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WORLD | PAGE 09 Netanyahu in US, faces

protests & boycotts Demonstrators gather at Capitol Hill; Democrats, independents to skip address

# SPORT | PAGE 10

Indian archers look to break jinx at Paris Olympics

# In a nutshell

# Youth gets 20 yrs **RI for raping girl** SANGAREDDY: A POCSO

court in Sangareddy convicted a 22-year-old man for raping a minor and sentenced him to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment. Nunsavath Prakash (22), a resident of Tunikilla thanda in Kandi mandal, was a driver. He raped a 16year-old girl in 2019. The Sangareddy rural police registered a case, arrested him and produced him before the court. The judge imposed a fine of Rs 20,000 on him.

# Nitish's sexist remark sparks row

PATNA: Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar on Wednesday sparked a fresh controversy when he made a disparaging comment on a woman MLA amid aggressive protests by the Opposition in the Assembly. A visibly upset CM burst out at RJD's Rekha Devi, saying, "You are a woman, you do not know anything." Soon pandemonium broke out and the opposition legislators raised slogans.

# NATION PAGE 7

# **YSRCP** protests in Delhi

NEW DELHI: YSRCP chief YS Jagan Mohan Reddy's protest in Delhi against alleged political violence in Andhra Pradesh drew support from unlikely quarters on Wednesday, with several I.N.D.I.A bloc members and AIADMK leaders expressing solidarity. The TDP, which is in power in the State and a constituent of the NDA government at the Centre, dismissed the allegations as "fake NATION PAGE 7 drama".

# Wait gets longer for **Rythu Bharosa funds**

# Scheme's framework to be finalised only by August-end

#### STATE BUREAU HYDERABAD

Telangana farmers' wait for the Rythu Bharosa farm investment support is likely to get longer. Agriculture Min-ister Tummala Nageswara Rao on Wednesday hinted that the framework for the

In a new twist, the Telangana government plans to invite fresh applications scheme would be finalised for new ration cards, overonly after the implementalooking the Praja Palana tion of the farm loan waiver applications submitted scheme by August-end. earlier.

STATE BUREAU

Hyderabad

Speaking during the Question Hour in the Leg-Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N Uttam islative Council on Wednes-Kumar Reddy announced in the Legislative Council day, Nageswara Rao said the State government was comon Wednesday that sepamitted to providing Rs rate applications would be 15,000 per acre per annum sought for both new ration under Rythu Bharosa. A cards and new Aarogyasri Cabinet sub-committee was cards, which would subsecurrently consulting with quently be issued sepafarmers, experts and other stakeholders to prepare new

guidelines for the scheme's criticised the delay, arguing implementation. 'The government will that Rythu Bandhu, introcomplete the farm loan duced by the previous BRS waiver by the end of August. government, was designed We will also hold discusto prevent farmers from taksions in both legislative houses and seek suggestions ing high-interest loans and reduce their financial burfrom all members before fiden. He demanded that the nalising the new guidelines, State government release including eligibility criteria, funds under Rythu Bandhu for Rythu Bharosa," he said. until the Rythu Bharosa



Apply fresh for new ration cards

rately. Answering a question in the Council, Uttam Kumar Reddy clarified that the new ration cards would be exclusively issued to Below Poverty Line (BPL) families. The eligibility criteria for

issuing Aarogyasri cards were still being examined

framework was completed. "We are not against removing ineligible beneficiaries, but delaying disbursement in the name of framing fresh guidelines. Identifying new beneficiaries should not de-prive needy farmers of support," he said.

Hyderabad-Rangareddy-Mahabubnagar Teachers' constituency MLC AVN he said.

### by a Cabinet sub-committee and aimed at covering other sections.

'We will finalise guidelines for fresh ration cards in a couple of weeks. Besides rice, the government is considering the supply of other essential goods to ration cardholders. The eligibility criteria for new ration cards will be based on the Cabinet sub-committee's recommendations," he said. Responding to suggestions from Con-

gress MLCs, he said the government would review income, landholding and other aspects. (SEE PAGE 2) Reddy echoed these con-

cerns, pointing out that paddy sowing operations had already commenced, and further delays in dis-bursing investment support would be counterproductive. Farmers were already resorting to high-interest loans from moneylenders, which was unnecessary,

# **Opposition protests** 'biased' Union Budget

# Stages walkout in Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha

### NEW DELHI

I.N.D.I.A bloc MPs on Wednesday staged a walk-out in both the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, protesting the alleged discrimination against Opposition-ruled States in the Union Budget.

