



BUSINESS | PAGE 08

Markets surge
4th day, up 2%;
sensex jumps
1,508 points



WORLD | PAGE 09

Harvard told to part with
student details

Trump threatens to revoke varsity's eligibility
to enrol students



SPORT | PAGE 10

Mumbai
Indians beat
Sunrisers Hyd
by 4 wickets

In a nutshell

AP okays SC categorisation

AMARAVATI: Andhra Pradesh Governor S. Abdul Nazeer on Thursday promulgated an ordinance to implement the sub-categorisation of the Scheduled Castes (SCs) in the State. Under the Andhra Pradesh Scheduled Castes (Sub-Classification) Ordinance, 2025, the 59 SC communities in the State have been divided into three categories based on their population, backwardness, and social cohesion. Following the Governor's approval, the Law Department issued a Government Order. The TDP government issued the ordinance to follow the SC order last year for sub-categorisation of SCs. **NATION PAGE 7**

Mansarovar Yatra to resume soon

NEW DELHI: India on Thursday said there is a possibility of resumption of the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra soon and a public notice could be issued over it. India and China have been looking at resuming the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra as part of efforts to improve ties after the two countries completed disengagement of troops at the two remaining friction points of Demchok and Depsang under the framework of a pact sealed last year. "We will soon issue a public notice on the Yatra and there is a possibility of resumption of the Yatra soon," External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said.

Probe Kancha land scam: BRS

Accuses Congress of violating statutory
environmental and financial regulations

STATE BUREAU
HYDERABAD

BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Thursday demanded an independent probe into financial irregularities and environmental violations by the Congress government in the Kancha Gachibowli land case. He charged the Congress government with orchestrating large-scale environmental damage and violating statutory environmental and financial regulations.

Citing the Supreme Court-appointed Central Empowered Committee's (CEC) suggestions, he called for a high-level impartial investigation under a sitting judge or central agencies such as CBI, CVC, SEBI, SFIO and RBI, without further delay. He questioned the Centre's inaction despite having access to all evidence and repeated representations from the BRS.

Terming the Supreme Court's directives a victory for students and environmentalists, Rama Rao praised the Supreme Court bench led by Justice BR Gavai for restoring public faith in judiciary.

Addressing the media at Telangana Bhavan, Rama Rao questioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi's silence even after the CEC confirmed the felling of

YOU (PM NARENDRA MODI) COMMENTED ON BULLDOZERS AT UNIVERSITY OF HYDERABAD. BUT WHY ARE YOU NOT TAKING ANY ACTION?
— K T RAMA RAO
BRS WORKING PRESIDENT



thousands of trees, destruction of animal habitats and fraudulent mortgaging of university land by the Telangana Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TGIIIC). He reminded that Modi had earlier accused the Congress government of imposing RR (Rahul-Revanth) tax in Telangana, but failed to act on it.

He warned that if the Centre did not initiate an investigation immediately, people would assume Modi too had a share in this sin. "You commented on bulldozers at University of Hyderabad. But why are you not taking any action?" he asked Modi, warning that if the Centre did not act, the BRS would go to Delhi after April 27 and take up the matter with all central agencies and also the people.

