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**More cars bring traffic to a crawl on Hyd roads**



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**Iran, Hezbollah may attack Israel soon: Intel reports**

US deploys guided missile submarine, aircraft carrier in West Asia amid escalating tensions



SPORT | PAGE 10

**India stars likely to figure in Duleep Trophy games**

**In a nutshell**

**Address agri crisis now, says KTR**

HYDERABAD: BRS working president KT Rama Rao expressed concern over the sharp decline in crop cultivation in Telangana since the Congress government took over. He pointed out severe challenges faced by farmers, contrasting it with the progress made under the leadership of former CM K Chandrashekhara Rao. In a series of posts on X, Rama Rao cited news reports in the media.

STATE PAGE 5

**5 college students die in TN accident**

CHENNAI: Five students of a private engineering college lost their lives when their MUV collided with an oncoming truck. Two students escaped with injuries and were admitted to the hospital. The accident occurred near Tiruttani in Tiruvallur district of Tamil Nadu on Sunday night. The victims were third-year engineering students of a private engineering college. They were headed to their native Ongole in AP. IANS

**7 killed in Bihar temple stampede**

JEHANABAD: At least seven people, including six women, were killed and 16 others injured in a stampede at Baba Siddheshwar Nath Temple in Bihar's Jehanabad district, an official said on Monday. The deceased have been identified as Pyare Paswan (30), Nisha Devi (30), Punam Devi (30), Nisha Kumari (21) and Sushila Devi (64). The identity of one woman remains unknown, the official added. PTI

**Woman killed in IED blast**

KOTHAGUDEM: A tribal woman was killed after an IED, planted by Maoists, exploded at Dabbamarka village under the Kistaram police station limits in Sukma district of Chhattisgarh on Monday. The deceased, Kavvasi Sukki, stepped on the IED causing it to explode when she ventured into the forest area near the village to graze her cattle. A case was registered at Kistaram PS.

**CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD**

Farm.....	Rs. 80
Retail live.....	Rs. 102
With skin.....	Rs. 148
Skinless.....	Rs. 168
Egg Rates (12 eggs).....	Rs. 56



**Inner peace: Pooja's life mantra**

Actor, who is quite active on social media, shares a cute update

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AU REVOIR!

Athletes attend the 2024 Paris Summer Olympics closing ceremony at the Stade de France on Sunday. The ceremony capped two-and-a-half extraordinary weeks of Olympic sports and emotion. — Photo: AP (PHOTO FEATURE PAGE 10)

**Massive downpour hits Hyd, more in store**

CITY BUREAU  
 Hyderabad

A massive downpour lashed Hyderabad early on Monday with multiple locations receiving 90-100 mm of rain, which promises to cover a substantial amount of deficit rainfall recorded in the last few weeks.

The downpour, which occurred between 4 am and 6 am, was concentrated in Hyderabad, Sangareddy, Medchal-Malkajgiri and Rangareddy districts, with nearly eight locations receiving heavy rain ranging from 64.5 mm to 115.5 mm. The remaining areas received moderate showers of 15.6-64.4 mm.



Traffic crawls on a flooded road in Hyderabad on Monday.

According to the rainfall data of the Telangana Development Planning Society (TSDPS), Kandli in Sangareddy district, which is just over 50 km from Hyderabad, received the maximum rainfall of 111.8 mm, followed by the Osmania University area, which received 89 mm of rainfall. (SEE PAGE 2)

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**Fund crunch hits sanitation in GPs**

S SANDEEP KUMAR  
 Hyderabad

Even as seasonal diseases rise and hospitals get crowded with patients, many gram panchayats in the State are struggling to ensure basic sanitation, leave aside executing other works, due to a severe shortage of funds.

Since February, after the term of sarpanches expired, the State government appointed village secretaries for gram panchayats. However, many village secretaries are under extreme pressure to execute even routine works. At several places, spraying of disinfectants and sprinkling of bleaching powder is also proving to be a challenge for panchayats, which once used to sweep performance awards at the national level.

**Operating tractors for garbage collection has been affected as purchasing diesel is now a task given the paucity of funds**

In many gram panchayats, which are struggling due to the lack of sufficient revenue generating sources, even operating tractors for garbage collection has been affected as purchasing diesel was also a task, again, due to paucity of funds.

