



HYDERABAD | PAGE 02

Temperatures across TG to drop further, says IMD



WORLD | PAGE 09

Israel destroys over 90% of Syria's missile systems

Also targets several key air bases in country after rebel takeover, says IDF



SPORT | PAGE 10

Can India's big guns pass the Test in Gabba?

**In a nutshell**

**Maha Cabinet expansion**

MUMBAI: The Cabinet expansion of the BJP-led Maharashtra government would take place on December 15 with the new Ministers taking the oath of office at a ceremony in Nagpur, official sources said on Friday. A senior BJP leader said 30-32 Ministers are likely to take oath. The week-long winter session of the State Legislature is slated to begin in Nagpur, Maharashtra's second capital, from December 16. PTI

**No Swiss MFN status for India**

NEW DELHI: The Swiss government has suspended the most favoured nation status (MFN) clause in the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) between India and Switzerland, potentially impacting Swiss investments in India and leading to higher taxes on Indian companies operating in the European nation. The move follows the Supreme Court of India's ruling last year. BUSINESS PAGE 8

**Soon, withdraw PF claims at ATMs**

NEW DELHI: Members of the retirement fund body EPFO may soon be able to withdraw their provident fund (PF) money directly from ATMs after the settlement. Currently, subscribers of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation have to wait for seven-10 days for the settlement of their claims online. After the settlement, the money is transferred to the beneficiaries' bank accounts. BUSINESS PAGE 8

**RG Kar: Sandip Ghosh gets bail**

KOLKATA: The Sealdah court on Friday granted bail to former officer-in-charge of Tala police station Abhijit Mondal and RG Kar hospital ex-principal Sandip Ghosh in the rape and murder case of an on-duty doctor at the medical facility. The Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate granted bail to the two accused persons as the chargesheet against them was not filed within the mandatory 90 days. NATION PAGE 8

**CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD**

Farm.....	Rs. 91
Retail live.....	Rs. 113
With skin.....	Rs. 164
Skinless.....	Rs. 186
Egg Rates (12 eggs).....	Rs. 85

## Allu Arjun arrested, granted interim bail

**Action taken against actor in connection with stampede at theatre which killed a woman**

C ROMEO  
HYDERABAD

National Award-winning actor Allu Arjun was on Friday arrested by the Chikkadpally police in connection with the stampede in which a woman was killed at Sandhya Theatre during the premier show of 'Pushpa 2: The Rule'.

However, within hours of his arrest and a local court issuing an order remanding him in judicial custody, the actor was granted four-week interim bail by the High Court.

The stampede, which occurred earlier this month, claimed the life of a 35-year-old woman, Revathi, and left several others injured, including her nine-year-old son Sai Tej.

Earlier in the afternoon, Allu Arjun was taken into custody by a team comprising the Chikkadpally police and the Task Force, and was shifted to the police station. After recording his statement, the investigation officials took him to Gandhi Hospital for a medical checkup and produced before a local court in Nampally, which remanded him to 14-days judicial remand.

The actor was shifted to the Central Prison in Chanchalguda. Tense moments continued at the prison with speculation rife that the actor may have to spend the night in jail as the prison authorities had not yet received the bail documents from the court. The bail documents initially submitted by his lawyers were also not in the correct format, it was said. Meanwhile, the prison authorities readied the class-I barrack to lodge the actor for the night. (SEE PAGES 2, 3)



Actor Allu Arjun leaves Gandhi Hospital after a medical checkup following his arrest, in Hyderabad on Friday. — Photo: PTI

## Pinnacle of insecurity, says KTR, slams govt

HYDERABAD: BRS working president KT Rama Rao lashed out at the Congress government over the arrest of National Award-winning actor Allu Arjun, terming it the "pinnacle of insecurity" by those in power. He criticised the high-handed behaviour of the government, wherein the actor was treated as a common criminal despite not being directly responsible for the stampede at Sandhya theatre in Hyderabad recently. "I sympathise with the victims of the stampede, but who is truly at fault?" he asked. (SEE PAGE 2)

