



NATION | PAGE 07

Surrender or face action, Amit Shah to naxals



WORLD | PAGE 09

Israel strike kills top Hezbollah leader

12 killed, many injured as Tel Aviv launches rare strike on Beirut



SPORT | PAGE 10

India on top, stretch lead against Bangladesh

**In a nutshell**

**Eight killed in Maha road mishap**

**JALNA:** At least eight persons were killed and more than 16 others injured when a passenger bus and a fruit-laden truck rammed into each other on the Beed-Jalna Road, here on Friday, an official said. According to Ambad Police Station in-charge Police Inspector Satish S Jadhav, the incident occurred at 8 am near Mathtanda village when the MSRTC bus was heading towards Jalna from Beed. **IANS**

**Manipur Minister's PA abducted**

**IMPHAL:** Unidentified men abducted the personal assistant of Manipur Consumer Affairs Minister L Susindro near his residence in Imphal. The motive behind the abduction of S Somorendro (43) remains unclear. No group claimed responsibility. This comes a day after armed assailants fired at least five rounds at the residence of former chief secretary Oinam Nabakishore in Bishnupur district. **PTI**

**SC's YouTube channel hacked**

**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court's YouTube channel was hacked on Friday and showing videos promoting a cryptocurrency developed by US-based company Ripple Labs. "This is to inform all concerned that the YouTube channel of Supreme Court of India has been taken down. The services on YouTube channel of Supreme Court of India will be resumed shortly," a notice posted on apex court website said. **PTI**

**WB jr doctors to resume duties**

**KOLKATA:** Junior doctors agitating over the RG Kar incident called off their 'cease work' on Friday, announcing partial resumption of duties entailing attending essential services in state-run hospitals from Saturday. The agitating medics withdrew 'cease work' after holding a march to the CBI office in Salt Lake from the State Health Department's headquarters. **REPORT PAGE 8**

**CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD**

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

## One should not transgress limits, SC on CM's remarks

NEW DELHI

It is expected that all three wings of the Constitution show mutual respect for each other's functioning as "unwarranted comments" bring friction unnecessarily, the Supreme Court said.

Observing that a fair criticism of judgments is always welcome but one should not "transgress the limits", a Bench of Justices BR Gavai and KV Viswanathan said one should be careful enough while making comments about orders passed by courts. The court's observations came while dealing with the issue pertaining

# Bitter fight over Tirupati laddu

## TTD's sacredness damaged

## Naidu using god for political gains

## Time for 'Sanatana Rakshana'

AMARAVATI

Keeping up the heat on his party's main rival YSRCP over the Tirupati laddu controversy, TDP supremo and Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu accused previous YSRCP government of damaging the sacredness of TTD by procuring cheap, adulterated ghee to prepare the famous sweet. He also indicated he would take action on the matter, asking if

used in laddu during the previous YSR Congress government. He alleged the previous regime bought inferior quality ghee at cheaper prices affecting the quality of Laddu and damaged the sacredness of TTD. "Today we have changed the ghee supplier. We started purchasing Nandini brand ghee from Karnataka. People are saying their sentiments were hurt (following allegations of adulterated ghee and presence of animal fat in Tirupati laddus). When the sentiments were hurt, should I spare them (culprits) when unpardonable mistakes were committed," the Chief Minister asked. **PTI**

HYDERABAD

YSRCP chief YS Jaganmohan Reddy hit out at Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu over the ghee adulteration in Tirumala, saying the latter was trying to divert public attention from his 100 days of rule. He said Naidu is such a person who will use god also for political gains. "This is a diversion politics. The allegations are atrocious. Is it fair to play with devotees sentiments?" **YS JAGANMOHAN REDDY**, YSRCP PRESIDENT

concocted story," he said. The ghee adulteration allegations are atrocious, he said, and asked is it fair to play with sentiments of crores of devotees across world. All samples, tests and results mentioned in lab test reports as evidence occurred under the NDA government, he said. Selecting the ghee supplier is a routine process every six months by TTD. It has been going on for decades together, nothing new, he said. During an NDA legislative party meeting on September 18, TDP chief Chandrababu Naidu claimed that the previous YSRCP government did not even spare TTD. **PTI**

