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**Parl adjourned amid ruckus over K'taka Muslim quota**



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**Russia, Ukraine agree for partial ceasefire**

WH says energy and infra would be covered; Zelensky wants railways also protected



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**Ashutosh Sharma wins a thriller for DC against LSG**

**In a nutshell**

**HC notices to TG on 400-acre land**

**HYDERABAD:** A two-judge Bench of the Telangana High Court, comprising Acting Chief Justice Sujoy Paul and Justice Renuka Yara, on Monday raised significant concerns regarding the State government's plan to auction 400 acres of forest land on the outskirts of the city. It issued notices to the State government, seeking detailed explanations regarding the legality and environmental implications. **STATE PAGE 5**

**24% hike in salaries for MPs**

**NEW DELHI:** The Centre on Monday notified a 24 per cent hike in the salaries of MPs with effect from April 1, 2023, on the basis of the Cost Inflation Index, taking their salaries to Rs 1.24 lakh besides certain allowances and perks. A notification issued by Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs also hiked the daily allowances for sitting members and pension and additional pension. **PTI**

**SC task force for student suicides**

**NEW DELHI:** The Supreme Court on Monday took note of the recurring cases of student suicides in higher educational institutions and formed a National Task Force to address the mental health concerns of students and prevent such incidents. It directed Delhi Police to register an FIR on the complaints of the families of two students who died by suicide while studying at the IIT-Delhi in 2023. **NATION PAGE 7**

**Unified Pension Scheme from April**

**NEW DELHI:** From April 1, Central government employees with at least 25 years of service will be eligible for a fixed pension equal to 50 per cent of their average basic salary from the last 12 months before retirement under the new Unified Pension Scheme. The Centre is introducing UPS to offer more financial security after retirement to at least 23 lakh Central government staff. **NATION PAGE 8**

**Ramzan Timings**

**Iftar** Tuesday 6:34 PM  
**Saheer** Wednesday 4:54 AM

## Woman jumps off MMTS train to escape molester

**Incident occurs on moving Tellapur-Medchal train; victim suffers injuries**

CITY BUREAU  
 HYDERABAD

In an incident that raised questions over the safety of women in the city and drew ire from different sections of the society, a 23-year-old woman was forced to jump out of a moving MMTS train to save herself from a molester near Alwal.

The victim, who stays at a hostel in Medchal, had gone to Secunderabad to get her mobile phone repaired on Saturday. After completing the work, around 7.15 pm, she reached the Secunderabad railway station and boarded the Tellapur-Medchal MMTS service to go to her hostel in Medchal.

The victim told the police that there were two other women in the ladies coach and they got down at Alwal. After the women left, the suspect, aged around 25, approached her and tried to force himself on her. Frightened over the development, the woman claimed that she jumped from the moving train. As a result, the victim suffered injuries on her head, chin, right hand and

## BRS raises concern over women's safety

**HYDERABAD:** The shocking case of a young woman forced to jump off a moving MMTS train in Hyderabad to escape being raped has triggered public outrage, with BRS leaders holding the Congress government responsible for the deteriorating law and order situation in the State capital.

BRS working president KT Rama Rao condemned the incident, terming it "shocking and unsettling." He urged Union Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw to ensure a speedy investigation to nab the culprit.

Though the incident is under the purview of the Railways, it should serve as a wake up call to the State government as well

— KT RAMA RAO, BRS WORKING PRESIDENT

He also called on the Telangana Police and the Women and Child Welfare department to provide full support to the victim. Stating that though the incident was under the purview of the Railways, he said the incident should serve as a wake up call to the State government as well.

Criticising the Congress government for the pathetic law and order situation, he questioned why criminals felt emboldened to commit heinous crimes in broad daylight.

Senior BRS MLA T Harish Rao termed the incident "shocking and heartwrecking," questioning the fail-

ure of the State government, the police and the Railways. He lashed out at the State government over a 29 per cent rise in rape cases in the State.

