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Session helps explore the ancient art of Cyanotypes



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Arrest warrants sought for Netanyahu, Hamas leaders

Israel hits back saying this is "a historic disgrace that will be remembered forever"



SPORT | PAGE 10

Power-hitting contest between SRH and KKR

In a nutshell

Fish prasadam on June 8

HYDERABAD: The annual 'Fish Prasadam' will be distributed by the Bathini family at Exhibition Grounds in Nampally on Mrigasira Day on June 8. Every year, the family distributes fish prasadam, for which people from not only Hyderabad and districts of Telangana but also from across the country line up. In 2023, about two lakh people were administered the fish prasadam and this year, the number is expected to go up. (HYDERABAD PAGE 3)

Graffiti targeting Kejriwal surfaces

NEW DELHI: The AAP on Monday accused the BJP of sponsoring threatening Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal through graffiti that were found scribbled inside Metro trains here. The party has sought time from the EC for a meeting on the issue and sent a request for a representation in email. A senior police officer said they have taken cognisance of the incident and are probing into the matter. (NATION PAGE 8)

BHU study poorly designed: ICMR

NEW DELHI: Indian Council of Medical Research Director General Dr Rajiv Bahl on Monday criticised a recently published study on the long-term safety analysis of Covaxin in adults and adolescents for its poor methodology and design, and clarified the article misleadingly and erroneously "acknowledges" ICMR. The reported events in the study cannot be linked or attributed to Covid vaccination. (STATE PAGE 5)

TS' Deepthi sets record, wins gold

KOBE: Telangana's Deepthi Jeevanji, representing India, clinched the gold medal with a world record time of 55.07 seconds in the women's 400 m T20 category race at the World Para Athletics Championships on Monday. Para Asian Games gold medalist Deepthi smashed American Breanna Clark's earlier world record of 55.12 seconds set during last year's edition in Paris. (SPORT PAGE 11)

CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD

Farm	Rs. 150
Retail live	Rs. 172
With skin	Rs. 249
Skinless	Rs. 284
Egg Rates (12 eggs)	Rs. 72



First single from Devara released

Lyrical video of Fear song features glimpses of superstar Jr NTR

12

Medigadda repairs likely to be delayed

TS govt for further probe into all 3 barrages

D CHANDRA BHASKAR RAO
HYDERABAD

The ongoing investigations into the Medigadda barrage, irrespective of their findings and the end results, will not be final.

The Telangana government, which discussed the issue during the Cabinet meeting on Monday, is firm on conducting further investigations in all three barrages of the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project for taking up rehabilitation works on a permanent basis, which, in turn, could mean that the repairs could take longer than expected.

Three central organisations — the National Geophysical Research Institute (NGRI), Central Water and Power Research Station (WPRS) and Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI) — are in consideration for further investigations, according to irrigation officials.

Issues such as suspected construction deficiencies, design discrepancies, maintenance neglect and settlement of the barrage raft have been under the scrutiny of the National Dam Safety Authority

Cabinet decides in favour of more studies on Kaleshwaram project

HYDERABAD: The State Cabinet on Monday decided in favour of conducting further studies/tests on the Medigadda, Annaram and Sundilla barrages — the key components of the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project. Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, briefing the media, said three organisations of the Centre were identified for the task. The physical and technical aspects of each barrage will be studied by two of the organisations identified. The kind of repairs to be taken up would be decided taking their recommendations and findings into consideration, he said. The project authorities were asked to explore the possibility of lifting water from the barrages to meet the irrigation needs of farmers in the command area of the project by putting up simple rock-filled gabion structures in place of the damaged structures with nominal expenditure by taking into consideration the recommendations of the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA), Srinivas Reddy added. This initiative was considered to avoid further loss of crops in the ensuing crop season, he said. (SEE PAGE 2)

(NDSA) team. There is more to be investigated to take up permanent repairs. They are the key aspects to be probed and mandatory also, officials said.

The NDSA had, so far, recommended interim works to address the factors, which were likely to render the structures further vulnerable in the absence of at least temporary works. The NDSA team will recommend further studies

to be conducted and investigations to be made to mitigate the distress and prevent their recurrence, they added. Already, three agencies — the State Vigilance, NDSA and, above all, the Judicial Commission headed by Justice PC Ghose — are half way through their tasks. If more agencies are to join the exercise and conduct parallel investigations, delays are inevitable, the officials said. (SEE PAGE 2)

TS Diagnostics staff not paid for 6 months, says Harish

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

Former Health Minister T Harish Rao on Monday criticised the State government for not paying salaries for the last six months to doctors and staff of Telangana Diagnostics centres.

