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 Naidu vows to rebuild Amaravati, draw investors



WORLD | PAGE 09
 UK to vote today in landmark general election
 Britons expected to do something they haven't done since 2005 — elect a Labour Party govt



SPORT | PAGE 10
 Hardik Pandya tops all-rounders rankings

In a nutshell

4 bridges collapse in Bihar in 24 hrs

PATNA: Continuing the series of bridge collapses in Bihar in recent times, four more bridges collapsed in the State in the last 24 hours in Saran and Siwan districts. Similar incidents were reported from Araria on June 18, Siwan on June 22, Motihari on June 23, Kishanganj on June 27, Madhubani on June 28, and Kishanganj on June 30, prompting the Bihar government to set up a panel to probe these occurrences. **IANIS**

Advani admitted to hospital again

NEW DELHI: Veteran BJP leader Lal Krishna Advani was admitted to the Apollo Hospital here on Wednesday night, sources said. This comes days after the 96-year-old former Deputy PM was discharged from AIIMS after a night-long stay there. "He is stable and under observation. He has been admitted under Dr Vinit Suri, senior consultant, neurology," a hospital source said. Details of his ailment are unknown. **PTI**

AP to adopt free sand policy

AMARAVATI: Andhra Pradesh Mines, Geology and Excise Minister K Ravindra on Wednesday said the government will supply sand for free to everybody in the State by adopting a free sand policy in three months to prop up construction works. Ravindra said Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu is determined to adopt a free sand policy to reinvigorate the construction industry, bolstering livelihood prospects. **PTI**

AP cop jumps before train

AMARAVATI: An Assistant Sub-Inspector in Andhra Pradesh's YSR Kadapa district died by suicide by jumping before a moving train after taking off his uniform. The body of ASI Nagarjuna Reddy was found on the tracks near Tappetla Bridge in Vallur mandal on Wednesday. He was serving as the ASI at Kamalapuram Police Station. The reasons for ASI's suicide are not known. **IANIS**

CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD

Farm.....	Rs. 107
Retail live.....	Rs. 129
With skin.....	Rs. 187
Skinless.....	Rs. 213
Egg Rates (12 eggs).....	Rs. 70



Parineeti Chopra breaks myths

The actor says 'everything is not chak de phatte for Punjabis'

Violence in Manipur on the decline: Modi

PM says edu institutions, businesses reopened in most parts

PTI
 NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said violence in strife-torn Manipur was continuously declining, educational institutions have reopened and businesses were operational in most parts of the State.

Speaking in Rajya Sabha, he said: "The government is making continuous efforts to bring normalcy in Manipur." He said over 11,000 FIRs have been filed in connection with violence in the State and more than 500 people have been arrested. He stressed the Centre and State were talking to everyone there to open the door for peace.

A day after his spirited response to the debate in Lok Sabha on a motion to thank President Droupadi Murmu for her address to the joint sitting of Parliament, Modi launched an all-out attack on the Congress, saying it speaks with a forked tongue, opposing the celebration of Constitution Day while doing the "drama" of protecting the Constitution during polls.

The Prime Minister took the Congress to the cleaners over making the 2024 general elections about the pro-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi replies to the Motion of Thanks on the President's address in Rajya Sabha on Wednesday. — Photo: PTI

OPPN WALKS OUT DURING PM'S SPEECH

NEW DELHI: I.N.D.I.A bloc parties, led by the Congress, staged a walkout in Rajya Sabha on Wednesday after Leader of Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge was not allowed to intervene during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's speech. Kharge wanted to intervene during Modi's reply to a discussion on motion thanking the President for her address to the joint sitting of the Parliament. Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar, however, did not heed to his requests, leading to I.N.D.I.A bloc MPs, raising slogans and asking for the LoP to be allowed to speak. **PTI** (REPORT PAGE 7)

tection of the Constitution, saying Indians voted on the plank only once when they threw out the Indira Gandhi government in 1977 after Emergency. In his nearly two-hour speech, Modi

listed out his previous government's achievements: from raising MSP for crops to giving the poor access to the banking system and loans, and fuelling India's rise to become the fifth

largest economy. With development and self-reliance as pivot, Modi said, India will "definitely" become the third-largest economy in the world in his third term.

The Prime Minister, who started his first term in May 2014, said people have given mandate to the BJP-led NDA to make India a developed nation. He said the Opposition is "unable to digest" the mandate given by 140 crore people to the NDA.

"I understand your pain," he said. "Their efforts failed yesterday. Today they did not have courage to fight that and therefore they left the field. I am bound by my duty. I am not here to score in a debate. I am servant of the country. I am here to give a detailed account of our work and it is my duty," he said as the Opposition walked out of the House.

Modi took a jibe at the Opposition for terming the current NDA dispensation "one-third government", asking "what could be a greater truth than this?" "It has been 10 years (of the BJP-led NDA government) and there are 20 more to go. One-third is done, two-third is left," he said. He spoke on the alleged irregularities in competitive exams, and said tough action will be taken. (SEE PAGE 2)

Champai quits as CM, Soren to take over

RANCHI

Jharkhand Chief Minister Champai Soren on Wednesday resigned from his post, following which JMM leader Hemant Soren called on Governor CP Radhakrishnan and staked a claim to form the government.

Earlier in the day, leaders and MLAs of the ruling coalition at a meeting at Champai Soren's residence here unanimously decided to elect Hemant Soren as the JMM legislature party leader. "I have resigned as per the decision of the JMM-led alliance. Our alliance is strong," Champai Soren said after coming out of Raj Bhavan.

