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First batch of weapon system branch officers commissioned



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South Korea's Parliament impeaches President

Yoon's powers and duties suspended, PM Han Duck-soo takes over presidential powers



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Third Test: Rain disrupts day one in Brisbane

**In a nutshell**

**Advani admitted to hospital**

**NEW DELHI:** Veteran BJP leader Lal Krishna Advani has been admitted to the ICU of Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals here. "LK Advani ji, former deputy Prime Minister of India, has been admitted to the ICU of Indraprastha Apollo Hospitals for medical management and investigations," the hospital said in a statement. "He is under the care of Dr Vinit Suri and is currently stable," it added. Suri is a senior consultant in the Neurology Department. The hospital, however, did not disclose any information on the reason for his hospitalisation. A source said the 96-year-old was brought to the hospital about two days ago. PTI

**Whistleblower ends life in US**

**NEW YORK:** A 26-year-old Indian-origin former employee of the artificial intelligence giant OpenAI has died by suicide in San Francisco, authorities said. Suchir Balaji was found dead inside his Buchanan Street apartment in San Francisco on November 26 on Thanksgiving Day. The medical examiner's office determined the manner of death to be suicide and police officials said there is "currently, no evidence of foul play." "The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner (OCME) has identified the decedent as Suchir Balaji, 26, of San Francisco," the office's Executive Director David Serrano Sewell said.

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**Women thrashed, hijabs removed**

**SAHARANPUR:** A Muslim woman and her sister were allegedly beaten by a group and shorn of their hijabs on suspicion of being in the company of a Hindu man, police said on Saturday. The assailants also filmed the act and uploaded the video online, they said. In a complaint filed at Deoband Police Station, the women said they were helping a man with directions when a group of people from the Muslim community started harassing them. A case was registered.

**CHICKEN RATES IN HYDERABAD**

Farm.....	Rs. 101
Retail live.....	Rs. 123
With skin.....	Rs. 178
Skinless.....	Rs. 203
Egg Rates (12 eggs).....	Rs. 85



**A celebration to remember**

Galaxy of stars descends in Mumbai's Andheri to take part in Raj Kapoor's centenary celebrations

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## BRS' Gurukul Bata stirs Cong govt into action

CM embarks on damage control mission, visits welfare hostels

STATE BUREAU  
HYDERABAD

The 'Gurukul Bata', launched by the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) following the conditions in welfare hostels deteriorating across the State, has forced the Congress government onto a backfoot, with Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy now embarking on a damage control mission.

Revanth Reddy, who also holds the education portfolio, has been facing severe criticism for the worsening state of affairs in welfare hostels. With the BRS managing to successfully expose the failure of the Congress government to address these issues, Revanth Reddy has initiated a series of visits to welfare hostels across the State, aiming to stir the official machinery into action. However, this exercise is viewed by many as a late awakening.

Since the Congress took office, there have been numerous tragic incidents involving hostel students. According to sources, 51 students have died in welfare institutions, with causes

**MINISTERS VISIT DIFFERENT GOVT SCHOOLS**

As part of the State government's common diet launch programme in government and residential schools on Saturday, Ministers, MLAs and elected public representatives visited different schools and had lunch with students. After launching the common diet programme at the Telangana Social Welfare Residential School, Chikur, Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy had lunch with the students there. Transport Minister Ponnab Prabhakar visited the Social Welfare School for Boys at Shaikpet in the city. After formally launching the programme at the school, he had lunch along with the students. Irrigation Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy had lunch with students at Social Welfare Residential School for girls in Secunderabad. When students appealed for additional laboratory rooms, he promised to get the funds released from government.

**Meaningful actions need of the hour: KTR**

**HYDERABAD:** Reacting to Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's decision to finally visit welfare hostels on a stock-taking mission, BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Saturday demanded the government to focus on genuinely improving conditions in welfare hostels rather than merely making a show of the exercise. Urging authorities to prioritise providing quality food and addressing the real issues faced by the students instead of posing for photos and making use of the occasion for mileage, he said meaningful actions were the need of the hour to ensure the well-being of the students in these hostels. He pointed out that the Congress government was finally being forced into some action by the 'Gurukula Bata', organised by BRS.



ranging from food poisoning and ill-health and other suspicious circumstances.

