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LPG Cylinder Price Hiked by ₹29



New Delhi: Domestic LPG prices have been increased by ₹29 per cylinder, taking the price of a 14.2-kg cylinder in Delhi to ₹942. The hike comes amid rising global energy costs and follows a ₹60 increase announced in March. State-run oil marketing companies say they continue to incur significant

losses on domestic LPG sales despite recent revisions. Petrol, diesel and CNG prices have also seen upward revisions in recent weeks. The latest increase is expected to impact household budgets across the country, particularly middle-class and lower-income families already grappling with inflationary pressures.

Hyd Student Shot Dead in US



Medchal, June 6: A 28-year-old student from Telangana, Kuncha Anshul, was shot dead in Philadelphia while working as a pizza delivery driver. An MBA student at Temple University, Anshul reportedly delivered pizzas to a vacant property before being attacked and shot at close range. CCTV footage has reportedly captured sus-

picious individuals following him shortly before the incident. Family members suspect the delivery order may have been a trap and have appealed for justice and assistance in bringing his body back to India. The tragedy has once again raised concerns over the safety of Indian students and workers in US.

IAF to Transport NEET Papers in TG



Hyderabad, June 6: In a major step to ensure a leak-free examination process, the Indian Air Force will transport question papers for the rescheduled NEET-UG 2026 examination to Telangana on June 21. The move comes after the earlier NEET exam held in May was cancelled following allegations of a large-scale paper leak across multiple states. Around 72,956 students are expected to appear for the examination at 208 centres spread across 24 cities in Telangana. State Chief Secretary K Ramakrishna Rao reviewed the arrangements with district collectors and officials. National Testing Agency Director General Abhishek Singh said enhanced security measures are being implemented to safeguard the examination process. Additional DGP Mahesh Bhagwat directed police officials to maintain strict vigilance and monitor social media platforms to counter rumours and misinformation related to the examination. Authorities said special arrangements for security, transportation, power supply, drinking water and other facilities are being made to ensure the smooth conduct of the exam across the state.

Birth Decline Raises Concerns for India: Musk

New York: Tech billionaire Elon Musk has raised concerns over India's declining birth rate, pointing out that the country's fertility rate has fallen below the replacement level needed to sustain population growth over the long term. In a post on X, Musk noted that India's birth rate is now below replacement level and remarked that fertility rates among the country's most educated population had dropped below that threshold several years ago. His comments came after recent demographic data highlighted a sharp decline in births across the country. According to recent estimates, India's Total Fertility Rate (TFR) has fallen to 1.9 births per woman, below the replacement level of 2.1. The decline marks a significant demographic shift for the world's most populous nation. A decade ago, India's fertility rate stood at around 2.3, indicating a steady downward trend in family

size and birth rates. The decline is particularly visible in urban centres. Reports indicate that Delhi's fertility rate has dropped to nearly 1.2 births per woman, among the lowest levels recorded in the country. Demographers attribute the trend to factors such as higher education levels, urbanisation, delayed marriages, increased participation of women in the workforce and changing lifestyle preferences. Despite the falling fertility rate, India continues to be the world's most populous country, with a population of more than 1.46 billion. The country surpassed China in population size in 2023 and remains a key driver of global demographic growth. The latest findings were also high-



lighted in the 2025 State of World Population report released by the United Nations Population Fund. The report noted that while India has made substantial progress in healthcare, education and life expectancy, challenges such as gender inequality, maternal health issues and early marriages continue to influence demographic outcomes. Experts say falling fertility rates are becoming a common trend across many developing and developed countries. While lower birth rates often reflect improvements in education, healthcare and economic opportunities, prolonged declines can eventually lead to population ageing, labour shortages and increased pressure on social welfare systems.

