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Hyd sees 24% increase in cybercrime this year, says CP



BUSINESS | PAGE 08

Immediate rate cut unlikely: RBI Governor

Says there are still upside risks to inflation and a rate cut at this stage will be very risky



SPORT | PAGE 10

Gauff beats Swiatek, enters semifinals

In a nutshell

KTR invited for MYTA fete

HYDERABAD: BRS working president KT Rama Rao has been invited to the decennial celebrations of Malaysia Telangana Association (MYTA) to be held in Malaysia on November 9. MYTA members, led by its president S Tirupati, met the BRS leader on Wednesday and extended the invitation in this regard. Former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Reddy launched MYTA after the formation of Telangana State.

Mithun booked for provocative speech

KOLKATA: Bidhannagar Police on Wednesday lodged an FIR against actor-turned-BJP leader Mithun Chakraborty for allegedly delivering a provocative speech during a party programme in North 24 Parganas district last month. According to police sources, the complaint against Chakraborty pertains to a speech he made during a BJP programme at the EZCC in Salt Lake area on October 27, based on which police registered an FIR at Bidhannagar South police station. PTI

MVA unveils poll guarantees

MUMBAI: Seeking to outdo the ruling coalition in Maharashtra, the Opposition's Maha Vikas Aghadi alliance promised women in the State Rs 3,000 per month and free travel in State transport buses. Under the Krishi Samruddhi Yojana, farmers will get loan waiver up to Rs 3 lakh and Rs 50,000 as an incentive for regular repayment of crop loans, the Shiv Sena (UBT)-NCP(SP)-Congress alliance announced ahead of the November 20 Assembly elections. NATION PAGE 7

India slams Pak on Kashmir issue

UNITED NATIONS: Slamming Pakistan for "peddling lies and falsehood" and using the UN forum for its "divisive, political agenda" after it raised the Kashmir issue at the UN, India has said that no amount of disinformation and misinformation will change facts on the ground. Rajya Sabha Member of Parliament Rajeev Shukla on Tuesday stressed that inclusive access to information is essential for fostering trust, accountability and good governance. PTI

CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD

Farm.....	Rs. 128
Retail live.....	Rs. 150
With skin.....	Rs. 218
Skinless.....	Rs. 248
Egg Rates (12 eggs).....	Rs. 76

100 kg adulterated tea powder seized, one arrested

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

Beware, even the refreshing sip of tea could be adulterated! Such has been the increasing instance of adulteration by those seeking to make a fast buck, that even tea powder is not spared these days. One such instance came to light in the

city when the law enforcement officials carried out a raid at Bolarum, and to their surprise, they came across a whopping 100 kg of adulterated tea powder. The police arrested the suspect on charges of preparing adulterated tea powder at Brundavan Colony in Bolarum on Wednesday. The police also

seized 336 packets weighing a total of 100 kg. Police identified the man involved in the adulteration as G Paresh, a resident of Uppal. The suspect was found to be involved in clandestinely packing low-quality tea powder into the covers of various tea brands and selling it to customers. A case was booked.

PTI
WASHINGTON

Donald Trump was on Wednesday elected the US President for a second term in one of the greatest political comebacks in American history, four years after an election loss in 2020 that sparked a violent insurrection at the US Capitol. The 78-year-old Republican leader, convicted of felony charges and awaiting sentencing in a hush-money case in New York, defeated his Democratic rival Kamala Harris in a bitterly fought election.

According to races called by the Associated Press up to 7 pm (IST), 277 electoral votes had gone to Trump and 224 to Harris. Trump, the oldest person in US history to be elected President, crossed the halfway 270 votes-mark in electoral col-

PMLA: SC directive on prosecution

NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court said a prior sanction will precede the prosecution of public servants accused of money laundering charges in discharge of official duty.

