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Pigeons may leave your lungs scarred, finds case study



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Eng reaches another Euro final by beating Netherlands

In a nutshell
NEET: SC defers hearing till July 18
NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Thursday adjourned till July 18 the hearing of a clutch of petitions seeking cancellation, re-test and probe into alleged malpractices in the conduct of NEET-UG 2024 as the responses of the Centre and the NTA were yet to be received by some parties. Meanwhile, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Thursday met some NEET aspirants at his residence. **PTI**

TS Budget session from July 24
HYDERABAD: The Budget session of Telangana State Legislative Assembly is all set to commence on July 24. Finance Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka is likely to introduce Budget on July 25 or 26. Necessary arrangements are being made in this regard. Previously, a Vote-on-Account Budget was presented by the State government in February this year, ahead of the Lok Sabha polls. **STATE PAGE 5**

Mamata to meet Uddhav, Pawar
KOLKATA: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said she will meet Shiv Sena chief Uddhav Thackeray and NCP leader Sharad Pawar in Mumbai on Friday to discuss the present political situation in the country. Speaking to reporters on Thursday before leaving for Mumbai to attend the wedding of Mukesh Ambani's son, Banerjee said she will also meet Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav. **PTI**

ADM dies while singing bhajan
BHUBANESWAR: An additional district magistrate (ADM) collapsed on the stage while singing a Jagannath bhajan at a get-together of government officials in Odisha's Gajapati district and later died. The deceased, identified as Birendra Kumar Das, was serving as ADM (Revenue). A video clip of the incident which took place on Wednesday evening went viral on social media. **PTI**

CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD

Farm.....	Rs. 105
Retail live.....	Rs. 127
With skin.....	Rs. 184
Skinless.....	Rs. 210
Egg Rates (12 eggs).....	Rs. 70

Nag Ashwin on Kalki cast
Says he wanted representation from every language or State

Tribal youth thrashed for criticising govt

Picked up, 'tortured' by Thorrur police; KTR demands action

STATE BUREAU
HYDERABAD

A tribal youngster, Maloth Suresh Babu, was allegedly tortured by the Thorrur police after he criticised the personal assistant of the local MLA from the ruling Congress on social media. The incident came to light on Thursday, evoking a strong reaction from Opposition parties, demanding immediate action against the police officials responsible.

According to the victim's family members, Suresh Babu, who hails from Sanuru village in Thorrur mandal of Palakurthy Assembly constituency, posted a WhatsApp message criticising Vijender Reddy, the personal assistant of Palakurthy MLA Yashaswini Reddy from the ruling Congress. He had posted the message following the murder of a BRS leader allegedly by persons owing allegiance to the Congress MLA. BRS leaders had also accused the local MLA of encouraging murder politics in the constituency. Following a call from the



The tribal youth, Maloth Suresh Babu, who was beaten up by the Thorrur police, at Sanuru village on Thursday.

MLA's office, the Thorrur police summoned Suresh Babu to the police station and thrashed him black and blue. "What crime did my son commit? Did he steal something or harass someone? He is only serving the people through politics, but the Sub-Inspector treated him badly and thrashed him for questioning the government. Is it a crime to question the government?" the victim's mother asked. Suresh Babu had to get treated for his injuries, she said. The incident, along with other instances of the

police highhandedness on unemployed youngsters and journalists being reported, triggered a strong reaction from BRS working president KT Rama Rao, who expressed deep anguish over recent incidents in Telangana where police were detaining young individuals for posting critical content about the ruling Congress government on social media. Highlighting the disturbing incident of Suresh Babu, he said the tribal youth was picked up and tortured by the Thorrur police. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

Law and order deteriorating in Hyd, says KTR

HYDERABAD: BRS working president KT Rama Rao voiced serious concerns over the deteriorating law and order situation in Hyderabad, blaming the lack of administrative experience in the current leadership for the city's decline. "Why is 'Brand Hyderabad' fading? Hyderabad is growing into a global city, but losing its sheen," he said.

