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## Kharge Targets Modi Over Fuel Prices

New Delhi: Mallikarjun Kharge on Tuesday criticised the Central government over the latest petrol and diesel price hike, accusing it of burdening common people while protecting corporate interests. In a post on X, Kharge said fuel prices had been increased again within days, despite the government claiming success in securing discounted Russian crude oil. He questioned why citizens were still facing rising fuel costs. Targeting Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Kharge called the BJP government's approach a "Compromised Model" and alleged that it lacked proper vision during economic challenges. He also criticised the Centre's handling of Russian oil imports, claiming repeated requests to the US for permission hurt India's self-respect



## Telangana Gears Up Grandly: Formation Day Festivities Begin

Hyderabad, May 19: The Telangana government has begun large-scale preparations for the State Formation Day celebrations scheduled to be held on June 2 at the historic Parade Grounds. Senior officials have been instructed to ensure that the event is conducted in a grand and memorable manner, reflecting the spirit and pride of Telangana's journey since statehood. During a high-level review meeting held at the Dr B R Ambedkar State Secretariat on Tuesday, Special Chief Secretary Vikas Raj directed various departments to make elaborate arrangements for the celebrations. He emphasized the need for smooth coordination among all departments to avoid any inconvenience during the event. According to officials, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy will begin the day by paying tribute to Telangana martyrs at Gun Park before attending the main celebrations at Parade Grounds. The tribute ceremony is expected to highlight the sacrifices made during the Telangana statehood movement. To ensure proper management, each department has been asked to appoint nodal officers who will coordinate preparations and oversee responsibilities. The Police Department has been instructed to provide tight security across VIP routes

and nearby areas. Authorities are also preparing a special traffic plan and parking arrangements to manage the expected crowd and prevent traffic congestion. The Roads and Buildings Department has been directed to arrange waterproof shamanas, barricades, seating facilities, and other infrastructure at the venue. Officials have also been asked to ensure continuous drinking water supply, sanitation services, and uninterrupted electricity during the programme. Backup generators will also be kept ready as a precautionary measure. As part of the celebrations, iconic buildings and landmarks across Hyderabad will be decorated with special lighting. These include the Telangana Legislative Assembly, Secretariat, Charminar, and Praja Bhavan. Officials believe the decorative illumination will create a festive atmosphere across the city. The Department of Culture has been instructed to organize cultural programmes featuring artists from different parts of Telangana. Traditional performances, folk arts, and musical events are expected to showcase the



rich cultural heritage of the state. Meanwhile, the Information and Public Relations Department will handle live telecast arrangements and publicity activities to ensure that people across Telangana can watch the celebrations. Officials have also been ordered to conduct joint rehearsals at Parade Grounds from May 25 onwards to ensure that every arrangement functions smoothly before the main event. Several senior officials, including Naveen Mittal, Shikha Goel, Mahesh Bhagwat, and Vijay Kumar, attended the review meeting and discussed coordination measures for the successful conduct of Telangana Formation Day celebrations.

## Stray Dogs Order Sparks Debate

New Delhi, May 19: In a significant ruling aimed at ensuring public safety, the Supreme Court has firmly upheld its earlier directive ordering the removal of stray dogs from crowded public institutions across the country. The apex court made it clear that State governments and Union Territories must strictly comply with the order or face possible contempt proceedings. A bench comprising Justice Vikram Nath, Justice Sandeep Mehta and Justice N. V. Anjaria dismissed multiple petitions seeking changes to the directions issued in November 2025. The Court reiterated that stray dogs removed from public places must be shifted to shelters and should not be released back into the same locations even after sterilisation procedures. The Supreme Court observed that several alarming incidents involving dog attacks had raised serious concerns about public safety. The bench referred to disturbing reports where children were mauled, elderly people were attacked, and even foreign tourists became victims of stray dog violence. The judges remarked that authorities had failed in their responsibility to protect citizens... (See Page 2)



## Age Limit Relaxed Again

Hyderabad, May 19: The Telangana government has extended the upper age limit for recruitment to government jobs by one more year, giving relief to thousands of job aspirants across the state. According to a new Government Order issued on Tuesday, the maximum age limit for applying to government jobs has been increased to 44 years. The relaxation will remain valid for one year. The government clarified that this age relaxation will not apply to uniformed services, including the police department.

