



**NATION | PAGE 05**  
**Over 3.5 lakh people affected in Assam flood**



**WORLD | PAGE 07**  
**South Africa's ANC loses 30-year majority**  
 Gets just over 40% votes in elections; to look for coalition partners



**SPORT | PAGE 08**  
**WI to face Papua New Guinea in T20 WC opener**

**In a nutshell**

**56 died of heat stroke in 3 months**  
**NEW DELHI:** India has recorded 56 deaths from 24,849 suspected cases of heat stroke between March and May, according to data by the Union Health Ministry. According to the data compiled by the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC), 46 of these deaths were recorded in May alone (till May 30). Between May 1 and 30, 19,189 suspected heat stroke cases were reported in the country, it said. **PTI**

**Bail plea: No relief for Kejriwal**

**NEW DELHI:** A court reserved for June 5 its order on an application moved by AAP chief Arvind Kejriwal seeking interim bail in a money laundering case linked to the alleged excise case. Special Judge Kaveri Baweja reserved the order, observing that the application was for grant of interim bail on medical grounds and not for the extension of the interim bail granted by SC. **NATION PAGE 5**

**Prajwal refuses to cooperate**

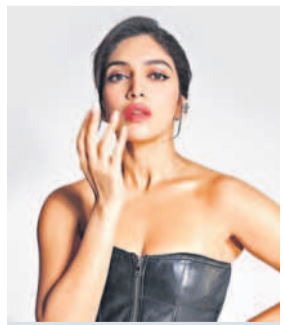
**BENGALURU:** The SIT is making every effort to recover the mobile allegedly used by arrested JD(S) MP Prajwal Revanna, to record sexual acts and assaults on his victims. The recovery of the mobile has become the primary focus of the investigation, as Deve Gowda's grandson Prajwal is not cooperating with the Investigating Officers by providing information or answering questions, sources said. **NATION PAGE 5**

**CRPF DIG sacked for misconduct**

**NEW DELHI:** The Union government has dismissed a CRPF DIG from service on charges of sexual misconduct levelled against him by some women personnel of the country's largest paramilitary force. An order from the President of India's office for "dismissal from service" was issued on May 30 against Deputy Inspector General and former sports officer of the Central Reserve Police Force Khajan Singh. **PTI**

**CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD**

Farm.....	Rs. 145
Retail live.....	Rs. 167
With skin.....	Rs. 242
Skinless.....	Rs. 276
Egg Rates (12 eggs).....	Rs. 67



**Bhumi starts shoot for Daldal**

The actor essays the role of a cop in her debut series

10

## Congress spelling doom for Telangana, says KCR

**Expresses concern over government's handling of various sectors**



BRS president and former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao and other leaders during the candlelight rally at Telangana Martyrs Memorial, Gun Park, on Saturday.

**STATE BUREAU**  
 HYDERABAD

Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) president and former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao declined the invitation from the State government to participate in the official celebrations marking 10 years of Telangana State formation on June 2.

He expressed his dissent over the Congress government's attempts to undermine the sacrifices of the Telangana movement and martyrs in Telangana State formation in an attempt to portray itself as a messiah who delivered the State.

In an eight-page open letter to Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, Chandrashekhara Rao expressed

concerns over the current Congress government's handling of the State affairs, citing numerous issues affecting various sectors and accusing the Congress of taking Telangana backwards.

**Farmers' distress**  
 The former Chief Minister highlighted the distress among farmers, who are facing severe losses and even resorting to suicide due to withered crops and power cuts. He demanded to know why farmers are being forced to wait for seed and fertilisers in queues under the scorching sun which was not witnessed in the last 10 years. He criticised the Congress government for failing to provide timely crop investment assistance

and for neglecting the Rythu Bandhu scheme, which had been a lifeline for farmers under the BRS regime.

He pointed out the Congress government's utter failure to implement its Rythu Bharosa scheme where it promised to provide Rs 7,500 per acre per season, around Rs 2,500 higher than the Rythu Bandhu scheme. "You (the Chief Minister) have not only failed to address farmers' woes but did not bother to even visit them to console during such a crisis," Chandrashekhara Rao remarked. Similarly, he noted that handloom workers, who previously received substantial support, are now struggling to make ends meet, leading to their tragic suicides. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

## Power cuts leave people high & dry

**STATE BUREAU**  
 Hyderabad

Scorching temperatures coupled with erratic power supply are proving to be a deadly combination for denizens of Telangana, especially Hyderabad. With unreliable power supply, many bombarded social media on Saturday questioning the State government over the power cuts and demanding an urgent redressal of the issue which is not only giving them sleepless nights but also disrupting their work.

