

HYDERABAD

TS Police top in anti-human trafficking operations **page 3**

NATION

Scientists find hidden reservoir of Covid virus in body cells **page 7**

BUSINESS

Historic deal on last day of COP28 **page 8**



Parliament security breached

2 persons enter House, open smoke canisters; two protest outside

Visitor passes facilitated by Mysuru BJP MP Prathap Simha

Incident coincides with anniversary of 2001 Parliament terror attack



Suspects hatched plan few days ago

NEW DELHI

The Parliament security breach on Wednesday was well-coordinated, meticulously planned and carried out by six accused, five of whom have been nabbed, police sources said.

Sagar Sharma and Manoranjan D, who were held inside the Lok Sabha chamber, and Amol Shinde and Neelam — caught outside Parliament — are in police custody. Lalit and Vikram are suspected to be their accomplices. While Vikram has been detained from Gurugram, Delhi Police teams have been sent to various locations to nab Lalit, sources said.

Sagar Sharma and Manoranjan D jumped into the Lok Sabha chamber from the public gallery during Zero Hour, released yellow gas from canisters and shouted slogans before being overpowered by MPs. Around the same time, Amol Shinde and Neelam sprayed coloured gas from canisters while shouting slogans 'tanashahi nahi chalegi' outside the Parliament premises. Police sources said the Parliament security breach was a well-planned and well-coordinated incident carried out by six people, all of whom were in contact with each other over Instagram and other social media platforms where they hatched the plan. (SEE PAGE 2)

MHA ORDERS PROBE

NEW DELHI: The Ministry of Home Affairs on Wednesday ordered a probe into the Parliament security breach following a request from the Lok Sabha Secretariat, officials said. The inquiry committee, headed by Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Director General Anish Dayal Singh, along with members from other security agencies and experts, will find out the lapse in security and recommend action, an MHA spokesperson said. "The committee will submit its report with recommendations, including suggestions on improving security in Parliament, at the earliest," the spokesperson said. The Lok Sabha Secretariat wrote to the MHA seeking a security review of Parliament in the wake of Wednesday's security breach. PTI

ENTRY OF VISITORS SUSPENDED

NEW DELHI: The entry of visitors inside the Parliament House complex has been suspended after the security breach. People carrying valid visitors' passes for the day were being sent back from the reception area. Officials said, so far, there has been no written instruction 'banning' visitors. Security protocols have been revamped, including allotting separate entrances for MPs, staff members and press. Additionally, the visitors' gallery will now be encased in glass and body scan machines, similar to those in airports, will be installed. AGENCIES



(Clockwise from top) A video grab shows a man jumping from the visitors' gallery of Lok Sabha, causing a scene using a colour smoke in the House, during the Winter Session of Parliament on Wednesday. A police personnel apprehends a man and a woman carrying a can emitting yellowish smoke while they were protesting outside the Parliament. A coloured gas canister seized. — Photos: ANI/PTI (RELATED REPORTS PAGE 7)

PTI
NEW DELHI

In a major security breach on the anniversary of the deadly 2001 Parliament terror attack, two people on Wednesday jumped into the Lok Sabha chamber from the visitors' gallery, shouted slogans and released yellow smoke from canisters that triggered panic and chaos in the House.

Around the same time, two others, including a woman, raised slogans and released yellow smoke from canisters outside Parliament, prompting police to get into action and round up the duo. The incident in the Lok Sabha chamber took place at around 1.01 pm when BJP member Khagen Murmu was raising an issue during Zero Hour.

While one started crossing the Benches in a bid to ap-

proach the Speaker's chair, the other was seen dangling from the railing of the visitor's gallery before jumping into the chamber, according to several MPs present in the House. Alarmed members, including Hanuman Beniwal, Malook Nagar and Gurjeet

Singh Aujla, overpowered and thrashed the intruders, who had come to the gallery with visitor passes facilitated by Lok Sabha member from Mysuru Prathap Simha of BJP, before handing them over to the security personnel. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, Par-

liamentary Affairs Minister Pralhad Joshi, Law Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal and several opposition leaders, including Rahul Gandhi, were among the over 100 lawmakers present. PM Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah were not in the House.

"Won't spare Cong if promises not met"

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

In his first interaction with the media after the new government took over, BRS working president and former Minister KT Rama Rao said the Congress would not be spared if it failed to deliver its electoral promises. He also criticised the ruling party for misleading the people with impractical promises disregarding their feasibility.

"The real game begins now. We will watch closely how this Congress government will fulfil the wild promises they made to come to power. They had no idea about the fiscal burden while making those promises," he said during an informal interaction with the media at the BRS Legislative Party office on the Assembly premises.

