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Moitra wants to grill businessman Hiranandani



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First look of Arjun Chakravarthy unveiled

Congress will spell doom for ryots: KCR

Says it will scrap all welfare schemes if the party is voted to power



A BRS supporter at the Praja Ashirvada Sabha in Palair on Friday.

STATE BUREAU
 HYDERABAD

Training his guns at the Congress, BRS president and Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao cautioned the people of Telangana that if the Congress was voted to power, it would spell doom for farmers with the party all set to scrap welfare schemes such as Rythu Bandhu and uninterrupted free power to agriculture. He vowed that the BRS government would extend enhanced support to farmers upon getting re-elected for the third consecutive term.

The Chief Minister, who addressed Praja Ashirvada Sabha meetings held in Palair, Mahabubabad and Wardhannapet constituencies on Friday, said eminent people like Dr MS Swaminathan and premier organisations such as the United Nations appreciated the Rythu Bandhu investment support scheme for farmers. However, Congress leaders were spewing venom against the farmer welfare schemes and even terming them as unnecessary expenditures.

"Former TPCC chief Uttam Kumar Reddy calls Rythu Bandhu scheme a waste expenditure. The present PCC president (A Revanth Reddy) declares that three hours of power is enough for farmers and



KCR slams Thummala

Hyderabad: BRS president K Chandrashekar Rao lashed out at former Minister Thummala Nageswara Rao saying that despite giving him many opportunities, he did not deliver anything to Khammam. (REPORT PAGE 5)

uninterrupted power supply is a waste of valuable money of taxpayers. If the Congress wins, they will

scrap both Rythu Bandhu and Dalit Bandhu, putting an end to Telangana's development. People should decide whether they want progress or regress," he said. The Chief Minister slammed Revanth Reddy for belittling the Lambada community who had met him seeking an MLA ticket to their community. "The present TPCC chief said he could easily get the votes of the Lambada community by giving each of them Rs 1,000 and some illicit liquor. Is this the respect that the Congress leadership has for tribal leaders? Why such arrogance?" he asked.

Chandrashekar Rao pointed out that he had launched the Dalit Bandhu scheme for the first time in the country to empower the Dalit community. If BRS candidate Upendar Reddy was elected, the scheme would be implemented on a saturation basis in the Palair constituency on the lines of the Huzurabad Assembly segment.

While addressing the public rally at Palair, he reminded voters about the previous regimes that failed to address the water woes of the region, despite being in power for over six decades. It was only after the BRS formed the government that the Bhakta Ramadasu Lift Irrigation Scheme was completed. (SEE PAGES 2, 5)

Tata to become first Indian iPhone maker

NEW DELHI

Tata Group is all set to become the first Indian iPhone maker as Wistron's board has approved the plan for the sale of its India plant to the salt-to-software conglomerate.



Wistron board approves plan for sale of India unit to Tata Group for about \$125 mn

Wistron said the transaction price is tentatively estimated at \$125 million. "Wistron Corp held a Board of Directors meeting and granted the approval for its subsidiaries, SMS InfoComm (Singapore) Pte Ltd and Wistron Hong Kong Ltd to sign the Share Purchase Agreement with Tata Electronics Pvt Ltd for the sale of its 100 per cent indirect stake in Wistron InfoComm Manufacturing (India) Pvt Ltd (WMMI)," Wistron said in a statement.

On confirmation and signing of relevant agreements by both sides, the deal will proceed to obtain necessary approvals. "Following the completion of

the transaction, Wistron will make the required announcements and filings in accordance with applicable regulation," it noted.

The plant of Wistron is located near Bengaluru. The announcement by Wistron was shared by Minister of State for Electronics and IT Rajeev Chandrasekhar in a post on X: "@TataCompanies will now start making iPhones from India for domestic and global markets from India." PTI

Telangana Today apologises to Vice-President's office

On July 28, 2023, *Telangana Today* published a news item on page 1 with the headline "BRS wears black, boycotts Rajya Sabha BAC meeting." While a portion of the said report was carried on page 1, the remaining portion was carried on page 4 with a different headline "VP's office posts 'fake' pics of Rajya Sabha BAC meet."

The content of the news item, an internal inquiry found later, was based on assumptions, and not verified for veracity. Similarly, the headline given in the second part of the report on page 4 was also erroneous. Given the sensitive nature of the news, especially when it dealt with the office of the Vice-President of India, the second highest institution in the country, our editorial teams should have taken extreme care while filing the news item, clearing it for publication while editing it and giving a headline.

It was an error on the part of the entire newsroom team and its leaders. We deeply regret this erroneous report, which has already been withdrawn from all our online platforms.

We wish to clarify that *Telangana Today*, by no means, had intended to belittle the institution of Rajya Sabha and its chairman, the Vice-President of India. We would like to inform you that appropriate mechanisms have been put in place to prevent such grave errors. *Telangana Today* has already published an apology on October 6, 2023 in this regard.

We, once again, wish to place on record our unconditional apologies.

