



**NATION | PAGE 07**  
**Chaos in Lok Sabha as govt, oppn lock horns**



**WORLD | PAGE 09**  
**Kamala Harris unfit to rule, says Trump**  
Calls her 'radical left lunatic' whom voters will reject in November elections



**SPORT | PAGE 11**  
**Asia Cup: In-form India face Bangladesh**

**In a nutshell**

**Naxal killed in encounter**

**KOTHAGUDEM:** A naxal was killed in an alleged exchange of fire between police and Maoists in the forests on the borders of Kothagudem-Mulugu districts. The incident occurred when Greyhounds forces and special party personnel were carrying out combing operations in Damaratogu-Rangapuram of the district. The deceased was said to be Nallamuri Ashok alias Vijender (34).

**Gold prices tumble further**

**NEW DELHI:** Gold prices continued to fall for the third day and tumbled Rs 1,000 to Rs 70,650 per 10 grams in the local market amid heavy selling by jewellers, triggered by a fall in rates in overseas markets. Continuing its slide for the third day in the national capital, gold of 99.9 per cent and 99.5 per cent purity declined Rs 1,000 each to Rs 70,650 per 10 grams and Rs 70,300 per 10 grams, respectively.

**B'desh objects to Mamata's remarks**

**NEW DELHI:** India on Thursday confirmed receiving a note from Dhaka that conveyed its objection to West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's remarks offering shelter to people affected by violent clashes in that country. External Affairs Ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said matters that bring "the union into relation with any foreign country, are the sole prerogative" of the Central government.

**Three youths killed in mishap**

**SANGAREDDY:** Three youths were killed in a road accident at Tunikilla Thanda. The deceased were identified as Abhishek (21), Naveen (20) and Sandeep (20). The incident occurred when the trio was on their way to work on a bike. When they reached Tunikilla Thanda, the youths, riding bike at a high speed, rammed a DCM truck that was parked on the NH-161.

**CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD**

Farm.....	Rs. 104
Retail live.....	Rs. 126
With skin.....	Rs. 183
Skinless.....	Rs. 208
Egg Rates (12 eggs).....	Rs. 62



**Why Kritika accepted Gyaarah...**

Being part of this show is like a 'wish fulfilled', she says

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# GUARANTEES GO FOR A TOSS

**Budget relies on debts, allocations only for Gruha Jyothi, LPG schemes**

PS DILEEP  
HYDERABAD

The State Budget for 2024-25 has sparked significant concern due to its heavy reliance on debts. The Congress government on Thursday revealed a total expenditure plan of Rs 2,91,159 crore, with a substantial portion of Rs 69,572.48 crore funding sourced from debt, next only to the State's own tax revenue.

Further, the Budget remains full of promises, with either no or meagre allocations made for different schemes and projects. The Budget outlines that Rs 69,572.48 crore will be raised through various forms of debt.

This amount equals to half of the State's own tax revenue estimated at Rs 1,38,181.26 crore and highlights the growing dependency on borrowings. Ironically, Deputy Chief Minister and Finance Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka attempted to blame the previous BRS regime for obtaining huge loans, saying that this was forcing the current Congress government to allocate most of the funds for repayment. Breaking down the debt further, the Budget indicates that Rs 57,112.48 crore will be from open markets, Rs 3,900 crore from the Central government, Rs 1,000 crore from other sources, Rs 4,000 crore from deposit transactions, and Rs 3,560 crore from loans and advances.

The projected revenue receipts stand at Rs 2,21,242.23 crore, including Rs 1,38,181.26 crore from tax revenue, Rs 26,216.38 crore from the State's share in Central taxes, Rs 35,208.44 crore from non-tax revenue, and Rs 21,636.15 crore from Central grants.

Of the total Budget, Rs 2,20,944.81 crore has been allocated for revenue expenditure, with Rs 17,729.77 crore set aside for interest on loans. Only Rs 33,486.50 crore, a



Members attending the Budget session of the Telangana Legislative Assembly in Hyderabad on Thursday.

mere 11.5 per cent of the total Budget, was allocated for capital expenditure, which includes development of projects. The fiscal deficit stands at Rs 49,255.41 crore, with a minor Budget surplus of Rs 297.42 crore.

Despite Bhatti's assurances of a realistic Budget, experts argue that the Budget projections were overly optimistic. For instance, the previous year's Budget anticipated Rs 41,259.17 crore in grants from the Centre, but only Rs 9,729.91 crore was realised. This year's Budget forecasts Rs 21,636.15 crore in Central grants. Despite assurance to enhance the financial assistance for beneficiaries under the Indiramma Housing scheme from Rs 3 lakh to Rs 5 lakh, no specific allocation has been made. The government promised to construct a total of 4.5 lakh houses of 400 sqft with RCC roofing, kitchen and toilet in State.

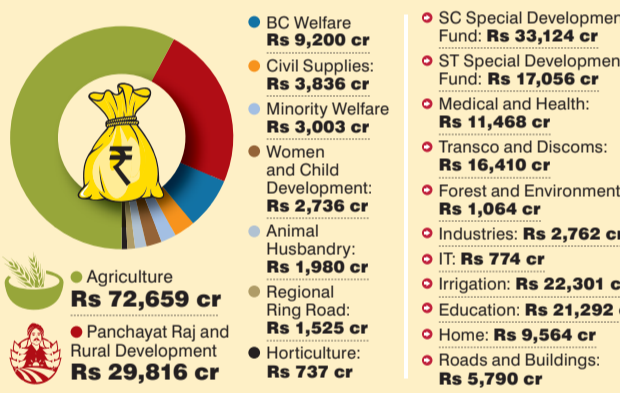
While Bhatti allocated Rs 53,196 crore for implementing 'Abhaya Hastham' (Six Guarantees) of the Congress in the Vote-on-Account Budget presented in February earlier, there is no mention of it. While there are 13 promises under the scheme, less than six find mention and even fewer get specific allocations.



