

HYDERABAD

Piles of garbage dot city streets and public spaces **page 3**

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Six rebel Congress MLAs disqualified in Himachal **page 7**

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Sunak says Britain descending into mob rule **page 9**



KTR dares Revanth to one-on-one LS fight

Challenges him to contest from Malkajgiri, asks him to refrain from silly politics

STATE BUREAU
 HYDERABAD

Responding in equal measure and more at Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's challenge to win at least one seat in the forthcoming Parliament elections, BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Thursday challenged him to resign from his post and as Kodangal MLA to fight it out in the Malkajgiri Lok Sabha seat.

"I too will resign as Sir-cilla MLA and contest from the Malkajgiri Lok Sabha seat. Let's decide in just one seat," Rama Rao said.

The Chief Minister, speaking at a public meeting in Chevella on Tuesday, had challenged the BRS to win at least one seat in the Lok Sabha elections. He had appealed to the Congress workers to ensure that the party wins 14 seats in the State. Suggesting the Chief Minister to refrain from in-

"I challenge the BRS to win at least one seat in the Lok Sabha elections. I appeal to the Congress workers to ensure that the party wins 14 seats in the State"



— REVANTH REDDY, CM

"I too will resign as Sircilla MLA and contest from the Malkajgiri Lok Sabha seat. Let's decide in just one seat... I challenge you to fulfil your promises, including Rs 2 lakh farm loan waiver, Rs 2,500 monthly financial assistance to women and the 420 promises made to the people"



— KT RAMA RAO, BRS working president

dulging in "silly politics", the BRS working president also challenged him to fulfil his promises, including the Rs 2 lakh farm loan waiver, Rs 2,500 monthly financial assistance to women and the 420 promises made to the people of the State.

Speaking to the media here ahead of the 'Chalo Medigadda' programme of the BRS slated for Friday, Rama Rao took potshots at Revanth Reddy's 'payment

quota' backdoor entry into the top seats of the Congress, including that of the TPCC president and even the Chief Ministerial post. He also ridiculed the Congress system of State units paying for the national unit's activities. "Why are building permissions being kept on hold in GHMC and HMDA limits? This is being done to carry payment bags to New Delhi," he said, also asking: "If I am from the manage-

ment quota, to which quota do Rahul Gandhi and Priyanka Gandhi belong?" Recalling the CM's challenges in the past, he said during the GHMC elections in 2016, he promised to quit politics if BRS (then TRS) secured 100 seats. Again, in the 2018 Assembly elections, he made a similar promise of quitting politics if he lost from Kodangal. However, Revanth Reddy never kept his word, he said. (SEE PAGE 2)

BRS to launch 'Chalo Medigadda' today

HYDERABAD: In a strategic move to combat the misinformation campaign by the Congress government regarding the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme, the BRS will embark on its 'Chalo Medigadda' programme on Friday. Led by party working president KT Rama Rao, around 150 senior BRS leaders are expected to visit the Medigadda barrage. The BRS team will tour Medigadda, where former Irrigation Minister T Harish Rao will give a presentation on the project's key features and its impact on the State. They also plan to visit the Annaram and Sundilla barrages, and other reservoirs. For over two months now, politics in TS has been revolving around the KLIS.

(FULL REPORT PAGE 5)

Over 100 killed in Israeli strike

Troops fire on Palestinians waiting for aid in Gaza city



Palestinians mourn their relatives killed in the Israeli strikes, at the Al Aqsa Hospital in Deir al Balah on Thursday. — Photo: AP

RAFAH

Israeli troops fired on a crowd of Palestinians waiting for aid in Gaza City on Thursday, witnesses said, killing more than 100 people and bringing the death toll since the start of the Israel-Hamas war to over 30,000, according to health officials.

Hospital officials initially reported an Israeli strike on the crowd, but witnesses later said the troops opened fire as people pulled flour and canned goods off of trucks. Israeli officials acknowledged that troops opened fire, saying they did so after the crowd approached in a threatening way. The officials insisted on anonymity to give details about what happened, after the military said in a state-

ment that "dozens were killed and injured from pushing, trampling and being run over by the trucks".

