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Diwali pollution levels lesser this year in city



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Iran leader warns Israel, US of 'crushing response'

Khamenei says enemies will pay the price for what they are doing to Iran



SPORT | PAGE 10

Mumbai Test poised for exciting finish

#### In a nutshell

#### **Class 5 boy found** dead in hostel

**SANGAREDDY:** A Class V boy was found dead at a private school hostel in Zaheerabad town on Saturday morning. Sathvik (12), a native of Karnataka, was found with bleeding injuries on his head and other parts of the body. However, the school management said the boy was holding a rope, meant to dry clothes, tied to two triple bunk beds when one of the beds fell on him. The police have registered a case and a probe is on.

#### 4-yr-old girl raped, murdered in AP

TIRUPATI: A four-yearold girl was allegedly raped and murdered by her distant relative at a village in Tirupati district, said a police official. According to Tirupati District Superintendent of Police L Subbarayudu, Nagaraju (24), the victim's maternal uncle, lured her to a secluded place in AM Puram village by offering her snacks on Friday evening and committed the crime.

**NATION PAGE 7** 

#### **Youth studying in UK killed in mishap**

MEDAK: A short visit to India from London proved to be the last for a youngster who was pursuing his MBA at a UK university. He died in a road accident under the Kompally police station limits early on Saturday. The deceased was identified as Vennavaram Sai Kishore Reddy, a resident of Aregudem, and the son of BRS leader Vennavaram Mahipal Reddy. Kishore was set to fly back to London in a week.

#### **LAC: Verification** patrolling begins

**NEW DELHI:** The Indian Army has commenced verification patrolling at Depsang, the second friction point in eastern Ladakh, the government said on Saturday. Patrolling at Demchok had begun on Friday, a day after the Indian and Chinese troops completed disengagement at the two friction points. The verification patrolling has begun on mutually agreed terms, say officials. PTI

#### **CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD**

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#### Wamiqa misses being 'bossy'

Actor talks about her character Charlie from 'Charlie Chopra...'

# 'Registrations halted in GPs to levy RR tax'

KTR slams govt for targeting poor and middle-class people

STATE BUREAU HYDERABAD

Raising concerns over the State government's reported decision to halt registrations in gram panchayat lavouts within the Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA) limits, BRS working president KT Rama Rao has cautioned that this could be a move to levy the so-called Rahul-Revanth tax (RR Tax) on yet another seg-

Questioning the rationale behind the decision and calling it ill-advised, Rama Rao criticised the government for targeting the poor and middle-class people who have purchased plots in these layouts. He emphasised that the decision to stop registrations was unfair and unjust, as it punishes innocent buyers for the mistakes of others. He reminded that during the previous Congress government's tenure, hundreds of GP layouts were approved, and now the same government was refusing to register these plots. Stating that Chief Minister A Revanth

#### 'STATE WITNESSING EMERGENCY DAYS'

HYDERABAD: Coming down heavily on the Congress government for filing cases against those who question its actions, intimidating those who demand their rights and suspending those who fight back, BRS working president KT Rama Rao called it a 'dictatorial regime' that had deprived people of their rights. Responding to the Statewide implementation of the Police Act, he said that after 10 years of breathing freely, Telangana was once again experiencing the days of Emergency.

"In democratic Telangana, we are waking up to the sound of boots, reminiscent of the days of the Emergency," he said "The Congress government is building a regime of repression," he said, raising his concerns over the Statewide implementation of the Police Act, likening it to the days of emergency. In a series of posts on social media platform X, Rama Rao voiced his discontent with the current situation in Telangana. He emphasised that struggle was not new to Telangana and that the spirit of resistance is ingrained in the land. "We will resist this repression by upholding our natural spirit," he declared, adding that the BRS would fight for the restoration of democracy in Telangana.

Reddy was conspiring to collect RR taxes from the poor and middle-class people, he said the government was creating new problems instead of solving existing

He demanded the government to allow registrations in GP layouts where LRS (Layout Regularisation Scheme) fees have been paid, as promised during the elections. He warned that if

the government did not comply, the BRS would protest along with the affected people. He said the government was extorting money from builders and now targeting venture owners for RR taxes. He emphasised that stopping registrations for plots purchased in GP layouts was equivalent to confiscating the properties of the poor and middleclass people.

