rs 1 lakh and extension of timelines for filing revised or belated returns to help taxpayers with cross-border income reporting obligations, the report said. "In cases, especially when individuals with cross border investment and income file tax returns their home or host country are not finalised, which may lead to under-reporting and over-reporting of income," the report explained the rationale for allowing

more time for revised or belated returns. The business advisory firm also recommended allowing housing loan interest deductions against salary income, including for self-occupied property. "Considering the significant burden of home loan repayments and the goal of promoting home ownership, it is recommended that the Government allows such interest deduction on self-occupied property under the new tax regime," the report said. Further on the corporate tax front, the report sought clear exemption for foreign companies under presumptive tax regimes and urged a minimum alternate tax (MAT) exemption where incidental income accounts for a small percentage of total income. The current provision creates a challenge when incidental



income is earned alongside business income, potentially exposing these foreign companies to MAT, it said. A clear exemption would help improve India's competitiveness for foreign companies engaged in these businesses in India, according to the firm.

In certain cases, courts have treated redemption premium on debentures as interest. Section 76 of the Income Tax Act, presumes redemption premium on debentures to be short-term capital gains. This creates uncertainty for issuers and investors on the treatment of such

income, impacting tax computations and withholding obligations, the report noted. On the indirect tax front, the report called for allowing provisional refund sanctioning for inverted duty structure cases, which will help expedite refunds, improve liquidity

Hyderabad emerges as major Data Centre Hub, capacity rises to 151 MW with 1.9 GW Pipeline: Knight Frank report

New Delhi: Hyderabad has emerged as one of India's fastest-growing data centre markets, with its live data centre capacity more than doubling to 151.4 MW by the end of 2025 and a massive 1.9 GW development pipeline positioning the city as a leading hyperscale and artificial intelligence (AI) infrastructure hub, according to a report released by Knight Frank India. The report on 'India Data Centre Market update 2025: Tracking Capacity, Demand and Supply Pipeline', stated that Hyderabad's live capacity increased from 60.9 MW in 2022 to 151.4 MW in 2025, reflecting the city's rapid transformation from an IT/ITeS-driven market into a strategic destination for hyperscale and AI-focused investments. Knight Frank noted that Hyderabad's pipeline of under-construction, committed and early-stage projects has expanded to nearly 1.97 GW, second only to Mumbai among India's major data centre markets. The growth is being driven by strong operator preference for large campus-scale developments and Telangana's push to establish itself as a global AI data centre hub.



The report highlighted that state incentives for high-density graphics processing units (GPUs), large-scale AI training infrastructure and liquid cooling technologies, coupled with Hyderabad's disaster-resilient geography, are making the city an attractive alternative to more expensive coastal locations. Major operators such as NTT and Adani-Connex are aggressively expanding their footprint in the city. Among India's key data centre markets, Hyderabad's live capacity of 151.4 MW places it ahead of Kolkata and close to Pune and Bengaluru,

while Mumbai continues to lead with 766.6 MW. The report also pointed to the growing presence of global hyperscalers in Hyderabad. Microsoft is set to launch its India South Central data centre region in Hyderabad in 2026, while Amazon Web Services (AWS) currently operates three availability zones in the city and accounts for 46 per cent of Hyderabad's live IT capacity. Oracle has also announced plans to establish a data centre in Hyderabad to expand its cloud infrastructure in India. Demand patterns in the city are evolving rapidly. Hyderabad record-

ed a historic data centre absorption of 19.2 MW in 2024, signalling increasing dominance of hyperscale demand. Although absorption moderated in 2025, vacancy levels averaged 23 per cent, indicating that the market remains in an expansion phase as operators prepare for future AI-driven requirements. At the national level, India's data centre market crossed 1.6 GW of live IT capacity by the end of 2025. The country added 371.5 MW of live capacity during 2025, following a substantial addition of 361.6 MW in 2024, underscoring sustained growth

India emerges as fastest-growing major insurance market, global premiums top USD 8 tn: Report

