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Udhayanidhi appointed TN Deputy Chief Minister



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Floods, landslides kill 66 people in Nepal
 Sixty people injured and 3,010 rescued across the Himalayan nation, say officials



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Sri Lanka chasing historic series sweep

In a nutshell

Rains likely to return today
HYDERABAD: After a short lull, rains are expected to make a comeback in Hyderabad, with weather forecasts predicting increased rainfall activity over the next 48 to 72 hours. The city is likely to witness significant downpours starting from Sunday, bringing relief to parts of the city that experienced dry conditions. According to the Weather Research and Forecasting model maps on Telangana Development Planning Society, rainfall intensity is set to increase. **HYDERABAD PAGE 4**

2 terrorists killed in J&K encounter
KULGAM: Two unidentified terrorists were killed and five security personnel, including an officer, sustained injuries in an encounter in Jammu and Kashmir's Kulgam district, police said on Saturday. The gunbattle broke out in Adigam village in the Devsar area of the district after security forces launched a cordon-and-search operation there early in the morning. In the early exchange of fire, Additional SP (Traffic) Mumtaz Ali suffered minor injuries. **PTI NATION PAGE 8**

AI flyer finds cockroach in meal
NEW DELHI: An Air India passenger has complained of finding a cockroach in an omelette served onboard the flight from the national capital to New York, with the airline saying the matter has been taken up with the catering service provider for further investigation. "My 2-year-old finished more than half of it with me when we found this. Suffered from food poisoning as a result," she said in a post on X. The passenger also shared a short video and pictures of the food items. **PTI**

CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD

Farm.....	Rs. 125
Retail live.....	Rs. 147
With skin.....	Rs. 213
Skinless.....	Rs. 243
Egg Rates (12 eggs).....	Rs. 72

Want gym bod? Steer clear of heart stimulant jabs

CITY BUREAU
 Hyderabad

In a dangerous trend that has emerged in Hyderabad, youngsters looking to build a perfect gym body are risking their lives and resorting to the illegal use of cardiac stimulant Mephentermine Sulphate injections. The risky practice of abusing Mephentermine Sulphate injections as stimulants for bodybuilding came to light when Telangana State Drug Control Administration (TSDCA) seized the illegally stocked cardiac stimulant drug in Asifnagar and Karwan. The cardiac stimulants were being sold illegally to gym-goers, who were desperately seeking shortcuts to build gym body. Drug inspectors of the TSDCA on Friday and Saturday carried out raids in Asifnagar and Karwan, and seized 210 vials of the injections worth Rs 65,000 from



one Atif Khan, a resident of Asifnagar, and Ajay Singh, a resident of Karwan. The two were allegedly selling the drugs to gym-goers at exorbitant rates, DCA said. Mephentermine injection is a cardiac stimulant primarily used to normalise decreased blood pressure (hypotension), which may arise

from administering anesthesia in spinal procedures during surgery. It is employed to elevate blood pressure in cases of hypotensive (low blood pressure) states. This medication induces increased release of noradrenaline, thereby enhancing cardiac output. By augmenting the pumping capacity of the heart and constricting blood vessels, it rapidly raises blood pressure. It's crucial to note that only a doctor should determine the appropriate dose and duration of this medicine for each individual, VB Kamalans Reddy, DG of TSDCA, said. However, Mephentermine injection, with its cardiac stimulatory action, is being misused to enhance endurance in bodybuilders. Certain gyms are illegally selling it to clients who misuse it to improve physical performance in competitive sport or bodybuilding. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

S SANDEEP KUMAR
 Hyderabad

The real estate sector in Telangana has distinctive features, with the primary USP being a fast and time-bound building and layout approval system. But that appears to have become history now. Since the last few months, builders, developers and even individual house owners are being made to run from pillar to post to get their applications processed and approved. Applicants from different categories are complaining about inordinate delays in application processing and issuing of

For last few months, builders, developers, individual house owners are being made to run from pillar to post to get applications processed and approved

approvals. As the real estate sector in the State, especially in Hyderabad, is going through a lean patch, the inordinate delay in application processing is leaving the applicants more worried. Despite applicants submitting all required documents and officials at the local level conducting inspections, applications are being held up for many days, citing different reasons.

