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Telangana Today



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West Indies fail to qualify for ODI World Cup **page 10**



'Hope PM brings good news to TS'

KTR urges Modi to allot defence land for infra projects in Hyd

STATE BUREAU HYDERABAD

Coming down heavily on the union government for its discrimination towards Telangana, Municipal Administration and Urban Development (MA&UD) Minister KT Rama Rao urged Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who is expected to visit the State next week, to come with some good news on allotting defence land to execute infrastructure projects in Hyderabad.

For the last nine years, the BJP-led Central government has been troubling the Telangana government with a lack of support and assistance. "Hyderabad is a developing city. If you (the BJP government) cannot support us, at least don't create hurdles," Rama Rao said.

Speaking after inaugurating the interchange at Narsingi on the Outer Ring Road (ORR) here on Saturday, Rama Rao said the State government had sought half an acre of defence land for constructing a skywalk at Mehdiapatnam. This was being constructed on the lines of the one launched at Uppal last week, he said. The skywalk at Mehdiapatnam was pro-



MA&UD Minister KT Rama Rao during the inauguration of the ORR Narsingi interchange in Hyderabad on Saturday. — Photo: Surya Sridhar

posed to ease traffic congestion and ensure comfortable passage for pedestrians at the busy junction. Towards this, half an acre of defence land was sought from the Defence Ministry in the past. Similarly, link roads were being proposed at Attapur and there was a requirement of defence land at Langar Houz too. All these issues were once again taken up with Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in New Delhi recently, he said. (SEE PAGE 2)

(RELATED REPORTS PAGE 3)

Several infra projects lined up

HYDERABAD: Hyderabad's infrastructure is all set for a significant leap in the coming days, with many projects lined up for inauguration and commencement.

While the solar-roofed cycle track on the ORR will be inaugurated on August 15, an interchange on the expressway at Mallampet will be opened soon. The other projects

in the pipeline include a 55-km expressway from Manchirevula to Nagole with Rs 10,000 crore, 14 new bridges across the Musi river and link roads in the Rajendra Nagar constituency.

MA&UD Minister KT Rama Rao said CM K Chandrashekhara Rao has many development plans and this series of projects is a part of it.

25 burnt alive in Maha bus accident

NAGPUR

Twenty-five passengers were charred to death when the private bus they were travelling in caught fire after hitting a pole and a divider on the Nagpur-Mumbai Samruddhi Expressway in eastern Maharashtra's Buldhana district early on Saturday.

According to police, eight persons, including the driver and cleaner (driver's assistant), survived. A case of negligent driving was registered against the driver, with police believing, prima facie, that he dozed off at the wheel and lost control of the vehicle.



Rescue operations under way on the Samruddhi Expressway in Buldhana district, Maharashtra, on Saturday. — Photo: PTI

Cops suspect that driver dozed off at wheel

The private sleeper coach bus was on its way to Pune from Nagpur when it met with the accident around 1.30 am at Pimpalkhuta village near Sindkhedraja, 130 km from Nagpur. "After hitting the pole and divider, the bus overturned and fell on its right side with its entry/exit door facing the sky. Within minutes, the vehicle caught fire. Some of the passengers were able to get out through the broken windows from the rear side," a senior police official from Buldhana said.

As most victims' bodies were charred beyond recognition, the authorities have decided to conduct DNA testing to identify them before handing them over to the relatives.

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde ordered a probe into the accident and announced an ex gratia of Rs 5 lakh for the families of each deceased. President Droupadi Murmu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, union Home Minister Amit Shah and other leaders expressed grief over the loss of life. A case was registered against the driver, Buldhana Superintendent of Police Sunil Kadasne said.

(RELATED REPORTS PAGE 7)

KCR condoles death of pax

HYDERABAD: Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao condoled the death of 25 people in the Maharashtra bus accident. He prayed for all the departed souls to rest in peace and wished speedy recovery of those injured. PM Modi also said he was "saddened by the devastating bus mishap". "My thoughts and prayers are with the families of those who lost their lives," he tweeted.

SC protects Setalvad from arrest

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Another student debt relief plan

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Neeraj clinches second gold

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ENTERTAINMENT PAGE 12

In pain for Sergeant

Randeep Hooda underwent surgery before shooting



CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD

Farm	Rs. 140
Retail live	Rs. 162
With skin	Rs. 235
Skinless	Rs. 267
Egg Rates (12 eggs)	Rs. 70

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BJP throws in the towel way before electoral battle

ANIL KUMAR Hyderabad

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) appears to have thrown in the towel and conceded defeat to the Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) much before the electoral battle in Telangana. Comments from senior leader and Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways Nitin Gadkari prove this.

