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Historic Char Kaman to turn vibrant



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'Ukraine may be under Russian control someday'
 US President calls for Kyiv to share its natural resources in exchange for assistance



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India complete 3-0 whitewash; Shubman Gill hits ton

In a nutshell

Leopard spotted in Ananthagiri
HYDERABAD: The Vikarabad District Forest Officer Gyaneshwar on Wednesday advised the people of the villages surrounding Ananthagiri to be careful and not go into the forest under any circumstances as a leopard was roaming in the forests of Ananthagiri. The officials have put up banners on the road leading to Ananthagiri. The leopard does not stay in one place and it roams around, Gyaneshwar said, adding that if anyone sees it, they should inform the local forest officials immediately.

Rahul summoned for Army remarks
LUCKNOW: Congress leader Rahul Gandhi has been summoned by a Lucknow court on March 24 in connection with his allegedly defamatory remarks against the Indian Army during the Bharat Jodo Yatra in 2022. Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate Alok Verma scheduled the hearing for March 24 and said Gandhi would have to be present in court. The complaint was filed by lawyer Vivek Tiwari on behalf of Uday Shankar Srivastava, former director of Border Roads Organisation, equivalent to an Army Colonel. **JANS**

Raina takes down show's videos
NEW DELHI: Comedian Samay Raina on Wednesday said he has removed all episodes of *India's Got Latent* from his YouTube channel, days after the show landed in a controversy over a remark by influencer Ranveer Allahbadia. In his first response since the controversy erupted earlier this week, Raina said he will fully cooperate with all the investigating agencies in their probe. "I have removed all *India's Got Latent* videos from my channel. My only objective was to make people laugh." **PTI**

Mumbai records first GBS death
MUMBAI: A 53-year-old man has died of Guillain-Barré Syndrome (GBS) at a hospital in Mumbai, the first fatality here due to the nerve disorder, officials said on Wednesday. The patient, resident of Mumbai's Wadala area and working as a ward boy in a civic-run hospital, had sometime back visited Pune, which has witnessed the GBS outbreak, they said. He was admitted to another civic-run hospital here on January 23. The man was in a critical condition and died on Tuesday. **PTI**

No Rythu Bharosa for 8L acres

Congress government to cut down assistance for another 5 lakh acres soon

STATE BUREAU
HYDERABAD

The joy of farmers in Telangana has turned into disappointment as the State government's promised disbursement of crop investment support under the Rythu Bharosa scheme is eluding many. Around eight lakh acres, previously included for support under the Rythu Bandhu scheme, are no longer on the list. The status of another five lakh acres is also under scrutiny, with the farmers of such holdings to cease getting the benefit. Rythu Bandhu, launched in 2018 to help farmers in distress and prevent suicides, was altered by the Congress government to Rythu Bharosa with some tweaks. Initially, the government promised to increase the assistance from Rs 5,000 to Rs 7,500 per acre for each crop season (Kharif and Rabi). But they increased it only to Rs 6,000 per acre,



Rythu Bandhu, launched in 2018 to help farmers in distress and prevent suicides, was altered by the Congress government to Rythu Bharosa.

disappointing farmers who had high hopes from the scheme. According to official sources, nearly 13 lakh acres may be excluded from Rythu Bharosa finally in the current round of crop investment support disbursement.

The final list of all those who failed to make it to the Congress government's list of beneficiaries will be known within a week to 10 days. Farmers who did not receive the remittances have been visiting Agriculture Department

officials and are being directed to Collectors' offices to find out why. The farming community is restless and upset over this. These omissions are not final. They are only for the current round of Rythu

Bharosa disbursements. More deletions are in store for the next round, sources said. The government plans to implement a system to certify whether land is eligible for crop investment assistance permanently. Officials claim that much of the excluded land is no longer used for agriculture and has been left fallow or acquired for government projects. The Collectors of the districts concerned are expected to complete the necessary paperwork soon, officials said, adding that the State government was working to identify agricultural land currently under cultivation for the assistance. The government had released Rs 1,091 crore to farmers with up to two acres of land, covering 34.69 lakh beneficiaries and 36.97 lakh acres at a cost of Rs 2,218.49 crore. An exercise is on to find out if the land being paid crop investment assistance is arable or not.