This is not confined to high-rise projects or vast layouts, but to individual houses and five-storey apartments in different colonies as well. In a few cases, applicants complain that officials had inspected the building construction and checked all the documents and yet their applications, including issue of occupancy certificates, were kept pending. On being questioned, authorities claimed that the of-

Nirmala booked for poll bonds

BENGALURU: A case was registered on Saturday against Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and others on the directions of a court here, following a complaint relating to the now-scrapped electoral bonds scheme. According to police, an FIR was registered under IPC Sections 384 (punishment for extortion), 120B (criminal conspiracy) and 34 (acts done by several persons in furtherance of common intention) against Sitharaman, ED officials, office-bearers of the BJP at State and national level, based on the order of a special court. BJP Karnataka chief BY Vijayendra and party leader Nalin Kumar Kateel were also named. The complaint was lodged by Adarsh R Iyer, co-president of Janaadhikara Sangharsha Parishath. **(REPORT PAGE 7)**

NEW DELHI

Doctors should take a "considered decision" on withdrawal of life support in terminally ill patients on the basis of certain conditions including a documented informed refusal by the patient or their kin, according to draft guidelines by Union Health Ministry. The guidelines laid out four conditions on passive euthanasia for taking a "considered decision" in a patient's best interests, to stop or discontinue ongoing life support in a terminally ill

patient concerned was on leave and the application would be processed only after the official joins duty. In other cases, they complain that their applications have been pending for over three months. In the past, to facilitate transparent and time-bound approvals, the State government had introduced the Telangana State Building Permission Approval and Self-Certification System (TG-bPASS). Under the system, it was announced that if applications were not processed and approved in 21 days, they were deemed to be approved. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

'NO PLACE FOR BULLDOZER ACTION'

BRS declares all-out war against Revanth government's demolition drive for Musi project

STATE BUREAU
 HYDERABAD

Declaring an all-out war against the Congress government's demolition drive launched in Hyderabad as part of the Musi riverfront beautification project, BRS leader and former Minister T Harish Rao on Saturday warned that "bulldozer justice" would only result in tarnishing the image of an emerging global city, known for its opportunities and welcoming nature for people from all corners of India. Interacting with families facing the risk of displacement that thronged Telangana Bhavan in large numbers, Harish pledged total solidarity on behalf of his party to those affected by the demolitions. He assured that the BRS would extend free legal aid to all such families and challenge their displacement in the court of law. The service of the party's legal cell would be made available to them round the clock. Harish expressed deep concern for families facing the imminent threat of losing their homes, which represent their lifetime earnings and fortunes. The ill-advised moves of the government, which had left thousands of families on the edge, would not augur well for the State. He urged the government to reconsider its approach and prioritise the welfare of its citizens.



BRS leader T Harish Rao speaks to residents, who fear losing their homes to a demolition drive for the Musi riverfront beautification project, at Telangana Bhavan in Hyderabad on Saturday.

Appeal to Rahul Gandhi
 Harish called for a more humane and inclusive strategy that balances urban development with the rights and livelihoods of the affected families. He stressed that the beautification project should not come at the cost of displacing residents and disrupting their lives. The BRS leader made a fervent appeal to the Congress' central leadership by drawing the attention of Rahul Gandhi, who has previously spoken out against similar

"bulldozer justice" in northern States, with a demand to take serious note of the situation in Telangana under his party's rule. Harish demanded that Gandhi intervene to halt the State government's demolition activities led by Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy. He urged the Congress government to convene an all-party meeting to discuss the Musi project and the fate of over 25,000 families affected by it before proceeding further. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

2BHK beneficiaries protest allotment to Musi oustees

HYDERABAD: Even as the State government started shifting families living to tiny sheds on the Musi riverbed to the government's 2BHK houses in Chanchalguda and other areas, the actual beneficiaries of the double-bedroom houses are getting worried as they fear that they may lose the houses promised to them and are now questioning the move of the government. About 284 houses were constructed in Pilligudiselu near Chanchalguda, of which 142 were distributed among beneficiaries while the remaining 142 were vacant. On Friday, officials handed over documents of 2BHK houses located at Chanchalguda and Jiyaguda government sites to 20 families residing on the Musi riverbed. **(REPORT PAGE 3)**

HYDRAA victims pour out their woes

HYDERABAD: Thousands gathered at Telangana Bhavan on Saturday to voice their concerns over the ongoing demolition drive linked to the Musi riverfront beautification project. The crowd, which began assembling as early as 7 am, included families from various affected areas. Additionally, BRS working president KT Rama Rao raised questions about the Congress government's Musi project, highlighting the wildly varying claims regarding its estimated cost. He pointed out that the estimated cost had escalated dramatically from Rs 50,000 crore initially, to Rs 70,000 crore, and now to a staggering Rs 1.5 lakh crore. He contrasted this with Kaleshwaram, which was implemented with Rs 80,000 crore and transformed the agrarian profile of the State, benefiting the farming community. He noted that such a crucial project underwent rigorous scrutiny because of the Congress-sponsored debates. **(REPORT PAGE 3)**