As soon as the Lower House met for the day, opposition members tried to raise the issue of budgetary allocations. As they raised slogans, Speaker Om Birla cautioned them against dis-rupting the Question Hour. He said members from

both sides should follow parliamentary traditions. He questioned the Opposition for disrupting House proceedings in a "planned manner". Both Birla and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Kiren Rijiju flagged the issue of MPs facing difficulty in entering Parliament House due to opposition protests on the steps of the building. Birla said several members have written to him over the difficulty faced by them. As they were disallowed to raise their issue, opposition members staged a walkout.

The I.N.D.I.A bloc parties, led by the Congress, also union Budget for 2024-25 staged a walkout from Rajya provided



I.N.D.I.A bloc MPs protest on the Parliament premises during the Monsoon session in New Delhi on Wednesday. — Photo: PTI

Sabha, in protest against all States except two being "ignored" in the Budget, an al-legation termed "outralegation termed geous" by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, who said all States never found a mention in any of the previ-ous Budgets, including those presented by the Con-gress. After Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar rejected notices under Rule 267 that called for the suspension of the listed agenda to take up the issue, Leader of Opposition and Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge said the

funds

and

schemes for only Bihar and Andhra Pradesh. All other States did not find any mention, he said, terming the budget a "kursi-bachao" document.

In the Budget, Sitharaman announced Rs 60,000 crore for Andhra Pradesh and pledged support to get Rs 15,000-crore assistance from multilateral agencies for the State. Kharge said the Congress and the other parties in the I.N.D.I.A bloc "condemn" this discrimination. As Dhankhar gave Sitharaman the floor to respond, Kharge led the opposition bloc out of the House. PTI

# Telangana to boycott **NITI** Aayog meeting

BRS MLC Thatha Madhu

STATE BUREAU Hyderabad

After nearly five hours of neated arguments between

KTR asks CM to protest in Delhi, offers support

# 18 killed as plane crashes in Nepal



## July 22 world's hottest day

NEW DELHI: The Earth experienced its hottest day in at least 84 years on July 22, with the global average temperature reaching a record high of 17.15°C, according to the European Union's Copernicus Climate Change Service. This exceeded the previous record of 17.09°C, set just a day before on July 21. These unprecedented temperatures follow a series of monthly heat records. PTI

the ruling and opposition members over securing funds from the Centre, the State Assembly on Wednesday passed a resolution appealing to the Centre to render justice to Telangana by amending the Budget proposals in the ongoing Budget debates.

Assembly passes resolution appealing to Centre to render justice to Telangana by amending Budget proposals

HYDERABAD: Cornering said in the Assembly on the State government Wednesday. The CM keeps demanding BRS over the poor allocations leaders to stage protests to Telangana in the Union Budget, BRS working in the State for fulfilling president KT Rama Rao the promises made to the demanded that Chief people. Regarding crop Minister A Revanth Reddy loan waiver, he wanted and his Cabinet stage an former Minister T Harish indefinite strike at Jantar Rao to go on an indefinite strike and, when unem-"All BRS MLAs and ployed youth demanded workers will support the jobs, he wanted me to strike and protect you. stage a protest, he said, This should be continued adding that now, let the CM and his Ministers till the Centre heeds to the State government's stage an indefinite strike

Rescue operations under way at the site of the plane crash at Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu on Wednesday. - Photo: PTI

#### CHICKEN RATES **IN HYDERABAD**

Farm	Rs. 112
Retail live	Rs. 134
With skin	Rs. <b>19</b> 4
Skinless	Rs. 221
Egg Rates (12 eggs)	Rs. 65

Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy said the State government had decided to boycott the NITI Aayog meeting to be held under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi on July 27. The BRS extended support to the resolution introduced by the Chief Minister. However, the BJP de-

government was trying to mislead the people despite the Centre allotting funds different prounder grammes. The BJP members staged a walkout from the House. Tempers ran high after BRS members demanded that the State government stage an indefinite strike at Jantar Mantar manded that it be withagainst the Centre's disdrawn stating that the State crimination towards Telan-

Mantar in Delhi.

demands," Rama Rao

gana. Heeding the BRS de-mand, the Chief Minister demanded that Leader of Opposition K Chandrashekhar Rao should join the strike. In reply, former Minister T Harish Rao asked what the Chief Minister and the ruling Congress would do if the Opposition staged a protest to protect Telangana's interests.