— Editor

ED arrests West Bengal Minister in ration scam

KOLKATA

West Bengal Minister Jyotipriyo Mallick, who fainted during a court hearing, was on Friday remanded to Enforcement Directorate (ED) custody for 10 days following his arrest by the central agency in an alleged ration distribution scam case.

The State Forest Minister collapsed after fainting dur-

ing a hearing inside the Bankshall court here and was later rushed to a city hospital for immediate medical care, an official said. Mallick who has been suffering from a number of ailments, was produced in court after being arrested in the early hours of Friday and being medically examined at the ESI Hospital in southern Kolkata. (SEE PAGE 2)

Hamas tunnels pose challenge to IDF

DEIR AL-BALAH

Israel's Defence Minister on Friday said that it expects to launch a ground offensive into Gaza soon that will be long and difficult, and aim to destroy a vast network of tunnels used by the territory's militant Hamas rulers.

Yoav Gallant spoke to a small group of foreign reporters after Israeli forces, backed by fighter jets and drones, carried out a second

ground raid into Gaza in as many days, striking the outskirts of Gaza City.

He said the ground invasion would include large forces, backed by airstrikes, and "will take a long time," without elaborating. He said it would be followed by a third phase of lower-intensity fighting, as Israel destroys "pockets of resistance." The Palestinian death toll has already soared past 7,300 as Israel has carried

out waves of devastating airstrikes in response to a bloody Hamas incursion into southern Israel on October 7.

The Health Ministry in Gaza, which tracks the toll, released a detailed list of names and identification numbers on Thursday. The toll includes more than 3,000 minors and more than 1,500 women. The overall number of deaths far exceeds the combined toll of

all four previous wars between Israel and Hamas, estimated at around 4,000. A ground invasion is expected to cause even higher casualties on both sides as Israeli forces and Hamas battle each other in dense residential areas.

More than 1,400 people in Israel, mostly civilians, were slain during the initial Hamas attack, according to the Israeli government. (SEE PAGES 2, 9)

Clash rocks Bihar's Chhapra

PATNA

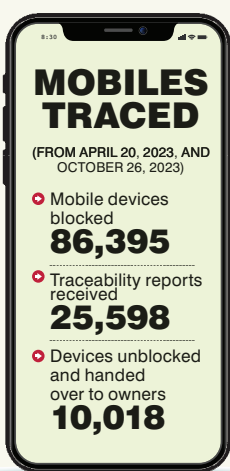
A clash broke out on Friday in Chhapra town of Bihar while a religious procession was being taken out, prompting the State Home Department to suspend internet services for a couple of days to prevent escalation. The trouble erupted when a procession for immersion of Goddess Durga's idols was being taken out. PTI

State tops country in recovery of lost, stolen mobile phones

CITY BUREAU
 Hyderabad

Tracing and recovering more than 10,000 lost/stolen mobiles in six months and returning them to the rightful owners, Telangana stood first in the country in the recovery of lost and stolen mobile phones using the Central Equipment Identity Register (CEIR) portal.

The CEIR portal was developed by the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) to curb the menace of mobile theft and counterfeit mobile devices. Operating it in all the 780 police stations, Telangana Police's efforts at using the CEIR portal proved to be a boon to citizens whose mobiles were either lost or stolen.



The CEIR portal was officially launched nationwide in May 2023 and started on a pilot basis in the State from April this year. In Telangana, Additional DGP, CID, Mahesh M Bhagwat has been des-

ignated as Nodal Officer for the CEIR portal.

CID officials said as many as 10,018 lost or stolen mobile phones were recovered in a span of 189 days, of which the last 1,000 phones were recovered within 14 days of being lost and handed over to the owners. While Telangana stood first in the country in recovery with 39%, it was followed by Karnataka with 36 per cent and Andhra Pradesh with 30%. In the State, a considerable contribution was made by Cyberabad Commissionerate with 1,428 mobiles, Hyderabad Commissionerate (1,206) and Rachakonda Commissionerate with (912) mobile devices being recovered, followed by Warangal and Kamareddy. (SEE PAGE 2)

'New Bills to replace criminal laws soon'

CITY BUREAU
 Hyderabad

Three new Bills replacing IPC, CrPC and the Evidence Act would be passed in Parliament soon, said union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday while asserting that the country has adopted a zero-tolerance policy against terrorism.

Speaking at the Passing Out Parade of IPS probationers at the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy, Shah said there is now a need to move ahead from a zero-tolerance policy against terror towards zero-tolerance strategy and zero-tolerance action.

He said India was dispensing with the laws made during British rule and was entering a new era with new confidence and new hopes. "The three laws made around 1850 during the

British era which are the driving force of our criminal justice system, CrPC, IPC and Evidence Act, the government has made radical changes in the three laws and placed three new laws before the country's Parliament," he said.

The Parliamentary committee of the Home Ministry is studying them and very soon, these laws will be passed. The purpose of the old laws was to safeguard the government, but the new laws will safeguard the rights of people, he added. The new criminal justice system will begin on the basis of these laws. The Home Minister reiterated that with this fundamental change, the new officer trainees were getting an opportunity to lead in this changing era of the criminal justice system through these three laws.

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