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'Trump back in White House will be dangerous'

Harris calls the Republican presidential candidate 'unserious man'



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Neeraj finishes second in Diamond League

In a nutshell

Five dead as bus overturns in MP

PANDHURNA: Five persons were killed and 40 injured when a private bus carrying them to Hyderabad from Bhopal overturned in Madhya Pradesh's Pandhurna district, police said. While three passengers died at the scene, two succumbed to their injuries at a hospital in Nagpur, about 60 km from accident spot. Officials said the bus was travelling at 110 kmph when the driver lost control of the wheel. **PTI**

Fire breaks out at Paradise Hotel

HYDERABAD: Timely response from authorities averted a major mishap when a fire broke out at the Paradise Hotel in Secunderabad. While the incident triggered panic among customers, thanks to the quick rescue efforts, no casualties were reported, police said. On being alerted by the hotel staff, the Fire Department personnel and police rushed to the spot, evacuated building and doused the fire.

Sebi bans Anil Ambani, 24 others

NEW DELHI: Markets regulator Sebi has barred industrialist Anil Ambani and 24 others from the securities market for five years on charges of diversion of funds from Reliance Home Finance Ltd. Additionally, Sebi has imposed a penalty of Rs 25 crore on Ambani and restrained him from serving as a director or Key Managerial Personnel in any listed company or Sebi-registered entity for five years. **BUSINESS PAGE 8**

Kejri bail plea: SC defers hearing

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Friday deferred till September 5 hearing on Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's pleas seeking bail and challenging the arrest by the CBI in the alleged excise policy scam. A Bench of Justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyan allowed the CBI to file its counter affidavit in the matter and gave two days' time to Kejriwal to file rejoinder. **NATION PAGE 7**

CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD

Farm.....	Rs. 107
Retail live.....	Rs. 129
With skin.....	Rs. 187
Skinless.....	Rs. 213
Egg Rates (12 eggs).....	Rs. 64



'Justice Hema report alarming'

Nani hopes new generation of actors will bring about a positive change

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HYDRA 'RAZE'ING EYEBROWS

Demolishes 20 illegal structures in Osman Sagar buffer zone

Those owned by Congress leaders, Ministers 'untouched'

One such structure reportedly owned by CM's close relative

STATE BUREAU
HYDERABAD

Was the Hyderabad Disaster Response and Assets Monitoring and Protection (HYDRA) selective while recently demolishing allegedly illegal structures in the buffer zone of Osman Sagar?

The fact that the agency's bulldozers pulled down over 20 structures while leaving several others bang next to these has triggered doubts among both the general public and political parties as to why other structures constructed in the Full Reservoir Level (FRL) limit or buffer zone of the water body were being spared.

Last Sunday, HYDRA officials demolished over 20 under-construction structures, including Oro Sports Village, Palamuru Grill and others on Shankarpally road at Khanapur village after declaring them as constructed illegally in the buffer zone of Osman Sagar.

Interestingly, several other structures abutting the Osman Sagar or apparently in the buffer zone in the same village were not demolished. For instance, on Shankarpally road, there is a commercial structure right next to Palamuru Grill. While the restaurant building was pulled down, the structure next to it was spared, raising doubts. Likewise, several swanky struc-



The farmhouse of former Minister and Congress leader Patnam Mahender Reddy located near Himayat Sagar.

tures have come up in Gandipet of Moinabad mandal. Some of these are said to be owned by either relatives of prominent Congress leaders or Ministers themselves, including a relative of Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, former Minister Patnam Mahender Reddy, Legislative Council

chairman Gutha Sukender Reddy, Congress MLA G Vivek, senior Congress leaders KVP Ramachandra Rao and Pallam Raju.

Interestingly, HYDRA officials demolished three structures in West Side Farms, but swanky buildings opposite these structures were not touched. These buildings are just a stone's

throw away from the lake, and one of them reportedly belongs to a relative of Rangareddy ZP chairperson Teegala Anitha Reddy.

On the other hand, HYDRA's demolition of structures has brought under the radar several allegedly unauthorised structures around the Himayat Sagar. Palatial buildings of

noted businessmen, political leaders, film actors and others have come up in the lake area and its surroundings.

Since the last few days, photographs and videos of these buildings have been hot topics for discussion on social media and elsewhere. One of the structures, abutting the lake and constructed on the hillocks at

Kothwalguda, is reportedly owned by Patnam Mahender Reddy. There is also a luxurious farmhouse, reportedly owned by Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy in Himayat Sagar village. There are more such structures, including a few at Vatinagulapally, in different areas that have come up quite close to the lake but

have mysteriously escaped the bulldozers of HYDRA. These include one reportedly owned by Ravikanth Reddy, a close relative of Revanth Reddy, which has allegedly come up in violation of GO III norms. Meanwhile, there is confusion over the FRL of Osman Sagar as well.

The HMWSSB's website says the reservoir's FRL is 1,790 metres. However, local residents say the same board had earlier earmarked the FRL as 1,792 metres. It is after the FRL mark that a radius of 30 metres is earmarked as the buffer zone, and construction of any structures is not permitted in the buffer zone as well.

In this context, the difference of two metres will automatically extend the buffer zone, they point out, adding that it was not known whether the demolitions were taken up considering an FRL of 1,790 m or 1,792 m. While welcoming HYDRA's demolitions in Osman Sagar, and sharing images and videos of the palatial buildings and farmhouses around Himayat Sagar on social media platforms, netizens are questioning officials whether all the illegal buildings would be treated in the same way. Some have also asked the HMWSSB and HYDRA to disclose the parameters adopted in identifying buildings as unauthorised. **(REPORT & PICTURES PAGE 5)**

Act against Cong excesses: KTR

Lodges complaint with DGP seeking action

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

Taking a serious note of the excesses of the ruling Congress in the State and the continued support of the police to their offences, BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Friday hinted at a potential resistance from his party unless the police acted in earnest.

