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India, US finalise terms of bilateral trade agreement



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Cardinals set Pope's funeral for April 26

As per his will, Francis will be buried at St Mary Major basilica outside Vatican



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Dominant Capitals lay Lucknow Super Giants low

In a nutshell

IAF official attack: Sidda vows action

MANDYA/BENGALURU:

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Tuesday said he has asked police officials to take action in accordance with law irrespective of whoever is involved. The CM's instruction came in connection with a road rage incident in the city involving a Wing Commander and a call centre employee. Stating that the IAF officer had made "unwarranted" remarks about Karnataka, he highlighted that the inclusive spirit of this land is well documented in history. PTI

Gold touches Rs 1 L for first time

NEW DELHI: Gold prices reached a historic milestone on Tuesday as the rate of 24-carat gold touched Rs 1,00,000 per 10 grams for the first time ever. According to the India Bullion and Jewellers Association (IBJA), the price of 24-carat gold rose sharply from Rs 96,670 to Rs 1,00,000 per 10 grams — a jump of Rs 3,300 within 24 hours. Along with 24-carat gold, other categories also saw a steep rise. The price of 22-carat gold climbed to Rs 97,600 per 10 grams, 20-carat gold reached Rs 89,000 per 10g. IANIS

ED notice to actor Mahesh Babu

HYDERABAD: The ED has issued notices to actor Mahesh Babu. The notices were said to be issued in the wake of the recent searches on Sai Surya Developers and Surana Group. Mahesh Babu has endorsed the projects of this Hyderabad-based real estate group. It is said that the ED has found that Sai Surya Developers allegedly paid Rs 5.9 crore to the star actor for promoting their projects. Of this, Rs 3.4 crore was reportedly paid through cheques and another Rs 2.5 crore in cash.



Priyanka to make history

To be honoured with inaugural Global Vanguard Award

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26 DEAD AS TERROR STRIKES J-K

Armed terrorists target tourists in Pahalgam town

Victims include 2 foreigners - from UAE and Nepal - and 2 locals

The Resistance Front, a shadow group of LeT, claims responsibility

PTI

PAHALGAM (J-K)

Terrorists opened fire at a famed meadow near Kashmir's Pahalgam town on Tuesday afternoon, killing 26 people, mostly tourists, in what is the deadliest attack in the Valley since the Pulwama strike in 2019.

The 26 dead included two foreigners - from UAE and Nepal - and two locals, a high ranking official said without getting into details. The toll is still being ascertained, Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Omar Abdullah said while describing the terror attack as "much larger than anything we've seen directed at civilians in recent years".

The attack, which comes as US Vice President J D Vance is visiting India and just as the tourist and trekking season is picking up momentum, took place around 3 pm, officials said. Baisaran, about six kilometres from the resort town of Pahalgam, is an expansive meadow ringed by dense pine forests and mountains and a favourite with visitors from across the country and the world.

Armed terrorists came into the grassland, dubbed 'mini Switzerland', and started firing at tourists milling around eateries, taking pony rides or just picnicking, officials and eyewitnesses said. At least 20 people were injured in the strike in the volatile Kashmir Valley where tourists have so far mostly been spared.

As news of the terror attack targeting tourists in Kashmir town spread, The

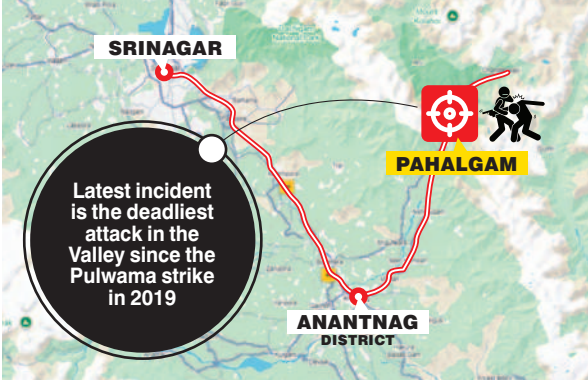


Paramedics carry a wounded tourist on a stretcher at a hospital in Anantnag after terrorists fired at tourists visiting Pahalgam on Tuesday. — Photo: AP

Resistance Front (TRF), a shadow group of the banned Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT) terror group, claimed responsibility for the deadly terror attack.

