



STATE

Niranjan slams Congress govt for not fulfilling promises **page 5**

NATION

BJP trying to disrupt peace: Mamata **page 8**

WORLD

No compromise on Rafah operation, says Netanyahu **page 9**



Yasangi activity takes a hit in State

Cultivation area down by 5.04 lakh acres compared to last year

PS DILEEP
HYDERABAD

Diminished water supply coupled with the delayed disbursement of investment support from the State government appears to have dented agricultural activity in Telangana for the Yasangi (Rabi) season. The total crop cultivation area in the State during the current season dropped by around 5.04 lakh acres compared to last year. Cultivation has been taken up in around 60.88 lakh acres as of February 14. This is higher than the season normal cultivation area of 54.93 lakh acres, but lesser than the 65.92 lakh acres cultivated during the corresponding period of last Yasangi. At the end of the last Yasangi season, the total cropped area reached 72.63 lakh acres.

During the current crop season, paddy cultivation has been taken up in around 46.28 lakh acres as of February 14 against 50.71 lakh

Challenges loom large

- 319.22 TMC available in all major reservoirs in Telangana against total storage capacity of 517.81 TMC
- Uncertainty over water availability and delayed disbursement of Rythu Bandhu investment support appear to be major factors
- Rs 3,246 cr Rythu Bandhu aid disbursed to 54.6 lakh farmers against nearly 70 lakh eligible farmers

“Uncertainty over the availability of irrigation water and disbursement of investment support led to some delay in crop cultivation which harmed the overall Yasangi season. However, cultivation has picked up in many areas and there is unlikely to be any major crisis during this season”

— AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL

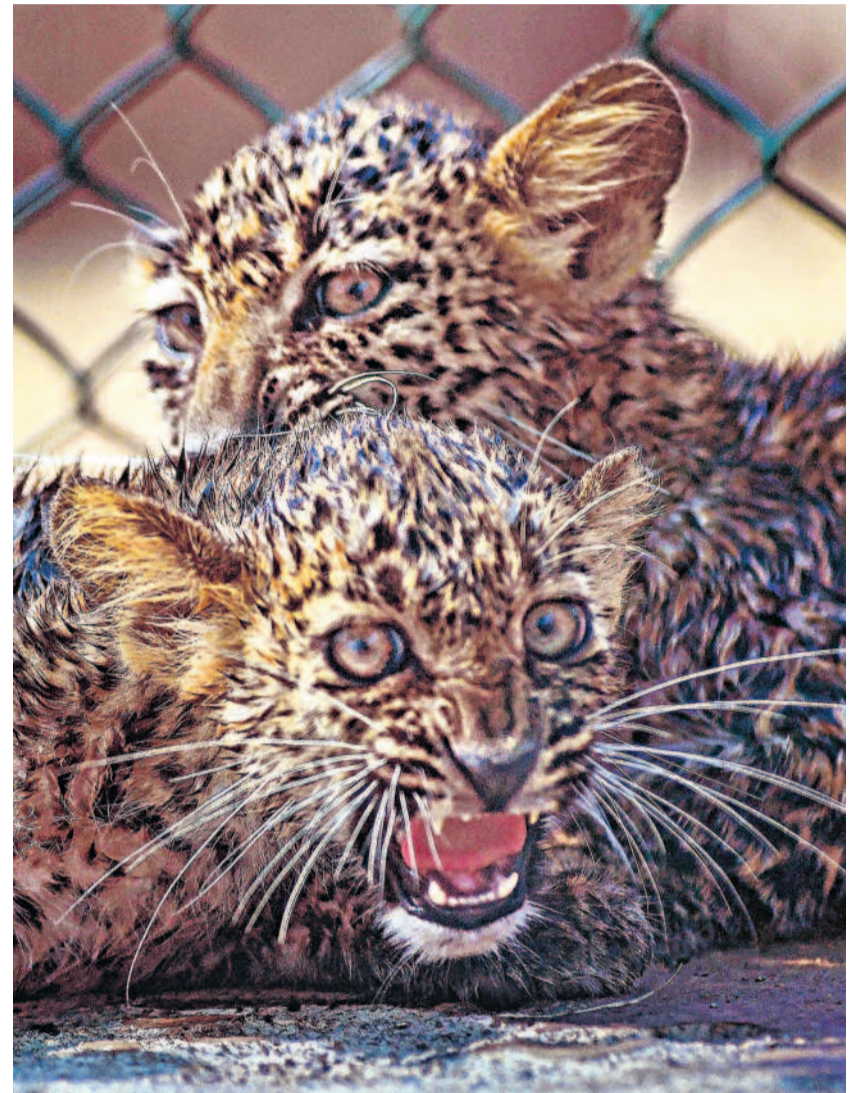
acres cultivated during the last Yasangi season. Paddy was cultivated in a total of 56.44 lakh acres at the end of the last Yasangi season.