AMARAVATI

Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan said on Friday that the State government is committed to taking stringent action against those involved in the use of ghee mixed with animal fat in Tirupathi laddu. Reacting to a post by an organisation's Hindu IT Cell demanding action against the culprits, Pawan Kalyan assured that stringent action would be taken. "We are all deeply disturbed by the findings of animal fat (fish oil, pork fat and beef fat) mixed in Tirupathi Balaji Prasad. Many questions to be answered by the TTD board con-

stituted by YSRCP govt then. Our govt is committed to taking stringent action possible," he posted. He also stated that this throws light on many issues surrounding the desecration of temples, its land issues and other religious and faith-based practices. "Maybe the time has come to constitute a 'Sanatana Dharma Rakshana Board' at a national level to look into all the issues related to temples and faith-based practices. A debate has to happen at a national level by all the policymakers, religious heads, judiciary, citizens, media and all others in their respective domains," he said. **IANS**

# Uncertainty grips stalled PRLIS works



PRLIS is designed to provide 7.15 tmc water for drinking purposes to over 1,220 villages across six districts in its first phase.

PS DILEEP

Hyderabad

The Palamuru Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme (PRLIS), which was holding hope for the water-starved southern districts of Telangana, is now facing an uncertain future. Works have been at a standstill for the past 12 months. The project saw its first pumping facility inaugurated by then Chief Minister K Chandrababu Naidu on September 16 last year.

The mega pumping unit, commissioned on the occasion lifting 3,200 cusecs of water from the backwaters of the Srisailem project, is today left submerged along with four other pumping units of same capacity. Dewatering process is expected to take a couple of months. The assessment of damage to the infrastructure and rehabilitation plans can be thought of only after the completion of the dewatering process that remained an arduous task waiting for machinery of higher capacity.

PRLIS is designed to provide 7.15 tmc water for drinking purposes to over 1,220 villages across six districts in its first phase. The second phase aims to meet irrigation needs with 73 tmc of water, pending necessary clearances. The project's first stage successfully pumped water from the Srisailem project into the Anjanagiri reservoir signalling an end to the water travails of the targeted villages. **Further sanctions** The notification of the Assembly elections immediately after the inauguration of the first pumping unit of the project, stalled further sanctions and inaugurations. Despite clearing legal hurdles for the drinking water component, the project has not advanced. It is alleged that the government was deliberately stalling the project to undermine the previous administration's achievements. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

**Project saw its first pumping facility inaugurated by then CM K Chandrababu Naidu on September 16 last year**

### YSRC MOVES HC, SEEKS CBI PROBE

**HYDERABAD:** The row over animal fat in the Tirupati laddu took a new turn on Friday with the YSRCP approaching the Andhra Pradesh High Court to seek a probe into the allegations. The YSRCP lawyers mentioned before a High Court Bench the allegation made by Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu about the presence of animal fat in Tirumala laddu and requested an inquiry by a sitting judge or a High Court-appointed committee. The High Court, however, suggested filing a PIL by Wednesday and the arguments will be heard on that day. The laddu is given as prasadam to the devotees at the famous Sri Venkateswara temple in Tirupathi, which is run by TTD, a body nominated by the state government. **IANS**

### SC INTERVENTION SOUGHT INTO ISSUE

**NEW DELHI:** A letter petition has been addressed to CJI DY Chandrachud seeking the urgent intervention of the Supreme Court into the alleged presence of animal fat in ghee used in making Tirumala laddus. "Recent investigations have revealed a disturbing truth that non-vegetarian products, specifically bird meat (kolis), were used in the preparation of prasadam during the tenure of the previous Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanam Trust management," said the plea filed through advocate Satyam Singh, adding that this act not only violates the fundamental tenets of Hindu religious customs, but also strikes at the very core of our religious practices and beliefs. **(REPORT PAGE 7)**

### EO VOWS TO ENSURE SANCTITY OF LADDU

**HYDERABAD:** Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) Executive Officer J Syamala Rao on Friday said there would not be any compromise on the quality of ghee used for making laddu prasadams and stressed the need to protect the sanctity and divinity of Tirumala Divyakshetram and laddu prasadam. Addressing media persons in Tirumala on Friday, the Executive Officer said there were five suppliers — Premier Agri Foods, Kripam Dairy, Vaishnavi, Sri Parag Milk and AR Dairy — for supply of ghee to TTD. The rates they quoted were between Rs 320 and Rs 411 a kg. However, prima facie, these rates were not viable for supplying pure ghee, he said. **(REPORT PAGE 7)**