Champion Mirra Andreeva



Roland Garros: Russian teenager Mirra Andreeva scripted history by winning the French Open women's singles title, defeating qualifier Maja Chwalinska 6-3, 6-2 in the final at Roland Garros. The 19-year-old became the youngest champion in Paris since Monica Seles in 1992 and claimed her first Grand Slam crown. Andreeva dominated the contest after a shaky start, winning nine consecutive games to take control. Overcome with emotion after the victory, she celebrated with her coach Conchita Martinez. The triumph marks a major milestone in the young star's rapid rise and establishes her as one of the brightest talents in world tennis.

Students Lead CJP Protest

New Delhi: The Cockroach Janta Party (CJP), which began as a social media movement, has evolved into a powerful platform for students demanding accountability in India's examination and recruitment systems. Hundreds of students, young professionals and parents gathered at Jantar Mantar in New Delhi to protest alleged irregularities in examinations such as NEET, CBSE, CUET and SSC. What sets this movement apart is its emphasis on peaceful and disciplined protest. Founder Abhijeet Dipke urged partic-

ipants to engage with law enforcement respectfully and focus on constructive demands rather than confrontation. The protest reflects growing frustration among youth over recurring allegations of paper leaks, delayed recruitments and lack of transparency in competitive examinations. The large turnout demonstrates that exam integrity has become a major public concern. As aspirations of millions depend on fair examinations, governments and agencies must strengthen



safeguards, restore confidence and ensure that merit alone determines success. The message from Jantar

Mantar was clear: students are seeking accountability, transparency and trust in the system.

Monsoon Rains Drench Hyderabad

Hyderabad, June 6 (Tricolour Estate): Hyderabad witnessed widespread rainfall on Saturday, providing relief from intense summer heat that had gripped the city over the past few weeks. Several districts across Telangana also received moderate to heavy showers. The rains, considered an early sign of the monsoon's arrival, brought down temperatures and offered respite to residents who had been enduring harsh weather conditions.

Police Reunite 6,700 Couples

Hyderabad, June 6: In a significant social intervention, Telangana Police have helped reunite nearly 6,700 estranged couples through counselling and mediation services aimed at resolving family disputes and strengthening relationships. The achievement was highlighted by Telangana Director General of Police C. V. Anand while addressing a gathering of more than 150 couples whose marriages were restored through the initiative. The event, titled "Mee Suraksha - Kalasi

Unte Kaladu Sukham", was organised by the Women Safety Wing of the Malkajgiri Commissionerate under the Centre for Development and Empowerment of Women (CDEW) Family Counselling Centres programme. The DGP said the counselling initiative has become an important platform for resolving marital conflicts and preventing family breakdowns. He credited counsellors, police personnel, non-governmental organisations and legal aid institutions for their role in

helping couples rebuild trust and continue their relationships. Highlighting the state's efforts towards women's welfare and safety, Anand noted that initiatives such as SHE Teams, Bharosa Centres, Women Police Stations, Anti-Human Trafficking Units and She Shuttles have strengthened support systems for women across Telangana. Additional Director General of Police and Women Safety Wing chief Charu Sinha said family counselling centres and Bharosa Centres have



played a crucial role in addressing domestic disputes. Malkajgiri Police Commissioner B. Sumathi said the eight family counselling centres functioning under the commissionerate have handled more than 9,700 cases and conducted over 32,000 counselling sessions

since their inception. Outreach programmes organised by counselling centres have also benefited over 16,000 participants. Speaking at the event, S.N. Sreedevi emphasised that counselling and mediation are key components of the family justice system.