## TG Unveils Smart Waste Plan

New Delhi, May 19: The Telangana government on Tuesday showcased its ambitious scientific waste management and urban sanitation initiatives at the national review meeting on Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0 held at Vigyan Bhavan. The State presented its long-term strategy aimed at creating cleaner cities, reducing pollution, and promoting sustainable urban development. The two-day national meeting was inaugurated by Manohar Lal Khattar and focused on strengthening sanitation systems, scientific waste disposal, and urban cleanliness across the country. Representatives from multiple States attended the conference to discuss innovative approaches for improving solid waste management. Representing Telangana, Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka explained how the



State is adopting environmentally responsible development practices under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy. He said the government is working toward achieving the ambitious Telangana Vision-2047 plan by balancing urban growth with environmental protection. Bhatti Vikramarka highlighted the State's development framework called CURE, PURE, and RARE, which aims to ensure sustainable progress in

both urban and rural regions. According to him, Telangana is focusing heavily on modern technology and scientific systems to improve waste collection and recycling. One of the key announcements made during the meeting was the introduction of 9,596 electric Swachh Auto Tippers in urban areas across Telangana. These electric vehicles are expected to reduce carbon emissions while improving waste (See Page 2)

## Telangana Keeps Medicine Supply Ready

DCA Eases Bandh Fears

Hyderabad, May 19: The Drugs Control Administration Telangana has assured the public that essential and life-saving medicines will remain available during the nationwide bandh on May 20 called by the All India Organisation of Chemists and Druggists. The administration said pharmacy stores attached to hospitals across Telangana will continue to function normally to avoid inconvenience to patients. District units of the chemists' association will also coordinate with Drug Inspectors to ensure emergency medicines are supplied whenever required. Major pharmacy chains including Apollo Pharmacy and MedPlus have been advised to keep their stores open during the bandh. Officials said the department is closely monitoring the situation across the state to maintain uninterrupted medicine supply. Field officers have been directed to respond quickly to any complaints related to medicine availability. People facing difficulty in getting emergency medicines can contact local Drug Inspectors or department officials for immediate support. Assistance is also available through 1800 599 6969. The administration appealed to all stakeholders to cooperate and ensure that patients don't face hardship during bandh.

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## Fuel Prices Burn Consumers

Second Hike In One Week

New Delhi, May 19: Petrol and diesel prices were increased once again across the country on Tuesday, with fuel rates going up by nearly 90 paise per litre. This is the second hike within a week, adding further burden on consumers already facing rising living costs. In Delhi, petrol price increased from Rs 97.77 to Rs 98.64 per litre, while diesel rose from Rs 90.67 to Rs 91.58 per litre. Similar hikes were reported in major cities including Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai. The latest increase comes just four days after oil companies raised fuel prices by Rs 3 per litre on May 15, marking the first major hike in nearly four years. Officials said the repeated increase is linked to rising international crude oil prices caused by tensions in West Asia and disruptions in global supply routes. India, which depends heavily



on imported crude oil, is facing growing pressure due to the sharp rise in global energy prices. The back-to-back hikes are expected to increase transportation and logistics costs, which may further push up inflation and affect household budgets across the country.

## BJP Eyes Telangana Surge

Hyderabad, May 19: N Ramchander Rao on Tuesday expressed confidence that the BJP would emerge as the strongest political force in Telangana after the upcoming GHMC elections. Addressing Division Presidents and senior party leaders at the BJP City Office in Bharkatpura, Hyderabad, he said a BJP victory in the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation elections would create the foundation for forming a BJP government in the state in the future. Ramchander Rao urged party workers to work with discipline, unity and strong booth-level coordination ahead of the GHMC polls, which are likely to be held in September or October. He said the number of GHMC wards has in-



creased to 300 after delimitation and may rise further to 350. Recalling the party's performance in the 2020 GHMC elections, he said the BJP had secured 48 seats independently despite facing strong competition from the then TRS and All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen. The BJP leader said party tickets would be given only to leaders with public support and strong grassroots work. He warned against group politics and internal disputes within the party. He also claimed that several leaders from the Bharat Rashtra Samithi are interested in joining the BJP and expressed confidence that the party would perform strongly in all proposed municipal corporations within the GHMC region.

## EDITORIAL

*A Masterclass in  
Multi-Vector Diplomacy*

Prime Minister Narendra Modi's May 2026 five-nation tour was not merely a diplomatic exercise; it was a strategic assertion of India's expanding influence in an unstable global order. At a time when major powers are grappling with economic uncertainty, energy insecurity, and fractured alliances, India projected itself as a dependable force capable of balancing energy security, technological advancement, and geopolitical stability. The significance of this tour lies in its calibrated multi-vector diplomacy. From the energy corridors of the UAE to the innovation capitals of Northern Europe, India demonstrated that its foreign policy is no longer reactive, but strategic and future-oriented.

The UAE visit reaffirmed New Delhi's ability to maintain strong ties in West Asia while protecting India's economic and energy interests. Cooperation in defense manufacturing, infrastructure, and diaspora welfare reflects India's intention to transform partnerships into long-term strategic assets. The Nordic engagements carried deeper geopolitical importance. In Sweden and Norway, the emphasis on artificial intelligence, green energy, resilient supply chains, and advanced manufacturing showed India's determination to position itself at the center of the next industrial transformation. Norway conferring its highest civilian honor on PM Modi reflected Europe's growing acknowledgment of India as a crucial strategic partner. Equally important was India's economic messaging. By leveraging the India-EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement and inviting investments into renewable energy and infrastructure, the government signaled that India intends to become one of the world's engines of green growth.

