

**STATE**

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**Hamas rejects ceasefire, says Israel is ignoring its key demands** **page 9**

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**'All women deserve dignity'**



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**Relief for Assange**

**UK court orders to delay extradition of Wikileaks founder**



## Ship rams into Baltimore bridge



The steel frame of the Francis Scott Key Bridge sits on top of a container ship after it struck the bridge in Baltimore, Maryland on Tuesday. Rescuers pulled out two people from the cold waters, but six others are still missing. —Photo:AFP

**BALTIMORE**

A container ship lost power and rammmed a major bridge in Baltimore early Tuesday, causing the span to buckle into the river below and plunging a construction crew and several vehicles into the dangerously cold waters. Rescuers pulled out two people, but six others were missing.

The ship's crew issued a mayday call moments before the crash took down the

**Entire 22-member crew Indians**

**NEW YORK:** The entire 22-member crew of the cargo ship that struck a major bridge in Baltimore early Tuesday, causing it to snap and plunge into the river below are Indians, the company said. According to the vessel information provided by the Synergy Marine Group, the crew was "All Indian, 22 in total." It said: "All crew members, including the two pilots, have been accounted for and there are no reports of any injuries." PTI

Francis Scott Key Bridge, Maryland's Governor said. The ship struck one of the bridge's supports, causing

the structure to collapse like a toy. It tumbled into the water in a matter of seconds — a shocking spectacle that was captured on video and posted on social media. The vessel caught fire, and thick, black smoke billowed out of it. With the ship barreling toward the bridge at "a very, very rapid speed," authorities had just enough time to stop cars from coming over the bridge, Maryland Gov. Wes Moore said. "These people are heroes," he said. AP

**Revanth changes tone, attacks Modi**

**STATE BUREAU Hyderabad**

After facing a severe backlash from different sections for calling Prime Minister Narendra Modi his big brother, Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy switched gears on Tuesday, attacking Modi over his contribution to Telangana's development.

The Chief Minister alleged that the Prime Minister had failed in completing the Pranahita Chevella irrigation project. He sanctioned a bullet train to Gujarat but did not approve an MMTS train to Vikarabad. The Sabarmati River Front was developed in Gujarat but funds were not sanctioned for River Musi Front development, the Chief Minister said while addressing party leaders at the Chevella parliament constituency meeting here. "Why is the BJP creating hurdles for the Regional Ring Road project in the State?" he asked. (SEE PAGE 2)

## Will come out clean, says Kavitha

**STATE BUREAU Hyderabad**

BRS MLC K Kavitha said the case against her is not a money laundering case but one of 'political laundering'. She exuded confidence that she would come out clean, adding that she has complete faith in the judiciary in this regard.

Kavitha, who is currently in the custody of the ED in connection with the Delhi excise policy case, was produced before the Rouse Avenue Court at the end of her custody. Later, she was taken to Tihar Jail, prison officials said, after the court sent her to judicial custody till April 9. "She has reached Tihar Jail and will be lodged in jail number 6, which is the women's jail. Her medical examination will be conducted," an official said.

Earlier in the day, before entering the court, the BRS legislator spoke to the media and said that the case against her was fabricated and false. Kavitha attacked



BRS MLC K Kavitha at Rouse Avenue Court.

the BJP stating that she might be lodged in jail temporarily but her self-esteem cannot be shattered. She reiterated that there is no question of her turning into an approver. "This is not a money laundering case but a political laundering case. One accused has joined BJP, the second accused is getting a BJP ticket and the third accused has given Rs 50 crore to BJP in electoral bonds. I will come out clean like a pearl," she declared. Kavitha was arrested on March 15 by the ED from her residence in Hyderabad.

**ED finds Rs 2.54 crore in washing machine**

**STATE BUREAU Hyderabad**

The Enforcement Directorate stumbled upon Rs 2.54 crore hidden in one of the most unlikely places, inside a washing machine, during searches it conducted under the provisions of the Foreign Exchange Management Act across Hyderabad, Delhi, Mumbai, Kurukshetra and Kolkata.

