



**HYDERABAD | PAGE 02**  
 Group-I prelims paper easy, but lengthy, say aspirants



**WORLD | PAGE 09**  
 274 killed in Israeli raid during hostage rescue  
 Military says its forces came under heavy fire during the complex operation



**SPORT | PAGE 10**  
 Pakistan pacers bowl out India for 119 runs

**In a nutshell**

**Situation still tense in Manipur**  
**IMPHAL:** The situation in Manipur's Jiribam district remained "tense" but "under control" on Sunday, after suspected militants torched two police outposts and at least 70 houses in a fresh bout of violence in the State, police said. Additional security has been deployed in the affected areas following the incident on Saturday. "The situation is tense but under control in the wake of violent disturbances," the local police said. (NATION PAGE 7)

**Two teens taking selfies hit by train**  
**MUMBAI:** Two teenagers were run over by a train while they were taking selfies and shooting reels for social media on a railway track in Maharashtra's Nashik district, an official of the Government Railway Police said. The incident occurred on the railway track near the Valdevi river bridge on Saturday evening. Sanket Kailas Rathod and Sachin Dilip Karwar were shooting reels and taking selfies on the track and didn't notice the train. PTI

**Hit by crop loss, riot ends life**  
**MEDAK:** A young tenant farmer died, reportedly by suicide, at Kothapally village in Papannapet mandal after he suffered huge losses caused by hailstorms in March-April. Tappa Mallesh (38) had taken a piece of land on lease last year. As his ready-to-harvest paddy was damaged, when the region received hailstorms, he got poor yield. He is said to have consumed pesticide on May 30 and died on Sunday in hospital.

**Canada intel chief visited India twice**  
**NEW DELHI:** Canada's intelligence agency chief David Vigneault paid two under-the-wraps visits to India in February and March to apprise Indian officials of the case relating to the killing of Khalistani extremist Hardeep Singh Nijjar, sources said. Vigneault, Director of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, is learnt to have shared information that emerged during Ottawa's investigation into the killing. (NATION PAGE 8)

**CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD**

Farm.....	Rs. 139
Retail live.....	Rs. 161
With skin.....	Rs. 233
Skinless.....	Rs. 266
Egg Rates (12 eggs).....	Rs. 67

## Close call as two planes land, take off on same runway

**MUMBAI**  
 Aviation regulator DGCA is probing an incident of an IndiGo plane landing and an Air India aircraft taking off from the same runway in less than a minute at the Mumbai airport, officials said on Sunday.  
 The watchdog has derostered the Air Traffic Controller (ATC), who was on duty at the time of the incident on Saturday, while IndiGo has initiated a probe into the matter, they added. A purported video of one

**IndiGo plane lands, Air India aircraft takes off from same runway in less than a minute at Mumbai airport; DGCA begins probe**

plane landing and another taking off from the same runway has been shared on social media. "We are conducting a probe and have already derostered the ATCO involved in the incident,"

the DGCA official said. The Mumbai airport is a single-runway operation with two crossing runways — 09/27 and 14/32 — which handle over 850 flights per day.  
 On a single runway, RW27, at the Mumbai airport, there are around 46 arrivals and departures per hour. IndiGo said its aircraft continued the approach and landing as per the ATC instructions. Departing aircraft have to cross the end of the runway or take a turn, after which the ATC can issue landing clearance. PTI

## Hyd lad ranks 3rd in JEE Advanced

**CITY BUREAU Hyderabad**  
 Staying away from social media and focused preparation helped Bhogalapalli Sandesh of Hyderabad ace the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) Advanced 2024, which is widely regarded as one of the toughest and trickiest exams to crack.  
 The Hyderabad lad bagged all-India third rank by scoring 338 marks in the JEE Advanced results declared by the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras on Sunday.  
 Sandesh, whose parents are government school teachers, is also the topper in the IIT-Madras zone, which comprises Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Puducherry. Two more students from Hyderabad —