India is set to emerge as the world's fastest-growing major insurance market over the next decade, driven by rising demand for financial protection, demographic changes and ongoing regulatory reforms, according to the latest Global Insurance Report 2026 released by Allianz Research on Wednesday here. The report said India's insurance industry recorded robust growth of 9.4 per cent in 2025, with total premium income rising to USD 146 billion from USD 133 billion a year earlier. Growth was broad-based across all major segments, reflecting increasing awareness of protection needs among consumers and businesses. Life insurance, which accounts for nearly three-fourths of the country's insurance market, expanded by 9.7 per cent during the year. Health insurance remained the fastest-growing segment with premium income rising 10.4 per cent, supported by high medical inflation and continued gaps in public healthcare coverage. Property and Casualty (P&C) insurance, which includes motor, property and liability coverage, grew by 7.5

per cent. Despite becoming one of the world's ten largest insurance markets, India remains significantly underinsured. Insurance penetration stands at just 3.8 per cent of GDP, while only around 46 per cent of the working-age population is effectively covered by pension systems. A large share of healthcare expenditure also continues to be borne directly by households. The report projects that India's insurance market will expand at an annual rate of 10.7 per cent over the next decade, outpacing the country's expected nominal GDP growth of 10.1 per cent. Rising life expectancy, population ageing and persistent gaps in social security coverage are expected to drive demand across life, health and general insurance products. Allianz Research also highlighted the role of regulatory initiatives, including the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India's "Insurance for All by 2047" vision, in supporting the long-term expansion and efficiency of the sector. Commenting on the findings, Ritu Arora, Country

Head of Allianz Services India, said insurance is becoming increasingly critical to economic resilience in an environment marked by growing uncertainty and fragmentation. She noted that India's strong growth reflects rising awareness of protection needs across life, health and general insurance, while also underscoring the significant untapped potential that remains in the market. According to her, the industry's focus will increasingly be on improving affordability, expanding access and ensuring broader financial protection for individuals and families. Globally, the insurance industry continued to expand strongly in 2025, with total premiums rising 7.1 per cent to reach USD 8.1 trillion. Although growth moderated from 9.4 per cent in 2024, it remained well above the long-term average, adding USD 536 billion to the global premium pool. Life insurance remained the largest segment globally with premium income of USD 3.36 trillion, followed by Property and Casualty insurance at USD 2.73 trillion and health insurance at USD 1.98 tril-

lion. Health insurance emerged as the fastest-growing global segment, recording growth of 12.3 per cent in 2025, the strongest increase in more than a decade. Allianz attributed the expansion to ageing populations, rising healthcare costs and increasing pressure on public healthcare systems worldwide. Looking ahead, Allianz expects the global insurance industry to grow at an average annual rate of 5.3 per cent over the next ten years. Health insurance is forecast to remain the most dynamic segment globally with annual growth of 6.7 per cent, while India is expected to outperform with projected annual growth of 12.5 per cent in health insurance, 10.5 per cent in life insurance and 10.2 per cent in Property and Casualty insurance. The report also predicts a continuing shift in the global insurance landscape towards Asia, with India and China gaining increasing importance. Asia is already the world's largest life insurance market and is expected to remain the primary engine of industry growth in the coming decade.

AP: Aditya Birla housing finance opens new branch in Kurnool

Kurnool: Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited (ABHFL), a leading housing finance company and a subsidiary of Aditya Birla Capital Limited, has expanded its footprint in Andhra Pradesh with the launch of a new branch in Kurnool, as part of its broader plan to expand its pan-India distribution network. With this addition, ABHFL's total network in Andhra Pradesh has increased to 14 branches, strengthening its presence in high-growth markets and improving customer accessibility. Kurnool is witnessing growing demand for affordable housing, supported by rapid urbanisation, improving highway connectivity along the NH-44 corridor, and new indus-

trial and renewable-energy projects that are expanding local employment opportunities. Rising numbers of salaried and self-employed households, together with developer interest in budget and mid-segment housing, are driving demand from first-time buyers and emerging-income segments. The new ABHFL branch will enable the company to provide accessible, customised housing-finance solutions for purchase, construction, and home improvement across Kurnool and surrounding regions. ABHFL offers a comprehensive suite of housing finance solutions tailored to diverse customer segments, including affordable housing, prime housing, construction finance, and loans



against property, catering to salaried individuals, self-employed professionals, self-employed non-professionals, and emerging income groups. Backed by a robust digital ecosystem, ABHFL enables a seamless onboarding, faster approvals, and enhanced transparency, ensuring a superior customer experience. To mark the launch, ABHFL is offering zero login fees along with spot loan sanc-

tions of up to Rs 50 lakh, valid from June 3 to June 30 2026, enabling faster and more affordable access to credit for customers at these new branches. Speaking on the expansion, Pankaj Gadgil, MD & CEO, Aditya Birla Housing Finance Limited, said, "Andhra Pradesh is a key growth market for us. With strong demand and rising aspirations, we are scaling our regional presence to deepen customer