SITUATION ON GROUND

8 lakh acres already excluded from Rythu Bharosa

- Another 5 lakh acres being scrutinised and may also be excluded
- Farmers already upset that government provided only minimal hike of Rs 1,000 per acre
- Govt released Rs 1,091 cr for farmers with up to 2 acres so far

Modi, Macron for stronger ties



Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron during the inauguration of the Indian Consulate in Marseille, France. — Photo: PTI (REPORT PAGE 7)

PARIS

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and French President Emmanuel Macron on Wednesday called for enhancing trade and investment ties between the two countries and committed to further deepening their engagement in the Indo-Pacific and various global forums and initiatives. After their wide-ranging talks, the two leaders also underlined their commitment to concrete actions to ensure that the global AI sector can drive beneficial social, economic and environmental outcomes in the public interest. A joint statement issued after the meeting here said the talks covered a full spectrum of bilateral relations, as well as key global and regional issues. The two leaders stressed an urgent need for reform in the United Nations Security Council and agreed to coordinate closely on various global issues, including the UNSC

Stress urgent need for reform in UNSC and agree to coordinate closely on various global issues

matters. French President Macron reiterated France's firm support for India's permanent membership of the UNSC. The two leaders reaffirmed their strong commitment to India-France Strategic Partnership while noting that it has steadily evolved into a multifaceted relationship over the past 25 years. Prime Minister Modi flew together from Paris to Marseille in the French Presidential Aircraft last evening and held discussions here on the full spectrum of bilateral relations and key global and regional issues. This was followed by delegation-level talks after arrival in Marseille. **PTI**

Congress govt to conduct one more round of survey

STATE BUREAU
Hyderabad

Facing mounting criticism from opposition parties, including the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) and BC organisations, over the discrepancies in the recently conducted caste survey, the Congress government has agreed to conduct another round of survey from February 16-28. However, this would be restricted to only the 3.1 per cent of the population who

KTR DEMANDS APOLOGY

HYDERABAD: BRS working president KT Rama Rao lashed out at the Congress government, for conducting a flawed caste census that reduced the population count of BCs and caused severe distress to the community. He demanded that Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy issue an unconditional apology to BCs for misleading the community and the Assembly by presenting incomplete data in the House. **(REPORT PAGE 5)**

did not participate in the initial exercise. People can submit their details for the data collection, which will be facilitated through online submission, a toll-free number and mandal offices. Further, the State Cabinet will

meet in the first week of March to review the data and finalise the 42 per cent BC reservation. Deputy CM Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka revealed plans to introduce a Bill during the Budget session. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

IAF Academy wants dumpyard to be shifted

STATE BUREAU
Sangareddy

The proposed dumpyard site of the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) will fall under the Indian Airforce (IAF) Airforce Academy flying zone. Since the dumpyard would attract birds, the officials of the Airforce Academy in Dundigal, have written to Sangareddy Collector Valluru Kranthi asking to shift the dumpyard to find an early solution to the issue. In a letter addressed to the Collector, Wing Commander, Academy Aerospace Safety and Inspection Officer, Subham Mishra wrote that the dumpyard site would fall under the local flying area of the training establishment. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

Freebies creating parasites: SC

Says people should be made part of society's mainstream

NEW DELHI

On political parties promising "freebies" ahead of polls, the Supreme Court on Wednesday said instead of bringing people into the mainstream for national development "are we not creating a class of parasites?" A Bench of Justices BR Gavai and Augustine George Masih said it would be better to make people a part of the society's mainstream and contribute towards national development. "Rather than promoting them to be a part of the mainstream of the society by contributing to the development of the nation, are we not creating a class of parasites?" it asked. Justice Gavai went on to add, "Unfortunately, because of these freebies, which just on the anvil of elections are declared, like 'Ladki Bahin' and other

