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AP's Amaravati to be world's first green energy city



BUSINESS | PAGE 08

India targets 300 MT steel production by 2030

In FY25 (April to December period), the production of crude steel stood at 110.99 MT



SPORT | PAGE 10

Padikkal, Kohli help RCB win revenge match against PBKS

In a nutshell

Former K'taka DGP found dead

BENGALURU: Former Director General of Police of Karnataka, Om Prakash, was found dead at his residence in Bengaluru on Sunday under mysterious circumstances, police said. The body, found with injuries, was discovered in his house, raising suspicions of foul play. Prakash's spouse, Pallavi, informed police about the incident, they said. Senior police officials rushed to the spot immediately. The body was discovered lying in a pool of blood. PTI

3 killed in J&K flash floods

JAMMU: Heavy rainfall due to cloudbursts triggered flash floods and landslides in several areas of Jammu and Kashmir's Ramban district early Sunday, leaving three people dead and damaging scores of houses and roads, while more than 100 people were rescued. Traffic on the strategic Jammu-Srinagar National Highway was suspended as the road was blocked at nearly a dozen places between Nashri and Banihal due to landslides. PTI

16 militants held in Manipur

IMPHAL: A total of 16 members of several proscribed outfits have been arrested in the last 48 hours in Manipur, police said on Sunday. Two cadres of the banned United National Liberation Front (Pambei) were apprehended from Napetpalli Andro road near Nongdam village in Imphal East district on Saturday. They were allegedly involved in extortion, a senior officer said. Security forces arrested one member of the outlawed Kangleipak Communist Party.

Gurudwara vandalised

OTTAWA: A gurudwara in Canada's Vancouver has been vandalised with pro-Khalistan graffiti, with its leaders blaming a small group of Sikh separatists for the act, according to a media report. The local police said it was investigating graffiti sprayed on Saturday at the Ross Street Gurdwara, Vancouver Sun reported. Vancouver Police Department spokesperson Sgt. Steve Addison said Saturday that police are looking into the graffiti at the gurdwara.

# 'Save Kancha land' campaign picks up

Former bureaucrats ask for protection of forests, biodiversity

STATE BUREAU  
HYDERABAD

A group of former and retired government officials, who have worked both with the Central and State governments, who have come together as the Constitutional Conduct Group (CCG) to speak out against violations of the Indian Constitution, has expressed dismay over the clearing of over 100 acres of forested land in Kancha Gachibowli using bulldozers, and asked all governments to ensure that forests and biodiversity across the country are protected and not diverted in the name of "development".

In a statement that has 67 signatories including former AP Special Chief Secretary Rachel Chatterjee, former Karnataka, Jammu & Kashmir DGP FTR Colaso, former Ambassador to Sweden Sushil Dubey, former Delhi Lieutenant Governor Najeed Jung, former Advisor to the Prime Minister TKA Nair and former Punjab DGP Julio Ribeiro among others, the CCG said that though the Congress party in its manifesto for the 2024 elections reaffirmed its commitment to rapid, inclusive



In a statement the Constitutional Conduct Group asked the State government to protect Kancha Gachibowli land.

and sustainable development, and to protect its ecosystems, local communities, flora and fauna, was now acting in contradiction to this.

"When students of Hyderabad University protested against the clearance of the forested land, the felling of the trees, and the use of bulldozers, the State government, instead of holding a dialogue with them to resolve the matter, sought to quell the protest by force," it noted.

"The State Government has been vehemently asserting that the land concerned

is not forest land. However, there is considerable evidence that refutes this claim," the group said, pointing out that as per the Supreme Court order of 1996, in what is commonly known as the Godavarman case, all States were to constitute State Expert Committees (SEC) to identify all forests as per the dictionary meaning of the word, irrespective of ownership.

"The AP Government (of which Telangana was a part in 1996) failed to constitute the SEC and therefore did not identify all forests as directed by the Supreme

Court. They also failed to comply with subsequent Supreme Court orders on geo-referencing of forests. The claim that the impugned land is not forest land has, therefore, no legal basis, being the outcome of non-compliance of the orders of the Supreme Court," the CCG said.

"It may be noted that had the directions of the Supreme Court been followed, the land in question, Kancha Gachibowli, would very likely have been identified as forest as per the "dictionary meaning", as well as per the land records, which called it a "wasteland" (which signifies grasslands, scrub forests etc.)

In early 2025, the SC in WP 1164/23, again directed all States to identify and geo-reference all forests on the ground. While it was widely reported in the press that such a committee had been constituted in Telangana on March 15, 2025, the government did not bother to wait either for the report of this committee or its acceptance by the Supreme Court, before declaring that the impugned area (Kancha Gachibowli) is not a forest."

(SEE PAGE 2)

## EAPCET results on mobile phones

CITY BUREAU  
Hyderabad

No more refreshing the page, server issues or forgotten login credentials for the Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University (JNTU) - Hyderabad is set to deliver the Telangana Engineering, Agriculture and Pharmacy Common Entrance Test (TG EAPCET) 2025 results straight to candidate's mobile number.