Trucks carrying food reached northern Gaza this week, the first major aid delivery to the area in a month, officials said on Wednesday. Kamel Abu Nahel, who was being treated for a gunshot wound at Shifa Hospital, said he and others went to the distribution point in the middle of the night because they heard there would be a delivery of food. "We've been eating animal feed for two months," he said.

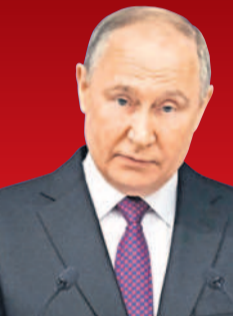
He said Israeli troops opened fire on the crowd, causing it to scatter, with some people hiding under cars. (SEE PAGE 2)

Solar scheme unveiled

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Putin warns West of nuke war

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Rahul out of 5th Test, Bumrah returns

SPORT | PAGE 10



CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD

Farm	Rs. 140
Retail live.....	Rs. 162
With skin	Rs. 235
Skinless.....	Rs. 267
Egg Rates (12 eggs).....	Rs. 65

Shajahan arrested, suspended from TMC

BASIRHAT

TMC strongman Shajahan Sheikh, accused of sexual abuse and land grab in Sandeshkhali, was suspended from his party following his arrest early on Thursday.

Sheikh was nabbed by the West Bengal police after being on the run for 55 days that witnessed violent protests, sparking a fierce political firestorm. He was presented before the Basirhat court, which sanctioned a 10-day remand in police custody.

Police said Sheikh was apprehended from a residence in Bamanpukur, about 30 km from the Sandeshkhali island. He was hiding in the company of several associates. PTI

(FULL REPORT PAGE 7)

Snow-capped volcano



STUNNING VIEW: The Mount Etna Volcano covered with snow in Catania, Sicily. — Photo: AFP

ONE-MINUTE-LATE RULE COSTS STUDENT'S LIFE IN ADILABAD

ADILABAD: A second-year Intermediate student reportedly jumped to death into an irrigation project after he was refused entry into the exam hall citing the one-minute-late rule, at Sathnala village in Jainath mandal on Thursday. Jainath Inspector D Sainath said Shiva Kumar (17) was found dead in the project waters. He was a student of a government junior college at Jainath mandal centre and a resident of Mangurla village. Shiva was to appear for the Inter second-year second language examination. However, it is learned that he could not reach the venue on time despite hiring an auto-rickshaw from his village. The auto-rickshaw driver alerted his parents when he saw Shiva gloomy after being denied entry into the exam centre, which he should have reached by 9 am. In a suicide note, Shiva said he was dejected for being late, which he said was for the first time in his life. He was also upset for failing in three subjects in the first year. A case was registered.

CENTRE CLEARS RS 1.26 LAKH CR CHIP-MAKING UNITS

NEW DELHI: The Union Cabinet on Thursday approved setting up three semiconductor-making units by firms, including Tata Group and Japan's Renesas, at an investment of Rs 1.26 lakh crore as part of an attempt to cut India's dependence on imports to meet requirements of chips. The units which will make chips for sectors, including defence, automobiles and telecommunications, will begin construction in the next 100 days, Telecom Minister Ashwini Vaishnav said after the Cabinet meeting. The three units will be set up under the 'Development of Semiconductors and Display Manufacturing Ecosystem' programme that provides government support of up to Rs 76,000 crore. Tata Electronics Pvt Ltd will set up a semiconductor fab in partnership with Taiwan's Powerchip Semiconductor Manufacturing Corp at Dholera, Gujarat. It will have a capacity to make 50,000 wafers per month. PTI

Notification for 11,062 teacher posts released

STATE BUREAU
 Hyderabad

Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy released the DSC notification for filling 11,062 teacher posts in the State. Roads and Buildings Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy and other senior officials were also present on the occasion.

The State government issued GO Ms 96 on August 25 last year to fill 5,089 teacher posts under various categories, including SAs, SGTs, LPs and PETs. Accordingly, the Commissioner of School Education, Telangana, issued the DSC-2023 Notification on September 6, 2023, for the 5,089 posts.