He demanded that the government immediately address the issue and ensure all medical services are provided to people through these centres.

Sharing news reports about the pending salaries on social media on Monday, Harish expressed disappointment over the deterioration of Telangana Diagnostics under the Congress government. "It is sad the Telangana Diagnostics system, started during BRS regime to conduct free medical tests for people, collapsed in five months under Congress rule," he said. (SEE PAGE 2)

4 IS terrorists from Lanka arrested in Ahmedabad

AHMEDABAD

The Gujarat Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) has arrested four Sri Lankans with links to the banned outfit Islamic State (IS), who were allegedly on a mission to carry out terror activities in India, police said on Monday.

Acting on a tipoff, the ATS apprehended the accused at the Sardar Vallabhai Patel airport here after they travelled from Sri Lanka's capital Colombo via Chennai on Sunday night, an official said.

The men travelled to India to carry out terror activities at the behest of IS, Director General of Police Vikas Sahay said. The ATS also recovered three Pakistan-made pistols and 20 cartridges lying abandoned at a location in the city's Nana Chiloda area based on geo-coordinates and photographs found on the mobile phone seized from the accused, Sahay said.



The four Sri Lankan nationals, who were arrested by the Gujarat ATS, being presented before the media in Ahmedabad. — Photo: PTI

The men were allegedly directed by their Pakistani handler to collect these weapons, he said. The accused — Mohammad Nusrat (35), Mohammad Faarukh (35), Mohammad Nafran (27) and Mohammad Rasdeen (43) — took a flight from Colombo and reached Chennai early on Sunday. They then took another flight to Ahmedabad, where they landed around 8 pm on Sunday, the official said.

Iranian President Raisi, Foreign Minister killed in chopper crash

Country's first Vice President Mokhber named acting President



Rescuers at the scene of the helicopter crash where Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi and eight others were found dead, at Varzaghani in northwestern Iran, on Monday. — Photo: AP

DUBAI

Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi, the country's Foreign Minister and seven other officials were found dead on Monday, hours after their helicopter crashed in a foggy, mountainous region of the country's northwest, state media reported.

Despite severe burns, all occupants have been identified, a high-ranking government representative told Iranian news agency Tasnim. Their bodies have been transferred to Tabriz, the

capital of Iran's East Azerbaijan province.

The crash comes as the Middle East remains unsettled by the Israel-Hamas war, during which Raisi, who was 63, under Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei launched an unprecedented drone-and-missile attack on Israel just last month.

Khamenei, hours later, announced that Iran's first Vice President Mohammad Mokhber would serve as the country's acting President until elections are held.

State TV gave no immediate cause for the crash that occurred in Iran's East Azerbaijan province. Among the dead was Iranian Foreign Minister Hossein Amirabdollahian (60). The helicopter also carried the Governor of Iran's East Azerbaijan province, other officials and bodyguards, the state-run IRNA reported.

Condolences started pouring in from neighbours and allies. Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in a post on X that India "stands with Iran in this time of sor-

row". External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar also condoled Raisi's death. "Deeply shocked to hear of the passing away of Iran's President Dr Ebrahim Raisi and Foreign Minister H Amir-Abdollahian in the helicopter crash. Recall my many meetings with them, most recently in January. Our condolences to their families. We stand with the people of Iran at the time of this tragedy," he posted on X. A one-day State mourning will be observed across India on Tuesday. (SEE PAGES 2, 9)

Two burglars dressed as women break into apartment

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

Two burglars dressed as women entered into an apartment at SR Nagar and decamped with gold and cash, police said.

According to police, the two men, wearing salwar-suit, entered Akruiti Arcade and noticed that the flat of one of the residents, Venkateshwar Rao, was locked. They broke open the lock, entered the apartment and stole valuables.

Rao, who had gone to Andhra Pradesh on Thursday, returned on Sunday. He noticed that some had intruded into his house and stolen the valuables.

The SR Nagar police have registered a case and taken up an investigation. They checked the CCTV footage installed on the premises and found two persons, dressed as women, moving around in the building.