The fact that several leading newspapers were flashing such headlines on their front pages and questioning the deteriorating situation, indicated that peace and security were completely out of control. Taking to X, Rama Rao pointed out that the city's peace and harmony, which remained unaffected for the past decade, were now threatened by increasing serial murders and the rise of inter-state gangs. He also highlighted the visible impact of poor governance. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

Farmers to hit streets again

NEW DELHI

Farmers' body SKM on Thursday announced it will resume its agitation over its pending demands, including a legal guarantee to MSP and loan waiver, and submit a memorandum to Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi.

The Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM), an umbrella organisation of farm unions that led the 2020-21 farmers' protest, made the announcement a day after its general body met but indicated that unlike then, its agitation this time may not be a march to Delhi.

Leaders of the outfit said that appointments will be sought between July 16 and July 18 to meet the Prime Minister, the Leader of Opposition and MPs of both Rajya Sabha and Lok Sabha and give them the memorandum listing the farmers' demands. The SKM also said memorials to honour those who died during the 2020-21 protest should be built at Delhi's Tikri and Singhu borders, where agitators camped for more than a year as part of their agitation that also pressed for compensation of farmers who died in the 2021 Lakhimpur Kheri violence

SKM says it will resume agitation over pending demands, including a legal guarantee to MSP and loan waiver

in Uttar Pradesh. Asked if farmers will march to Delhi again, the SKM leaders said this time they are focusing on nationwide protests, particularly in assembly election-bound Maharashtra, Jharkhand, J&K and Haryana. "The same method of protest does not have to be used every time. We will hold protests across the country," AIKS Hannan Mollah said.

SKM leaders claimed that the BJP faced losses in 159 rural-dominated parliamentary constituencies in Lok Sabha polls due to the farmers' movement. In a statement, the SKM said, "The general body has decided to resume the agitation demanding implementation of the agreement, dated December 9, 2021, that the union government has with the SKM, signed by the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, Government of India, and other key demands affecting the livelihood of farmers." **PTI**

Maha tables Bill to check naxal menace

MUMBAI

The Maharashtra government on Thursday tabled a Bill in the Assembly aimed at preventing unlawful activities of individuals and organisations, with Deputy Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis stressing the need to curb the rising presence of naxal outfits in rural and urban areas through effective legal means.

Named 'Maharashtra Special Public Security Act 2024', this Bill is seen to curb the menace of naxalism and its sympathisers in urban areas.

Chhattisgarh, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Odisha have enacted Public Security Acts for effective prevention of unlawful activities. The Bill tabled in the Lower House of the State legislature describes unlawful activities as including in or propagating acts of violence, vandalism or other acts generating fear and apprehension in the public.

Indulging in or encouraging use of firearms, explosives or other devices, encouraging or preaching disobedience to established law and its institutions is also an unlawful activity, it said. Association with an unlawful organisation will see a jail term from three to seven years and a fine of Rs 3 to Rs 5 lakh. **PTI**

BRS to infuse young blood

PS DILEEP
Hyderabad

Notwithstanding the defections by elected representatives and senior leaders from the party fold to the ruling Congress, the BRS is gearing up its cadre to embark on a path of revival. The party's top leadership, which has been constantly holding meetings with leaders and cadre, has decided to infuse young blood into its leadership at all levels.

BRS sources said party president K Chandrashekhara Rao had already chalked out the future course for the party and was keen to encourage young leaders to play a key role in the party's rejuvenation. Just like the Statehood movement, senior leaders would be attacking Congress on issues of public concern, countering its false

Though a few leaders switched loyalties in some segments, most of the second-rung leaders are still with the party

— SENIOR BRS LEADER

and misleading narratives, and exposing its failures in fulfilling electoral promises. The younger generation would be raising local issues and hitting the streets whenever required.

The BRS is adopting a measured approach, not rushing to return to power but focusing on rebuilding the party from the grassroots and nurturing a new leadership. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

Gopanpally flyover awaits inauguration

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

Constructed at an approximate cost of Rs 18 crore, the Gopanpally flyover is yet to be opened to the public despite works on the structure completed weeks ago.

Despite multiple requests from the residents, the authorities seem to be deliberating on an inauguration date.

