



NATION | PAGE 07

**RG Kar: Docs withdraw 'cease work' partially**



WORLD | PAGE 09

**Israel, Hezbollah exchange strikes**

Outfit leader Nasrallah vows retaliation against Israel for attacks, says it crossed 'red line'



SPORT | PAGE 10

**Ashwin shines on home turf with sixth Test hundred**

**In a nutshell**

**Dasara holidays for schools from Oct 2**  
HYDERABAD: Schools across the State will have 13-day short term holidays for the Dasara festival. The vacations will be from October 2 to 14 with schools set to re-open again on October 15. As per the academic calendar issued by the School Education Department, students will have a summative assessment (SA) 1 from October 21 to 28, followed by the formative assessment (FA) 3 before December 17.

**7 IEDs neutralised in Manipur**

KOLKATA: The Army, along with Manipur Police, averted a major disaster in Manipur by recovering seven IEDs. The total weight of the explosives in these IEDs was 28.5 kg. The IEDs were buried and set to detonate on receiving appropriate signals. Army's Eastern Command, headquartered at Fort William in Kolkata, said that the ensuing explosions could have caused severe damage to life and property. IANS

**New ration cards from October 2**

HYDERABAD: Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy directed the officials to prepare an action plan for issuing new ration cards and they have been asked to receive applications for new ration cards from October 2. The CM held a review on the procedures to be adopted to issue ration cards. Ministers N Uttam Kumar Reddy, Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy and Damodara Raja Narasimha took part in the meeting.

**L&T's Hyd Metro Rail's 'X' hacked**

HYDERABAD: Cyber crooks hacked the L&T group's X account, and put it on sale. This is said to be part of an X account hacking spree, which according to reports, has fueled a pump-and-dump scheme for the \$HACKED Solana token, with people rushing to buy the coin. L&T appeared to have taken stock of the situation and recovered control of its account. HYDERABAD PAGE 3

**CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD**

Farm.....	Rs. 105
Retail live.....	Rs. 127
With skin.....	Rs. 184
Skinless.....	Rs. 210
Egg Rates (12 eggs).....	Rs. 72



**'Sridevi epitome of grace'**

Shraddha shares beautiful pictures from her latest photoshoot

12

## Govt stifles farmers' voices as anger rages

**Ryots, including those in CM's Kodangal, under house arrest**

STATE BUREAU  
HYDERABAD/KODANGAL

With the promised crop loan waiver yet to reach several lakhs of farmers across the State more than a month after Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's promised deadline of August 15, unrest among farmers is continuing in the State, with Thursday witnessing a crude attempt by the Congress government to quell their voices before they took their protest to the State capital.

Starting right from the Chief Minister's own constituency of Kodangal, farmers came out in large numbers onto the streets in response to a call by farmers' unions for a 'Chalo Praja Bhavan' protest programme but were either placed under house arrest or bundled into police vehicles and detained for hours so that they would not be able to reach Hyderabad.

In Bomraspet mandal in Revanth Reddy's Kodangal constituency, farmers, including Dalits, actually were continuing their protest for the third consecutive day when they were taken into



Farmers staging a protest against the Congress government in Nizamabad on Thursday.

custody. Demanding waiver of their crop loans, they were demonstrating in front of the State Bank of India when the police took the farmers and their union leaders into custody.

However, undeterred by the police crackdown, several organisations, cutting across political affiliations, participated in the protests. "In many villages, 50 per cent of farmers are yet to get their crop loans waived. Of-

icials are insisting on ration cards despite the State government announcing that they were not mandatory for the crop loan waiver," said SC, ST, BC Minority Hakkula Porata Samiti district president Chandraiah.

"As per the Warangal Rythu Declaration, the Congress government should also extend financial assistance to tenant farmers and farm labourers," Lambadi Hakkula Porata Samiti

chief Surya Naik said. Madiga Reservation Porata Samiti district president Subash and others were also part of the protests.

