



NATION | PAGE 08
Mamata
 govt aiding
 infiltration,
 says Shah



WORLD | PAGE 09
Michelle makes strong
 pitch for abortion rights
 Talks about struggle for women to understand,
 care for their bodies; rallies for Harris



SPORT | PAGE 10
Clinical New
 Zealand thrash
 India, level
 series 1-1

In a nutshell

Delhi's air quality deteriorates

NEW DELHI: After a two-day gap, Delhi's air quality turned 'very poor' again on Sunday as calm winds prevented dispersion of pollutants. Some areas in the national capital recorded 'severe' pollution levels. Delhi's 24-hour average Air Quality Index (AQI) was recorded at 355 at 4 pm as against 255 on Saturday, Central Pollution Control Board data showed. Data from 37 of the city's 40 monitoring stations was shared by the CPCB. **PTI**

Actor Vijay targets DMK, NEET

VILLUPURAM: Forces dividing the country on various lines and corrupt entities are his party's enemies, TVK leader and top Tamil actor Vijay said on Sunday, and announced his party has been based on secular social justice ideologies with leaders such as EVR Periyar and K Kamaraj as its guiding lights. The latest entrant to Tamil Nadu politics, Tamizhaga Vetri Kazhagam founder Vijay took an apparent dig at DMK. **PTI** **NATION PAGE 8**

10 injured in Mumbai stampede

MUMBAI: At least 10 persons were injured in a stampede at Mumbai's Bandra railway station on Sunday when hundreds of people attempted to board a Gorakhpur-bound train to head to their native places for the upcoming Diwali and Chhatth festivals. The Western Railway, however, said two persons were injured in the incident. **PTI**

Threats to Tirupati hotels, 50 flights

TIRUPATI/NEW DELHI: Two hotels and a temple in Tirupati received fresh bomb threats in the name of terrorist groups on Sunday but all of them turned out to be a hoax, police said. It was for a third consecutive day that hotels received threatening emails. Also, 50 flights operated by Indian airlines received bomb threats. **AGENCIES**

CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD

| | |
|--------------------------|---------|
| Farm..... | Rs. 120 |
| Retail live..... | Rs. 142 |
| With skin..... | Rs. 206 |
| Skinless..... | Rs. 234 |
| Egg Rates (12 eggs)..... | Rs. 72 |

Every word in FIR false: Madduri

STATE BUREAU
 Hyderabad

Clarifying his position in the alleged drug case, Vijay Madduri, an NRI, stated on Sunday that every word attributed to him in the FIR was false. He emphasised that he had a clean record as an American citizen and investor conducting business in multiple countries.

He recently returned from a foreign trip and provided evidence to support his travels. He categorically denied consuming any illegal substances in India. He expressed his distress over the numerous rumors circulating on social media and in the media.

In a statement released to the media, Vijay explained

that he was invited by his friend Raj Pakala to attend a family function and Diwali party, which he attended with his family.

The function included women, elderly people and children, and no illegal activities took place, Madduri added.

'Cops causing distress to friends & family'

He expressed deep anguish over the police allegations, stating that they are causing immense distress to him, his family, friends and relatives. He condemned the attempt to tarnish his 25-year spotless career with a single false accusation and urged the authorities to consider the facts and evidence he has provided.

39 constables suspended

CITY BUREAU
 Hyderabad/Nalgonda

Instead of their grievances being redressed, protesting personnel of TGSP saw 39 of them being suspended.

A statement issued on Sunday announced the suspension of 'TGSP Personnel for Misconduct and Incitement of Agitation' and said for the last few days, a few of them had conducted themselves in agitations inside the Battalion campus as well as on streets of several places, including Hyderabad. To uphold discipline and integrity in TGSP, the personnel involved in misconduct were placed under suspension for unbecoming of government servants, including incitement of others for agitation among personnel, it read. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

750 acres for Korean firm draws flak

STATE BUREAU
 Hyderabad

Even as the controversy surrounding the involvement of Singapore-based Meinhardt Company in the preparation of the Musi riverfront development's Detailed Project Report (DPR) is still raging, the State government's plan to offer 750 acres to Korean shoemaking firm Shoell is drawing flak.

People from different sections are questioning the State government's plans to offer 750 acres to the company against an investment of Rs 300 crore. Earlier this week, Industries Minister D Sridhar Babu had announced that Shoell, which manufactures smart shoes, was keen on investing in a state-of-the-art production centre in Telangana at a

cost of Rs 300 crore, which can generate employment for around 87,000 people. He had met with the company's chairman, Cheewing Lee, at the Secretariat.

"The land is required for the manufacture of various types of products that provide relief and healing for people with diabetes and arthritis, including shoes with medical chips on the soles and shoes that generate 25 watts of electricity per hour after taking 10,000 steps. We will consider Shoell's request on top priority and a decision will be

taken shortly. A huge factory will be set up and from here it will cater to the global as well as American markets," Sridhar Babu had said.

