

HYDERABAD

More men prone to heart attacks, says NCRB report **page 2**

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RBI keeps interest rates unchanged **page 5**

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South Korea vows to strike 'heart and head' of North **page 7**



KCR undergoes hip replacement

Former CM had a fall in the bathroom in the early hours

STATE BUREAU
 HYDERABAD

Former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao successfully underwent hip replacement surgery after he suffered a fracture on his left hip bone after a fall at his farmhouse in Erravelli in the wee hours of Friday. He was rushed to Yashoda Hospital in Somajiguda where he underwent the surgery.

Chandrashekhara Rao had a slip and fell when he went to the bathroom at around 2.30 am. He was rushed to the hospital in Somajiguda for treatment, with the police providing a green channel for his speedy transportation. His wife Shobha, son and BRS working president KT Rama Rao, daughter and MLC K Kavitha and others also reached the hospital.

During the initial diagnosis, the doctors found a minor fracture on his left hip bone, for which he might require surgery. Korutla MLA and renowned orthopaedic surgeon Dr K



Former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao, who was admitted to Yashoda Hospitals in Somajiguda, Hyderabad on Friday.

Sanjay Kumar was also called in. The former CM was referred to undergo further medical tests by a team of expert doctors to decide whether a surgery was required. In an official bulletin, the Yashoda Hospital medical superintendent

stated that on evaluation, Rao was found to have a left hip fracture (Intracapsular neck of femur fracture) and would require hip replacement for the same. The usual course of recovery in such cases was expected to be 6-8 weeks. (SEE PAGES 2, 4)

“DISTRESSED TO KNOW THAT FORMER TELANGANA CM SHRI KCR GARU HAS SUFFERED AN INJURY. I PRAY FOR HIS SPEEDY RECOVERY AND GOOD HEALTH.”
— NARENDRA MODI,
 Prime Minister

Free rides for women in RTC buses from today

CM to flag off Maha Lakshmi Free Bus scheme

CITY BUREAU
 Hyderabad

As part of the Six Guarantees given by the Congress during its election campaign, Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy will flag off the Maha Lakshmi Free Bus scheme for girls, women and the third gender persons of all age groups in the State, on the State Assembly premises on Saturday at 1.30 pm.

Being rolled out by the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TSRTC), the free bus travel scheme is applicable on City Ordinary, Express, Metro Express and Palle Velugu buses starting Saturday afternoon. Women who belong to the State, i.e., residents of Telangana only, are eligible to avail the service and they should produce valid identity cards either issued by the State or Central government confirming their residence proof to the bus conductors and will be issued a 'Zero Ticket.'

Speaking to the media persons here on Friday, TSRTC Managing Director VC Sajjanar said there would not be any limit on



Take note

SCHEME APPLICABLE ON CITY ORDINARY, EXPRESS, METRO EXPRESS AND PALLE VELUGU BUSES ONLY

- Applicable to girls, women and third gender persons, who are residents of Telangana
- Identity cards (State or Central issued IDs including Aadhar, Voter ID, PAN, Passport) should be produced
- No limit in terms of distance travelled



the distance travelled by women. However, for interstate travel, the scheme would be applicable up to the State borders and on entering the borders of neighbouring States, passengers would be required to take a ticket from the local State-run public transport.

The scheme is expected to benefit about 14 lakh i.e., 40 per cent of women pas-

sengers each day on average. As many as 7,292 buses have been allocated for the purpose.

Sajjanar said the scheme would result in an estimated loss of Rs 7 crore each day, amounting to nearly Rs 3,000 crore per annum to the corporation which is already bearing a loss of nearly Rs 400 crore per annum. (SEE PAGES 2, 3)

Rs 220 cr cash found

NATION | PAGE 05

Hunter Biden indicted over tax

WORLD | PAGE 07



India faces stern challenge

SPORT | PAGE 08



ENTERTAINMENT PAGE 10

'Animal' in Rs 300 cr club

Film managed the feat within a week



CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD

Farm	Rs. 73
Retail live.....	Rs. 95
With skin.....	Rs. 138
Skinless.....	Rs. 157
Egg Rates (12 eggs).....	Rs. 69

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First session of new Assembly from today

STATE BUREAU
 Hyderabad

The first session of the third Telangana State Legislative Assembly is all set to begin on Saturday. Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan officially summoned the third Telangana Legislative Assembly for its inaugural session scheduled for 11:00 am on Saturday at the Assembly Hall in Public Gardens.

"I, Dr Tamilisai Soundararajan, Governor of Telangana, hereby summon the third Telangana Legislative Assembly to meet for its First Session at 11:00 am on Saturday, December 9, 2023, in the Assembly Hall, Public Gardens, Hyderabad," a notification issued by Raj Bhavan said.

As per the schedule, AIMIM MLA Akbaruddin Owaisi has been appointed as the Pro-tem Speaker and will be sworn in by the Governor at Raj Bhavan at 8.30 am. After the session begins at 11 am, the Pro-tem Speaker will administer the oath for all the 119 MLAs in the Assembly.

