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India test-fires long-range hypersonic missile



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Ready to work with new US regime, says Xi

China President meets his US counterpart, says ties critical for both nations



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Rohit to miss first Test, Rahul gears up to open

In a nutshell

Actress Kasthuri sent to jail
CHENNAI: Actress Kasthuri, who made a remark on the Telugu-speaking people of Tamil Nadu that stoked a controversy, was produced before a court here on Sunday, which remanded her to judicial custody. She was arrested from Hyderabad on November 16 by a Chennai police team after the Madras High Court Madurai bench days ago rejected her anticipatory bail petition.
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Sand mafia attacks revenue staff
KOTHAGUDEM: Revenue staff was allegedly attacked by the sand mafia at Sarapaka in the district. On receiving information that sand was mined illegally in river Godavari under Sarapaka bridge, officials, including revenue inspector Muthaiah, deputy tahsildar Ramnaresh, went to the spot. As soon as they reached the spot, around 50 to 60 persons assaulted the officials, said Burgampahad tahsildar Mujahid.

Nigeria's national award for Modi
ABUJA: Nigeria on Sunday conferred its national award - the Grand Commander of the Order of the Niger - on Prime Minister Narendra Modi for his statesmanship and stellar contribution to fostering bilateral ties, making him the second foreign dignitary to receive the distinction. In a ceremony, Nigerian President Bola Ahmed Tinubu conferred the national award on Prime Minister Modi.
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Kailash Gahlot quits AAP
NEW DELHI: In a jolt to AAP ahead of the Delhi Assembly polls, senior leader and Transport Minister Kailash Gahlot quit the party, alleging "political ambitions" have overtaken its commitment towards people. "Instead of fighting for people's rights we have increasingly only been fighting for our own political agenda," he said in his resignation letter.
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CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD

Farm.....	Rs. 90
Retail live.....	Rs. 112
With skin.....	Rs. 162
Skinless.....	Rs. 185
Egg Rates (22 eggs).....	Rs. 76

TG economic engine comes to grinding halt

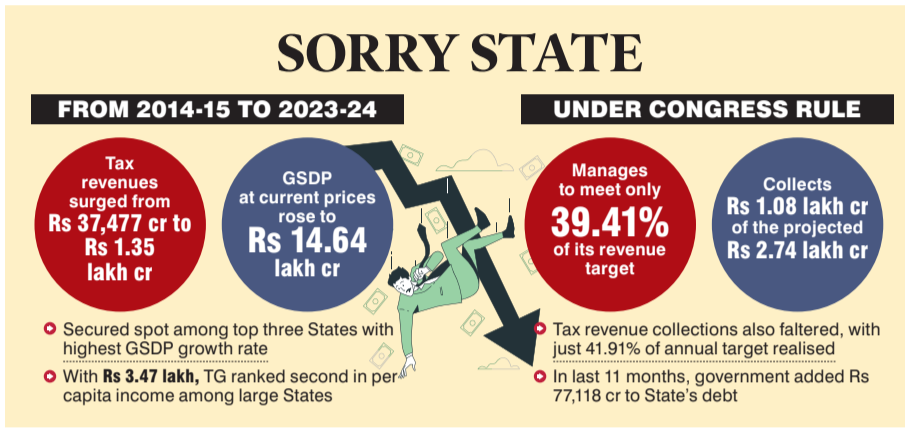
Under Cong, State now finds itself in precarious financial slope

STATE BUREAU
 HYDERABAD

After nearly a decade of remarkable progress, Telangana's economic engine has begun to sputter. Once a beacon of economic progress and fiscal prudence, the State now finds itself in a precarious financial slope under the Congress-led government, with alarming trends emerging in just 11 months of A Revanth Reddy's administration.

From 2014-15 to 2023-24, Telangana stood as a testament to effective governance and economic management. Tax revenues surged from Rs 37,477 crore to an impressive Rs 1.35 lakh crore, while the State's Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) at current prices rose to Rs 14.64 lakh crore — an 11.9 per cent increase, marking the third largest increase in the country. Telangana secured a spot among the top three States with the highest GSDP growth rate for the past three years.

In 2023-24, the State ranked second in per capita income among large States,



with Rs 3.47 lakh, nearly double the national average of Rs 1.83 lakh. Its contribution to the national GDP stood at a robust 4.9% in 2023-24, compared to 4.1% in 2014-15.

However, the tide has turned sharply under the year-long Congress rule. In the current financial year, Telangana has managed to meet only 39.41 per cent of its revenue target, collecting Rs 1.08 lakh crore of the projected Rs 2.74 lakh crore. Tax revenue collections have also faltered, with just 41.91 per cent of the annual target realised. Debt has ballooned at an alarming rate.