The Bench, therefore, dismissed a plea of the ED challenging a HC verdict that quashed cognisance order of the agency's complaint against two IAS officers. The Telangana HC quashed a trial court order taking cognisance of ED's prosecution complaint filed on money laundering charges against two senior bureaucrats in the Andhra Pradesh government. PTI

MODI CONGRATULATES 'FRIEND' TRUMP

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday congratulated "friend" Donald Trump on his "historic" presidential polls victory, and said he looks forward to renewing their collaboration to further strengthen the India-US Comprehensive Global and Strategic Partnership. "Heartiest congratulations my friend @realDonaldTrump on your historic election victory. As you build on the successes of your previous term, I look forward to renewing our collaboration to further strengthen the India-US Comprehensive Global and Strategic Partnership," Modi said in a post on X. "Together, let's work for the betterment of our people and to promote global peace, stability and prosperity," he said. PTI

lege votes with victory in the battleground State of Wisconsin. Addressing his supporters at West Palm Beach in Florida, Trump declared his victory in the presidential election, calling the mandate "unprece-

dent and powerful". "Many people have told me that God spared my life for a reason," Trump said, referring to the two assassination attempts on his life during the election campaign this year. Amid cheers of his ju-

Soon medicines through quick e-commerce platforms

M SAI GOPAL
Hyderabad

Very soon, like food and daily groceries, your monthly stock of medicines will be delivered at your doorstep in a matter of 10 to 15 minutes by delivery partners, that too with deep discounts and pay-later offers.

Following the disruption of traditional standalone medical shops by online medical stores, quick commerce platforms are now preparing the ground for rapid doorstep delivery service. A few weeks ago, Swiggy-Instamart, in collaboration with online medicine

Major associations representing druggists, chemists from Telangana raise questions over such initiatives

store Pharmeasy, launched a pilot service in Bengaluru with a promise that medicines will now be delivered in minutes.

Qualified pharmacist Similar initiatives are expected to be launched in other cities in the coming

bilant supporters and his family by his side, Trump declared that this will be the "golden age" of America.

"This is a magnificent victory for the American people. This was a movement like nobody's ever seen before, and frankly, this was, I believe, the greatest political movement of all time. There's never been anything like this in this country, and maybe beyond," Trump said. Soon after projections indicated Trump's victory, congratulatory messages started pouring in from world leaders. After President Grover Cleveland (1885-1889 and 1893-1897), Trump is the only person to return to the White House for another term after a gap of four years. Trump served as President from January 2017 to January 2021.

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months, reports suggested. The concept of instant door delivery of medicines is novel, however, has raised several questions.

Major associations representing druggists and chemists from Telangana State have raised questions over such initiatives. "At present, medical shops follow rules and regulations like having a qualified pharmacist, mandatory infrastructure to store medicines to maintain their quality and dispense medicines based on prescriptions," says president, Chemists and Druggists Association of Telangana, R Srinivas. (SEE PAGE 2)

'Cong govt involved in Rs 9,910 cr scam'

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

The Congress government in Telangana raised curtains for massive corruption in two major irrigation projects worth Rs 9,910 crore, according to BRS working president KT Rama Rao, who held Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy responsible for awarding these contracts to two companies in violation of the Office of Profit Act.

He found fault with the Chief Minister for alterations to both projects to escalate the project costs and conspiring to siphon off funds to benefit the Congress party.

He also questioned the Chief Minister for the lack of action against one of the contractors — Megha Engineering and Infrastructure Limited (MEIL), despite the departmental inquiry committee recommending blacklisting the company over the collapse of a retaining wall at Sunkishala project.

The projects in question include the Rs 4,350 crore Kodangal-Narayanpet Lift Irrigation Scheme (LIS) and the Rs 5,560 crore project to lift water from Mallanna Sagar to the Musi River for its rejuvenation. The former Minister pointed out that

Govt awarded contracts of two irrigation projects to MEIL and Raghava Constructions, a company owned by the family of Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, allegedly bypassing reputed companies

Congress leaders, including Revanth, likened MEIL to the British East India Company for alleged unethical practices. However, the same company was now receiving fresh contracts under the same Congress govt

— KT RAMA RAO, BRS WORKING PRESIDENT



the contracts were awarded to MEIL and Raghava Constructions, a company owned by the family of Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy, allegedly bypassing reputed companies such as L&T and Nagarjuna Construction Company in the technical bids.