Rama Rao also called out Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka and Ministers for their deceitful behaviour, reminding them of their promises to make LRS free during the elections. He demanded that the government fulfil its promise and allow registrations in GP layouts or face protests from the affected people.

## Canada's claims on Shah absurd: MEA

#### **Summons Canadian High Commission official**

NEW DELHI

India on Saturday said it has protested in the strongest possible terms the references made by a Canadian Minister about Union Home Minister Amit Shah and warned that such "absurd and baseless" allegations will have serious consequences for bilateral ties.

The comments by the spokesperson of the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) (MÉA) came after Canada's Deputy Foreign Affairs Minister David Morrison alleged that Shah ordered a campaign of violence, intimidation and intelligence-gathering tar-geting Sikh separatists inside Canada.

Morrison had also told Canadian Parliament members of the national security committee that he had confirmed Shah's name to The Washington Post, which first reported the allegations. Replying to queries during a weekly press briefing here, MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said such irresponsible actions will have serious consequences for bilateral ties. (SEE PAGES 2, 8)

#### 'INDIAN OFFICIALS UNDER AUDIO **AND VIDEO SURVEILLANCE'**

NEW DELHI: India on Saturday accused Canada of indulging in "harassment and intimidation" of Indian consular staff there by putting them under audio and video surveillance in "flagrant violation" of diplomatic conventions. Responding to a query during a media briefing here, MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal also said India has "formally protested" to the Canadian government. He was asked about reports claiming that many Indian diplomats in Canada were allegedly under surveillance amid the diplomatic standoff. PTI

#### **OTTAWA NAMES INDIA IN LIST OF CYBERTHREAT ADVERSARIES**

OTTAWA: Canada has for the first time named India in a list of cyberthreat adversaries, suggesting that state-sponsored actors could be spying against it. Amid an ongoing diplomatic row, India is named fifth after China, Russia, Iran and North Korea in the National Cyber Threat Assessment 2025-2026 (NCTA 2025-2026) report. "We assess that Indian state-sponsored cyber threat actors likely conduct cyber threat activity against Government of Canada networks for the purpose of espionage," the report said. PT

#### **MUMBAI COPS SEND PROPOSAL FOR ANMOL BISHNOI'S EXTRADITION**

MUMBAI: The Mumbai Police have sent a proposal for extradition of jailed gangster Lawrence Bishnoi's younger brother Anmol Bishnoi, who has been named as an accused in some high-profile crimes, an official said. The proposal was sent after the US authorities informed the Mumbai police about Anmol Bishnoi's presence in their country, the senior police official said on Saturday. Last month, the Mumbai police's crime branch moved the special MCOCA court here stating that it intends to "initiate the extradition procedure of fugitive criminal Anmol Bishnoi". PTI

### LeT commander killed in J&K

In a huge achievement for the security forces, a top Pakistani commander of the Lashkar-e- i aiba (LeT) outfit and two other terrorists were killed in two separate encounters in Jammu and Kashmir's Srinagar and Anantnag districts on Saturday.

The LeT commander, identified as Usman, was active in the valley for several vears and was also involved in the killing of Inspector Masroor Wani, a senior police officer said. Wani was shot dead from close range while he was playing cricket in the Eidgah ground here in October last year. Usman was active in the valley for a very long time and was involved in several attacks, the officer said, adding that

his killing is a "major blow" to the LeT in Jammu and Kashmir. "Usman was the seniormost Pakistani LeT commander here," he said.

Four security forces sonnel were also injured in the Srinagar encounter. Security forces launched a cordon-and-search operation in the densely-populated locality of Khanyar in the interior city here following inputs about the presence of terrorists in the area. The search operation turned into an encounter as the terrorists opened fire at the search party, which retaliated, a police official said.