The Netherlands and Italy visits further strengthened India's maritime and manufacturing ambitions. The proposed "Green and Digital Sea Corridor" with the Netherlands highlights India's understanding that future influence will depend heavily on sustainable logistics and trade connectivity. Italy's emphasis on defense industrial cooperation reflects Europe's changing perception of India—from a vast consumer market to a trusted manufacturing and technological partner. This tour underscored a critical reality: India is no longer standing at the margins of global decision-making. It is actively shaping conversations around climate transition, clean energy, maritime security, supply-chain resilience, and technological innovation in 2026.

## VIKRAM HOP REVEALS LUNAR MYSTERY

Bengaluru: India's ambitious lunar mission Chandrayaan-3 has once again created history by uncovering crucial secrets hidden beneath the Moon's south polar surface. Scientists have now revealed that the "Hop Experiment" performed by the mission's Vikram Lander helped discover major variations in the Moon's surface material, known as lunar regolith, near the south pole. The findings are considered highly important for future Moon missions, especially those aimed at building scientific stations and bringing lunar samples back to Earth. According to the Indian Space Research Organisation, the experiment provided rare and valuable information about the Moon's surface conditions and thermal properties. The Vikram lander successfully soft-landed on the Moon on August 23, 2023. After completing several scientific experiments on the lunar surface, ISRO scientists decided to attempt a unique "hop" maneuver on September 2, 2023. Using leftover fuel, the lander briefly lifted off the surface and landed at a nearby location. This successful test demonstrated a critical technology needed for future

lunar missions that may return Moon samples to Earth. During this hop, an onboard instrument called ChaSTE studied the lunar surface in greater detail. ChaSTE was designed as a rod-shaped probe equipped with temperature sensors and a heater. It penetrated the lunar regolith to study how heat behaves beneath the Moon's surface. Scientists explained that lunar regolith is not ordinary soil. It is made up of tiny shattered rock particles and sharp glass-like fragments that are highly abrasive and sticky. Understanding these materials is important because they affect future Moon landings, habitat construction, and the storage of water-ice beneath the surface. The hop maneuver gave scientists a rare chance to observe how the lander's engine exhaust disturbed the upper layer of the regolith. Measurements showed that the engine plume removed the soft top "fluff" layer covering the Moon's surface. This revealed hidden layers underneath that had different physical and thermal characteristics. Researchers from Physical Research Laboratory found that the top 2 to 6 centimeters of lunar regolith near the south

pole is extremely porous and highly cohesive, meaning the particles stick together strongly. Scientists believe this layer acts like a thermal blanket, helping trap heat and possibly preserving water-ice molecules beneath the surface. The experiment also provided scientists with a unique opportunity to observe the Moon during lunar twilight. Unlike Earth, where sunset lasts only a few minutes, twilight on the Moon continues for several hours because a single lunar day-night cycle lasts nearly one Earth month. This slow cooling process helped researchers better understand how the Moon absorbs and releases solar heat. ISRO stated that these findings will play a major role in planning future lunar exploration missions. The data could help scientists identify safe and scientifically valuable locations for future Moon bases, human habitats, and resource exploration missions near the lunar south pole. The Chandrayaan-3 mission continues to strengthen India's position as a major global space power while opening new doors for advanced lunar research and future human exploration of the Moon.

*Stray Dogs Order Sparks Debate*

...from such threats. According to the Court's directions, stray dogs must be removed from highly crowded public areas such as schools, hospitals, bus depots, railway stations, sports complexes, and similar institutions. The Court stressed that these locations are frequented by vulnerable sections of society, including children, patients, senior citizens, and daily commuters, making safety a top priority. The bench also refused to interfere with the Standard Operating Procedure framed by the Animal Welfare Board of India regarding the handling of stray dogs. At the same time, the Court clarified that authorities are permitted to undertake euthanasia of rabid and dangerous dogs when they pose a direct threat to human life. In its earlier order, the Supreme Court had also restricted the feeding of stray dogs on public roads and streets, allowing feeding activities only at designated spots identified by local authorities. Animal rights groups and dog lovers had challenged these restrictions and sought the recall of the Court's directions. However, the bench declined to modify its stance, emphasising that human safety cannot be compromised. Legal experts believe the ruling could trigger stronger enforcement measures by local bodies and municipal administrations across India. Civic authorities may now be compelled to increase the number of shelters, strengthen sterilisation drives, and ensure stricter monitoring of stray dog populations. The judgment has once again ignited a nationwide debate between public safety concerns and animal welfare rights. While many citizens welcomed the Court's tough stand following repeated dog attack incidents, animal activists expressed concern over the implementation of the directions and the future treatment of stray animals. With the Supreme Court warning of strict action against non-compliance, State authorities are now under pressure to act swiftly and effectively to implement the directives on the ground.