### UNION MINISTERS FOR THOROUGH PROBE

**NEW DELHI:** Union Ministers, including Food Minister Pralhad Joshi, on Friday called for an investigation into allegations made by Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu regarding the use of animal fat in Tirupati laddus. "Whatever the Andhra Chief Minister has said is a matter of serious concern. A detailed enquiry is required and the culprit should be punished," he said. Union Health Minister Nadda said he had spoken to Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and sought a report on the issue. Meanwhile, Union Minister Bandi Sanjay Kumar said a thorough investigation should be conducted into the allegations. He wrote a letter to the AP Chief Minister in this regard. **PTI**

# TG facilitates legal sanctity to HYDRAA, gives freehand

STATE BUREAU

Hyderabad

The Telangana Cabinet has facilitated legal sanctity and extended a freehand to Hyderabad Disaster Response and Assets Protection Agency (HYDRAA) for the protection of lakes, reservoirs and nalas within Outer Ring Road (ORR) limits.

I&PR Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy said rules were amended to provide freehand to HYDRAA. All the rights that were applicable for municipalities, cor-

**Freedom enjoyed by different departments will be applicable to HYDRAA as well, says I&PR Minister Ponguleti Srinivas**

porations and other departments have been incorporated to HYDRAA, he said at a post-Cabinet meeting press conference on Friday. The HYDRAA jurisdiction covers 27 urban local bodies and 51 Gram Pan-

chayatats that have been merged into different municipal bodies till ORR. "The freedom enjoyed by different departments will be applicable to HYDRAA as well, and rules and regulations have been amended to this effect," he said. However, he did not disclose as to how the Cabinet entrusted legal sanctity to HYDRAA. Similarly, as per HYDRAA requirements, 169 officers and 946 outsourcing staff from different departments would be deputed to work under it, he said.

# Rs 5 meal scheme in govt hospitals diluted



In 2022, the then BRS government launched the initiative in all major tertiary hospitals in Hyderabad.

M SAI GOPAL  
Hyderabad

The coverage of the Rs 5 per meal scheme to attendants of patients at government hospitals in Hyderabad has gradually shrunk in the last eight to nine months. Earlier, the initiative covered anywhere between 18,000 and 20,000 attendants per day. However, the number has now gradually come down to 4,000 to 5,000 patient attendants per day.

The gradual drop in coverage of the Rs 5 per meal initiative aimed at providing an affordable and healthier alternative to attendants of patients comes in the wake of the State government's

### Left in lurch

- Earlier, the scheme covered 18,000-20,000 attendants a day
- At present, number stands at 4,000-5,000
- BRS govt implemented it in 18 hospitals with annual cost of Rs 38.66 cr
- COST PER MEAL: Rs 26.25 (BRS govt chipped in Rs 21.25 and attendants Rs 5)

**THERE ARE INSTANCES WHERE ATTENDANTS THEMSELVES HAVE MADE THEIR OWN ARRANGEMENTS TO GET FOOD FROM THEIR RELATIVES STAYING IN HYDERABAD. SO, THE NAMES OF THE PATIENT ATTENDANTS, FOR WHOM THE FOOD HAS TO BE COOKED, ARE NOT FORWARDED TO THE IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES**

— SENIOR HEALTH OFFICIAL

# K'taka BJP MLA Munirathna arrested for rape

BENGALURU

BJP MLA N Munirathna was arrested in connection with a case of rape, sexual harassment and criminal intimidation registered against him, police said.

Along with him, six others have also been booked in the case following the complaint of a 40-year-old woman who alleged that the incident took place at a private resort within the Kaggalipura police station's jurisdiction, they said. His arrest came a day after a special court granted conditional bail to the MLA who was arrested on various charges, including using casteist slurs. **PTI**

# Out on bail, rape accused shoots dead victim in UP

SAMBHAL

A rape accused, out on bail, shot dead his victim here, police said, adding that the man along with another person were detained. The main accused, Rinku 20, raped the girl and a case was registered against him in Ghaziabad police station in February. He came out of the jail on bail earlier this month, police said. According to victim's family, the girl was shot dead while she was returning home with her brother. **PTI**