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NO TEXTBOOKS YET CBSE asks schools to start teaching 3rd language in 7 days

NEW DELHI: The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has made the introduction of a third language (R3) in Class 6 mandatory from the 2026-27 academic session, directing all affiliated schools to comply within seven days, according to an official circular issued on Thursday. Calling the move "urgent and mandatory", the board said all schools must begin implementation immediately, even if textbooks are not yet available. "It has been learnt that many schools have already initiated the implementation of R3... All remaining schools are hereby directed to ensure compliance within 7 days from the date of issuance of this circular," the CBSE said in its notice. Schools have also been asked to start teaching the third language right away, using locally available material until official textbooks are released.

Air India flight makes 'pan pan' call after engine stalls mid-air

MUMBAI: An Air India aircraft makes a 'pan pan' alert while enroute Bengaluru on Thursday. The incident took place on flight AI 2812, an A320 Neo aircraft. The flight, originally to take off at 2.05am, took off at around 2.15am. The aircraft returned to the Mumbai airport at around 2.35am. According to officials the passengers reported soaked during takeoff. One of the officials said, "According to the official information available, there was a sound heard and sparks seen while takeoff. The pilot declared 'pan pan' and returned to the airport a few minutes after takeoff." "It was later known that its engine 2 had stalled," the official added.

Will Amaravati dent Hyderabad realty?

Telangana's Registration & Stamps Dept starts studying Amaravati's impact on TG realty, including Hyd

- ▶ Revenue from TG property registrations fell to Rs 14, 214 cr in FY25 from Rs 14,588 cr in FY24
- ▶ Hyd realty in slow lane for last 3 years due to various reasons
- ▶ TG officials fear AP's boost to Amaravati may adversely affect

HANS NEWS SERVICE HYDERABAD

ANDHRA Pradesh's Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and his son and IT & HRD Minister N Lokesh have gone on record a couple of times that AP's Amaravati, capital city in the making, will outclass Hyderabad in due course. People who have seen Hyderabad's IT boom under the watch of Naidu as undivided AP's Chief Minister, will not look askance at those statements. Leave alone the arena for competitive growth in IT and other sec-



tors; Amaravati has already gained traction enough to dent Hyderabad's real estate sector, going by the hard talk in certain informed quarters. But will Amaravati really affect the trajectory of the Telangana realty? The

Telangana government too, concerned over this aspect, is studying the ramifications of AP's new Greenfield capital city, which is being developed at a cost of over Rs 70,000 crore, on Telangana's land prices, construction activity,

and investments in realty in the new financial year. The Telangana Registration & Stamps Department has begun analysing the data relating to registration of properties following the recent announcement of

Amaravati as the sole capital of AP. For, already, revenue from registrations in TG decreased to Rs 14, 214 crore in the financial year 2024-2025. It was Rs 14,588 crore in FY24. Although the state government expected huge revenue from property registrations in the 2025-2026 financial year; it remained low in the last financial year too. Given this trend, attributed to Amaravati factor, government officials have started raising doubts over the feasibility of achieving the target relating to revenue

from property registration in the new financial year i.e. FY27. The officials said that the government set a target of Rs 19,540 crore, which is Rs 3,000 crore higher than that of last year. A major challenge for the state government is that some real estate developers in Hyderabad are said to be shifting their focus to Amaravati. Some of these developers have already held meetings with officials in Amaravati to gauge the potential of real estate growth in the new capital in the coming years. **Continued on Page 7**

Curbs on social media access for children Lokesh asks officials to prepare guidelines

HANS NEWS SERVICE AMARAVATI

MINISTER for IT and HRD Nara Lokesh, has initiated steps to curb social media exposure among children below 13 years, directing officials to frame guidelines and prepare a draft legislation for the same.

At a meeting held at his Undavalli residence with ministers, officials, and representatives from major social media platforms on Thursday, Lokesh emphasized the need to protect children from the adverse

- ▶ Age Tokens' via DigiLocker under consideration



impact of digital platforms. He instructed that age-appropriate content guidelines be developed for children aged 13 to 16, ensuring a safer online environment.

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Land resurvey 2.0 will be over by March 2027: CM

HANS NEWS SERVICE GUNTUR

CHIEF Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu has declared that the accelerated Land Resurvey 2.0 programme will be completed by March 2027, with the distribution of 1.12 crore pattadar passbooks to farmers across the state.