## TG Unveils Smart Waste Plan

collection efficiency. Officials said the vehicles will include separate compartments for four-way segregation of waste at the source, helping authorities process garbage more effectively. The Deputy Chief Minister also stated that the vehicles will be equipped with QR-code based monitoring systems to ensure transparency and better tracking of waste collection activities. The initiative is expected to improve accountability and strengthen urban sanitation systems across municipalities. Telangana also stressed the importance of decentralised waste processing systems. Wet waste generated in residential areas will be processed close to the source itself, reducing transportation costs and environmental impact. Dry waste, meanwhile, will be scientifically recycled through circular economy models that aim to convert waste into reusable resources. A major focus of the State's presentation was the scientific remediation of old dump yards. The Telangana government is currently working on restoring the massive Jawaharnagar Dump Yard with technical support from Indian Institute of Technology Bombay. Officials said the project is being carried out using advanced scientific methods to reduce environmental damage caused by years of waste accumulation. Bhatti Vikramarka revealed that nearly 22 lakh metric tonnes of garbage spread across 40 acres at the Autonagar dump site are currently being processed through biomining technology. Around 30 percent of the waste has already been cleared. The reclaimed land will not be used again for dumping activities. Instead, the govt plans to convert the area into parks, sports facilities, and other public infrastructure projects. Calling for a nationwide "War on Waste – Waste to Wealth" movement, the Deputy Chief Minister urged governments to treat waste management as an opportunity for economic growth and resource creation.

## Revanth Targets Irrigation Delays

Hyderabad, May 19: Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy on Tuesday held a crucial review meeting with Ministers, MLAs, and senior officials to assess the progress of major irrigation projects in the erstwhile Mahabubnagar District region. The meeting focused mainly on speeding up pending works, completing land acquisition, and ensuring uninterrupted funding for irrigation projects considered vital for the drought-prone Palamuru area. The review meeting was conducted at the MCRHRD Insti-

tute, where the Chief Minister issued several key directions aimed at accelerating irrigation development across the region. Officials discussed the status of ongoing projects, compensation issues, and administrative hurdles affecting execution. During the meeting, Revanth Reddy placed special emphasis on the ambitious Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Project, which is regarded as one of the most important irrigation schemes for southern Telangana. The project is expected to provide irrigation

water to lakhs of acres while also addressing drinking water needs in several districts. The Chief Minister instructed officials to expedite the land acquisition process related to the project and directed them to personally supervise the progress. He stressed that delays in acquiring land should not affect the construction timeline and asked departments to complete the process on a war footing. Revanth Reddy also directed authorities to speed up land acquisition for other pending irrigation projects in the

erstwhile Palamuru district. According to officials, several projects are awaiting clearances and compensation settlements, which have slowed down implementation in recent months. The Chief Minister assured public representatives that the State government would release funds immediately whenever required to prevent delays in compensation payments to farmers and landowners. He said the government is committed to completing irrigation projects without causing inconvenience to affected families.

*CBSE Re-evaluation Deadline Extended*

New Delhi, May 19: The Central Board of Secondary Education has extended the deadline for Class 12 students to apply for scanned copies of evaluated answer sheets till May 23 after technical glitches affected the re-evaluation portal. Students across the country reported problems while accessing the online system soon after post-result services were activated on Tuesday. Complaints included blank webpages, non-working links and captcha

verification failures during the application process. The board had earlier fixed May 22 as the last date for applications. However, after widespread complaints, CBSE issued a fresh notification extending the deadline to give students additional time. CBSE Controller of Examinations Dr. Sanyam Bhargava said the extension was introduced to avoid inconvenience to students. He earlier maintained that the portal was functioning normally despite

complaints from users. The board has also reduced the fees for post-result services. Students can now obtain photocopies of evaluated answer sheets for Rs 100 instead of Rs 700. Verification charges have also been reduced from Rs 500 to Rs 100, while re-checking of individual questions will cost Rs 25 each. CBSE further announced that students whose marks increase after re-evaluation will receive a full refund of the fee paid for the process.

## POCSO Convict Jailed

Hyderabad, May 19: A Special POCSO Court in Hyderabad sentenced 23-year-old auto driver Abdul Rehman to 20 years of rigorous imprisonment for sexually assaulting an 11-year-old boy in 2019. The incident occurred near Bathukamma Kunta after the accused diverted the auto route. Passers-by rescued the injured child and caught the accused. The court also imposed a Rs 6,000 fine and ordered Rs 75,000 compensation for the victim.

## TG Expands Digi Governance

### New GHMC Services on WhatsApp



Hyderabad, May 19: The Telangana government has taken another major step toward strengthening digital governance by expanding Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation services on the MeeSeva WhatsApp Platform.

