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<mark>In a</mark> nutshell

HYDERABAD: Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy is

flying to New Delhi on Monday to attend the oath-taking ceremony of Congress MPs from the State, besides meeting a

few union Ministers ahead of the Budget session. He is likely to stay in New Delhi for two days when he is expected to meet AICC leaders and discuss a

few issues, including the State Cabinet expansion

and appointment of the

new TPCC president.

Another bridge

collapses in Bihar

MOTIHARI: An under-

bridge collapsed in East

Champaran district on

Sunday in the third such

incident in Bihar in less

said. No casualty was reported in the incident.

which occurred at Ghorasahan block in Moti-

hari, they said. The 16-

m-long bridge was being

built over a canal by the

State's Rural Works De-

partment to connect

Amwa village to other

areas of the block. PTI

4 news channels

AMARAVATI: Some

news channels have

gone off air at several places in AP following

the declaration of the re-

and Parliamentary elec-

tions, with an opposition

YSRCP Parliamentarian

alleging coercion by the

leading to them being

TV9, NTV, 10TV and Sakshi TV being blocked

have been levelled against the government.

blocked. Allegations of

(NATION PAGE 7)

State government

sults of the Assembly

blocked in Andhra

than a week, officials

construction small

Revanth for Delhi today



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SPORT | PAGE 10

Gulbadin

Afghans'

upset win

Naib fashions



STATE | PAGE 05 Jagadish slams panel probing power purchase deals



NATION | PAGE 08 Mayawati names nephew Akash political heir

Reinstates him BSP national coordinator, names him star campaigner for U'khand bypolls

UP CLOSE & ABOVE



A TAP Air Portugal Airbus A320 is silhouetted against the setting moon while landing in Lisbon at sunrise on Sunday. - Photo: AP

NEET: CBI gets into action

NEW DELHI

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on Sunday took over the probe into the alleged irregularities in the medical entrance exam NEET-UG following a refer-ence from the Union Education Ministry.

With a section demanding the cancellation of the May 5 exam, the Ministry officials reiterated the government's earlier stand that the incidents of malpractices were "localised" or "isolated" and it was not fair to jeopardise the careers of lakhs of candidates who cleared the exam rightfully. The Bihar Police's Eco-

813 of 1,563 students take NEET-UG retest

New Delhi: As many as 813 of the 1,563 candidates, who were earlier awarded grace marks in NEET-UG, appeared for a retest on Sunday, officials said. The retest was conducted at seven centres following an order from the Supreme Court. The grace marks were awarded to make up for the loss of time at six centres where the examination started late on May 5. "At least 52 per cent — 813 out of 1,563 candidates — appeared for the retest on Sunday," a senior National Testing Agency (NTA) official said. Meanwhile, NTA debarred 17 candidates from centres in Bihar for 'malpractices'. PTI

nomic Offences Unit (EOU) handed over a report to the Ministry on Saturday following which the probe was handed over to CBI. However, a CBI team was allegedly attacked by the

local people in the Rajauli area of Bihar's Nawada, after which four persons were arrested by police on a complaint from the central agency, officials said on Sunday. (SEE PAGES 2, 3)

Two CoBRA personnel killed in naxal attack

SUKMA

Two personnel of the Central Reserve Police Force's jungle warfare unit CoBRA were killed after naxalites blew up a truck with an improvised explosive device (IED) in Chhattisgah's Sukma district on Sunday. The naxal blast took

place around 3 pm near Timmapuram village between Silger and Tekalgudem camps of security forces, over 400 km from state capital Raipur, police said. An advance party of the 201st unit of CoBRA had launched patrolling. PTI

Uncertainty looms over **Rythu Bharosa**

Delay in release of funds worries farmers

farmers

Casting a shadow

Congress

govt promised

7.500

Normal cultivation

1.31 cr acres

area during

Vanakalam is

per acre under Ryth

PS DILEEP HYDERABAD

Uncertainty has cast a shadow over farmers as they embark on sowing operations for the ongoing Vanakalam crop season. The delay in the disbursement of the Rythu Bharosa farm investment assistance is driving them back into the clutches of moneylenders. The delay for the second consecutive season is pushing farmers to borrow at high interest rates to kickstart farm operations.

