



HYDERABAD | PAGE 03

**Shortage of doctors, faculty at government hospitals**



WORLD | PAGE 09

**Trump warns Zelenskyy to move fast**

Asks him to quickly negotiate war's end with Russia or risk not having a nation to lead



SPORT | PAGE 10

**India off to flying start at CT: Gill hits unbeaten 101**

**In a nutshell**

**Home guard found dead in NSP canal**

**KHAMMAM:** A Home Guard was found dead under mysterious circumstances at Nelakondapalli in the district on Thursday. Ganta Naresh (36), a driver at the Nelakondapalli police station, was found dead in the NSP canal. The locals who found that body at the mini-hydel power project near the Degree College informed the police. It was not clear whether the Home Guard went swimming and drowned or died by suicide.

**Indian deportees reach Panama**

**PANAMA CITY:** Panama has informed India about the safe arrival of a group of Indians deported from the US and the Indian mission in the country is working closely with the host government to ensure their wellbeing after obtaining consular access to them. The Embassy of India in Panama, Costa Rica & Nicaragua took to X to share the information but did not provide data on the number of Indians arriving. **PTI**

**Eight-year-old girl raped**

**SANGAREDDY:** An eight-year-old girl was raped by two people at Palsawadi village near Sangareddy town on Thursday evening. The girl, who was playing, was lured by the two youths. She was taken into the bushes and raped. When she started bleeding, she cried for help. The locals rushed to her rescue and apprehended one of the accused. They thrashed him before handing over to police. The girl was taken to hospital.



**All praise for Vidaa... team**

Regina shares her appreciation for cast and crew on Instagram

12

## 'Alarming situation at Srisailem dam'

**Telangana government cautions NDSA of potential catastrophe**

STATE BUREAU  
HYDERABAD

An alarming situation is emerging at the Srisailem dam as major deterioration in the plunge pool area downstream of the spillway threatens the structural integrity of this vital infrastructure.

In an urgent communication given to the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA), Telangana State Committee on Dam Safety (SCDS) chairman and Engineer-in-Chief (General) N. Anil Kumar has sounded an alarm, urging immediate action to prevent a potential catastrophe.

Constructed in 1981 across the Krishna River, the Srisailem dam is a crucial multipurpose project that serves as a lifeline for Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. It provides hydroelectric power with an installed capacity of 900 MW for Telangana and 770 MW for Andhra Pradesh.

Additionally, it supports irrigation and drinking water supply to vast regions in both states and is integral to the Telugu Ganga Project,



Major deterioration in the plunge pool area downstream of the spillway threatens the structural integrity of the Srisailem dam.

which supplies drinking water to Chennai. The dam also plays a pivotal role in flood control.

**Alarming deterioration** Recent inspections, coupled with reports from print and electronic media, reveal that the unprecedented discharge during the 2009 floods — approximately 25 lakh cusecs against the dam's designed capacity of

14 lakh cusecs, caused substantial scouring and created a large void in the plunge pool area downstream of the spillway.

This has raised serious concerns about the dam's safety and stability.

Studies conducted by the National Institute of Oceanography, commissioned by the Andhra Pradesh Government, indicate severe erosion. If left

unaddressed, this could compromise the overall stability of the dam, which stands at a maximum height of 143.26 metres from its deepest foundation level.

Experts warn that a breach at the Srisailem dam would unleash an enormous volume of water, potentially causing massive flooding in downstream areas across Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

## Water being diverted: Harish

STATE BUREAU  
HYDERABAD

Former Minister and senior BRS MLA T Harish Rao held the Congress government responsible for failing to protect Telangana's rightful share in Krishna River water.

He said that Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu was diverting water without any opposition from the Telangana government, leading to a looming crisis for irrigation and drinking water needs in Telangana.

Demanding urgent action from the Centre and the State government, Harish Rao warned that Telangana's future was at stake. "The Congress government must wake up from its deep slumber before Telangana is pushed into a full-blown water crisis," he asserted.

Addressing a press meet at Telangana Bhavan on Thursday, Harish Rao pointed out that Andhra Pradesh was illegally drawing 10,000 cusecs of water

**FRESH ROW BETWEEN TG, AP**

**HYDERABAD:** The fast-dropping water levels in the joint projects on the Krishna river and acute scarcity in their ayacut areas have triggered a fresh flare-up in the ongoing water-sharing dispute between Telangana and AP. The role of KRMB has come under scrutiny for its soft-peddling with AP. **(REPORT PAGE 5)**

**TG MAKES STRONG CASE**

**HYDERABAD:** Telangana counsel CS Viswanathan presented the case of the State highlighting the deprivation of its due entitlement before the KWDT-II for the second day on Thursday as part of the final round of hearing. His arguments were mostly based on the SC judgement on the Cauvery Tribunal Award. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

per day through the Nagarjuna Sagar Right Bank Canal for the past three months. He stated that around 1,010 TMC water availability was predicted in Krishna River for the current water year. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