Addressing a public meeting after participating in the "Mee Bhoomi - Mee Hakku" passbook distribution programme at Surepalli village in the Vemuru Assembly constituency of Bapatla district, he said that the resurvey has



Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu participating in the "Mee Bhoomi - Mee Hakku" passbook distribution programme at Surepalli village in Bapatla district on Thursday

already been completed in 6,976 out of 16,816 villages, and 21.23 lakh passbooks have been distributed so far. The Chief Minister said that advanced security features such

as e-KYC, Aadhaar linkage, blockchain technology, QR codes, and digital locking systems are being incorporated to prevent tampering of land records. **Continued on Page 7**

'REGIME CHANGE' VS 'BJP BUYING VOTES' Modi, Mamata trade barbs at election rallies in Bengal

KOLKATA

PRIME Minister Narendra Modi and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee traded barbs at separate poll rallies on Thursday ahead of the upcoming Assembly elections.

While PM accused the ruling Trinamool Congress (TMC) of 'cruelty', Banerjee alleged that the Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) deleted names of more than 90 lakh people from the state's voter lists.

At an election rally in Asansol, Modi said that a re-



gime change in West Bengal was inevitable, as the TMC's "repository of sins" has become full. "A regime change in Bengal is now cast in stone and sought by the people of Bengal. TMC's repository of sins is now full. Asansol is being ruled by syndicate raj, coal and sand mafia," the prime minister said.

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US-Iran truce strains amid Lebanon strikes

TEHRAN

A two-week ceasefire between the United States and Iran is teetering on the brink of collapse just days after its announcement, as escalating Israeli military operations in Lebanon expose a critical loophole in the agreement.

While the truce was intended to pause a month of regional hostilities, both Washington and Jerusalem have explicitly confirmed that the deal excludes operations against Hezbollah in Lebanon, creating a diplomatic and military flashpoint that threatens to reignite the broader conflict.

The exclusion of the Lebanese front has drawn sharp condemnation from Iranian officials and international observers.

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US READY FOR NEXT CONQUEST: TRUMP

- ▶ 'Hormuz must be open and safe, else shooting starts'
- ▶ Asks military to remain near Iran until 'real agreement'

WASHINGTON: President Donald Trump said on Wednesday that US military forces will remain deployed in and around Iran until Tehran fully complies with the "real agreement," warning that any breach would trigger a military response larger than anything seen before.

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Heavy turnout marks high-stakes voting day in Assam, Kerala and Puducherry

NEW DELHI: A surge in voter enthusiasm marked the high-stakes Assembly elections on Thursday, with turnout figures by 3 pm touching a striking 85.21% in Assam, 78.71% in Kerala and 79.40% in Puducherry.

Over 5.3 crore electors turned out in large numbers, reflecting robust participation as they cast their votes to shape the political future of the two states and the union Territory.

Polling commenced at 7 am and is set to continue until evening across 140 constituencies in Kerala, 126 in Assam and 30 in Puducherry.

Officials said elaborate arrangements, including heightened security deployment, extensive webcasting and drone surveillance in sensitive areas, were put in place to ensure free and fair elections.

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WORLD QUANTUM DAY IN AMARAVATI

Indigenous Quantum facility launch on April 14

HANS NEWS SERVICE AMARAVATI

MARKING World Quantum Day on April 14, Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu will formally launch the nation's first indigenous Quantum Computers testing facility at SRM University in Amaravati and simultaneously launch virtually the Quantum facility centre at Medha towers in Gannavaram near Vijayawada.

With this, Andhra Pradesh is going to emerge as the first state in the country to commission indigenous Quantum computers testing facility, sharpening the broader vision to make Amaravati Quantum Valley the hub of International Quantum Computers. The Chief Minister will witness a live quantum system initiation with the cooling process of the



processor on the Amaravati IQ system being triggered virtually as the system is housed at Medha towers. At the same time, Amaravati IS system will function as an open access set up fully visible to all attendees during the demonstration. With the setting up of the Amaravati Quantum Reference Facility (AQR), India has now

opened sovereign quantum infrastructure. Amaravati becomes the anchor node of a national quantum hardware network positioning India to design, test, certify, and manufacture quantum systems for the world. Part of the state government's flagship programme Quantum Technology Hub, under the National Quantum Mission, Amaravati Quantum Valley will be hosting an IBM 133-qubit Quantum computer and has engaged 80 plus industry and academic partnerships, positioning it to be among the top five global quantum hubs. The launch of AQR on World Quantum Day adds an indigenous hardware dimension to Amaravati Quantum Valley's portfolio, complementing its existing quantum cloud, skilling, and innovation infrastructure.

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