Singareni CMD Calls Upon Employees to Work with Dedication to Sustain Competitiveness

New Delhi: Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) Chairman and Managing Director Dr Buddhaprakash Jyoti has called upon employees to discharge their duties with dedication and commitment to ensure the company's continued growth and competitiveness. He said transforming Singareni into an organisation of international standards would bring greater recognition and honour to Telangana. Addressing the Telangana State Formation Day celebrations held at Singareni Bhavan in Hyderabad, Dr Jyoti said Singareni, one of Telangana's most important public sector enterprises, is steadily expanding its operations beyond the state and should work towards es-



tablishing a presence at the global level in the coming years. He noted that Telangana was achieved through the sacrifices of countless youth, leaders and people from all sections of society. Since its formation, the state has made remarkable progress across various sectors

and generated substantial employment opportunities for the younger generation, he said. Highlighting the company's promising future, the CMD stressed the need to increase production and productivity by making optimum use of machinery in both opencast and un-

derground mines. He also underlined the importance of improving operational efficiency and maintaining high standards in mining operations. Earlier, Dr Jyoti paid floral tributes to Telangana Thalli, the Martyrs' Memorial and the portrait of Professor

In a nutshell

BTech graduate drowns in water pit
HYDERABAD: A 22-year-old engineering graduate drowned allegedly while bathing in a deep water pit in Medchal on Tuesday evening. According to Medchal police, the youth was identified as Kavali Upender, a resident of Pudur village. He had gone to a nearby water-filled pit along with his friends for a bath when he accidentally slipped into deep waters and drowned. On receiving information, the police reached the spot and launched rescue efforts. The body was later recovered and shifted to a government hospital for autopsy. Police said Upender had recently completed his B Tech from a private college.

Cabinet caps ATF prices for airlines

NEW DELHI: The Cabinet approved a Rs 10,000 crore fuel price stabilisation programme for airlines, providing relief to state-owned oil retailers to cap aviation turbine fuel prices and shield carriers from soaring fuel costs linked to the ongoing West Asia crisis. A one-time, interest-free advance of up to Rs 10,000 crore will be provided to oil marketing companies (OMCs), enabling them to supply jet fuel to scheduled Indian airlines at a fixed price for both domestic and international operations. Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said the government has capped ATF price for domestic airlines at Rs 75.6/litre. PTI

“BRS’ return inevitable”

KTR announces major organisational revamp ahead of next Assembly polls

STATE BUREAU
HYDERABAD

BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Wednesday said the Bharat Rashtra Samithi was preparing for a comprehensive organisational overhaul ahead of the next Assembly elections. Accusing the Congress government of pushing Telangana backwards through failed governance, broken promises and diversionary politics, he declared that the return of the BRS to power with over 90 seats in 2028 was inevitable.

Participating in a Meet the Press programme organised by the Press Club of Hyderabad, Rama Rao said the party would launch a membership drive this month, constitute committees from the booth level to the State level and conduct extensive cadre training programmes.

“I challenge Chief Minister Revanth Reddy not to seek votes without implementing the 420 promises made during the 2023 Assembly elections. He claims he will remain the Chief Minister of the State till 2028. If he has such confidence, I dare him to dissolve the Assembly and seek the people’s mandate. If elections are held now, the BRS will return to power with over 90 seats,” he said.

He said the objective was to strengthen the organisation and equip party workers for future electoral battles, while continuing to raise public issues and expose government failures.

On the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, he said the BRS had deployed over 71,000 booth-level activists to monitor the exercise and prevent the deletion of genuine voters. The party was also scrutinising suspected duplicate entries.



BRS working president KT Rama Rao during Meet the Press programme organised by the Press Club of Hyderabad on Wednesday.

