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Hundreds bid farewell to Yechury with 'Lal Salaam'



WORLD | PAGE 09

49 Ukrainian PoWs freed from Russian captivity

Those released include Armed Forces, National Guard and National Police personnel



SPORT | PAGE 10

Hockey India win 2-1 over Pakistan in ACT

In a nutshell

First-in-human clinical trials

NEW DELHI: The Indian Council of Medical Research has formalised memorandum of agreements with multiple sponsors to advance first-in-human phase 1 clinical trials. These include collaborative research over a small molecule for multiple myeloma with Aurigene Oncology Ltd, partnering for zika vaccine development with Indian Immunologicals, coordinating influenza vaccine trial. **NATION PAGE 8**

RG Kar tragedy: Talks fall through

KOLKATA: In a new twist, the scheduled meeting between West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and a delegation of the West Bengal Junior Doctor's Forum (WBJDF) could not take place on Saturday evening as they did not even enter her residence after she turned down their demand to allow either a live telecast or recording of the proceedings by their side also. **IANS NATION PAGE 7**

FIR over fireworks for Kejriwal

NEW DELHI: Delhi Police filed an FIR on Saturday over bursting of fire-crackers, which is banned in the city till January 1, outside Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's official residence here to welcome him upon his release from the Tihar. An official said a case under Section 223 (b) (disobedience to orders promulgated by public servant) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS) has been registered. **PTI**

Nipah case suspected

MALAPPURAM: A recent death of a man in Malappuram district of the state is reportedly suspected to have been due to Nipah infection. A health official of the district confirmed that a sample was sent for testing to the Kozhikode Medical College, but said the results were not yet available. The official also confirmed that the patient died on September 9. The samples were sent for testing. **PTI**

CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD

Farm.....	Rs. 115
Retail live.....	Rs. 137
With skin.....	Rs. 199
Skinless.....	Rs. 226
Egg Rates (12 eggs).....	Rs. 70

'Terrorism taking last breath in J&K'

Modi addresses first rally ahead of elections

PTI
JAMMU

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said the upcoming Assembly election is a contest between the young leadership devoted to Jammu and Kashmir's development and the three dynastic families that "destroyed" the region by "encouraging" corruption and "depriving" the people of their rights.

Addressing an election rally in support of BJP candidates in Doda district of Jammu region, Modi said terrorism is taking its last breath and reiterated his government's promise of restoring statehood to Jammu and Kashmir. However, he cautioned the people against bringing the NC, Congress and PDP back to power, alleging that their policies had prepared the ground for terrorism, stifled young leadership and "hollowed out" J&K. He said the polls would decide the future of Jammu and Kashmir which has "remained the target of foreign powers".

This was the maiden rally by the Prime Minister in Jammu and Kashmir ahead of the first phase of the Assembly polls on September 18, which will cover 24 seats across the districts of Doda, Kishtwar and Ramban in Jammu and south Kashmir districts of Anantnag, Pulwama, Shopian and Kulgam.



Prime Minister Narendra Modi being felicitated during a poll campaign in Doda district on Saturday. — Photo: PTI

Modi began his nearly 45-minute speech by welcoming the people who attended the rally in the Kashmiri language. "This time, the (Assembly) election will decide the future of Jammu and Kashmir, which has remained the target of foreign powers since Independence," he told the gathering. "Not only this, dynastic politics made this beautiful region hollow from within. The political parties you trusted never cared for your children. They only cared for and projected their children and did not let new leadership grow," Modi added. The Prime Minister said his government focused on carving out a young leadership in Jammu and Kashmir soon after "we came to power at the Centre in 2014". "The youths of J&K used to face the brunt of terrorism. The parties that encouraged familism by misleading people enjoyed power and did not allow young leaders to take root. Panchayat elections had not taken place since 2000 and Block Development Council and District Development Council polls had never taken place... After 2014, I tried to bring forth the young leadership, holding panchayat polls in 2018, BDC elections in 2019, and DDC in 2020," he said. **(SEE PAGES 2, 7)**

Revanth's 'East India Co' now in govt contract list

MEIL, Raghava Constructions shortlisted for NKLI works

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

It was not long ago that Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, then the TPCC president, dubbed Megha Krishna Reddy, a Megha Engineering and Infrastructure Limited (MEIL) as 'East India Company' and alleged that the firm was "looting the State through commissions". Interestingly, the same company has now been shortlisted as the lowest bidder for Revanth Reddy's pet project, the Narayanpet-Kodangal Lift Irrigation (NKLI) works package.

