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Fundamental right does not come on a platter: SC



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Israel criticised for blocking assistance to Gaza

Egypt, Qatar accuse it of violating humanitarian law by using starvation as a weapon



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Charged up India to take on Australia in CT semis

In a nutshell

Pedestrian killed in road crash

HYDERABAD: A pedestrian was killed after being hit by an over-speeding car in a hit-and-run incident at Narsingi on the city suburb on Sunday midnight. The victim identified as K Srinivas (30), a native of Andhra Pradesh who had come to the city for work, was crossing the road when the mishap occurred. A car, identified as Tata Harrier which was being rashly driven by its driver mowed him down. Srinivas suffered grievous bleeding injuries and died on the spot.

Indian woman executed in UAE

NEW DELHI: An Indian woman on death row in Abu Dhabi for the alleged murder of a four-month-old child was executed on February 15, the Delhi High Court hearing her father's plea about her well-being was informed on Monday. On being informed about the development, Justice Sachin Datta termed it "very unfortunate". "It is over. She was executed on February 15. Her last rites will be held on March 5," Additional Solicitor General Chetan Sharma told the court. Shahzadi Khan was handed over to the Abu Dhabi police on February 10, 2023. **PTI**

Congress' big U-turn on government lands

Puts up 400 acres at Kancha Gachibowli for auction via TGIIC

STATE BUREAU
 HYDERABAD

It did not take too long for what the BRS said in December to be proven true. The Congress government, which had vehemently denied in the Assembly that it was not attempting to sell government land in the capital region, has now put up 400 acres at Kancha Gachibowli in Serilingampally mandal for auction through the Telangana Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TGIIC).

As per realtors, the value per acre at Kancha Gachibowli is about Rs 80 crore, which means the cash-strapped State government is looking at big money.

The TGIIC has already invited agencies to serve as transaction advisor for optimisation of a master plan and to provide assistance for auction of land proposed to be developed at Kancha Gachibowli. In a Request for Proposal issued on February 28, with the last date of March 15, the corporation has proposed to prepare "international standard sus-

In a Request for Proposal issued on February 28, the TGIIC proposes to prepare "international standard sustainable" master plan layout for the land

tainable" master plan layout for its land measuring 400 acres at Survey No.25 (P) of Kancha Gachibowli in Serilingampally mandal, for "developing and auctioning" in a phased manner to prospective buyers for monetisation purposes.

The property, it says, is in an established IT/ITES and residential hub located towards the west of Hyderabad, seven to eight km from Cyber Towers, 15-18 km from Punjagutta, 22 km from Secunderabad Railway Station and 33 from the international airport.

The agencies are supposed to ascertain the permitted land use of the site and determine the potential considering different factors, including height restrictions, proposed airport funnel, FSI, proposed civic and transport infrastructure etc. They are also supposed to study the possible catalysts

and impediments for undertaking real estate development at the land. The consultant agencies are also supposed to advise TGIIC on changes or alterations, if any, required in the existing byelaws or regulations which will enhance the development potential and subsequently the project monetisation.

Furthermore, the conceptual master plan should propose various components that can be set up at the project site through a land use zoning plan. The proposed components of land development include commercial, residential and public parks, including walkways, cycling trails, heritage and culture-based eco-parks. The agencies should assist in marketing and auction of developed land in five phases, including valuation of land parcels, preparation of information memoran-

dum and documents and project marketing and bid process management.

The BRS had exposed these plans in December last year itself, with former Minister T Harish Rao displaying GO Ms 54 issued on June 26, 2024 in the Assembly. Countering the State government's claims that government lands were not being sold, he had pointed out that the government was indeed planning to raise funds through mortgage and had alienated 400 acres of government land at Serilingampally in favour of TGIIC. These 400 acres were worth about Rs 30,000 crore, he had said, adding that this was done on payment of market value of Rs 75 crore per acre. However, Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy had denied this, claiming that it was just "transfer of land" from Revenue to TGIIC.

With the TGIIC's request for proposal clearly mentioning that the plan was to auction the land to prospective buyers, the lies of the Congress have once again been exposed.