Stating that Telangana under former Chief Minister K Chandrababhan Naidu achieved unprecedented development, he called it the most successful startup State in independent India. He maintained that the Congress came to power by making false promises that people believed, but was now facing growing public dissatisfaction as those assurances remained unfulfilled.

On the controversial remarks by former BRS MLA Balka Suman regarding a militant movement, Rama Rao said he disagreed with any call for militancy and stressed that the BRS would continue to pursue democratic struggles. He questioned the selective enforcement of law, pointing to instances where Congress leaders allegedly made provocative remarks but faced no cases. (SEE PAGE 2)

IIT-Roorkee admits JEE data exposure

NEW DELHI

IIT-Roorkee has confirmed that the JEE (Advanced) 2026 results portal faced a cloud storage configuration issue after a teenager who identifies as a cybersecurity researcher claimed that personal and examination details of lakhs of students were accessible without authorisation.

The response from the IIT-Roorkee, which conducted the exam this year, came after the cybersecurity researcher 16-year-old Rylen Anil took to X, claiming that the public cloud storage endpoint of the result portal was accessible without authentication, exposing bulk candidate data.

The institute on Tuesday night said the data stored was in read-only mode, with no possibility of record alteration and added that the issue was being addressed

A cybersecurity researcher claimed that candidate records, admit card PDFs were accessible sans authentication

on priority. The user had alleged that around 1.79 lakh result records and 1.87 lakh admit card PDFs were accessible, along with personal details such as names, dates of birth and mobile numbers.

“JEE Advanced 2026 candidate/result infrastructure had a public cloud storage misconfiguration exposing bulk candidate data without auth. This exposed -179.6k result records and -187.3k admit-card PDFs, including candidate names, DOBs and mobile numbers,” Anil said on X. PTI

“He (Revanth Reddy) claims he will remain the CM till 2028. If he has such confidence, I dare him to dissolve the Assembly and seek the people’s mandate. If elections are held now, the BRS will return to power with over 90 seats

“KCR is party’s trump card and knows when and how to make his political moves. Our party symbol is car. We know when to change the gear. The party leaders groomed by our president are enough for Revanth Reddy. KCR is not needed immediately

“The BRS has deployed over 71,000 booth-level activists to monitor the exercise and prevent the deletion of genuine voters. The party is also scrutinising suspected duplicate entries

“Congress and BJP are ruling several States across the country. If they can show even one State that has achieved more progress than Telangana in such a short span, I will retire from politics permanently

“This land fought against the Nizam. Communists marched on this soil. Sacrifice and struggle are not new to Telangana. We do not need lessons on patriotism from Pawan Kalyan. No outsider can claim authority over Telangana. We will welcome him as a guest, but nobody can sit in our Secretariat and dictate terms on matters concerning Telangana

— KT RAMA RAO,
BRS working president

44,000 apply for CBSE re-evaluation

NEW DELHI

Nearly 44,000 students have availed the verification and re-evaluation facility for board exams and completed the application process till Wednesday morning, the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has said.

The board said the online portal has received a total of 43,980 applications for verification and re-evaluation of answer sheets. “The por-

tal has accepted 4,924 applications for verification and 39,056 applications for re-evaluation (total of 43,980) as of 12 noon today,” the CBSE said in a post on X on Wednesday.

It said payment gateways of the State Bank of India (SBI), Canara Bank, Bank of Baroda and Indian Bank are available on the portal, adding that students are not required to have an account with these banks to complete the process. PTI

TMC splits, rebel MLA Ritabrata elected LoP

KOLKATA

The TMC on Wednesday suffered its first split in its 28-year history as 58 rebel MLAs elected expelled leader Ritabrata Banerjee as Leader of Opposition, wresting control of its legislature party, and secured recognition from the Assembly Speaker, plunging Mamata Banerjee’s outfit into its gravest internal crisis since its inception.

Within hours, a rattled TMC leadership dissolved all party committees and frontal organisations across West Bengal in what appeared to be an attempt to regain political control amid a fast-escalating power struggle.

The dramatic rebellion, unfolding within two months of the party’s crushing defeat in the assembly



Ritabrata Banerjee

elections, exposed a deep rupture between the organisation and its elected legislators, raising questions over leadership, succession and the future direction of the party that has dominated Bengal politics for more than a decade.