The Congress-led State government previously announced that there would be no power cuts in Telangana. However, many netizens have been tagging BRS working president and former Minister KT Rama Rao on social media platform X, highlighting the frequent power outages. In response, Rama Rao reminded that the current government was headed by the Congress.

He pointed out that it is the Congress government which promised to usher in the "Change" and came to power. However, he assured to highlight some posts by the netizens to

**AVOID OUTAGES, BHATTI TELLS OFFICIALS**

**HYDERABAD:** Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu directed the power officials to undertake pre-monsoon preparedness measures to avoid interruption of power supply. Bhatti, who held a review meeting with the officials of the Energy Department and power utilities at the secretariat on Saturday, asked the officials to ensure there was no power outage and take steps to ensure proper power management. "Power staff should be vigilant and take steps to avoid outages," the Minister said.

bring to the attention of Deputy Chief Minister and Energy Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka. He shared over 30 posts from various netizens complaining about power cuts lasting for nearly two to five hours in different parts of Hyderabad. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

## Violence in WB mars last phase of LS polls

**NEW DELHI**

The marathon polling process to elect the 18th Lok Sabha ended on Saturday with the seventh phase of elections witnessing an approximate voter turnout of over 60% but was marred by incidents of violence between TMC and BJP supporters in Sandeshkhali region of West Bengal. Polling was conducted in seven States and the UT of Chandigarh for 57 constituencies, including Varanasi from where PM Narendra Modi is seeking a third consecutive term. **(SEE PAGE 2)**



Pied Cuckoo

## BRS holds massive candlelight rally

**STATE BUREAU**  
 Hyderabad

Commemorating the sacrifices of Telangana martyrs, the Bharat Rashtra Samithi organised a massive candlelight rally in Hyderabad on Saturday, marking the commencement of its three-day decennial celebrations of Telangana State formation.

The rally was taken out from Telangana Martyrs Memorial at Gun Park to the Amara Jyothi memorial near Tank Bund, paying homage to the martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the formation of Telangana. **(REPORT PAGE 3)**

## C-PAC predicts 11 seats for BRS

**STATE BUREAU**  
 Hyderabad

The Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) is likely to turn the tables around in the Lok Sabha elections, with the Civil Polls Analysis Committee (C-PAC) predicting that the party is set to win 11 seats in the State.

This apart, the C-PAC exit polls released on Saturday evening said the party is also stated to win the Secunderabad Cantonment bypoll and the Warangal-Khammam-Nalgonda Graduates Constituency by-election too. C-PAC exit polls gained credibility when its predictions came almost correct during the Assembly elec-

**Party-wise performance**

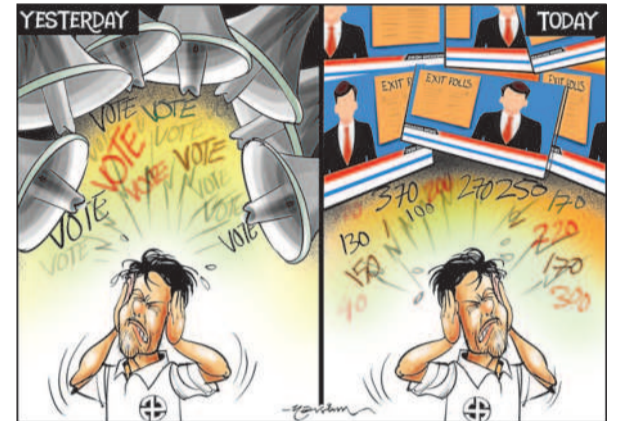
1. Adilabad	BJP	7. Nagarkurnool	BRS	13. Mahabubabad	BRS
2. Peddapalli	BRS	8. Mahabubnagar	BJP	14. Nalgonda	Congress
3. Karimnagar	BRS	9. Secunderabad	BRS	15. Khammam	BRS
4. Medak	BRS	10. Hyderabad	AJMM	16. Nizamabad	Tough fight between BRS, BJP
5. Zaheerabad	BRS	11. Malkajgiri	BRS	17. Bhongir	Tough fight between BRS, Congress
6. Chevella	BRS	12. Warangal	BRS		

tions held in the State last year. C-PAC had said the BRS would win around 40 seats by securing a 33.61 per cent vote share, and Congress would win 66 seats with a 55.46 per cent vote share. Considering the near-perfect exit polls released during the Assembly elec-

tions, the ruling Congress in the State would win only one seat in Nalgonda, and AIMIM would also win one seat in Hyderabad.

