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**'Animal' latest track released**  
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**CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD**  
 Farm..... Rs. 97  
 Retail live..... Rs. 119  
 With skin..... Rs. 173  
 Skinless..... Rs. 196  
 Egg Rates (12 eggs)..... Rs. 68

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Huge crowd at the BRS Praja Ashirvada Sabha meeting addressed by party president and Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao in Cherial of Siddipet district on Saturday.

## No stopping BRS, says KCR

**Slams Congress, BJP for indulging in 'lafanga dhandha'; says they cannot stall party's juggernaut**

**STATE BUREAU**  
 HYDERABAD  
 Calling for an all-out offensive to beat back the combined onslaught of the Congress and the BJP launched on Telangana, BRS president and Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao on Saturday contended that leaders of the two parties were literally in jitters now.

They were highly apprehensive that if Chandrashekhar Rao was allowed to garner a crushing victory for a consecutive third term in Telangana, he would be certain to storm into Maharashtra in a big way the very next day. "KCR's juggernaut

and his invincibility will be rolling into neighbouring Maharashtra too," he said, adding that the two national parties were indulging in a 'lafanga dhandha' (shady deal) to smother KCR and get away safely with their sinister agenda.

The Congress and BJP were working hand in glove in the dark to hold him down and confine him to Telangana, the BRS president said, appealing to the voters to be wary of such forces and to respond to them being on high alert. The two national parties were even trying to take care of each other by fielding weaker candidates wherever they desired as

per their understanding. They were working vainly in close collusion to checkmate the BRS, he said.

However, the BRS would be unstoppable as ever in its foray into other States. People in over 150 gram panchayats in Maharashtra were pleading for the merger of their areas with Telangana and had adopted unanimous resolutions to

**The two national parties are trying to take care of each other by fielding weaker candidates wherever they desired as per their understanding. They are working vainly in close collusion to checkmate the BRS**

— K CHANDRASHEKHAR RAO, Chief Minister

this effect. "The response of the people in Maharashtra to the BRS rallies and organisational activities is overwhelming. It was more so wherever I happened to attend a public meeting or address a rally," he said.

In an obvious reference to TPCC president Revanth Reddy, he said the man who gained notoriety for venturing to attack with the rifle

the youth who were fighting for Statehood was rightly named 'Rifle Reddy'. Launching a blistering attack against Revanth Reddy, who he said was 'carrying the boots of Andhra people and stooping down to the level of pleasing TDP chief N Chandrababu Naidu with his 'chamchagiri', the Chief Minister said that unfortunately, this kind of a person

wanted to perform 'Pinda Pradhanam' (death rituals) of KCR.

"Now it is the turn of the people of the State to decide whose death rites will be performed in the State now. He must understand the fact that we are not short of abuses to hurl at him. If needed, we can do it without any break for the next 24 hours. He should have talked more about his party and policies and what they would have done for the people instead of indulging in a negative campaign targeting the BRS," he said.

He recalled that Telangana was once a region known for hardships due to

drought, migration and being an area unfit for raising paddy. Even the Planning Commission reports too made such references in the past when the Congress was in rule. The neighbouring States too shared such an impression about Telangana. But today, the paddy output of State had crossed the three crore tonne mark. There is a problem of plenty in the State now. Milling facilities were not enough, transport vehicles were not sufficient. People from Bihar and other States were being hired to work here. Was this turnaround achieved because of the Congress, he asked. (SEE PAGES 2, 3)

### High-octane clash

HOSTS INDIA, WHO ARE ON A 10-MATCH WINNING STREAK, LOOK TO END THEIR 10-YEAR TITLE DROUGHT AT THE ICC EVENT WHEN THEY TAKE ON AUSTRALIA IN THE FINAL AT THE NARENDRA MODI STADIUM IN AHMEDABAD ON SUNDAY. BOTH TEAMS WILL BE PLAYING EACH OTHER IN THE WORLD CUP FINAL FOR THE SECOND TIME AND INDIA ARE LOOKING FOR THEIR THIRD ONE-DAY WORLD CUP

HEAD-TO-HEAD	MATCHES	INDIA 57	AUSTRALIA 83
	150	No result 10	
IN WORLD CUP	MATCHES	INDIA 5	AUSTRALIA 8
	13		

- India are on a 10-match winning streak in the World Cup while Australia are on an 8-match winning streak
- India and Australia will clash in World Cup final for the second time
- Australia are the five-time champions: 1987, 1999, 2003, 2007, 2015
- India are two time champions 1983, 2011

**VENUE:** Narendra Modi Stadium, Ahmedabad | **TIME:** 2 pm on Star Sports Network and Disney Hotstar

**Maldives Prez asks India to pull out military**  
 MALE

Maldives President Mohamed Muizzu formally requested India to withdraw its military personnel from his country, saying people have given him a "strong mandate" to make this request to New Delhi. His request came when India's Union Minister Kiren Rijju paid a courtesy call on the new President. PTI

## Congress woos Muslims with no new promises

Even as campaigning for the November 30 Assembly polls reaches a crescendo, the Congress is wooing the minorities and enthusiastically claiming that Muslims will vote for the party in large numbers this time. It has come out with a 'Minority Declaration' which is incorporated in its voluminous 'Abhaya Hastham' manifesto.