The rebel camp, led by Ritabrata Banerjee and fellow expelled MLA Sandipan Saha, submitted letters of support from 58 legislators

before Speaker Rathindra Bose, comfortably crossing the two-thirds threshold required under the anti-defection law for recognition as a separate bloc.

“Our claim has been accepted by the Speaker,” Ritabrata Banerjee told reporters after meeting the Speaker.

Claiming legitimacy through numbers, he asserted that the dissidents now represented the real Trinamool Congress in the Assembly. “The TMC legislative party is a team of 58 MLAs who won on the TMC symbol. We are the real TMC now in the Assembly,” he said. The Speaker’s acceptance effectively formalised the first organisational rupture in a party founded by Mamata Banerjee in 1998 after her break from the Congress. PTI

DKS takes oath as CM

BENGALURU

State Congress president DK Shivakumar took oath as Karnataka Chief Minister on Wednesday and 13 other legislators, including senior leader G Parameshwara, were sworn in as Ministers in his Cabinet.

In the presence of AICC chief Mallikarjun Kharge, top Congress leader Rahul Gandhi and outgoing CM Siddaramaiah, Shivakumar took oath in the name of seer “Gangadhar Ajja”, while holding a copy of the Constitution.

Governor Thawar Chand Gehlot administered the oath of office and secrecy to Shivakumar, Parameshwara and others at Lok Bhavan here. Parameshwara, who is set to be designated as Deputy CM, took oath in the name of Dr BR Ambedkar. PTI

(REPORT PAGE 7)

21 dead in Delhi hotel blaze



Local people rescue a foreign national from the hotel fire in New Delhi on Wednesday. — Photo: AP/PTI

NEW DELHI

A devastating blaze tore through a hotel operating without a fire NOC in a congested bylane in south Delhi’s Malviya Nagar area on Wednesday, killing at least 21 people, including 11 foreigners whose relatives were being treated in hospitals nearby.

The fire at the Flourish Stay B&B in Hauz Rani in

Malviya Nagar started around 8.30 am and quickly spread through the five-floor narrow building that had only one entry-exit point, permanently sealed windows and a sensor-operated main door, officials said. Factors which combined to turn the building into a virtual death trap.

As the flames raged, catching everybody unawares and some in their

sleep, rescue workers, including many locals, rushed to pull out those trapped inside. At least 58 people were rescued and rushed to hospitals where 21 were declared brought dead, officials said. The dead include 10 Indians.

The death toll in the fire — amongst the worst in the city in recent years — could rise with several of the injured in a critical condition,

officials said. Many of the casualties are from Central Asian and African countries. They were staying in the hotel in to attend to their kin admitted in Max Hospital minutes away.

The hotel had permission for only six rooms, granted under the government’s bed and breakfast policy, but was operating 25. Rooms had also come up in the basement. PTI

Monsoon: Cops advise WFH for IT sector

CROMEIO

Hyderabad

Ahead of the monsoon season, the Cyberabad Police have rolled out an extensive preparedness action plan to minimise waterlogging, ease traffic congestion and ensure commuter safety, with a focus on IT corridor.

The police are engaging with IT companies and major private organisations to encourage work-from-home arrangements, staggered office timings, carpooling and increased use of public transport during periods of heavy rainfall.

Elaborating on the measures, Kukatpally DCP Ritiraj said police have been holding continuous discussions with managements of

IT firms and other organisations operating in high-traffic areas such as Madhapur, Hitec City and Kukatpally.

Based on lessons learned from previous monsoon seasons, the Police Department is focusing not only on field-level infrastructure improvements but also on reducing the number of vehicles on roads during peak rainfall hours, said the Kukatpally DCP.

“We have been requesting companies to implement work from home, staggered timings and carpooling for employees. A majority of the managements have responded positively, and we expect more companies to come forward this year,” Ritiraj said. (SEE PAGE 2)

Thunderstorms alert for State

HYDERABAD: The India Meteorological Department (IMD), Hyderabad, in its forecast on Wednesday, indicated extensive thunderstorms in multiple districts till Friday, June 5, and in all districts of Telangana from Saturday, June 6 onwards.