"All know what had happened with Hemant Soren ji... I was given the responsibility by the coalition partners. Now, the alliance has decided in favour of Hemant Soren ji," he said. Hemant Soren told the media all formalities to form the government are complete. "Everything will be disclosed soon," the JMM executive president said. **PTI**



Handloom worker ends life in Sircilla

Mounting debts, no work drive Palle Yadagiri to suicide

STATE BUREAU
 Rajanna-Sircilla

Mounting debts coupled with a lack of employment for over six months have forced yet another handloom worker to end his life in Sircilla.

A sizing worker with a weaving unit here, Palle Yadagiri (46) hanged himself to death at his Bynagar house in Sircilla town on Tuesday night. He had attempted suicide last week as well, his relatives said.

Hailing from the Gouda community, Yadagiri was engaged in warping and sizing in weaving units for the last 30 years. Earlier, he used to earn Rs 16,000 to Rs 20,000 per month. Yadagiri, who borrowed money for his daughter's wedding, ended up with debts, which kept mounting as he was unable to get work during the last six months. Relatives said there were frequent arguments in the family over the rising debts. Yadagiri's wife Manjula left home as well because of the arguments, they said.

With no solution in sight, Yadagiri reportedly consumed a chemical in an attempt to end his life last

The handloom sector has been plunged into crisis because of the neglect it is being subjected to by the Revanth govt

— KT RAMA RAO, BRS

Wednesday. However, his nephew saved him by rushing him to the hospital. On Tuesday night, Yadagiri tried to kill himself again, this time by hanging himself from a ceiling rod. He died. He is survived by wife Manjula and two daughters Lahari and Niharika.

Manjula, in her police complaint, said Yadagiri died because he was unable to clear his debts and due to lack of employment. Police registered a case and began an investigation.

Murder by govt: KTR
 BRS working president KT Rama Rao reiterated that this case too, like the other weaver suicides, was a murder committed by the State government. (SEE PAGE 2)

ASSAM FLOOD SITUATION WORSENS



Goats marooned atop a higher ground amid floods in Morigaon district of Assam on Wednesday. — Photo: PTI (REPORT PAGE 8)

'BRS will be back bolder & stronger'



BRS chief K Chandrashekhara Rao with a party worker at his Erravelli residence on Wednesday.

he said the battles fought against the then Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, whom he called the symbol of everything anti-Telangana, were not an easy affair. He exuded confidence that the Telangana society, which had achieved a great victory against the forces that opposed Statehood, would certainly overcome all obstacles in the future.

Amid cheers from activists, Chandrashekhara Rao said the BRS would continue to fight for the defeat of rival forces and stage a comeback by emerging stronger. The Congress, which came to power by deceiving the people, was not able to implement the usual promises given and was misleading the people with various gimmicks.

The former Chief Minister made it clear that the people once again understood the true colours of the Congress. They were repentant of the mistake made by voting for the Congress. The people of Telangana were now keen on getting the BRS back in power, Chandrashekhara Rao added. (SEE PAGE 2)

Train hits man, drags body for 5 km

CITY BUREAU
 Hyderabad

An elderly person died after he was hit by a train while crossing a railway track near Bibinagar late on Tuesday.

According to reports, the deceased, believed to be in his late 60s, got stuck in the locomotive and the body was hanging on the engine till Ghatkesar on the Bibinagar-Ghatkesar UP line. After the loco pilot noticed the body, the train was stopped and it was removed with the help of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) personnel at the railway station. The Government Railway Police (GRP), Secunderabad, have booked a case.

Cabinet expansion unlikely amid rift in Congress

STATE BUREAU
 Hyderabad

Suspense continues over the much-awaited State Cabinet expansion and appointment of a new Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee president.

The Congress leadership, which held consultations with the party leaders from Telangana on Wednesday, is learnt to have decided to meet once again due to a lack of consensus among the State leaders.

The delay is reportedly linked to unresolved discussions regarding the selection of the new TPCC president. Sources indicated that this decision, much like the State Cabinet expansion,

It was indicated that Cabinet expansion was deferred to attract more BRS MLAs into party fold, using it as bait

has been deferred until a consensus can be reached among the party's leadership. A meeting was held to address these issues in the presence of AICC president Mallikarjuna Kharge and Congress MP Rahul Gandhi in Delhi. Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy and several other leaders rushed to Delhi to attend the meeting, during which leaders were

asked to provide their opinion on both the Cabinet expansion and the appointment of the PCC president.

There was a major demand that a BC leader should be appointed TPCC president. However, a decision on who should be selected for this position could not be reached. Top Congress leaders were reportedly of the view that it was better to wait and have further discussions rather than make a rushed decision in the current situation.

The Cabinet expansion faces a similar dilemma, with many vying for inclusion, making it difficult for the leadership to finalise the names without causing an internal discord. (SEE PAGE 2)

Three held for 'Qurbani' fraud

CITY BUREAU
 Hyderabad

Three persons, who cheated people after collecting money for 'Qurbani' (animal sacrifice) on Eid ul-Adha, also known as Bakrid, were arrested by the Habeebnagar police on Wednesday. The police seized Rs 23 lakh in cash, a laptop and a mobile phone from them.

The accused have been identified as Mohd Naseer (30), a resident of Bahadurpura; Mohd Zafar Ahmed (29), a resident of Sun City; and Mohd Ashwaq (27) of Bandlaguda Jagir.

According to DCP (Southwest) D Uday Kumar Reddy, Naseer started a social organisation, called 'Khidmath Foundation'. (SEE PAGE 2)