Govt firm on demolitions, but says no forceful evictions

HYDERABAD: Unmoved by the agony of the people facing an uncertain future with the State government firm on demolishing their homes on the banks of River Musi, the two officials at the helm of the demolition drive on Saturday, however, claimed there would be no forceful evictions. In fact, they claimed that many families had already agreed to shift to double-bedroom houses constructed in different areas across the city. Musi Riverfront Development Corporation officials conducted a drone survey and identified 10,600 houses and structures along the 55 km stretch. However, not a single family will be evicted forcefully and oustees would be provided 2BHKs, they said. **(REPORT PAGE 3)**

Now, building permits delayed Israel eliminates Hezbollah chief

Israel eliminates Hezbollah chief

Iran's Revolutionary Guard general also killed

BEIRUT

Lebanon's Hezbollah group confirmed on Saturday that its leader and one of its founders, Hassan Nasrallah, was killed in an Israeli airstrike in Beirut the previous day. A statement said Nasrallah "has joined his fellow martyrs." Hezbollah vowed to "continue the holy war against the enemy and in support of Palestine." Nasrallah, who led Hezbollah for more than three decades, is by far the most powerful target to be killed by Israel in weeks of intensified fighting with Hezbollah. The Israeli military said it carried out a precise airstrike on Friday while Hezbollah leadership were meeting at their headquarters in Dahiyeh, south of Beirut. Israel's military also said it killed Hezbollah intelligence official Hassan Khalil Yassin in the strike. The Is-



Flames rise after an Israeli airstrike in the southern suburbs of Beirut, Lebanon, on Saturday. — Photo: AP

raeli military said Yassin was involved in planning attacks on Israeli soldiers and civilians, including some planned to be carried out "in the coming days." The Lebanese Health Ministry said six people were killed and 91 injured in the strikes, which levelled six apartment buildings. Ali Karki, the commander of Hezbollah's Southern Front and other commanders were also killed, the Israeli military said. Iran said a prominent general in its paramilitary Revolutionary Guard died in the same airstrike. Abbas Nilforushan was killed on Friday, IRNA reported. **AP (REPORTS PAGE 9)**

New draft guidelines on passive euthanasia

NEW DELHI

Doctors should take a "considered decision" on withdrawal of life support in terminally ill patients on the basis of certain conditions including a documented informed refusal by the patient or their kin, according to draft guidelines by Union Health Ministry. The guidelines laid out four conditions on passive euthanasia for taking a "considered decision" in a patient's best interests, to stop or discontinue ongoing life support in a terminally ill

disease that is no longer likely to benefit the patient or likely to harm in terms of causing suffering and loss of dignity. The conditions are whether the individual has been declared brainstem death, if there is a medical prognostication and considered opinion that the patient's disease condition is advanced and not likely to benefit from aggressive therapeutic interventions, patient/surrogate documented informed refusal, following prognostic awareness, to continue life support and compliance with procedure prescribed by the Supreme Court. The 'Draft Guidelines for Withdrawal of Life Support in Terminally Ill Patients,' also state that doctors should take a considered decision to not start a life supporting measure in a terminally ill patient that is unlikely to benefit the patient and is likely to lead to suffering and loss of dignity. In such a case, three conditions — on whether the individual has been declared brainstem death, if there is a medical prognostication and

considered opinion that the patient's disease condition is advanced and not likely to benefit from aggressive therapeutic interventions, patient/surrogate documented informed refusal, following prognostic awareness — has to be taken into account. The Ministry has invited feedback and suggestions from the stakeholders on the draft by October 20. The draft guidelines have not gone down well among the members of the medical fraternity, with the IMA's national president Dr RV

Asokan stating it exposes doctors to legal scrutiny and puts them under stress. "Such decisions have always been taken in good faith by doctors. The patient's relatives are explained and given all information, taken into confidence in a given case and decision is taken on merit in every case. Putting it down in sort of guidelines and alleging that inappropriate decisions have been taken or they have been prolonged is misunderstanding the situation," Dr Asokan added. **PTI**