



HYDERABAD | PAGE 02

Northeast monsoon turns active in Hyderabad



WORLD | PAGE 09

25 killed in Israeli airstrikes on Lebanon

Mayor among those dead, Lebanon PM accuses Israel of targeting municipal council meeting



SPORT | PAGE 10

T20 World Cup: Australia, South Africa face-off today

In a nutshell

Nijjar: Trudeau had 'no hard proof'

OTTAWA: Prime Minister Justin Trudeau on Wednesday acknowledged that he had only intelligence and no "hard evidentiary proof" when he alleged the involvement of Indian government agents in the killing of Khalistani separatist Hardeep Singh Nijjar. He said Indian diplomats were collecting information on Canadians who disagreed with the Modi government. PTI

Over 140 killed in Nigeria blast

ABUJA: More than 140 people, including children, were killed and dozens were injured in Nigeria after an overturned gasoline tanker truck exploded in flames while they were trying to scoop up fuel pouring from the vehicle. The accident occurred at midnight in Jigawa state's Majiya town when the tanker driver lost control of the vehicle on a highway. AP WORLD PAGE 9

Teen held for hoax threats to flights

MUMBAI/RAJ-NANDGAON: A 17-year-old boy from Chhattisgarh was detained by the Mumbai Police in connection with bomb hoax threats posted on social media targeting three flights on October 14. Prima facie, a financial dispute with a shopkeeper prompted the boy to create an account on X and post these tweets. PTI NATION PAGE 7

Twin brothers drown in sump

HYDERABAD: Twin brothers died after accidentally falling into a sump filled with chemical solution at Saboori Pharma Company at the industrial area in Jeedimetla on Wednesday. The incident occurred when Ramu and Laxman, both 32 years old, went to the company which was shut for long, for renovation work. Police said the company was opened for taking up maintenance and renovation work. HYDERABAD PAGE 3

CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD

Farm.....	Rs. 126
Retail live.....	Rs. 148
With skin.....	Rs. 215
Skinless.....	Rs. 244
Egg Rates (12 eggs).....	Rs. 68

BRS to fight for Musi, radar project oustees

KTR directs party legislators to stand by victims

STATE BUREAU
HYDERABAD

The main opposition, BRS, is gearing up to launch a fresh agitation against the Musi river project, HYDRRAA demolitions and VLF Radar Station as the primary causes.

BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Wednesday directed party legislators to reach out to the victims and stand by them at the ground level, giving them the assurance and confidence in the fight against the Congress government's anti-people policies.

Rama Rao, who held an extensive meeting with the BRS MLAs and MLCs of the Hyderabad region at Telangana Bhavan here, drew parallels between Prime Minister Narendra Modi's demonetisation and Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's Musi Riverfront beautification project. He said both Modi and Revanth Reddy changed justifications daily to mask their poorly conceived decisions, only to create unnecessary panic among people. "Just like Modi justified demonetisa-



BRS working president KT Rama Rao during a meeting with party MLAs and MLCs of the Hyderabad region, at Telangana Bhavan on Wednesday.

tion with different reasons every day — from black money to terrorism/naxalism and digitisation, Revanth Reddy is trying to justify the Musi river project. Today it's beautification, tomorrow it's water for Nalgonda, but where is the clarity?" he asked, pointing out that the Musi project lacked a comprehensive plan, with the Chief Minister declaring its cost at Rs 1.5 lakh crore, only to retract and state that no DPR was prepared yet.

In a pointed attack, the former Municipal Administration Minister stated that the previous BRS government had initiated beautifi-

cation of the Musi river, but withdrew its plans after the then Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao insisted that no project which affected the poor was worth taking up. Hence, the BRS government initiated water treatment for the Musi river apart from taking up the construction of essential bridges and other infrastructure, including sewerage treatment plants, with Rs 16,000 crore.

