



NATION | PAGE 07

**Priyanka Gandhi begins campaign in Wayanad**



WORLD | PAGE 09

**Donald Trump attacks China on military**

Says US has greatest military in world, slams Biden and Harris



SPORT | PAGE 10

**India look to tame New Zealand in 3rd ODI**

**In a nutshell**

**One terrorist killed in J&K's Akhnoor**

**JAMMU:** Terrorists opened fire at an Army convoy, targeting an ambulance, in the Akhnoor sector of Jammu region, following which special forces and NSG commandos launched an operation killing one of the attackers, officials said. They said the terrorists, believed to be three in number who infiltrated into India from across the border, opened fire on the Army convoy. **PTI**

**Two dead as lorry rams parked truck**

**SANGAREDDY:** Two persons died on the spot while three others sustained injuries when a speeding lorry hit a truck that was parked on the roadside on the NH-65 at Nizampur on Monday morning. The deceased were identified as Deepak Gaikwad and Parameshwar died on the spot. The bodies were shifted to the government hospital in Sadasivpet for post-mortem.

**Air India flight gets bomb threat**

**COLOMBO:** An Air India plane coming from Delhi made an emergency landing at the international airport on Monday following a bomb threat, that later turned out to be a hoax, according to officials. Meanwhile, at least seven flights of India-based carriers to and fro Kolkata received bomb threat messages through social media posts on Monday, officials said. **PTI**

**ED conducts fresh raids in MUDA case**

**BENGALURU:** The ED undertook fresh searches on Monday in connection with the money laundering case involving the MUDA in which it has booked Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, his family and others, official sources said. About seven to eight premises in Bengaluru and Mysuru are being covered in the search, the sources said. **NATION PAGE 7**

**CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD**

Farm.....	Rs. 123
Retail live.....	Rs. 145
With skin.....	Rs. 210
Skinless.....	Rs. 239
Egg Rates (12 eggs).....	Rs. 74

## Telangana finances under severe strain

**First half of FY 24-25 sees decline in revenue, capital receipts**

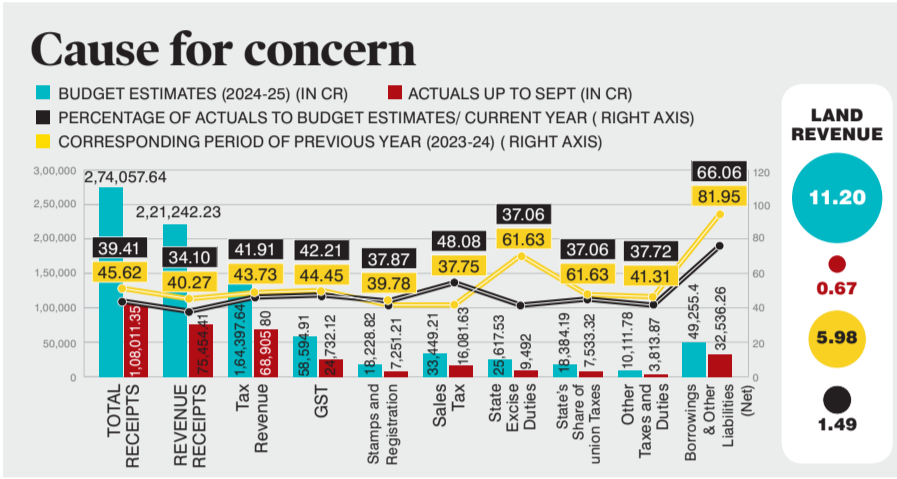
PS DILEEP  
HYDERABAD

Telangana's fiscal performance in the first half of the financial year 2024-25 has shown a marked decline in revenue and capital receipts compared to the same period last year. The State realised Rs 1,08,011 crore in total receipts, which is around 39.41 per cent of the Budget estimates of Rs 2,74,057.64.

Shockingly, the net borrowings of Rs 32,536.26 crore till September this fiscal form nearly 30 per cent of the total receipts. During the previous fiscal, the State realised around 45.62 per cent of the Budget estimates i.e. Rs 1,18,559 crore of Rs 2,59,862 crore.

The overall revenue receipts reported a significant slump, achieving only 34.1 per cent of the Budget estimates by September. This falls short of last year's 40.27 per cent mark — a worrying factor about the strained State revenues.