With the monsoon turning active across Telangana, farmers have commenced sowing operations. As of June 21, crops have been sown in over 22.2 lakh acres against the season's normal cultivation area of 1.31 crore acres. Farmers are raising paddy nurseries under assured irrigation sources and sowing rainfed crops such as jowar, bajra, maize, ragi, pulses, groundnut, soybean

Nearly two weeks after the crop season com-menced, nearly 30.29 lakh forced to take high-interest eligible farmers under the PM-KISAN scheme reloans from moneylenders to ceived Rs 2,000 per acre last commence farm operations. week. However, the State's "I need Rs 10,000-15,000 per Rythu Bharosa payment of acre to cultivate. For the last

Rs 7,500 per acre remains two seasons, I had to borelusive. The delay is causing row Rs 50,000 from a monunwanted distress among eylender at 1.5 per cent interest because the Rythu Instead of expediting the Bharosa aid was not de-posited in time," he time,"

• Over 70 lakh farmers

1.52 CT acres

farmers own less than

PM-KISAN

30.29

benefits only

lakh farmers

92.5% of these

5 acres land

own around

disbursement of the Rythu Bharosa amount, the State lamented. Cabinet recently appointed Gampa Suresh Kumar, a farmer from Shanigaram vila Cabinet sub-committee to draft guidelines for the

> "This would help us manloans he said.

and cotton.

Hyd's bustling nightlife to take a hit

lage in Siddipet district, exscheme, with a report due pressed similar frustrations. by July 15. Approval for He suggested that if the full these guidelines is expected Rythu Bharosa amount of Rs to take another week or two, 7,500 could not be disleaving farmers in the lurch. bursed, the government In the interim, farmers should at least release Rs like Annam Venkat Reddy 6,000 as was done during from Thogarrai village in the Yasangi (Rabi) season. Peddapalli district are

age our expenses with hand borrowed from friends or relatives, avoiding high-interest debts," (SEE PAGE 2)

during closing hours and

making purchases. The gov-

ernment should allow the

shops to remain open till

Anirudha, who runs a tif-

fin centre at Begum Bazaar,

says in a city like Hyder-

abad, shops and commercial

establishments should be al-

"The city has an active

midnight," he said.

lowed to run 24x7.

"CM stands for Cutting Master?" STATE BUREAU **OO** During elections, BRS working president KT you (Revanth) Rama Rao on Sunday

Farmer electrocuted

MEDAK: A young farmer was electrocuted while he was fixing a technical glitch in a transformer at Vadiyaram village in Chegunta mandal on Sunday. Mogili Venu (25), a resident of the same village, was working in his field when he noticed a disruption in the power supply to his borewell. Trying to resolve the snag, he came in touch with live wires and died. Police registered a case.

CHICKEN RATES **IN HYDERABAD**

Farm	Rs. 119
Retail live	Rs. 141
With skin	Rs.204
Skinless	Rs. 233
Egg Rates (12 eggs)	Rs. 69



Sonakshi, Zaheer hitched

Have low-key ceremony in the presence of family and close friends



launched a scathing attack on Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, accusing him of reducing the number of beneficiaries in various welfare schemes.

He questioned whether 'CM' stood for 'Cutting Master', referring to the Chief Minister's practice of cutting down on promised benefits.

In a statement, Rama Rao lashed out at the State government for imposing numerous restrictions to reduce the number of eligible farmers. "During elections, you asked farmers to get crop loans with a promise to waive them. But now, you are imposing numerous riders to implement the Rs 2 lakh loan waiver," he said, also pointing out that the re-

STATE BUREAU

tecedents

Guests at the Hilltop Mruga-

vani resort in Eegalapenta

on the Srisailam road had a

harrowing time on Saturday

midnight when the local po-

lice knocked at their rooms

and checked their an-

asked farmers to get crop loans with a promise to waive them. Now, you are imposing riders...

— KT RAMA RAO, BRS

scheme was significantly reduced from Rs 39,000 crore to Rs 31,000 crore since the

Congress took power. He warned that the BRS would not keep silent if the Congress government attempted to deceive lakhs of farmers by using excuses like not having passbooks or ration cards, farmers filing I-T returns or having lowerrank government jobs. He charged the government with depriving people of quired amount for the other schemes. (SEE PAGE 2)

CITY BUREAU

Hvderabad

Once bustling till late hours, Hyderabad's famed nightlife is losing steam.