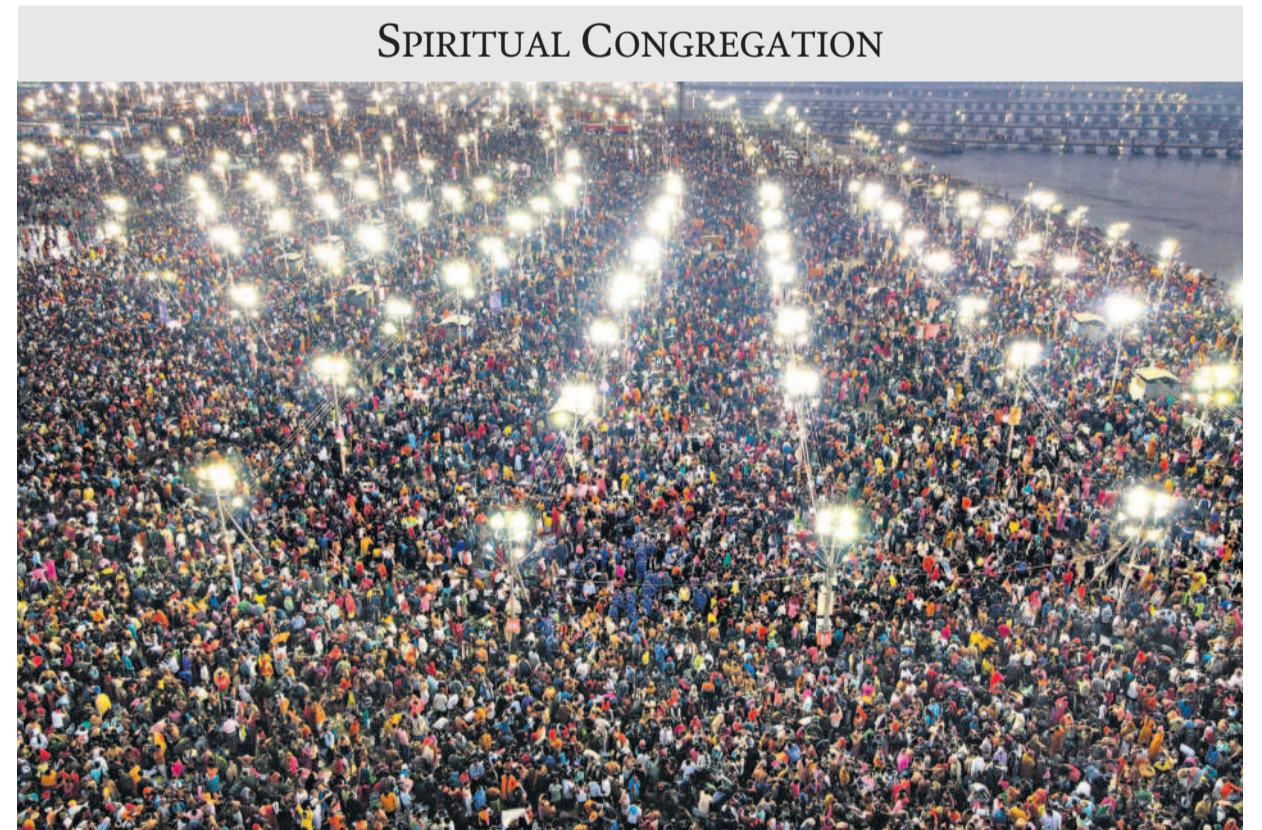
schemes, people are not willing to work." The SC was hearing a matter concerning the right to shelter of homeless persons in urban areas and said people got free rations and money without working. "We appreciate your concern for them but would it not be better to make them a part of the mainstream of society and permit them to contribute to the development of the nation?" the Bench asked. Advocate Prashant Bhushan, appearing for one of the petitioners, said there was hardly anybody in the country who did not want to work, if they had work. The judge said, "You must be having only one-sided knowledge. I come from an agricultural family. Because of the freebies in Maharashtra, agriculturists are not getting labourers." **(SEE PAGE 2)**