Starting from Gopanpally Junction, the facility has two exit ramps — one near the back gate of the University of Hyderabad towards Nallagandla, and the other towards Tellapur. With an uptick in development in these areas due to their proximity to the IT Hub, this 0.5 km one-way overpass was constructed by the Roads and Buildings (R&B) Department to cater to the growing vehicular traffic. **(SEE PAGE 2)**



The flyover at Gopanpally was expected to be inaugurated after LS polls in June once the poll code was lifted. — Photo:Anand Dharmana

Girls bitten by rats at welfare hostel

STATE BUREAU
Medak

Close on the heels of 35 students taking ill after a lizard was found in breakfast served at the Telangana Model School in Ramayampet, another incident has emerged from the town where rats bit 12 girl inmates in the hostel of the social welfare residential school on Wednesday.

All the victims were Class 9 students who were sleeping in one room. After the children alerted their parents, relatives and parents rushed to the school on Thursday and staged a protest.

They also raised the issue with Principal Sarala Devi. Meanwhile, the students were taken to the Ramayampet Area Hospital, where they were provided treatment and discharged. Sarala Devi said they had

Students say they are spending sleepless hours because of the rats scurrying around all through the night

been making efforts to contain the rat menace in the hostel for quite some time, but they could not succeed. She said they were pacing glue pads to catch the rats every day and assured the parents that they would contain the rat menace with more measures.

The parents complained that the students were reluctant to stay in the hostel as the rats were moving close to their beds. Students said they were spending sleepless hours because of the rats scurrying around all through the night.

Only two teachers for 135 students, parents protest

KOTHAGUDEM: Students and their parents took to the streets over the lack of teachers at the Government High School at Gummadavalli village. The school, having a strength of 135 students from Class VI-X, has only two teachers, when there were actually eight sanctioned posts. At the beginning of the academic year, there were eight teachers, and they were transferred to other schools as part of the recent transfers and promotions. But only two teachers — English and mathematics — were transferred to the school, and there were no teachers for physics, science, Telugu, Hindi, social sciences and others. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

UP teacher brutally thrashes Class X student, arrested

RAEBARELI: A Class X student at a private school in Uttar Pradesh's Raebareli suffered multiple injuries, including a broken tooth, when he was brutally thrashed by his teacher over his incomplete homework, police said. According to reports, the teacher thrashed the boy so badly that he was knocked unconscious and collapsed on the floor. The teacher then fled. The students informed the principal, who then rushed the injured boy to the hospital. Police arrested the teacher, identified as Mohammed Asif. **IANNS**

Technical glitch hits registrations

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

Land transactions and registrations came to a grinding halt across the State on Thursday following a technical snag in the UIDAI network. Accordingly, the officials rescheduled the registration services to Friday. The Commissioner and Inspector General of Stamps and Registration Department informed that Aadhaar online services were suspended due to some technical problems in the UIDAI network.

Since the Aadhaar biometric is mandatory, the property and land registration services were affected. Over 7,000 registrations and land transactions are carried out in the State every day. However, the officials could complete the registration process of only around 1,000 documents on Thursday.

Stalkers' harassment forces girl to end life

STATE BUREAU
Nalgonda

A teen girl died, allegedly by suicide, at Kukkadam village under Madgulapalli police station limits of Nalgonda. The deceased was identified as Kalyani.

Holding two youngsters — Ariri Shiva and Kommanaboyana Madhu — responsible for her death, villagers alleged that the duo was persistently stalking the girl and harassing her. She had felt threatened with their calls and unwanted messages seeking her love, they said.

According to the villagers, the two youngsters threatened to upload her pictures on social media platforms if she failed to respond positively to them. As they continued to hold out threats even in the ab-

sence of her parents, she allegedly consumed pesticide to end her life.

Her brother had left for college when the incident took place. It is learned that she had called her parents over the phone, informing them of her decision to end her life. After being alerted by her parents, neighbours shifted her to Miryalaguda Hospital and later to the district headquarters hospital at Nalgonda. However, she died while undergoing treatment on Wednesday.

Following her death, the girl's relatives staged a dharna on the Addanki-Narketpalli highway along with the body of the victim. They relented on being promised of stringent action by the police against those responsible for the death of the girl.