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In a nutshell

7 killed as wooden structure collapses

BAGHPAT (UP): Seven people died and about 60 were injured after a temporary wooden structure collapsed at a religious event in Baraut city on Tuesday, officials said. The incident occurred at around 8 am during a programme organised for the 'Abhishek' of Lord Adinath on Shri Digambar Jain Degree College ground on Gandhi Road in Baraut, they said. Of the injured, 20 were discharged after they were administered first aid.

NATION PAGE 7

India summons Lankan envoy

NEW DELHI: Five Indian fishermen sustained injuries in an incident of firing by the Sri Lankan Navy in the proximity of Delft Island early Tuesday, triggering a strong reaction by India. The acting high commissioner of the island nation in New Delhi was summoned to the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and a strong protest was lodged with the top diplomat. In its reaction, India said use of force is not "acceptable" under any circumstances whatsoever. PTI

38th National Games kicks off

DEHRADUN: A modest but colourful opening ceremony showcasing Uttarakhand's religious heritage and bio-diversity kicked off the 38th National Games here on Tuesday with guest of honour Prime Minister Narendra Modi reiterating his commitment to bring the 2036 Olympics to India during his address. Around 10,000 athletes are gearing up to compete for podium finishes across 32 disciplines in the Games that will run till February 14.

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Maha sees 12 tiger deaths in a month

THANE: A total of 12 tigers died in less than a month across Maharashtra in various incidents, state Forest Minister Ganesh Naik has stated. Naik directed forest officials to implement strict measures to prevent such incidents in the future. "A total of 12 tigers have lost their lives in various incidents between December 30, 2024, and January 22, 2025," Naik said. Nine individuals have been arrested by the Forest Department in three cases of poaching. PTI

Formula-E case: BRS turns tables on Congress govt

Asks police to book Revanth Reddy for conspiracy, economic loss to Telangana

STATE BUREAU
HYDERABAD

Turning the tables in the ongoing investigation into the Formula-E case, BRS leaders on Tuesday filed a complaint against Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, holding him accountable for the losses caused due to his inexplicable cancellation of the event.

"The Chief Minister should have a paramount interest in the welfare of his citizens of the State, and his decisions should be beyond personal interests and grudges. Every decision of the Chief Minister should be aligned with the interests of the State and its citizens. His actions should not cause harm to the citizens and the State. By taking the unilateral impromptu decision, Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has caused a loss of Rs 55 crore to the public exchequer and further curbed the economic boost of the State," senior BRS leader RS Praveen Kumar said in the complaint lodged with the Narsingi Police.

He added that the ill-advised actions of Revanth



BRS leader RS Praveen Kumar addressing the media in Hyderabad on Tuesday.

Reddy, which was a breach of trust and against the oath he took as Chief Minister of the State, had disrupted Telangana's to encourage industrial growth, create jobs and also boost economic growth.

Praveen Kumar, along with MLA Mutha Gopal, MLC Naveen Kumar Reddy and others filed the com-

plaint, detailing the repercussions of Revanth Reddy cancelling the event and calling for an in-depth investigation into the matter. Urging the police to book Revanth Reddy as an accused in the case and to summon him for questioning, Praveen Kumar stated that the previous BRS government had meticulously

planned to increase State revenue, attract investments and create jobs by setting up the e-Mobility Valley. The Formula-E event was a key part of this vision, he said.

He charged Revanth Reddy of criminal breach of trust as per Section 316 BNS and violation of the oath of office, which he took on December 6, 2023, wherein he

promised that he would rule the State as per the Constitution, not by affection or ill-will. "Because of his premature termination of the Formula-E agreement and subsequent vengeful witch-hunt, Telangana lost the precious e-Mobility Valley, which would have created thousands of jobs. This project would have become a jewel in the crown of the nation," he said.

The BRS leader said Revanth Reddy unilaterally cancelled the Formula-E race, which resulted in significant losses, including the derailment of the E-Mobility Valley project and thousands of job opportunities. "As a concerned and tax-paying citizen of the State, I have filed a complaint at the Narsingi Police Station, demanding that Revanth Reddy be named as an accused in the Formula-E case. I also requested the police to investigate what led the Chief Minister to cancel the agreement, which resulted in my tax money becoming a dead investment," he said, hoping that there would be a fair investigation.

