

OF POWER, PRECISION & DEVASTATION



A bomb dropped from an Israeli jet hits a building at Ghobeiri in Beirut, Lebanon. Taking cover behind a tree, an AP photographer pointed his camera towards the apartment building the Israeli military warned was in its sights. When the bomb plunged moments later, the journalist and lens were perfectly positioned to document the destruction — second by second, frame by frame. The images provide a striking look at the speed, power and devastation of modern warfare. — Photos: AP (RELATED REPORTS PAGE 9)

In a nutshell

Building collapse toll rises to 8
BENGALURU: Seven more bodies were recovered during search and rescue operation after an under-construction building collapsed at Babusapalya, taking the death toll to eight, police said. Teams from the fire and emergency department, National Disaster Response Force and State Disaster Response Force have been pressed into rescue operations since the incident occurred during heavy downpour on Tuesday, officials said on Wednesday. **PTI NATION PAGE 8**

Priyanka files nomination papers
WAYANAD: Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Wednesday filed the nomination for her maiden electoral battle from Wayanad for the Lok Sabha bypoll as she took out a massive roadshow in Kalpetta and thanked the people of the hill district for supporting her brother Rahul Gandhi when “the whole world had turned its back” on him. She filed her nomination for the November 13 bypoll at the collectorate and addressed a huge crowd. **PTI NATION PAGE 7**

Boeing suffers over \$6 bn loss
EVERETT: Boeing reported a loss of over \$6 billion in the third quarter and immediately turned its attention to union workers who will vote whether to accept a company contract offer or continue their crippling strike, which has dragged on for nearly six weeks. New CEO Kelly Ortberg laid out his plan to turn Boeing around after years of heavy losses and damage to its reputation. He said the company needs “a fundamental culture change”. **BUSINESS PAGE 8**

CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD

Farm.....	Rs. 120
Retail live.....	Rs. 142
With skin.....	Rs. 206
Skinless.....	Rs. 234
Egg Rates (12 eggs).....	Rs. 72

BRS opposes power tariff hike

Asks govt to bear burden, compensate firms

STATE BUREAU
 HYDERABAD

The opposition to the proposed hike in power tariff by the Southern Power Distribution Company of Telangana Limited (TGSPPDCL) and Northern Power Distribution Company of Telangana Limited (TGNPDCL) is getting stronger, with the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) and people, including farmers, industry representatives and general consumers, vehemently opposing the proposed hike at the public hearing organised by the Telangana State Electricity Regulatory Commission here on Wednesday. Strongly opposing the discoms' proposals to hike the power tariff and other charges, Leader of Opposition in the Legislative Council and senior BRS leader Sirikonda Madusudhana Chary asked the State government to bear the burden of the proposed hike and

'DISCOM FIGURES FAR FROM REALITY'

HYDERABAD: People from all walks of life, including representatives of political parties, farmers, industries and general consumers, vehemently opposed the proposed hike in tariff at the public hearing organised by the Telangana State Electricity Regulatory Commission (TGERC) here on Wednesday. Most of the participants at the public hearing found the projections made by the discoms “grossly inflated”. The Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry representatives said the projections made by the discoms looks over-projected and far from reality. They expressed doubts over the projection of 80,000 million units demand by 2030-31 and asked the Commission to analyse the facts behind the power demand projections made by the discoms. **(REPORT PAGE 5)**

compensate the companies in the form of a subsidy.

Speaking at the hearing, which was to discuss the Aggregate Revenue Requirement (ARR) for 2024-25 filed by the TGSPPDCL before the Commission, Chary, representing the BRS, said the hike might bring more revenue to discoms, but would be a burden on the poor, hence the Commission should not accept the proposal. Recalling the efforts made by the pre-

vious BRS government to turn Telangana from a power-shortage State to power-surplus State, the former Speaker said when the State was formed in 2014, there was not enough power for domestic consumers, agriculture and industries, but the first Chief Minister of the State, K Chandrashekhara Rao, through his vision and efforts, made Telangana a power-surplus State in a short span. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

KTR testifies against Minister

STATE BUREAU
 Hyderabad

BRS working president KT Rama Rao testified against Minister Konda Surekha in a defamation case filed by him at the Nampally court on Wednesday. His said the Minister's defamatory remarks caused damage to his reputation and the integrity of his party.

Appearing before the court, Rama Rao said Surekha's allegations were “deeply hurtful” and extremely despicable, with some of them being “unspeakable” for any normal person. He said her allegations — accusing him of being a drug addict and hosting rave parties — were baseless and motivated solely by her desire for cheap publicity. “As she is in a responsible position of

As she (Konda Surekha) is in a responsible position..., her words have damaged me and the party

— KT RAMA RAO, BRS

being a Minister, her words have seriously damaged not just me but the party as a whole,” he said.

Rama Rao said the witnesses, who have known him for 18 years, shared his distress. He said her accusations were particularly harmful in the context of his public service, where maintaining a respectable image was paramount. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

Bandi gets legal notice from BRS working president

STATE BUREAU
 Hyderabad

BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Wednesday issued a legal notice to Union Minister and BJP MP Bandi Sanjay for making baseless and defamatory remarks against him.

He demanded that Bandi Sanjay immediately retract his statements and tender an unconditional public apology within a week, failing which a defamation suit would be initiated.