Rama Rao said the Congress would soon start singing the old tune that the State was handed over to them with a pile of debts, which he termed as a ploy to escape from implementing the poll promises. He said in the Governor's first

address in the Assembly scheduled for Friday, the Congress government would claim that the previous government left the State in a financial mess.

He said there was a record of every promise made by Congress leaders, including the CM, which would be revealed at the appropriate time. "Congress leader Rahul Gandhi promised to implement a crop loan waiver within 24 hours after forming the government. Revanth Reddy had assured to hike social security pensions to Rs 4,000 after assuming power. He had pledged to give legitimacy to the six guarantees in the first Cabinet meeting. He also promised to provide Rs 15,000 per acre per annum to farmers under Rythu Bharosa, within 10 days after the elections. What happened to these promises now?" he asked.

He ridiculed Congress' plans to release a white paper on the State's financial condition. He said the entire State Budget, including borrowings, were audited and tabled in Assembly every year. (SEE PAGE 2)

Airport Metro plan put on hold

Revanth tells officials to prepare alternative route alignments from MGBS-Falaknuma, LB Nagar via Chandrayangutta

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has asked senior officers to keep the current airport Metro Rail route alignment plan and its tender on hold, and quickly prepare alternative alignments from MGBS-Falaknuma and LB Nagar via Chandrayangutta.

The Chief Minister, who held a detailed review of the Hyderabad Metro Rail project, its expansion plans, the Airport Metro project and other projects, on Wednesday, directed the HMRL Managing Director to prepare cost-effective alternatives of taking it via Mailardevpally, Jalpally and



CM asked HMRL officials to prepare cost-effective alternatives of taking the Airport Metro via Mailardevpally, Jalpally and P7 Road; or via Barkas-Pahadi Shareef and Srisailem road.

P7 Road; or via Barkas-Pahadi Shareef and Srisailem road. "A straight-line alignment can save costs. It can cut across the open areas of the airport premises as the

entire land belongs to the government," he said.

Further, the Chief Minister advised the senior officers to plan for an environment-friendly mega

township in the huge extent of land acquired for the Pharma City near Kandukur. The polluting Pharma City should not be nearer to Hyderabad and, instead, it should be located in a distant place, he said, instructing the HMRL MD to plan for Metro Rail connectivity to the new city from the airport area via Tukuguda on the Srisailem road.

Expressing his dissatisfaction with the way several benefits were handed out to the Metro Rail concessionaire, L&TMRHL, despite the non-completion of the 5.5-km stretch in the Old City, he directed the senior officers to get the entire matter investigated. (SEE PAGE 2)

India backs call for Gaza ceasefire

UNITED NATIONS

Faced with the 'challenge' to 'strike the right balance', India has joined the General Assembly's call for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire in the Israel-Hamas conflict in Gaza, reversing its earlier position of abstaining.

After the resolution was adopted on Tuesday with 153 votes, India's Permanent Representative to the UN, Ruchira Kamboj, outlined the complicating factors, the terrorist attack on October 7 on Israel, the humanitarian crisis and the deaths of civilians. "Our challenge ... is to strike the right balance. We welcome the fact that the international community has been able to find a common ground," she said. IANS

Gaddam Prasad set to become 1st Dalit Speaker of TS

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

Gaddam Prasad Kumar is all set to be elected unopposed as the Speaker of the third Telangana State Legislative Assembly. He filed his nomination on Wednesday and, as he is the only person to file papers for the post, his election on Thursday will be only a formality.

He will be the first Speaker to represent the Dalit community in the Telangana Assembly.

The Speaker election is scheduled to be held in the Assembly on Thursday. Pro-tem Speaker Akbaruddin Owaisi will announce the unanimous election of Kumar as Speaker. Except for the BJP, all other parties in the Assembly, including the BRS, AIMIM and CPI, have supported his candidature. Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, his Cabinet colleagues, BRS working president KT Rama Rao, AIMIM MLAs and CPI MLA Kunamneni Sambasiva Rao

were present when the nomination was submitted to the Legislature Secretary around 12.30 pm on Wednesday.

Following a request from Legislative Affairs Minister D Sridhar Babu, BRS president K Chandrashekharao decided to support the candidature of Prasad Kumar for the post. Accordingly, Rama Rao and former Minister T Harish Rao visited the Assembly and attended the nomination filing programme. (SEE PAGE 2)



Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy and BRS working president KT Rama Rao accompany Gaddam Prasad Kumar during the filing of his nomination, at the Assembly on Wednesday.

Striving to change clichés

HYDERABAD | PAGE 02

Zelenskyy in US to appeal for aid

WORLD | PAGE 09



Bowlers eye better outing

SPORT | PAGE 10



ENTERTAINMENT
PAGE 12

Box office failures

Arjun can modify his effort on a film, but not collections



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