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Better regulatory oversight, ease of compliance via reforms: FM

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Tuesday said the insurance reforms brought in through a bill in Parliament will grant greater access to insurance for the people, have better regulatory oversight and ensure ease of compliance.

Sir CV Raman National Olympiad Talent exam held Suchirindia conducted the prestigious Sir CV Raman National Olympiad Talent Exam for students from Classes 1 to 10. The

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#### Re hits fresh record low of Rs 91.14 against dollar

MUMBAI: The rupee slumped to a fresh record low of 91.14 against the US dollar on Tuesday, after weakening by 36 paise in afternoon trade. Pressured by sustained foreign institutional investor outflows and lingering uncertainty over a potential India-US trade deal, this marked the fourth consecutive session in which the rupee has touched a new all-time low. The currency has now depreciated about 1% over the past five trading sessions alone. In afternoon dealings, the rupee was quoted at 91.14 per dollar, extending its losses from the previous close amid continued pressure from global and domestic factors. Full report: Page 9

#### **FOG-LINKED ACCIDENTS**

#### 25 killed in road crashes across UP



LUCKNOW: At least 25 people were killed and 59 injured in a series of fog-linked road accidents across Uttar Pradesh, with the worst tragedy unfolding on the Yamuna Expressway in Mathura, where a multi-vehicle pileup turned into an inferno, police said on Tuesday. The maximum number of 13 fatalities was reported from Mathura, while four people each were killed in Basti and Unnao and two each in Meerut and Barabanki. According to officials, all the incidents were linked to poor visibility. The Mathura accident occurred around 4:30 am on the Agra-to-Noida carriageway within the Baldev police station limits. Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP) Shlok Kumar said eight buses and three smaller vehicles were involved in the pile-



#### 58 lakh names deleted in **West Bengal** draft SIR

REPORT: P5



Ours is a democratic party, and he is a powerful president. No, not elected, but selected by the supreme leader

## CM seeks IIM for TG

#### In meet with Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan in Delhi

Hans News Service Hyderabad

CHIEF Minister A Revanth Reddy on Tuesday urged Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan to sanction an Indian Institute of Management (IIM) for Hyderabad and also set up Kendriya Vidyalayas and Navodaya schools in identified areas in the state.

The Chief Minister met with Dharmendra Pradhan at the Union Minister's chambers in the Parliament house on Tuesday. The CM brought to the attention of the Union Minister that Hyderabad city was growing fast in technology, life sciences, aerospace, defense, logistics, and advanced manufacturing sectors and there was an urgent need to establish an IIM in the city.

Revanth Reddy also informed Pradhan that 200 acres of land required for the establishment of the IIM had already been identified at the University of Hyderabad campus. A facility of transit campus is also ready to immediately commence IIM classes. The government will grant necessary permissions for the establishment of the IIM and provide the required facilities. Continued on Page 5

Hans News Service

Hyderabad

SAJID Akram, one of the

two terrorists who killed 15

people in a gruesome mass

shooting at Bondi Beach in

Sydney, Australia, recently,

hailed from Hyderabad, the

(DGP) B Shivadhar Reddy

said in a statement that the

attackers were identified as

Sajid Akram (50) and his

Director General of Police

Telangana police said on

Tuesday.



Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy with Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan in New Delhi on Tuesday

#### **Sonia lauds Revanth's** efforts to develop TG

Hans News Service HYDERABAD: Former president of the Congress party Sonia Gandhi appreciated the performance of the party government in Telangana and Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's foresight in the state's development. Continued on Page 5

#### CM urges Sitharaman to exempt FRBM limit on borrowings for education sector

NEW DELHI: Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy on Tuesday appealed to the Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman to exempt borrowings raised through the SPC (Special Purpose Center), which is being established to construct over 100 Young India Integrated Residential Schools (YIIRS), from the e FRBM (Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management) limit. The

>> SAJID AKRAM

YEARS AGO

**HE WAS SHOT** 

**DURING THE** 

son Naveed Akram (24).