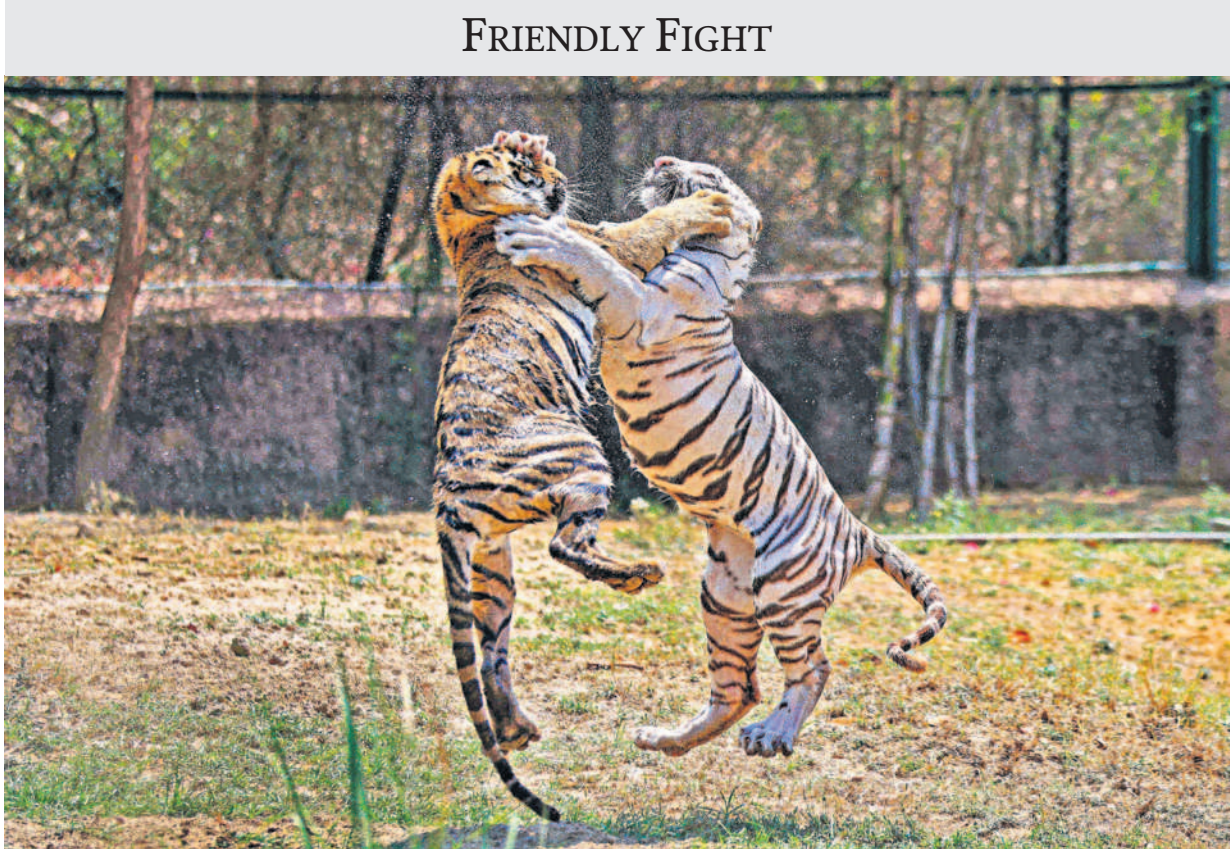
Central Empowered Committee findings

The CEC's report revealed that the 400-acre land parcel in question legally belonged to the University of Hyderabad (UoH). The committee noted that TGIIIC had mortgaged the land without rightful ownership, committed violations under environment protection laws of 1974, 1981 and 2006, and caused irreversible ecological damage. It warned that public money was at grave risk and suggested a complete halt to ongoing constructions, leases, and mortgages until ownership was firmly established.

"SC has sent a strong warning: if the State doesn't restore 100 acres immediately, it will establish a temporary jail and imprison officials. This is unprecedented," he said.

'Revanth Reddy is shameless'

He also slammed Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, calling him shameless. **(SEE PAGE 2)**



Bengal Tiger male cub Bheem and female cub Skandi play inside their enclosure on a hot summer day, at the Nahargarh Biological Park in Jaipur, on Thursday. — Photo: PTI

'Judiciary no super Parliament'

NEW DELHI

Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar on Thursday questioned the judiciary setting a timeline for the President to take decisions and act as a "super Parliament", saying the Supreme Court cannot fire a "nuclear missile" at democratic forces.

Dhankhar's strong words to the judiciary came during his speech to Rajya Sabha interns, days after the Supreme Court sought to fix a timeline for the President to grant assent to the Bills reserved for her consideration by the Governor. "So, we have judges who will legislate, who will perform executive functions, who will

DHANKHAR QUESTIONS INACTION IN BURNT CASH CASE

NEW DELHI: Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar questioned the lack of an FIR in the discovery of wads of burnt cash from the residence of Justice Yashwant Varma, wondering if a "category beyond law" has secured immunity from prosecution. "If the event had taken place at his (common man's) house, the speed would have been an electronic rocket. Now it is not even a cattle cart," he said. He said independence of the judiciary is not "impregnable cover" against inquiry. **PTI**

act as super Parliament and absolutely have no accountability because the law of the land does not apply to