## 'Misplaced priorities'

HYDERABAD: Former Minister and senior MLA T Harish Rao condemned the arrest of actor Allu Arjun, calling it an act of misplaced priorities by the State administration. He rebuked the Congress government for a series of governance failures, leading to deaths of citizens. "It is deeply saddening that Revathi lost her life while attending a movie screening," he said. (SEE PAGE 2)

## 'Law taking its course'

HYDERABAD: Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy said law was taking its own course in actor Allu Arjun's arrest on Friday. "I have no role in this and all are equal before the law," he reportedly said during an informal chitchat with media persons in New Delhi. In the event of one person losing life in the stampede at a theatre in the city, police was initiating action as per rules. (SEE PAGE 2)

## Man kills wife & son, dies by suicide

CITY BUREAU  
Hyderabad

A man killed his wife and son and later died by suicide in their house near Topekhan Park in Begum Bazaar on Friday.

Family and financial issues are suspected to be the reasons for the murder-suicide. Mohd Siraj Ali (40)

from Uttar Pradesh came to the city about a month ago with his family, including wife Halia (35) and two sons Ali and Haijan. They stayed in a rented house in Begum Bazaar. According to the police, Ali had frequent arguments with his wife over financial and family issues. Even after coming to Hyderabad, the couple continued

to argue over trivial matters. It is believed that after an argument on Thursday midnight, Siraj first killed his wife by slitting her throat with a sharp weapon and strangled his younger son to death. The two are suspected to have been asleep when they were killed. Later, he hanged himself from the ceiling fan in the

hall and died by suicide. His elder son, who woke up on Friday morning, found his parents and brother dead and panicked. He approached the local police and informed them about the killings. The Begum Bazaar police recovered a suicide note, purportedly written by Ali about his family and financial issues.

## Hyderabad techie orders poison online, ends life

CITY BUREAU  
Hyderabad

A software engineer from Miyapur who attempted suicide by consuming an unknown poisonous substance, died while undergoing treatment on Thursday. She reportedly ordered the poison from an e-commerce site. A family dispute is suspected to have led to the suicide, the police said.

According to information, M Venkata Nagalaxmi (29), a native of Chatrai village in Eluru of Andhra Pradesh was married to Manoj

Manikanta, a construction contractor from the same village about five months ago. The couple was living in a rented house at Gokul plots in Miyapur. According to the police, the couple used to quarrel frequently over trivial matters. The elders from both families had also intervened and worked out a compromise. However, the issues persisted.

Nagalaxmi who was upset over the developments decided to take the extreme step and she reportedly bought a poisonous sub-

stance online on November 26 and kept it in the house. After one such argument with her husband on Wednesday, she consumed the poison. The techie's house owner noticed her and informed the family members. She was immediately shifted to a private hospital in KPHB, where she died on Thursday. Based on a complaint from her family, the Miyapur police booked a case and were investigating. They alleged that harassment by Manoj led to her suicide. The body was shifted to Gandhi Hospital.

# Heated debate rages on Constitution in Parl

## 'Power over Constitution'

NEW DELHI

Accusing the Congress of always choosing "satta" (power) over the Constitution, senior BJP leader Rajnath Singh on Friday said the opposition party never tolerated autonomy of institutions and tried to destroy constitutional principles and spirit. Initiating a two-day debate in Lok Sabha on 'Discussion on the Glorious Journey of 75 Years of the Constitution of India', the Defence Minister said the Congress has sought to project the Constitution as its own contribution, while deliberately ignoring the contribution of several leaders. "The talk of protection of the Constitution does not seem appropriate coming from it (Congress). I see that many opposition leaders keep the Constitution in their pockets. Actually, this is what they have learnt from childhood, they have seen their families keep the Constitution in their pockets for generations," he said. But BJP always bows before the Constitution and has never played with the independence of institutions, he said. PTI



## 'Not Sangh ka Vidhan'

NEW DELHI

It seems Prime Minister Narendra Modi has not understood that it is 'Bharat ka Samvidhan' not 'Sangh ka Vidhan', Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said on Friday while launching a blistering attack against the BJP in her maiden speech in the Lok Sabha. Had it not been for the Lok Sabha poll results, the ruling party would have started changing the Constitution, the Wayanad MP claimed during the debate. She described the Constitution as a 'suraksha kavach' (protective shield) of justice, unity and freedom of expression and one the the BJP-led government has made every effort to break in the past 10 years. In her 32-minute speech in Hindi, Priyanka Gandhi was combative yet restrained, never raising her voice, as she raised the Opposition's key planks. These included the BJP's alleged attempts to change the Constitution, "growing monopoly" of the Adani Group, atrocities on women. PTI