**BEACH ATTACK** 

Further investigation in this

regard is being carried out

by Australian investigators

**DEAD BY OZ POLICE** 

**MIGRATED TO** 

**AUSTRALIA 27** 

>> Rs 21K cr required to develop Young **India Integrated Schools** 

>> Union Finance Minister praises Revanth's YIIRS initiative

Chief Minister urged the Union Minister to consider the expenditure incurred on

Sydney attacker had Hyd roots: TG police



CM with Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman

development of the education sector as an investment in human resource development. Continued on Page 5

the Australian police during

the attack. The assailants

targeted Jewish people dur-

ing Hanukkah celebrations

The DGP said that Sajid

Akram is originally from

oléted his B Com degree

Hyderabad and migrated

Hyderabad. He com-

at the beach.



#### **Trump sues** BBC for \$10bn **Accuses it of defamation**

over Jan 6 edited speech WASHINGTON: President Donald Trump filed a lawsuit pm Monday seeking USD 10 billion in damages from the

BBC, accusing the British broadcaster of defamation as well as deceptive and unfair trade practices. The 33-page lawsuit accus-

es the BBC of broadcasting a "false, defamatory, deceptive, disparaging, inflammatory, and malicious depiction of President Trump," calling it "a brazen attempt to interfere in and influence" the 2024 US presidential election.

It accused the BBC of "splicing together two entirely separate parts of President Trump's speech on January 6, 2021" in order to "intentionally misrepresent the meaning of what President Trump said." The lawsuit, filed in a Florida court, seeks USD 5 billion in damages for defamation and USD 5 billion for unfair trade practices. The BBC did not immediately respond to a request for comment from The Associated Press. The broadcaster apologised last month to Trump over the edit of the Jan. 6 speech. Continued on Page 5

before settling permanently

They have one son,

Naveed (one of the two at-

tackers) and one daughter.

passport as on date and his

son Naveed and daughter

were born in Australia and

are Australian citizens.

Akram carries an Indian

in Australia.

## G RAM G Bill introduced in LS amid Oppn uproar

 DMK ACCUSES NDA GOVT OF RIDICULING 'FATHER OF THE NATION'

 MAHATMA GANDHI IS FROM **EVERY FAMILY IN COUNTRY: PRIYANKA** 

New Delhi

A Bill that seeks to guarantee rural jobs for 125 days every year and replace the 20-year-old MNREGA was introduced in the Lok Sabha on Tuesday amid strong objections by the Opposition to the "removal" of Mahatma Gandhi's name from it.

Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan, while introducing the Viksit Bharat Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) (VB-G RAM G) Bill, 2025, said the government not only believes in Mahatma Gandhi but also follows his princi-



ples. "The (Narendra) Modi govt has done more for rural development than previous governments," he said. **Continued on Page 5** 

A 'north-south divide' over Hindi



Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, Samajwadi Party MF Akhilesh Yadav, DMK MP TR Baalu and other Opposition MPs stage a protest near the statue of Mahatma Gandhi against the G RAM G Bill in New Delhi on Tuesday

#### **Cong plans** countrywide protest today

NEW DELHI: The Congress will hold protests across the country on Wednesday against the Centre's rural employment bill VB-G RAM G that seeks to replace MGN-REGA, claiming it was a "BJP-RSS conspiracy" to dismantle a rights-based welfare scheme and attack Mahatma Gandhi's legacy, workers' rights and federal responsibility. Continued on Page 5



## Modi's Jordan visit strengthens bilateral ties, 5 MoUs signed

between Petra and Ellora.



by Jordan's Crown Prince Al Hussein bin Abdullah II to the Jordan Museum in Amman

further deepen bilateral engagement in the fields of trade and investment; defense and security; renewable energy. **Continued on Page 5** 

**MODI ARRIVES** 

who described the attack as

the Islamic State group. Sajid

a terrorist act inspired by

Akram was shot dead by

Minister Narendra Modi arrived in Ethiopia on of his three-nation tour, Prime Minister Dr Abiy Ahmed Ali received PM Modi at the Addis Ababa International Airport.





