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Netanyahu sets date for Israeli push into Rafah



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**Niharika's next film Kurrollu**

The actress continues to carve out a niche for herself



**CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD**

Farm.....	Rs. 156
Retail live.....	Rs. 178
With skin.....	Rs. 258
Skinless.....	Rs. 294
Egg Rates (12 eggs).....	Rs. 51

## Polls: KCR plans mega outreach

To embark on State-wide bus tour from April 13

PS DILEEP  
 HYDERABAD

Leader of Opposition and BRS president K Chandrashekhar Rao is gearing up for a State-wide bus tour and public meetings as part of the party's Lok Sabha election campaign, set to kick off on April 13. The campaign aims at bolstering support and rally the party cadre in the run up to the polling scheduled for May 13.

Chandrashekhar Rao's extensive itinerary includes a public meeting in Chevella on April 13 and Medak on April 15, in addition to addressing numerous roadshows alongside party candidates. The tour seeks to galvanise party members and reassure the public of KCR's unwavering commitment to their cause. A series of public meetings and roadshows scheduled for the next one month, will be announced soon.

With the election campaign gaining momentum, the BRS leadership is finalising the campaign route, encompassing all 17 parliamentary constituencies. Plans are underway for the BRS supremo to address multiple roadshows and a series of public meetings, including a significant gathering in Hyderabad, over the next month.

Utilising a campaign bus previously used during Assembly elections, the BRS is adopting a multi-pronged strategy to highlight its



The BRS chief is all set to step up the party's campaign for the ensuing Lok Sabha elections.

The BRS chief will hold roadshows, public meetings encompassing all 17 LS constituencies. Plans are underway to hold a massive public meeting in Hyderabad

achievements, expose opponents' failures, and instill confidence among voters. The party has already announced candidates for 16 constituencies, with the one seat in Warangal awaiting nomination following the

defection of Kadiam Kavaya along with her father and Station Ghanpur MLA Kadiam Srihari to the Congress. BRS working president KT Rama Rao along with senior leaders T Harish Rao, G Jagadish Reddy and S

Niranjan Reddy and former Speaker Pocharam Srinivas Reddy are participating in a vigorous poll campaign, engaging with various societal segments and boosting party morale. The party has also constituted co-ordination committees by deploying in-charges for each of the 119 Assembly segments, to support the party candidate in their respective parliamentary constituencies, along with the party legislators and district presidents.

In the wake of the setback in the recent Assembly elections, the BRS is leaving no stone unturned to regain political ground, anticipating a triangular contest in most constituencies. With a focus on social media outreach, countering opponents' allegations, and highlighting Congress and BJP failures, the party is mobilising dedicated teams for effective campaign execution.

The recent visit of Chandrashekhar Rao to the districts of Nalgonda, Suryapet, Jangaon, Karimnagar and Rajanna Sircilla on prevailing drought conditions and his statements against the Congress pointing out the State government's mismanagement of water resources, have injected a new vigour into the party cadre, triggering debates, amplifying public outreach and social media engagement. With the bus tour and public meetings too to start, the stage is for an electrifying electoral contest in the weeks ahead.

## Missing Hyderabad student found dead in US

Body was found floating in a lake in Cleveland

CITY BUREAU  
 Hyderabad

Mohammad Abdul Arfath, 25, who had gone missing since last month in Cleveland, United States, was found dead under suspicious circumstances. His body was found floating in Lake Erie near Voinovich Park on Monday, the Cleveland Police Department said.



Mohammad Abdul Arfath

A release by the Cleveland Division of Police stated, "Officers were alerted Monday to a body in the water near Voinovich Park around 2:30 pm. The body was recovered." Initially,

the police treated the case as that of unknown person but with the help of available evidences, it was identified that of Arfath. Arfath's family, who stay in Ambedkarnagar in Nacharam, was informed by

the Indian Consulate in New York. Arfath, a resident of Nacharam, had gone to pursue Master's in IT course from Cleveland University in May last year and was staying at Reserve Square Cleveland. He later took admission in another university in New York yet continued to stay in Cleveland. Arfath went missing on March 5, after going out to collect some money.

He last interacted with his father Mohammed Saleem on March 7. In Cleveland, the friends of Arfath had lodged a missing complaint with the police who issued an alert. (SEE PAGE 2 & 4)

## 'Candidate need not disclose all assets'

NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday observed that a candidate need not disclose each and every movable asset owned by him or his dependents unless they constitute high-value assets having a substantial impact on his candidature. The above observation was made by a bench of Justices Aniruddha Bose and Sanjay Kumar as it upheld the 2019 election of the Independent MLA Karikho Kri from the Tezu Assembly constituency in Arunachal Pradesh. Earlier, the Gauhati High Court had declared the election of Karikho Kri as null and void on the election petition filed

Only high-value assets having an impact on candidature can be declared in election nomination paper

by Congress candidate Nuney Tayang accusing the former of making false declarations in his election nomination paper. Tayang contended that Kri did not disclose details of vehicles owned by him and his family and a plot of land owned by his mother. Further, he claimed that Kri did not disclose that he was in occupation of a government accommodation. (SEE PAGE 2)