Putti Kushal Kumar and Al-ladaboina SDB Sidhvik Suhās — secured AIR fifth and 10th ranks, respectively, in IIT (JEE) Advanced.  
 Following in the footsteps of his brother, an IIT-Hyderabad student, Sandesh decided to pursue computer science and engineering programme from IIT-Bombay. "I stayed away from social media and prepared for 12-14 hours," he says. (SEE PAGE 2)

Narendra Modi was sworn in as Prime Minister for the third consecutive term after being administered the oath by President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi. — Photo: ANI

# Modi 3.0 takes charge

Heads 72-member Cabinet; Bihar, UP score big with 8 and 9 berths respectively

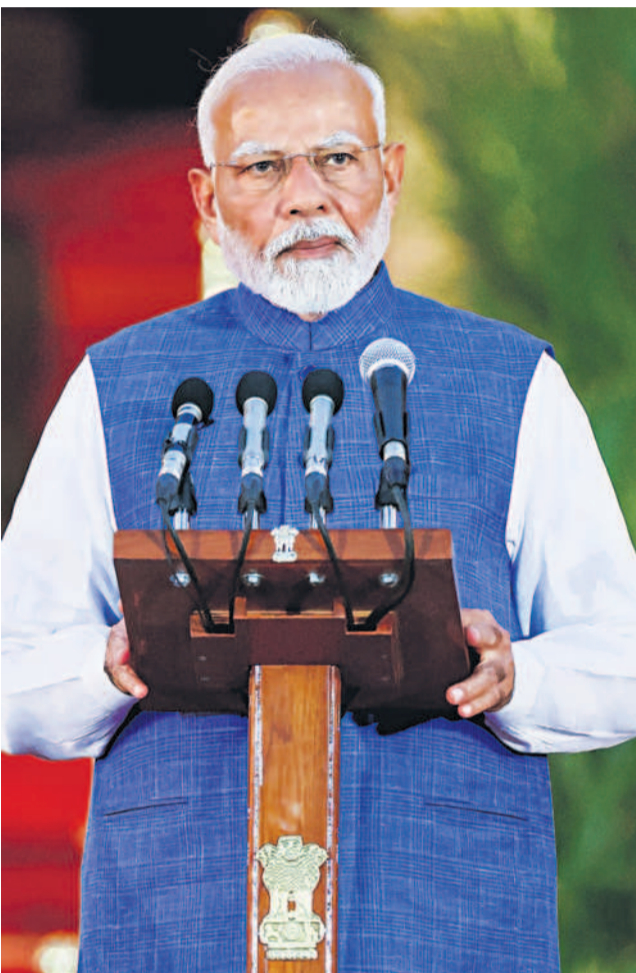
PTI  
 NEW DELHI

Narendra Modi was sworn in as Prime Minister on Sunday for a record-equalling third term, heading a 72-member Union Council of Ministers that put emphasis on continuity, youth and experience while also rewarding partners in the BJP-led National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government.

Along with Modi, senior BJP leaders Rajnath Singh, Amit Shah, Nitin Gadhkari, Nirmala Sitharaman and S Jaishankar, all Ministers in the Modi 2.0 Cabinet, took oath as Cabinet Ministers at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

President Droupadi Murmu administered the oath of secrecy and office to Modi and 30 Cabinet Ministers, five Ministers of State with Independent charge, and 36 Ministers of State. Portfolios of the new Ministers were yet to be announced. There were bugles, ceremonial guards, flowers and all the trappings of a grand spectacle at the oath taking ceremony at the forecourt of the Rashtrapati Bhavan, which lasted 155 minutes. Nearly 9,000 people from all walks of life were estimated to be present for the grand event that began at 7.15 pm.

"This team of Ministers is a great blend of youth and experience; we will leave no stone unturned in improving people's lives," Modi posted on X shortly after the swearing-in. "I look forward to serving 140 crore Indians and working with the Council of Ministers to take India to new heights of progress."