"The BRS is not opposed to providing clean water to the erstwhile Nalgonda district as is being propagated by the Congress. But we invested Rs 4,000 crore to en-

sure 100 per cent treatment of water flowing to the erstwhile Nalgonda district, negating the need for spending Rs 1.5 lakh crore. The BRS government also initiated a project to supply water from Kondapochamma Sagar to Osman Sagar with Rs 1,100 crore. This new Musi river project is nothing but a burden on taxpayers," he added.

Accordingly, Rama Rao, along with the BRS-elected representatives and leaders, will visit STPs to sensitise people about the initiatives of the previous BRS government to conserve the Musi.

(SEE PAGE 2)

In Pak, Jaishankar flags terror issues

Says it's essential to have honest conversation on lack of trust

ISLAMABAD

Delivering a thinly veiled message to Pakistan from its national capital, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Wednesday said if activities across borders are "characterised" by terrorism, extremism and separatism, they are hardly likely to encourage trade, energy flows and connectivity in parallel.

In his address at a conclave of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) chaired by Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif and attended among others by Chinese Premier Li Qiang, Jaishankar also asserted that trade and connectivity initiatives must recognise territorial integrity and sovereignty and it is essential to have an "honest conversation" on lack of trust.

The remarks came amid the lingering military standoff between Indian and Chinese troops in eastern



External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar with Pakistan PM Shehbaz Sharif at the SCO meet in Islamabad. — Photo: PTI (REPORTS PAGE 8)

Ladakh and concerns over China's increasing military muscle-flexing in the Indian Ocean and other strategic waters. Ahead of the SCO deliberations at the Jinnah Convention Centre, Sharif shook hands with Jaishankar and warmly received him for the second time in the last two days. Sharif and Jaishankar shook hands and briefly spoke at a dinner reception on Tuesday night.

In his address at the conclave, Jaishankar flagged concerns over a number of challenges, including that of

countering the "three evils" of terrorism, extremism and separatism. "If activities across borders are characterised by terrorism, extremism and separatism, they are hardly likely to encourage trade, energy flows, connectivity and people-to-people exchanges in parallel," the External Affairs Minister said, without naming Pakistan.

Before leaving Islamabad, Jaishankar thanked Sharif and Pakistan Foreign Minister Ishaq Dar in a post on X that is being seen as a positive gesture. PTI

7 of family killed in road accident

STATE BUREAU
Medak

Seven persons, including three women and three teenaged girls, were killed after their car hit a roadside culvert and crashed into a stream at Usirikepally in Shivvampet mandal on Wednesday afternoon.

The man driving the car, who was allegedly under the influence of alcohol, was the only survivor with injuries, while the seven passengers died on the spot.

According to eyewitnesses and police, Nam Singh, the driver, was driving the Maruti Swift at high speed when he lost control of the vehicle, causing the car to hit the culvert, before plunging into the stream.

The victims have been identified as Danavatha Shivaram (55) and his wife Durgamma (45), residents of Thallapalli thanda; Mal-

oth Anitha, her daughters Bindu (14) and Sravani (12), residents of Jegya thanda; and Guguloth Santhi (45) and her daughter Mamatha (16), residents of Bheemla thanda.

Nam Singh is a resident of Bheemla thanda. The eight persons were close relatives and were on their way back home after attending a function at a relative's residence at Venkatayapally thanda in Toopran mandal. They reportedly had a liquor party at Venkatayapally before their return journey.

Though the locals rushed to the spot after the accident occurred, they could not pull out the bodies until an earthmover was deployed. When the bodies were retrieved, the locals found Nam Singh alive. He was rushed to a hospital. However, his condition was stated to be critical.

(SEE PAGE 2)

Six Cong MLAs revolt against Konda Surekha

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

A major political crisis has hit the Congress in the erstwhile Warangal, with six Congress MLAs openly revolting against Minister Konda Surekha and approaching the party high command complaining that she was "interfering" in their constituencies.

