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'Will fight for TS till last breath'

BRS chief vows to strive for equal share of Krishna water; asks Congress to safeguard interests of people of State

STATE BUREAU
 NALGONDA

Launching a fiery broadside against the handing over of Krishna river projects to the Centre, BRS president and former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao on Tuesday vowed to fight like a tiger until his last breath and ensure an equal share of Krishna river waters to Telangana.

Demanding the Congress government here to lead an all-party delegation to the Centre to pressurise it for allocation of Krishna river waters to Telangana within the next six months, Chandrashekhara Rao said he would not allow any injustice to Telangana at any cost. In a well-attended meeting at Nalgonda that saw the crowd listening in rapt attention and cheering the BRS chief as his speech - emotional and fierce at the same time - progressed with hard-hitting statements at political rivals all along, Chandrashekhara Rao said the 'Chalo Nalgonda' meeting was not a mere political meeting, but a warning to those who wanted to rob Telangana of its rightful share in Krishna river waters.



Former Chief Minister and BRS president K Chandrashekhara Rao addressing the 'Chalo Nalgonda' meeting in the district on Tuesday; (right) A section of the crowd at the venue



"This is not mere politics, but a matter of life and death for the people of Nalgonda, Khammam, Mahabubnagar, Rangareddy and Hyderabad. The Congress must stop playing its blame game and get its act right to safeguard the interests of the people of Telangana. It is time to fight

and I will fight like a tiger till my last breath. I will fight even if I'm not well. But I will not sit quietly like a cat," he said. The former Chief Minister, who reached the venue in a helicopter, headed to the dais with the support of a walking stick even as the crowd went rap-

torous. Taking permission from the people to address them from a chair, to which the crowd responded with huge applause and whistles, Chandrashekhara Rao spoke in detail on the long fight for Telangana's share in Krishna River waters, pointing out that the then Congress

government at the Centre had suggested temporary allocations in Krishna River water between Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. "We agreed to their conditions to expedite State formation. Later, the Modi government came and I wrote hundreds of letters demand-

ing equal distribution of Krishna River water. We filed a case in the Supreme Court, but the Centre wanted us to withdraw the case to complete water allocations. The Modi government recently referred the matter to the tribunal," he said. Stating that it was now the responsi-

bility of the current State government to pursue the matter with the Centre to safeguard Telangana's rights, he said the previous BRS government never agreed to give up the projects for nearly 10 years despite the Centre's pressure. (SEE PAGES 2, 5)

Ashok Chavan joins BJP
NATION | PAGE 08

'Nawaz all set to become Pak PM'
WORLD | PAGE 09



Kuldeep hints at rank turners
SPORT | PAGE 10



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'Delhi Chalo' turns violent, farmers clash with police

CHANDIGARH/NEW DELHI

Farmers from Punjab clashed with Haryana Police at two border points between the States on Tuesday, facing tear gas and water cannons as they tried to break past barricades blocking their protest march to the national capital.

Police lobbed tear gas shells - some of them dropped from a drone - and tried to disperse groups of stone-pelting protesters in the face-off that lasted several hours in the Shambhu border near Ambala in Haryana.

Haryana Police hurled tear gas canisters against the 'Delhi Chalo' protesters at the border in State's Jind district as well. Water cannons too were deployed there. Seven police personnel, including a deputy superintendent of police, were brought to the Ambala government hospital.

Some farmers are also reported hurt. The Samyukta Kisan Morcha (Non-Politi-



Farmers gather near Punjab-Haryana Shambhu border during 'Delhi Chalo' march. — Photo: PTI

cal) and the Kisan Mazdoor Morcha are spearheading the 'Delhi Chalo' agitation to put pressure on the Centre for their demands, including a law on minimum support price for crops and loan waivers. A large group

of farmers, including women, packed in tractor-trolleys left about 10 am Tuesday from Punjab's Fatehgarh Sahib, about 40 km from the border with BJP-ruled Haryana. An excavator was a part of one

convoy, with a farmer in Amritsar saying it would be used to break barricades. Police barriers have been put up at several places in Haryana on the highway to Delhi. (SEE PAGE 2); ('MSP LAW CANNOT BE HURRIED' PAGE 7)

NGT petitioner refutes CM's claims on RLIS

STATE BUREAU
 Hyderabad

Gavinolla Srinivas, a farmer from Narayanpet district and petitioner against Rayalaseema Lift Irrigation Scheme (RLIS), refuted reports that Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy made him file the petition in the National Green Tribunal (NGT) that led to the halting of RLIS in the neighbouring Andhra Pradesh.