Telangana's GST growth slumps to 1%

The State figures at 10th spot with Rs 5,280 crore in GST collections; Maha tops list

STATE BUREAU
 HYDERABAD

In one of its worst performances, Telangana recorded just one per cent GST growth in February this year, compared to last year's 10 per cent. The State now finds itself at the bottom of the list in terms of GST growth rate, alongside Arunachal Pradesh.

As per the latest data released by the Centre, Tripura (21%), Haryana (20%) and Madhya Pradesh (15%) lead the country, neighbouring Andhra Pradesh (4%) and Chhattisgarh (7%) outperformed Telangana. In revenue collections, Maharashtra topped the list with Rs 30,637 crore recording 13% growth, followed by Karnataka with Rs 14,117 crore (10%). Telangana was placed at 10th spot with Rs 5,280 cr in GST collections

GOING DOWN

IN ONE OF ITS WORST PERFORMANCES, TELANGANA SITS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE GST GROWTH RATE LIST ALONGSIDE ARUNACHAL PRADESH

- State recorded just 1% GST growth in February this year against last year's 10%
- States like Tripura (21%), Haryana (20%), and Madhya Pradesh (15%) lead the country
- Andhra Pradesh (4%) and Chhattisgarh (7%) have also outperformed Telangana in GST growth rate
- In revenue collections, Maharashtra topped the list with Rs 30,637 crore recording 13% growth, followed by Karnataka with Rs 14,117 crore (10%)
- Telangana was placed at 10th spot with Rs 5,280 cr in GST collections
- BRS working president KT Rama Rao blamed the Congress government for the drastic fall in the State's GST growth
- He charged CM Revanth Reddy with destroying the economic foundation that the previous BRS government had built over a decade
- Calling the 1% GST growth a shameful downfall, he blamed it on the reckless decisions of the State government
- KTR remarked that corruption and commissions were skyrocketing under the Congress regime, and State revenues were declining

“Congress virus is dangerous than Corona. Just as we predicted a year ago, it has come true. Telangana, which was once a leader in economic growth has been thrown to the bottom under an incompetent Chief Minister he said — KT RAMA RAO, BRS working president

Rs 5,280 crore in GST collections.

BRS working president KT Rama Rao blamed the Revanth Reddy government for the drastic fall. He charged Revanth with destroying the economic foundation that the BRS government built over a decade.

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has come true. Telangana, which was once a leader in economic growth has been thrown to the bottom under an incompetent Chief Minister," he said.

He blamed it on the reckless decisions of the Congress. He said while corruption and commissions were skyrocketing under the Congress regime, the State revenues were declining.

Ramzan Timings
 Iftar Tuesday 6:29 PM
 Saher Wednesday 5:10 AM

Revanth put lives of eight workers at risk: KTR

STATE BUREAU
 HYDERABAD

BRS working president KT Rama Rao criticised Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy over the SLBC tunnel tragedy, blaming his hasty decisions for putting lives of eight workers at risk. He charged the Congress government with keeping the project works pending for 14 months since it assumed power and then shifting blame to the previous BRS regime.

In a strong counter to Revanth Reddy's remarks blaming the BRS for SLBC tragedy, Rama Rao said it was shameful to target the BRS government, which had completed 12 km of tunnel work, while the current administration could not even dig a centimetre in the last

RESCUE WORKS CONTINUE AMID GRIM ATMOSPHERE

HYDERABAD: Even as the atmosphere was grim with little hopes left of any of the eight trapped workers surviving after 10 days underneath the debris of the SLBC tunnel roof that collapsed on February 22, rescue operations continued in Domalpenta. On Monday, officials intensified efforts to establish the conveyor belt to transport steel and other debris out of the tunnel. To make rescue operations even challenging, there was continuous seepage of water inside the tunnel. Amidst the heaps of debris and silt, officials were finding it a task to clear the debris faster and move further ahead. **(RELATED REPORTS PAGE 5)**

14 months. The Congress government rushed into restarting work without proper planning and precautionary measures, leading to the accident in just four days after resuming the work, he pointed out.

While the SLBC tunnel spans 43.94 km, the Congress government from 2005 to 2014 had completed only 22.89 km. Despite the project's difficult condi-

tions, the BRS government successfully completed an additional 12 km without any incidents, he said.