Addressing the media at Telangana Bhavan on Wednesday, Rama Rao pointed out that the Kodangal-Narayanpet LIS was initially proposed by former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Reddy to benefit about two lakh acres in the Narayanpet-Kodangal area. But he said Revanth Reddy

altered the project to reduce its ayacut to one lakh acres while increasing costs. He said the Chief Minister also replaced the previous proposal to lift water from Kodapochamma Sagar to Osman Sagar for Musi River rejuvenation at Rs 1,100 crore and instead, opted to lift water from Mallanna Sagar, resulting in increased expenditure. The BRS working president reminded that Congress leaders, including Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, had likened MEIL to the British East India Company for alleged unethical practices. (SEE PAGE 2)

J&K Assembly passes resolution for special status

SRINAGAR/JAMMU

The Jammu and Kashmir Assembly on Wednesday passed a resolution asking the Centre to work out a constitutional mechanism for restoring the special status of the erstwhile State. The move was hailed by the valley-based political parties while it prompted protests by the main opposition BJP which demanded its rollback.

The passage of the resolution led to an uproar in the House as the BJP members protested vociferously, resulting in frequent disruptions of the proceedings. Eventually, Speaker Abdul Rahim Rather adjourned the House for the day. The resolution, which also expressed "concern" over the "unilateral removal" of the special status, was passed without any debate as the Speaker put it to voice vote amidst noisy scenes. With the passage of the resolution, the ruling NC said it has fulfilled one of its promises made in the manifesto while Chief Minister Omar Abdullah said the "Assembly has done its job". The members of the PDP, AIP and CPI(M) supported the resolution during the voice vote. (REPORT PAGE 7)

SC raps UP govt on illegal demolitions

NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Wednesday pulled up the Uttar Pradesh government for an "illegal" demolition in 2019 while issuing directions to all States and Union Territories on the procedure to be followed during road widening and removal of encroachments.

A Bench of Chief Justice DY Chandrachud and Justices JB Pardiwala and Manoj Misra also directed the UP government to pay Rs 25 lakh compensation to the man whose house was razed in 2019 for a road widening project. "You can't come with bulldozers and demolish the constructions overnight. You don't give the family, time to vacate. What about the household articles inside the house?" the Bench asked the counsel representing the UP government.

While hearing the matter of the petitioner, represented by senior advocate Siddharth Bhatnagar and advocate Shubham Kulshrestha, the court remarked, "... it is clear that the demolition was completely high-handed and without the authority of law."

You can't come with bulldozers and demolish the constructions overnight. You don't give family, time to vacate? — SUPREME COURT

Further, the apex court directed UP Chief Secretary to conduct an inquiry into the matter pertaining to a house in Maharajganj district and take suitable action. The Bench elaborated on the steps that a State or its instrumentality must undertake before taking action in pursuance to a road widening project.

In case an encroachment was found, the top court said, the State must issue a notice to the encroacher to remove it and if the correctness and validity of the notice was objected to, the state would issue a "speaking order" keeping in mind the principles of natural justice. In a scenario of the objection being rejected, a reasonable notice would be furnished to the person. PTI

25 tigers in Rajasthan's Ranthambore 'missing'



JAIPUR

Rajasthan's Chief Wildlife Warden Pavan Kumar Upadhyay said that 25 of the 75 tigers in Ranthambore National Park (RNP) are reported to have gone missing over the last year, directing officials to probe the matter. Kumar also told officials in an order on Monday that 11 of the missing tigers have been reported missing for over a year.

This is the first time such a high number of tigers has been officially reported missing in a year. Earlier, 13 tigers were reported missing from Ranthambore between January 2019 and January 2022. The Wildlife Department has formed a three-member committee to investigate the disappearances, as per the order. The team will review monitoring records and recommend action if any

lapses by park officials are found. The focus is on finding 14 tigers that have not been seen since between May 17 and September 30 of this year. The order stated that reports of missing tigers have surfaced repeatedly from Ranthambore's monitoring assessments. "Despite several notices sent to the park's field director, no significant improvements have been noted. As of a report dated

October 14, 2024, 11 tigers have been unaccounted for over a year, with limited recent evidence of another 14. Given the circumstances, an inquiry committee has been set up to investigate the missing tigers in Ranthambore," the order said. Park officials have said that Ranthambore faces challenges due to tigers' overcrowding, which leads to fights over territory. PTI