Under the influence of extensive thunderstorms, maximum temperatures in a majority of districts of Telangana will range between 36 degrees Celsius and 40 degrees Celsius, and may even remain below 36 degrees Celsius in districts that witness intense thun-

dershower activity. For the next two days, the IMD, Hyderabad, indicated severe thunderstorms accompanied by lightning and gusty winds (50-60 kmph) in Adilabad, Kumram Bheem Asifabad, Mancherial, Nirmal, Nizamabad, Nalgonda, Suryapet, Mahabubabad, Warangal, Hanamkonda, Jangaon and Siddipet districts.

A moderate thunderstorm warning for the same period has been issued for Yadadri Bhuvanagiri, Rangareddy, Hyderabad among other districts.

Indian killed in attack on Kuwait airport

DUBAI

An Indian national was killed and several others injured in an attack that targeted Kuwait International Airport, officials said on Wednesday. In a post on X, the Embassy of India in Kuwait said it is “closely co-

ordinating” with the Kuwaiti authorities to extend all possible support and assistance to the bereaved family as well as those injured in the incident. “Embassy of India in Kuwait expresses its deepest condolences at the tragic demise of an Indian national

due to an attack on the airport in Kuwait today,” it said. This death brings the total number of Indian fatalities to at least 10 since hostilities broke out between Iran and the US.

The attack came amid escalating tensions between the US and Iran. Kuwait

Army said the Iranian strikes resulted in the death of an Indian expatriate. “We extend our sincere condolences and sympathies to the family of the deceased,” said Colonel Saud Abdulaziz Al-Otaibi, the official spokesman of the Ministry of Defence. PTI

BENGAL GOVT DOWNGRADES SOURAV GANGULY'S SECURITY COVER FROM Z TO Y CATEGORY

Kolkata, June 3 : The West Bengal government has downgraded the security cover provided to former India cricket captain Sourav Ganguly, officials said on Wednesday. The move comes as part of an ongoing review of security arrangements extended to politicians, public figures, and other prominent individuals in the state. Ganguly, who previously enjoyed Z-category security, will now be provided Y-category protection.



The former Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) president and current Cricket Association of Bengal (CAB) president has not issued any official statement on the development. According to officials, Z-category security entails the deployment of around 35 personnel and includes coordination with the state police command. Individuals covered under this category are also provided a pilot vehicle as part of their security detail. In contrast, Y-category security involves a much smaller team of three to four personnel, including two armed security of-

ficers assigned for close protection. The decision is the latest in a series of security reviews undertaken by the state government led by Chief Minister Suwendu Adhikari since the change in administration following the assembly elections last month. Officials said the exercise was aimed at ensuring that enhanced security is provided only to those facing a genuine threat perception. Soon after assuming office, CM Adhikari had reportedly conveyed that security resources should be allocated strictly based on assessed risk. Following this direction, authorities initiated a comprehensive

review of individuals who had been receiving special protection under the previous government. One of the first high-profile cases to be affected was that of Trinamool Congress (TMC) general secretary Abhishek Banerjee. The government had then stated that any additional security beyond what he was entitled to as a Member of Parliament would be withdrawn. Subsequently, the security cover of several TMC leaders, former ministers, and retired police officials was also revised after periodic assessments. With the latest decision, Ganguly joins a growing list of prominent

New Chandigarh, June 3 : India's focus on red-ball cricket restarted right after the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2026 ended. Captain Shubman Gill led the first training session in New Chandigarh on Wednesday in preparation for the one-off Test against Afghanistan starting on June 6. With most players arriving fresh from their IPL commitments, the session kicked off India's training for their first Test of the season. The Indian players participated in an intensive net session at the PCA Stadium complex in Mullanpur. Head coach Gautam Gambhir closely watched the practice and had lengthy discussions with the players. Newly-appointed vice-captain KL Rahul spent a lot of time batting in the nets with opener Yashasvi Jaiswal and wicketkeeper-batter Rishabh Pant as the batting group shifted its focus from T20 cricket to the longer format. Gill, who recently

