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Saturday, November 16, 2024 Price Rs. 6 HYDERABAD EDITION Vol. 8 | No. 334 | Pages 12



ED seizes Rs 8.8 crore from 'Lottery Kina'

NATION | PAGE 08

WORLD | PAGE 09 AMERICA **WO** Will end Russia-Ukraine war, says Donald Trump Vows that his administration will also work

on bringing peace to West Asia

SPORT | PAGE 10 KL Rahul injured ahead of 1st Test against Aus

In a nutshell

10 medicos suspended MAHABUBNAGAR: As

many as 10 students were suspended by the Mahabubnagar Medical College for ragging juniors. Though, the incident occurred on No-vember 10, it came to light on Thursday. After feeling humiliated, the juniors approached the management and lodged a complaint. The college management verified the surveillance cameras footage and counseled the senior students, according to reports.

700 kg drugs seized, 8 arrested

NEW DELHI: A joint operation by anti-narcotics agencies led to the seizure of about 700 kg of drugs and the arrest of eight Iranian nationals from Indian territorial waters off the Gujarat coast around Porbandar. The street value of the seized Methamphetamine could be anywhere between Rs 2,500-3,500 crore in the international market, according to Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) officials. NATION PAGE 7

Scholz discusses war with Putin

BERLIN: German Chancellor Olaf Scholz condemned the war in Ukraine in a phone call with **Russian President Vla**dimir Putin on Friday, the German government said. Government spokesman Steffen Hebestreit said Scholz condemned "Russia's war of aggression" against Ukraine during the call, and called on Putin to end it by withdrawing troops that invaded the country in February 2022. AF

'Cops implicated innocent villagers in Lagacherla row'

KTR slams Revanth's brother for unleashing reign of terror to acquire lands

STATE BUREAU HYDERABAD

BRS working president KT Rama Rao lashed out at Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's brother Tirupati Reddy, accusing him of un-leashing a reign of terror in Lagacherla to forcibly acquire lands belonging to farmers and tribals for the proposed private pharma

company. He said in collusion with Tirupati Reddy, the police implicated innocent villagers to blame the BRS for the alleged attack on the district authorities. Speaking outside Sangareddy prison after meeting 16 arrested villagers on Friday, Rama Rao said the arrests were politically motivated to silence dissent.

"Innocent people are being arrested simply for supporting the BRS and raising their voices against the government's atrocities. The police, in collusion with Tirupati Reddy and local Congress leaders, are threatening villagers and their families with violence if they speak against them," he said.

The BRS working president pointed to specific cases, including gram panchayat secretary Raghavendra Yadav, and another ITI student, disregarding their absence during the alleged attack. "Raghavendra was arrested at midnight despite not being present during the alleged attack. He was conducting a caste census in an-



BRS working president KT Rama Rao along with other party leaders addressing the media in Sangareddy on Friday.

other village and returned home only in the evening. Similarly, the ITI student was visiting his family and arrived in the village hours after the incident, and yet he was arrested," he explained. Rama Rao said private individuals who were in inebriated condition, also accompanied the police personnel during the midnight raids on Monday and were responsible for abusing and beating up the villagers.

ments in the Waqf Act, 1995,

despite opposition from

I.N.D.I.A bloc parties.

"Modi ji wants to change

the Waqf Board law, but

Uddhav ji, Sharad Pawar

and Supriva Sule are oppos-

ing it. Uddhav ji, listen care-

fully, you all can protest as

much as you want, but Modi ji will amend the Waqf Act,"

he said, addressing a rally at

Umarkhed in Yavatmal dis-

trict. A Joint Parliamentary

Committee (JPC) is cur-

rently scrutinising the Waqf

(Amendment) Bill, 2024, in-

troduced in the Lok Sabha

Bill, saying the proposed

law was aimed to stream-

line the Waqf Board's work

agement of Waqf proper-

The Centre introduced

in August.

"These raids were nothing short of a terror campaign. Innocent villagers were assaulted and humiliated," he charged. He accused Congress leaders, including Dudyal mandal president Sekhar's supporters, of orchestrating the unrest.

"Even Congress leaders are losing their lands. Though around 70 people, including Congress leaders, were detained, only BRS supporters were officially arrested. Most of Congress activists were allowed to walk free," he said. The former Minister condemned the government's attempt to acquire land worth Rs 60-70 lakh per acre for a fraction of its value, against the farmers' wishes and portraying the farmers' protests as a BRS conspiracy.

He pledged complete legal support to the arrested villagers. "We will provide all legal assistance and con-

tinue to stand by the people of Lagacherla, Nyalkal, and other affected villages. Their fight is our fight," he asserted. He vowed to escalate the issue and ensure justice for the victims. Former Ministers Satyavathi Rathod and V Srinivas Goud, MLAs Chinta Prabhakar, Manik Rao, KP Vivekanand, Anil Jadav, MLC Shambipur Raju, Naveen Kumar Reddy and senior BRS leaders, also visited the victims.

