



**HYDERABAD | PAGE 02**  
 Hyderabad revels in Bonalu beats, temples decked up



**WORLD | PAGE 09**  
 12 children killed in rocket strike on Golan Heights  
 Israel blames Hezbollah, but group denies any role in incident



**SPORT | PAGE 11**  
 Sri Lanka women champions, bulldoze India

**In a nutshell**

**NTA announces CUET-UG results**  
**NEW DELHI:** The National Testing Agency (NTA) on Sunday announced the results for the Common University Entrance Test (CUET)-UG, paving the way to begin the undergraduate admission process which has been delayed this year. The NTA had on July 7 released the provisional answer keys of the CUET-UG 2024. A retest for over 1,000 candidates, whose grievances were genuine, was held on July 19. **PTI**

**Kashmir sees hottest July**  
**SRINAGAR:** Kashmir has been reeling under an intense heatwave with several places in the valley recording their highest July temperature in 25 years on Sunday. According to the meteorological office here, Srinagar recorded a high of 36.2 degrees C on Sunday. This was the hottest July day since July 9, 1999, when the mercury had settled at 37 degrees C. The hottest July day in Srinagar was on July 10. **PTI**

**Row erupts over namaz in Kerala**  
**KOCHI:** A row has erupted in Kerala over a section of students protesting the denial of permission to perform namaz inside the premises of a church-run college at Muvattupuzha near here, which was opposed by the BJP and organisations of Catholic church members. Students staged a protest inside Nirmala college alleging that the non-teaching staff had prevented some girls from offering namaz. **PTI**

**Jan Suraaj party launch on Oct 2**  
**PATNA:** Former election strategist Prashant Kishor on Sunday said his Jan Suraaj campaign will become a political party on October 2, coinciding with Gandhi Jayanti, and contest the Bihar Assembly polls next year. Kishor was addressing a workshop of Jan Suraaj, which was attended by several persons, including two former legislators and a granddaughter of Karpoori Thakur. **PTI**

**CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD**

Farm.....	Rs. 94
Retail live.....	Rs. 116
With skin.....	Rs. 168
Skinless.....	Rs. 191
Egg Rates (12 eggs).....	Rs. 62

**Saawariya humbled me: Ranbir**  
 Actor reflects on his career so far in latest podcast

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**MANU SHOOT'S BRONZE**  
 Bronze medallist Manu Bhaker during the medal ceremony for the 10m Air Pistol (Women) event of the shooting competitions in the Paris 2024 Olympic Games at Chateauroux in France. President Droupadi Murmu, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, sporting icons and celebrities from across the country congratulated her. — Photo: PTI (REPORT PAGE 10)

## Uttam doubts safety of KLIP barrages

**STATE BUREAU**  
 Hyderabad

Continuing to echo the same old fears over the safety of the three sturdy structures of the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP) standing tall across the Godavari river, Irrigation Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy on Sunday categorically stated that the barrages at Medigadda, Annaram and

Sundilla would not be put to use for now. Addressing a news conference after a review with the top brass of the Irrigation Department at Jala Soudha, he said the three barrages, "given their present condition, were not fit to hold any water".

In case of impounding water at the barrages to support pumping operations, they in turn pose a threat to the temple town of Bhadrachalam and 44 villages along the side of the river. Even downstream projects such as the Sammakka Sagar and Sitarama project would face the same risk with huge water storage in the three barrages upstream, he said, pointing out that pumping operations were suspended at the barrages as per the advice of the National Dam Safety Authority. The government

## Angry teacher cuts students' hair

**STATE BUREAU**  
 Khammam

A teacher, who was reportedly upset over the funky hairstyles and unruly behaviour of some students, cut 15 students' hair.

The incident led to a protest by the students and their parents, with the teacher getting suspended.

The incident, which caught the attention of social media, occurred at the Zilla Parishad High School, Peruvancha, in Kallur mandal on Saturday. The teacher, D Shirisha, who teaches English, allegedly cut the hair of nearly 15 students of Classes VIII, IX and X on the school premises. The reason she gave was that they were rather unruly in class, lagging in studies and when asked to answer questions, they used to toss

## TS woman dies in Delhi flooding

**Taniya Soni among 3 drowned in basement of building housing coaching centre**

**STATE BUREAU**  
 Mancheril

A woman civil services aspirant from the district was among three people who drowned in a flooded basement of a building which houses an IAS coaching centre in New Delhi, on Saturday evening.

Sources said Taniya Soni (21), the elder daughter of Vijay Kumar, a senior manager at SRP-I underground mine in Srirampur, was among the three aspirants, who met their watery grave when the basement got flooded with rainwater.

Vijay Kumar hails from Bihar. Soni studied in a school in Mancheril town and opted to undergo coach-

# Central, State govts vie for PSU lands

**7,200 acres in Telangana worth Rs 40,000 cr**

**PS DILEEP**  
 HYDERABAD

Land belonging to the Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs) in Telangana is now being seen as gold mines. Both the State and Central governments are vying for a piece of this valuable pie to fill their coffers. Nearly 7,200 acres in Telangana, worth a whopping Rs 40,000 crore in the open market, are at stake.

