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Fog disrupts schedules of over 100 flights, 26 trains



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South Korea's impeached President Yoon detained

Laments that 'rule of law has completely collapsed in this country'



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India beat Ireland by record margin



In a nutshell

2, including infant, suffer burns

HYDERABAD: Two persons, including an infant, suffered burns when a group set on fire the house of a man who was allegedly harassing a woman at Alwal on Tuesday night. According to police, Pradeep, who works as an outsourcing employee with GHMC, is a resident of Alwal. He stays with his father Prakash, mother Hemalatha and other relatives, including an infant Chandini. On Tuesday, a group of people came to his house and asked about him. **HYDERABAD PAGE 3**

Justice Sujoy Paul is Telangana CJ

HYDERABAD: President Droupadi Murmu has appointed Justice Sujoy Paul as the Chief Justice of the Telangana High Court. Justice Paul is currently a judge of the High Court. He will succeed Justice Alok Aradha, who has been transferred as Chief Justice of Bombay High Court. The Ministry of Law and Justice of the Government of India has issued orders to this effect. Justice Paul is the seniormost judge of the Telangana High Court. Born on June 21, 1964, Justice Paul enrolled in the Madhya Pradesh Bar Council in 1990. **IANIS**

Centre-farmers deadlock still on

111 ryots on fast-unto-death for Dalawal

PTI
CHANDIGARH

Slamming the Centre for adopting an "indifferent" attitude towards their demands, a group of 111 farmers began a fast fast-unto-death on Wednesday in solidarity with their leader Jagjit Singh Dalawal whose indefinite strike entered day 51.

The protesting farmers have expressed concern over Dalawal's "deteriorating" health, saying the 70-year-old risks "multiple organ failure" because of the prolonged fasting.

Dalawal, who is the convener of the Samyukta Kisan Morcha (Non-Political), has been on the indefinite hunger strike at the Khanauri border point between Punjab and Haryana since November 26 last year. The farmers have been protesting over various demands including a legally guaranteed minimum support price (MSP) for their crops.

Dalawal has refused any medical aid during his fasting, which has caused his health to worsen. Farmers,



Farmers drape themselves in black-coloured shawls during the protest at the Khanauri border in Sangrur, Punjab. — Photo: PTI

under the banner of the SKM (Non-Political) and Kisan Mazdoor Morcha, have been camping at the Shambhu and Khanauri border points between Punjab and Haryana since February 13 last year, after security forces did not allow them to march to Delhi.

Farmer leader Abhimanyu Kohar, who has been associated with Dalawal for a long time, lashed out at the union government on Wednesday for not "paying a heed" to farmers' demands. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

SC SEEKS DALLEWAL'S HEALTH REPORTS

NEW DELHI: The Supreme Court on Wednesday asked the Punjab government for a copy of the health reports of farmer leader Jagjit Singh Dalawal, who is on an indefinite fast, to be examined for an opinion from the medical board of AIIMS. A Bench of Justices Surya Kant and N Kottiswar Singh wondered how a person, who had been on fast for nearly 50 days had his health parameters improving and asked the Punjab government chief secretary to submit Dalawal's test reports during the course of the day with apex court registrar. It directed the apex court registrar to communicate the reports to the AIIMS. **PTI**

Maha Kumbh pilgrim from TG burnt alive in bus fire

Blaze caused by his smoking; 49 others have narrow escape

STATE BUREAU
Nirmal

A 70-year-old farmer was burnt alive, while 49 pilgrims had a narrow escape when a bus caught fire at Vrindavan in Mathura city. They were returning from the Maha Kumbh Mela under way at Prayagraj in Uttar Pradesh on Tuesday. Kubheer Sub-Inspector P Ravinder said Sheelam Drupathi, a farmer from Palsi village in Kubheer mandal here, lost his life after being engulfed by flames, reportedly caused by his smoking. The other 49 pilgrims travelling on the same bus had just stepped out a little while before the mishap to have darshan at a temple. The bus, clothes and valuables belonging to the pilgrims were reduced to ashes.

Drupathi is survived by his wife, son and daughter. Locals said around 200 people from different villages in Bhainsa, Kubheer and surrounding areas in the Mudhole Assembly constituency left for Prayagraj to take part in the Maha Kumbh Mela and visit Varanasi and other prominent temples in Uttar



The bus which caught fire at Vrindavan in Mathura of Uttar Pradesh; (r) 70-year-old farmer Sheelam Drupathi who died in the incident.

Pradesh in about five buses on January 1. About 10 of them were from Palsi village. While some pilgrims travelling in a bus returned to Bhainsa recently, the others were on their way to explore more pilgrim centres in Mathura. They, however, called off their pilgrimage and began returning to Bhainsa by train on Wednesday following the mishap. They are expected to reach the district in a day or two. Mudhole MLA Rama Rao Patel spoke with the officials of Mathura and helped the villagers with their return journey by providing them food, shelter and transportation.