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EDITORIAL

SM to Streets

India is witnessing a significant transformation in the way young citizens participate in public discourse and democratic engagement. What was once confined to college campuses, student unions, and traditional protest platforms has increasingly moved to social media networks. Yet, recent developments show that digital activism is no longer remaining within the boundaries of smartphones and hashtags. It is finding its way onto the streets, creating a new model of youth-led civic participation. The rise of online movements demonstrates the power of technology in connecting millions of young people around common concerns. Social media platforms have enabled students and first-time voters to discuss issues, organize campaigns, share information, and amplify voices that may otherwise go unheard. From educational reforms and employment opportunities to environmental concerns and governance issues, young Indians are using digital tools to shape public conversations in unprecedented ways. However, the most notable trend is the transition from virtual engagement to physical action. Online campaigns are increasingly translating into public meetings, demonstrations, awareness drives, and collective demands for accountability. This evolution reflects a deeper reality: social media may spark a movement, but meaningful change often requires visible public participation. When young people step beyond screens and engage directly with democratic institutions, their concerns become harder for policymakers to ignore. This shift also reflects the aspirations of a generation that is more informed, connected, and vocal than ever before. Today's youth have instant access to information and are quick to respond to issues that affect their future. They are less willing to remain passive observers and more inclined to demand transparency and responsiveness from institutions. Their activism is often decentralized, leaderless, and driven by shared concerns rather than traditional political affiliations. At the same time, the growth of digital activism brings challenges. Social media can spread misinformation as quickly as it spreads awareness. Emotional narratives can sometimes overshadow facts, and online mobilization may occasionally encourage polarization rather than constructive dialogue. For youth movements to remain effective and credible, they must be grounded in accurate information, peaceful methods, and a commitment to democratic values. The emergence of youth-led civic movements is ultimately a positive sign for Indian democracy. A society in which young citizens actively participate in public affairs is healthier than one marked by apathy and disengagement. The challenge for governments and institutions is not to dismiss these voices, but to listen, engage, and respond meaningfully.

KTR Confident of BRS Return



Kuala Lumpur: Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) working president K. T. Rama Rao has expressed confidence that the party will return to power in Telangana in 2028, stating that former Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao will once again lead the state. Addressing Telangana Formation Day celebrations organised by the Malaysia Telugu Association and the BRS NRI Malaysia Chapter in Kuala Lumpur, KTR said the BRS remains the only

political party with a long-term vision for Telangana's development. He asserted that the party has already prepared a roadmap for the state's growth over the next 25 years. Launching a sharp attack on the ruling Congress government, KTR accused its leaders of attempting to tarnish Telangana's development story through misinformation and political propaganda. He claimed that some leaders lacked a proper understanding of the state's history,

economic progress, water resources and development achievements, yet continued to make misleading statements about Telangana. The BRS leader said public sentiment was gradually shifting in favour of his party and maintained that Telangana witnessed unprecedented growth during the decade-long rule of KCR. He argued that the state emerged as a national model in sectors such as agriculture, irrigation, industrialisation, per capita income and overall economic growth. Drawing comparisons with rapidly developing nations such as Malaysia, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan and Vietnam, KTR said Telangana's transformation within a short period was remarkable. According to him, KCR succeeded in turning a drought-prone and migration-affected region into one of India's fastest-growing states. Highlighting the party's future plans, KTR said the next phase of Telangana's development would focus on ensuring safe drinking water, strengthening public transport systems, expanding modern infra-

structure and leveraging emerging technologies such as Artificial Intelligence to boost economic growth and employment opportunities. He also emphasised the role of Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) in shaping Telangana's future, urging overseas Telugu communities to contribute through investments, innovation and knowledge-sharing. He said the global Telangana diaspora could play a crucial role in accelerating the state's progress while maintaining strong cultural and emotional ties with their homeland. KTR further praised Telangana NRIs for preserving the state's culture, traditions and identity abroad. He stressed that every Telangana child should take pride in the state's unique history, cultural heritage and the sacrifices made during the Telangana movement. Reiterating his confidence in the party's future, KTR said BRS remains committed to building a stronger and more prosperous Telangana under KCR's leadership and expressed optimism about the party's return to power in the next Assembly elections.

