

# 24-hour police surveillance at rly stations to nab interstate thieves

Special police teams are deployed at Warangal and Kazipet railway stations

HANUMAKONDA: In view of the recent increase in house burglaries and chain-snatching incidents in the Warangal Police Commissionerate limits, the police have intensified surveillance to curb interstate criminal activities.

Investigations revealed that criminals, particularly from North Indian states, were reaching Warangal and Kazipet through railway routes, committing thefts, and later escaping back to their native places using the same transport network.

Taking serious note of these crimes, Warangal Police Commissioner Sunpreet Singh has implemented a special action plan to crack down on interstate thieves. As part of this initiative, four special police teams have been



formed under the supervision of Crimes Additional DCP Balaswamy and CCS ACP Sadayya.

Two teams each have been deployed at Warangal and Kazipet railway stations in coordination with the Government Railway Police (GRP)

and Railway Protection Force (RPF). The teams are closely monitoring passengers arriving through various railway routes, especially from North Indian states, and identifying suspicious individuals.

Police personnel are thoroughly checking the luggage

and belongings of suspected passengers and collecting their personal details. Their fingerprints and facial images are then verified using face recognition technology and integrated with criminal databases available with the police department.

If any individual is found to have a previous criminal background, the technical devices used by the police instantly generate the suspect's details, enabling officers to immediately detain and shift them to the concerned police station for further inquiry.

At the same time, records of all suspicious individuals being checked are being systematically documented for future reference. Each special team consists of four members working in shifts round the clock at the railway stations.

By using advanced technology and continuous surveillance, Warangal Commissionerate Police are making strong efforts to prevent interstate thieves from operating in the region.

# MLA Gandra inspects crops gutted in fire accidents

Urges govt to provide immediate assistance to the affected farmers



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BHUBALPALLY

MLA Gandra Satyanarayana Rao inspected crop fields that were recently burnt in fire accidents in several villages of the Bhupalpalli constituency.

He met the affected farmers and asked for details about the losses. In Chityal mandal, Ramachandrapuram village resident Siripura Kumaraswamy's banana plantation

was burnt due to an electrical short circuit. In Challagari village, Chada Sammireddy's palm oil grove was damaged, and in Chityal village Balaveni Venu's chilli crop was lost in a fire. In Tekumatla mandal, Ankushapuram village resident Chittireddy Ramanareddy's palm oil grove was also gutted in the fire.

The MLA said that, regarding crops burnt by electrical short circuits, electricity

department officials should conduct a full assessment of the damage and ensure that farmers receive appropriate compensation.

He also urged the government to provide immediate assistance to the farmers affected by the fires. Noting the severe losses suffered by the farmers, he asked officials to respond quickly and stand by the affected families.



# Public participation must for welfare progs' success: Goutha

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NALGONDA

LEGISLATIVE Council chairman Goutha Sukender Reddy emphasised the importance of public participation in the implementation of government welfare programmes.

Addressing a district-level meeting near Nalgonda on Friday, he said that the government is implementing several welfare schemes, including Rythu Bharosa, and the Six Guarantees, for the benefit of all sections of society. He stressed the need to solve issues in agriculture, education, irrigation, and healthcare sectors. Farmers were advised to adopt crop diversification based on climate and seasonal conditions and focus on increasing livestock resources.

Highlighting educational reforms, he said the government has established Young India Integrated Residential Schools and Model Schools while providing uniforms and mid-day meals to students. Breakfast facilities will also be introduced from the next academic year.

He stated that sanitation measures, including wet and dry waste management, are being implemented in villages. He directed officials to complete paddy procurement in the district by June 2.

Earlier, District Collector B Chandrasekhar explained the activities conducted and achievements made under the

Praja Palana-Pragati Pranalika programme, which began on March 6, through a presentation. District SP Sharath Chandra Power explained the measures taken under the Alive, Arrive, and road safety programmes.

District officials from various departments also gave Power-Point presentations regarding their departmental activities.

Meanwhile, in Suryapet, District Collector Tejas Nandalal Pawar called upon field-level officials to work with coordinated planning to ensure the district's overall development and effective implementation of welfare schemes.

The Collector instructed officials to ensure welfare schemes reach every eligible beneficiary and assured that mandal and district officials would support people until their problems are resolved. He stressed the importance of constructing buildings for women's self-help groups and said proposals submitted through MPDOs would receive immediate funding. He revealed that proposals for over 370 buildings were received, with groundwork completed for 200. He also announced the distribution of 342 special assistive devices for 50 children with special needs through ALIMCO. The SP urged strict action against drug abuse, cybercrime, and road accidents while strengthening women and child safety measures through Bharosa Centres and She Teams.

# MLA inspects Devadula phase-1 works

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HANUMAKONDA

JANGAON MLA Palla Rajeshwar Reddy stated that the Tarigoppula Lift Irrigation works being taken up under the Devadula project are progressing rapidly with the objective of transforming upland areas in the Jangaon constituency into fertile agricultural zones.