He asserted that he approached the NGT in an individual capacity as a farmer from the Palamuru region to safeguard the interests of farmers.

"The Rayalaseema LIS is detrimental to the interests of the Palamuru region. The Andhra Pradesh government issued GO 203 to increase the capacity of the Pothreddypadu project which poses a threat to several Telangana projects on Krishna river and consequently, took up works without mandatory approvals," Srinivas told 'Telangana Today.'

(SEE PAGE 2)

Feels like home, says Modi in UAE



Prime Minister Narendra Modi being received by UAE President Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan in Abu Dhabi on Tuesday.

ABU DHABI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday said he had an excellent meeting with the UAE President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan during which they reviewed the strategic partnership, discussed new areas of cooperation and witnessed the signing of several key agreements, including a bilateral investment treaty.

In a special and warm gesture, Modi was received at the airport by President Mohamed bin Zayed. The

two leaders hugged each other. He was later given a guard of honour. "I thank you for this grand welcome of me and my team. As you said, I feel that whenever I have come here, I have always felt that I have come to my home and family," Prime Minister Modi said in his opening remarks at the bilateral meeting with the UAE President. "We have met five times in the last seven months. Today, there is a mutual partnership between India and UAE in every sector," he said. (SEE PAGE 2)

JEE Main: 7 from State score perfect 100, highest in country

CITY BUREAU
 Hyderabad

In a windfall of 100 per centiles, seven students from Telangana scored the perfect 100 in the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) Main 2024 session-1 results that were announced by the National Testing Agency (NTA) on Tuesday.

The seven students - Rishi Shekher Shukla, Rohan Sai Pabba, Muthavarapu Anoop, Hunderkar Vidith, Venkata Sai Teja Madineni, Sriyashas Mohan Kalluri, and Tavva Dinesh Reddy, in addition to scoring the perfect 100 NTA

Archer hits bullseye

HYDERABAD: An archer Sriyashas Mohan Kalluri has hit the bullseye, with clinical precision in paper 1 (BE/BTech) of the Joint Entrance Examination (JEE) Main 2024 session 1. Balancing his academics and archery, Sriyashas scored a perfect 100 percentile in the JEE Main results announced by the National Testing Agency (NTA) on Tuesday. A student of FIITJEE Junior College, Hyderabad, Sriyashas is an accomplished archer and is a Khelo India athlete. (REPORT PAGE 3)

in Paper-1 (BE/BTech) of the test, also made Telangana the only State to have the highest number of 100 per centiles in the country. A total of 23 candidates bagged 100 percentile in the

country. Other toppers were from Rajasthan (3), Maharashtra (3), Andhra Pradesh (3), Haryana (2), Delhi (2), and one each from Tamil Nadu, Gujarat and Karnataka. (SEE PAGE 2)

16-yr-old JEE aspirant ends life in Kota

KOTA

A 16-year-old JEE aspirant allegedly hanged himself in his hostel room here, hours after the National Testing Agency published the answer key for the first edition of JEE-Main 2024, police said on Tuesday. This is the third case of suspected 'suicide' by coaching students in Kota this year so far, they added. Shubb Choudhary's body was found hanging from the ceiling fan of his hostel room in the Jawahar Nagar area on Tuesday morning, Circle Officer DSP Bhawani Singh said. PTI

Above-normal rainfall likely in TS this year

SOWMYA SANGAM
 Hyderabad

Meteorological experts are forecasting a promising monsoon season for 2024, with a high probability of above-normal rainfall not only in Telangana but across the country.

There is a high probability that La Nina, which is associated with strong monsoons, above-average rains and colder winters, will replace El Nino by July, bringing much-needed above-average rainfall across the country. Madhavan Rajeevan, former secretary at the union Ministry of Earth



There is a high probability that La Nina, associated with strong monsoons, will replace El Nino by July, say experts.

Sciences, has clearly indicated that favourable conditions are emerging, primarily due to the weakening El Niño phe-

nomenon and the potential development of La Niña by July. Rajeevan stated that there is a greater than 50 per cent

likelihood of a La Niña event occurring, which historically correlates with abundant monsoon rains in India.

Positive outcome
 He highlighted the significance of the transition from El Niño to La Niña, noting that such shifts have often resulted in positive monsoon outcomes in the past. Citing historical data, Rajeevan underlined years such as 1972-73, 1982-83, 1987-88, 1997-98, 2002-2003, 2009-2010, and 2015-2016, when La Niña episodes led to robust monsoon seasons in India. (SEE PAGE 2)