Old videos of Revanth Reddy's diatribe against MEIL managing director PV Krishna Reddy and his company are being shared extensively on social media with the news of MEIL being

in consideration for the upcoming contract. Sharing one such video, an X user, @BharathMBNR said: "Till yesterday Revanth Reddy charged Megha Krishna Reddy a thief. Interestingly, the same company is offered Narayanpet Kodangal contract with 3.95 per cent excess... (sic)" "Why were false accusations made against BRS Chief K Chandrashekhara Rao? Is Megha not a thief anymore," @BharathMBNR further asked.

MEIL is not the only company that is in the limelight now. Raghava Constructions, owned by Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy's family, has been shortlisted as the lowest bidder for another package under NKLI. In all, four companies had filed bids for

the two packages under NKLI at an estimated cost of Rs 4,350 crore. While, the other two companies were declared ineligible in the technical evaluation of the bids, MEIL and Raghava Constructions were shortlisted for the works in the price bids.

Here again, for Package I, which is estimated to cost Rs 1,134.62 crore, Raghava Constructions quoted 3.9 per cent excess than the tenders. It was declared as the lowest bidder 1 and MEIL, which quoted 4.85 per cent excess, was declared as lowest bidder 2.

Similarly, for Package II, which is estimated to cost Rs 1,126.85 crore, Megha quoted 3.95 per cent excess than the tenders. It was shortlisted as the lowest bidder 1 and Raghava Construc-

tions, which quoted 4.80 per cent excess, was declared as lowest bidder 1 is offered the contract.

Apart from his old videos with the 'East India Company' jibe being shared, netizens are also questioning Revanth Reddy's change of mind towards contractors from Andhra Pradesh. Videos of him alleging that contractors from AP were being offered different works in Telangana too are now in circulation.

In one such video, Revanth Reddy is seen stressing that the Yadadri temple's architect, Anand Sai, was from AP, that Chinn Jeeyar Swamy was from AP and Hyderabad Metro Rail MD NVS Reddy was from Rajamundry, also in Andhra Pradesh.

3 terrorists killed in J&K encounter

SRINAGAR

Three terrorists were killed on Saturday morning in an overnight encounter with security forces in Jammu and Kashmir's Baramulla district, police officials said.

They said a cordon-and-search operation was launched at Chak Tapper Kreeri in the north Kashmir district's Pattan area late on Friday. **PTI**

'HYDRAA legal entity, ordinance likely in a month'

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

Hyderabad Disaster Response and Assets Protection Agency (HYDRAA) Commissioner AV Ranganath on Saturday asserted that the agency was a legal entity and an ordinance to this effect would be issued most likely within a month.

Addressing at a CREDAI programme here on Friday, he said the required homework for this was under progress. Powers under var-

ious acts, including WALTA, Municipal, GHMC or Irrigation Acts, would be delegated onto HYDRAA, he said. "Once the policy document gets approved in the Cabinet, an ordinance will be formulated. In the next Assembly session, within six weeks it has to be passed as legislation," Ranganath said.

HYDRAA was constituted by the State government on July 19 through GOMs 99. Though it was constituted through an ex-

ecutive order or executive resolution, it would continue to be a legal entity. Already someone had challenged in the High Court whether HYDRAA was legal or not, he said.