Narendra Modi was sworn in as Prime Minister for the third consecutive term after being administered the oath by President Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi. — Photo: ANI

The first meeting of the Modi Cabinet is likely on Monday evening at the Prime Minister's Lok Kalyan Marg residence.

Bihar has scored big as among the eight Ministers from the State four were given Cabinet rank, including BJP's Dalit allies Chirag Paswan and Jitan Ram Man-

jhi. Uttar Pradesh got nine berths, including one in the Cabinet in Rajnath Singh while Maharashtra has its six MPs. At least 42 Ministers were from the OBC, SC and ST category. There was no Muslim representation in the new coalition government. BJP president JP Nadda returned to the Cab-



### Kishan, Bandi make it to Union Cabinet

**HYDERABAD:** Telangana BJP chief G Kishan Reddy and party national general secretary Bandi Sanjay Kumar were inducted into the BJP-led NDA Cabinet on Sunday. Reddy won from Secunderabad Lok Sabha constituency, defeating his Congress rival D Nagender, while Kumar won from the Karimnagar Lok Sabha constituency by defeating V Rajender Rao of the Congress. Meanwhile, two MPs from the TDP in Andhra Pradesh also took oath. AGENCIES

net after five years. As many as 37 Union Ministers were dropped from the government in Modi's third term. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge was present even as several opposition leaders skipped the ceremony. Those present on the occasion included Vice President Jagdeep

Dhankhar, Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud, TDP president Chandrababu Naidu and JD(U) chief Nitish Kumar. Actors Shahrukh Khan and Rajinikanth, and industrialists Mukesh Ambani and Gautam Adani were among those who were present at the event. (REPORTS PAGE 7)

## 9 killed as terrorists open fire at bus in J&K

**JAMMU**  
 Nine people were killed and 33 injured as terrorists struck a bus carrying pilgrims from Uttar Pradesh in Jammu and Kashmir's Reasi district on Sunday evening, opening fire on the vehicle which fell into a gorge, a senior police officer said.

The attack occurred on the bus en route from Shiv Khori temple to Mata Vaishno Devi shrine at Katra near Teryath village in the Poni area. The bus, a 53-seater, veered off the road and plunged into a deep gorge following the gunfire at around 6.15 pm.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi took stock of the situation arising out of the terror attack. J&K Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha said

the driver lost balance and the vehicle fell into the gorge," Senior Superintendent of Police, Reasi, Mohita Sharma said. Sharma said the rescue operation was completed and, so far, nine persons are dead and 33 others injured in the incident and they have been shifted to different hospitals.

"The identity of the deceased is not clear but preliminary reports suggest that they all belong to Uttar Pradesh," the officer said. Sharma said they usually remain on high alert and have fully secured the Shiv Khori temple with frequent conduct of area domination patrols in the adjoining areas for the past many days.

Eyewitnesses shared harrowing accounts of the terrorist attack. (SEE PAGE 2)

Attack marks escalation in violence in the region as Reasi had been relatively untouched by terrorist activities



The damaged bus after it plunged into a gorge following the terrorist attack, in Reasi district of J&K, on Sunday. — Photo: PTI

### Hotel guest list leak: DGP denies claims

**STATE BUREAU Hyderabad**

Director General of Police Ravi Gupta has denied that there was any leak or transfer of data of guests or hotel management data to any third party.

He denied reports in the media on what cyber security activists had said on X on data of hotel guests being transferred to a US-based firm. He said TSCOP did not collect any visitor or hotel management data.