Of these, 42 deaths have been attributed to gross negligence in managing residential welfare schools. Reports of substandard food, including worm-infested rice, watery dal, and contaminated snacks, have become alarmingly common, leading to cases of food poisoning and hospitalisation, with the shocking case of a Zilla Parishad High School in Manugur reporting such

incidents thrice a week.

Telangana's residential schools currently house approximately 1,39,290 students. These students rely on the government for their education and well-being, making the recent issues even more concerning. The recent deaths and ongoing health concerns sparked widespread outrage and people started demanding accountability. They are calling for better living conditions, nutritious meals, and a safer environment for

their children. The government's move to inspect the hostels is a step towards addressing these demands, but the public remains sceptical about the effectiveness of these visits.

A fact-finding team led by senior BRS leaders, including RS Praveen Kumar, Errolla Srinivas, Anjaneya Goud, and Gellu Srinivas Yadav, visited various Gurukul schools and welfare hostels across the State.

(SEE PAGE 2)  
(RELATED REPORTS PAGE 5)

## Modi says 'Garibi Hatao' biggest jumla of Congress

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said the biggest 'jumla' in the history of India was 'Garibi Hatao', a slogan given by former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. Replying to a two-day debate in Lok Sabha on the 75th anniversary of the Constitution, Prime Minister Modi said there is a word the Congress likes a lot, which led some opposition MPs to say "Adani".

"Their most favourite word, without which they can't live, is 'jumla'," Prime Minister Modi said. 'Jumla' is a Hindustani term that refers to a rhetorical statement devoid of sincerity. The Congress and other opposition parties have attacked the BJP by deriding the promises made by the Prime Minister and the ruling party as 'jumla' on several occasions. "Our

**Rahul slams BJP and RSS, takes 'supreme leader' dig**

**NEW DELHI:** Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi on Saturday cited Hindutva ideologue VD Savarkar's criticism of the Constitution that there was "nothing Indian about it" to attack the BJP and said the ruling party is "defaming and ridiculing" its own "supreme leader" when it talks about defending the Constitution. The BJP and the RSS are "supporters of Manusmriti" but the country will be run on the Constitution, he said.

Drawing a parallel with the story of Eklavya who

had to chop off his thumb as 'Guru Dakshina' to Dronacharya, Gandhi alleged that by creation of "monopolies" for the Adani Group in various sectors, bringing in the Agnipath scheme, firing teargas at protesting farmers, bringing in lateral entry and allowing paper leaks, the government was "chopping off" the thumb of the youth, tillers, backward class people and the poor. He used the metaphor of the thumb as a symbol of livelihood and skill.

(SEE PAGE 2)

friends in the Congress use this term day and night. But this country knows, the biggest 'jumla' in India,

which has been used by four generations, is 'garibi hatao'," the Prime Minister said.

(SEE PAGES 2, 7)

## 'ONOE must as polls became expensive'

Bill also says elections turned time-consuming

NEW DELHI

There is an imperative need for holding simultaneous elections for various reasons as polls have become expensive and time-consuming, according to the proposed Bill being brought to implement the ambitious 'one nation, one election' plan.

According to the constitution amendment Bill listed for introduction in the Lok Sabha on Monday, the imposition of a Model Code of Conduct in several parts of the country that are poll-bound puts on hold the entire development programmes and causes disruption of normal public life. Frequent poll code imposition also impacts the functioning of services and curtails the involvement of manpower from their core activities for deployment for prolonged periods for election duties, the 'Constitution (129th) Amendment Bill, 2024' underlined. The Bill seeks to insert a new article in the Constitution and amend three articles to put in place the mechanism to hold simultaneous polls to the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies. The Bill proposes to insert a new article 82A

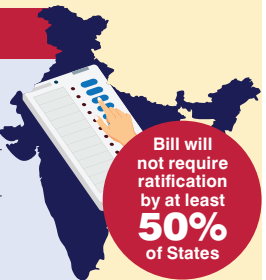
**What the Bill states**

IMPERATIVE NEED TO HOLD SIMULTANEOUS POLLS AS ELECTIONS HAVE BECOME TIME-CONSUMING, STATES BILL ON 'ONE NATION ONE ELECTION'; CITES OTHER REASONS

- Imposition of Model Code of Conduct puts on hold entire development programmes
- Frequent poll code imposition also impacts functioning of services
- Seeks to insert new Article in Constitution and amend three Articles to put in place mechanism to hold simultaneous polls