The move aims to provide faster, easier, and more accessible public services to citizens directly through WhatsApp. The expansion was announced by the Electronic Service Delivery division under the guidance of D Sridhar Babu. Officials said the initiative is part of the State government's larger effort to improve citizen-centric governance using digital technology and online service delivery systems. The MeeSeva WhatsApp platform was originally launched on November 18, 2025, and has since received a strong response from the public. According to officials, the platform has quickly become one of the fastest-growing digital public service channels in Telangana, helping people access government services without visiting offices physically. As part of the latest expansion, several new Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation services have now been integrated into the platform. These include property assessment, revision, birth and death certificate corrections, home registration of births and deaths, correction of property door numbers, property name corrections, property tax services, and trade licence renewal facilities. Citizens can access these services through the official MeeSeva WhatsApp number by simply sending a "Hi" message to 8096958096. After initiating the chat, users can follow the chatbot instructions to select services, submit applications, upload required documents, and complete online payments. Officials stated that the WhatsApp-based system has been designed to make government services more user-friendly and convenient, especially for citizens who may not be comfortable using complex online portals. By bringing services directly to mobile phones, the government hopes to reduce waiting times, simplify procedures, and improve public satisfaction. The State government noted that several services on the platform are already receiving heavy public usage. Among the most popular are birth certificate downloads, income certificate services, police challan payments, electricity bill payments, and Telangana Board of Intermediate Education result services. The initiative is also expected to reduce crowds at MeeSeva centres and GHMC offices by encouraging digital applications and online processing. Officials believe the platform can significantly improve efficiency in municipal service delivery while also saving time for citizens. The Telangana government has repeatedly emphasized its commitment to digital transformation and technology-driven governance. Under the current administration led by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, the State has been promoting several online governance initiatives aimed at increasing transparency, accessibility, and efficiency in public administration. Officials said more citizen services are likely to be added to the MeeSeva WhatsApp platform in the coming months as part of the government's digital expansion plans.

## Sooryavanshi Blitz Stuns LSG

Teen batting sensation Vaibhav Sooryavanshi produced another breathtaking innings as Rajasthan Royals defeated Lucknow Super Giants by seven wickets in a high-scoring IPL thriller in Jaipur on Tuesday night. The victory pushed Rajasthan closer to a coveted playoff berth and further strengthened Sooryavanshi's growing reputation as one of the brightest young stars in world cricket. Chasing a massive target of 221 runs, Rajasthan Royals made the difficult task look surprisingly easy, thanks mainly to the explosive batting display from the 15-year-old prodigy. Sooryavanshi smashed a sensational 93 runs off just 38 balls, narrowly missing out on what would have been a memorable IPL century. The young batter completely dominated the Lucknow bowling attack with fearless strokeplay and remarkable confidence. His innings included an astonishing 10 sixes, many of them struck against quality deliveries that most batters would have struggled to handle. From powerful pulls to elegant lofted drives, Sooryavanshi displayed a wide range of shots that left both spectators and commentators stunned. The innings once again highlighted his extraordinary hand-eye coordination and natural batting ability. Cricket experts believe the youngster is rapidly emerging as a future star for Indian cricket. Commentator Ian Bishop summed up the mood perfectly during the broadcast by declaring, "He is ready." Sooryavanshi's stunning knock effectively ended the contest long before he was dismissed. By the time he departed, Rajasthan Royals were firmly in control of the chase. Wicket-keeper-batter Dhruv Jurel calmly completed the chase



with an unbeaten 53 off 38 deliveries. The young opener's performance also placed him close to several major milestones this season. He is now approaching the record for most sixes in a single IPL season, currently held by Chris Gayle, and is also nearing the 600-run mark for the tournament. Earlier in the evening, Mitchell Marsh had produced a superb innings for Lucknow Super Giants, smashing 96 runs off just 57 balls. Marsh played powerful cricket throughout his innings, hitting 11 fours and five sixes while carrying the Lucknow batting effort almost single-handedly. Australian wicket-keeper-batter Jos Inglis gave Lucknow a flying start by hammering 60 runs from only 29 deliveries during the powerplay overs. The opening partnership crossed 100 runs quickly and put Rajasthan bowlers under heavy pressure. Despite the strong platform, Lucknow failed to fully capitalize in the final overs. Fast bowler Jofra Archer delivered an excellent final over, conceding just five runs and preventing Marsh from reaching his century. Archer's disciplined bowling slightly reduced the final target and later proved important during the chase. Lucknow captain Rishabh Pant managed 35 runs

but never appeared fully comfortable at the crease. His innings lacked fluency, and pressure seemed visible on the wicketkeeper-batter, who has recently faced scrutiny regarding his international white-ball future. Rajasthan's bowling performance overall remained below expectations. Bowlers including Sandeep Sharma and others struggled with line and length on a batting-friendly pitch. Young spinner Yash Raj Punja, however, impressed by picking up two important wickets. The win lifted Rajasthan Royals to 14 points in the IPL standings. The team now faces a crucial final league match against Mumbai Indians, which could decide their playoff qualification hopes. For Lucknow Super Giants, the defeat added to an already disappointing campaign. Despite Marsh's brilliant form throughout the season, the team has struggled for consistency in both batting and bowling departments. But the night ultimately belonged to Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, whose fearless batting continues to redefine expectations for a teenager in the IPL. With the Indian senior team tour to Dublin approaching next month, the cricket world is now watching the young sensation more closely than ever before.