Accompanied by senior leaders of the BRS, he called on DGP Jitender and lodged a complaint with him seeking action on Congress-sponsored attacks targeting two women journalists in Kondareddy, the native village of Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy and on the peaceful protest of farmers, led by former BRS MLA Gadari Kishore at Tirumalagiri in Suryapet district on Thursday.

The journalists — Avula Sarita and Vijaya Reddy — who had been to Kondareddy to verify the implementation of the crop loan



BRS working president KT Rama Rao and others lodging a complaint with DGP Jitender, in Hyderabad on Friday.

waiver scheme, were subjected to physical assaults. Their equipment was damaged. They were also chased by Congress workers and goons, with the incident drawing widespread condemnation, he said, adding that Revanth Reddy owed an apology to the journalists.

On the other hand, a peaceful protest staged by farmers had turned violent when about 50 Congress

supporters attacked the farmers with stones and eggs. Despite the provocation, the protesters did not retaliate as they wanted to avoid violence.

He said the protesters' tent was removed by the police. He said the party was keen on not harming Hyderabad's brand image, but the BRS would not take things lying low if the same tendency continued. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

Attack on scribes: Women's panel seeks report

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

With public cutting across sections expressing their shock over Thursday's attack on two women journalists at Kondareddy, the native village of Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, the Telangana State Commission for Women on Friday sought a report from the Nagarkurnool police.

People, especially journalist associations and women journalists, condemned the incident and sought action against the perpetrators, following which the Telangana State Commission for Women took cognizance of crime.

Commission chairperson Sharada Nerella posted on X: "Women Commission has taken cognizance of the reported crime. I have written to Nagarkurnool SP to ensure a fair and speedy investigation into the matter. A detailed action taken report must be appraised to the Commission at the earliest." She was responding to a woman journalist, who demanded that stern action be taken against the perpetrators involved in the crime. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

27 Indians killed as bus plunges into Nepal river

KATHMANDU

At least 27 Indian pilgrims who arrived in Nepal from Maharashtra for a 10-day tour were killed and 16 others injured after a tourist bus veered off the highway and fell into fast-flowing Marsyangdi river in central Nepal on Friday, police said.

The incident occurred at Anbookhaireni area in Chitawan district when the bus from Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh carrying 43 passengers, including the driver and two helpers, was heading towards Kathmandu from Pokhara.

While 16 people died on the spot, 11 succumbed to their injuries while undergoing treatment, Deputy Spokesperson of Armed Police Force (APF) Shailendra Thapa said. Sixteen people who sustained injuries have been airlifted to Kathmandu and admitted at Tribhuvan University Teaching Hospital, he said. The dead bodies will be handed over to their family members after post-mortem, Thapa said, adding that the post-mortem will be conducted on Saturday at



Rescue work underway near Marsyangdi river at Tanahun, Abu Khaireni of Nepal on Friday. — Photo:PTI

Western Regional Health Science Academy in Pokhara.

The bus with an Uttar Pradesh number plate that fell around 150 metres down the hilly road is still lying on the bank of Marsyangdi river and will be lifted with the help of a crane on Saturday, he said. Thapa said 250 security personnel, including from Nepal Army, Armed Police Force and Nepal Police, were mobilised for rescue works. Twin rope was used to con-

duct the rescue operation as the accident site lies in a deep and narrow gorge near the Marsyangdi River, he said. The accident site lies in the national highway some 90 km west of Kathmandu. According to a report in MyRepublica news portal, the passengers on-board the bus were part of a group of 104 Indian pilgrims who arrived in Nepal from Maharashtra in three buses two days ago for a 10-day tour of the Himalayan nation. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

Auto driver finds carbine on busy road

STATE BUREAU
Warangal

It is not every day that one finds a carbine machine gun lying on the road! However, on Friday morning, D Srinivas, an auto-rickshaw driver, found exactly that, and that too, at the busy MGM junction. Srinivas, who was heading towards Hanamkonda from the

Warangal railway station, noticed a weapon falling from a truck moving in front of his auto-rickshaw at MGM Junction and picked it up. However, by the time he parked his vehicle and picked up the weapon, the truck had gone far. As he was planning to find the truck, a sanitation worker advised him to hand over the weapon to the police. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

'Ultra localised rain' stuns Hyderabadis



CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

Ever witnessed rain confined to just a few feet while everything around stays dry? An extraordinary sight unfolded at the Murad Nagar post office line in Hyderabad on Thursday, where a sudden downpour was restricted to a tight six-foot radius, capturing the attention of onlookers.

Called 'ultra-localised rainfall', the rare weather event occurs when intense rain showers are confined to a small geographic area, sometimes as small as a few feet. These showers are typically brief but can be quite heavy, making them a fascinating meteorological phenomenon. Such micro-rains often escape the radar of standard weather forecasts

due to their limited range.

Meanwhile, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) issued a yellow alert, predicting heavy rainfall across Telangana for the next two days. In Hyderabad, light to moderate rainfall or thundershowers are expected until August 27, which could further intensify the season's monsoon.

Assam: Minor girl gang-raped

GUWAHATI

A 14-year-old girl was allegedly gang-raped by three persons in Assam's Nagaon district, triggering massive protests by people on the streets. The girl was allegedly assaulted and raped by three persons while she was returning home from her tuition on her bicycle in Dhing on Thursday. **(SEE PAGE 2)**