



HYDERABAD | PAGE 02

Homes razed, but Musi project works elude



WORLD | PAGE 09

USAID: Plan to put staff on leave halted

Judge blocks Trump from placing workers on leave and giving them 30-day deadline



SPORT | PAGE 10

India eye series win over England in 2<sup>nd</sup> ODI in Cuttack

**In a nutshell**

**Soldiers fired upon near LoC in Rajouri**  
**JAMMU:** Soldiers on patrolling duty were fired upon from a forest across the Line of Control (LoC) in the Rajouri district of Jammu and Kashmir on Saturday, prompting retaliation by the Indian troops. There was no casualty in the brief firing but an alert has been sounded to maintain strict vigil. Officials said the Indian troops were on patrolling duty in a forward village in the Keri sector when a few rounds were fired by suspected terrorists hiding in a forest across the border. PTI

**DMK wins Erode East by-election**

**ERODE:** The ruling DMK in Tamil Nadu extended its winning run in elections by emerging victorious in the Erode East bypoll with a massive margin against actor-politician Seeman's NTK, a victory that should come as a major boost to the party ahead of next year's Assembly elections. In Uttar Pradesh, BJP candidate Chandrabhanu Paswan on Saturday won the Milkipur bypolls by a margin of 61,710 votes, according to the Election Commission website. PTI

**ISRO carries out ignition trial**

**BENGALURU:** ISRO said that it has successfully carried out the ignition trial of the indigenous CE20 cryogenic engine powering the upper stage of LVM3, with a Multi-element igniter under vacuum conditions, which simulates the engine ignition in the vacuum condition of space. This test was carried out on Friday in the High Altitude Test Facility at ISRO Propulsion Complex, Mahendragiri, Tamil Nadu. ISRO said in a statement. BUSINESS PAGE 8

**\$50 mn to protect immigrants**

**SACRAMENTO:** California Governor Gavin Newsom signed laws setting aside \$50 million to help the State protect its policies from challenges by the Trump administration and defend immigrants amid mass-deportations. One of the laws allocates \$25 million for State Department of Justice to fight legal battles against the federal government, and another in part for legal groups to defend immigrants facing possible deportation. WORLD PAGE 9

# BJP pulls off an AAPset

Returns to power in Delhi after 27 years, Cong fails to get even single seat

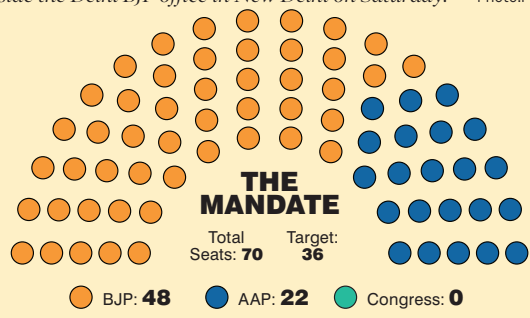
PTI  
NEW DELHI

The BJP on Saturday returned to power in Delhi after more than 27 years to sweep away the Arvind Kejriwal-led Aam Aadmi Party with a two-thirds majority on the back of a hyper-localised campaign and Prime Minister Narendra Modi's 'AAP-da' (disaster) blitzkrieg. Adding to the ignominy of the AAP which was battling 10 years of anti-incumbency was the shocking defeat of former Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal himself and other top leaders including his close aide and former deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia, Somnath Bharti and Saurabh Bhardwaj.

Chief Minister Atishi weathered the storm to retain Kalkaji seat. The BJP won 48 of the 70 seats at stake and the AAP was way behind with 22, according to the Election Commission website. The elections were largely seen as a bipolar contest between the AAP, which made a determined bid for a fourth term, and the BJP. While the AAP had 62 members in the outgoing house, the BJP had just eight. The Congress, which had ruled for 15 consecutive



BJP supporters celebrate party's victory in Delhi Assembly polls outside the Delhi BJP office in New Delhi on Saturday. — Photo:PTI



**BIG LOSERS**

- ARVIND KEJRIWAL (AAP- New Delhi)
- RAMESH BIDHURI (BJP- Kalkaji)
- SATYENDRA JAIN (AAP- Shakur Basti)
- DEVENDER YADAV (Badli- Cong)
- ALKA LAMBA (Kalkaji- Congress)
- MANISH SISODIA (Jangpura- AAP)

**GIANT SLAYERS**

- PARVESH SAHIB SINGH VERMA (BJP- New Delhi)
- ATISHI (AAP- Kalkaji)
- KAILASH GAHLOT (BJP- Bijwasan)
- TARVINDER SINGH MARWAH (BJP- Jangpura)

years under Sheila Dikshit from 1998, came a cropper failing to get even a single seat for the third straight time. With Delhi now in its kitty after a battle of prestige given its symbolic importance as the country's capital, the BJP has extended its footprint, the victories helping it put behind some of the reverses of 2024 elections where it bagged 240 seats, short of 272 majority mark. (RELATED REPORTS PAGE 7)

**WILL PLAY CONSTRUCTIVE OPPOSITION ROLE, SAYS KEJRIWAL AFTER DEFEAT**

**NEW DELHI:** AAP national convener Arvind Kejriwal conceded defeat as the BJP secured a clear majority in the Delhi Assembly elections. Kejriwal, who lost his New Delhi constituency seat to BJP's Parvesh Verma, accepted the verdict with humility and extended congratulations to the winning party, the BJP. "The election results for Delhi are out, and we humbly accept the people's verdict. The decision of the public is paramount, and we respect it with all our heart," Kejriwal said in a video message. He congratulated the BJP for its victory and expressed hope that the party would fulfill the expectations of the people. "I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the BJP on this win. I sincerely hope that they live up to the hopes and aspirations with which the people have given them this mandate," he added. While acknowledging the electoral loss, Kejriwal assured that AAP would continue its service to the people and play a constructive opposition role. IANS

# 'Iron leg Revanth does it again'

Congress failed miserably wherever he campaigned: KTR

STATE BUREAU  
Hyderabad

Dubbing Revanth Reddy as 'iron leg' that brought ill luck, BRS working president KT Rama Rao said the Congress failed miserably wherever the Chief Minister campaigned.