"If women aren't safe even in the State capital, what is the government doing? This Congress government should be ashamed for its failure in ensuring security for women," he said, demanding answers from Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, who was also the Home Minister, asking him to ensure safety of women. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

four special teams to nab the offender. Senior officials of the GRP met the victim and inquired about the incident. The railway police sought help from the local police to identify and apprehend the offender. The victim, who was injured, was admitted to Yashoda Hospitals, Secun-

derabad, from Gandhi Hospital on Monday evening. According to the doctors at Gandhi Hospital, the patient decided to leave the hospital against medical advice. "We conducted the necessary initial diagnostic tests, including CT scans, and initiated treatment. Later, she de-

cidated to leave against our medical advice," Gandhi Hospital doctors said. The doctors maintained that the patient was in stable condition, but received some injuries. Yashoda Hospitals said a medical bulletin will be released after initial assessment of the patient.

## Justice Varma transferred to Allahabad HC

NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court collegium on Monday confirmed the transfer of Delhi High Court's Justice Yashwant Varma, facing an enquiry over the alleged discovery of huge cash from his official residence and from whom judicial work was withdrawn, to his parent Allahabad High Court.

Hours after the transfer recommendation to the Centre was made public in a resolution uploaded on the website of the top court, the president of the Allahabad High Court Bar Association (AHCBA), Anil Tiwari, said the High Court lawyers will go on an indefinite strike from Tuesday in protest against this move.

"The Supreme Court Collegium, in its meetings held on March 20 and 24, 2025, has recommended the repatriation of Justice Yashwant Varma, Judge, High Court of Judicature at Allahabad," said the resolution.

On March 21, the Supreme Court said Delhi High Court Chief Justice DK Upadhyaya had initiated an in-house inquiry against Justice Varma and there was a separate pro-

**Judge's judicial work withdrawn**

**NEW DELHI:** The Delhi High Court on Monday announced that judicial work from Justice Yashwant Varma has been withdrawn with "immediate effect" till further orders.

The announcement was made in a note issued by the High Court. Another note attached to the cause list of the day on the HC website stated that the court master of division Bench-III, which was headed by Justice Varma, will give dates in matters listed before Monday. **PTI**

posal to transfer him. "There is misinformation and rumours are being spread with regard to the incident at the residence of Justice Yashwant Varma," the SC statement added.

Upon receiving the information, the Supreme Court said Chief Justice Upadhyaya "commenced the in-house enquiry procedure, collecting evidence and information". **(SEE PAGE 2)**

## Kamra booked for 'traitor' jibe at Shinde

MUMBAI

The Mumbai Police on Monday registered an FIR against stand-up comedian Kunal Kamra for allegedly making defamatory remarks against Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde during a show, officials said.

The police also registered a case against nearly 40 Shiv Sena workers for allegedly vandalising the Habitat Studio in Mumbai's Khar area, where Kamra's show with 'gaddar' (traitor) jibe at Shinde was filmed, and a hotel where the studio is located, they said. Kamra taunted Shinde using a modified version of a Hindi song from the film 'Dil To Pagal Hai', eliciting laughter from the audience.



Kunal Kamra

**KHAR STUDIO RAZED OVER 'VIOLATIONS'**

**MUMBAI:** The studio in Khar in which stand-up comedian Kunal Kamra filmed his show was on Monday demolished by Mumbai's civic body for alleged building violations. The action by the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation came a day after Habitat Studio and Uncontinental Hotel where it is located were ransacked late Sunday night by irate Shiv Sainiks. The temporary shed and other structures comprising the studio, which was created in the basement of the hotel, has been razed, a civic official said. "It was removed as there is no civic permission to create a studio in the basement. The BMC will check the hotel to see if everything is as per the allowed plan," the official said. Earlier in the day, Habitat Studio said they were shutting down after Shiv Sena workers vandalised its premises. **PTI**

While leaders of the ruling Mahayuti termed Kamra a "contract comedian" and warned he would be forced to flee the country, the opposition dubbed the FIR against him as "mockery of law" and said police should specify words which can't be used to criticise the government.

Shiv Sena MLA Murji Patel said the party workers will not allow Kamra to move on streets if he doesn't apologise to Shinde in two days. Several Shiv Sena workers on Sunday night gathered outside Hotel Uncontinental, where the Habitat Studio is located. **(RELATED REPORT PAGE 7)**

**ASHA WORKERS DEMAND REMUNERATION HIKE**



Police detain ASHA workers during a protest at the Koti DME office in Hyderabad on Monday. — Photo: Anand Dharmana (REPORT PAGE 3)

## Special officer to monitor SLBC ops

STATE BUREAU  
 Hyderabad

**Senior IAS officer Sivashankar Lotheti tasked with the responsibility; Revanth wants rescue ops to continue**

The SLBC rescue operations, which have been in progress for over a month now, would continue further. The rescue agencies, which have been carrying out the operations they have been tasked with despite no headway, have been looking for a fresh direction from the State government as well as the departmental heads.

Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, who had a review on the progress of the operations in the tunnel on Monday, wanted the agencies to continue the search and salvage operations. He wanted the State administration to obtain necessary clearances from the Centre to continue

the operations in the tunnel. He directed Chief Secretary A Santhi Kumari to appoint an IAS officer to monitor the rescue operations.

Accordingly, senior IAS officer Sivashankar Lotheti has been tasked with the responsibility. Special Chief Secretary (Disaster Management) Arvind Kumar and officials heading teams from the Army, Navy and NDRF appraised the CM on the progress. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

## Biennial MLC polls on April 23

STATE BUREAU  
 Hyderabad

The Election Commission of India announced biennial election to the Telangana Legislative Council from Hyderabad Local Authorities' Constituency on April 23.

The election is necessitated as the term of BRS MLC MS Prabhakar expires on May 1. The election notification will be issued on March 28, marking the commencement of submission of nominations. The last date for submission of nominations is April 4, followed by scrutiny of nominations on April 7 and withdrawal of candidatures on April 9.

While the polling will be held from 8 am to 4 pm on April 23, the counting of votes is on April 25.

## Nagpur riots: Key accused's house razed, HC slams move

NAGPUR

Civic authorities on Monday morning deployed bulldozers and flattened a two-storey "illegal" house of Fahim Khan, a key accused in the Nagpur violence who has been booked for sedition, hours before the Bombay High Court ordered a stay on the action.

The authorities also removed an "illegally" constructed balcony of a house of another accused Yusuf Sheikh in the Mahal area, where the violence took place on March 17, officials said. The civic action came even as the High Court's Nagpur Bench questioned why the owners of the houses were not given a hearing before demolishing the alleged illegal portions,

**Journalist booked for anti-Shivaji remarks arrested from Telangana**

**MUMBAI/PUNE:** The Maharashtra Police on Monday said they have arrested Nagpur journalist Prashant Koratkar, booked for making derogatory remarks about Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and his son Chhatrapati Sambhaji, from Telangana. Koratkar was taken into custody in Telangana and is being brought to Maharashtra, an official said. "We have taken him into custody and a police team is bringing him to Kolhapur. Further legal procedure will follow," said Kolhapur Superintendent of Police Mahendra Pandit said. A case was filed against Koratkar for making the derogatory remarks and was booked on February 26 under the BNS provisions for promoting hatred or enmity among groups. **PTI**

and the rapped the administration for "high-handedness". Khan, a leader of the Minority Democratic Party (MDP) currently in jail, has been booked for sedition. He is among over 100 persons arrested for the violence in the city where mobs went on a rampage amid rumours that a 'chadar' with holy inscriptions was burnt during protests by VHP and Bajrang Dal activists. **PTI**

## Advocate stabbed to death in Hyderabad

**HYDERABAD:** An advocate was stabbed to death at an apartment in IS Sadan, Santoshnagar, on Sunday night. The victim has been identified as Errabapu Esrayal (50), a resident of East Maruthinagar in Champa-pet. According to the police, the suspect, Dastagiri, an electrician, stayed as a tenant in the house owned by Esrayal at Santoshnagar. A couple, Kantha Rao and

Kalyani, also lived in the building and the former worked as a watchman. "Dastagiri and Kalyani were reportedly having an affair. On coming to know about it, Kantha Rao took his wife to their village. Dastagiri suspected that Esrayal knew the whereabouts of Kalyani and was not helping him in locating the woman," IS Sadan Inspector said. **(SEE PAGE 2)**

**2 engineering students die in accident**

**HYDERABAD:** Two engineering students were killed in a road accident at Adikmet flyover in the city early on Monday. According to the police, the two victims — Raj Kumar and Sidharth, aged 21, who were students of the Osmania University Engineering College and pursuing B.E — were on a bike when, allegedly due to speeding, the rider lost control of the two-wheeler and hit the divider. Both fell and died on the spot due to injuries. Police reached the spot and shifted the bodies for a post-mortem examination. A case is being registered.