In the last 11 months, the Revanth Reddy government added Rs 77,118 crore to the State's debt — surpassing the Rs 72,658 crore accumulated over 58 years of united Andhra Pradesh. The Congress government has guaranteed loans worth Rs 25,000 crore to corporations within eight months, adding to its financial woes. This translates to a per capita debt of Rs 19,279, a burden borne by each citizen.

Critics argue that this borrowing spree has not translated into visible develop-

ment. The capital expenditure for infrastructure development and asset creation shot up from Rs 8,373 crore to Rs 44,252 crore in 2023-24. The previous BRS government spent 18 per cent more than the annual target of capital expenditure during the previous fiscal.

However, under the Congress regime, the capital expenditure has been not only reduced to Rs 32,745 crore, but only Rs 9,447 crore have been spent in the first six months which is a mere 28.85 per cent of the annual estimate. (SEE PAGE 2)

Why silent on land acquisition in TG, KTR asks Rahul

STATE BUREAU
 Hyderabad

BRS working president KT Rama Rao questioned Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's silence on forcible land acquisition and corporate influence in Telangana while claiming to fight them in other States. He slammed the Congress leader for double standards.

"Rahul Gandhi ji, what is the point of raising your voice against land acquisition and attacking Adani-Ambani when you have failed to stop land acquisition in Telangana?" he asked. Rama Rao rubbished Rahul Gandhi's claims of standing up for farmers, pointing out that the Congress has been exploiting Telangana's people for generations.

"Your fight against Adani-Ambani is just for show," he remarked. Taking to X on Sunday, Rama Rao also criticised the Congress government in the State for allowing Adani Group to open its

cement factory at Ramanapet, while farmers in Kodangal continue to suffer.

"Is this a case of 'I act like hitting, you act like crying'? Is there a secret pact behind this drama?" he questioned, raising doubts about possible business links between Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy and businessman Gautam Adani.

He also went on to counter Rahul Gandhi's false promise to provide financial assistance of Rs 3,000 per month to women under Mahalakshmi Yojana during the Assembly election campaign in Maharashtra. He charged Rahul Gandhi with cheating women in Telangana, promising them with a guarantee of Rs 2,500 per month within 100 days of the Congress assuming power. "It's nearly 350 days now. 1.67 crore women in Telangana are still waiting for your promise to be fulfilled which am sure will not happen. Aren't you and your party tired of this rhetoric of deceit?" (sic) he asked.

'42 students died in welfare schools so far'

STATE BUREAU
 Hyderabad

Former Minister and senior BRS MLA T Harish Rao blamed the Congress government for the deaths of 42 students in 11 months this year, due to gross negligence in managing residential welfare schools in Telangana.

He said the students lost their lives due to either food poisoning or suicides, terming these incidents "government killings". Releasing the list of students who died in residential welfare schools, Harish Rao said the prestigious schools, established by the previous BRS government to provide quality education for students, had turned into hell under the Congress rule.

Ex gratia
 It was shameful that despite these deaths, the government remained indifferent, he said, demanding that the government take responsibility and immediately announce an ex gratia of Rs 10 lakh for each bereaved family. (SEE PAGE 2)

Manipur on boil, NPP pulls out of BJP govt

Party blames Biren for failing to resolve crisis; houses of four more MLAs torched

SHILLONG/IMPHAL

The National People's Party (NPP) on Sunday withdrew support from the BJP-led government in Manipur, even as violence continued to rock the State as offices of the Congress and the saffron party were ransacked in the hill district of Jiribam where an unidentified body was found earlier in the day, officials said.

A BJP MLA's ancestral house was vandalised in Imphal Valley while a building owned by Ashab Uddin, the Independent legislator of Jiribam, was ransacked, officials said. The incidents occurred a day after irate mobs set fire to the residences of three BJP legislators, one of whom is a senior minister, and a Congress MLA in various districts of Imphal Valley where an indefinite curfew has been clamped. Security forces also foiled the attempt of the



People stage a protest at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi on Sunday. — Photo:PTI

Shah reviews security

NEW DELHI: Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday reviewed the security situation in Manipur and directed top officials to take all possible steps to ensure peace in the Northeastern State, sources said. Shah held the meeting soon after he returned from Maharashtra after cancelling his election rallies there. The Home Minister reviewed the situation in Manipur with top security officials and directed them to take all possible steps to ensure peace, the sources said. The move came as the situation in Manipur, which has been reeling from ethnic strife since May last year, continued to be volatile following protests and violence after the recovery of bodies of women and children. PTI

agitators to storm the ancestral residence of Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh on Saturday evening. The NPP which has seven MLAs in the 60-member assembly, on Sunday withdrew support from the BJP-led government in Manipur, claiming that the N Biren Singh dispensation has "completely failed to re-

solve the crisis and restore normalcy" in the northeastern state. The withdrawal of support, however, would not have any impact on the BJP government, as the saffron party enjoys absolute majority with its 32 MLAs. The saffron camp has also the support of five MLAs of the NPP and 6 JD(U) legislators. (SEE PAGES 2, 7)

AND THE WINNER IS...