Gill's India hit ground running in New Chandigarh ahead of Afghanistan Test



led the Gujarat Titans to the IPL 2026 final, joined the national team after the tournament. He was actively involved during the session alongside fielding coach T. Dilip. The skipper will lead a Test side that looks somewhat fresh, as it is missing senior players Jasprit Bumrah and Ravindra Jadeja. India's pace attack seemed

to be working hard, with fast bowlers Mohammed Siraj and Prasidh Krishna bowling long spells. However, Siraj's ability to play in the Test is uncertain due to workload-management issues after he participated in every match of the Gujarat Titans' IPL campaign. A decision on his availability is expected soon. If Siraj is

rested, uncapped Jammu & Kashmir pacer Auqib Nabi is likely the top candidate for a call-up after an impressive domestic season where he took 60 wickets in the Ranji Trophy. Nabi is currently among a group of net bowlers helping the Indian squad, which also includes Gurjapneet Singh, Prince Yadav, Saransh Jain, Zee-

shan Ansari, and Shivang Kumar. Another key player in the camp is express pacer Mayank Yadav, who has joined as a net bowler. The Lucknow Super Giants speedster, whose career has been impacted by injuries, is helping India's batters prepare for Afghanistan's pace attack while working on his own return

'I DON'T WANT TO LOCK IN ANYTHING': CUMMINS HINTS AT MISSING IPL 2027 AMID HECTIC SCHEDULE

Sydney, June 3 : Australia captain Pat Cummins has indicated that he could sit out IPL 2027 as he looks to manage his workload during what promises to be an intense period for Australian cricket. Australia are scheduled for a four-Test tour of India at the start of the year before taking part in the 150th anniversary Test against England in Melbourne. The team will then head into a demanding Ashes campaign, followed by the ODI World Cup in southern Africa later in the year. Speaking to Australian daily 'The Age', Cummins said Australia's packed schedule next year may force him to make difficult choices, with Test cricket and the ODI World Cup remaining his top priorities and no final decision has been made regarding his availability for the tournament and that discussions with the franchise will take place closer to the event. "Something has got to give at some stage next year, and it's not going to be test matches or an ODI World Cup," Cummins said. "I will make a call a lot closer and work with the franchise to see what makes sense. Things can change. I've



had a couple of injuries pop up, so I don't really want to lock in anything," he added. The fast bowler stressed that representing Australia in Test cricket and the 50-over World Cup would take precedence over franchise commitments. "The priorities for me are always the Test matches and that ODI World Cup. I dare say if I play all of India, I need some sort of break before a pretty gruelling Ashes series," Cummins explained. Cummins has previously dealt with injury concerns, including a back issue that affected parts of his interna-

tional schedule. The Australian skipper also suggested that workload management could extend to other senior quicks, including Josh Hazlewood and Mitchell Starc, during parts of Australia's home season. "It's possible. I think we're fairly open-minded to anything, as we've seen over the last couple of years. I see a world where we're potentially winding some bowlers down, even say at the back end of an Indian series if they don't look like they're going to play, to give them an extra rest ahead of the Ashes," Cummins said.

Despite the demanding calendar, Cummins believes the upcoming stretch could become one of the defining periods for the current Australian side. "It's going to be a big push the next 18 months or so, but I think we'll look back on it hopefully and see it as one of the more rewarding periods of our career," he said. Meanwhile, Cummins missed the opening seven matches of IPL 2026 and then led the team to the playoffs. Ishan Kishan, who took over the leadership duties in his absence, will again be the forerunner to replace

England beat India in third T20I to seal series 1-2 ahead of Women's T20 WC

Taunton, June 3 : Alice Capsey and Heather Knight century stand helped England beat India by six wickets in the third and final T20I to seal the series 2-1 ahead of the Women's T20 World Cup, starting from June 12. The two batters shared a massive 137-run stand to recover from a precarious position in the run chase to chase down a target of 181 in 18.3 overs. The effort was England's highest T20I chase since 2018, led by Alice Capsey (82 from 43 balls) and Heather Knight, who finished unbeaten on 70 from just 42 deliveries. Chasing 181, England lost their openers in the first three overs when Kranti Goud castled Danni Wyatt-Hodge in the second over and Arundhati Reddy removed Sophia Dunkley in the third over. Kranti also managed to get rid of Amy Jones in the final over of the Powerplay as the host were 53/3. But Capsey continued to punish the Indian bowling attack by fetching boundaries. At the other end, Knight also picked up boundaries against the Indian spinners. The duo were all guns blazing as England took control



