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Telangana Today

State BJP names six more candidates for page 5 Lok Sabha polls

CAA linked to NRC, says Mamata page 7



Nayab Saini-led Haryana government wins trust vote page 8

Golden Reflection



GRANDIOSE: The Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Temple at Yadadri illuminated for the ongoing Brahmotsavams is reflected in the rainwater after a brief spell of showers lashed the region on Wednesday evening. — Photo: G Naresh

BRS releases second list with 4 candidates

STATE BUREAU

BRS president K Chandrashekhar Rao on Wednesday released the second list of the party's candidates for four Parliamentary constituencies for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections. He congratulated the candidates and urged the BRS cadre to put on a united fight for the party's victory in the

Former MLC Kasani Gnaneswar Mudiraj will contest from the Chevella

Parliamentary constituency, while Dr Kadiyam Kavya will be the party's candidate from Warangal. Similarly, former TSRTC Chairman Bajireddy Govardhan has been nominated to contest from Nizamabad, while Gali Anil Kumar is the candidate for the Zaheerabad constituency.

The BRS chief held comprehensive discussions with the party's senior leaders from the respective constituencies and finalised the candidates following a unanimous decision. While

the first list comprised sitting MPs, the party leadership opted for new candidates in the second list. So far, the BRS announced candidates for a total of nine constituencies and is expected to announce candidates for another five-six constituencies, based on the seat-sharing adjustments with BSP.

BRS, BSP reach consensus on seat-sharing

The crucial meeting between Chandrashekhar Rao and BSP central coordinator Ramji Gautam turned out to be a success, with both parties reaching a consensus on seat-sharing for the elections. A joint announcement will be made after the results of the meeting are discussed with BSP national president Mayawati.

The BRS and BSP had already announced their alliance for the polls in Telangana. The decision was reached following a meeting between Chandrashekhar Rao and BSP Telangana president RS Praveen Kumar recently. (SEE PAGE 2)

SBI discloses poll bonds data

22,217 bonds bought from Apr 2019 to Feb 2024

NEW DELHI

The State Bank of India (SBI) on Wednesday told the Supreme Court that a total of 22,217 electoral bonds were purchased by political parties between April 1, 2019 and February 15 this year, of which 22,030

were redeemed. In a compliance affidavit filed in the apex court, the SBI said as per the court's direction, it has made available the details of electoral bonds to the Election Commission of India (ECI) before the close of business hours on March 12. It said details, including the date of purchase of each electoral bond, names of the purchasers and the denomination of the bonds purchased have been furnished.

The affidavit, filed by SBI's chairman Dinesh Kumar Khara, said the bank has also furnished to the EC details such as the date of encashment of the electoral bonds, the names of political parties which received the contributions and the denominations of the bonds.

"A total number of 22,217 bonds were purchased from April 1, 2019, to February 15, 2024. At the time of collating the information for the ECI, the details were segregated as below...," it said.

EC WILL RELEASE DETAILS IN TIME: CEC RAJIV KUMAR

JAMMU: The Election Commission (EC) has received details from the State Bank of India (SBI) related to electoral bonds and will share all relevant information in time, Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) Rajiv Kumar said here on Wednesday. "The SBI was supposed to submit the data by March 12. They have given us the details in time. I will go back and look at the data (and) would definitely disclose it in time," Kumar said Kumar received the complete the complete the complete the statement of the complete the said. Kumar reached here on Wednesday to review preparations for the upcoming Lok Sabha elections in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

The affidavit said between April 1, 2019, and April 11, 2019, a total of 3,346 electoral bonds were purchased and 1,609 redeemed. It further said from April 12, 2019, to February 15 this year, a total of 18,871 electoral bonds were purchased and 20,421 redeemed.

"The SBI has ready records in which the date of purchase, denomination and name of buyer were recorded, and (in relation to the political parties) the date of encashment and the denominations of the bonds encashed were recorded," the affidavit said.

It said in compliance with the apex court's directions, a record of this information was made available to the EC by hand delivering in digital form (password protected) before the close of business hours on March 12 (Tuesday). "As per direction no. (b), the date of purchase of each electoral

bond, the name of the purchaser and the denomination of the electoral bond purchased has been furnished. In terms of direction no. (c), the date of encashment of the electoral bonds, the name of political parties who have received the contributions and the denomination of the said bonds has also been furnished," the affidavit said.

It said the aforesaid data has been furnished in respect of bonds purchased and redeemed between April 12, 2019, and February 15, 2024.

"The electoral bonds were sold and redeemed in phases during this period and phase IX started on April 1, 2019. The number of bonds set out in the application included (by oversight) the bonds that were purchased during the period commencing April 1, 2019 and not from April 12, 2019," it said.

5 mins grace time for SSC students

YUVRAJ AKULA

Students appearing for Class X exams from March 18 to April 2 will get five minutes of grace time to enter the examination cen-

While the SSC Public Examinations will begin at 9.30 am, students will be allowed into the centre up to 9.35 am. Except for the first language composite course and science subjects, the exams will be conducted from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm.