FIR walk free Raghavendra Yadav, and another ITI student, disregarding their absence dur-

Cong activists

The Congress allegations against the BRS, accusing it of conspiring to create unrest at Lagacherla and orchestrating the alleged attack on the officials, appear to be falling apart.

STATE BUREAU

named in

Hours after former MLA Patnam Narender Reddy revealed that his confession was fabricated by the police in the remand report and released the original confes-sion, fresh revelations indicate that more than a dozen of the 46 individuals named in the FIR have close ties to

the Congress party. Further, the police also set free a few Congress activists with close connections with the party's Dudyal mandal president Sekhar Reddy who is a close aide of Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's brother Tirupati Reddy, despite their alleged involvement in the incident. But they arrested gram panchayat secretary

ing the alleged attack. The Congress leaders, along with the police, are weaving a narrative holding the BRS responsible for the attack, citing the involvement of B Suresh, a farmer affiliated with the BRS.

However, it is now discovered that of the 46 individuals named in the FIR, is A10 — Ramu Naik who is a former deputy Sarpanch and a known Congress supporter. Even among the 21 per-

sons who have been arrested, at least five belong to the Congress party. Eight others among the remaining persons named in the FIR were identified as Congress activists and sympathisers, but have been declared as absconding. Notwithstanding their party affiliations, the locals have been actively participating in the fight to protect their lands and opposing the proposed Pharma Village. (SEE PAGE 2)

Jailed ryots break down

SANGAREDDY: The 16 farmers from Lagacherla, who were shifted to the Central Jail in Sangareddy on Thursday, were inconsolable on seeing BRS working president K T Rama Rao during the 'Mulakhat' at Sangareddy jail.

Though Rama Rao tried to comfort them assuring them of all support, the farmers could not control themselves and broke down. Rama Rao too turned a bit emotional after seeing them cry. The farmers were worried that the Congress government would put them in jail by filing multiple cases until they handed over lands. However, Rama Rao assured them that the BRS would help them get bail by talking to expert lawyers. Since Saturday and Sunday were holidays, the BRS working president said they may get bail next week. (REPORT PAGE 5)

Rajasthan violence: Situation stable

JAIPUR: The situation in Rajasthan's violence-hit Tonk district was stable on Friday, a day after the arrest of Independent candidate for the Deoli-Uniara Assembly bypoll Naresh Meena who was sent to judicial custody for a fortnight. Meena, a Congress rebel who slapped a sub-divisional magistrate on election duty outside a polling booth on November 13, was arrested on Thursday following high drama. PT

CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD

'PM firm on Waqf Act amendment'

CHANDRAPUR/YAVATMAL/HINGOLI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday asserted Prime Minister Narendra Modi was determined to amend the Waqf Act despite resistance from key opposition leaders such as Úddhav Thackeray and Sharad Pawar. Addressing three election

rallies in Maharashtra during the day in support of Ma-hayuti candidates, he declared the Modi government will eliminate Naxalism from Chhattisgarh by March 31, 2026, and dared Congress MP Rahul Gandhi to pub-

licly laud Hindutva ideologue VD Savarkar and Shiv Sena founder Bal Thackeray. The senior BJP leader and ensure efficient manemphasised that the Centre will push through amendties. PTL

TG medico found dead in Philippines STATE BUREAU

Fulfilling her dream of becoming a doctor ended on a tragic note as a 21-year-old woman, Chintha Snigdha, died under suspicious circumstances in her hostel room at the University of Perpetual Help-System in the Philippines early on Friday.

Snigdha had turned 21 on November 15. Her friends, who opened the door at 3 am on Friday to greet Snigdha, found her hanging from the ceiling fan. The daughter of Transco DE in Medak, Chintha Amrutha Rao, Snigdha left for the Philippines to pursue MBBS in 2021. She was pursuing third year of the course.

(SEE PAGE 2)

Attempt being made to frame KTR?

As Congress is going hammer and tongs in accusing

STATE BUREAU

Apart from fueling the political heat, the attack on Vikarabad Collector Prateek Jain at Lagacherla on November 12 is taking different turns, besides raising apprehensions over conspiracy to frame BRS working president KT Rama Rao in the incident. As the ruling Congress is

going hammer and tongs in accusing the involvement of BRS, a close look at the developments before and after the attack reveals a different narrative.