The State's Own Tax Revenue (SOTR), the largest component of the revenue receipts, witnessed a de-



cline, reaching 41.91 per cent of the Budget estimate compared to last year's 43.73 per cent. The SoTR collections are pegged at Rs 68,905.8 crore against the target of Rs 1,64,397.64 crore. This decline is partly due to a lower GST collection rate of 42.21 per cent, which lagged behind the 44.45 per cent achieved in the previous fiscal year. The GST collections are pegged at Rs 24,732.12 crore.

However, not all sectors faced downturns. Sales tax collections rose sharply to

48.08 per cent of the Budget estimate, a substantial improvement over the previous year's 37.75%, suggesting robust local market activity. Yet, these gains are offset by sharp drops in other streams, especially excise duties, which slumped to 37.06 per cent, a drastic fall from last year's 61.63 per cent, raising concerns about the sustainability of State revenue sources.

During the same period, the capital receipts, vital for infrastructure development, also saw a downturn, hitting

61.64 per cent of Budget estimates against last year's 72.41 per cent. Borrowings and liabilities, representing the State's reliance on debt, rose to 66.06 per cent, though still lagging behind last year's 81.95 per cent.

However, when it comes to the amount, the State government borrowed Rs 32,536 crore in net compared to the previous year's borrowing of Rs 31,333 crore, highlighting an increased dependency on borrowed funds to meet fiscal obligations. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

## Census process likely from early 2025

**No decision on caste census yet, say sources**

NEW DELHI

The much-delayed decadal census exercise and the work to update the National Population Register (NPR) are likely to begin early 2025 and the data will be declared by 2026, thus changing future census cycles completely, official sources said. However, no decision has been taken yet on whether caste census will also be carried out along with the general census.

The country's population count has been conducted every 10 years since 1951, but the census work in 2021 could not be carried out due to the Covid-19 pandemic. So far, no formal announcement has been made on its next schedule.

"In all probability, the work for the census and the NPR will begin early next year and the population data will be announced by 2026. With this, the census cycle is likely to be changed. So, it will be 2025-2035 and then 2035-2045 and so on in future," sources privy to the thinking of the government said. The Office of the Registrar General and Census Commissioner had prepared 31 questions to be asked to the citizens during



the census exercise. These questions include whether the head of the household belongs to SC or ST and other family members as asked in the previous census. Opposition Congress and the RJD are among the political parties which have been demanding a caste census so that the total OBC population in the country is known. "The government has not yet taken any decision on caste census," a source said. It is

to be seen whether the government will go ahead with the delimitation exercise, which is due in 2026, after the census data is published. Several political leaders from Southern States have expressed their apprehensions over the possibility of their States losing out on Lok Sabha seats and thereby their political clout as they have been successful in population control, unlike the Northern States. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

## 'Cong creating reign of terror using HYDRAA'

STATE BUREAU  
Hyderabad

BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Monday said the Congress government was creating a "reign of terror" atmosphere among the poor, with the recent demolition drives forcing vulnerable residents to extreme actions, including suicide.

He visited the grieving family of Buchamma, a resident of Kukatpally, who died by suicide allegedly out of fear that her home would be demolished by HYDRAA.

"Buchamma's death is no suicide. It is a murder committed by HYDRAA and Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy," Rama Rao said, condemning organised but "illegal" demolitions targeting the poor. He reminded that HYDRAA was carrying out demolitions without



BRS working president KT Rama Rao with the family members of Buchamma, a resident of Kukatpally, who died by suicide.

prior notice, even depriving children of their homes and education. He pointed out that a young girl, Vedashree, was left crying as her home was razed without even allowing her to get her books.

Speaking to the media persons after providing financial assistance to

Buchamma's family, the BRS working president asked if HYDRAA's laws applied only to the poor. He asked why Revanth Reddy served demolition notices to his brother who lives in the Full Tank Level (FTL) of a lake, but not to the poor. **(SEE PAGES 2, 3)**

## ERC rejects proposal on hike in fixed charges

STATE BUREAU  
Hyderabad

In a major relief to domestic consumers using power over 300 units, the Telangana State Electricity Regulatory Commission (TGERC) has rejected the proposal of the two discoms to increase the fixed charge from Rs 10 to Rs. 50 per kilowatt for the financial year 2024-25.

