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Delhi govt seeks Centre's nod for artificial rain



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Putin warns US with new nuclear doctrine

Move comes after Biden allows Ukraine to strike Russia targets with US missiles



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Aussies won't downplay India, says Marnus

In a nutshell

Putin may visit India next year

NEW DELHI: Russian President Vladimir Putin may visit India next year as part of a laid down structure between the two countries for reciprocal annual visits by their leaders, sources said. Prime Minister Narendra Modi invited the Russian President to visit India when they held summit talks in Moscow in July.

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India, China to hold meet soon

NEW DELHI: India and China decided to soon convene a meeting of their Special Representatives on the boundary question after a gap of nearly five years and inched closer to the resumption of direct flights as well as Kailash Mansarovar pilgrimage, weeks after pulling back troops from Eastern Ladakh. The 22nd round of SR talks were held in New Delhi in 2019.

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SpaceX launches ISRO's satellite

BENGALURU: The country's latest communication satellite, GSAT-N2 was successfully launched by SpaceX from Cape Canaveral. The satellite will enhance broadband services and in-flight connectivity across the Indian region. As the satellite was heavier than ISRO's current launch capabilities, it had to opt for a foreign launch vehicle.

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Cong govt in fix over local body polls, BC quota

Uncertainty surrounds elections in State due to delay in finalising BC reservations

PS DILEEP
HYDERABAD

More than 10 months after the term of gram panchayats in Telangana expired, the State government is caught in a Catch-22 situation over conducting elections to the rural local bodies. While the government cannot hold the elections without completing the reservation process as per Supreme Court orders, the gram panchayats will not receive the Central funds without an elected governing body.

With this, uncertainty surrounds the rural local body elections in Telangana, including gram panchayats, mandal parishads, and zilla parishads, due to delays in finalising Backward Class (BC) reservations. This is also likely to take time since to finalise BC reservations, the Caste Census has to be completed.

The household survey as part of the census began barely two weeks ago, with officials saying only 72 per cent of 1.16 crore households were completed so far. Hopes are that the exer-

Local body elections, originally planned for Jan 2024, were postponed due to the Assembly and Lok Sabha polls

ercise might be completed by November-end. The term of gram panchayats in the State expired on February 1 this year and the State government appointed special officers in their place. The term of the MPTCs and ZPTCs ended on July 3.

Parliament approval Elections, originally planned for January, were postponed due to the Assembly and Lok Sabha polls. While Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy hinted at holding elections shortly after the Lok Sabha results, they got delayed due to the delay in finalising BC reservations.

The Panchayat Raj (PR) Act, 2018, mandates that reservations for gram panchayat elections should be in force for 10 years. The Supreme Court mandates

BC reservations be finalised before elections. The BC Commission, tasked with submitting a report, needs two more months. Meanwhile, BC organisations demand that Congress fulfil its promise of 42 per cent reservations in local bodies, up from the current 22 per cent. Any increase would require amending the Panchayat Raj Act and Parliament's approval, delaying polls further.

However, the delay in elections has cast a shadow on the Central funds to the gram panchayats. Due to the absence of elected bodies, Central funds worth about Rs 1,200 crore were not released to the State which in turn deprived funds to the gram panchayats, affecting their day-to-day functioning and halting development works. "Unless there is an elected body, the Centre will not release funds. However, if the elections are held, the Centre will release funds for all the pending months at once," a senior official in the Panchayat Raj Department told "Telangana Today".

(SEE PAGE 2)

'BULLDOZER' ACT SPARKS ROW



A man lies down in front of a JCB in protest against the demolition drive taken up by civic officials, who razed several structures built on government land in Huzurnagar, Suryapet, on Tuesday. (REPORT PAGE 4)

Rs 10 cr worth gold stolen from SBI

STATE BUREAU
Warangal

In a major bank heist, thieves stole gold jewellery worth Rs 10 crore from the Rayaparthi mandal branch of the State Bank of India (SBI) late on Monday.