Meanwhile, Gupta said the Telangana Cyber Security Bureau apprehended a hacker involved in breaching the data of the Hawk Eye app. (FULL REPORT PAGE 5)

## NEET row: Young dreams destroyed

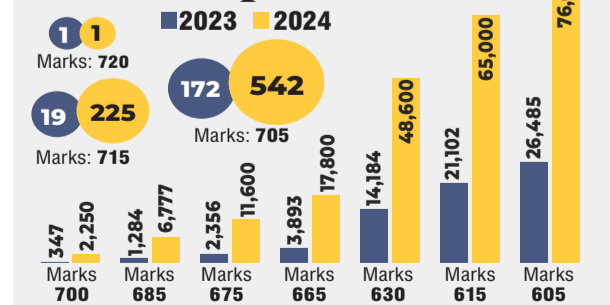
**M SAI GOPAL Hyderabad**

The results of the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET)-2024 for admission into MBBS courses have crushed the dreams of meritorious, hardworking students from Telangana and other parts of the country.

These students had prepared systematically but could not secure a free medical seat in government medical colleges despite scoring high marks.

By approximate count, there could be anywhere between 10,000 and 20,000, and even more such deserving meritorious students, across the country who might have lost out on medi-

### Rank comparison



cal seats due to the haphazard way in which the NEET-2024 results were released. The total marks in the examination, which is conducted every year in offline mode by the National Testing Agency (NTA), is 720, of which those students who

scored 630-640 till last year were bound to get anywhere between 10,000 and 14,000 all-India rank, thus ensuring that they would get an MBBS seat in a government medical college of their choice. This year, however, for the first time in NEET's his-

tory, the NTA decided to provide grace marks to a select few candidates, which led to a high number of 100 per cent scores, i.e. many candidates got 720 out of 720 marks, resulting in high-cut offs.

For instance, there are only 46 general category free seats in country's premier All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi, which is the most sought-after medical college in the country.

However, this year there are 67 first rank holders, who have scored 720 out of 720 marks. This means the remaining 21 first rankers, despite being toppers, will not get a medical seat in AIIMS, New Delhi. (SEE PAGE 2)

## Polavaram: Threat looms large for TS

**Project backwaters make towns, villages along Godavari flood-prone**

**STATE BUREAU Hyderabad**

The onset of monsoon has brought in the threat of floods for towns and villages all along the banks of the Godavari in Telangana.

It is more so with the temple town of Bhadrachalam. However, the State's efforts to get neighbouring Andhra Pradesh to help by minimising the impact of the Polavaram project backwaters are yet to bear fruit, even as the monsoon is set to gain strength in the State.

Despite all out efforts made by the administration to outwit the challenges posed when the river is in spate, floods wreak havoc and it takes years for residents to overcome the impact of the monsoon mayhem.

People in Bhadrachalam have for long been paying a high price due to floods. Now that the Polavaram project has come up downstream, the backwater effect is adding more to the grave threat. Though a flood protection bank has been put up, covering the vulnerable points around the town, it may not

be of any major help in the event of extreme weather events such as downpours.

The Godavari at Bhadrachalam experienced severe flooding on July 15, 2022. Over 20,000 people from 62 villages were evacuated and shifted to 77 relief camps set up in Bhadrachalam town. The flood level reached 71 ft, causing devastation. The impact was the grim reminder of the highest-ever flood level of 75.6 ft recorded in 1986.

In the backdrop of the extreme weather events reported at different places in the State and elsewhere, the Telangana government has often been writing to the Polavaram project authority and Central Water Commission to ensure free passage of the flood flow at Polavaram by keeping all its 48 gates fully open during heavy floods in the Godavari river. The impact of such floods would be devastating on the revenue mandals of Bhadrachalam, Burdumpadu and Palvancha.

The State government has been mounting pressure on the CWC and the Polavaram project authority to map the areas being impacted by the floods in the Godavari year after year by taking up a joint survey. Though Andhra Pradesh had given its green signal for such an exercise, this has not materialised so far. Other riparian States, such as Chhattisgarh and Odisha, also raised several concerns, but they were yet to be addressed. (SEE PAGE 2)