Officials said that it was possible the terror group members could have crossed over from Kishtwar in Jammu and reached Baisaran through Kokernag in south Kashmir.

(RELATED REPORTS PAGE 7)



IB TRAINEE OFFICER FROM HYD AMONG VICTIMS

HYDERABAD: An Intelligence Bureau Trainee Officer, Manish Ranjan from Hyderabad, is reportedly among the victims of the Pahalgam terror attack.

Unconfirmed reports said he was a native of Bihar and was undergoing training in Hyderabad for last three years. (SEE PAGE 2)

Shah in Srinagar, reviews security

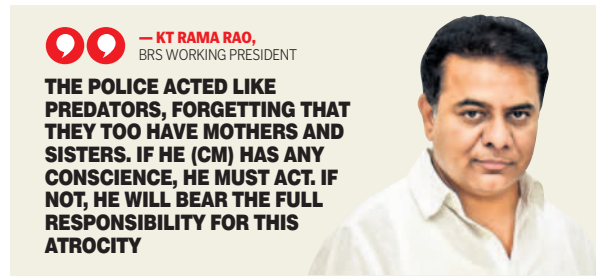
SRINAGAR: Union Home Minister Amit Shah arrived in Srinagar to review the security situation in Kashmir following a deadly terror attack in Pahalgam in which 26 people were killed, officials said. Hours after the attack on tourists, Shah rushed to Srinagar and drove straight to the Raj Bhavan from the airport. Director General of Jammu and Kashmir Police Nalin Prabhat briefed the Minister upon his arrival. Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha, Chief Minister Omar Abdullah, union Home Secretary Govind Mohan and Director of Intelligence Bureau Tapan Deka were present at the time of the briefing. The officials had earlier said Shah was scheduled to chair a high-level meeting of security officials. The Minister is likely to visit Pahalgam on Wednesday. IANIS

Apologise to Lagacherla tribals, KTR to CM

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

BRS working president KT Rama Rao launched a blistering attack on Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, demanding an unconditional apology over the sexual abuse and human rights violations reported against tribals for land acquisition in Lagacherla. Citing the findings of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), he demanded stringent action against the officials responsible including dismissal from service within six weeks, failing which the BRS would approach the courts.

Addressing the media after meeting victims from Lagacherla, he said the NHRC report vindicated the allegations by the BRS against the police abuse on victims. He termed it a slap on the face of Revanth Reddy, exposing the brutalities committed against Dalit and tribal women.



— KT RAMA RAO, BRS WORKING PRESIDENT
THE POLICE ACTED LIKE PREDATORS, FORGETTING THAT THEY TOO HAVE MOTHERS AND SISTERS. IF HE (CM) HAS ANY CONSCIENCE, HE MUST ACT. IF NOT, HE WILL BEAR THE FULL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THIS ATROCITY

"If Revanth Reddy has any shame or dignity left, he should resign and apologise to the tribals for the police excesses carried out under his watch," he demanded.

The BRS working president stated that the police, acting like a private army of the Chief Minister, inflicted severe physical and sexual violence on the tribal population of Lagacherla, particularly women.

He reminded that former MLA Patnam Narender Reddy was arrested for supporting the tribal farmers and sent to prison for 37 days. "The police acted like predators, forgetting that

they too have mothers and sisters," he said. Reminding that Revanth is not only the CM, but also the Home Minister and Kodangal MLA, he said, "If he has any conscience, he must act. If not, he will bear the full responsibility for this atrocity."

The NHRC, in its report, submitted after a field visit, found that the police committed grave violations, including illegal detention, custodial beatings, and sexual harassment. The Telangana government has been directed to take action within six weeks or face intervention from the Commission itself. (SEE PAGE 2)

Parliament is supreme, says Dhankhar

NEW DELHI

Amid the ongoing heated debate over "judicial overreach" in the country, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar on Tuesday reiterated his remarks that "Parliament is supreme" and there is no authority above it as per the Constitution.

Addressing the students of Delhi University at an event in the city, V-P Jagdeep Dhankhar said, "Elected representatives are the ultimate masters as to what the Constitution content will be. There is no visualisation in the Constitution of any authority above the Parliament." "Parliament is supreme, and that being the situation, let me tell you, it is as supreme as every individual in the country," he further said.