Consider this. On October 25, villagers and farmers at Rotibanda thanda in Kodangal constituency vehe-mently opposed the Congress government's plans to set up a pharma village. They had even locked up Congress mandal president

A Shekhar, a close aide of Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy in the gram panchayat office for arguing with the villagers over the establishment of the pharma village

Following this incident, Vikarabad Collector Prateek Jain visited Lagacherla on November 12 to seek the opinion of farmers and residents over the establishment of a pharma village. Generally, when there are apprehensions of the eruption of violence in a village over land acquisition for a project, the district administration, especially the police, takes precautionary measures and makes elabo-

BRS involvement in Lagacherla attack, a close look at developments reveals a different narrative rate arrangements before conducting a public hearing programme in another village. However, this was found lacking at Lagacherla.

Phone calls

Despite the stiff opposition from villagers over the proposal to set up a pharma village, hardly any police personnel accompanied the Collector. If the police were accompanying the Collec-tor, why did they not reach the venue for public hearing in time when he was allegedly attacked is a big question, that defies any answer. Another interesting fact is that, soon after the incident, the Collector sought

to play down the incident and asserted on record that it was not an attack on him. But the entire narrative took a new turn with Congresselected public representatives and a few Ministers claiming that phone call records indicated multiple conversations between BRS working president, former MLA Patnam Narender Reddy and the accused BRS leader Suresh.

However, this theory was exposed in the police remand report, which said there was only one call between the former MLA and the leader. How did the Ministers and Congress leaders come to know about multiple phone calls be-tween the BRS leaders? As many as 55 persons, including farmers, were taken into custody in connection with the incident but only 20 were remanded. (SEE PAGE 2)

Modi stranded as snag hits aircraft

RANCHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was stranded at the Deoghar airport in Jharkhand for over an hour on Friday after his special aircraft developed a snag.

Modi was supposed to fly back to New Delhi on the Indian Air Force plane after addressing a rally in Bihar's Jamui, which is around 80 km from Deoghar, they said. He was visiting Jamui to attend a function organised on the 150th birth anniversary of Birsa Munda, which is celebrated as 'Janjatiya Gaurav Divas'. "PM Modi left for Delhi from Deoghar

oped a technical snag. The aircraft could not be rectifor more than two hours," sioner Vishal Sagar said.

in another special aircraft after his IAF plane devel-

fied on time. PM had to wait Deoghar Deputy Commis-Meanwhile, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi was also caught in a similar situ-

ation in Godda, Jharkhand. Gandhi's helicopter, which was supposed to take him back after addressing an election rally, was grounded for about two election hours, prompting allegations from the Congress that the delay was politically motivated. PTI

Donkey scam: Crooks milk investors dry

CITY BUREAU

In an era of cyber crimes, an unusual scam running into around Rs 100 crore has left scores of victims cheated and with herds of donkeys! The gullible victims ranged from unlettered to highly educated, some software engineers too, and homemakers. who fell to the promise of making big money from donkey milk. Operated from Mukkudal in Tirunelveli of Tamil Nadu, the fraud spread its tentacles across Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Maharashtra.

offering good returns on in-Some victims gathered in vestments in donkey farms Hyderabad to narrate their had disappeared, leaving hundreds in financial ruin as woes to media persons on

Friday. The fraudsters, after several of them invested Rs 50 lakh to Rs 1.20 crore in the donkey milk business. The victims took 'The Donkey Palace', the organi-

sation that ran the milk business, as legitimate as its inauguration, which had the participation of the district Collector there in 2022. The key person be-hind the fraud, Babu Ulaganadam, along with marketing persons — Giri, Balaji, Sonika and veterinarian Ramesh Kumar, posing as entrepreneur, lured the victims via YouTube videos into establishing donkey farms through a franchise system.

Apart from supplying donkeys costing Rs 50,000 to Rs 1 lakh depending on the milk quantity it produces, they offered to procure a litre of milk for Rs 1.600. (SEE PAGE 2)

ICC puts Pakistan's 'PoK' **CT Trophy tour on hold**

NEW DELHI: The ICC on Friday put on hold Champions Trophy tour of disputed Pakistan Occupied Kashmir (PoK) following BCCI's strong objection to the PCB's move. The tournament, last held in 2017, is already in limbo after BCCI refused to send its team to Pakistan for the tournament. The PCB also rejected the proposed 'Hybrid Model' with India playing their matches in Dubai. The schedule for the tournament has also been put on hold and the latest controversy could only make things complex and worse. PTI

Caste census applications found scattered on roadside

HYDERABAD: Caste census survey applications were found scattered on the roadside from Rekula Bavi crossroads to Yellampeta in Medchal on Friday, reflecting the State government's commitment in taking up the survey. It may be recalled that, on January 4, Praja Palana applications were found scattered on the Balanagar flyover. Videos of the applications on the roadside went viral on various social media platforms. However, it is unclear whether they are filed-in applications or blank ones.



Victims from Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and

Maharashtra who were duped by the fraudsters.