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Telangana students rushing back to hometowns



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Putin proposes peace talks with Ukraine

Wants direct dialogue 'without preconditions' between the two nations in Istanbul on May 15



SPORT | PAGE 10

IPL matches likely to resume on May 16 or 17

## In a nutshell

### Man held for pro-Pak comments

**HYDERABAD:** The Shamshabad police arrested a man for allegedly making pro-Pakistan comments on his Instagram account. Syed Ikramuddin, a resident of Palmakul village in Shamshabad, in wake of hostilities between India and Pakistan, had allegedly posted some anti-India and pro-Pakistan comments on his Instagram account. The local people of the village, who noticed this, approached the police, who registered a case and arrested Ikramuddin.

### Pope Leo XIV calls for peace

**VATICAN CITY:** Pope Leo XIV called for a genuine and just peace in Ukraine and an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, in his first Sunday noon blessing as pontiff that featured some symbolic gestures suggesting a message of unity in a polarised Catholic Church. "I, too, address the world's great powers by repeating the ever-present call 'never again war'," he said from the loggia of St Peter's Basilica. Leo was picking up the papal tradition of offering a Sunday blessing at noon. **WORLD PAGE 9**

### Iran, US conclude 4th round of talks

**DUBAI:** Iran and the US held a fourth round of negotiations on Sunday over Tehran's rapidly advancing nuclear programme, just ahead of a visit by President Donald Trump to the Middle East this week. The talks ran for some three hours in Muscat, the capital of Oman, which has been mediating the negotiations, said a US official. Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmail Baghaei said the talks took place that long and a decision on the next round of talks is under discussion. **WORLD PAGE 9**

### Key Khalistani terrorist held

**NEW DELHI:** The National Investigation Agency (NIA) on Sunday arrested a key Khalistani operative, associated with foreign-based Babbar Khalsa terrorist Harwinder Singh Sandhu alias Rinda, and one of the hardened criminals who had escaped during Punjab's Nabha jail break in 2016, an official statement said. The breakthrough came when the NIA nabbed Kashmir Singh Galwaddi of Ludhiana from Motihari, Bihar, in coordination with the local police. **PTI**

PTI

NEW DELHI

India has called Pakistan's nuclear bluff with Operation Sindoor and sent a psychological message to state-sponsored terrorists: nobody is untouchable and no place in Pakistan is safe for you, government sources said on Sunday.

India has also set a "new normal" in response to Pakistan-backed cross-border terrorism through the operation and Prime Minister Narendra Modi directed the armed forces that Indian retaliation to any action by the Pakistani military should be "bigger and stronger", they said. "Wahan se goli chalegi, toh yahan se gola chalega (If they fire bullets, we will respond with cannons)," one of the sources quoted Modi as saying following the Pakistani actions.

The sources also said that India will never accept mediation in the Kashmir issue and the only matter to discuss is Pakistan returning the territory which is under its illegal occupation. They made it clear that the Indus Waters Treaty will be in abeyance as long as terrorism sponsored by Pakistan against India continues. "The cost of terrorism has increased. The Indus Waters Treaty is linked to cross-border terrorism and it will be held in abeyance as long as terrorism from Pakistan continues," the source cited above said.

Operation Sindoor is not concluded yet and the cost of cross-border terrorism will be raised as Pakistan can't continue with terrorism while expecting coop-



BSF personnel carry the mortal remains of BSF Sub-Inspector Mohammed Imteyaz, who was martyred in the line of duty, in Jammu on Sunday. — Photo: PTI

## J&K issue: Trump offers to mediate

**WASHINGTON:** US President Donald Trump on Sunday expressed willingness to mediate a resolution to the decades-old Kashmir issue between India and Pakistan, sarcastically terming it a conflict of "a thousand years," even as Pakistan breached

a fresh ceasefire agreement within hours of its announcement. Posting on his social media platform, Truth Social, Trump lauded the ceasefire "understanding" between India and Pakistan that followed four days of escalating military hostilities. He warned that

the situation could have led to the deaths of millions if not controlled in time. "Additionally, I will work with you both to see if, after a 'thousand years', a solution can be arrived at concerning Kashmir. God Bless the leadership of India and Pakistan." **IANS**

## RAHUL, KHARGE DEMAND SPECIAL PARLIAMENT SESSION

**NEW DELHI:** The leaders of Opposition in both Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha have written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi demanding an immediate special session of Parliament to discuss the Pahalgam terror attack, Operation Sindoor and the latest developments in cross-border firing. Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha, Rahul Gandhi, and his counterpart in Rajya Sabha, Mallikarjun Kharge, have written to the Prime Minister, reiterating their demand to convene a special session of both Houses of Parliament and an all-party meeting. **PTI**

eration in areas of its choosing, the sources said. When asked whether Operation Sindoor managed to fulfil the Prime Minister's instructions, a senior government source said, "Markaz ko mitti mei mila diya hai; age ka bhi dekhenge." He was referring to precision strikes on nine terrorist training sites and headquarters on May 7. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

## Loan-linked welfare burdens beneficiaries under Cong rule

PS DILEEP

Hyderabad

Beneficiaries of welfare schemes under the Congress government in Telangana are increasingly finding themselves burdened — not with benefits, but with debt. Unlike the previous BRS regime, where flagship initiatives such as double-bedroom housing, Dalit Bandhu and distribution of sheep, cattle and fish were extended without loan obligations, the current government is heavily relying on credit-based models to fulfil its poll promises.

