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Modi calls for three-pronged development mantra



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A day after fall of govt, Syria wakes up to 'new reality'
 PM says government still functioning even as foreign and domestic challenges loom



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Dream for me to essay the role of Lord Ram: Ranbir

In a nutshell

Sanjay Malhotra new RBI Governor
MUMBAI: Shaktikanta Das will demit the office on Tuesday after completing six years as the 25th Governor of the Reserve Bank of India. Revenue Secretary Sanjay Malhotra will replace him as the 26th Governor. He was appointed as the Governor on December 12, 2018, after the abrupt exit of Urjit Patel. Das has been twice ranked as the top central banker by the US-based Global Finance magazine. PTI

Jilted lover sets girl ablaze in AP
AMARAVATI: A youth killed a 17-year-old girl by setting her ablaze after pouring petrol on her in Andhra Pradesh's Nandyal district. The victim was asleep in her house when the accused resorted to the ghastly crime. Noticing the commotion, neighbours rushed to the house and found the victim in flames. She died on the spot. According to locals, the accused was allegedly harassing the girl in the name of love. IANS

Mahayuti govt wins trust vote
MUMBAI: Five days after assuming office, the Mahayuti alliance in Maharashtra on Monday comfortably won a confidence vote in the Assembly. The trust motion, tabled by Shiv Sena MLA Uday Samant and others, was passed by a voice vote on the last day of the three-day special Assembly session. Speaker Rahul Narwekar, elected unopposed for a second straight term earlier in the day. NATION PAGE 7

Pawan Kalyan gets threat calls
AMARAVATI: An anonymous person made calls threatening to "kill" Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan and his office received those calls, officials said. Targeting the Deputy Chief Minister, the person sent derogatory text messages. The staff manning the Janasena founder's office apprised the actor-politician and also senior police officials of the threatening calls. PTI

CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD

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

'Congress resorting to cultural vandalism'

KTR slams govt over Telangana Thalli statue, calls for protests

STATE BUREAU
 HYDERABAD

BRS working President KT Rama Rao on Monday condemned the Congress government for indulging in cultural vandalism by altering the design of the Telangana Thalli statue, charging it with attempting to erase the cultural and historical identity of the State. He called for Statewide peaceful protests to highlight the issue.

"I appeal to BRS cadres to perform Palabhishekam and Pancharitra Abhishekam to cleanse statues of Telangana Thalli existing across the State on Tuesday, as reparation for the sin committed by the Congress and to seek her forgiveness. I also request the party workers and Telangana citizens to change their social media profile pictures to images of the original Telangana Thalli in solidarity," he appealed.

Rama Rao inaugurated the BRS Medchal district office and unveiled the Telangana Thalli statue at the party office on Monday, marking the Deeksha Vijay Diwas to commemorate the announcement of the formation of Telangana State.



BRS working president KT Rama Rao performs 'palabhishekam' after unveiling the Telangana Thalli statue at the party office in Medchal district on Monday.

Addressing the gathering on the occasion, he said the Telangana Thalli represented the spirit of the statehood movement, akin to Bharat Mata during the freedom struggle. "It is an icon of our cultural and political identity, shaped by poets, artists, and leaders such as former Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao. The Congress government, in an act of political vendetta, dis-

respected this legacy by redesigning the statue and removing Bathukamma, a symbol of Telangana's heritage, in a deliberate attempt to undermine our culture," he stated.

Highlighting the historical significance of Telangana Thalli, the BRS working president compared her to Bharat Mata, whose statue was installed in Varanasi by freedom fighters and later honoured by former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi without alterations. He criticised the Congress for failing to uphold similar respect for Telangana's icons. "Just like Bharat Mata became a symbol of India's independence movement, Telangana Thalli emerged as a unifying symbol of the Statehood movement, reminding us of our fight for cultural and political identity," he reminded. (SEE PAGE 2)

Telangana Thalli: Uproar in House

STATE BUREAU
 Hyderabad

The Telangana Legislative Assembly on Monday saw heated discussions over the unveiling of the redesigned Telangana Thalli statue at the State Secretariat, with the Congress government justifying the new design.

The government claimed that no official approval was given to the previous version during the BRS regime, prompting the current government to formalise the design. Meanwhile, the Assembly and Legislative Council have been adjourned till next Monday.

The proceedings commenced in the Assembly on Monday with Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's statement over the unveiling ceremony of the Telangana Thalli. After a few members from different parties shared their views and made some recommendations on Telangana Thalli, Speaker Gaddam Prasad Kumar announced that the House was adjourned till next Monday.

Congress government defends changes to Telangana Thalli statue; Assembly, Council adjourned till next Monday

Earlier, copies of the Telangana Payment of Salaries and Pension and Removal of Disqualifications (Amendment), the Telangana Municipalities (Amendment), the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (Amendment), the Telangana Goods and Services Tax (Amendment) and the Telangana Panchayat Raj (Amendment) Ordinances were presented in the House on Monday.