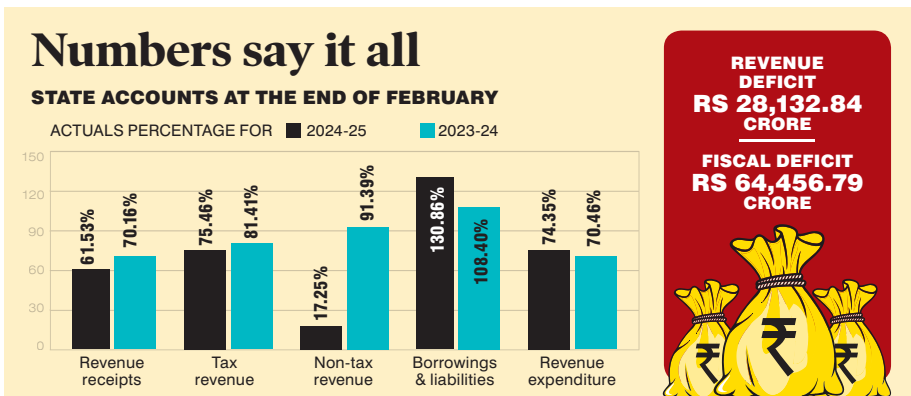
them," Dhankhar said. The Vice President also described Article 142, which grants plenary powers to the SC, as a "nuclear missile against democratic forces available to the judiciary 24x7". "Article 142 has become a nuclear missile against democratic forces (and) available to (the) judiciary 24x7," he said. Article 142 of the Constitution gives the Supreme Court the power to issue orders that ensure "complete justice" in any matter before it. This power is also known as SC's "plenary power". **PTI**

Telangana fiscal health worsens

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

Notwithstanding the claims of the Congress government, the fiscal health of Telangana continues to weaken. Official data for February 2025 has shown a sharp decline in revenue receipts and a steep rise in borrowings and liabilities. The State has managed to collect only 61.53 per cent of its budgeted revenue receipts by February-end, compared to 70.16 % during same period last year.

In contrast, capital receipts soared to 122.12 per cent of the budget estimates, driven almost entirely by a dramatic rise in borrowings and liabilities, which have touched Rs.64,456.79 crore which is nearly 130 per cent of budget estimate of Rs.49,255.41 crore. While total revenue receipts stood



at Rs 1,36,136 crore against the annual estimate of Rs 2,21,242 crore, the worrying sign lies in the poor performance of non-tax revenue and specific tax heads. Non-tax revenue collection collapsed to just 17.25 per cent of the target, down from 91.39 per cent during the same period last year -

indicating a critical shortfall in expected earnings.

In tax revenue, the State earned Rs 1,24,054 crore of the targeted Rs 1,64,397 crore which is about 75.46 per cent against last fiscal's 81.41 per cent. Particularly alarming is the crash in Stamps and Registration, with just Rs 7,033 crore collected, achieving a mere 38.58 per cent of the target. This is a sharp fall from 70.16 per cent in 2023-24, reflecting sluggish real estate activity and systemic lapses. While revenue expenditure has touched Rs 1,64,268 crore which is 74.35 per cent of the budget estimate, it is not high. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

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Group-I: HC directive to TG

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
Hyderabad

Justice Namavarapu Rajeshwar Rao of the Telangana High Court on Thursday issued a significant interim order regarding the Group-I recruitment process in Telangana, directing the Telangana State Public Service Commission (TGPSC) to halt the issuance of appointment letters to provisionally selected candidates. However, the court clarified that the process of certificate verification for these candidates can continue as scheduled. This directive came as the court heard petitions filed by a number of Group-I aspirants who have raised serious concerns about alleged irregularities.

Waqf Act: SC gives Centre seven days to respond

NEW DELHI

The Centre on Thursday assured the Supreme Court that it will neither denotify waqf properties, including "waqf by user", nor make any appointments to the central waqf council and boards till May 5.

The assurance of solicitor general Tushar Mehta came when he informed a bench of Chief Justice Sanjiv Khanna and Justices Sanjay Kumar and K V Viswanathan that the waqf law was passed by Parliament with "due deliberations" and it should not be

stayed without hearing the government.

The Centre also strongly opposed the apex court's proposal to pass an interim order against the denotification of waqf properties, including 'waqf by user', aside from staying a provision allowing the inclusion of non-Muslims in the central waqf councils and boards.

"During the course of hearing, the solicitor general states that the respondent (Union of India) would like to put in a short response within seven days. He further states and assures that till the next date

of hearing, no appointments will be made to the council and boards under sections 9 and 14 (of the Act)," the bench said.

The bench noted Mehta, appearing for the Centre, has also said that till the next date of hearing, waqf properties, including 'waqf by user' already registered or declared by way of notification, shall not be disturbed and denotified.