He said the projects were conceptualised during the tenure of former Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao with the aim of providing permanent irrigation facilities to farmers.

On Friday, the MLA inspected the ongoing Devadula Lift Irrigation Phase-1 works at the Gandhiramaram pump house in Tarigoppula mandal. Later, he held a review meeting with engineers and officials to assess the progress of the works and directed them to speed up the project to ensure early supply of irrigation water to farmers.

Speaking on the occasion, Palla Rajeshwar Reddy said that the then BRS government had sanctioned three lift irrigation schemes worth Rs 110 crore to permanently address irrigation problems in Tarigoppula, Chilpur, Dharmasa-



gar, and Velair mandals. He stated that during his tenure as MLC, he had succeeded in securing funds for the project

with the support of then Chief Minister KCR.

The MLA said that three mini lift irrigation schemes

were designed based on the Devadula pipeline to provide irrigation facilities to thousands of acres of farmland. He recalled that the foundation stone for the project was laid on February 27, 2023, by then minister K. T. Rama Rao.

He explained that the Lift-1 irrigation scheme, being implemented with Rs. 63.80 crore based on the Gandhiramaram reservoir, would provide irrigation water to villages including Tarigoppula, Abdul Nagaram, Narsapur, Ankushapur, Solipuram, Potharam, Bothgatturu Nagaram, Bhojya Thanda, Jalwai Thanda, and Manisingh

Thanda. In the first phase, irrigation water would be supplied to 4,000 acres, while another 10,000 acres would benefit in the future.

The MLA said approach canal works up to the pump house were currently underway and engineers had informed him that the entire project could be completed within the next two months. He stated that Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy had assured that water supply would begin by the end of June, and he had instructed officials and contractors to ensure irrigation water reaches upland areas by July 15.

# SC questions quota benefits for BC creamy layer

Continued from P1

Earlier in January 2025, the top court in a separate case had refused to entertain a plea seeking the exclusion of children of Indian Administrative Service (IAS) and Indian Police Service (IPS) officers from Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) reservation

benefits in Madhya Pradesh. It said the reference to the exclusion of the creamy layer from SC and ST quotas in a seven-judge Constitution bench's August 2024 ruling in the State of Punjab versus the Davinder Singh case was only a view and the legislature has to decide in this regard.

# Major schemes likely to be launched on TG Formation Day

Continued from P1

The state government is keen on launching the scheme on June 2. In the wake of the opposition Bharat Rashtra Samithi party's strong criticism on the slow pace of paddy procurement, the Chief Minister and Ministers will review the status of the procurement and take some corrective measures. The situation with regard to maize procurement would also be reviewed at the Cabinet meeting. The construction of irrigation projects, integrated residential educational institutions as well as road development projects would also be reviewed.

# Beer guzzlers add more fizz to booze biz in state

Continued from P1

More importantly, the breweries have been assured that their long-pending bills would be cleared in view of increasing revenue from beer sales in the summer. "A win-win situation has emerged between the government and the breweries with focus on meeting the consumer demand in the peak summer," an official said. Taking into consideration the challenges faced in 2024 and 2025, the excise department has made fool-proof arrangements for regular supply of beer to the licensed liquor shops across the state.

In a rare instance, shortage of some popular brands of beer witnessed in

some areas in the evening hours has been attributed to "sudden increase in beer demand". The officials said that whisky and brandy sales dipped a little bit due to the shift made by tippers to beer in the hot season.

Youth are also consuming beer in place of other drinks while hanging out with their friends in the city's watering holes.

Noticeably, sales of draught beer in the microbreweries and pubs have also increased significantly, particularly during weekends.

All told, officials want to make the most on the revenue front, as only two weeks are left for beer demand to remain high.

# Centre will make NEET re-test 100 pc error-free, says Pradhan

Continued from P1

"Twenty-two lakh children have gone through immense mental anguish. Understanding that anguish and taking responsibility, I am saying this today, we had to take some tough decisions," he said.

The National Eligibility-Cum-Entrance Test (Undergraduate) for admissions in medical courses held on May 3 was cancelled by the National Testing Agency (NTA) recently amid allegations of paper leak. The matter is being probed by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and a re-test is scheduled to be held on June 21. Pradhan said the government decided to cancel the examination after finding that "some assessments had been compromised." "We did not want even a single student to be deprived of

their rightful seat because of the conspiracy of those involved in irregularities in the education system and the examination mafia," he said. The minister acknowledged the criticism over the handling of the issue but said the government is prepared to face the challenge. "We are facing criticism and challenges, and I accept that. But it is our responsibility to set the system right. It is not our duty to shut our eyes and turn away from the problem," he said.

The education minister further said the government is committed to ensuring a smoother conduct of the re-examination scheduled on June 21. "For the examination scheduled on June 21, it is our responsibility to ensure that it is 100 per cent error-free," he said.

# EC announces polls for 26 RS seats on June 18

Continued from P1

Besides, one seat each in Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu will also go to the polls on June 18.