The panchayats had their hopes rekindled when the government announced the S w a c h a d a n a m - Pachadanam programme (the tweaked Congress version of Palle Prakruthi) from August 5-9. (SEE PAGE 2)

**BRS panel to study Gurukul issues**

STATE BUREAU  
 Rajanna-Sircilla

BRS working president KT Rama Rao said on Monday that the party would constitute a committee to study the problems in the State's Gurukuls. The committee will be headed by BRS leader RS Praveen Kumar, who played a crucial role in the development of the Gurukuls.

Praveen Kumar will visit about 20 schools across the State and submit a report in five days after examining the facilities, suggesting measures to be taken for the betterment of the facilities for the students. The move was to help the students, Rama Rao said, advising the State government not to see it from a political angle.



BRS working president KT Rama Rao consoling the family of Class VI student Anirudh, who recently died at the Peddapur Gurukul, in Metpalli mandal of Jagtial district on Monday.

Rama Rao was speaking after consoling family members of Class VI student Anirudh, who recently died

at the Peddapur Gurukul in Metpalli mandal of Jagtial district. He, along with a BRS delegation, called upon

the family at their home in Racharlaboppapur of Yellareddy mandal on Monday. (SEE PAGE 2)

**Eight killed in separate road accidents**

CITY BUREAU  
 Hyderabad

Eight persons were killed in different road accidents in the city since Sunday night. At Bandlaguda road, three persons were killed when their bike skidded and the trio hit road divider. The victims, Bagari Sri Hari (22), a chef; Sandeep (20) and Abhilash, all relatives, were on a motorcycle travelling from Sankeshwar Bazaar to Aramgarh. (SEE PAGE 2)

**IIT Madras tops NIRF rankings again**

NEW DELHI

The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras remained on the top spot in the National Institute Ranking Framework, 2024, for the sixth consecutive year, while the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, was ranked as the best university for the ninth year in a row, according to the Ministry of Education.

Delhi University improved its rank from 11 to 6 while Hindu College stalled Miranda College's seven-year run as the best college

**Ranks first for sixth year in a row; Indian Institute of Science-Bengaluru best university for the ninth year in a row, according to Union Education Ministry**

in the ninth edition of the NIRF rankings, which was announced by union Minister of Education Dharmendra Pradhan on Monday. Behind IIT Madras, IISc Bengaluru took the second spot in the "overall" category, followed by IIT Bombay, while IIT Delhi, which was at the third place in the category last year, slipped to

the fourth position. Eight IITs figured in the top 10, besides AIIMS, New Delhi, and the JNU. Among universities, IISc Bengaluru is followed by JNU and Jamia Millia Islamia. All three retained their positions. Nine IITs are in the top 10 list for engineering colleges with IIT Madras being at the top for the ninth consecutive

**SC seeks CBI, ED response on Kavitha's bail**

NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday sought responses from the CBI and ED on BRS leader K Kavitha's pleas seeking bail in corruption and money laundering cases linked to the alleged excise policy scam.

A Bench of justices BR Gavai and KV Viswanathan agreed to hear Kavitha's pleas challenging the Delhi HC's July 1 verdict denying her bail in these cases. Advocate Mukul Rohatgi, appearing for Kavitha, told the Bench she has been in custody for five months and the charge sheet and prosecution complaint have been filed by CBI and ED. PTI



**Harish hits out at Congress leaders**

HYDERABAD: Senior BRS leader and former Minister T Harish Rao launched a scathing attack on Congress leaders for claiming credit for the Sitarama project. Ahead of the project inauguration on August 15 by Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, he said the Congress was misleading the public by claiming to have completed the project within just seven months. "The Ministers are now sprinkling water on

their heads, competing to take credit for the Sitarama project," he said, pointing out that the Congress had filed multiple court cases to stop the project construction during its initial stages. However, the then BRS government overcame all obstacles to proceed with the project. "Today, the Congress is merely cutting ribbons, pretending they built it," he added, branding its leaders as "parasites". (FULL REPORT PAGE 5)

the project, with Ministers N Uttam Kumar Reddy, Tummala Nageswara Rao and Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy on Sunday conducting a trial run of two pump houses of the project ahead of Chief Minister A Revanth

Reddy inaugurating the project on August 15 by releasing water to fill the Wyra reservoir through the 8.69-km Enkoor link canal to supply water to agriculture fields in the Sathupalli and Wyra areas. (SEE PAGE 2)