**“We cannot reveal the details of the sources from where the govt will get additional revenue. Wait and watch”**

**Allocation of funds**

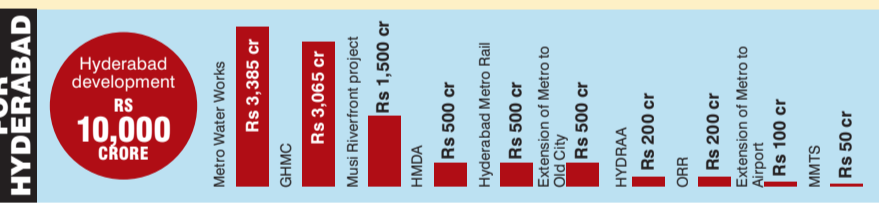
THE BUDGET, PRESENTED BY FINANCE MINISTER MALLU BHATTI VIKRAMARKA, WAS HIGH ON HOPES AND PROMISES BUT HAD NO CONCRETE ALLOCATIONS FOR A MAJORITY OF SCHEMES, INCLUDING RYTHU BHAROSA AND OTHERS



**ABHAYA HASTHAM (SIX GUARANTEES)**

**GRUHA JYOTHI: Rs 2,418 cr**  
(paid Rs 583.05 cr to Discoms up to June, 2024)

**LPG Cylinder at Rs 500: Rs 723 cr**



## Govt presents Rs 2.91L cr Budget

**HYDERABAD:** The State government on Thursday presented its maiden full-scale Budget with an outlay of Rs 2,91,159 crore for the financial year 2024-25. This is around Rs 15,000 crore more than the Vote on Account Budget of Rs 2.76 lakh crore presented by the government in February earlier this year and marginally higher than the Rs 2.9 lakh crore introduced by the previous BRS government for 2023-24. The State's total estimated revenues

are Rs 2,90,814 crore, which includes Rs 2,21,242.23 crore through revenue receipts. Another Rs 69,572.48 crore is proposed for mobilisation through capital receipts, including over Rs 57,112.48 crore from open market loans. While the revenue expenditure is pegged at Rs 2,20,944.81 crore, the capital expenditure is estimated at Rs 33,486.50 crore.

Presenting the Budget in Assembly, Finance Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka

stated that the State debts shot up to Rs 6.71 lakh crore at the end of 2023-24 against Rs 75,577 crore in 2014-15 since State formation. He said the State government was taking all measures to maintain fiscal prudence and put the economy back on track by repaying the majority of the loans with around Rs 17,001.37 crore allocated for loan disbursements as well as Rs 19,626.32 crore towards loans and advances.

(SEE PAGES 2, 4, 5)

## States can tax mines, rules SC

NEW DELHI

In a setback to the Centre, the Supreme Court held that royalty payable on minerals is not a tax and States have the legislative competence to impose taxes on mines and minerals-bearing lands.

The verdict will give a boost to mineral-rich states like Jharkhand and Odisha as they urged the top court to decide on recovery of taxes worth thousands of crores levied by the Centre till now. The States urged SC to make the verdict operational with retrospective effect to ensure refund of the taxes from the Centre. However, Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, appearing for Centre, opposed the submissions and sought that the verdict be made effective prospectively. (SEE PAGE 2)

## Cops high-handedness to the fore again, now at Chevella

CITY BUREAU  
Hyderabad

In a shocking incident, two men were publicly thrashed by a traffic police official and a constable at Chevella. A video of the incident went viral on various social media platforms after some persons who filmed the police high-handedness posted it online. The action of the traffic police drew widespread criticism, which came just a week after a Sub Inspector assaulted a truck driver at Jeedimetla.

In the video, the traffic police official is seen walking up towards three men standing on the roadside and hitting one of them. The official pulled up the man by his collar and later kicked him in full public view.



A screening grab of the video showing traffic police officials thrashing two men.

A traffic constable, who was present with the police official, beat up another man who was along with the first person. The Inspector was identified as Venkatesham, Inspector (Traffic) Chevella

Traffic Police Station, constable J Srinu and another policeman Keshav. However, repeated efforts to contact him to get his version failed as the Inspector did not answer phone calls.

## Fill water in all reservoirs: KTR

S SANDEEP KUMAR  
Karimnagar

Appealing to the State government to protect the interests of farmers, BRS working president KT Rama Rao demanded that water should be filled in all reservoirs in the State as there was scope for pumping sufficient water into the projects.

Farmers in the State were distressed because the government had not started pumping water due to political vendetta, he said.

Speaking during a visit by a delegation of BRS MLAs and MLCs to the Lower Manair Dam (LMD) on Thursday, he pointed out the dry river bed of the LMD and said that last year during the same time, 12



**Says farmers were distressed because the government had not started pumping water due to political vendetta**

TMC was available in the water body. Officials said there was a 45 per cent deficit rainfall this season so far, he informed. (SEE PAGE 2)

## Four killed as rains batter Pune

PUNE

Heavy rains wreaked havoc in Maharashtra's Pune, where at least four persons died in rain-related incidents on Thursday, while several houses and residential societies in low-lying areas were inundated, officials said.

Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar said as a precautionary measure, Army teams have been deployed at Ekta Nagar in Sinhgad Road, while NDRF personnel are also in the area. He also said rescue operations are underway at the site of a landslide in Lavasa.

Meanwhile, Shivajinagar in Pune city received 114 mm of rainfall in 24 hours ending at 8.30 am on Thursday, the third-highest in a single day in 66 years, according to IMD. (RELATED REPORTS PAGE 8)