Main Oppn party

Of the total 119 MLAs in the State Assembly, the 64-member Congress will be led by Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy. With 39 MLAs, the BRS is likely to be designated as the main opposition party and also secure the Chairman's post of the Public Accounts Committee as per established practices. The rest of the members include eight BJP MLAs, seven AIMIM MLAs and one CPI MLA. After the swearing-in ceremony, the Assembly is likely to elect Vikarabad MLA Gaddam Prasad Kumar as the new Speaker.

The Congress leadership is learned to have already proposed his name for the post. A Dalit leader from Congress, Prasad was

BRS MLAs TO MEET AT TELANGANA BHAVAN

HYDERABAD: The Bharat Rashtra Samithi Legislative Party (BRS) meeting has been convened at the party headquarters in Telangana Bhavan, ahead of the commencement of the third Telangana State Legislative Assembly on Saturday. However, it is unclear whether the BRS MLAs will elect the Legislative Party leader during the meeting. (SEE PAGE 2)

BJP MLAs MAY SKIP OATH CEREMONY

HYDERABAD: In protest against the State government appointing AIMIM MLA-elect Akbaruddin Owaisi as the Pro-tem Speaker, the BJP MLAs have reportedly decided to stay away from the oath-taking ceremony scheduled to take place in the Assembly on Saturday. (REPORT PAGE 3)

elected as MLA in 2009 for the first time and served as a Minister in the N Kiran Kumar Reddy government of erstwhile Andhra Pradesh. He lost the next two consecutive elections in 2014 and 2018 but secured victory in the recent Assembly polls.

Later, the Governor will address the House. The Business Advisory Committee (BAC) meeting chaired by the Speaker will decide the number of business days for the Assembly during this session. Meanwhile, Chief Secretary A Santhi Kumari and DGP Ravi Gupta, along with other officials, oversaw the arrangements, including security at the Assembly. They directed the officials to strictly follow the prohibitory orders. (SEE PAGE 2)

Revanth reviews power situation

STATE BUREAU
 Hyderabad

A day after assuming charge, Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy reviewed the financial conditions of the power utilities and discussed with officials the electricity consumption, distribution and production details of the State.

He held the high-level review meeting in the presence of Ministers N Uttam Kumar Reddy, Ponnamparthi, Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, Chief Secretary A Santhi Kumari, Secretary (CMO) V Seshadri, Special Chief Secretary (Finance) Ramakrishna Rao, Special Chief Secretary (Energy) Sunil Sharma, SCCL CMD N Sridhar, SPDCL CMD G Raghuma Reddy, NPDCL CMD Gopal Rao and other officials. (SEE PAGES 2, 3)

People throng Praja Darbar



FIRST DAY, FIRST SHOW: People at the Jyotirao Phule Praja Bhavan to file their grievances at the first Praja Darbar held by Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy on Friday. Many waiting for entry were seen arguing with police after being denied permission in the afternoon. — Photo: Anand Dharmana (REPORT PAGE 3)

Canada doubles fund criteria, Indian students to feel the pinch

TORONTO

Canada will more than double the cost-of-living financial requirement for incoming international students beginning January 1, Immigration Minister Marc Miller has announced.

The move will impact students from India the most as they make up about 40 per cent of all international students in Canada. To get a study visa to Canada, a student currently needs to show \$10,000 in his or her account for covering the initial cost of living.

But from 2024, the students will have to show at least \$20,635 in their account on top of their one-year tuition fees. If stu-

From 2024, the students will have to show at least \$20,635 in their account from the current \$10,000

dents bring one family member with them, they will need to show an additional \$4,000. Of about 8,00,000 international students currently studying in Canada, 3,20,000 are from India. Students from Punjab roughly make up about 70 per cent of them. Making this announcement, Immigration Minister Marc Miller said, "Ahead of September 2024, we are prepared to take necessary measures, including significantly

limiting visas, to ensure that designated learning institutions provide adequate and sufficient student support."

Since the huge influx of international students has caused a housing crisis, the Minister said, "It would be a mistake to blame international students for the housing crisis. But it would also be a mistake to invite them to come to Canada with no support. That's why we expect learning institutions to only accept numbers of students that they're able to provide for, able to house or assist in finding off-campus housing." He extended limit on international students to work more than 20 hours a week until April 30, 2024. (SEE PAGE 2)

Lok Sabha expels Mahua Moitra

NEW DELHI

Trinamool Congress leader Mahua Moitra was expelled on Friday from the Lok Sabha after the House adopted the report of its Ethics Committee that held her guilty of accepting gifts and illegal gratification from a businessman to further his interest.

After a heated debate over the panel report during which Moitra was not allowed to speak, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi moved a motion to expel the Trinamool member for "unethical conduct," which was adopted by a voice vote.

The Ethics Committee report found Moitra guilty of "unethical conduct" and contempt of the House by sharing her Lok Sabha cre-



dentals — User ID and Password of Lok Sabha Member's Portal, with unauthorised persons which had an irreparable impact on the national security.

The motion moved by Joshi said that Moitra's "conduct has further been found to be unbecoming as a member of parliament for accepting gifts and illegal gratification from a businessman to further his interest which is a serious misdemeanour and highly deplorable conduct" on her part. West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee denounced the expulsion of Mahua Moitra from the Lok Sabha on Friday and termed the move as a "betrayal" of India's parliamentary democracy. (RELATED REPORTS PAGE 5)