



NATION | PAGE 08

Navy to bolster combat prowess amid tensions



WORLD | PAGE 09

22 killed as Israel launches strike on school in Gaza

Forces say it targeted a Hamas command centre in what used to be a school



SPORT | PAGE 10

India on brink of victory; Gill, Pant slam centuries

In a nutshell

AP student ends life in NIT Patna
 PATNA: A female student of the National Institute of Technology (NIT) Patna was found hanging inside her hostel room on the campus located in Bihta on the outskirts of the Bihar capital. The body of the woman, who hailed from Andhra Pradesh, was found hanging from the ceiling fan of her hostel room. A suicide note was also found at the spot. The exact cause of the incident is not yet known, police said. PTI

Arms, ammunition found in Manipur
 KOLKATA: A day after the Manipur government informed about the ingression of tribal militant outfits from Myanmar, the Indian Army in coordination with the State police recovered two caches of weapons and warlike stores during raids in Churachandpur, Thoubal and Imphal East. The operation led to the recovery of two 9 mm pistols, single-barrel rifle and two locally fabricated rockets among others. IANS

Guj: Railway track tampered with
 SURAT: Unidentified persons allegedly tampered with a railway track by removing fish plates and loosening several bolts in an attempt to derail trains in Gujarat's Surat district. The sabotage bid came to light before a train could pass through the affected track between Kosamba and Kim railway stations as a lineman detected the damage and alerted the authorities in the early hours of the day. PTI

Kedarnath yatra put on hold
 RUDRAPRAYAG: The pilgrimage to Kedarnath by road was put on hold after part of the trek route caved in near Jungle Chatti leaving thousands of pilgrims returning from the Himalayan temple stranded. The helicopter service remains functional. Rudraprayag SP Akshay Prahlad Konde said 10-15 metre stretch of the trek route caved in suddenly, making movement along the route impossible. PTI

CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD

Farm.....	Rs. 115
Retail live.....	Rs. 137
With skin.....	Rs. 199
Skinless.....	Rs. 226
Egg Rates (12 eggs).....	Rs. 74

Revanth's kin involved in Rs 8,888 crore scam: KTR

Says the CM will not be allowed to go scot-free in AMRUT 2.0 scandal

STATE BUREAU
 HYDERABAD

BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Saturday revealed a massive scam involving the family of Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, which, amounting to Rs 8,888 crore, revolves around awarding of contracts under the AMRUT 2.0 scheme.

Addressing a press conference at Telangana Bhavan, Rama Rao said the Chief Minister would not be allowed to go scot-free in the scandal. Stating that the Chief Minister showed undue favoritism by awarding contracts to Shoda Constructions Private Limited, a company owned by his brother-in-law, Srujan Reddy, he said despite making a profit of only Rs 2 crore last year, Shoda Constructions was awarded contracts worth Rs 1,137.77 crore. Questioning the eligibility of the company to handle such large-scale projects, Rama Rao also pointed that the Indian Hume Pipe Company Limited, which was roped in to benefit the CM's family, in compliance with SEBI regulations, declared

Undue favouritism

SHODA CONSTRUCTIONS PRIVATE LIMITED OWNED BY CM'S BROTHER-IN-LAW SRUJAN REDDY

- Indian Hume Pipe Company Limited roped in to benefit CM's family
- Joint venture formed with AMR India Limited and Shoda Constructions to execute water supply, sewerage projects
- However, Indian Hume Pipe Company would only execute 20% of works, valued at **Rs 27.55 cr**
- Centre urged to review all tenders awarded since formation of Congress government in Telangana
- Thorough probe sought to uncover truth about contracts awarded to CM's family members

Despite making a profit of only Rs 2 crore last year, firm was awarded contracts worth **Rs 1,137.77 crore**



Similar violations of office-for-profit clause led to prosecution of prominent political figures, including Sonia Gandhi and former Chief Ministers BS Yediyurappa and Ashok Chavan. Prevention of Corruption Act should be invoked against Revanth Reddy

— KT RAMA RAO, BRS WORKING PRESIDENT

that a joint venture was formed with AMR India Limited and Shoda Constructions to execute water supply and sewerage projects. However, the Indian Hume Pipe Company would only execute 20 per cent of the works, valued at Rs 27.55 crore. Rama Rao on Friday wrote to Union Ministers Manohar Lal Khattar and others, demanding an inquiry into the alleged corruption in the AMRUT tenders. He pointed out that after the Congress came to power in Telangana, the

MA&UD Department has so far awarded contracts worth a staggering Rs 8,888 crore under the AMRUT 2.0 scheme alone. He called for a thorough investigation to uncover the truth about the contracts awarded to the Chief Minister's family members and to ensure transparency in the tendering process. He also urged the Centre to review all tenders awarded since the formation of the Congress government in Telangana and to cancel any found to be irregular. He empha-

sised that the Chief Minister owed an explanation to the people of Telangana. Pointing out that similar violations of the office-for-profit clause have led to the prosecution of prominent political figures, including Sonia Gandhi and former Chief Ministers BS Yediyurappa and Ashok Chavan, Rama Rao called for the Prevention of Corruption Act to be invoked against Revanth Reddy. Rama Rao also criticised the silence of BJP leaders from Telangana on the issue, suggesting possible

collusion between the BJP at the Centre and the Congress in the State. The BJP leaders from Telangana, including BJLP legislature party leader A Maheshwar Reddy, had previously raised the issue but have since fallen silent. Rama Rao urged BJP Ministers from the State, G Kishan Reddy and Bandi Sanjay, to ensure transparency and accountability in the matter. He also warned that if the BJP at the Centre failed to act, it would be seen as collusion with the Congress government in Telangana.