The drop in total cultivation area is being attributed to two major factors — diminished water supply and delayed disbursement of in-

vestment support under the Rythu Bandhu. There is a sharp decline in available water resources in all major reservoirs. As per the latest report, Telangana has around 319.22 TMC available in all major reservoirs against a total storage capacity of 517.81 TMC.

Groundwater levels also fell significantly by around 1.5 mbgl (metres below ground level) from 6.22 mbgl in January last year to 7.72 mbgl this January. Due to uncertainty over timely water supply, farmers reportedly refrained from taking up large-scale cultivation. For instance, cropped area in the erstwhile Nalgonda district where farmers are largely dependent on the NSP, decreased by more than 1.79 lakh acres compared to last Yasangi season. However, with the majority of the tanks filled during the monsoon season, there has been a marginal impact on agricultural operations under them. (SEE PAGE 2)

Caught in man-animal conflict



RACE AGAINST TIME: Cubs which were found in Aarey Colony in Mumbai last month. The officials at the Sanjay Gandhi National Park have been working to reunite three leopard cubs with their mother. — Photo: PTI

Selfie point in Uri a big draw

NATION | PAGE 07

Over 400 Navalny mourners detained

WORLD | PAGE 09



Jaiswal shines in India's win

SPORT | PAGE 10



ENTERTAINMENT PAGE 12

Yami on career

Says 'A Thursday' changed her career



CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD

Farm	Rs. 130
Retail live.....	Rs. 152
With skin.....	Rs. 220
Skinless	Rs. 251
Egg Rates (12 eggs).....	Rs. 73

Would you like to subscribe to **TELANGANA TODAY** or **NAMASTE TELANGANA**? Please give a missed call to **9672533434**. We will get back to you



Farmers plan to gherao residences of BJP leaders

LUDHIANA

The Samyukta Kisan Morcha will gherao the residences of BJP leaders in Punjab for three days from Tuesday to press the Centre into accepting the farmers' demands including a legal guarantee to minimum support price on crops, a leader of the outfit has said.

Several farmer outfits, which are part of the Samyukta Kisan Morcha, have extended their support to the 'Delhi Chalo' call given by SKM and Kisan Mazdoor Morcha. The march was stopped by security forces at Shambhu and Khanauri points on Punjab's border with Haryana which led to clashes.

Protesting farmers have stayed put at Shambhu and Khanauri for the sixth day after their march to the national capital was halted. Balbir Singh Rajewal, a leader of the SKM, an umbrella body of various farmer unions, said they will stage protests in front of the residences of Punjab BJP leaders, including MPs, MLAs and district presidents, from Tuesday to Thursday. Interacting with reporters after a meeting of

“We want to tell the government that it should avoid the policy of dilly-dallying”

— JAGJIT SINGH, Farmer leader

SKM leaders here, Rajewal said it has also been decided that they would protest at all toll barriers in the State and make them free for all commuters from Feb 20 to 22. The Centre should not dilly-dally and accept the demands of farmers before the model code of conduct comes into force, farmer leader Jagjit Singh Dallewal said. “We want to tell the government that it should avoid the policy of dilly-dallying,” Dallewal said. “If the government thinks it will continue to hold meetings till the code of conduct is imposed, and then say it cannot do anything as the code is in force”...farmers are not going to return”, he said. PTI

Will continue past govts initiatives: CM

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy said on Sunday that the State government would continue the development initiatives of the previous governments for sustained growth of Hyderabad. He announced that the Mega Master Plan 2050 would be unveiled soon for the comprehensive devel-

opment of Telangana. Addressing the gathering after inaugurating the new headquarters of the Telangana State Fire Services at Nanakramguda here on Sunday, the Chief Minister said Hyderabad witnessed sustained growth over the last 30 years. He said it was competing with global cities and emerged as an ideal investment destination. (REPORT PAGE 5)

Nath's loyalists in Delhi amid BJP switch

BHOPAL

Around half a dozen Madhya Pradesh MLAs loyal to senior Congress leader Kamal Nath reached Delhi on Sunday amid speculation that he and his MP son Nakul Nath are set to join the ruling BJP.