Devotees take holy dip despite biting cold

MAHAKUMBH NAGAR: Braving the biting cold, devotees brimming with energy and enthusiasm converged at the Triveni Sangam to take a holy dip at the Maha Kumbh on Wednesday. Chants of 'Har Har Mahadev', 'Jai Shri Ram' and 'Jai Ganga Maiyya' were heard as the devotees took a dip in the bone-chilling water. Despite Wednesday being a non-major bathing day, the religious from across the country and abroad gathered here in large numbers to attend the Maha Kumbh Mela taking place in the vicinity of Sangam — the confluence of Ganga, Yamuna and mythical Saraswati. Meanwhile, *sadhus* and *sants* from across the country gathered to perform 'yagya' rituals in their unique ways. The sacred Maha Kumbh Mela has also become a platform for spiritual leaders to make powerful statements, including promoting Sanatan Dharma and declaring the cow as the mother of the nation. On this day, the 324 Kundiya Panchayat Shri Gau-Pratishtha Maha Yagya will take place. **AGENCIES**

Formula E: KTR can withdraw petition

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

The Supreme Court on Wednesday allowed the withdrawal of a Special Leave Petition filed by BRS working president KT Rama Rao against the Telangana High Court order that refused to quash an FIR against him over the Formula E race case.

The Bench comprising Justices Bela M Trivedi and Prasanna B Varale said it was not inclined to interfere with the High Court order,

following which Rama Rao's counsel withdrew the appeal. The matter was dismissed as withdrawn.

Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi appeared before the SC on behalf of the State government, while senior advocate Siddhartha Dave represented Rama Rao. During the hearing, Dave appealed to allow him to withdraw the case with liberty to appear before the court later, following which the court dismissed the petition as withdrawn. This hearing comes after a Special Leave

Petition was filed by the BRS working president after the Telangana HC dismissed his quash petition on January 7, which sought to challenge the ACB's case.

Speaking to mediapersons in Hyderabad, BRS general secretary and legal cell in-charge Soma Bharat Kumar said Rama Rao had never opposed the investigation. He said the latter had approached the courts to exercise his right as the citizen of the nation. "The legislator never refused to appear before the authorities for in-

vestigation. He appeared before the ACB officials twice on January 7 and 9. While the special leave petition was filed in the SC on January 7, he asked the counsel to withdraw the petition after appearing before the ACB on January 9. The same was submitted to the court which allowed us to withdraw the case," he said. He also found fault with media reports spreading false information that the SC dismissed the petition entirely and allowed the officials to arrest him.

ED gets MHA approval to prosecute Kejri

NEW DELHI

The union Home Ministry has granted sanction to the Enforcement Directorate to prosecute former Delhi chief minister and AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal in the excise policy linked money laundering case, officials said on Wednesday.

The federal agency filed a chargesheet against the 56-year-old politician before a special Prevention of Money Laundering Act court here last year after arresting him in March. Kejriwal, who is currently out on bail in this case, is contesting the Delhi Assembly polls from the New Delhi seat.

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has recently granted the required sanction to the Enforcement Directorate for prosecuting Kejriwal under the anti-money laundering law in the Delhi excise policy case, officials said. The Ministry is the competent authority to okay such a request moved by the agency through the Delhi LG, they said. The officials said similar sanctions were also obtained for other accused public servants, including ex-Deputy CM Manish Sisodia. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

Missing youth found dead in Khammam

STATE BUREAU
Khammam

A youth, who came home to celebrate Sankranti festival went missing and was found dead under mysterious circumstances in Khammam town. According to family members, P Sanjay Kumar

(22) of Rajiv Swagruha Colony in Khammam rural mandal was undergoing software training in Hyderabad and came to Khammam on January 12 for the festival. He went to the new bus stand on a two-wheeler to pick up his brother, Gnanasai during wee hours

on Monday as the latter was coming home from Hyderabad for the festival. But, before he reached the bus stand Sanjay Kumar reportedly called his brother saying that a vehicle hit his motorbike at a chicken shop near the colony. **(SEE PAGES 2, 4)**

TG Common Entrance Tests-2025 schedule released

CITY BUREAU
Hyderabad

The Engineering, Agricultural and Pharmacy Common Entrance Test (TG EAPCET), will be held on April 29 and 30 for Agriculture & Pharmacy and from May 2 to 5 for Engineering. The university conducting the test is JNTUH. The schedule for TG Common Entrance Tests - 2025 for admissions into professional courses was released by the Telangana Council of Higher Education (TGCHE) here on Wednesday.

The TG ECET for 2nd year lateral entry into BE, BTech and BPharm, will be conducted by Osmania University on May 12 followed by TG Ed.CET for admissions into B.Ed to be conducted by Kakatiya University on June 1. The Osmania

TG Common Entrance Tests-2025 schedule

CET	DATE(S)
TG EAPCET	April 29 & 30 (Agriculture & Pharmacy)
TG EAPCET	May 5 (Engineering)
TG ECET	May 12
TG Ed.CET	June 1
TG LAW CET	June 6
TG PGLCET	June 9
TG PGECET	June 16 to 19
TG PECET	June 11 to 14

University will conduct the TG LAW CET for 3-year and 5-year LLB and TG PGLCET for LLM on June 6 while for the MBA and MCA, the MGU will conduct the TG ICET on June 8 and 9. The TG PGECET for admissions into ME, M.Tech, M.Pharm, M.Plg, M.Arch and Pharma D (PB) will be held by JNTUH from June 16 to 19.

The Palamuru University will be conducting the TG PECET from June 11 to 14 (Physical Efficiency and Skill Test). A detailed notification containing the schedule, eligibility for applying, registration fee payable etc., will be announced by the concerned CET Conveners in due course of time.

OPENING TOMORROW

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