Coal miners fume over bonus share

SANTOSH PADALA
 Manacheril

Coal miners of the Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) expressed resentment over the Congress government deviating from practice and announcing Dasara bonus for them from a truncated amount of the company's profits. They said the Rs 796 crore announced for them was 33 per cent of Rs 2,412 crore, which remained after the SCCL decided to set aside Rs 2,289 crore for expansion plans from the overall profit of Rs 4,701 crore. Till last year, the practice was to announce 33 per cent of the overall profit, they said. Responding to the State government's announcement on Friday that Rs 796 crore would be given as a Dasara bonus for the staff and workers of the SCCL for the financial year 2023-24, a majority of coal miners expressed disappointment after realising that their share, which would come up to around 16 per cent of the total profit of

Say the Rs 796 crore announced was just 16% of the total profit of SCCL as against 32% of share in 2022-23 FY

the SCCL as against 32 per cent of share in 2022-23 financial year. They regretted that the share of profits actually declined by 16 per cent when compared to the previous year, even as earnings of the SCCL went up by 112 per cent this fiscal. On Saturday, when INTUC leaders, including Pulluri Laxman, visited a mine in Kasipet mandal, a group of coal miners confronted them, asking why Rs 2,289 crore was set aside for expansion plans. The staff and workers deserve Rs 1,550 crore, which makes 33 per cent of Rs 4,701 crore, they said, asking why the bonus was being given from the truncated amount of Rs 2,412 crore. (SEE PAGES 2, 4)

Quad summit: Modi meets Biden



WILMINGTON

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday met US President Joe Biden on the sidelines of the Quad summit here and the two leaders were expected to discuss a range of issues, including the Russia-Ukraine conflict. Modi was welcomed by Biden at his residence and the two leaders hugged each other. Biden held Modi's hand as he led him into the house. Modi, who is here as part of his three-day visit to the United States, will also hold separate bilateral meetings with Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida who are here for Quad Summit. (RELATED REPORT PAGE 8)

HEAVY DOWNPOUR



People make their way through a waterlogged stretch after heavy rains lashed the city on Saturday. — Photo: Surya Sridhar (REPORTS PAGE 2)

Debt-ridden farmer ends life

STATE BUREAU
 Medak

With rising medical expenses for his ailing father's treatment pushing a farmer into a debt trap, the latter ended his life at his agriculture field in the early hours of Saturday. The farmer, Halavath Srinivas (41), left his home at 1 am on Saturday and was found hanging from a tree by his family members at 6 am. According to Narsapur SI B Lingam, Lingam's father, Lachaiah, was seriously ill. Srinivas borrowed Rs 4 lakh from various persons to spend on his father's treatment. However, Lachaiah did not recover, and Srinivas had nothing to spend on the treatment either. In a state of depression, the farmer resorted to the extreme step, the SI said. Srinivas was survived by his wife, son and daughter. A case was registered.

Atishi takes oath as new Delhi CM

NEW DELHI

Senior AAP leader Atishi was administered oath as the eighth Chief Minister of Delhi by Lieutenant Governor VK Saxena on Saturday. Saxena administered the oath of office and secrecy to Atishi who is now Delhi's third woman Chief Minister after Congress' Sheila Dikshit and BJP's Sushma Swaraj. Among her new Council of Ministers, Saurabh Bharadwaj was the first to take oath followed by Gopal Rai, Kailash Gahlot, Imran Hussain and Mukesh Ahlawat, a new entrant in the Delhi Cabinet. The swearing-in ceremony at the Raj Niwas here, which was a low-key affair, was attended by Atishi's predecessor and AAP convener Arvind Kejriwal, for-



Atishi signs documents after taking oath as Delhi CM.

Air Marshal Amar Preet next IAF chief

NEW DELHI

Air Marshal Amar Preet Singh, a fighter pilot with more than 5,000 hours of flying experience, will take charge as the chief of the Indian Air Force after incumbent Air Chief Marshal V R Chaudhari retires on September 30. Air Marshal Singh is currently serving as the Vice Chief of the Air Staff. "The government has appointed Air Marshal Amar Preet Singh, PVSM, AVSM, presently serving as Vice Chief of the Air Staff, as the next Chief of the Air Staff, in the rank of Air Chief Marshal, with effect from the afternoon of September 30," the Defence Ministry said. PTI

School textbooks to undergo revision

YUVRAJ AKULA
 Hyderabad

The Education Department will embark on a comprehensive revision of school textbooks, aligning them with the National Curriculum Framework (NCF) 2023, released by the Central government. This significant update, the first since 2015, is set to be taken up shortly by the State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT), a wing of the School Education Department. The revision will be carried out in a phased manner starting with non-languages — Mathematics, Sciences, and Social Sciences fol-



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lowed by languages Telugu, Hindi, Urdu and English. For this, subject-wise expert committees, comprising senior professors and teachers will be constituted

by the SCERT. After a series of consultations with the stakeholders and workshops, the textbooks will be revised. Divided into four stages — foundational,

preparatory, middle and secondary — the NCF 2023 focuses on holistic development, equity and inclusion, curriculum flexibility, integration of technology and environmental consciousness among other areas. **Multidisciplinary learning** It emphasises competency-based education, multidisciplinary learning, continuous assessment, local context and culture, and teacher empowerment, among other areas. As per the new framework, social science will have 20 per cent content at the local level, 30 per cent at regional level, 30 per cent at national level and 20 per cent at the international level. (SEE PAGE 2)