## TG's finances in freefall under Congress rule

PS DILEEP  
HYDERABAD

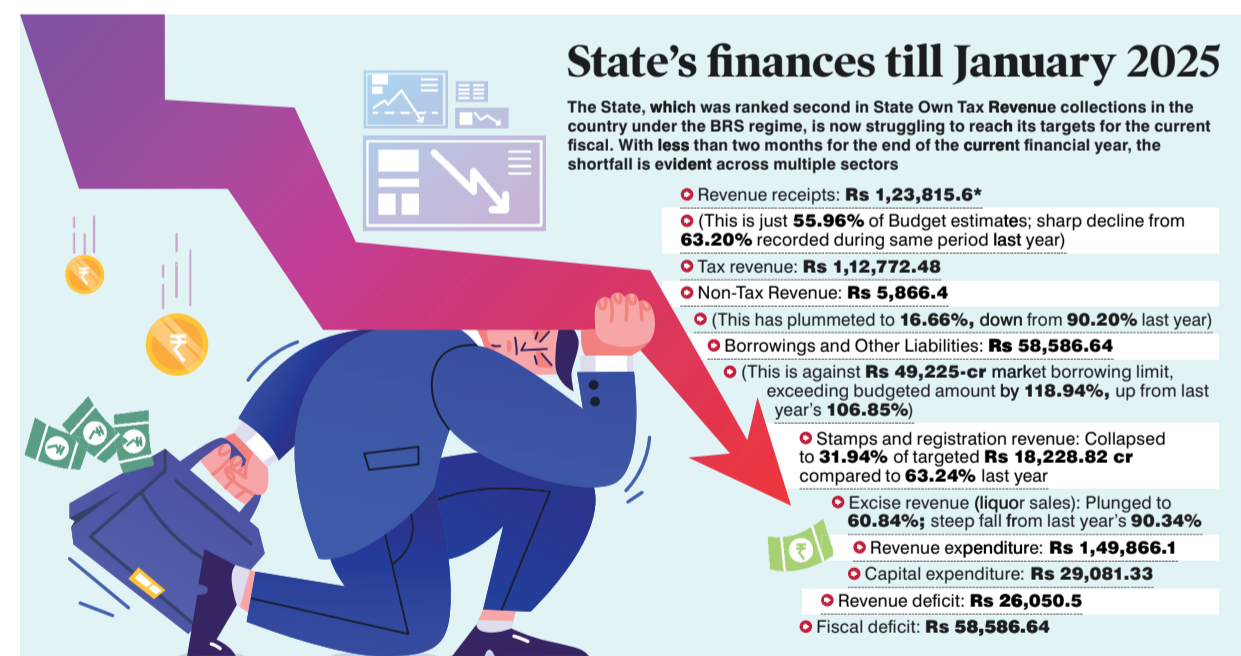
Telangana's financial condition under the Congress government has taken a sharp downturn, with plummeting revenues, ballooning debts and reckless borrowing creating severe economic imbalance.

The State's revenue receipts stand at Rs 1,23,815 crore, a mere 55.96 per cent of the Budget estimates and a sharp decline from 63.20 per cent recorded during the same period last year.

This alarming shortfall indicates the Congress government's inability to generate funds, even as public expenditure continues unchecked. Official data for the 2024-25 financial year up to January this year paints a bleak picture, exposing the government's failure to manage resources effectively.

The State, which was ranked second in State Own Tax Revenue (SOTR) collections in the country under the BRS regime, is now struggling to reach its targets for the current fiscal.

With less than two months for the end of the current financial year, the



shortfall is evident across multiple sectors. Stamps and registration revenue has collapsed to 31.94 per cent of the targeted Rs 18,228.82 crore, compared to 63.24 per cent last year, indicating a slow-down in real estate transactions.

The Goods and Service Tax (GST) collections were pegged at Rs 42,657.9 crore,

i.e. 72.8 per cent against a target of Rs 58,594.91 crore. Similarly, excise revenue (liquor sales) has plunged to 60.84 per cent, a steep fall from last year's 90.34 per cent, despite a hike in liquor prices. Serious concerns are being raised about the government's poor enforcement and policy effectiveness.

Even more concerning is the non-tax revenue, which has plummeted to a shocking 16.66 per cent, down from 90.20 per cent last year, exposing the administration's failure to maximise income from State resources.

