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**Saini takes oath as Haryana CM for second time**



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 Lays out details of the plan to European Union leaders



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**In a nutshell**

**Justice Sanjiv may be next CJI**  
**NEW DELHI:** Chief Justice of India (CJI) DY Chandrachud has set in motion the process of appointment of his successor after he recommended the name of Justice Sanjiv Khanna, the senior-most judge after the outgoing CJI, to the Centre. According to sources, CJI Chandrachud on Wednesday wrote a letter of recommendation to the union Law Ministry naming Justice Khanna as his successor. **PTI**

**Cabinet meeting on October 23**  
**HYDERABAD:** The State Cabinet meeting is scheduled at 4 pm on Wednesday at the Secretariat under the chairmanship of Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy. The Cabinet is expected to discuss the Musi project, Dharani portal, health and ration cards and take a few decisions accordingly.

**Violence rages in Pak over rape**  
**LAHORE:** At least 250 students were arrested on Thursday in Rawalpindi for violence during protests against an alleged on-campus rape in a Lahore college as the agitation spread to other cities of Punjab province in Pakistan. The protests erupted in at least four campuses of Punjab Group of Colleges following reports that a female student at the Gulberg girls' campus in Lahore allegedly been raped by a security guard in the institution. **WORLD PAGE 9**

**Hooch tragedy kills 25 in Bihar**  
**PATNA:** In one of the biggest hooch tragedies in Bihar since the state went dry in 2016, at least 25 people have died after consuming spurious liquor in the adjoining districts of Siwan and Saran. Police said that while Siwan accounted for 20 fatalities, five deaths have been reported from Saran even as 12 people have been arrested for allegedly selling spurious liquor and they were likely to be "tried under the most stringent laws." **NATION PAGE 7**

**CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD**

Farm.....	Rs. 120
Retail live.....	Rs. 142
With skin.....	Rs. 206
Skinless.....	Rs. 234
Egg Rates (12 eggs).....	Rs. 70

## Group-I aspirants pour out their woes

**Candidates meet KTR, urge government to defer exam till court delivers its verdict on 22 pending cases**

**STATE BUREAU**  
 HYDERABAD

Group-I aspirants from Ashok Nagar and other areas on Thursday met BRS working president KT Rama Rao, appealing for support, pointing out that the State government was adamant and not responding to their repeated pleas to postpone the Mains examination from October 21 to a later date.

Their main contention was that with 22 cases related to the exam pending with the court, the government should wait till the court gives its verdict. They argued that Government Order (GO) No 29 was unconstitutional and could lead to serious repercussions if not addressed.

The candidates also expressed concerns over incorrect question standards and confusing guidance they received regarding the study materials. They shared these issues with Rama Rao, who assured them of his support and legal help.

The aspirants said conducting the exams under GO 29 could have serious repercussions, as it might be struck down by the court, necessitating a re-examination. The candidates highlighted that when they chal-



BRS working president KT Rama Rao interacting with Group-I aspirants, at Telangana Bhavan in Hyderabad on Thursday.

lenged incorrect questions in the court, they were told that Telugu Academy books were not standard for references, and only Wikipedia should be considered. This has left them confused about which material to follow for the Group II exam.

"The Mains examinations are scheduled to begin on October 21, but the court's verdict is reserved until November 20. If the court rules against GO 29, the government will have no choice but to conduct the exams

again," one of the aspirants, who poured out his frustration before Rama Rao, pointed out.

The candidates also expressed confidence that the Supreme Court would strike down the GO, and they wanted the government to wait for the court's decision. Many candidates have appeared for the prelims multiple times, and the ongoing legal battles add to their mental stress, they said, urging the government to understand their situa-

tion. Another aspirant expressed frustration and impatience with the candidates, stating that they were at their breaking point. Despite supporting the Congress in the elections, they were neglected, he said.

Assuring Group-I candidates that his party would stand with them, Rama Rao called on the State government to positively consider their request for rescheduling their exams. **(SEE PAGE 2)**  
**(RELATED REPORTS PAGE 5)**

## Aspirants continue protest

**CITY BUREAU**  
 Hyderabad

Group-I aspirants continued their protest for the second consecutive day on Thursday in the city. They staged a protest by holding placards at the Gandhi Nagar Park demanding to reschedule the examination. Meanwhile, the aspirants, who called for a Chal-



Group-I aspirants staging protest at Gandhi Nagar Park.