It is learnt that the MLAs on Tuesday urged the high command and the State leadership to take action against Surekha, citing "interference" and "misconduct" by the Minister. In their complaints, they accused Surekha of overstepping her boundaries and creating problems in several Assembly constituencies in the district. The MLAs alleged that the interference by Surekha and her followers was causing friction between local MLAs, party leaders and the cadre. (REPORT PAGE 5)

MAGNIFICENT MOON



The full moon shines bright on Sharad Purnima, also known as Kojagiri Purnima, in Nagpur on Wednesday. — Photo: PTI

Omar sworn in as J&K CM, Cong stays away from govt

SRINAGAR

NC leader Omar Abdullah took oath as the Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir on Wednesday, heading the first elected government in the union Territory since 2019 when its special status was revoked.

As Jammu and Kashmir turned another page in its troubled history, the 54-year-old was sworn in along with five other Ministers, three from the Jammu region and two from the Kashmir Valley. The effort towards regional balance within the administration was also reflected in his choice of Deputy Chief Minister — Surender Choudhary from Jammu's Nowshera constituency. The Congress, a member of the



J&K L-G Manoj Sinha, CM Omar Abdullah and others at the swearing-in ceremony in Srinagar. — Photo: PTI (REPORTS PAGE 7)

pre-poll alliance with the NC, has decided not to take up any ministerial positions in the new government as of now. The new Jammu and Kashmir government, which ends six years of di-

rect Central rule, can have up to nine Ministers. Prime Minister Modi wished Abdullah the best and said, "The Centre will work closely with him and his team for J&K's progress." PTI

Join duties in AP, HC to IAS officers

LEGAL CORRESPONDENT
Hyderabad

The Division Bench of the Telangana High Court, comprising Justice Abhinandan Kumar Shavili and Justice Laxmi Narayana Alishetty, dismissed a batch of writ petitions filed by IAS officers seeking to remain in their current postings until their applications were resolved by the Central Administrative Tribunal.

The court emphasised the need for the officers to adhere to the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) orders issued on October 9, which directed them to report to Andhra Pradesh by October 16. The officers — Ronald Rose, Vani Prasad, Amrapali Katta and Karuna Vakati — originally allocated to

Court emphasises need for Ronald Rose, Vani Prasad, Amrapali Katta and Karuna Vakati to adhere to DoPT orders

Andhra Pradesh but currently working in Telangana, were among those affected. Conversely, Hari Kiran, Srijana Gummala and Siva Sankar Loheti, initially assigned to Telangana but working in Andhra Pradesh, were also ordered to report to Telangana.

The IAS officers had approached CAT on Tuesday, but the tribunal did not grant any interim relief and scheduled a hearing for November 4. (SEE PAGE 2)

Temple desecration accused was self-radicalised: Police

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

The suspect behind the temple desecration at Kummarguda in Secunderabad has been identified as Salman Salim Thakur alias Salman (30) from Maharashtra, who had come to the city a month ago to attend a personality development workshop.

According to the Hyderabad Police, the suspect was influenced by speeches of religious speakers online and developed a radical mindset towards other communities. Salman, who belonged to Mumbai in Maharashtra, is a computer engineering graduate and is active on social media.

He allegedly started watching religious preachers' videos of fugitive Zakir

Salman came to the city a month ago for personality development workshop. He developed hatred for other religions

— HYDERABAD POLICE

tend a month-long personality development workshop organised by English House Academy under Munawar Zama, Mohd Kafeel Ahmed and others at a hotel in Regimantal Bazaar.

The police found the hotel premises was rented illegally for running the academic course and had no formal permission. Officials said necessary legal action was being taken against the hotel management for the same.

Suspect involved in similar cases

Probe revealed that Salman was involved in similar incidents earlier in Mumbai. In 2022, he entered a Ganesh pandal with his footwear, argued with a local resident and mocked the practice of idolatry. (SEE PAGE 2)