Meanwhile, a two-day special awareness programme is being organised for the MLAs and MLCs on the rules and regulations, proceedings, privileges etc at MCRHRD on Wednesday and Thursday. (RELATED REPORTS PAGE 5)

Tensions run high at Assembly

BRS legislators wear T-shirts with 'Revanth-Adani Bhai Bhai' slogan, detained

STATE BUREAU
 Hyderabad

Tensions ran high at the Telangana Assembly on Monday morning as BRS legislators, led by working president KT Rama Rao, staged a flash protest at the Assembly's main entrance.

The protest erupted minutes before the session commenced, resulting in the arrest of opposition MLAs and MLCs, including Council Opposition leader S Madhusudhana Chari, T Harish Rao, K Kavitha and others. The leaders were shifted to a nearby police station.

The controversy began when BRS legislators arrived wearing T-shirts emblazoned with the slogan 'Revanth-Adani Bhai Bhai' and images of Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy alongside industrialist Gautam Adani. The T-shirts, a clear jab at the Chief Minister's alleged nexus with corporate entities, drew immediate resistance from the police, who prevented the legislators from entering the prem-



BRS working president KT Rama Rao being detained at the Telangana Assembly in Hyderabad on Monday.

ises unless they removed the t-shirts.

A heated argument ensued, with BRS legislators asserting their right to wear

clothes of their choice and challenging the police's authority to dictate their attire. BRS leaders, including KT Rama Rao, questioned the

police how the BRS protesting against Adani was wrong and pointed out that Congress Lok Sabha leader Rahul Gandhi, who wore a

similar T-shirt in protest against Adani in Parliament, was allowed into the House. (SEE PAGE 2)

(RELATED REPORTS PAGE 5)

MEA calls for stability in Syria

NEW DELHI

A day after rebel forces overthrew President Bashar Assad's authoritarian government in Syria, India on Monday joined leading nations to call for stability and preserve the unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Arab nation.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said it is monitoring the unfolding developments in Syria and advocated a peaceful and inclusive Syrian-led political process going forward in that country.

The Syrian government collapsed on Sunday as the

rebels seized control of the capital Damascus after capturing several other prominent cities and towns. "We underline the need for all parties to work towards preserving the unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Syria," the MEA said in a statement.

"We advocate a peaceful and inclusive Syrian-led political process respecting the interests and aspirations of all sections of Syrian society," it said. The MEA said the Indian embassy in Damascus is in contact with Indian community in Syria for their "safety and security". (RELATED REPORTS PAGE 9)

CUET-UG, PG to undergo changes, revised norms soon

NEW DELHI

The Common University Entrance Test (CUET) for admission to undergraduate and postgraduate courses is set to undergo several changes in the 2025 edition following a review by an expert panel, according to UGC chairman Jagadeesh Kumar.

The UGC constituted an expert committee to review the conduct of CUET-UG and PG. "Based on the feedback from the past years, it is also essential to continuously improve the examination process to provide a better, more efficient and

conducive environment for students taking CUET. In this spirit, the UGC has constituted an expert committee to review the conduct of CUET-UG and

It is essential to improve exam process to provide conducive environment for those taking CUET

— JAGADESH KUMAR
 UGC CHAIRMAN

CUET-PG for 2025," Kumar said. "The committee has examined various aspects of the test, such as its structure, number of papers, duration of test papers, syllabus alignment and operational logistics. The commission considered these recommendations in a recent meeting," he added.

Kumar said the UGC will soon release a draft proposal detailing the revised guidelines for conducting CUET-UG and CUET-PG 2025, inviting feedback and suggestions from students, parents, teachers and institutions. PTI

Farmers' protest: SC rejects plea on road blockade

NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court dismissed a plea seeking directions to the Centre and other authorities to immediately clear blockades on national and state highways where farmers are staging protests. A Bench of justices Surya Kant and Manmohan said the matter is already pending before the court and it cannot entertain repetitive petitions on the same issue. "We are already examining the larger issue. You are not the only conscience keeper of society. Don't file repetitive petitions," the Bench told the petitioner. PTI

India for 'positive' ties with B'desh

DHAKA

India raised its concerns over the safety of minorities in Bangladesh, flagging "regrettable incidents of attacks on cultural, religious and diplomatic properties" as Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri met his counterpart here on Monday.

Misri, the first high-level Indian official to visit Bangladesh after Sheikh Hasina's ouster, expressed New Delhi's desire for a "positive, constructive and mutually beneficial" relationship with Dhaka. "Today's discussions have given both of us the opportunity to take stock of our re-

MAMATA TAKES DIG AT POLITICOS

KOLKATA: West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Monday strongly reacted to provocative statements by a section of Bangladeshi politicians that Bangladesh could occupy Bengal within days, calling them "absurd" and dismissing it by saying, "You will occupy Bengal, Bihar, and Odisha, and we will have lollipops?" (REPORT PAGE 8)

lations. I appreciate the opportunity to have had a frank and constructive exchange of views with all my interlocutors," Misri said after meeting Mohammad Jashim Uddin. (SEE PAGE 2)