So far, students are required to log in to the university's website using their credentials to view results. However, due to server issues and slow load times, students at times faced issues to access their result.

This time, JNTU-Hyderabad is initiating steps to send candidates' results directly on their registered mobile number. The message from the university will include candidate's overall performance and rank details, while the scorecard

JNTU-Hyderabad is initiating steps to send candidates' results directly on their registered mobile number

will be made available for download on the https://eapc.etgche.ac.in/.

The university released the AM stream entrance test hall tickets, which can be downloaded from the website. Similarly, admit cards for engineering entrance test will be available for download from April 22.

This time, hall tickets will feature a response code that aids candidates to navigate their respective centres. Once scanned the code with a smartphone, a link opens in the Google Maps application that enables students to view route map to their exam centres. (SEE PAGE 2)

### JUMBO EFFORT



Elephants play football during the Suwari Utsav as part of Rongali Bihu celebrations, in Kamrup district of Assam. — Photo: PTI

## Man dies of cardiac arrest while playing cricket

CITY BUREAU  
Hyderabad

A 32-year-old man died, reportedly of cardiac arrest, while playing cricket at Rampally Dayara in Keesara on the city outskirts on Sunday.

According to the police, M Praneeth, a private employee from Old Bowenpally was playing cricket in Tyagi Sports Venue Ground with some friends when he suddenly complained of chest pain and collapsed.

"His friends rushed him to a nearby hospital, where the doctors declared him dead," police said, adding that doctors suspect he died of cardiac arrest.

The family has raised no suspicion over his death. The Keesara police are investigating.

## Electricity at night from moonlight solar panels

CITY BUREAU  
Hyderabad

An innovation with a potential to herald a new era in renewable energy, the Stanford University researchers have developed a new technology allowing solar panels to continue generating electricity at night, under moonlight, and even when it rains or overcast.

Yes, the Stanford University researchers have addressed the perennial problem of solar panels unable to generate electricity at night. They (Stanford researchers) have figured out a way to convert the night skies into power supplies by means of radiative cooling. Popularly called as 'moonlight panels', this technology employed developed by



Stanford University researchers have developed a new technology allowing solar panels to continue generating electricity at night.

Stanford researcher Professor Shanhui Fan, utilises radioactive cooling, a natural process where heat moves away from a surface, especially on a clear night when

the Earth radiates infrared energy into space. This temperature difference – between an object and the surrounding air, can then be used to produce electricity.

The unique innovation has the promise to transform sustainable energy, particularly for off-grid applications, although the invention is still at a very early stage, researchers said.

**How can solar panels generate electricity at night?**  
 Prof Shanhui and his team attached thermoelectric generators to modified commercial solar panels to collect the dissipating heat, yielding small amounts of usable power. The altered panels yield 50 milliwatts per square meter at night.

"While this is much less than the performance of 200 watts per square meter generated by typical solar panels for a day, it is still sufficient for tiny devices such as LEDs and environmental

sensors. Although it is very modest energy generation, there is significant potential for improvement," the lead researcher Shanhui Fan in the Stanford website, said.

**Night solar panels: Bridging the gap for access to energy**  
 "The moonlight panel technology can perfectly fit (integrated) into the existing solar panel technology because the components can be retrofitted into existing solar cells. It would be a perfect and affordable step in improving renewable energy reliability," the researcher said.

This new technology has the potential to minimise the dependence on batteries, which are expensive and polluting. (SEE PAGE 2)

## Dalit youth assaulted in Rajasthan

JAIPUR

A 19-year-old Dalit youth from Sikar district of Rajasthan has alleged that he was beaten, urinated on and sexually assaulted by two men, police said on Sunday.

They said the incident took place in Sikar's Fatehpur area on April 8 but an FIR was lodged in the matter on April 16 after the teenager's family lodged a police complaint. "We have registered an FIR in the matter. Medical examination of the victim has been done and his statement has been recorded. The matter is being investigated," DSP Arvind Kumar said.

## Modi, Vance talks to focus on tariffs

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will host a dinner for US Vice President J D Vance and Indian-origin Second Lady Usha on Monday evening after holding talks with the American leader on a range of key issues, including trade, tariff, regional security and ways to expand the overall bilateral engagement.

The US Vice-President, his wife Usha and their three children — Ewan, Vivek, and Mirabel — are scheduled to land at the Palam airbase at 10 am on Monday on a four-day India visit. Vance's first visit to India comes weeks after US

President Donald Trump imposed and then paused a sweeping tariff regime against around 60 countries, including India. New Delhi and Washington are now holding negotiations to seal a bilateral trade agreement that is expected to address a variety of issues, including tariff and market access. After arriving in Delhi, Vance and his family are scheduled to visit the Swaminarayan Akshardham temple and a shopping complex selling traditional Indian handcrafted goods.

The Vances will be welcomed on their arrival at the Palam airbase by a senior union Cabinet Minister.

(SEE PAGE 2)