According to Rayaparthi Sub Inspector K Shraavan, the thieves entered the bank by cutting the window with a gas cutter and broke lockers, and made away with jewellery. They also damaged the CCTV cameras of the bank and decamped with the digital video

The way entire op was executed it appears to be the work of a professional gang. Local gangs do not have such expertise

— K SHRAVAN, RAYAPARTHY SUB INSPECTOR

recorder (DVR) to prevent police from identifying them through CCTV footage.

The incident came to light after the bank employees noticed the door and lockers broke open on Tuesday morning. The bank manager lodged a complaint with the

police. Police are scanning footage from CCTV cameras in the surrounding areas to track the burglars. The police dog squad and forensic staff rushed to the spot to gather evidence. Shraavan said as per the preliminary investigation, it appears to be the handiwork of

an inter-state robbery gang. "The way the entire operation was executed it appears to be the work of a professional gang. Local gangs do not have such expertise," he said. After the news broke, many customers who had pledged gold ornaments as collateral for loans gathered in front of the bank, expressing their anxiety.

Meanwhile, bank officials have started an auditing exercise to assess the loss. The bank manager is likely to submit a report of the missing jewellery to the police on Wednesday.

Hyd realty shone bright under BRS

According to Knight Frank report, city achieved significant strides across multiple sectors

SOWMYA SANGAM
Hyderabad

Hyderabad has emerged as one of India's fastest-growing cities, outpacing other major urban centres over the past decade. Under the BRS government, led by K Chandrashekar Rao and KT Rama Rao, the city achieved significant strides across multiple sectors, becoming a key player in the nation's urban transformation.

According to the latest report by Knight Frank India, Hyderabad's real estate market has been a standout performer, with a 10 per cent Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR 2013-2023) in residential launches over the last decade — the highest among the six cities analysed. In 2023, residential prices rose by 11 per cent.

Not only Hyderabad thrived in real estate, but also made waves in socio-economic growth. The city ranked second in socioeco-



nomical parameters, fueled by a growing population of High Net-Worth Individuals and Ultra High Net-Worth Individuals.

When it comes to physical infrastructure, Hyderabad secured second place in the rankings, following Delhi-NCR. The report attributes

this growth to the city's robust and well-planned network of roads, flyovers, underpasses, and wide ring roads. "The government invested strategically in key infrastructure projects, such as Hyderabad Metro Rail, ring roads etc," it added. These infrastructure up-

grades have not only bolstered real estate but also strengthened Hyderabad's position as a competitive economic hub. The city also made its mark in governance, ranking second alongside Ahmedabad. While Bengaluru excelled in talent and its startup ecosys-

Standout performer

SOCIOECONOMIC GROWTH	REAL ESTATE
1. Bengaluru 2. Hyderabad 3. Mumbai MMR 4. Chennai 5. Delhi-NCR 6. Ahmedabad	1. Hyderabad 2. Bengaluru 3. Mumbai MMR 4. Delhi-NCR 5. Ahmedabad 6. Chennai
PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE	GOVERNANCE
1. Delhi-NCR 2. Hyderabad 3. Mumbai MMR 4. Bengaluru 5. Ahmedabad 6. Chennai	1. Delhi-NCR 2. Hyderabad 3. Ahmedabad 4. Mumbai MMR 5. Bengaluru 6. Chennai

REPORT ATTRIBUTES THIS GROWTH TO CITY'S ROBUST AND WELL-PLANNED NETWORK OF ROADS, FLYOVERS, UNDERPASSES, AND WIDE RING ROADS
(SOURCE: KNIGHT FRANK INDIA)

Lagacherla: Curbs remain in force



JAC members from women's organisations being denied permission to visit Lagacherla, on Tuesday.

STATE BUREAU
Vikarabad

Even a week after the untoward incidents in Lagacherla, restrictions continue to be imposed in the village and nearby villages. On Tuesday, members of a Joint Action Committee (JAC) of women's organisations were denied permission to visit Lagacherla and Rotibanda thanda and speak to the aggrieved families.