The BJP-led Centre floated the National Land Monetisation Corporation (NLMC) in June 2022 to carry out the monetisation of non-core assets of CPSEs as well as other government agencies. Accordingly, it proposed the sale of Hindustan Cables Limited, Hindustan Fluorocarbons Limited, Indian Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Limited, Hindustan Machine Tools (HMT), Cement Corporation of India Limited (CCI) and Ordnance factories in Telangana as part of its divestment plans.

However, the then BRS government strongly objected to the Centre's proposals. The then Industries Minister KT Rama Rao wrote to union Finance

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If Centre wants to divest and sell its assets, the State govt made it clear that the land should be returned to Telangana

— OFFICIAL SOURCES

ment scheme. The value of these lands is estimated to be nearly Rs 5,000 crore at government rates and, as per open market prices, the value could be over Rs 40,000 crore.

The Centre is reportedly planning to disinvest in 27 CPSEs located in Telangana and these six CPSEs are only part of the first phase. Sources said the Congress government was not averse to privatisation of the six CPSEs, but was not willing to part with the land allotted to these companies.

Accordingly, the Congress government in Telangana had suggested the Centre to either establish new companies in these lands to create fresh employment or hand them over to the State government, which had originally allotted land to these CPSEs. IT and Industries Minister D Sridhar Babu submitted a representation in this regard to Union Heavy Industries Minister HD Kumaraswamy in Delhi recently.

"If the Centre wants to go ahead with its divestment plans and sell its assets, the State made it clear that the land should be returned to Telangana," sources said.

## Jishnu Dev Varma new TS Governor

**STATE BUREAU**  
 Hyderabad

President Droupadi Murmu on Saturday appointed Jishnu Dev Varma as the Governor of Telangana. CP Radhakrishnan, who held additional charge of Telangana along with that of Jharkhand, was appointed Governor of Maharashtra.

Jishnu Dev Varma, a senior BJP leader, was earlier the Deputy Chief Minister of Tripura. Apart from these two, the President appointed Haribhau Kisanrao Bagde as Governor of Rajasthan. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

## TS Police ranks 2<sup>nd</sup> in recovering phones

**CITY BUREAU**  
 Hyderabad

The Telangana Police stood second in the country in terms of recovering lost and stolen mobile phones this year so far.

Using the Central Equipment Identity Register (CEIR), the police, between January 1 and July 25, recovered 21,193 mobile devices, either stolen or lost, and restored them to their owners.

Additional DGP (CID) Shikha Goel said the CEIR portal is operated in all 780 police stations in the State and the CID office monitors the progress. "About 1,000 mobile phones were recovered in the last one week. On average, 82 mobile phones were recovered per day," she said. The highest recoveries were made by the Hyderabad Police (3,808), followed by the Rachakonda Police (2,174) and the Cyberabad Police (2,030).

Goel said to enhance user-friendliness and serve the citizens, the State police, in coordination with the Department of Telecommunication, has successfully integrated the CEIR portal with the Telangana Police portal. "The CEIR was started on a pilot project basis in Telangana on May 17 last year and ever since, the police are doing their best to block, trace and recover lost or stolen phones," said the official. The police asked the citizens to utilise the service on the Telangana Police portal, www.tspolice.gov.in, or www.ceir.gov.in to report lost/missing mobile phones.

## Outrage on streets; Oppn slams govt

**NEW DELHI:** A few students were detained after they staged a protest in Old Rajinder Nagar here on Sunday, demanding action against those responsible for the deaths of three civil services aspirants and compensation for their families.

Raising slogans "we want justice", the protesters blocked the road next to the Karol Bagh Metro Station, causing traffic snarls and prompting police intervention. A scuffle erupted between the students and police, after which a few protestors were detained and taken away in a bus.

Meanwhile, opposition parties termed as 'murder' the death of the aspirants and said the incident was a 'man-made disaster', as they attacked the AAP-led Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) and government over the tragedy.

The Arvind Kejriwal-led party, however, sought to blame the BJP, saying though it was in power in the municipal body for 15 years, it neglected the city's drainage system. The coaching centre condoled the loss of lives and said it was supporting the probe. **(REPORTS PAGE 7)**

## Bogus I-T claims punishable offence

**NEW DELHI**

The I-T Department has asked income tax return filers to not make bogus claims for expenses, under-report their earnings or exaggerate deductions as this is a punishable offence and causes a delay in the issuance of refunds.

The ITR filing season for assessment year 2024-25 will end on July 31 for all categories of taxpayers whose accounts are not supposed to be audited. According to the Income Tax Department and its administrative body Central Board of Direct Taxes, over five crore ITRs have been filed, as of

**Centre clarifies on tax certificate**

**NEW DELHI:** After social media outrage over a Budget proposal making it mandatory to get tax clearance certificates for going abroad, the Centre said the proposed amendment is only for those accused of financial irregularities or with high tax arrears. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

July 26. The I-T Department had asked taxpayers to file returns correctly for timely refunds. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