(SEE PAGE 2)

China's DeepSeek rattles US

HONG KONG

The Chinese artificial intelligence firm DeepSeek has rattled markets with claims that its latest AI model, R1, performs on a par with those of OpenAI, despite using less advanced computer chips and consuming less energy.

DeepSeek's emergence has raised concerns that China may have overtaken the US in the artificial intelligence race despite restrictions on its access to the most advanced chips.

It's just one of many Chinese companies working on AI, with a goal of making China the world leader in the field by 2030 and besting the US in their battle for technological supremacy. Like the US, China is investing billions into artificial intelligence. Last week, it created a 60 billion yuan (\$8.2 billion) AI investment fund, days after the US imposed fresh chip export restrictions.

Beijing has also invested heavily in the semiconductor industry to build its capacity to make advanced computer chips, working to overcome limits on its access to those of industry

STOCKS STABILISE

NEW YORK: US markets stabilised Tuesday following a wipeout a day earlier when a Chinese AI startup startled markets with its capacity to compete with American tech giants. Futures for the S&P 500 and the tech-heavy Nasdaq ticked up 0.2% before the bell. That follows Monday's declines of 1.5% and 3.1% respectively. Dow Jones futures were down 0.1% in the early going. (REPORT PAGE 8)

leaders. Companies are offering talent programmes and subsidies, and there are plans to open AI academies and introduce AI education into primary and secondary school curriculums.

China has established regulations governing AI, addressing safety, privacy and ethics. Its ruling Communist Party also controls the kinds of topics the AI models can tackle: DeepSeek shapes its responses to fit those limits. AP

Meerpeth murder: Accused took 9 hrs to chop wife's body

CITY BUREAU
HYDERABAD

It took nearly nine long hours for Guru Murthy, the ex-serviceman, to chop the body of his wife, Venkata Madhavi (35), into pieces and then dispose of it in their house in Meerpeth.

Announcing Guru Murthy's arrest in the murder case, Rachakonda Police Commissioner G Sudheer Babu on Tuesday said it was the most gruesome murder case he had seen in his service. The suspect had no remorse for his act.

He said Guru Murthy returned home with his wife after leaving their two children at his in-laws' house on January 15. The next morning, he picked up an argument and slapped Venkata Madhavi, due to which she hit against the wall and collapsed on the floor. "He strangled her to death and then decided to cover up the murder without leaving any traces of evidence.

The suspect crushed the bones with a stone roller and then flushed them down the toilet, says Rachakonda CP

Using a kitchen knife, he chopped her hands and legs into smaller pieces and placed in a bucket. He then heated water using an immersion water heater, boiled the parts, and later burnt them on the single burner gas stove," he said.

The suspect then crushed the bones with a stone roller and then flushed them down the toilet. The bone pieces were kept in the trash bin, to be disposed of later. "It took him about nine hours from 10 am to 6 pm to complete the chopping, boiling, burning and grinding process and disposing body," the CP said.

(SEE PAGE 2)

'CM conspiring to scrap Rythu Bharosa'

STATE BUREAU
NALGONDA

BRS working president KT Rama Rao tore into the Congress government over the delay in the disbursement of Rythu Bharosa funds and failing farmers who have been awaiting financial assistance for the last one year.

He charged the Congress with using farmer welfare schemes as political tools and feared that Rythu Bharosa would be scrapped after the local body polls in a bid to end former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao's legacy.

Addressing a massive gathering of farmers at the Rythu Maha Dharna held at the Clock Tower Centre in Nalgonda on Tuesday, Rama Rao stated that the Congress, after offering Rythu Bandhu financial assistance to farmers during the Lok Sabha elections, was now playing the same drama ahead of the local body polls. "Revanth Reddy announced that Rythu Bharosa money would be disbursed from Monday, but most farmers are yet to see



BRS working president KT Rama Rao at the Rythu Maha Dharna held at the Clock Tower Centre in Nalgonda on Tuesday.

the promised funds. The Congress owes Rs 17,500 per acre to farmers since it came to power, yet it delays their dues," he remarked, adding that Rythu Bharosa, crop loan waiver, crop bonus and other promises have all turned out to be false. Drawing

comparisons, the BRS working president pointed out that under the leadership of Chandrashekhara Rao, the BRS government implemented the Rythu Bandhu scheme 11 times without using it for political mileage. (SEE PAGES 2, 5)