Sikh riots: Sajjan Kumar guilty

NEW DELHI

A Delhi court on Wednesday said former Congress MP Sajjan Kumar was part of an unlawful assembly that killed the victims and is guilty of murder in a 1984 anti-Sikh riots' case, in which he now faces a maximum of death penalty and a minimum of life term in prison.

Special judge Kaveri Baweja aside from saying that a mob took part in rioting and killed the victims, held, "It has further been established that Kumar, being a member of such unlawful assembly, is guilty of having committed the murder of Jaswant Singh and Tarundeep Singh, the husband and son of the complainant, during the incident." **PTI**



An aerial view of the Sangam on 'Maghi Purnima' during the Maha Kumbh mela in Prayagraj on Thursday. — Photo: PTI (REPORT PAGE 7)

Innovator blends AI with healthcare

JAMES EDWIN
Khammam



Venkata Sai Rahul Trivedi Kothapalli

Even as India is gearing up to lead the AI revolution, a young scholar from Telangana is already making significant strides in the integration of artificial intelligence and medicine. Meet Venkata Sai Rahul Trivedi Kothapalli, 33-year-old PhD student and IT professional from Khammam who devel-

oped an AI algorithm that detects wear and tear in bone with 94 per cent accuracy. It facilitates early diagnosis and optimises the timing of orthopaedic surgeries transforming patient care. Rahul is pursuing doctoral degree in Systems Engineering at Colorado State University, US, and is Lead Senior Systems Architect at Verizon. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

India's stealth fighter has Hyd imprint

YUVARAJ AKULA
Hyderabad



VEM Technologies has made its mark in AMCA.

A Hyderabad-based company has become the heart of India's upcoming next generation fighter aircraft AMCA. VEM Technologies Private Limited has made its mark in the Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA), manufacturing end-to-end modules besides assembling and integrating the entire aircraft. The AMCA was recently unveiled by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in the ongoing Aero India 2025 at

Bengaluru. The VEM contributed to the manufacturing of end-to-end modules made of composites and mechanicals of the fighter aircraft, which is being developed by the DRDO. This contribution high-

lights the growing role of Hyderabad-based aviation companies in advancing the country's aerospace and defence sectors. The VEM is into the manufacturing of fuselages and generators to the fighter air-

crafts besides developing the range of on-board systems for defence helicopters and fighter aircrafts. For the first time the DRDO is showcasing a full-scale model of India's first 5.5 generation stealth aircraft AMCA equipped with cutting-edge features at Aero India 2025 being held at Air Force Station, Yelahanka. The DRDO is working on developing technologies like AI powered Electronic Pilot, Netcentric Warfare Systems, Integrated Vehicle Health Management, Internal weapon Bay, etc.

Army Jawan beaten up in Khammam

STATE BUREAU
Khammam



Budala Manoj

An Army jawan, a Dalit, was allegedly beaten by a Congress leader and subjected to casteist slurs at the Chintakani police station in the district. It is said that the jawan, Budala Manoj of Bonakal, went to a petrol bunk at Nagulavancha in Chintakani mandal to refuel his vehicle five days ago. There, he tried to stop

a clash between some youths and the petrol bunk staff. The bunk owner lodged a police complaint. Manoj was summoned by the Chintakani police for questioning. When he went to the police station on Tuesday night to speak to SI Nagul Meera, Congress leader Ummineni Ramesh, without any provocation, passed casteist remarks. **(SEE PAGE 2)**