"Democracy is for the people, and it is a repository of safeguarding it," Vice President said while addressing the event. IANIS

Ex-AP Intel chief held in actor case

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

PSR Anjaneyulu, former Chief of Intelligence of Andhra Pradesh has reportedly been arrested by the Andhra Pradesh police in connection with a case involving Mumbai-based actor Kadambari Jethwani.

He was reportedly taken into custody from his residence in Hyderabad and is being shifted to AP for further investigation. Jethwani, a Mumbai-based actor, had complained about being harassed by the Andhra Pradesh police during the YS Jagan Mohan Reddy regime on the complaint of an YSR Congress leader, who had accused her of scamming him in a land-related case. The actor and her family members were arrested last year.

Later, three IPS officers were suspended following the complaint of the actress, alleging her illegal arrest and detention. These were Anjaneyulu, Kanthi Rana

Tata and Vishal Gunni.

The actress had also accused the police officials of threatening her with dire consequences if she did not withdraw a case she earlier filed against a top executive of a corporation in Mumbai. She alleged that the corporate executive had influenced the then-political leadership of Andhra Pradesh, to get her arrested and to erode her credibility in the public domain.

The AP police probed the allegations and issued orders of suspension against the 1992, 2004 and 2010 batch officers, alleging procedural lapses, dereliction of duty and misconduct.

Anjaneyulu, who was a State intelligence chief, was charged with calling over Kanthi Rana Tata and Vishal Gunni and directing the arrest of the actress even before the FIR was booked. The suspension order had said that Anjaneyulu was accused of abusing his authority and official position. (SEE PAGE 2)

Drug overdose case: Pharmacy owner held

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

The Telangana Anti-Narcotics Bureau (TGANB) along with the Balapur police made arrests in connection with the drug overdose case resulting in the death of a teenage boy and hospitalisation of two other youths.

Officials said the illegal use of Scheduled HI drug - Tapentadol Hydrochloride tablets - led to the death and illness.

During the course of investigation, Sahil, the drug peddler, was nabbed and he confessed to buying the tablets without prescription from a medical store at Shamshabad, run by one Jagannathan Praveen at a higher rate. Based on Sahil's confession, Praveen was arrested. The CCTV footage examination at the medical store and online transactions of Sahil and Praveen, batch numbers of the medicines had matched.

Mercury may touch 44 degrees C across State



A vendor selling ice apples in Hyderabad. — Photo: Anand Dharmana

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

Temperatures across Telangana have consistently started to peak in the last 48 hours, triggering severe heatwave-like conditions.

On Tuesday, the India Meteorological Department (IMD)-Hyderabad issued a heatwave alert in multiple districts including Adilabad,

Kumram Bheem Asifabad, Mancherial, Nirmal, Nizamabad and Jagtial till April 26, where temperatures could increase to more than 44 degrees Celsius.

Between Thursday and Saturday, the IMD-Hyderabad has also issued an orange alert for temperatures to be hovering between 41 degrees Celsius and 44 degrees Celsius across all the

districts of Telangana, including Hyderabad. The forecast released by IMD-Hyderabad on Tuesday evening said temperatures across the State will witness a gradual rise by 2 degrees Celsius to 3 degrees Celsius.

Meanwhile, maximum temperatures on Monday and Tuesday continued to hover between 41 and 44 degrees Celsius. (SEE PAGE 2)

YUVRAJ AKULA
Hyderabad

After a setback in her first attempt, Ettaboyina Sai Shivani came back much stronger, emerging as the State topper in the Civil Services Examination 2024.

In the results announced by the UPSC on Tuesday, she not only cleared the exam with flying colours,



Sai Shivani, Jayasimha Reddy

but also secured an impressive 11th rank - emerging as the top ranker from the State. The achievement is

even more noteworthy as Sai Shivani did not opt for rigorous coaching, which several candidates choose to crack the examination, but depended on self-preparation except for guidance from an expert. During the lockdown induced by the Covid-19 pandemic, this engineering graduate commenced her Civil Services journey. (SEE PAGE 2)