19 die as vehicle falls into valley

KAWARDHA (CHHATTISGARH)

As many as 19 tribals, including 18 women, were killed and three others injured when a mini goods vehicle ferrying a group of tendu leaves collectors plunged into a valley in Chhattisgarh's Kabirdham district on Monday afternoon, police said.

As per preliminary information, a brake failure led to the tragedy, officials said. Chief Minister Vishnu Deo Sai announced a financial assistance of Rs 5 lakh to the kin of each deceased and Rs 50,000 to the injured.

The accident occurred around 1.45 pm on Banjari Ghat near Bahpani village under the Kukkur police station limits, Kabirdham Superintendent of Police Abhishek Pallava said. The victims were returning home after plucking tendu leaves from a forest, he said.

When the vehicle, with 36 people onboard, was descending Banjari Ghat (a

mountainous road), the driver shouted that the brakes had failed, following which he and most of the male passengers jumped off, the official said.

The vehicle veered off the road, tumbled down 40 feet and crashed onto the road at the bottom of the valley, he added. On the other side of the road where the accident took place is a 200-ft-deep gorge, Pallava said. After being alerted about the accident, teams of health personnel from nearby Kukkur and Pandariya and a police team rushed to the spot and launched a rescue operation, he said. PTI

They were returning in mini goods vehicle in Chhattisgarh's Kabirdham district after plucking tendu leaves from a forest

Two get death for raping, burning girl alive in Rajasthan

JAIPUR

A POC SO court in Rajasthan's Bhilwara district on Monday awarded death sentence to two men for raping and burning alive a minor girl in a coal furnace last year. "Kalu and Kanha were awarded death penalty by the court," Special Public Prosecutor Mahaveer Singh Kishnawat said. The court on Saturday convicted Kalu and Kanha for the crime that took place in August last year. Seven others accused of destroying evidence were acquitted by the court. Kishnawat said the acquittal will be challenged in the High Court. The 14-year-old went missing while she took cattle for grazing. The two accused raped and threw her into a coal furnace. PTI

HC UPHOLDS DEATH PENALTY IN RAPE-MURDER OF DALIT STUDENT

KOCHI: The Kerala High Court on Monday upheld the death sentence given by a sessions court to perpetrator Muhammed Ameer-Ul Islam in the brutal rape and murder of a 30-year-old Dalit law student in 2016 — in which the lower court had drawn parallels with the 2012 Nirbhaya case in Delhi. A division Bench of the HC upheld the death penalty, dismissing the appeal filed by the convict challenging the trial court verdict. PTI

Singareni staffer shines in TS ECET

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

A 35-year-old Singareni Collieries Company Limited (SCCL) employee has emerged as the top-ranking candidate in the Telangana State Engineering Common Entrance Test (TS ECET) 2024 results announced here on Monday.

Yadagiri Mondaiah, a coal mining employee, scored 96 marks in the BSc Mathematics and bagged the first rank in the stream. This has paved the way for Yadagiri, a native of Peddapalli district, to join the BTech Min-

ing Engineering programme and turn his practical experience as a surveyor into academic excellence.

"I expected to qualify in the test but not get the first rank. Since I am already working with Singareni Collieries, I plan to pursue a BTech Mining engineering programme from a university college," he told Telangana Today.

Having completed his undergraduate degree in 2010, followed by an MCA, Yada-



Yadagiri Mondaiah

giri decided to take the TS ECET to further his qualification, besides securing a promotion in the company.

"The preparation, which I did for the recruitment examinations, helped me crack the test with ease," he said.

This year, ECET, conducted for diploma and BSc Mathematics degree holders for lateral entry admission into second regular BE/BTech and BPharmacy programmes, saw 23,330 candidates taking the test in

11 streams and 95.86 per cent qualified. The results were declared by TS CHE Chairman Prof R Limbadri and OU Vice Chancellor and TS ECET 2024 Chairman Prof D Ravinder.

The top rankers in their respective streams are Banka Manohar from Visakhapatnam, AP, in chemical engineering; Gedollu Sudhakar Reddy from Medchal in civil engineering; Panchadara Sai Asrit from Secunderabad in CSE; Aluvala Ganesh from Jagtial in EEE and Medisetty Navyasri from Karimnagar in ECE. (SEE PAGE 2)