Facing a widening fiscal gap, the government is reportedly leaning on Centrally Sponsored Schemes and adding loan compo-

**Facing widening fiscal gap, govt leaning on Centrally Sponsored Schemes and adding loan components in schemes**

nents into key welfare programmes. For instance, under the revived Indiramma Housing scheme, Rs 5 lakh assistance is promised in four stages, but only after construction begins. With no upfront capital, many beneficiaries are forced to borrow to start work.

To ease this gap, the government has proposed facilitating loans of Rs 1 lakh each through Self Help

Groups under the Society for Elimination of Rural Poverty (SERP), which will be reimbursed in stages. With uncertainty over the release of funds for reimbursement, beneficiaries will have to bear the burden. While guidelines are still pending, officials have hinted that a small interest component may apply.

The loan model extends to youth employment initiatives as well. Under the much-touted Rajiv Yuva Vikasam scheme, loans between Rs 50,000 and Rs 4 lakh are offered with 60-80 per cent subsidy. However, repayment of the remaining amount is mandatory and eligibility depends on the applicant's CIBIL score. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

## NORMALCY SETS IN



People at a market as normalcy resumes, a day after India and Pakistan reached a bilateral understanding, in Srinagar. — Photo: PTI

## Crackdown on fake doctors in Sangareddy

STATE BUREAU

Sangareddy

The Telangana State Medical Council has found several unqualified persons posing as doctors and treating patients across Sangareddy district.

During raids carried by a team of doctors of the State Medical Council led by Vice-chairman Dr G Srinivas, 25 persons were found treating patients without mandatory qualifications in various places.

While most of them set up clinics as RMPs, they had not undergone any required training to treat patients. They had set up their clinics mostly in slums and indus-

Even trained RMPs are allowed to provide only first aid. They can be punished with one year in jail and a fine of Rs 5 lakh if they violate rules

— DR G SRINIVAS, TG MEDICAL COUNCIL

trial areas such as Patancheru, IDA Bollaram, Isnapur and other places where migrant industrial workers were living.

Since these workers could not afford to visit qualified doctors, they were visiting fake doctors for treatment. Srinivas said that these unqualified persons were prescribing the medicines on prescriptions, which had another MBBS qualified doc-

tor's name. The medical council team also found Bachelor of Ayurvedic Medicine and Surgery (BAMS) qualified doctors practicing allopathy in violation of guidelines.

These untrained persons were also giving expired medicines, which also came to light during a raid by a drug inspector at Vavilala village in Jinnaram mandal recently.

District Medical and Health Officer (DM&HO) Dr Gayathri had earlier seized several clinics, nursing homes and labs across the district for operating in violation of guidelines of medical council, but they failed to mend their ways. These fake doctors were moving to another location after they were exposed.

The citizens demanded that the medical council and district health department, drug inspector and other wings of the government conduct regular raids to nab the fake doctors. The citizens also demanded that the government set up Palle Dawakhana and Basthi Dawakhana.

## AP student tops TG EAPCET 2025 engineering stream

CITY BUREAU

Hyderabad

A student from Andhra Pradesh topped the engineering stream, while a Telangana candidate bagged the first rank in the AP stream of the Telangana Engineering, Agriculture and Medical Common Entrance Test (TG EAPCET) 2025 results declared on Sunday.

The results were made available on the website <https://eapcet.tgche.ac.in>.

Palla Bharath Chandra of Parvathipuram Manyam district of AP secured first rank, scoring 150.058429 marks. Similarly, Saketh Reddy Peddakkagari of Hyderabad bagged first rank with 141.688297 marks.

Speaking to *Telangana Today*, Saketh Reddy said with the NEET UG preparation, he appeared for the AP test, which went well despite questions turned out to be tough, and did not expect to top it. "My parents are

into IT services. Since childhood, I wanted to become a doctor and hence I took the NEET UG, which I will crack," he said.

Bharath Chandra, who secured 122 rank in the JEE Main, said he is preparing for the JEE Advanced scheduled for May 18. "I want to crack the JEE Advanced and pursue CSE from an IIT," he said. The results were declared by Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy. **(SEE PAGE 2)**  
**(RELATED REPORTS PAGE 3)**

## KTR promises to help Sircilla man injured in Saudi

STATE BUREAU

Rajanna-Sircilla

BRS working president KT Rama Rao has promised full support to Manda Mahesh, a migrant worker from Mandepalli village in Rajanna Sircilla, who was severely injured in a road accident in Saudi Arabia. Mahesh, who migrated to the Gulf, was travelling in a company-provided bus to his workplace when an accident occurred near Jubail. **(REPORT PAGE 5)**