## ACB Raids Expose 5.88 Crores

Hyderabad, May 19: Telangana Anti-Corruption Bureau officials on Tuesday registered a disproportionate assets case against Saggam Anantha Laxmi Kumar, a senior official of the Hyderabad Metro Water Supply and Sewerage Board, after allegedly uncovering assets worth over Rs 5.88 crore during raids. The ACB conducted simultaneous searches at the official's residence and eight other locations linked to his relatives, associates and suspected benamis. Officials said the accused allegedly amassed assets beyond his known sources of income through corrupt practices during his service. During the raids, investigators reportedly found documents related to 18 acres of agricultural land in Nizamabad and Sangareddy districts, six open plots, three flats and a house in Hyderabad. The agency also seized around Rs 1.10 crore in cash, nearly 2.1 kilograms of gold ornaments, 9.2 kilograms of silver articles, a car and a motorcycle from the premises. According to the ACB, the actual market value of the seized movable and immovable properties could be much higher than the registered document value. Further investigation into additional assets is currently underway.

## Telangana Cabinet Meet Moved to Yadagirigutta

Hyderabad, May 19: Telangana Cabinet meeting originally scheduled for May 21 has been postponed to May 23 and will now be held at the spiritually significant town of Yadagirigutta instead of the usual venue at the Dr BR Ambedkar Telangana State Secretariat. The decision by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has triggered both administrative and political discussions across the State. According to official sources, the Cabinet meeting was rescheduled due to the ongoing "Antyah Pushkaralu" celebrations at the Gnana Saraswati Temple in Basara on the banks of the Godavari River. Several ministers have reportedly been assigned responsibilities related to the religious event to ensure smooth arrangements for the large number of devotees expected from different parts of Telangana. With ministers engaged in Pushkaralu duties, conducting the Cabinet meeting on May 21 was considered impractical, leading to the postponement. Officials said the new date would allow ministers to complete their responsibilities at Basara before attending Cabinet discussions at Yadagirigutta. The decision to hold the meeting at Yadagirigutta is being viewed as a symbolic move by the CM. Political observers believe Revanth Reddy is trying to send a message that important government meetings need not remain limited to Hyderabad and can also be organised at places carrying cultural, spiritual, and regional importance. The Cabinet meeting will take place near the famous Narasimha Swamy Temple, one of Tg's most prominent temple. temple has deep emotional, spiritual significance for people across the State and underwent a massive redevelopment project during the tenure of former Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao.

## PMJ Robbery: Lodge Seized In Dharmapuri

Dharmapuri, May 19: Police and revenue officials in Dharmapuri have seized Vijayalaxmi Lodge after discovering that suspects involved in the PMJ jewellery shop robbery had stayed there before the crime. According to investigators, five accused persons stayed at the lodge from May 1 to May 3. On the final day, they reportedly vacated the rooms early in the morning, just hours before carrying out the robbery. Police said the accused travelled through rural routes to avoid CCTV surveillance while moving towards Karimnagar and later returned to Dharmapuri using the same routes after the crime. The investigation intensified after one of the motorcycles allegedly used in the



robbery was found near the banks of the Godavari River. Following this lead, police conducted checks at lodges and hotels in the temple town and traced the suspects' stay to Vijayalaxmi Lodge. Officials also found CCTV footage showing the movements of the accused near the lodge. During inquiry,

police reportedly discovered that the lodge management had rented rooms without collecting proper identification details or mobile phone numbers from the guests. Based on these violations, authorities sealed the lodge and further investigation into the robbery case is continuing.

## Babu Rolls Out Fishermen Aid

Amaravati, May 19: Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu on Tuesday announced a series of welfare measures, infrastructure projects, and livelihood support schemes for fishermen communities while releasing financial assistance worth Rs 261.5 crore during the annual fishing ban period. The Chief Minister participated in the 'Matsyakarula Sevalo' programme held at Thummalapenta in Kavali constituency of Nellore District, where he directly transferred financial support to eligible fishermen families. Under the scheme, 1,30,796 families received Rs 20,000 each into their bank accounts to help them manage financially during the seasonal fishing restriction period. Addressing a large gathering, Chandrababu Naidu emphasized that fishermen communities must become equal partners in coastal development and economic growth. He assured that the State government would strongly protect the livelihood rights of coastal communities and safeguard Andhra Pradesh's marine resources. The Chief Minister made strong remarks regarding coastal protection and illegal intrusion into Andhra Pradesh waters. He said the government would enhance surveillance systems along the coastline and take strict measures to prevent fishing boats from neighbouring states from entering Andhra Pradesh waters illegally. "This coast belongs to us, these boats belong to us, and this marine wealth belongs to us," the Chief Minister declared while promising stronger security and monitoring mechanisms for fishermen. In a major boost to the fisheries sector, Naidu announced that the government would sanction 200 mechanised fishing boats with 60 percent subsidy support. The remaining amount will be arranged through loans, making it easier for fishermen to modernize their fishing operations and improve income opportunities.