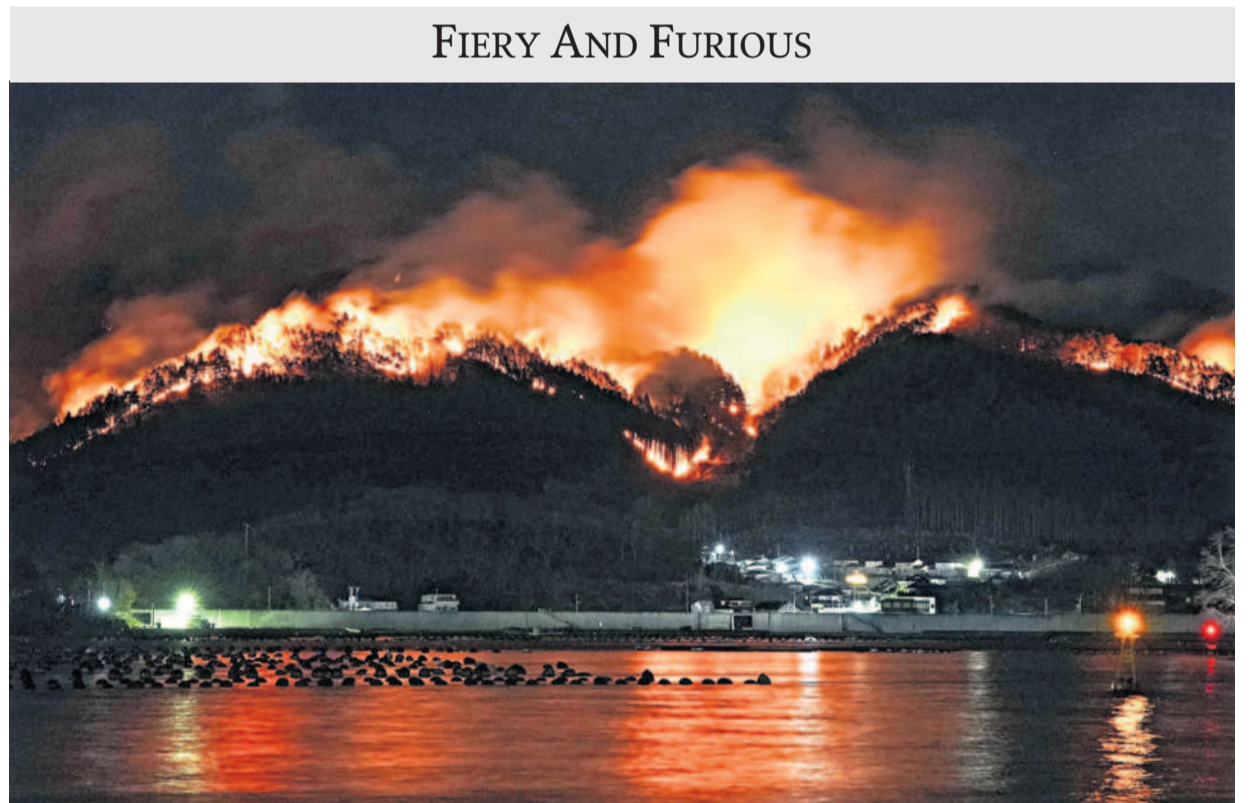
He also objected to the Congress government misleading the public about project expenditures, stating that while the previous Congress government spent Rs 3,300 crore on SLBC works, the BRS regime invested Rs 3,900 crore. **(SEE PAGE 2)**



Celebs dressed to kill at Oscars

The Hollywood stars made the most of the awards night

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FIERY AND FURIOUS

A forest fire, which started last Wednesday, continues to spread behind houses in Ofunato, Iwate prefecture, Japan. — Photo: AP

Cong leader loots through illegal toll gate at Manair

STATE BUREAU
 Peddapalli

Illegal collection of toll is becoming rampant in the district. Though one such toll gate was recently closed by authorities, an unfazed Congress leader is operating another one by collecting money from vehicles traveling through Manair river between Peddapalli and Jayashankar-Bhupalpally districts.

Since there is no road to travel between the two districts along that stretch, an unauthorised one-kilometre-long earthen road was laid right across the river between Kistampet, Kalvasrampur mandal of Peddapalli and Burnapalli, Tekumatla mandal of Bhupalpally district.