## 'Second-grade citizens'

NEW DELHI

Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav alleged on Friday that efforts are under way to reduce the country's minorities, particularly Muslims, to "second-grade" citizens, and claimed their rights and properties are being systematically eroded. Speaking in Lok Sabha during a debate on the 'Glorious Journey of 75 Years of the Constitution of India', he charged the government with fostering inequality and failing to uphold the constitutional rights of marginalised communities. "This Constitution is our armour, our security. It provides us strength whenever needed. The Constitution is the true guardian of the rights of the oppressed, neglected, suppressed, and deprived. For people like us and the weak in the country, especially for PDA (Pichdde, Dalit and Alpa-sankhyak), saving the Constitution is a matter of life and death," he said. He accused the government of neglecting minorities, and said their rights and properties are being eroded. PTI



## Protests erupt against Suryapet ethanol factory

STATE BUREAU  
Suryapet

A new industrial unit meant for production of ethanol from grain-based extractions in Mothe mandal of Suryapet district is now in the eye of the storm. People in the surrounding villages staged protests demanding that the administration stop the construction of the factory by cancelling the licences issued so far. Led by the CPI(M) district unit leaders, they took out a Maha Padayatra on Friday. They fear that the unit will pollute their fertile land. (SEE PAGE 2)

## 3 Indian students murdered in Canada

NEW DELHI

Three Indian students have been murdered in Canada last week and the Indian High Commission in Ottawa has taken up the matter of safety of Indians with the Canadian authorities, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) said on Friday. The safety, security and welfare of Indians in Canada remains of utmost importance to us, MEA spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said. "In the last week or so we have had unfortunate tragedies. Three Indian students have been murdered. We are sad-

dened at these terrible tragedies that have struck our nationals in Canada," Jaiswal said. "We extend our deepest condolences to the grieving families. Our High Commission and Consulates in Toronto and Vancouver are extending all possible help in the matter," he said. Jaiswal said the Indian missions are in touch with local authorities for a thorough probe. "Issues faced by them, especially Indian students, are raised by our High Commission and Consulates with the relevant Canadian authorities regularly," he said. PTI

## Actor Mohan Babu in hiding?

CITY BUREAU  
Hyderabad

Veteran actor Manchu Mohan Babu has reportedly gone into hiding after the High Court rejected his petition seeking anticipatory bail in the attempt to murder case on a vernacular news channel journalist. He reportedly has been unavailable to the police since the court order on Friday. Following his discharge from the hospital on Thursday, the actor told the Pahadishareef police he would be available for recording statement at his Jalpally residence on Friday. (SEE PAGE 2)

## FB scam! Villager loses Rs 7.2 lakh

STATE BUREAU  
Kamareddy

Clicking on a lottery advertisement on Facebook proved costly for a villager here, as he lost Rs 7.2 lakh in yet another cyber scam.

The villager, a resident of Baswapur village of the district, fell for a lottery prize bait, losing Rs 7.2 lakh to a cyber fraudster. According to reports, On December 4, the person saw a lottery advertisement on Facebook while browsing and clicked on the link.

After sometime, he received a WhatsApp call

from an unknown number stating that he had won Rs 60 lakh in cash and 10 tola gold in the lottery. The cyber criminals convinced him to send some cash for taxes. The victim believed the caller and paid Rs 7.20 lakh in installments through an online account.

When he tried to contact the number, it was switched off and after repeated calls, the victim realised that he had been cheated and registered a complaint with the 1930. The victim on Thursday lodged a complaint at the local Bhiknoor police station.

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	<p><b>MENS Branded JEANS</b> 599/- onwards</p>	<p><b>MENS Branded T-SHIRTS</b> FLAT 299/-</p>	<p><b>LADIES JEANS</b> FLAT 199/-</p>
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