Another farmer dies by suicide in Adilabad

ADILABAD: A 40-year-old farmer died by suicide as he was allegedly depressed over his inability to repay his crop loan at Borigaon village on Tuesday. This was the eighth case of suicide by a farmer in the district in the last two months. Locals and family members said Bolli Raju resorted to the drastic step by consuming pesticide as he was disheartened by his inability to repay a loan of Rs 9,000. (SEE PAGE 2)

Groundnut prices fall, ryots protest

STATE BUREAU
MAHABUBNAGAR

Farmers in Mahabubnagar staged a massive protest at the market yard demanding a fair price for groundnut.

The situation quickly escalated with the farmers squatting on railway tracks at the nearby Boyapally Gate, halting train services. Police intervened to pacify the protesters, but the farmers remained defiant and raised slogans denouncing the government's failure to safeguard their interests.

Hundreds of quintals of groundnut were arriving at the Mahabubnagar market yard daily. However, the

traders' reluctance to purchase at fair prices caused an abrupt drop in prices, leading to the farmers' agitation. With the procurement halted, the farmers took to protest, seeking the attention of officials.

Accusations were directed at the market yard officials and the chairman for conspiring with buyers to deny fair prices to the farmers. Farmers alleged that officials were allegedly underreporting the quantity of produce arriving daily to manipulate prices. It is claimed that 30,000 to 50,000 quintals were arriving daily, but only 20,000 to 25,000 are officially recorded.

Trump says Modi will do 'what is right' on illegal immigrants

WASHINGTON

US President Donald Trump has said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi will do "what is right" on illegal immigrants, underlining that discussions are going on with India.

President Trump made these remarks while talking to reporters aboard Air Force One on his way back to Joint Base Andrews from Florida. He also mentioned that Prime Minister Modi is likely to visit the White House in February.

Separately, in a readout of a phone call between both leaders, the White House said that Trump had a "pro-

ductive" phone call with Modi and sought a move towards a "fair" bilateral trading relationship and deeper India-US cooperation. While talking to House Republicans at a Florida retreat on Monday, President Trump said that the US would impose tariffs on the countries that "harm" America as he named China, India and Brazil as high-tariff countries.

"We're going to put tariffs on outside countries and outside people that really mean harm to us... Look at what others do. China is a tremendous tariff maker, and India and Brazil and so many other countries. So

we're not going to let that happen any longer because we're going to put America first," he said. Meanwhile, during their phone call, the two leaders also discussed plans for Modi to visit the US. While talking to reporters aboard Air Force One, Trump was asked "Did he (Modi) agree to take illegal immigrants."

"He (Modi) will do what's right. We are discussing," said the President. "I had a long talk with him. He is going to be coming to the White House, over next month, probably February. We have a very good relationship with India," Trump said. PTI

KTR thanks AP CM for praising BRS policies

STATE BUREAU
HYDERABAD

BRS working president KT Rama Rao thanked Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu for acknowledging the economic progress achieved by Telangana under the BRS regime due to its policies.

He also took a dig at Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy for being unable to accept the fact and blaming the BRS for his failures. In a post on X, he shared a video clipping of Naidu's press conference where he stated that Telangana has highest per capita income in India, due to its policies. (REPORT PAGE 5)

Toll in boat blaze rises to two

CITY BUREAU
HYDERABAD

The body of Ajay Kumar, who had gone missing after the boat blaze incident in the Hussain Sagar on Sunday, was retrieved after nearly about 45 hours on Tuesday.

With this, the toll in the incident rose to two, as Ganapathi, a cracker operator who was injured, succumbed to injuries in the hospital earlier in the day.

Ajay, a resident of Nagaram, along with his friends, had come to participate in the 'Bharatha Matha Maha Harathi' event, which was organised on Republic

Day near People's Plaza. Towards the end of the event, organisers lit firecrackers on the boats in the Hussain Sagar when a fire broke out and injured three persons. In an attempt to escape, Ajay and others jumped into the lake. While others who knew swimming reached the bund, Ajay drowned.

On Monday morning, his family members reached Hussain Sagar and requested a search operation to trace him. Following this, the civic authorities and police launched a search operation in the lake with rescue teams, including NDRF and DRF personnel.