Miss Denmark Victoria Kjaer Theilvig after winning the 73rd Miss Universe Beauty Pageant in Mexico City. — Photo: AP (REPORT PAGE 12)

NDSA not to suggest repairs for KLIS barrages

STATE BUREAU
 Hyderabad

After several months of deliberation and brainstorming on the fate of the Medigadda barrage, the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) has distanced itself from making any recommendations for the rehabilitation of the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Scheme (KLIS) barrages.

Sources indicate that the NDSA communicated to the State government that it could proceed with repairs, taking the recommendations of an expert panel constituted for this purpose at the State level. The NDSA reportedly found fault with certain grouting works and repairs undertaken by State authorities without its concurrence. (SEE PAGE 2)

Anti-ragging panel head rags student in KMC

STATE BUREAU
 Khammam

A faculty member, who was in-charge of the Anti-Ragging Committee of the Khammam Government Medical College, is now facing action for ragging a first-year student, who had approached him to complain about ragging by second-year students.

According to sources, a first-year medical student from Mulugu of the erstwhile Warangal district was said to have been harassed by second-year students. They mocked the first-year student many times because of his 'Chinese' hairstyle. The student in question got his hair trimmed to look simple because he could not bear the pressure of his seniors, and the issue came to

MBBS student dies in Gujarat

PATAN: An 18-year-old MBBS student of a medical college in Gujarat's Patan district died after allegedly being made to stand for three hours during ragging by his seniors, an official said Sunday. The college has started a probe into the incident. The deceased, who apparently fell unconscious after being made to stand for a long time, was a first-year MBBS student at the college. The victim, Anil Methaniya, fell unconscious and died allegedly after being made to stand for three hours during ragging by his seniors at a hostel of GMERS Medical College and Hospital at Dharpur in Patan on Saturday night, the college dean, Dr Hardik Shah, said. PTI

the notice of the college's anti-ragging committee in-charge assistant professor Dr Rahman. However, instead of taking action against the seniors for ragging him, Dr Rahman allegedly took the student to a hair salon and got his hair shaved on November 12. The student, unable to bear the insult, complained to the college principal on November 13 against the faculty member. Principal Dr S Rajeswarara Rao took the matter to the notice of the Director of Medical Education, and a committee was constituted to investigate the incident. Dr Rahman was removed from the anti-ragging committee and further action would be taken against him after the investigation report was submitted, sources said.

Onion prices touch Rs 80/kg in Hyd

ASIF YAR KHAN
 Hyderabad

Onions are back to bring tears to the eyes of consumers with their prices. The prices have again hit the roof, with a kilogram of the edible bulb sold at Rs 80 in retail markets across the city. The prices, which until a week ago, hovered anywhere between Rs 30 and Rs 40 a kg, have almost doubled, leading to reduced sales and even consumption to a certain extent.

Traders in the wholesale market attribute the price rise to low supplies from local regions of Telangana, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra. A majority



Traders attribute the price rise to low supplies from local regions of Telangana, Karnataka, AP and Maharashtra. — Photo: Surya Sridhar

of the onion is sourced from Maharashtra and Karnataka. B Satyanarayana, a wholesale trader at Mahabubgunj Market at Malakpet, said the supplies were affected by

the low crop yield in Karnataka and Maharashtra due to heavy rains. "There was huge crop damage, and the farmers suffered losses. To make up the loss, the farmers

are selling their yield at a higher price," he said. Depending upon the quality, a quintal of onion is sold between Rs 6,000 and Rs 6,500 at the wholesale markets at Mahabubgunj, Osmangunj, Bowenpally and Gudimalkapur. "Daily, around 250 truck load of onion arrives in the city from different parts of country. Currently, only 150 truckloads of onions are coming," said Bandla Satish, a trader at Osmangunj market. At Rythu Bazaar, the onion is sold for Rs 65 a kg. However, traders point out that onion is usually classified into grades and at Rythu Bazaar, the Grade-2 onions are sold by middlemen. (SEE PAGE 2)