What is more surprising is that an illegal tender process was also carried out for collecting toll on this



The illegal toll gate near Kistampet in Peddapalli district.

road! It is learned that a Congress leader from Kistampet bagged the tender at Rs 15.10 lakh. His men are collecting Rs 30 from two-wheelers, Rs 100 from autos, tractors and other vehicles while it is Rs 200 for lorries. Since it is a shortcut to reach Peddapalli, Godavarikani and Karimnagar, a number

of vehicles are passing along the route paying the amount that is demanded at the toll gate. Every day, over 100 vehicles thus pass through the toll gate. It may be recalled that officials recently closed a toll gate that was being operated across the same river downstream of the existing toll gate. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

Parents bat for morning schools

CITY BUREAU
 Hyderabad

Parents of children and general public in Hyderabad are increasingly favouring the possibility of School Education Department tweaking school timings and introduce morning schools to protect children from intense heat following widespread reports, including forecasts by Indian Meteorological Department (IMD), Hyderabad, indicating a significant temperature rise in March.

School timings

With temperatures anticipated to touch 40 degree Celsius in several locations in districts and hover between 36 degree C and 38 degree C in Hyderabad, people in Hyderabad have urged the School Education Department to seriously consider changing the school timings in the com-

ing weeks. Noted weather forecaster from Hyderabad T Balaji on Monday took to X and posted in detail about the need to change the school timings.

"Telangana Government should consider morning schools from March 10. Till March 10, bearable afternoon temperatures will be there with oscillating temperatures. However, from March 10, even in Hyderabad, temperatures can go to 39 degree Celsius and 40 degree Celsius, which makes morning schools and colleges a necessity". **(SEE PAGE 2)**

Sripal Reddy, Malka Komuriah elected MLCs

STATE BUREAU
 Nalgonda

Progressive Recognised Teachers' union Telangana State (PRTUTS) candidate Pingali Sripal Reddy was on Monday elected from the Warangal-Khammam-Nalgonda Teachers constituency defeating United Teachers' Federation candidate A Narsi Reddy.

After 19 rounds, Narsi Reddy was eliminated and Sripal Reddy was declared elected with 13,969 votes.

Sripal Reddy said the verdict delivered by the teachers was valuable. Meanwhile, BJP candidate Malka Komuriah won the Karimnagar-Medak-Adilabad-Nizamabad Teachers MLC seat securing more than 50 per cent of votes in the counting of first priority votes. He got 12,959 votes as against 24,144 valid votes polled for the MLC election. **(REPORTS PAGE 4)**

Liquor addict kills mother for property

SANGAREDDY: Residents of the luxurious Divino Villas in Tellapur woke up on Monday to blood-chilling screams and on rushing out of their homes, saw the gory scene of a woman battling for life lying in a pool of blood. When they reached near the woman, they saw her son, Nawari Karthik Reddy (26), standing with a kitchen knife in his hand while his mother Radhika Reddy (52) was lying bathed in blood. There was blood everywhere in the house too as the woman attempted to escape from her son. Despite her repeated pleas, Karthik Reddy continued to stab her until she fell unconscious. The locals rushed her to a private hospital where she breathed her last a few hours later. According to the Kollur police, Karthik Reddy was admitted twice to a rehabilitation centre in the last one year as he was seriously addicted to liquor and drugs. After walking out of the rehabilitation centre last December, he had been insisting to his father Malla Reddy and mother Radhika to give his share of property so that he could start his own business. Since the parents felt that he was not in a condition to run a business, they had been delaying it. The couple's elder son Sandeep Reddy was married and living in the same house. On Sunday night, Karthik Reddy again asked his parents to divide the property. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

Another farmer ends life over debts

Medak: Yet another farmer died by suicide at Lingareddy in Manoharabad mandal on Monday. Family members said mounting debts and his failure to mobilise funds for his elder daughter's marriage pushed Pitla Raju (44) to take the extreme step. Raju, who had hired a plot of land in the village to cultivate various crops, did not get the desired yield this year. Adding to his woes, Raju had reportedly borrowed money from friends and relatives to build a house and had also fixed his elder daughter Rajeshwari's marriage with a man from their community. Worried over the financial crisis, Raju is said to have hanged himself to death on Monday. Raju is survived by his wife and two daughters. The police have registered a case. The body was shifted to government hospital for postmortem.