In the melee, the police allegedly tore the clothes of

the women members. Condemning the excesses of the government and the police, the JAC members questioned why they were being restricted from visiting the village and interacting with the women there. The JAC members, including Sandhya, Padmaja Shaw, Sister Lizzy, Jhansi, Anasuya, Geetha and others wanted to interact with farmers, especially women, over the atrocities being committed against them by the police and government. (SEE PAGE 2)

Withdraw AFSPA, ban Kuki militants, demand NDA legislators

IMPHAL

The BJP-led ruling NDA MLAs have urged the Centre to withdraw the Armed Forces (Special Power) Act, 1958 from the six police stations and to ban the Kuki militants within seven days otherwise they would decide the future course of action in consultation with the people of the State. The NDA legislators urged the Central government to resolve 8-point resolutions after an emergency meeting at the secretariat of Chief Minister N Biren Singh on Monday night.

Chief Minister Singh chaired the marathon meeting, which assumed significance amidst the escalating violence in the State and the withdrawal of support from the BJP government in Manipur by Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad Sangma-led National People's Party (NPP), which has seven MLAs in the 60-member Manipur Assembly.

The NDA MLAs urged the Centre to declare the Kuki Militants responsible for the killing of the six innocent women and children as an unlawful organisation within 7 days and to review the imposition of AFSPA in six police stations.

The Ministry of Home Affairs on November 14 reimposed the AFSPA in six police station areas of five Manipur districts, including the recent violence-hit Jiribam, to give more powers to the Army and paramilitary forces to take stringent action against the militants and other armed cadres. (SEE PAGE 2)

Group-I aspirants plan yatras

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

Reiterating their demand to revoke GO 29, which violates the rules of reservation, the Group-I aspirants and unemployed youth resolved to hold padayatra and bus yatras in the State against the Congress government, if their main issue remains unresolved.

Unemployed Youth JAC leader, A Janardhan, while interacting with press persons on Tuesday said that from December, they will hold padayatra and bus yatras to create awareness

among students and people on how the Congress betrayed the unemployed youth through its youth declaration released by party senior leader Priyanka Gandhi, which promised two lakh jobs and unemployment allowance.

"We will be visiting every household from Adilabad to Khammam to talk about how the Congress government betrayed the unemployed youth," he said. While Rahul Gandhi advocates for Constitution protections and increased reservation, the Congress government, on the other

hand, has undermined these principles with GO 29, he lamented. A recent five-judge Bench, led by former CJI DY Chandrachud, said that rules cannot be changed after the issuance of recruitment notification, Janardhan said, adding that the Congress government tweaked the rule of the reservation after 503 Group-I posts were notified.

"This will not stand in the court," he said and hoped that the High Court would pass judgment in their favour in the GO 29 case, which is up for hearing on Wednesday. (SEE PAGE 2)

Air India flyers stuck in Phuket

NEW DELHI

Air India will fly back at the earliest around 30 remaining passengers who were among those stranded in Phuket since last three days after the flight from the Thailand's city to Delhi was cancelled due to a technical issue. Some Air India passengers took to social media to complain that they have been stuck at Phuket since November 16. The source in the know said there were around 144 passengers booked in that flight and most of them have returned. PTI

Revanth govt indulging in political vendetta, says Dileep

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

Former Telangana Digital Media Director and social media activist Dileep Konatham on Tuesday said the Revanth Reddy government was orchestrating a politically motivated campaign against him.

He said the police registered a case of organised crime against him, which was more apt for the Revanth Reddy government for its repeated attempts to

implicate him in fabricated cases. In a statement, Dileep recounted his experience at the Cyber Crime Police Station, where he had gone to submit a High Court interim order in an ongoing case.

"Despite the court's clear directives, I was forcibly taken to the South Zone Task Force office and subjected to hours of questioning," he said. Following this, he was arrested and taken to Osmania General Hospital for a medical checkup before being presented at the

Nampally court. The social media activist stated that the arrest was part of a larger conspiracy to silence his criticism of the government on social media.

The police pressurised me to sign false statements, which I refused. The government's failure to handle criticism is evident from its repeated attempts to book me under severe charges," he said, adding that the court's intervention resulted in his release. (SEE PAGE 2)