However, a closer look reveals that the high-sounding Minority Declaration is just a piece of paper which offers nothing new to the minorities apart from what they are already getting in the State under the BRS government over the last 10 years.

For clarity, the manifesto highlights its promises for minorities' welfare which include a minority sub-plan with provision of adequate funds, a minority welfare board with adequate funds, honorary remuneration for Gurudwara Granthis and special efforts for the welfare of Dalit Christians. Don't we have a Minorities Welfare Department at the Secretariat level and a Minorities Welfare Commissionerate at the directorate level for almost three decades now? What would a minority welfare board do now?

Opening of residential schools for minority girls and boys across the State, promotion and recognition of Urdu language in government departments and enhancement of honorary remuneration for Imams and Pastors are the redundant

assurances outlined in the manifesto. The party promises to implement the Sachar Committee recommendations, little realising that it did nothing to do the same when it was in power for 10 years till 2014.

The declaration, on the other hand, speaks about the conduct of a Caste Census within six months, enhancing the minorities welfare Budget to Rs 4,000 crore, provision of Rs 1,000 crore

India's first Education Minister Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, or India's missile man and former President Dr APJ Abdul Kalam?

The declaration sows confusion about many things. Already, there are two finance corporations, namely Telangana State Christian (Minority) Finance Corporation for Christians and Telangana State Minorities Finance Corporation for the other minorities — Muslims, Sikhs, Jains, Buddhists and Parsis — and where is the need for Sikh Minority Finance Corporation now? "Telangana State Minorities Commission is a statutory body and why does the TS Minorities Commission Act need an amendment "to make it a permanent body"?

There were not even a dozen minority residential schools in Telangana before the formation of the State. Telangana government revamped the scheme and raised the number to 205 minority residential schools in the last 10 years and these schools are being upgraded into junior colleges. About 1.4 lakh minority boys and girls are studying in these schools and 7,570 teaching and non-teaching staff are working in these institutions. Telangana has been the pioneer in the country in introducing the Chief Minister's Overseas Scholarship Scheme for Minorities in 2015. An assistance of Rs 20 lakh each is provided to the beneficiaries in two instalments and they also get Rs 60,000 each towards one-way airfare. (SEE PAGE 2)

## Congress will ruin TS' prosperity, says KTR

**STATE BUREAU**  
 Kamareddy  
 Pointing out that the Congress promised six hours of power supply before the 2014 elections, BRS working president KT Rama Rao said the Congress deceived farmers and failed to supply power for even three hours. "Do you remember the de-

fect motors, exploding transformers and serpentine queues before seed and fertilizer shops during the Congress rule?" he asked, pointing out that people were not facing any such problems under Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao's leadership.

Participating in a road show at Peddamallareddy

here on Saturday, the BRS working president said while the farming community was prospering and agriculture sector production was increasing, the Congress was again hatching ploys to ruin the prosperity that farmers here were enjoying.

"TPCC president Revanth Reddy is making false state-

ments that 24-hour power supply is not being extended to farmers. Now that he is contesting from Kamareddy, I appeal to him to visit any village and touch power lines to check whether there is a power supply," BRS working president KT Rama Rao said amidst cheers and whistles from the people. (SEE PAGE 2)

## Vertical hole planned to reach trapped workers in tunnel

**UTTARKASHI**  
 With time running out, officials on Saturday began preparations to drill a vertical hole from the top of the hill under which 40 workers have been trapped inside a collapsed tunnel for seven days with limited food and communication.

As the sun slipped behind the mountains and night fell on another day gone by, officials held out the hope that the Border Roads Organisations (BRO) road to create an alternative route to the under-construction Silkyara tunnel would be ready by Sunday afternoon and the rescue mission that had been stalled since

Friday could finally resume. Meanwhile, the Indian Army too has been deployed in the rescue process. The Army has been tasked with constructing a track to the top of the hill so that the option of reaching out to trapped workers through vertical drilling can be availed of.

"We are trying to make a

vertical track from the top of the tunnel. A point at the top of the tunnel has been identified from where drilling will start soon. This track is about 1,000-1,100 metres long. Simultaneously, we are also conducting a survey to know how much time it will take. As per our calculations, the track should be ready by tomorrow after-

noon," BRO's Major Naman Narula said.

A high-performance drilling machine was brought from Indore on Saturday to pierce through the rubble of the collapsed tunnel on the Char Dham route and was being assembled before it is deployed to resume drilling, officials at the site said. PTI