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Anti-drone unit for secure borders soon, says Shah



WORLD | PAGE 08

Trump calls for immediate ceasefire in Ukraine

US President-elect makes statement shortly after meeting Macron, Zelenskyy in Paris



ENTERTAINMENT | PAGE 12

Big B slams rumours of Abhi-Aish separation

In a nutshell

4 killed as car rams tree in AP

AMARAVATI: The joy of buying a new car turned into gloom within a month for a family as the vehicle met with an accident on Sunday, killing four members and injuring four others. The accident occurred in Andhra Pradesh's Palnadu district when the family was returning home after puja of the new vehicle in neighbouring Telangana. The accident occurred when the SUV rammed a roadside tree on the Addanki-Narketpalli highway near Bharmanapalli. **IANS**

S Korea ex-Defence Minister detained

SEOUL: South Korean prosecutors on Sunday detained a former Defence Minister, who allegedly recommended last week's brief but stunning martial law imposition to President Yoon Suk Yeol, making him the first figure detained over the case. The development came a day after Yoon avoided an opposition-led bid to impeach him in parliament, with most ruling party lawmakers boycotting a floor vote to prevent majority. **WORLD PAGE 8**

Dhakai sarees torched in WB

KOLKATA: Protests were held in various parts of West Bengal on Sunday over the alleged atrocities on Hindu minorities in Bangladesh. Hundreds joined the protest rallies organised by Hindutva groups in Kolkata, Kanthi, Kakdwip, Sandeshkhali and Purulia, calling for the immediate release of Hindu leader Chinmoy Krishna Das. Protesters torched Dhakai Jamdani sarees from Bangladesh. They called for a boycott of Bangladeshi goods too. **PTI**

PM hails Kerala priest's elevation

NEW DELHI: Indian priest George Jacob Koovakad being elevated as a Cardinal of the Holy Roman Catholic Church by Pope Francis is a matter of great joy and pride for India, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Sunday. He said Koovakad has devoted his life to the service of humanity as an ardent follower of Jesus Christ. "A matter of great joy and pride for India! My best wishes for his future endeavours," he said on X. **NATION PAGE 7**

CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD

Farm.....	Rs. 100
Retail live.....	Rs. 122
With skin.....	Rs. 177
Skinless.....	Rs. 201
Egg Rates (12 eggs).....	Rs. 85

Farmers tear-gassed again

SHAMBHU (PUNJAB)

Agitating farmers suspended their foot march to Delhi on Sunday after some of them sustained injuries in teargas shelling by Haryana security personnel who thwarted yet another attempt by the protesters to cross the Punjab-Haryana border.

Farmer leaders said they will decide the next course of action on Monday. As a group of 101 farmers resumed the foot march in the

Haryana cops offer them tea, biscuits, but protesters say it was 'drama' as police soon used teargas, water jets on them

afternoon, they were halted by a multi-layered barricade set up by Haryana security personnel, who surprised the protesters by offering them tea and biscuits and

also showering them with flower petals. But the protesters claimed it was all a "drama" as the police soon lobbed teargas shells and used water jets to disperse them when they insisted on crossing Shambhu border.

Ambala police had earlier said the farmer outfits, which are agitating for a legal guarantee for MSP and other demands, can march to Delhi only after getting permission from national capital administration. **PTI**
(PHOTO PAGE 7)

'One year of thittlu, kottlu, vottlu, notlu'



BRS MLA Harish Rao releasing a charge sheet against the Congress government, at Telangana Bhavan on Sunday.

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

Former Minister and senior BRS MLA T Harish Rao on Sunday came down heavily on the Congress government for its failed one-year governance and unfulfilled electoral promises. He charged the Congress with creating administrative chaos and neglecting the people's welfare.

"The one-year rule of the Congress can be summed up in four words — Thittlu, Kottlu, Vottlu, Notlu (abuses for opposition leaders, lathicharge on people, pledges to deities, money dealings

to Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy and Congress leaders)," he said. He said the charge sheet exposed the inability of the Congress to govern effectively.

Releasing an 18-page charge sheet on the one-year Congress rule at Telangana Bhavan on Sunday, Harish said the Congress government started its term with a negative attitude and controversial decisions such as attempts to alter the State emblem, cancel key projects such as Pharma City and impose restrictive measures on businesses in Hyderabad. **(SEE PAGE 2)**



BRS president and Opposition leader K Chandrashekhara Rao at a meeting of the Legislative Party with party MLAs and MLCs at his residence in Erravelli on Sunday.