During the operation, a fire broke out in the house where the terrorists were holed up and thick grey smoke was seen billowing into the sky. (SEE PAGES 2, 7)



Traffic on Nizamabad-Hyderabad and Nizamabad-Adilabad highways was affected as visibility was down to 100 metres following dense fog in Nizamabad on Saturday.

## CM misleading people: Harish

STATE BUREAU

Former Minister and BRS MLA Harish Rao on Saturday strongly criticised Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy for misleading the public of Telangana on the implementation of promises.

He accused the Chief political of

vendetta and targeting families for questioning the demolition of houses belonging to the poor.

He highlighted that the government filled 1,61,000 posts over the past nine years, and it is unfortunate that there is false propaganda about the appointments. He pointed out that the Congress was boasting

about providing 50,000 jobs, which were actually notified during the previous government. He criticised the Congress for claiming credit for issuing appointment letters that were pending due to the election code. The Congress promised to fill 2 lakh jobs in the first year but has not even completed 10 per cent

#### Four of family killed in Medak road accident

MEDAK: Four of a family, including two girls aged below five, were killed in a road accident at Potharam in Manoharabad mandal on Saturday evening.

The incident occurred when they were going on a twowheeler when a speeding tanker rammed the bike. Death was instant for them. The victims were identified as Anjaneyulu (35), his sister-in-law Latha (26), and her two daughters — Sahasra (5) and Shanvi (3). According to the police, farmers in the area had spread out paddy to dry on one side of the road at Potharam, forcing vehicles to use only the other side of the road.

### Now, tribal people hit the streets

STATE BUREAU

Public anger against the Congress government's failure to implement its poll promises is on the rise. After protests by different sections across the State, tribal people of Ellampeta village of Machareddy mandal came onto the streets on Saturday. More importantly, they are now openly asking for BRS president K Chandrashekhar Rao back as the Chief Min-

The tribals, who were disappointed over the Congress government's failure to implement the poll promises, staged a protest at the village and raised slogans against Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy. The tribals stated that they trusted Congress and supported it during the Assembly elections, but now the true Stage protest at Ellampeta village in Kamareddy demanding that **Congress government** fulfil poll promises

## 9 junior lecturers sacked for fake certificates

YUVRAJ AKULA

In a shocking revelation that has come to the fore, about nine junior lecturers, working in the government junior colleges (GJCs), have been sacked after it was found that they had submitted fake certificates in a bid to regularise their jobs.

Meanwhile, certificates of nearly 100 other junior lecturers are also under the scanner of the Commission-

erate of Intermediate Education. The situation is particularly alarming given one of the sacked lecturers reportedly produced a fake SSC certificate. According to official sources, in most cases, postgraduate certificates are fake. The sackings are part of broader scrutiny into the authenticity of the academic qualification submitted by the contract junior lecturers who have served in the government junior colleges for the last 15-20 years.

were engaged way back in the 2000s to fill vacant positions. The appointments were based on the examination, followed by academic records security. The RJDIE office, responsible for scrutinising the academic records of candidates, failed to detect these fake certificates despite their longstanding service. Last year, the State government issued orders regularising services of 3,093 junior lecturers,

Contract junior lecturers

subject to the condition that educational qualifications, age, local status etc., were genuine. During certificates scrutiny, fake certificates issue came to the fore, prompting the Commissionerate to cross-verify the academic credentials of nearly another 100 junior lecturers with their respective universities. This scrutiny raised the possibility that more instances of fraudulent certificates may be uncovered. "If certificates of all regularised

junior lecturers are scrutinised thoroughly, we are expecting at least 100 to have produced fake certificates,' said a senior official. According to the official.

most certificates produced by the candidates were from Kakatiya University and Osmania University. "We have written to the universities seeking the genuineness of the certificates. But there is a tardy response, which is delaying the process," the official added. colours of the party were

slowly being exposed. Raising slogans demanding the implementation of promises made to them, the tribals said that they were cheated as none of the promises made to them had been fulfilled so far. They alleged that though

over 10 months passed, the Congress government failed to implement its poll promises. "This government has failed to implement Six Guarantees and various promises made to the people. It has even failed to fulfil the promises made to the farmers," they alleged.