of the chase at the halfway mark. Capsey soon brought up her half-century off just 26 deliveries whereas Knight inched closer to hers with two more boundaries of Nandni Sharma. Capsey hit a four and two sixes in a row against Shree Charani. This left England needing only 28 runs to win with five overs left. Even though Capsey was eventually caught or bowled out for 82 runs, England was easily going to win. Knight hit a four in the second-to-last over to finish the game and secure the victory for England. Earlier, batting

first, even though India lost their opening batters early, just like England did later in the game, they still managed to score 180 runs. Shafali Verma hit a bad shot and was out for 11 runs. Smriti Mandhana was easily trapped lbw by Charlie Dean. Yastika Bhatia, who had been playing well all series, kept India moving fast during the powerplay, hitting seven boundaries to push India's score to 57 runs quickly. Unfortunately, her fast and exciting batting ended suddenly when she was run out. Jemimah Rodrigues and Harman-

preet Kaur then rebuilt the innings but England struck again when Lauren Bell executed a perfect slow ball that tricked Rodrigues and hit her stumps to get her out. England then managed to squeeze in a few tight overs before Harmanpreet found her rhythm again. The Indian skipper managed to get her fifty. However, India only scored 48 runs in the final five overs. England Women 184/4 in 18.3 overs (Alice Capsey 82, Heather Knight 70*; Arundhati Reddy 2-31) beat India 180/5 in 20 overs (Harmanpreet Kaur 56*,

NORWAY CHESS: PRAGGNANANDHAA BEATS CARLSEN AGAIN; GUKESH, DIVYA FACE LOSSES IN RD 8

Oslo (Norway), June 3 : Round eight of Norway Chess 2026 featured a crucial day in Oslo, including two decisive classical games and an Armageddon match, intensifying the competition for the top spot. Praggnanandhaa Rameshbabu secured another notable result by defeating Magnus Carlsen once again at the tournament, strengthening the title race. The 20-year-old, who had beaten Carlsen with White last week, repeated his success with Black in Round 8, recording his second classical win over the World No. 1 in the same tournament. With this achievement, Praggnanandhaa became only the second player, after India's legendary Viswanathan Anand, to beat Carlsen twice in the same tournament. He also joined an elite group of players who have defeated the five-time World Champion thrice in classical chess. Alireza Firouzja achieved a significant classical



win against World Champion Gukesh Dommaraju. Playing as White, Firouzja navigated a tense endgame, under mutual time pressure, to secure a vital victory, bringing him within one point of tournament leader Wesley So. The final classical game between Wesley So and Vincent Keymer ended in a draw. However, So later won in Armageddon, earning extra points and maintaining his lead in the stand-

ings. Following Round 8, Wesley So is at the top of Norway Chess with 14 points. Firouzja is close behind with 13 points, and Praggnanandhaa stays in strong contention with 12 points, making the title race very competitive as the final rounds approach. Norway Chess Women Round 8 featured two decisive classical games and one Armageddon tiebreaker, with Bibisara Assaubayeva

GERMANY ANNOUNCES VISA FREE TRANSIT FOR INDIAN TRAVELLERS

New Delhi: The German Embassy in New Delhi on Tuesday announced that Indian nationals will no longer require a transit visa when travelling to another country with a layover at a German airport. "The lifting of the so-called airport transit visa requirement for Indian citizens was announced in the Federal Law Gazette (Bundesgesetzblatt) on June 2, 2026, and takes effect on June 3, 2026," the German Embassy in New Delhi stated. "This implements a result of Federal Chancellor Friedrich Merz's trip to India in January of this year. It underlines the Federal Government's commitment

to deepening German Indian relations, facilitating the movement of people, and further strengthening economic ties," it added. During the visit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Federal Chancellor Merz welcomed the sustained growth in bilateral trade and investment and noted that bilateral trade reached a record high in 2024, with the positive trend continuing through 2025. India and Germany had signed a slew of agreements across sectors such as trade, technology, health and renewable energy. According to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), the two sides concluded 19 agreements and made



several policy announcements aimed at deepening cooperation across strategic, economic and people-to-people domains. The two leaders had reaffirmed their strong support for the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) and emphasised its trans-

formational potential in reshaping and promoting global commerce, connectivity and prosperity. The two leaders also looked forward to the first IMEC ministerial meeting to take concrete steps for advancing this initiative. "The Leaders welcomed the signing