## Adilabad Hits 44.5°C

Adilabad, May 19: Telangana continues to reel under severe summer conditions as Adilabad recorded the highest temperature in the state at 44.5 degrees Celsius, according to the India Meteorological Department. Officials said the temperature in Adilabad was nearly 1.8 degrees above normal, indicating the growing intensity of the heatwave in northern Telangana districts. After Adilabad, Nizamabad recorded 44.2 degrees Celsius, while Medak and Nalgonda reported maximum temperatures of 42.2 and 41.5 degrees Celsius respectively. Apart from the extreme heat, high humidity levels are also increasing discomfort across many parts of the state. Hanamkonda recorded humidity levels of 86 percent, while Bhadrachalam registered around 75 percent humidity. In



the Hyderabad region, Rajendranagar touched 40 degrees Celsius, closely followed by Begumpet at 39.9 degrees Celsius. Other surrounding areas including Hakimpet, Patancheru and HayathNagar also experienced

temperatures close to 40-degree mark. The weather department has advised people to avoid direct exposure to sunlight during afternoon hours and stay hydrated as heatwave conditions continue across Telangana.

## Sarpanches Warn CM Office Protest

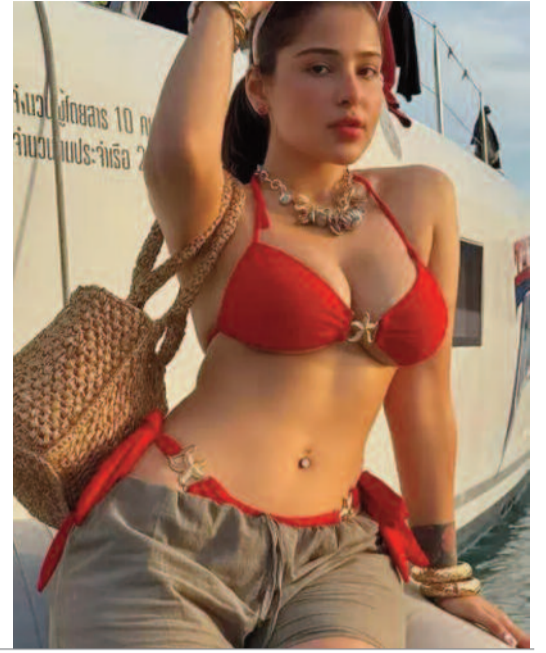
Hyderabad, May 19: The Telangana Sarpanches Joint Action Committee has warned of a protest at the Chief Minister's camp office next month over the non-clearance of pending dues. JAC leaders submitted a fresh representation to the state government during the Prajavani programme in Hyderabad on Tuesday, demanding immediate release of long-pending bills. JAC president S Yadaiah Goud said this was the 11th appeal made to the government, but the dues are yet to be cleared. He alleged that former sarpanches have been facing serious financial difficulties due to delays in payments. According to the JAC, more than 32 months have passed since the Congress government came to power, but pending bills related to village development works remain unpaid.



Palak Tiwari

## Edin Rose Joins Jailer 2

Reality TV personality and actress Edin Rose has joined the cast of *Jailer 2*, starring superstar Rajinikanth in the lead role. The sequel continues the story of the 2023 blockbuster "*Jailer*," with Rajinikanth returning as the powerful character 'Tiger' Muthuvel Pandian. Reports say Edin Rose will play a strong city-bred character and has already completed nearly a month of shooting for the film. The movie is expected to feature a star-studded cast including Mohanlal, S. J. Suryah, Shiva Rajkumar, Ramya Krishnan, Mithun Chakraborty and Yogi Babu. Edin Rose earlier appeared in *Bigg Boss 18* as a wildcard contestant.



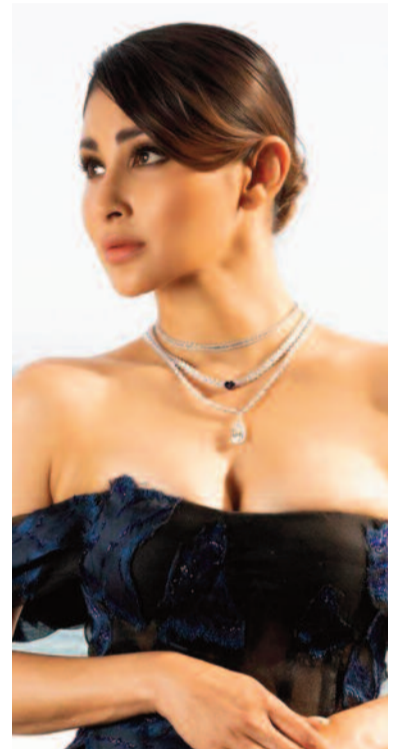
## Bhuma Mounika to Contest Polls

Manchu Manoj said his wife Bhuma Mounika Reddy will "100 percent" contest in the upcoming elections. Speaking during a media interaction ahead of his birthday on May 20, Manoj said Mounika has a strong desire to serve people and that he fully supports her political journey. He also clarified that his recently launched AIKYA Dhairya Sena Samithi is a social service organisation and not linked to politics. Manoj further drew laughs while responding to questions about his differences with his father.