The Chief Minister derived sadistic pleasure in criticising the BRS for failing to win seats in Parliamentary elections. He campaigned rigorously in Maharashtra, but the Congress lost, and similarly, the party scored a grand zero in the Delhi Assembly elections, he said. Addressing party leaders from Vikarabad at Telangana Bhavan, he said: "Thanks to Revanth Reddy, the Congress lost credibility in the State and will not come to power in the next 15 years." The BRS government had sanctioned a medical college and nursing college for Vikarabad. Similarly, 90 per cent of the Palamuru-Ran-

**WISHES RAHUL FOR BJP'S WIN**

BRS working president KT Rama Rao took a jibe at Congress MP Rahul Gandhi and congratulated him for helping the BJP win the Delhi Assembly elections. "Congratulations to Rahul Gandhi for winning the election for BJP, yet again. Well done," Rama Rao said on X. The BRS working president was responding to a video post on X. In the old video, Rama Rao is seen explaining to the audience at a programme as to how Congress could not stop BJP's victory march. (SEE PAGE 2)

gareddy projects were completed despite the legal hurdles created by Congress leaders. The Congress was deliberately delaying the remaining works with ulterior motives, he said. He called upon the party leaders to put up a united front in the local body elections and win all six mandals in the Vikarabad constituency. (SEE PAGE 2)

# Rangareddy ryots protest against pharma project

STATE BUREAU  
Hyderabad

After Lagacherla, now farmers from Medipally, Nanaknagar and other villages in Rangareddy district are standing firm against parting with their lands for a proposed pharma project and staged a protest at the Rangareddy Collectorate on Saturday.

Interestingly, a few Congress leaders also extended support to farmers and participated in the protest. Despite this being against the party and government, the Congress leaders supported the farmers. Tension prevailed at the Collectorate when farmers assembled in large numbers. Holding placards, they raised slogans against the government.

Plans are being made to acquire over 2,000 acres from 1,000 farmers in Medipally, Nanaknagar, Tadiparthi and Kurmidla villages under Yacharam mandal. They also filed a petition in the court against the acquisition of their lands. It is learnt that the Rangareddy



Farmers staging a protest against the proposed pharma project, at the Rangareddy district Collectorate, on Saturday.

Collectorate served notices to the farmers to appear on Saturday and list out the reasons against parting with their lands. Accordingly, farmers, including men, women and the elderly, boarded tractors and arrived at the Collectorate.

In a video that is going viral on social media platforms, a farmer, Mallesham, is seen saying that he was served a notice by the Collector. "I own fertile lands and the government wants them for pharma city. I will not part with my land at any cost," he said. (SEE PAGE 2)

**RYOTS HIT THE STREETS FOR RYTHU BHAROSA**

**HYDERABAD:** Farmers at different paces across the State hit the streets raising their voices against the Congress government over a host of issues, including Rythu Bharosa. A farmer in Peddakothapally mandal tried to obstruct an RTC bus, charging that the State government failed to extend assistance under Rythu Bharosa. Videos of the farmer blocking the road by pulling a barricade to stop the bus and arguing with the RTC driver have gone viral on social media platforms. (SEE PAGE 2)

# Now, arrive 15 minutes early for CETs

YUVRAJ AKULA  
Hyderabad

Forget the one-minute late norm, the last reporting time for various common entrance tests, including the TG EAPCET commencing April 29, is 15 minutes prior to the commencement of the exam.

During a recent common entrance test conveners meeting convened by the Telangana Council of Higher Education (TGCHE), it was decided to introduce the 15-minute early entry into the centre clause.

This means the students must be inside the gates at least 15 minutes prior to the commencement of the examination and entry is barred after reporting time.



During a recent meeting convened by the TGCHE, it was decided to introduce 15-minute early entry clause instead of one-minute rule.

So far, students arriving a minute late after the exam commencement were denied entry. The exam officials justified the new clause

in the interest of students pointing out the time it takes for registration and capturing of biometric details. Generally, the registration

process takes about 5 to 10 minutes. Further, in some exam centres located in engineering colleges, the halls are located far from the main gates, taking at least five to seven minutes to reach.

**Biometric details**

"If students are to come at 9 am, they will take some five minutes to reach the halls and another five to 10 minutes for registration and biometric details capturing, leaving less time to take the exam. So it has been decided to introduce the 15-minute early clause in all entrance tests starting this year. No candidate will be allowed into centres after the reporting time," officials said. (SEE PAGE 2)

Mystique live  
PRESENTS  
**AURA**  
LOVE IN THE AIR  
FEATURING  
**RAM MIRYALA**  
LIVE IN CONCERT

**JAMMERS BAND**  
LIVE PERFORMANCE

**14th FEB**

**6PM ONWARDS**

For Passes, Reach us at: **9505 833 833**  
**9160 664 555**

AT BMR SARTHA CONVENTIONS  
MANNEGUDA, NEAR ORR EXIT - 12

**EXPERIENCE THE THRILL OF AN OPEN AIR CONCERT!**

TICKETS ON - book show

OFFICIAL SPONSORS: GALAXY PROJECTS | SUVARNA LAKSHMI DEVELOPERS | RMR POLYMERS | SR Infra