Gandhi Bhavan programme, were arrested before reaching the State Congress headquarters.

It may be recalled that the Telangana High Court had cleared the way for the exam by dismissing a bunch of petitions on Tuesday. They have been protesting against the GO 29 issued by the TSPSC earlier this year, which intro-

duced changes to the selection process for the Group-I services. Their primary concern revolved around the 1:50 selection ratio.

They expressed concerns about the fairness of the exam process under the current selection criteria and urged the State government to rectify the issue in the recruitment procedure. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

## Why disparity in MSP, asks Harish

**STATE BUREAU**  
 Hyderabad

Questioning the rationale behind different MSPs for the same produce in different States, BRS leader T Harish Rao raised concerns over the Central government's inconsistent approach to the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for cotton.

Highlighting the disparity in MSP, especially for cotton grown in different States, he pointed out that cotton farmers in Telangana were receiving a raw deal. The BRS leader sought to know from the Centre as to why the MSP for cotton in Gujarat is different from the rest of the country.

He emphasised the Central government's push for uniform policies such as 'One Nation, One Tax', 'One Nation, One Election', 'One Nation, One Ration Card', and 'One Nation, One Market', and asked why the same principle is not applied to MSP for cotton. He pointed out that while cotton was offered an MSP of Rs 8,257 per quintal in Gu-

**OO**  
 Cotton farmers in TG are receiving a raw deal. Why the MSP for cotton in Gujarat is different from the rest of the country?

**T HARISH RAO**  
 BRS LEADER



jarat, it was only Rs 7,521 per quintal in Telangana. He demanded a uniform Minimum Support Price for cotton across the nation and insisted on a consistent and fair MSP policy that ensures equitable treatment for farmers across all States.

Meanwhile, farmers in the erstwhile Adilabad district are waiting for the procurement of cotton produce by the Cotton Corporation of India (CCI) to begin this year. **(REPORT PAGE 9)**

## Arrest warrant issued against Sheikh Hasina

**DHAKA**



Bangladesh's International Crimes Tribunal on Thursday issued arrest warrants against former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, who was ousted after massive anti-government protests, and 45 others for alleged crimes against humanity.

The tribunal directed the authorities to produce Hasina and the others before it by November 18, local media reported. The arrest warrant against Hasina could - technically - open up the possibility of the country's interim government seeking her extradition from India, where she fled on August 5.

The decision to approach India on this is likely to be a political call. Dhaka, however, has indicated earlier that this remains an option. Advocate Tajul Islam, the tribunal's chief prosecutor, said Interpol's assistance would be sought to bring back the "fugitives". **(REPORT PAGE 9)**

## Canada failed to act on Bishnoi gang: India

**Says Trudeau responsible for damaging ties**

**NEW DELHI**

India on Thursday said it had shared with the Canadian government security-related information regarding members of the Lawrence Bishnoi gang and other gangs, seeking their arrest, but so far "no action" has been taken by Ottawa.

"They have taken no action so far, which are our core concerns. And, there is a political motive behind it, which you know... No action taken on our security concern," Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said.

He said this in response to a query during his weekly briefing here as he fielded a volley of questions on India-Canada ties, a day after Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau testified before a Commission of Inquiry. Jaiswal, in response to another query, said "as far as my information is concerned, there are 26 extradi-

**OO**  
 Trudeau's remarks confirm New Delhi's consistent stand that Canada has presented us no evidence in support of its allegations

**— MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

tion requests (from India) pending with the Canadian side" over the last decade or more. The MEA spokesperson said the current diplomatic row with Canada has been precipitated by the Trudeau government's "baseless" allegations, and reiterated that "no evidence" has been shared in support of Ottawa's charges against New Delhi.

"We will say that as far as the allegations are concerned, PM Trudeau's own admission would indicate the value as regards our stance on the allegations. We will naturally reject false imputations against our diplomats," he said. Testifying before the public in-

quiry into foreign interference in federal electoral processes and democratic institutions, Trudeau on Wednesday acknowledged that he had only intelligence and no "hard evidentiary proof" when he alleged the involvement of Indian government agents in the killing of Khalistani separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar last year. The MEA early on Thursday reacted to this and said what it has heard only "confirms" New Delhi's consistent stand that Canada has "presented us no evidence" in support of the serious allegations Ottawa chose to level against India and Indian diplomats. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

## Immigrants in Assam before '71 to get citizenship

**NEW DELHI**

In a significant judgement, the Supreme Court upheld the constitutional validity of Section 6A of the Citizenship Act which grants Indian citizenship to immigrants from Bangladesh who entered Assam before March 25, 1971.

Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud and Justices Surya Kant, MM Sundresh, and Manoj Misra underscored the necessity for more robust policy measures to curb illegal immigration. The verdict is believed to give a boost to those opposed to grant of Indian citizenship to immigrants who entered Assam after March 25, 1971, from Bangladesh at the time of commencement of Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 1985, and since then are residents of Assam, can register for Indian citizenship. As a result, the provision fixes March 25, 1971, as the cut-off date for granting citizenship. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

## Temple row: Motivational speaker booked

**CITY BUREAU**  
 Hyderabad

The Gopalapuram police booked a case against motivational speaker Munawar Zama, apart from Abdul Rasheed Basheer Ahmed and Rehman, owner and manager of Metropolis Hotel in Secunderabad, for allegedly outraging feelings and provoking hatred between communities.

According to the police, Munawar Zama, a Mumbai-based motivational speaker, allegedly promoted enmity between different groups on religious grounds and also provoked participants to cause riots.

Due to his provocative speeches, Salim Salman

### MILD TENSION PREVAILS AT TEMPLE

**HYDERABAD:** Mild tension prevailed at the temple in Kummarguda which was recently desecrated by a miscreant when locals and members of various religious groups organised puja on the road on Thursday.

Devotees, including women and youth, gathered at the temple where the idol was damaged by the miscreant on Monday. They set up tents in front of the temple and performed puja and other rituals. The police personnel stopped them saying they had no prior permission for doing so, that too blocking the lanes and causing inconvenience to others. Even as the police used force and removed the tents and carpets, the groups tried to stop them and staged a protest. Tension prevailed at the spot before the police dispersed them.

Thakur alias Salman, the prime suspect in the Secunderabad temple desecration case, had damaged the idol of the goddess. Officials said

Salman was among the 151 people who lodged in the hotel and attended a month-long personality development workshop conducted

by Munawar Zama. Based on a complaint from a Sub-inspector, a case was booked for deliberate insult or outrage of religious feelings, malicious provocation with the intent to incite a riot, promoting enmity and hatred between different groups based on various grounds, disobeying orders from public servants that can lead to obstruction or danger and abetment to commit a crime of the Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita.

Meanwhile, the police on Thursday sealed the hotel and are also scrutinising the conference recordings, material distributed to participants, and several other details. **(RELATED REPORT PAGE 3)**

## Israel eliminates Hamas' top leader Yahya Sinwar

**DEIR AL-BALAH**

Israel's Foreign Minister has confirmed that Israeli troops in Gaza have killed Hamas' top leader Yahya Sinwar, the chief architect of last year's attack on Israel that sparked the war.

Sinwar has topped Israel's most wanted list since the beginning of the Israel-Hamas war just over a year ago, and his killing strikes a powerful blow to the group. There was no immediate confirmation from Hamas. Foreign Minister Katz called Sinwar's killing a "military and moral achievement for the Israeli army". **(REPORT PAGE 9)**

## Revanth does a volte-face on Musi project cost

**STATE BUREAU**  
 Hyderabad

Even when there were multiple videos from various sources showing him announcing that he would take up the Musi riverfront development project with Rs 1.5 lakh crore, Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy did a complete volte face on Thursday, asking whoever quoted such a figure, when the cost of the agreement entered into by the government for the project was only Rs 141 crore.

Stating that it was a Musi rejuvenation project and not beautification project, he

**OO**  
 Despite past videos as proof, the Chief Minister asks who said project will be taken up at Rs 1.5 lakh crore

said the agreement was signed with a consortium of five companies to prepare a detailed project report (DPR) with Rs 141 crore. The consortium, including Meinhardt and Cushman & Wakefield, would submit the DPR in 18 months. In the next five years, it would as-

sist the government in raising funds for the project or executing under a PPP model or toll-fee collection model, he said at a press conference here, also exuding confidence of the Centre's support for the project.

Even if there was no support due to political obligations, the State government would take up the project, he said, questioning why opposition parties were opposing the project. "Appeal to all opposition parties to furnish their fears in questions and the government will give written reply," Revanth Reddy said. **(SEE PAGE 2)**  
**(RELATED REPORTS PAGE 5)**