However, the Electricity Regulatory Commission has allowed the discoms to increase fixed charges for consumers using power over 800 units to Rs.50 per KW per unit from the current Rs. 10. Since the discoms did not propose an increase in tariff of domestic consumers, there will be no change in the tariff for the current financial year. **(REPORT PAGE 4)**

## 'Gholu-2' to be star attraction at Sadar fest

CITY BUREAU  
Hyderabad

The champion buffalo bull, 'Gholu-2', a Murrah breed, weighing 1.8 tonnes and standing 7-ft tall, specially brought from Haryana, will be the star attraction for this year's Sadar festival, the bull carnival held annually on the second day after Diwali festival by the Yadav community in Hyderabad.

Unveiling the champion bull on Monday, the organiser of the Sadar festival, E Haribabu Yadav, said, "Like every year, for the special attraction, this time we have brought Gholu, which won several championships in Haryana and many parts of India. In the past few years, we brought champion bulls, including Yuvraj, Dara and Shehenshah".

## PERENNIAL PROBLEM



A Delhi Jal Board worker during the froth suppression drive at the Yamuna river to check its pollution, in New Delhi. — Photo: PTI

## HC directive to cops on Raj Pakala

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT  
Hyderabad

Justice B Vijaysen Reddy of the Telangana High Court on Monday directed the Mokila police not to take any coercive steps against Raj Pakala, businessman and brother-in-law of BRS working president KT Rama Rao, as long as he cooperated with the 41 A notices issued to him.

The judge, conceding with Raj Pakala's counsel that one day was not sufficient for responding to the 41 A notice, granted a further time of two days for responding. The judge also granted liberty to the petitioner to take the assistance of an advocate while responding to the police notices. Raj Pakala had moved the High Court in a lunch

motion petition seeking a stay of the criminal proceedings initiated against him. He told the court that police were acting illegally in serving a notice at 8.30 am to appear before the police station by 11 am.

Senior counsel Mayur Reddy, appearing on behalf of Raj Pakala said that there was apprehension of arrest if the petitioner appeared before the police. He said the petitioner's family was conducting a housewarming ceremony with children and elderly attending the family get-together. However, a crime was registered to tarnish the political image of the brother-in-law of the petitioner, BRS working president KT Rama Rao, and no narcotic substances were traced as alleged by the police. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

## Teen ends life after girl's family thrashes him

**SANGAREDDY:** A youngster, who was thrashed by a girl's family after he wished her on her birthday, ended his life by jumping into a lake in Sadasivpet on Monday. According to the police, Mallagoni Ranjith (19) was in love with his classmate, a Inter second year student at a government junior college. Ranjith went to the girl's home late on Sunday after the latter reportedly asked him to come to her home to wish her. However, the girl's parents caught him and beat him black and blue. On learning about this, Ranjith's friends came to his rescue and accompanied him to his home. Feeling humiliated, Ranjith jumped into a lake near the village in the early hours of Monday. The body was retrieved later. The police registered a case.

## Tata-Airbus factory to build military aircraft

**VADODARA:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Spanish PM Pedro Sanchez inaugurated the Tata Aircraft Complex in Vadodara, India's first private facility to build military planes, where C295 aircraft will be produced. Noting that the partnership between India and Spain is finding a new direction, Modi said the project would not only strengthen the relations between the two nations but also give momentum to the mission of 'Make in India, Make for the World'. Modi conveyed his best wishes to the team of Airbus and Tata, and also paid tributes to late Ratan Tata. **PTI**



The champion buffalo bull from Haryana, a Murrah breed, weighs 1.8 tonnes and stands 7-ft tall. — Photo: Surya Sridhar

Golu-2, which has a special pool to bath daily for at least two hours, after taking a massage with mustard oil, has a specific workout regimen, including a 5K walk every day. The Murrah Bull has already won multiple awards across the country. "We feed the bull

various types of grains, dry fruits, litres of milk and bananas per day. We also take it on a 5-km walk every morning. Apart from this, the bull is also thoroughly given oil massage two times a day," says Bhupesh Yadav, the caretaker of the bull. **(SEE PAGE 2)**