According to an ED press release, the searches were conducted on the premises of Capricornian Shipping & Logistics Pvt Ltd and its directors Vijay Kumar Shukla and Sanjay Goswami and associated entities Laxmiton Maritime, Hindustan International, Rajnandini Metals Ltd, Stawart Alloys India Pvt Ltd; Bhagyanagar Ltd, Vinayak Steels Limited, Vashishta Constructions Pvt Ltd; and their directors or partners Sandeep Garg, Vinod Kedia and others. (SEE PAGE 2)

## Revanth will join BJP after LS polls: KTR

**Says the CM has already started preparations**

**STATE BUREAU HYDERABAD**

BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Tuesday said Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy was fostering plans to join the BJP after the Lok Sabha elections.

Contrary to accusations made by the Congress central leadership against Prime Minister Narendra Modi, he pointed out that Revanth Reddy was toeing the BJP line by terming Modi as his 'Bade Bhai' (elder brother) and appreciating the 'Gujarat' model.

Addressing a gathering of BRS MPs, MLAs, MLCs, corporators and senior party leaders at Telangana Bhavan here, Rama Rao termed Revanth Reddy as the first Congress leader to defect to the BJP, for which he had already started preparations. He challenged Revanth Reddy's silence on the allegations of his defection to the BJP, and failure to declare publicly that he would serve the Congress throughout his lifetime.

He alleged that the Chief Minister was trying to divert public attention from the ongoing sand mining scams, and blackmailing of rice millers, realtors and other businessmen for bribes, by sensationalising



BRS working president KT Rama Rao addressing the party leaders at Telangana Bhavan in Hyderabad on Tuesday.

false accusations of scams under the BRS regime. He stated that the permissions for construction projects had not been cleared for the past three months, without paying kickbacks to the ruling party.

"The Chief Minister sent a fund of Rs 2,500 crore to his party high command in Delhi towards election expenditure. Unfortunately, we have a Chief Minister who speaks like a pick-

pocket, but fails to provide an able administration to the people of the State," he said. Rama Rao pointed out that rather than focusing on providing improved power and water supply, Rythu Bandhu support to farmers and enhanced social security pensions among others, the Chief Minister was covering up his inefficiency under the garb of phone tapping and other false propaganda. (SEE PAGE 2)

**SPORT | PAGE 10**

**I have still got it, says Kohli**



**ENTERTAINMENT PAGE 12**

**Charan is on a roll**

**Sukumar ropes in the actor for his next**



**Ramzan Timings**

**Iftar** Wednesday 6:53 PM  
**Saheer** Thursday 4:51 AM

**CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD**

Farm	Rs. 118
Retail live	Rs. 140
With skin	Rs. 203
Skinless	Rs. 231
Egg Rates (12 eggs)	Rs. 54

## Australia tightens student visa rules

**YUVRAJ AKULA Hyderabad**

A daunting challenge lies ahead for Indian students, especially from the two speaking States, dreaming of pursuing higher education and gainful employment in Australia. After Canada and the UK, it is now the turn of Australia to tighten student visa rules, as the country witnesses a heavy influx of international students.

From revising the English proficiency scores to rolling out a new 'Genuine Student Test', the Australian government has come out with new rules



to allow students into the country only with genuine academic pursuit. These new rules have come into effect from March 23, 2024. International students seeking Temporary

Graduate Visa (TGV) will now have to secure a minimum of 6.5 band score or equivalent in the International English Language Testing System (IELTS) as against the previous 6

band score. As per new rules, the applicant has to score a minimum of 5.5 in each component, including reading, writing, speaking and listening in IELTS.

Further, the IELTS validity has been reduced from three years to one year, which means the applicants must submit evidence that they appeared for the English language test within one year before the date of visa application. The TGV granted for two to four years allows international graduates to live, study and work after completion of the course. (SEE PAGE 2)

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