It further said there is a tough fight between BRS and BJP in the Nizamabad constituency, and a close contest is on between BRS and Congress in the Bhongir constituency. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

## Exit polls give clean sweep for NDA



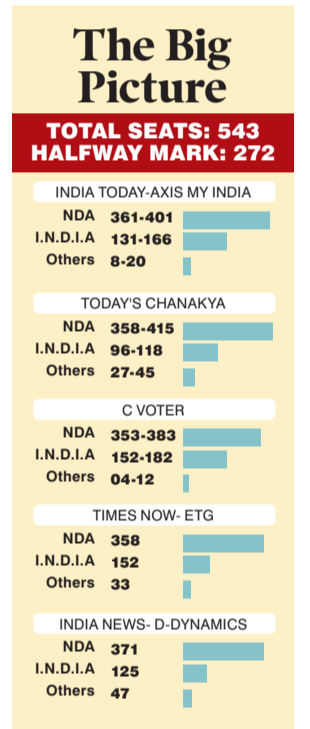
**NEW DELHI**

Exit polls on Saturday predicted that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will retain power for a third straight term, with the BJP-led NDA expected to win a big majority in the Lok Sabha polls.

The ABP-C Voter has forecast 353-383 seats for the BJP-led alliance and 152-182 seats for the opposition I.N.D.I.A bloc. Today's Chanakya predicted a much higher tally for the BJP and its alliance than the 2019 polls. It gave 335 seats to the BJP and 400 to the NDA, with a margin of 15 seats either way. It gave 107 seats to the opposition alliance with a possibility of its tally going up or down by 11 seats.

The BJP had given the slogan of '400 paar' for its alliance in this Lok Sabha polls. If the exit polls hold true, Modi will equal the record of the country's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, in leading his party to victory at the polls for a third straight term.

The Times Now-ETG Research's exit poll gave 358 and 152 seats to the NDA and the I.N.D.I.A bloc respectively. Many pollsters said the NDA may surpass its 2019 tally of 353 seats. The BJP had won 303 seats in the election. The Congress had bagged 53 seats and its allies 38. The I.N.D.I.A bloc was formed



by opposition parties to take on the BJP-led NDA in the Lok Sabha elections. The NDA in all likelihood will open its account in Tamil Nadu and Kerala and sweep Karnataka but may see a fall in its tally in states like Bihar, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Haryana, according to most pollsters. News 18 predicted that the BJP on its own will get 306-315 seats while its alliance will bag 355-370. It gave 125-140 seats to I.N.D.I.A. **(RELATED REPORTS PAGE 5)**

## Harbinger of monsoon spotted, rainy days soon

**SRUTHI KURUGANTI**  
 Hyderabad

The symphony of bird calls and the flutter of wings provide a reassuring reminder of nature's rhythms and the promise of the onset of monsoon as Telangana eagerly awaits rains.

Birdwatchers in and around Hyderabad are abuzz with excitement over sightings of the Pied Cuckoo or the Jacobin Cuckoo. This African native's northward

migration ahead of the monsoon winds is a clear sign of the arrival of the rainy season.

Sriram Reddy, a wildlife photographer and bird-watcher, recently spotted and photographed the cuckoo in Shamshabad. "Sighting this bird indicates that the rains will arrive in a week or two," he remarked. "The bird's migration from Africa to India corresponds with the onset of the monsoon winds, which are influ-

enced by changes in the atmosphere. Farmers view these avian signals as a natural calendar, guiding their agricultural practices," he further added.

**Pre-monsoon chorus**  
 Adding to the pre-monsoon chorus, resident birds such as the Asian Koel, Grey-bellied Cuckoo, and Common Hawk-cuckoo become more vocal, their calls creating a melodious backdrop signalling the seasonal shift.

While the arrival of the Pied Cuckoo is a definitive marker, the Indian Pitta, a vibrant nine-coloured bird that migrates from Sri Lanka and southern India, arrives in Telangana and Central India to breed. It typically inhabits dense areas like the Ananthagiri forests.

With the onset of rain, birds such as Rain Quail and Painted Francolins begin their rhythmic tunes to attract female mates during the monsoon. **(SEE PAGE 2)**