Meanwhile, across the State, farmers who planned a massive 'Chalo Praja Bhavan' protest programme saw police swooping down on their homes since Wednesday night and detaining them, citing concerns of disruption of law and order. (SEE PAGE 2)

## Row over animal fat in Tirupati laddu

AMARAVATI

Day after Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu accused the previous YSRCP government of using animal fat in making the Tirupati laddu, Social Welfare Minister Dola Sree Bala Veeranjanya Swamy said that a comprehensive inquiry will be conducted into irregularities in Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam (TTD).

The Minister said that the Chief Minister repeated what the officials had already stated about the quality of ingredients used in making laddu, also known as Tirumala laddu. The Chief Minister, in a TDP meeting, claimed that during the YSRCP rule, the laddu used to be made with standard ingredients.

He accused YSRCP leaders of tarnishing the sanctity of the hill shrine. "They compromised on the quality

### 'Lab report' finds 'beef tallow'

AMARAVATI: The TDP on Thursday claimed that the adulteration in laddus has been confirmed by Gujarat-based livestock laboratory, NDDDB CALF Ltd on the ghee samples. TDP spokesperson Anam Venkata Ramana Reddy in a press conference displayed the purported lab report which apparently confirmed the presence of "beef tallow" in the given ghee sample. PTI

of 'Annadanam' (free meals) and even contaminated the sacred Tirumala Laddu by using animal fat instead of ghee," he said. (RELATED REPORT PAGE 7)

## Pannun files lawsuit against Indian govt

NEW YORK

Khalistani separatist Gurbatwan Singh Pannun has filed a civil lawsuit against the Government of India and National Security Advisor Ajit Doval, with a US court issuing summons in the case.

In New Delhi, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri termed imputations "unwarranted and unsubstantiated." "These are completely unwarranted and unsubstantiated imputations. Now that this particular case has been lodged, it doesn't change our views about the underlying situation," he said. The summons issued by the US District Court for Southern District of New York in the civil action lawsuit state that a response to the summons must be given within 21 days. This comes just days before Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the US. PTI

## Discoms for hike in power charges

STATE BUREAU  
Hyderabad

The State-run power Distribution Companies (Discoms) have proposed to revise electricity charges in the State. The Annual Revenue Requirement Report (ARR) for the current financial year (2024-25) was submitted to the Telangana State Electricity Regulatory Commission (TGERC) late on Wednesday.

The discoms proposed to revise the charges in all three categories. If the recommendations are approved by the ERC, the discoms estimate that they will get an income of Rs 1,200 crore to cover the deficit. The ERC will give a final verdict after conducting public hearings on these proposals in at least three places across the State. After that, the revision of charges will come into effect. This whole process takes 90 days.

The Southern Power Distribution Company of Telangana Limited



If recommendations are approved by ERC, the discoms estimate that they will get an income of Rs 1,200 crore to cover the deficit.

(TGSPDCL) and the Northern Power Distribution Company of Telangana Limited (TGNPDCL) have estimated a deficit of Rs 14,222 crore between their income and expenditure this year. In this amount, Rs 13,022 crore have been requested to be provided by the State government through the Budget. These two organisations said that they are giving proposals for revision of charges to cover

the remaining shortfall of Rs 1,200 crore.

### 'Impact on consumers minimal'

Currently, a fixed charge of Rs 10 per kilowatt is charged if the electricity used by households exceeds 300 units per month. The discoms asked to be allowed to raise it to Rs 50. The government is providing free electricity to households consuming less than 200 units

per month under the Gruha Jyothi scheme. Also, there will be no increase in line charges for houses up to 299 units. According to the discoms, more than 1.30 crore houses in the State have electricity connections. As more than 80 per cent of them use less than 300 units, the increase in fixed charges will not be a burden on most people, discoms observed.