The last date for filing of nominations is June 8, according to the EC. In a separate notification, the EC also announced by-elections to fill the vacancies created by the NCP's Sunetra Pawar in Maharashtra and the AIADMK's C Ve Shanmugam in Tamil Nadu following their resignations after they were elected to the state assemblies. While the NDA is set to bag Pawar's seat, going by its strength in the state assembly, the TVK is likely to get the lone Rajya Sabha seat from Tamil Nadu going for a bypoll.

The tenure of Pawar's seat will be till July 4, 2028 while that for the Tamil Nadu seat will be till

June 29, 2028. In Andhra Pradesh, the TDP will win all the four states for the Council of States and the BJP will bag all four seats in Gujarat.

In Jharkhand, the JMM-Congress alliance is likely to win both the seats, but the BJP which has 21 seats of its own may try to bag one seat with the help of cross-voting by four opposition members. In Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan, the Congress will get one seat each while the BJP will win two seats in each of the states, going by their current numbers.

In Karnataka, the Congress will win three seats and the BJP will get only one seat. Among those who are retiring from the Rajya Sabha are Gowda, Congress president Kharge (both from Karnataka), Union ministers Ravneet Singh

(Rajasthan) and George Kurian (Madhya Pradesh), former chief minister Digvijay Singh, and Congress leader Shaktisinh Gohil. Besides Ravneet Singh, the members whose tenure is ending in Rajasthan are Neeraj Dangi of the Congress and Rajendra Gehlot of the BJP. Rajasthan has a total of 10 Rajya Sabha seats.

The BJP and the Congress currently have five members each. Given the present strength of parties in the 200-member Rajasthan Assembly, the BJP is expected to win two of the three seats, while the Congress is likely to secure one. The BJP has 118 MLAs in the Assembly, while the Congress has 67 members. The BSP has two MLAs, the Bharat Adivasi Party four, the Rashtriya Lok Dal one, and Independents eight.

# CJP swings into action, demands Pradhan's scalp

Continued from P1

CJP founder Abhijeet Dipke urged followers to support an online petition demanding Pradhan's resignation. "How are you cockroaches? Everyone is saying you are doing great on the internet, but I think now it is time to do some real work. Today, we are starting a petition demanding the resignation of the education minister," Dipke said in a video message.

# India, Cyprus boost ties to a strategic partnership

Continued from P1

The two leaders also deliberated on the West Asia crisis as well as the Ukraine conflict, with PM Modi saying New Delhi supports all efforts for an early end to the hostilities. "Over the past decade, investment from Cyprus to India has nearly doubled. Trust between the two countries has increased, and with the India-European Union Free Trade Agreement, numerous new possibilities have emerged," Modi said in his media statement. Taking advantage of this, we are targeting to double this investment again in the next five years, he said. "And to realise this resolve,

today we are elevating our trusted relationship to a strategic partnership," he added.

The prime minister also noted that the friendship between India and Cyprus is both "strong and futuristic" as he elaborated on various aspects of his talks with Christodoulides. "We also discussed global issues. Whether it is Ukraine or West Asia, we will continue to support efforts for the early end of the conflict and for peace," Modi said. "We are also unanimous on the view that reform of global institutions is urgent and important for resolving the growing global challenges," he said.

# NEETGATE: More skeletons tumble out of closet

Continued from P1

The agency alleged that Havaladar was involved in the NEET UG process after being appointed an expert by the National Testing Agency (NTA). "She had complete

access to the physics question paper. In April, she shared some of the questions with co-accused Manisha Mandhare," the statement said.

The CBI arrested Mandhare, a botany teacher from

Pune, in connection with the NEET paper leak on May 16.

The agency found that the questions Havaladar shared with the aspirants tallied with the physics paper of NEET UG 2026.

# KTR seeks white paper on grain procurement

Continued from P1

"If the Chief Minister is so popular, why did he lose Mahbubnagar Lok Sabha seat? Why could he not win a single urban local body in the Malkajgiri Lok Sabha, which he had represented?" KTR asked. KTR said that while there was an agrarian crisis, yet Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and his Cabinet ministers were ignoring the issue and peddling falsehoods. KTR demanded that the state government release a white paper specifically detailing crop-wise statistics regarding the procurement activities undertaken thus far.

"We personally toured several districts and witnessed the dire plight of farmers at procurement centres. I have written an open letter to the government.

The Chief Minister and his ministers are merely resorted to telling lies and engaging in diversionary tactics to shift attention away from the real issues and when issue of suicides is raised they say 'no one has died'," said KTR, advising the government to discuss the procurement in Saturday's Cabinet.

KTR pointed out that even after toiling for an entire season to cultivate and transport their produce to procurement

centres, the authorities were not even bothering to weigh farmers' crops. He alleged that the government had displayed negligence in every single aspect of the process including the supply of gunny bags. He drew attention to recent attacks and acts of lawlessness in the state, wryly observing that while gunny bags remain unavailable, guns seem to be available in abundance.

He urged the government to acknowledge the crisis in crop procurement and to wake up from its deep slumber by heeding the information and suggestions provided by the opposition parties.