The Bench then granted a week's time to the Centre to file a response to pleas challenging the validity of the Waqf (Amendment) Act, 2025. **PTI**

Evidence of life in outer space

NEW DELHI

Hints of molecules known to be produced by marine organisms have been detected on an exoplanet, providing "the strongest evidence yet" of life outside the solar system, researchers have said, cautioning that more data is needed.

'K2-18 b' is an exoplanet over 8.5 times as massive as Earth, where previously molecules containing carbon, such as methane (CH4) and carbon dioxide (CO2), have been found. The exoplanet lies 120 light-years from Earth and orbits the star 'K2-18'.

In this study, the researchers, led by those from

the University of Cambridge, UK, analysed data recorded by NASA's James Webb Space Telescope and found fingerprints of 'dimethyl sulphide' and 'dimethyl disulphide' - known to be produced on Earth by microbes, such as a marine phytoplankton.

The molecules provide "the strongest evidence yet that life may exist on a planet outside our solar system", the team said in a statement.

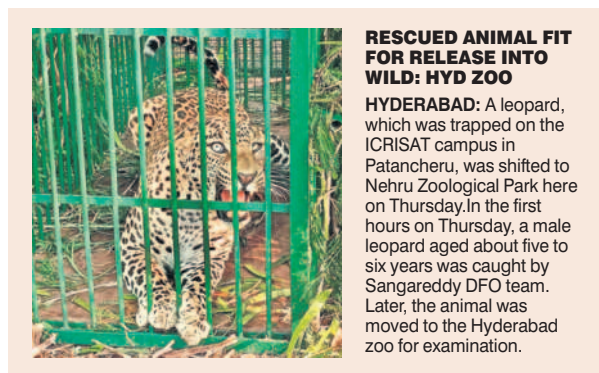
However, lead researcher, Nikku Madhusudan, professor of astrophysics and exoplanetary science at the University of Cambridge, said that the results are exciting.

Leopard trapped at ICRISAT, another on the prowl

STATE BUREAU
Sangareddy

A leopard that had triggered panic on the campus of the International Crop Research Institute for Semi Arid Tropics (ICRISAT), Patancheru, was trapped in a cage by Forest officials in the early hours of Thursday.

The leopard was trapped in less than 24 hours after the cage trap with two goats as baits were placed on the campus. The leopard is a five to six-year-old male and was healthy, said the Forest officials, who shifted it to the Nehru Zoological Park. After a medical examination, it would be released into the wild, they said.



According to District Forest Officer (Sangareddy) Ch Sridhar Rao, the ICRISAT staff sighted the leopard three days ago after which they used drone cameras to track its movement. Interestingly, he said they are said to have seen two leopards moving on the fields of ICRISAT. Following this, forest officials placed 30 camera traps to track their. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

In a groundbreaking surgery, the surgeons at Osmania General Hospital (OGH) on Thursday reported a successful liver transplant surgery on a 37-year-old patient with Marfan's Syndrome, a genetic disorder.

The liver transplant surgery could be considered as a medical milestone, as the patient was suffering from both Marfan's Syndrome and Hepato Pulmonary Syndrome (HPS), a medical condition due to liver dysfunction and pulmonary vascular abnormalities.

Head of surgical gastroenterology, OGH, Dr Ch Madhusudan, who led a team of caregivers from multiple medical departments for conducting the transplant surgery, said that

this was for the first time that such a surgery has been attempted.

The patient was diagnosed with genetic syndrome in early adulthood and had been under regular monitoring for cardiovascular complications. Despite medical management, he developed severe liver disease, ultimately progressing to very severe hepatopulmonary syndrome. The patient's condition deteriorated to the point where he was experiencing severe hypoxemia and respiratory distress, significantly impacting daily activities and quality of life.

Liver transplant surgery was the only way out. A team consisting of hepatologists, pulmonologists, cardiologists, and transplant surgeons were put together. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

In a shocking act of animal cruelty, a man, a pet owner himself, allegedly killed two-month-old street dog puppies by smashing them against a wall and floor and crushing them under his feet at the basement parking of an apartment in a gated community at Indis VB City in Macha Bolarum.

In the incident which occurred on April 14, the resident identified as Ashish, a businessman and resident of the society, brutally killed five puppies. He did it when he was out on a walk with his pet dog. The gruesome act was recorded in the surveillance cameras installed in the parking area. **(SEE PAGE 2)**