## CBDT told to verify assets declared by Union Minister

NEW DELHI

The Election Commission (EC) on Tuesday directed the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) to verify any mismatch in affidavit details submitted by union minister and BJP candidate from Thiruvananthapuram Rajeev Chandrashekhar. The action was taken after the Congress filed a complaint with the Election Commission alleging a mismatch in actual and declared assets in the affidavit filed by Chandrashekhar. Any mismatch and falsification of an affidavit is dealt with under Section 125 A of the Representation of the People Act 1951. PTI

## Kavitha: I am being victimised

STATE BUREAU  
 Hyderabad

The Rouse Avenue Court on Tuesday extended the judicial custody of BRS MLC K Kavitha till April 23, in connection with the alleged excise policy money laundering case in Delhi. She was presented before Special Judge Kaveri Baweja of the Rouse Avenue Court on expiry of her 14-day judicial custody on Tuesday.

Special Judge Kaveri Baweja allowed the plea of the Enforcement Directorate, stating that Kavitha attempted to influence the witnesses, and tampered with evidence and hence, her judicial custody should be extended by 14 days. Recently, the same court al-

**"This is a case completely based on statement. It is a political case. This is a case of targeting the Opposition parties. The opposition parties are looking up to the judiciary, with great hope to give us respite. I have done nothing but to cooperate with the due process and procedure and will continue to do so"**

— K KAVITHA  
 BRS MLC

lowed the CBI plea to question Kavitha during judicial custody in Tihar Jail on any day of the coming week following which the BRS leader was questioned on Tuesday. (SEE PAGE 2)

## KEJRIWAL DENIED BAIL, MOVES SC

NEW DELHI: Failing to get any reprieve from the Delhi High Court, AAP on Tuesday said Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal will move the Supreme Court against his arrest by the ED, and maintained the excise police case was the "biggest political conspiracy" to finish off the party.

## EID-UL-FITR TOMORROW

HYDERABAD: Eid-ul-Fitr, will be celebrated in Telangana on Thursday. According to the Markazi Ruet e Hilal Committee, the crescent of Shawwal, the 10th month of Islamic calendar, was not sighted in Hyderabad on Tuesday. Hence, April 10, will be 30th day of fasting and Eid will be celebrated on Thursday.

## March warmest, temperature soars



With the summer heat intensifying and many water bodies going dry, people in Malleshwaram village of Nagarkurnool have to depend on water tankers for their drinking water needs. Similar is the situation in parts of the State reeling under acute water crisis.

NEW DELHI

The world experienced the warmest March ever due to a combined effect of El Nino conditions and human caused climate change, making it the 10th consecutive month since June last year to set a new temperature record, the European Union's climate agency said on Tuesday.

The Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S) said the average temperature of 14.14 degrees Celsius in March was 1.68 degrees Celsius higher than the month's average for 1850-1900, the designated pre-industrial reference period. It was 0.73 degrees Celsius above the 1991-2020 average for March

Global average temperature for the past 12 months (April 2023-March 2024) is the highest recorded, at 0.70 degrees Celsius above 1991-2020 average and 1.58 degrees Celsius above the 1850-1900 pre-industrial average

and 0.10 degrees Celsius above the previous high set in March 2016. "The global average temperature for the past 12 months (April 2023-March 2024) is the highest recorded, at 0.70 degrees Celsius above the 1991-2020 average and 1.58 degrees Celsius above the 1850-1900 pre-industrial average," the climate agency said. C3S said the global average temperature breached the 1.5 degrees Celsius threshold for

an entire year for the first time in January. A permanent breach of the 1.5 degrees Celsius limit specified in the Paris Agreement, however, refers to long-term warming over many years. According to climate scientists, countries need to limit the global average temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius above the pre-industrial period to avoid the worst impacts of climate change. Earth's global sur-

face temperature has already increased by around 1.15 degrees Celsius compared to the average in 1850-1900, a level that hasn't been witnessed since 1,25,000 years ago, before the most recent ice age. This warming is considered the reason behind record droughts, wildfires and floods worldwide. The rise in global average temperature is attributed to the rapidly increasing concentration of greenhouse gases — primarily carbon dioxide and methane — in the atmosphere. There is a chance of La Nina developing later in the year. Scientists in India have said La Nina conditions setting in could mean better monsoon. PTI

## State running short of TB drugs

M SAI GOPAL  
 Hyderabad

Telangana is reeling under severe shortage of TB drugs, even as the State nodal TB officers have cast a wide net to procure drugs for patients through alternative routes.

At present, the State TB division has buffer stock of TB drugs that will last for less than 30-days and there are reports indicating that senior health offi-

Present stock will last for less than 30 days and officials are reportedly struggling to procure drugs

cial are struggling to procure medicines due to the ongoing model code of conduct. More than 90 percent of the TB patients in Telangana hail from poor background and

they are not in a position to incur monthly expenditure of anywhere between Rs 5,000 and Rs 8,000 to procure combination of TB drugs, which are advised by the Central TB division and prescribed by the State TB specialists. "We are closely working with our counterparts in Maharashtra and Karnataka, which are also experiencing a similar shortage of TB drugs, to procure medicines." (SEE PAGE 2)