**HOW IT WILL BE IMPLEMENTED**

- After its enactment, a notification will be issued by President on date of first sitting of Lok Sabha after general election
- Date of notification will be called appointed date
- Tenure of all State Assemblies shall come to an end on the expiry of the full term of Lok Sabha



Bill will not require ratification by at least 50% of States

— simultaneous elections to the House of the People (Lok Sabha) and all Legislative Assemblies and to amend Article 83 (Duration of Houses of Parliament), Article 172 (Duration of State Legislatures) and Article 327 (power of Parliament to make provision with respect to elections to Legislatures). It also provides that after its enactment, a notification is to be issued by the President on the date of the first sitting of the Lok Sabha after a gen-

eral election, and that date of the notification will be called the appointed date.

The tenure of the Lok Sabha will be five years from that appointed date. The tenure of all State Assemblies, constituted by elections to the Legislative Assemblies after the appointed date and before the expiry of the full term of the House of the People, shall come to an end on the expiry of the full term of the Lok Sabha.

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**FARMERS REFUSE TO BACK DOWN**



Security personnel use water cannons to disperse farmers agitating at Shambhu border in Patiala district, on Saturday. A 'jatha' of 101 farmers resumed their foot march to Delhi from the border to press the Centre for various demands. — Photo: PTI (REPORT PAGE 7)

## No obscenity, drugs: Cops lay down strict rules for NY events

C ROMELO  
Hyderabad

No obscenity, no nudity, no drugs and no high sound levels.

For the upcoming events to be organised as part of New Year's Eve celebrations, the Hyderabad Police have laid down the ground rules. A caution of serious action against those found violating the guidelines has also been appended.

The organisers of the New Year events in the city will have to ensure decency of apparel, dance acts, gestures and words, at the celebrations apart from making sure there is no obscenity and nudity in any of the performances, the guidelines issued by the Hyderabad Po-



lice said. Also, the concept of a "designated driver for a day" who can safely take home co-passengers without him or her indulging in drinking beyond the limit is to be explained to the customers as well as displayed at prominent places for their

safety. The guidelines asked the organisers to keep a close watch on the sale of narcotics substances at the venue, failing which strict legal action will be initiated against them. Likewise, no minors should be permitted in events organised for cou-

ples, and in pubs and bars. In the guidelines, Hyderabad Police Commissioner, CV Anand said, "No person should be allowed to use drugs or narcotics and psychotropic substances and if the managements fail to prevent the same, it would lead to the culpability of management and action will be taken as per law.

Special attention should be on parking areas and other places where drugs are clandestinely sold." He said the organisers should maintain the sound levels below 45 decibels, fix surveillance cameras with recording facilities to monitor the events and appoint adequate security guards for security access and traffic management.

**Woman's neck gets entangled in swing, dies**

STATE BUREAU  
Mancherial

A woman died after her neck got accidentally entangled in the rope of a swing while she was playing with her children at Bellampalli Basti in Bellampalli town on Thursday. The incident came to light on Friday.

Bellampalli I town Inspector S Deveiah said Pochampalli Neeraja (42) died when her neck got trapped in the rope of a swing while demonstrating to her children how to play with it. While her children were still cheering their mother's act, her mother-in-law realised that Neeraja died after her neck was tangled in the swing. Neeraja had two daughters — Navya Sri and Suchitra, and a son Dhanush.

## Allu Arjun released from jail

CITY BUREAU  
Hyderabad

Actor Allu Arjun was released from Central Prison Chanchalguda on Saturday morning after the jail authorities verified his bail documents and allowed him to leave the prison. He was escorted in a convoy of three cars through the Prison's Academy gate to avoid the crowd that was waiting outside for him at the main gate.

The actor had to spend the night in Central Prison Chanchalguda after the jail authorities did not release him, citing a delay in furnishing bail documents. Allu Arjun was accommodated in Manjeera Barrack and was issued a UT (under trail) number 7697. On Friday, the actor was



Actor Allu Arjun at his residence in Hyderabad.

arrested by Chikadpally police in connection with the death of a woman, Revathi, in a stampede at Sandhya 70 mm theatre on December 4 during the premiere show of 'Pushpa 2'. Her son, Sai Teja, is hospital undergoing treatment in a hospital.

(SEE PAGES 2, 3)