At present, there are three types of connections in the general category of HT industries. Of this, the industry which has taken connection with the capacity of 11 KV is charged at the rate of Rs 7.65 per unit for the electricity consumed 33 KV connection is charged at the rate of Rs 7.15 and 132 KV at the rate of Rs 6.65. Henceforth, the discoms demanded to be allowed to charge only Rs 7.65 per unit from all categories of industries. They asked to increase the fixed charge of Rs 475 per kilowatt to Rs 500 from the industries. (SEE PAGE 2)

## Earth to have another moon!

CITY BUREAU  
Hyderabad

The planet Earth is all set to have a 'mini-moon'! A tiny space rock (asteroid) named 2024 PT5, which was reported by Asteroid Terrestrial-impact Last Alert System (ATLAS), an asteroid early warning system funded by NASA in the University of Hawaii, will be orbiting our planet till November-end, before escaping the Earth's gravity.

Labelled 'mini-moon', the discovery of the small asteroid triggered a lot of excitement among the community of amateur and professional astronomers, not only in India but across the globe.

The near-Earth object is expected to come within 5,67,000 km of Earth during

its closest approach. This distance is roughly one and a half times the average distance to reports.

### Rare event

While the size of the 2024 PT5 is significantly smaller than the moon, the temporary orbiting of the asteroid, which is only 33 feet in width, is a rare event that occurs once in a decade or 20 years. Interestingly, according to the research lead author and Universidad Complutense de Madrid professor Carlos de la Fuente Marco, the 2024 PT5 originated from the Arjuna asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter, this celestial visitor offers a rare opportunity for scientists to study near-Earth objects up close. (SEE PAGE 2)

CITY BUREAU  
Hyderabad

Condemning the Congress government's proposal to allot 10 acres of Dr BR Ambedkar Open University (BRAOU) land to Jawaharal Nehru Architecture and Fine Arts University (JNAFAU), teaching and non-teaching staff of the Open University on Thursday staged a protest on the university campus demanding the government to withdraw the proposal.

A large number of protesting employees raised slogans against the Congress government and threatened to intensify protests if the proposal was not shelved. To strengthen their efforts, the teaching, non-teaching and technical

### Employees raise slogans against Congress govt and threaten to intensify protests if proposal is not shelved

staff of the Open University formed a Joint Action Committee (JAC), which will spearhead the protests and put forward their demands. The employees also submitted a representation to BRAOU Registrar Prof E Sudha Rani.

The State government is actively considering allotting 10 acres in the BRAOU campus to JNAFAU, and a final decision is expected after the

Cabinet meeting, which is scheduled for Friday. The State government might also allot the present JNAFAU campus to the Telangana Education Commission, recently established with former bureaucrat Akunuri Murali as its chairman.

The BRAOU, the first open university in the country, has been extending distance education to students from economically weaker sections and rural areas in 53.63 acres of land in Jubilee Hills since 1982. Stating that BRAOU's enrollment has been increasing every year, the JAC said the existing buildings and infrastructure were insufficient, and already causing a lot of inconvenience to students. (SEE PAGE 2)

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT  
Hyderabad

The Telangana High Court took strong exception to remarks made by M Raghunandan Rao, BJP MP from Medak, during a recent press conference. A two-judge division Bench, comprising Chief Justice Alok Aradhe and Justice J Sreenivas Rao, initiated a suo moto criminal contempt case against the MP based on a letter from a single judge of the court.

The letter reveals that during a press conference on August 24, Raghunandan Rao questioned the court's decision to grant a "stay of demolition" concerning a petition filed by actor Akkineeni Nagarjuna's N Convention via a House Motion. He reportedly raised con-

cerns about how the court could issue a stay when a previous ruling in 2014 directed the demolition of the same property. The MP's comments included assertions that judges should not rush to make decisions based solely on House Motions and criticised the judicial process as "injunctious."

### 'Omnibus allegations'

Raghunandan Rao's remarks were described as making omnibus allegations against the judiciary, including claims that stay orders are often granted without proper scrutiny of the circumstances. He questioned the efficiency of the court's Registry in listing cases and called on the Chief Justice to address these issues. (SEE PAGE 2)

## Criminal contempt case against BJP MP