A lot of bodies such as the Planning Commission, Cabinet Secretariat and Law Commission were floated through executive resolution. In our State too, the ACB, Vigilance and Enforcement were formed through government orders, he said. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

KTR slams CM for lawlessness

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

Launching a scathing attack on the Congress government in the State for creating a vitiating atmosphere in Hyderabad by breeding lawlessness and inciting violence, BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Saturday attributed the deteriorating situation to the incompetent rule of Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy.

Addressing the media after visiting BRS MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy and his family at his residence, which came under the attack of the Congress mob led by MLA Arekapudi Gandhi and his men, Rama Rao condemned the hooliganism perpetrated in the heart of the city in broad daylight.

Pointing out that such vandalism had never been seen in the last 10 years in the State, he blamed the in-



BRS working president KT Rama Rao addressing the media, along with party MLA Padi Kaushik Reddy and others, in Hyderabad on Saturday.

competent Chief Minister, who also holds the home portfolio, for the current state of affairs, citing 28 murders in 30 days as evidence of lawlessness. He questioned Revanth Reddy's competence to continue to be the Chief Minis-

ter, noting his frequent absences and visits to the party headquarters in New Delhi. Justifying the questions posed by Kaushik Reddy to Gandhi, Rama Rao reiterated the same questions about Gandhi's current party affiliations. He said

Revanth Reddy was using tactics meant for attention diversion and headline management, predicting that Revanth would go down in history as the most incompetent Chief Minister. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

(RELATED REPORTS PAGE 5)

Hyderabad's Sarath City, Nexus among India's most visited malls

SOWMYA SANGAM
Hyderabad

Hyderabad indeed is going mall crazy. Going by the footfall, two of the city's premier shopping destinations, Sarath City Capital Mall and Nexus Mall, have earned spots in the list of India's top 25 malls.

The rankings compiled in a report by GeoIQ, a leading location AI startup, are based on anonymised geo-location data collected from mobile devices, providing a clear picture of daily visitor numbers. The Sarath City Capital earned the ninth



Sarath City Capital was ninth with average of 19,105 visitors a day.

rank with an average of 19,105 visitors per day, while Nexus Mall Hyderabad, another key player in the city's retail scene, held the 25th

spot with 14,493 daily visitors. Spread over eight floors, Sarath City Capital Mall offers 19,31,000 sq ft of retail space and houses over

500 brands. It also boasts a massive parking facility for over 4,000 cars and 6,000 bikes across four levels.

In addition to Hyderabad, the GeoIQ report highlights other high-ranking malls in India. Vegas Mall in Delhi tops the list with 26,212 daily visitors, followed by V3S East Centre Mall, also in Delhi, with 24,282 visitors per day. Phoenix Marketcity in Mumbai ranks third, drawing 22,999 visitors every day. Bengaluru's Phoenix Marketcity also finds a spot in the top 25, ranking 21st with an average daily footfall of 15,161.

Will chop tongues of CM's critics, says Jagga

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

For TPCC working president T Jagga Reddy, the ideal response to any sort of criticism is to catch hold of the critic, whoever that is, and to chop off the tongue that speaks against the Congress.

In fact, on Saturday, the former MLA said if anyone criticised Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, their tongues would be cut off, whether it was BRS working president KT Rama Rao or former Chief Minister and BRS president K Chandrashekhara Rao. **(FULL REPORT PAGE 5)**

నిస్సాన్ మార్కెట్లో ఏదైనా కారుని మార్చుకోండి మరియు ప్రత్యేకమైన బోనస్ ఆఫర్లను పొందండి

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₹ 1.25 లక్షల డిస్కాంట్

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నిస్సాన్ మార్కెట్ కోసం ఏదైనా కారుని మార్చుకోండి మరియు మెరుగైన బోనస్ ఆఫర్లను ఆస్వాదించండి. అందుబాటులో ఉన్న ఆజా డీల్‌లు మరియు ఫైనాన్సింగ్ ఎంపికలను చూడండి. అదనపు ప్రయోజనాల కోసం మీరు గొప్ప ట్రైడ్-ఇన్ విలువను పొందండి.

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