Gadkari has indirectly admitted that his party does not stand a chance of coming to power in the State and that it would play the role of the main opposition. In a recent interview with a news agency on the upcoming Assembly elections in five States later this year, includ-

“We will get stronger in TS and rise to the level of the main oppn... better results will come”

— NITIN GADKARI, Union Minister

ing Telangana, Gadkari said the BJP would increase its tally and be the main opposition in Telangana. "We will get stronger in Telangana. We will rise to the level of the main opposition. If everything is compatible, better results will come," he

said. In other words, Gadkari has accepted that the BJP won't be coming to power in the next elections. His comments have exposed the State leadership's false claims that they would come to power in TS.

In fact, after the Karnataka poll results, the BJP was pushed to the third place in Telangana, with the ruling BRS remaining the first choice, and the Congress, a distant second.

Gadkari's claims have reportedly created a furore in the State leadership as the party is already in trouble due to internal rifts among senior leaders. According to party sources, the comments have not gone down well with the State leadership. (SEE PAGE 2)

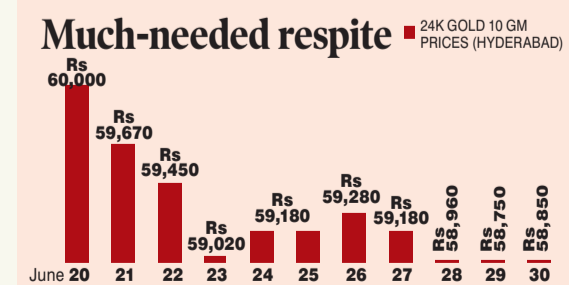
Gold prices plummet to three-month low in Hyderabad

SOWMYA SANGAM Hyderabad

The glitter of the precious metal dimmed as gold prices witnessed a sharp decline in Hyderabad. The price of 24 carat gold per 10 grams plunged to a three-month low, offering a glimmer of hope for buyers burdened by soaring prices.

On Friday, retailing at Rs 58,850, the yellow metal experienced a significant decrease of Rs 110 from Wednesday.

Not far behind, the 22 carat gold followed suit,



hitting a nearly three-month low and settling at Rs 53,950.

Since June 21, gold prices have remained below the Rs 60,000 per 10 grams threshold, signalling a downward trend

that could provide some relief to gold enthusiasts. After months of relentless surges, this unexpected drop offers a sliver of respite for buyers seeking to make a golden investment. (SEE PAGE 2)

On a spiritual journey



CAPTURING MOMENTS: A sadhu takes pictures on a mobile phone at the Nunwan Pahalgam base camp before proceeding towards the holy cave shrine of Amarnath on Saturday. — Photo: AFP

Twitter faces global outage

NEW DELHI

Micro-blogging platform Twitter on Saturday faced a major outage globally, which prevented thousands of users from accessing it.

The 'cannot retrieve tweets' error message was reported by many users when they tried to view or post a tweet. Besides this, users are also got the 'rate limit exceeded' message while refreshing the 'For You' tab. According to outage monitor Down Detector, nearly 4,000 reports of issues were logged.

"Is Twitter down? Anyone getting the same issue? Can't open the comments section," a Twitter user posted. (SEE PAGE 2)

Parliament session from July 20-Aug 11

NEW DELHI

Parliament's Monsoon Session will start on July 20 and continue till August 11, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi said on Saturday.

He urged political parties to contribute towards productive discussions during the session. The session is expected to be a stormy one as the Opposition was closing ranks to put up a united front against the Narendra Modi-led BJP in view of the Lok Sabha elections next year.

Also, Parliament is meeting at a time when Modi made a strong pitch for a

Central govt likely to bring a Bill to replace the Government of Delhi (Amendment) Ordinance

Uniform Civil Code and amid moves to step up consultations on the issue.

The Monsoon Session is expected to commence in the old Parliament building and later move to the new building, sources said. The session will be spread across 23 days and have 17 sittings. (RELATED REPORT PAGE 7)

RBI slaps penalty on Mahesh Bank

CITY BUREAU Hyderabad

In a first, the efforts of Hyderabad police's cyber-crime wing have led to the Reserve Bank of India imposing a monetary penalty on AP Mahesh Co-operative Urban Bank, Hyderabad, for the 'blatant non-compliance of the provisions of Cyber Security Framework for Primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks'.

On January 24, 2022, a cyber fraud was reported by AP Mahesh Co-operative Urban Bank, wherein its systems were breached and Rs 12.48 crore siphoned off. (SEE PAGE 2)