Another GO was issued on Monday to fill 4,957 Direct Recruitment teacher posts under various categories in government and local body schools in the State. The Finance Department permitted to fill 796 Special Education Teacher posts at the primary level and 220 Special Education

20-odd Indians stuck in Russia, says MEA

NEW DELHI

At least 20 Indians, who had gone as support staff to work with the Russian Army, are stuck in that country and efforts are on to seek their early release, the Ministry of External Affairs said on Thursday, reiterating that New Delhi is "deeply committed" to the welfare of all its nationals.

The remarks came in the backdrop of reports that a group of Indian youth fell victim to agents who deceit-

fully sent them to Russia under the false pretext of providing them with security guard jobs. "It is our understanding that there are 20-odd people who have gone to work as support staff or as helpers with the Russian Army. These are the people who've contacted us... We are trying our level best to ensure their early discharge," MEA spokesman Randhir Jaiswal said while addressing the weekly media briefing on Thursday. IANS

Powers decentralised for speedy disposal of Dharani applications

STATE BUREAU
 Hyderabad

For the speedy disposal of pending applications on Dharani, the State government has now partially decentralised powers to make changes in specific modules of the portal.

A total of 16 modules have been identified for quick disposal in the first phase, at the level of the Tahsildar, Revenue Divisional Officer, District Collector and Chief Commissioner of Land Administration.

Further, a revenue special drive will be conducted at all Tahsildar offices across the State from March 1-9.

All District Collectors have been directed to provide the Tahsildar office teams with access to pending applications and the documents submitted along with those applications. The team leads will ensure that information is given to applicants through village-level officers or WhatsApp/phone/SMS. Based on the verification, the teams will prepare reports on

lated timeframe. The special teams, comprising revenue officials, paralegals and community surveyors working in DRDAs, Agriculture Extension Officers and Panchayat Secretaries, will verify all types of land records, including Setwar, Khasra Pahani, Sessala Pahani, old Pahanes, IB register and Dharani portal, as well as details pertaining to assignment, inam, PoT registers, Bhoodan, Wakf and endowment land.

District Collectors have been instructed to provide the Tahsildar office teams with access to pending applications and the documents submitted along with those applications. The team leads will ensure that information is given to applicants through village-level officers or WhatsApp/phone/SMS. Based on the verification, the teams will prepare reports on

each application recommending acceptance or rejection.

While the Tahsildars and District Collectors have been directed to dispose of the applications in seven days, the RDOs and Additional Collectors (Revenue) must dispose them in three days.

"The special drive is being conducted based on the suggestions made by the Dharani Committee and to bail farmers and other applicants out of their problems. The grievances, which can be resolved without much complication, will be disposed of immediately. Based on the reports submitted by the District Collectors and disposal of the applications, pending applications pertaining to certain complex issues will be disposed of in the next phase," a top official in the Revenue Department said.

(GRAPHIC PAGE 5)

Process

PRESCRIBED APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE ON SCHOOLEDU. TELANGANA.GOV.IN FROM MARCH 4-APRIL 2

- Information Bulletin available on schooledu.telangana.gov.in from **March 4**
- Rs 1,000 fee to be paid per post for application processing, written test
- Fee can be paid online using credit/debit card, net-banking on schooledu.telangana.gov.in from **March 4-April 2**
- Applications can be submitted from **March 4-April 3**
- Step-by-step procedure will be posted on schooledu.telangana.gov.in on **March 4**
- CBRT written test will be conducted at Mahabubnagar, Rangareddy, Hyderabad, Medak, Nizamabad, Adilabad, Karimnagar, Sangareddy, Khammam, Nalgonda, Warangal centres

EXAM DATES AWAITED

Teacher posts in the upper primary/secondary level in government and local body schools in the State, totalling 11,062 Direct Recruitment posts for DSC-2024. In view of the above, the State government decided to cancel the teacher recruitment of the DSC-2023 Notification for 5,089 vacancies and, accordingly, issued a comprehensive fresh notification. All candidates, who applied in response to the earlier notification, need not worry, officials said, adding that their applications would be automatically carried forward in the fresh notification. They need not apply again. (SEE PAGE 2)