To compensate for this revenue shortfall, the Congress government has re-

sorted to reckless borrowing, pushing Telangana into dangerous fiscal territory. The State has already borrowed Rs 58,586 crore against the Rs 49,225-crore market borrowing limit, exceeding the budgeted amount by 118.94 per cent, a significant jump from last year's 106.85 per cent. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

## Engineering courses to get costlier

YUVRAJ AKULA  
HYDERABAD

Several top private engineering colleges in the State have proposed steep fee hikes, which could cost aspiring engineers their arm and a leg.

The managements submitted proposals to the Telangana Admission and Fee Regulatory Committee seeking fee hikes ranging between 50 per cent and 100 per cent for the next three-year block period commencing academic year 2025-26.

The CBIT has put forward to hike its fee from Rs 1.65 lakh to Rs 2.94 lakh per annum — nearly double the existing tuition fee. This is the highest fee that has been

COLLEGE	EXISTING FEE	PROPOSED FEE
CBIT	Rs.1.65 lakh	Rs. 2.94 lakh
VNR VJIEET	Rs. 1.35 lakh	Rs. 2.84 lakh
MGIT	Rs. 1.60 lakh	Rs. 2.45 lakh
Vasavi College of Engineering	Rs. 1.40 lakh	Rs. 2.16 lakh
CVR College of Engineering	Rs.1.50 lakh	Rs. 1.98 lakh
Vardhaman College of Engineering	Rs. 1.40 lakh	Rs. 1.90 lakh
Gokaraju Rangaraju Institute of Engineering & Technology	Rs. 1.30 lakh	Rs. 1.90 lakh
SR Engineering College	Rs. 1.30 lakh	Rs. 2 lakh
Malla Reddy College of Engineering and Technology	Rs.1.10 lakh	Rs.1.80 lakh
Malla Reddy Engineering College for Women	Rs.95,000	Rs.1.80 lakh
Kakatiya Institute of Technology and Science	Rs.1.25 lakh	Rs. 1.90 lakh
G Narayamma Institute of Technology and Science for Women	Rs. 1 lakh	Rs. 1.70 lakh
Sreenidhi Institute of Science and Technology	Rs. 1.30 lakh	Rs.1.80 lakh
St. Martins Engineering College	Rs. 1 lakh	Rs.1.75 lakh
BV Raju Institute of Technology	Rs. 1.20 lakh	Rs.1.66 lakh

proposed by a private engineering college in the State. Another institution, VNR VJIEET, proposed a hike from Rs 1.35 lakh to Rs 2.84 lakh per annum, which is an over

100 per cent surge. Going by the proposals of the top 15 private engineering colleges, five colleges sought more than Rs 2 lakh as tuition fee and the remaining

institutions proposed a fee more than Rs 1.50 lakh per annum. Overall, around 60 colleges sought a fee between Rs 1 lakh and Rs 2 lakh. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

## Centre warns OTT platforms

NEW DELHI

Amid a row over vulgar jokes on social media, the Centre has cracked the whip and warned OTT platforms against transmitting content that is prohibited by the law.

In an advisory to over-the-top (OTT) platforms and self-regulatory bodies, the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting also asked them to strictly adhere to the Code of Ethics prescribed under the IT Rules-2021 while publishing content, including stricter adherence to the age-based classification of content. It also asked self-regulatory bodies of OTT platforms to take proactive action. **PTI**

## Hyd doctor drowns in Tungabhadra

CITY BUREAU  
HYDERABAD

The body of a woman doctor from Hyderabad, Dr Ananya Mohan Rao, who went missing on Wednesday after jumping into the Tungabhadra river near Sanapur in Gangavathi taluk while on a picnic, was retrieved on Thursday.

The doctor, who lived at Nampally and worked with a city hospital, reportedly drowned after she jumped into the river on Wednesday. On Tuesday, she had gone on a picnic with her friends Ashita and Satwik and on Wednesday evening, the trio went for a swim in

the Tungabhadra situated behind the guesthouse they were staying in.

Ananya jumped into the river from an adjacent rock and a strong current carried her away, the police suspect. A video of the doctor plunging into the river from atop a huge rock went viral on social media after it was shared by the friends with Dr Ananya's family in Hyderabad. The video was shot by the friends.

Police roped in rescuers to trace the body. The operation was halted on Wednesday evening and resumed the next day. The body will be brought to Hyderabad soon.

## Humiliated ryot tries to end life

STATE BUREAU  
MANCHERIAL

A tribal farmer Rathod Thukaram attempted to die by suicide as he felt humiliated after being allegedly scolded by a Forest official at Gaddamguda village in Jannaram mandal on Thursday.

Thukaram tried to take the extreme step when the officials reportedly abused him for refusing to vacate the area where he was living earlier in the core of Kawal Tiger Reserve. He was rushed to a hospital in Luxettipet and underwent treatment.

He said he was disheartened after officials scolded him for refusing to leave the spot. **(SEE PAGE 2)**