The controversy stems from Bandi Sanjay's recent comments in the media, where he accused Rama Rao of involvement in drug abuse and illegal phone tapping when previous BRS was in power. He alleged that Rama Rao had a secret understanding with Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy. **(REPORT PAGE 5)**

High-pitched protest over Adani cement factory

Tension soars in Ramannapet as residents clash with police



Residents and activists opposing the public hearing on the proposed Ambuja cement factory, at Ramannapet on Wednesday.

STATE BUREAU
 Hyderabad

Tensions escalated in Ramannapet of Yadadri-Bhongir district on Wednesday, as locals protested against the proposed Adani Ambuja Cement Factory.

The public hearing organised on Wednesday to discuss the factory's construction was met with strong opposition, as residents blocked the proceedings, waving placards and black flags in protest. Clashes between the police and the

POLITICIANS, ACTIVISTS UP IN ARMS

NALGONDA: The protests against the proposed Adani Ambuja cement factory has garnered overwhelming support from political leaders and environmental activists. BRS district president Ramavath Ravindra Kumar questioned the rationale behind granting permission for the cement factory. He criticised the authorities for detaining BRS leaders and preventing them from attending the public hearing. “We are ready to fight for the people. The cement factory will turn the green fields of Ramannapet into a pollution hotspot. We will not allow this factory under any circumstances,” he said. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

protestors were also witnessed. Environmental activists brought in from other areas to speak in favour of

the factory were chased away by the locals. The residents warned that they would not tolerate any ac-

tions that threaten their livelihood and environment. They made it clear that they would oppose the construction of the factory under any circumstances.

In all, 17 persons, mostly farmers from the affected villages and elected representatives, whose opinions were recorded, strongly opposed the establishment of the cement factory. They made it clear that the establishment of the factory would turn every village in the vicinity into a pollution hotspot. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

Odisha braces for Cyclone Dana

BHUBANESWAR: As Cyclone Dana barrels toward the Odisha coast, threatening to impact nearly half the State's population, the government is racing against time to execute a massive evacuation plan aimed at relocating around 10 lakh people in 14 districts to safety. The IMD on Wednesday said the cyclone is likely to make landfall between Bhitarkanika National

Park and Dhamra port, around 70 km away from each other, early on Friday. It said the landfall process will start from the night of October 24 and continue till the morning of October 25. The maximum speed during the landfall process is likely to be around 120 kmph, IMD DG Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said. He said landfall is a slow process. **PTI (REPORT PAGE 7)**

Modi, Xi back LAC patrolling agreement



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Chinese President Xi Jinping at the 16th BRICS Summit in Kazan, Russia. — Photo: PTI

KAZAN

In their first structured bilateral talks in nearly five years, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping on Wednesday agreed that India and China can have a “peaceful and stable” relationship by displaying maturity and mutual respect, and endorsed the pact on the resolution of the dragging eastern Ladakh border row.

In the meeting, Modi underscored the importance of properly handling differences and disputes and not allowing them to disturb peace and tranquility. In a

post on X, Modi said, “India-China relations are important for the people of our countries, and for regional and global peace and stability. Mutual trust, mutual respect and mutual sensitivity will guide bilateral relations.”

Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri said at a media briefing that the two leaders noted that the special representatives on the India-China boundary question have a critical role to play in the resolution of the issue and for the maintenance of peace and tranquility in border areas. **PTI (RELATED REPORTS PAGE 8)**

5 killed in attack on Turkiye defence unit

ANKARA

Attackers set off explosives and opened fire on Wednesday at Turkiye's state-run aerospace and defence company TUSAS, killing five people and wounding more than a dozen, the Interior Minister said.

The two attackers — a man and a woman — were also killed, Interior Minister Ali Yerlikaya said. Yerlikaya said the militant Kurdistan Workers' Party, or PKK, is suspected of being behind the attack but cautioned that the process of identifying the assailants

continued. Defence Minister Yasar Guler also pointed the finger at the PKK. “We give these PKK scoundrels the punishment they deserve every time. But they never come to their senses,” Guler said. “We will pursue them until the last terrorist is eliminated.”

“I condemn this heinous terrorist attack,” Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan said during a meeting with Russia President Vladimir Putin at a BRICS meeting. TUSAS designs, makes and assembles civilian and military aircraft, and UAVs. **AP**

Bomb threats: Centre blasts X

NEW DELHI

The IT Ministry on Wednesday slammed Elon Musk-run social media platform X after more than 100 bomb threats were received by airlines over the past few days and many of these hoaxes were circulated via social media platforms.

In a virtual meeting with representatives of airlines and social media platforms such as X and Meta, the IT Ministry officials said the situation amounts to “X abetting crime” and questioned its representatives on the steps taken to stop such alarming rumours from spreading. IT Joint Secre-



tary Sanket S Bhandve chaired the virtual meeting, according to reports.

The online threats created panic among the passengers and set off alarm bells for security agencies. Several flights, including internationals, were diverted

after the hoax calls. More than 120 flights operated by Indian carriers have received bomb threats over the past few days. On Tuesday, 30 flights operated by IndiGo, Vistara and Air India received such threats. Union Civil Aviation Minis-

ter K Rammoohan Naidu said on Monday that those circulating such hoax threats will face tough action, including being put on a no-fly list.

The Central government plans to amend the ‘Suppression of Unlawful Acts’ against the ‘Safety of Civil Aviation Act’ so that action could be initiated for offences when an aircraft is on the ground.

Currently, the aviation security norms largely cover in-flight offences. “We are trying to make amendments and the legal team has worked on it. We need consultations with other ministries also,” the Union Minister said. **IANIS**