Revanth Targets Centre

Hyderabad, June 6: Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has announced that the proposed International Integrated Fruit Market at Koheda will be completed within the next two years, describing it as a landmark project that will redefine agricultural marketing in the state. The market is being developed over nearly 240 acres with an estimated investment of more than ₹3,300 crore. The government believes the world-class facility will provide farmers with better market-

ing opportunities, modern storage infrastructure, grading and packaging units, and improved access to domestic and international markets. The project is expected to reduce post-harvest losses, strengthen supply chains, and help farmers secure better returns for their produce. The integrated market will feature advanced logistics facilities, cold storage units, export infrastructure, and dedicated sections for fruits, flowers, dry fruits, dairy products, frozen foods, fish, and meat products. Addi-

tional amenities such as rest houses, healthcare facilities, police and fire stations are also planned within the market complex. According to official estimates, the market's annual fruit handling capacity is expected to increase nearly threefold after completion. The project is also projected to generate thousands of direct and indirect employment opportunities while boosting Telangana's rural economy and agricultural exports. Speaking at the foundation stone ceremony, the Chief



Minister said the Koheda market would emerge as a national model for agricultural trade and play a crucial role in strengthening Telangana's position as a leading agricultural state.

TDP Names RS Nominees



Amaravati: The Telugu Desam Party (TDP) on Saturday announced its three candidates for the upcoming Rajya Sabha elections scheduled for June 18, finalising its nominees after consultations within the party leadership. TDP chief and Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu released the list, naming industrialist Sana Satish, noted educationist and Bhashyam Educational Institutions chairman Bhashyam Ramakrishna, and TDP Social Media wing chief Chintakayala Vijay as the party's candidates. The announcement was made through an official statement issued from the party's headquarters in Mangalagiri. Party leaders

said the selections reflect a mix of business, education and organisational experience. Four Rajya Sabha seats from Andhra Pradesh are set to fall vacant this month. Under the alliance arrangement between the ruling NDA partners in the state, one seat has been allocated to the Jana Sena Party. The Jana Sena Party, led by Andhra Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan, has nominated Lingamaneni Ramesh as its candidate for the Upper House. With the ruling alliance enjoying a comfortable majority in the Andhra Pradesh Assembly, all four candidates are expected to secure victory in the Rajya Sabha elections without difficulty.

Midnight Hotel Raids

Hyderabad, June 6: Hyderabad Police conducted a massive city-wide security drive under "Operation Kavach", carrying out midnight inspections at 562 hotels and lodges across the city to strengthen internal security and prevent anti-social and criminal activities. Nearly 5,000 police personnel participated in the coordinated operation, which was conducted between 11 p.m. and 1 a.m. across all seven zones of the Hyderabad Commissionerate. The drive was supervised by Hyderabad Police Commissioner V. C. Sajjanar, who personally inspected several hotels and lodges in Nampally and Ameerpet. During the operation, police teams scrutinised guest registers, room allotment records and identity verification procedures. Officers also interacted with guests to confirm their details and understand the purpose of their stay in the city. Khairatabad zone recorded the highest number of inspections with 119 establishments, followed by Shamshabad with 92. Jubilee Hills and Golconda zones accounted for 86 inspections each, while Secunderabad, Rajendranagar and Charminar covered 82, 53 and 44 locations respectively. Police officials focused on ensuring compliance with security regulations and verifying

whether hotel managements were maintaining proper records of guests. Commissioner Sajjanar directed hotel and lodge operators to strictly verify original identity documents and accurately record guest information, including contact details and check-in and check-out timings. He warned establishments against providing accommodation based on incomplete or false information and stressed that minors should not be allowed to stay without proper age verification. As part of efforts to improve surveillance and monitoring, the Commissioner announced plans to introduce a Digital Visitor Management System. He also instructed hotels and lodges to install high-definition CCTV cameras covering entry points, exits and reception areas. Police urged citizens and hotel staff to immediately report suspicious activities through Dial 100 or nearby police stations. Officials said strict action would be taken against establishments found violating security norms. Several senior IPS officers, Deputy Commissioners of Police, Assistant Commissioners and specialised police units took part in the large-scale operation, which is aimed at enhancing public safety and maintaining vigilance across Hyderabad.