Three of these MLAs are from Chhindwara, while another three from the region are set to leave for Delhi, sources close to the veteran leader said. Nath, a nine-time MP from Chhindwara and currently MLA from the seat, is a former Chief Minister who was removed as the party's State president following the Congress' dismal performance in Assembly polls.

These MLAs were not answering calls, with some insiders claiming Nath loyalist and Lakhhan Ghangoriya was also camping with them in Delhi. PTI

BJP eyes strong mandate in LS polls

Modi asks cadre to work with renewed energy for next 100 days

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi asserted on Sunday that the BJP's return to power with a strong mandate is the first condition for India to realise its big goals as he exhorted thousands of party members to work with renewed energy, vigour and enthusiasm for the next 100 days to ensure a big victory.

Addressing nearly 11,500 BJP delegates from across the country at Bharat Mandapam here, Modi said he is seeking power not for 'satta bhog' (enjoying power) but for the country's benefit, and slammed the opposition, especially the Congress, saying they make all kinds of false promises but lack a road map for making the country developed. This is something only the BJP



PM Narendra Modi being garlanded by Ministers Rajnath Singh, Amit Shah during the BJP National Convention. — Photo: ANI

can do, he said, exuding confidence about his return to power while noting that many foreign countries have invited him for engagements in July, August and September. This suggests that these countries also know that “aayega toh Modi hi”

(Modi's re-election is inevitable). In his 65-minute valedictory speech at the BJP's national convention ahead of the Lok Sabha elections expected in April-May, the Prime Minister stuck to the message of the country's growth and rising global

standing besides his government's measures for empowering every section of society, especially the poor.

He asked BJP members to connect with all sections of society, including those who have not been inclined to the party, saying they have to earn the trust of everyone. When everyone makes an effort, then the BJP will win more than 370 seats and the NDA led by it 400-plus seats in the 543-member House, he said.

“We have to connect with everyone, not for forming government but to build the country,” he said. Taking an aim at critics who wondered if he would be able to handle foreign policy, he said India's ties with West Asia is at its strongest and noted that he was the first Prime Minister in a few decades to visit the UAE. (SEE PAGE 2)

'Treasure Hunt Hyderabad' captivates adventure seekers

RUCHI RAI SOHNI
Hyderabad

In an age where screens dominate our attention, one Instagram page is bringing the thrill of real-world treasure hunts back into the spotlight. “Treasure Hunt Hyderabad,” as it's aptly named, has been captivating the city's residents with its unique cash hunts scattered across Hyderabad.

For the past ten days, the Instagram page, with the handle @treasure-hunthyderabad, has been orchestrating cash treasure hunts by strategically placing envelopes filled with cash at undisclosed locations across the city. Each hunt begins with a video hint dropped on



In the game, envelopes filled with cash are placed at undisclosed locations.

their page, sending the people of Hyderabad on a quest to find the hidden treasure. What started as a novel idea has swiftly gained traction, amassing over 11,000 followers in just a short span. Their reels showcasing the

hunts have garnered more than 1 million views, indicating widespread interest and enthusiasm for the initiative.

“Treasure Hunt Hyderabad is an innovative and engaging initiative that transforms the city into an exciting playground for adventure seekers. Our mission is to encourage people to step out of the digital realm, explore their surroundings, and embark on thrilling treasure hunts. We hide cash in various locations across Hyderabad, create a unique and exhilarating experience for participants,” shared the admin of the page about the insights into their mission and motivations while speaking to ‘Telangana Today.’ (SEE PAGE 2)

Drop 'ganja' from movie title: TSNAB

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

The Telangana State Anti-Narcotics Bureau (TSNAB) has issued notices to the makers of the Telugu film ‘Ganja Shankar’ and directed them to delete the word ‘Ganja’ from the movie title.

The Director of TSNAB, Sandeep Shandilya in the notice said: “We are expecting that you refrain from depicting any scenes in your movies where consumption, sale, peddling and supply of narcotic ganja is glorified and shown as a heroic act and you desist from having such scenes in your movie and to abstain propagating such acts which have deleterious effects in the young generation.” If any such objectionable scenes in connection with

Issues notices to makers of *Ganja Shankar*, warns of action in case of objectionable scenes, if any

ganja/narcotics and psychotropic substances are made, legal action will be initiated under the provisions of the NDPS Act, 1985, the notice said. The TSNAB, in the notice, pointed out: “You are aware that inclusion of these scenes not only normalises and glamorises the use of narcotics, particularly among the youth, but also serves to abet the commission of such crimes by indirectly/tacitly endorsing and encouraging their consumption.” (SEE PAGE 2)