The timing for the first language composite course exam is 9.30 am to 12.50 pm, while the part-I physical science and part-II biological science exams will be held from 9.30 am to 11 am on two days.

As many as 5,08,385 students, including 2,57,952 boys and 2,50,433 girls, have registered to appear for the examinations at 2,676 centres across the State. To

While SSC Public **Examinations will** begin at 9.30 am, students will be allowed into the centre till 9.35 am

monitor exams, 144 flying squads, comprising one officer each from the Education and Revenue departments, one ASI and two constables will be pressed into action.

"The grace time of up to five minutes only will be applicable on all days of the exams, for which elaborate arrangements have been made. Additional security will be deployed at all centres this time," A Krishna Rao, Director of Government Examinations, told Telangana Today.

Hall tickets have been dispatched to schools and is being hosted on the website bse.telangana.gov.in/.

Reservoirs across State running dry

Govt move to seek emergency release of water from K'taka, Maha draws a blank

D CHANDRA BHASKAR RAO

Barring a few exceptions, water levels are dipping to the minimum draw-down levels (MDDL) in almost all major projects across Telangana. The State government has drawn a blank in its moves to seek emergency releases from the neighbouring States of Karnataka and Maharashtra so far.

With the Yasangi (Rabi) crops beginning to wither, farmers are up in arms in many places. Irrigation officials tasked with the job of using the precious little left in the projects only to meet the drinking water needs are facing the heat.

The right canal of the Nagarjuna Sagar Project was closed on Sunday after releasing 5 TMC of its allotted quota to Andhra Pradesh. The project was left with hardly 8 TMC of water above the MDDL of 510 feet.



A dried up irrigation well being dug deeper to extract groundwater, in Hanamkonda.

Even as the State government has declared a crop holiday under the NSP left canal, Yasangi farmers have raised crops in over one lakh acres in all three zones of the left canal. They have been pressuring the administration in Nalgonda and Khammam districts for at least a single wetting.

TS PINS HOPE ON ALMATTI

HYDERABAD: With the threat of severe scarcity looming large over Krishna basin projects, a high-level team from the State is likely to visit Bengaluru on a water mission soon. This is after the State government had earlier sounded Karnataka on the need for emergency releases from the Almatti dam to support the drinking water supply in case of an emergency in the next two months. The State government is likely to take a a day or two. (REPORT PAGE 5

CRISIS DEEPENS

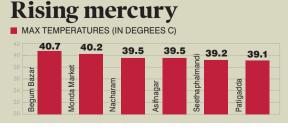
Major projects left with bare

Hyderabad sizzles at 40°C

CITY BUREAU

As temperatures soar, Hyexperienced scorching heat on Wednesday, with localities such as Begum Bazar and Monda Market bearing the brunt of the intense weather condi-

According to reports from the Telangana State Development Planning Society, the mercury shot up to 40 degrees Celsius, with Begum Bazar recording 40.7 degrees Celsius and Monda Market close behind at 40.2



degrees Celsius. scorching heat extended its grip across various parts of the city, with localities such as Nacharam, Seethaphalmandi, Saroornagar and Moula Ali also experiencing

temperatures surpassing 35 degrees Celsius.

The situation was no different in the neighbouring districts, where temperatures soared above 40 degrees Celsius.

TS student dies in US jet-ski accident

HYDERABAD

A 27-year-old student from Telangana died in a jet-ski accident in the US.

Venkataramana Pittala, who was pursuing Masters at Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI), died in a collision between jet skis. According to information reaching his family in Kazipet, the accident took place on March 9 at Fury Playground, near Wisteria Island in Florida. (SEE PAGE 2)

Woman ryot ends life over financial crisis

woman tenant farmer died, reportedly by suicide, after she was depressed over not being able to repay loans taken for cotton crop at Gudem Gutta village in Asifabad mandal on

Wednesday. According to Asifabad Sub-Inspector T Mahender, Sandaveni Sumalatha (30), the wife of Raj Kumar, took the drastic step on Tuesday after she was depressed

over the financial crisis triggered by losses in agriculture. She was rushed to hos-

STATE BUREAU Kumram Bheem Asifabad

pital, where she died on Wednesday.

Sumalatha and her husband had taken 10 acres on lease and grew cotton this agriculture season by taking a loan of Rs 3 lakh from informal sources, reportedly moneylenders, at higher rates of interest. But they could not register profits due to poor yield caused by unfavourable

Sensex crashes over 900 points

MUMBAI

Equity benchmark index Sensex on Wednesday crashed over 900 points to sink below the 73,000 level due to widespread selling pressure amid a sharp fall in smallcap and midcap indices. The 30-share index tanked 906.07 points or 1.23 per cent to settle at 72,761.89. During the day, it dropped 1,152.25 points or 1.56 per cent to 72,515.71. Nifty plummeted 338 points or 1.51 per cent to

(FULL REPORT PAGE 8)





Saher Friday **CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD**

Iftar Thursday 6:31 PM

Farm	Rs.	114
Retail live	Rs.	136
With skin	Rs.	197
Skinless	Rs.	224
Egg Rates (12 eggs)	Rs.	56