This Chief Minister (Revanth) is acting without direction, threatening the very existence of Telangana's identity with ill-conceived ideas

—KCR, BRS PRESIDENT

Dasaradhi and Ravela Venkata Rao conceptualised her as a mother figure, embodying the spirit of Telangana. In 2007, this figure was formally introduced during a grand procession, culmi-

nating in her installation at Telangana Bhavan. Telangana Thalli symbolises the revival of our forgotten history and cultural identity, neglected under the erstwhile Andhra Pradesh

rulers," he explained. On being invited to the installation ceremony of the redesigned statue of Telangana Thalli, the BRS president said despite political differences, he followed Telangana's tradition of treating guests with respect and hosted a lunch for Minister Ponnampal Prabhakar who came to invite him.

However, he did not elaborate any further on attending the event. The former Chief Minister highlighted

the Congress government's failure to address electricity issues, despite inheriting significant infrastructure.

He said the Yadadri Thermal Power Plant, inaugurated recently, was a vision initiated by his government to tackle power shortages. Along with the NTPC, the project has added 2,400 MW of electricity capacity.

However, he pointed out that the Congress government has failed to ensure uninterrupted quality electricity for farmers and the public, undermining the achievements of the previous administration. "The Congress government is not only failing to preserve Telangana's heritage but also neglecting the basic needs of its people," he asserted, emphasising the need to safeguard the State's identity and ensure effective governance.

Chandrashekhara Rao said the BRS gave enough time to the Congress government which completed one year in power recently. He observed that people, who voted for the Congress with a lot of hope, are fed up with the incompetence of the current regime. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

(EXPOSE CONGRESS' SHORTCOMINGS PAGE 5)

Assad flees as Syrian govt falls to rebels

Bashar and family in Moscow, granted asylum, say reports

DAMASCUS

Syrians poured into streets echoing with celebratory gunfire on Sunday after a stunning rebel advance reached the capital, putting an end to the Assad family's 50 years of iron rule but raising questions about the future of the country and the wider region.

Joyful crowds gathered in central squares in Damascus, waving the Syrian revolutionary flag in scenes that recalled the early days of the Arab Spring uprising, before a brutal crackdown and the rise of an insurgency plunged the country into a nearly 14-year civil war. Others gleefully ransacked the presidential palace and the Assad family residence after President Bashar Assad and other top officials fled. Russian state news agencies reported that Assad and his family were in Moscow and given asylum. Russia, a close ally, said Assad left the country after negotiations with rebel groups and had given instructions to transfer power peacefully.