### Amman/New Delhi PRIME Minister Narendra

Modi's visit to Jordan has paved the way for deepening bilateral ties between India and the West Asian country with the signing of five MoUs in the areas of renewable energy, water resource management, cultural exchange, digital solution and twinning

PM Modi held extensive discussions with King Abdullah II of Jordan on ways to



#### IN ETHIOPIA ADDIS ABABA: Prime

Tuesday on the second leg aimed at strengthening ties between the two countries.

# IPL AUCTION Uncapped players strike gold!

CSK splurge Rs 14.2cr each on Prashant & Kartik **KOLKATA Knight Riders** Kashmir pacer Auqib Nabi (KKR) splurged a recordbreaking Rs 25.20 crore to land top Australian all-rounder Cameron Green and Rs 18 crore to acquire the services of Sri Lankan pacer Matheesha Pathirana in the Indian Premier League players' auction here on Tuesday. Uncapped Indian players

were also a big hit with Uttar Pradesh's 20-year-old left-arm spinner Prashant Veer going to Chennai Super Kings for Rs 14.20 crore. He became the highest paid uncapped player in the history of IPL auction after coming in at a base price of Rs 30 lakh. Jammu and

Dar also attracted a hefty sum of Rs 8.40 crore from Delhi Capitals to be among the top gainers in the mini auction. Dar's base price was also Rs 30 lakh. Indian stars Prithvi Shaw and Sarfaraz Khan, however, went unsold in the auction despite their good run of form with the bat.

Green surpassed compa triot Mitchell Starc (Rs 24.75 crore) to become the most expensive overseas player at an IPL auction. This was after Kolkata Knight Riders and Chennai Super Kings were involved in an intense bidding

war for him before the latter emerged winner.

KKR also went after Venkatesh Iyer before pulling out of the race against Royal Challengers Bengaluru, who

got the India all-rounder for Rs 7 crore. The three-time champions then entered the fray to buy Pathirana after Delhi Capitals and Lucknow Super Giants withdrew following an intense bidding war between the two franchises. Entering the auction at a base price of Rs 2 crore,

Pathirana became the most expensive Sri Lankan sold in an IPL auction. As far as Green is concerned, his salary for the season would still be Rs 18 crore (USD 1.9 million) as the rest of the amount will go towards the BCCI's player development programme as per the rules of the auction for foreign players.

Pathirana will get the full amount as it falls within the salary cap. Green, who previously turned up for

Mumbai Indians and Royal Challengers Bengaluru, has so far played 29 matches in the IPL to aggregate 707 runs and take 16 wickets. Shaw, however, went unsold despite his fine run of form in the domestic circuit lately, and so was the case with Sarfaraz, who smashed a 22-ball 73 in a Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy match for Mumbai on Tuesday. Big-hitting South African batter David Miller was bought by Delhi Capitals for his base price of Rs 2 crore, but New Zealand swashbuckler Devon Conway, whose base price was also Rs 2 crore, went unsold in the auction. **Continued on Page 5** 

## INDIA@DAVOS **Four Union**

Revanth, Naidu

to attend WEF

NEW DELHI: India is

annual meet

ministers,

set for a power-packed presence at the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Swiss ski resort town of Davos next month with four Union ministers, including Ashwini Vaishnaw and Shivraj Singh Chouhan, set to join five CMs and over 100 CEOs from the country. Minister for Civil Aviation K Ram Mohan Naidu and Minister for New & Renewable Energy, Consumer Affairs, and Food & Public Distribution Pralhad Joshi will also be part of the Indian delegation at the 5-day annual meeting from January 18. The Chief Ministers include Devendra Fadnavis of Maharashtra. N Chandrababu Naidu of Andhra Pradesh, Assam's Himanta Biswa Sarma. Madhya Pradesh's Mohan Yadav and Telangana's A Revanth Reddy. While Reddy is from Congress and Naidu is from Telugu Desam Party (an ally of BJP), the other three CMs are from BJP. Among the Union ministers, Ram Mohan Naidu is from TDP while other four are from BJP.