## Mouni Shares Cannes Moments

Mouni Roy shared glimpses from her time at the Cannes Film Festival shortly after publicly announcing her separation from husband Suraj Nambiar. The actress posted a series of photographs from the French Riviera, describing her experience as "Cannes & Chaos." In the pictures, Mouni appeared in a stylish monochromatic outfit paired with a trench coat and knee-length boots. Mouni has been in the spotlight after she and Suraj Nambiar released a joint statement confirming that they had decided to part ways. The couple said they were handling the situation privately and respectfully while requesting the media and public not to spread false stories or invade their privacy. In the statement, the two said they had mutually chosen different paths after thoughtful reflection on personal priorities. They also expressed hope to maintain friendship and understanding in the future. The actress further appealed to media organisations and followers to respect their privacy during this difficult phase. Mouni Roy had earlier made her Cannes debut in 2023 and has since remained a regular presence at the international film festival.



## Ram Charan Applauds Janhvi Kapoor

Ram Charan showered praise on his "Peddi" co-star Janhvi Kapoor during the film's trailer launch event, appreciating her dedication and powerful performance in the movie. Calling Janhvi a "chupa rustom," Ram Charan said the actress surprised the entire team with her hard work and commitment to the role. He added that her raw and fresh appearance in the film will become one of the biggest highlights for audiences. Sharing his experience from the shoot, Ram Charan revealed that the team had been working continuously for several days and praised Janhvi's performance during a song sequence. He said she came fully prepared and performed even better than expected.



## Indians Shine At SMK Open

Indian players delivered impressive performances at the SM Krishna Memorial Open on Tuesday, with Sidharth Rawat, Mukund Sasikumar and wildcard entrant Kriish Tyagi recording notable victories. Rawat defeated Australia's Omar Jasika 7-6(4), 6-3 in a confident performance. After winning a tight first-set tiebreak, the Indian player dominated the second set to secure a straight-set victory. Mukund Sasikumar also continued his strong run by beating eighth seed Maximus Jones 7-6(5), 7-6(5) in a hard-fought contest lasting over two hours. Mukund stayed calm in both tiebreaks to seal the win. The biggest upset of the day came from Manish Sureshkumar, who stunned top seed Keegan Smith 6-4, 2-6, 6-2 after a competitive three-set battle. Young wildcard Kriish Tyagi also impressed with a composed display, defeating Kuan-Yi Lee in straight sets after winning two tense tiebreaks. Meanwhile, India's challenge ended for several players including Karan Singh and Prajwal Dev, who exited the tournament on Tuesday.



## TBA launched TJBL

The Telangana Basketball Association has launched the Telangana Junior Basketball League (TJBL), a major grassroots initiative aimed at identifying and developing young basketball talent across the state. Inspired by the Telangana Professional Basketball League, the new junior league has already received more than 3,000 registrations from boys and girls in the Under-15 and Under-18 categories. Officials said the league also witnessed strong participation from rural regions of Telangana. After week-long selection trials, 400 players were shortlisted and honoured at Shilpakala Vedika. The franchise auction later held at Riddhira Retreat attracted strong investor interest, with six teams being sold for a combined Rs 1.48 crore.

## Gopichand Pushes Fitness Awareness

Pullela Gopichand on Tuesday stressed the importance of physical literacy, saying it is essential for building a healthy and disciplined society. Speaking at the "Youth and Sports Week-2026" programme held at Gachibowli Stadium, the Padma Bhushan awardee said physical fitness should become a part of daily life for everyone and not remain limited only to professional athletes. Gopichand said sports help in developing discipline, mental strength and healthy lifestyles among youth. He added that a physically active society contributes to the overall growth and progress of the nation. The programme was organised by the Telangana Sports Department under the "Praja Palana Pragathi Pranalika" 99-day action plan being conducted from May 18 to May 23. The initiative focuses on youth empowerment, fitness awareness and promotion of sports activities. Dr A Sonibala Devi said the government is giving priority to sports infrastructure development and encouraging sports activities in rural areas. She stated that the programme aims to improve public participation in sports and identify young talent across Telangana. Several coaches, officials and young athletes participated in the event held at the stadium.



## Kohli Thrives Under Pressure

Virat Kohli shared powerful insights into his mindset and career journey during the RCB Innovation Lab Indian Sports Summit held in Bengaluru on Tuesday. Speaking during a session titled "Mind Over Everything: Virat Kohli on Peak Performance," the former India captain said pressure and responsibility have always brought out the best in him. Kohli explained that he performs at his highest level when expectations are greatest. He said he naturally seeks responsibility instead of avoiding it and believes pressure helps him stay focused and mentally sharp during important moments. The star batter added that leadership roles helped him move beyond personal goals and think more about the team. According to him, playing for a larger purpose allowed him to push past his own limits and grow stronger mentally. Kohli also acknowledged the support he received from former India head coach Rahul Dravid and batting coach Vikram Rathour during important stages of his career. The summit also featured discussions on the future of the IPL, India's Olympic ambitions and innovations aimed at improving fan experiences at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium.