for Telangana. (SEE PAGE 2)

(SEE PAGE 2)

ing two crew members and technical staff of the airline, A Nepalese private plane was bound for Pokhara Incrashed and caught fire ternational Airport for regushortly after taking off from lar maintenance service when the accident occurred the Tribhuvan International Airport here on Wednesday, at 11.11 am (local time). killing 18 people aboard, in-cluding a child, and seri-

"Shortly after takeoff from Runway 02, the aircraft veered off to the right and crashed on the east side of the runway," the Civil Aviation Authority of Nepal said. It said rescue opera-

tions were initiated immediately and the fire was brought under control. "One injured person (Captain Manish Ratna Shakya) was rescued and taken to hospital, and 18 people were found dead," it added.

The aviation authority identified one of the passengers as a child named Adhiraj Sharma, who was the son of Manu Raj Sharma, a technician of Saurya Airlines.

Sharma's wife Priza Khatiwada and their four-yearold son Adhiraj died in the crash. Videos posted online showed the plane being enveloped in fire and smoke. Fire engines and ambulances were rushed to the spot after the incident. The deceased were identified as co-pilot S Katuwal and employees of Saurya Airlines and Yemeni national Aref Reda. (RELATED REPORT PAGE 9)



# Anjali on her role in latest series

Playing Pushpa has been a transformative journey, she says



# NALSAR to get another campus soon

#### YUVRAJ AKULA Hyderabad

To enhance its academic reach, besides catering to the growing demand for legal education, the NAL-SAR University of Law has drawn plans to set up another campus in the city, in addition to the existing one at Justice City in Shamirpet.

The university's campus is likely to come up at the Potti Sreeramulu Telugu University (PSTU) in Nampally. NALSAR Vice Chancellor Prof Srikrishna Deva Rao and other varsity officials visited PSTU, which recently shifted to its new



campus in Bachupally. The visiting team was shown the space available on the second floor of the university's administrative building. NALSAR's new city cam-

pus, which is likely to commence from the next academic year i.e., 2025-26, proposes to introduce a threeyear LLB degree course that has received BCI approval for 60 seats. The admissions to the new non-residential programme will be either based on the in-house national-level entrance test or the Common Law Admission Test

"It is a long-pending proposal for another city campus so that the university will be available to more people seeking law education. There is a plan to launch a three-year LLB programme at the proposed new campus from next year. Necessary infrastructure

needs to be developed in the allotted space in the Telugu University campus and faculty needs to be recruited." V-C Prof Srikrishna Deva Rao told *Telangana Today*.

ously injuring the pilot —

aircraft of Saurya Airlines,

carrying 19 people, includ-

The Bombardier CRJ-200

the only survivor.

KATHMANDU

The NALSAR administration has also drawn up plans to shift its Centre for Distance and Online Learning to the upcoming city campus. This is being planned to reach out to a much larger section of the population seeking legal education. It also plans to launch several new law degree and diploma courses via the centre. "We will also organise training sessions for lawyers in the new campus," he added.

# 2 killed, 5 injured in building fire

# CITY BUREAU

Two persons were killed after a fire broke out in a four-storey building, which housed a sofa-making unit, at Jiyaguda in Kulsumpura on Tuesday night. Five others sustained severe burns, while 20 people, who were trapped, were rescued.

The deceased were identified as Shiva Priya (10) and Srinivas (40), while the injured were Laxmi Bai (70), Madhavi (24) and Meghana (18).

Two others sustained burns and are undergoing treatment. (SEE PAGE 2)

# **Reconstruction of** mosque sparks row

#### CITY BUREAU Hvderabad

Tension prevailed for a while at Chilkur village in Moinabad mandal of Rangareddy district on Wednesday after Bajrang gareddy Dal activists staged a protest against the reconstruction of a place of prayer.

Around 11 am, scores of Bajrang Dal activists, following a 'Chalo Chilkur' call, gathered at the village and tried to march towards the site where a mosque,

which was razed allegedly by realtors, was being re-constructed. The mosque was allegedly razed while clearing a land parcel measuring around 15 acres for

real estate activity. The Telangana Wakf Board officials, along with public representatives, reached the spot on Monday night and inspected the place. The local police have registered a case against those responsible for razing the mosque and taken up an investigation into the (SEE PAGE 2) matter.