The leader of Syria's biggest rebel faction called the ouster "a victory to the

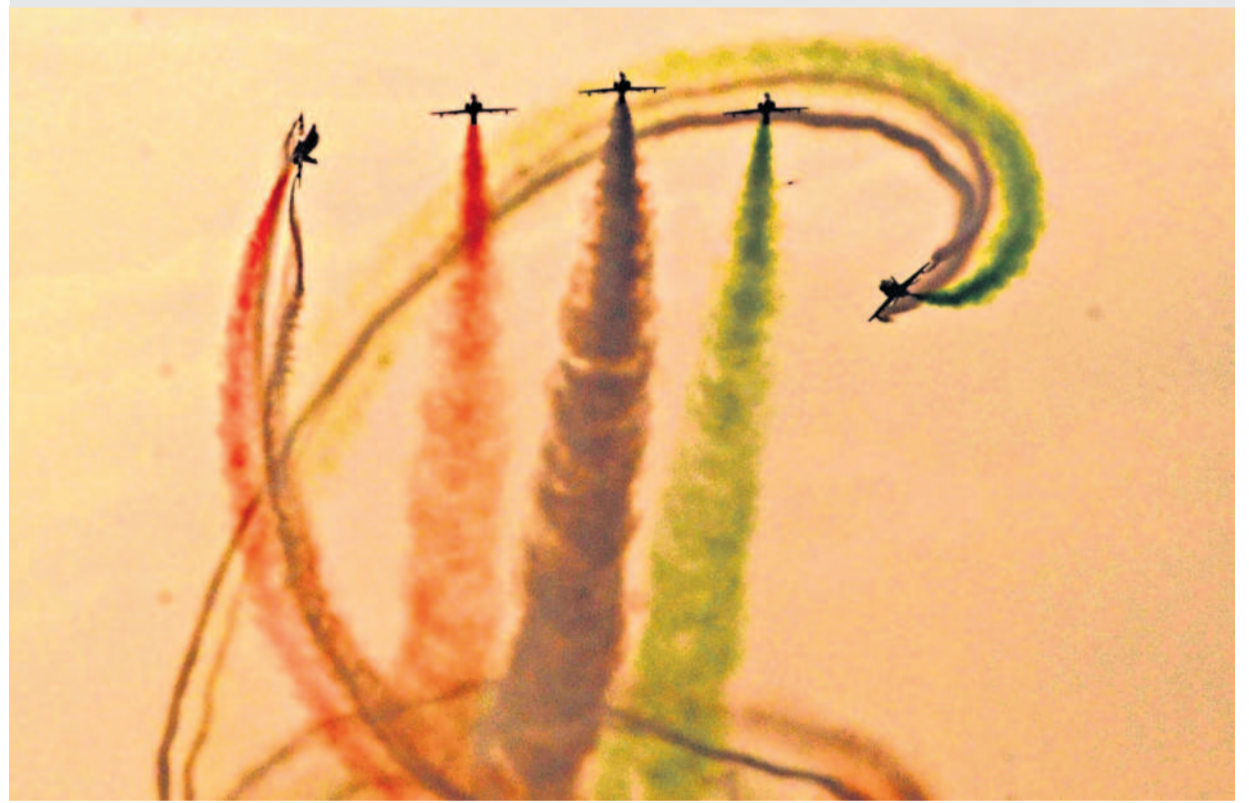


Bashar Assad

Islamic nation." Abu Mohammed al-Golani visited Syrian capital Damascus sprawling Umayyad Mosque. Now calling himself by his given name, Ahmad al-Sharaa, instead of his nom de guerre, he told hundreds of people that Assad had made Syria "a farm for Iran's greed."

Iran, which had strongly backed Assad throughout the civil war, said Syrians should decide their country's future "without destructive, coercive, foreign intervention." Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, meanwhile, said Israeli troops had seized a buffer zone in the Golan Heights after Syrian troops abandoned their positions in the latest unrest. **(SEE PAGES 2, 9)**

MESMERISING ACT



The Suryakiran Aerobatic Team of the Indian Air Force performing a mesmerising aerobatic display over Hussain Sagar in Hyderabad on Sunday. — Photo: Anand Dharmana **(REPORT PAGE 3)**

UoH campus records highest NO₂ levels

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

Once known for its serene and pollution-free environs, the University of Hyderabad campus at Gachibowli, thanks to rapid development around it, has now recorded the highest Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂) levels in the city. NO₂ is a near-invisible toxic gas linked to traffic and fuel burning, which are common in urban areas.

A Greenpeace India report, 'Beyond North India: NO₂ Pollution and Health Risks in Seven Major Indian Cities', highlighted high levels of NO₂ pollution in the city and noted that the region with the highest NO₂ annual average was at UoH

Highlights of the study

9 OF 14 AIR QUALITY MONITORING STATIONS IN HYD EXCEED WHO GUIDELINES

- Central University of Hyderabad has highest NO₂ annual average
- An estimated 2,430 cases of paediatric asthma to NO₂ pollution reported in Hyd in 2015
- Road transport accounts for 24% of NO₂ emissions



campus. According to the report, the average annual NO₂ concentration in 2023 exceeded the World Health Organization (WHO)-based guidelines at nine out of 14 CAAQM (Continuous Ambient Air Quality Monitoring Stations) in the city.

The WHO recommends an annual average concentration of NO₂ in the air should not be more than 10 µg/m³ (micrograms per cubic meter) while the annual average required by NAAQS is 40 µg/m³. The annual average at the PCB

site of the university was 41 µg/m³ followed by the Nehru Zoo park site (23 µg/m³) and the Bolaram industrial area (22 µg/m³).

The Greenpeace report underscores a crucial issue that transportation sector is the largest contributor to high NO₂ levels across cities in India. As cities grow, the rise in private vehicles worsens air quality and jeopardises public health.

There is ample scientific evidence that links NO₂ exposure to adverse health impacts such as asthma, airway inflammation, respiratory irritation, respiratory diseases, impaired lung development and intensified allergies, among others.

Two constables killed in road accident

STATE BUREAU
Siddipet

Two police constables were killed after an unidentified vehicle knocked down their bike on the Gajwel bypass road at Jaligama early on Sunday.

The deceased were identified as Parandamulu (43) and Pusa Venkateswarlu (42). While Parandamulu was working at the Raipole police station, Venkateswarlu was working at Doulthabad police station.

They were heading towards ECIL to participate in a marathon when the unidentified vehicle hit their bike. **(REPORT PAGE 3)**