"Tanneries are needed due to the use of animal skins in the manufacture of shoes, and many people will be able to find employment with these ancillary units that will be needed to support the production facility," the Minister had further added.

This has evoked sharp criticism from different sections. Hyderabad Real Es-

tate and Infra, an X user, said: "750 acres seems just too much for a shoe factory and that too for just Rs 300 crore investment. Even employment numbers seem bloated. The Industries Minister's department should thoroughly verify information before announcing such proposals..."

This apart, the Industries Minister's announcement that the Korean firm has proposed to set up a smart city, if 5,000 acres were allocated, in addition to bringing famous hospitals such as John Hopkins, is also drawing flak.

Raising objections over the government's plans, former Telangana Digital Media Coordinator Konatham Dileep said that what was more concerning was the land requirement. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

Cops barge into housewarming party of KTR's brother-in-law



BRS leaders being detained during protests in Hyderabad on Sunday.

Excise officials say no drugs found at any of the premises raided

What was an excise case was turned into an NDPS case

WITCH-HUNT

"Won't back down, will continue to expose Cong"

STATE BUREAU
 Hyderabad

Terming the police and excise raids on his residence and those of his relatives part of a political witch-hunt by the Congress government, BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Sunday said the Congress was resorting to such deliberate, malicious acts because it was unable to counter the BRS politically.

Asserting that neither he nor the BRS would back down from the fight that it was waging for the last 11 months against the atrocities and faulty policies of the Congress government, Rama Rao said it was a shame that the ruling party was targeting not just him, but his relatives as well.

Addressing a late-night press conference at his Nandi Nagar residence, Rama Rao said the attempt was to destroy his mental strength by targeting and humiliating his family members, and said that whether it was Rahul Gandhi or Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy who was behind the entire drama, they should remember that such malicious acts would not deter him from posing questions on the shoddy governance by the Congress. "I'm prepared for the extreme and won't be afraid of such false cases," he said, adding that BRS president K Chandrashekar Rao had prepared the party workers mentally to face any adversity and there was no question of backing down on the issue of holding the government responsible for its failures.

Pointing out that for the last 24 hours, a "ridiculous drama" was being played out in Telangana for families to come together at their homes for occasions like Dasara or Diwali. His brother-in-law Raj Pakala, too, had done the same thing. He had organised a family get-together in connection with the housewarming ceremony of his new home, with those who attended including elderly people aged 70, children



BRS working president KT Rama Rao addressing the media at his Nandi Nagar residence in Hyderabad on Sunday.

It was a housewarming ceremony and not a rave party... I'm prepared for the extreme and will not be afraid of such false cases

— KT RAMA RAO, BRS WORKING PRESIDENT

ranging from two-eight years old and husbands and wives. It was not a farmhouse as was being projected, but a house owned by Pakala, he said.

Strongly coming down on attempts to portray a family get-together as a "rave party", Rama Rao criticised news channels and social media handles that derived some sort of devilish pleasure by calling it a rave party. Police had said there were "men and women", when it was a family function, where husbands and wives, children, relatives and friends attended.

Playing videos of senior Excise officials, including a Superintendent and CI, categorically stating that no drug was found even after using trained sniffer dogs, he said what was an Excise case for possessing extra liquor bottles had become an NDPS Act case by evening, obviously with officials bowing to political pressure. This was even after 13 of the 14 persons tested for drugs tested negative. One person had tested positive, but instead of investigating from where he consumed it, the entire gathering was being ma-

ligned, he said, adding that attempts were being made to cast aspersions by terming husbands and wives as just "men and women at a rave party".

The NDPS Act case had sections related to supplier, consumption and co-host, even when officials themselves said nothing was found and that there was no proof of that one person consuming drugs at the venue or of anyone supplying drugs there, he said.

Rama Rao also denied reports that he had left the venue five minutes before the raid, stating that he was with his father and BRS chief K Chandrashekar Rao at his Erravali residence and had gone home from there, where he had dinner, spent time with his family and slept. It was when he woke up in the morning that he heard news of the raid.

Rama Rao also challenged Revanth Reddy to hold Assembly sessions on the six guarantees, Musi project, AMRUT scam and crop loan waiver, instead of resorting to such tasteless tactics, while ignoring much more burning issues that were happening across the State.

Fire at cracker shop in Abids, woman injured

HYDERABAD

A woman sustained minor injuries after a fire broke out at a cracker shop in Abids here on Sunday night, police said.

The fire occurred when the material (firecrackers) was being kept in the shop, a senior police official said based on preliminary investigation. Four fire tenders were pressed into service and the blaze has been brought under control, he said.

A woman suffered minor injuries to her hand and she has been shifted to hospital. TV visuals showed flames erupting from the shop and crackers bursting even as people were seen rushing out of the store. Investigation is on.