Citing law and order situation, the Hyderabad Police has directed commercial establishments to close down their business between 10.30 pm and 11 pm every day.

The police issued the directions after Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy reviewed the law and order situation in the State following recent incidents of violent crimes.

The police also advised people not to offer rides to strangers and move aimlessly on roads late at night. Those consuming liquor at public places were warned of stringent action.

However, the city police's directions to close down the commercial establishments by 10.30 pm evoked sharp reactions from the business community and the citizens. Mohd Jabber, a businessman from Pathergatti, said



The Hyderabad Police has directed commercial establishments to close down business between 10.30 pm and 11 pm every day. — Photo: Surya Sridhar

tourists and local people hang around Charminar till midnight and even beyond on weekends as it is a wellknown tourist attraction. "The government should

under your administration

where State police can ha-

control crime but it should not be at the cost of the livelihood of law-abiding citizens," he said.

Another businessman, Mohd Sohaib, from Shah Ali

Banda, said the lifestyle in the city was changing and people preferred to move around with families in the evening. "We have customers rushing to the shop

nightlife and families move around round-the-clock. Keeping this in mind, it should be left to the management to decide when to open or close shops," he said. Sai Kiran, a chartered ac-countant, said the govern-

ment should allow nightlife to prosper in a city like Hyderabad where people from different States are settling down. "The police should come up with effective ways to control crime without impacting law-abiding citizens. Common shoppers and shopkeepers do not create trouble, why should they be targeted," he wondered.

Cops' midnight raid shocks tourists

I HAVE BEEN LIVING IN TS FOR 8 YEARS BUT NEVER ENCOUNTERED SUCH BEHAVIOUR. THE COP WAS MORAL POLICING US, SAYING UNMARRIED MEN AND WOMEN SHOULD NOT STAY IN A ROOM - ARANI MAJUMDAR, A GUEST AT THE RESORT

and other details in the register, they insisted on checking the rooms personally and began knocking on the

There are about 20 rooms at the resort. Usually, people doors at the odd time, the refrom Hyderabad and other sort staff said. places visiting the Srisailam Arani Majumdar, one of temple book rooms at the the guests, who was also checked by the police, resort. The police team is posted about the disturbing

said to have barged into the resort around 1 am and deexperience on X: "Policespite the staff asking them to men knocking down our check the Aadhaar cards door and harassing and

rass women at night by barging into their rooms...' In the video posted on X, the police personnel can be seen questioning their antecedents. When the guests

tried to seek a search warmoral policing us at 1.30 am at Hilltop Mrugavani, Eerant and question the abgalapenta. No woman police sence of women constables. the police personnel capin sight, they are shouting at women. We are feeling extured photographs of the tremely unsafe and insecure. Help.. Tagging Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's office, Congress MP Rahul Gandhi

guests, including of women, and took videos. Speaking to Telangana Today, Majumdar said: "I have been living in Telangana for eight years and others, Majumdar furnow but never encountered ther tweeted: "Please help such behaviour by the us understand this law police." (SEE PAGE 2)

AP man killed in Arkansas shooting

AMARAVATI

A 32-year-old man from Andhra Pradesh was among four persons killed in firing at a grocery store in Arkansas in the United States.

Dasari Gopikrishna, a native of Bapatla district, had gone to the US only eight months ago. He was working at the Mad Butcher grocery store in Fordyce, a small town in Arkansas, where a gunman opened fire on June 21.

(SEE PAGE 2)

Suraj Revanna held, CID to probe case

HASSAN

A case of alleged sexual abuse of a male party worker against JD(S) MLČ Suraj Revanna has been handed over to the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) for probe, Karnataka Home Minister G Parameshwara said on Sunday. Earlier in the day, Suraj Revanna — the brother of former MP Prajwal Revanna who is facing allegations of sexually abusing several women - was arrested in Hassan on charges

of "unnatural offences' against him, police sources said. He was booked on Saturday for allegedly sexually abusing a party worker a few days ago and has been booked under different sections of the IPC, including

"unnatural offences". "The case registered in Hassan District Holenarasipura Rural Police Station under Sections 377, 342, 506 and 34 of the IPC is transferred to CID for further investigation with immediate effect," the police statement read. PTI