



PM to attend IAF's air show at Varanasi

NEW DELHI: Prime Minister Narendra Modi is scheduled to visit his parliamentary constituency, Varanasi, on October 25. During his visit, Modi will inaugurate a factory in Sevapuri and attend the Indian Air Force's (IAF) aerial display at Namo Ghat. Modi will attend the air show alongside Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath and other officials. The event, titled 'Indian Air Force Aerial Display 2026', will showcase the force's combat capabilities, advanced technology and flying skills under the theme 'Wings Over Ganges'.

Putin agrees to resume trilateral talks on Ukraine war

MOSCOW: President Vladimir Putin agreed Wednesday to resume trilateral negotiations with Washington and Kyiv on ending the war in Ukraine, a Kremlin official said. The Russian leader has agreed "in principle" to resume the talks after November 10, Putin's foreign affairs adviser Yuri Ushakov told reporters following a meeting in St. Petersburg between Putin and US President Donald Trump's envoy Steve Witkoff.

- ▶ Medium, large farmers go for multiple crops
- ▶ Small farmers have no hopes of available water reaching them
- ▶ Number of pumpsets could go up to 35 lakh over 3 yrs

PATAN AFZAL BABU
HYDERABAD

ALTHOUGH successive governments have claimed that the irrigation facilities in the state have "improved" and cite the construction of new projects and completion of existing projects, particularly after the formation of Telangana state in 2014, the galling reality is that most farmers are inexorably

Increased from 19 lakh in 2014 to 30.60 lakh now; Rise in paddy output linked to rise in no. of pumpsets

dependent on agricultural pumpsets for the farming needs. No wonder, the number of active pumpsets has increased from 19 lakh to a whopping 30.60 lakh in just 12 years. Over the last two years alone, two lakh new pumpsets have been sanctioned for meeting farming needs.

As per official data, the total number of agricultural pumpsets in December 2023, when the Bharatiya Rashtra Samithi stepped down from power, was 28,69,441. A total number of 30,60,821 pumpsets were functioning in the state as of August 2026. More than 10,000 applications are still pending with the Energy Department for clearance.

In all, 15,65,981 pumpsets



were given connection with free power supply by the TGNPDCL (Northern Power Distribution Company Limited) to farmers in old Warangal, Karimnagar, Adilabad,

Nizamabad and Medak districts. The TGSPDCL is supplying free power to as many as 14,94,840 pumpsets in old Nalgonda, Khammam, Rangareddy, Mahbubnagar, and

some parts of Hyderabad. Officials of the Energy Department attributed several reasons for the increasing number of pumpsets, more so after the formation of the

Telangana state. The medium and large farmers, owning more than five acres of agricultural land, are focusing on cultivating more crops by using pumpsets. Many of these farmers are adopting multi-crops, along with paddy, during the dry season. This could be the main reason for the increasing use of pumpsets. The small farmers too, worried over the decreasing prospects of available irrigation water reaching their end, prefer pumpsets, instead of waiting indefinitely for completion of various irrigation projects.

Officials said that fast-changing weather conditions over the last five years and the far-reaching threat of the dry season over the last two years, could be the

main reason for the spike in the number of pumpsets by two lakh.

Farmers have been getting regular alerts on the rains and the El Nino condictions in recent times. Fearing non-availability of irrigation facilities during the dry spell, officials said, farmers were knocking on the doors of the Energy Department for new agricultural pumpset connections.

Energy wing officials have warned that the number of pumpsets could increase to 35 lakh over the next three years if weather conditions don't turn conducive

Energy expert and member of the State Advisory Committee to Telangana Electricity Regulatory Commission M Venugopala Rao said that the increasing number of pumpsets is the result of the increasing agriculture-related activities.

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Will fill all vacant posts in police wing by 2028: CM



PATAN AFZAL BABU
HYDERABAD

TELANGANA Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy has declared that all the vacant posts in the state Police Department will be filled by 2028. Addressing a gathering at the Police Commemoration Parade in Hyderabad on Wednesday, the Chief Minister said that the govern-

ment had already issued notification to fill 5,000 vacancies in the Police Department. The recruitment to fill 112 DSP posts was unprecedented in the history of Telangana state, he mentioned. Besides, the government was appointing transgenders as traffic assistants and thus enhancing their self-respect and dignity in society.

The Chief Minister also declared that the ex gratia amount being paid to home guards who die in service would be increased to Rs 10 lakh from Rs 5 lakh. The Chief Minister instructed Director-General of Police CV Anand to take steps towards increasing the ex gratia payable to home guards.

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Run-up to TG's Global Summit '26 'Curtain raiser' events mulled in metro cities

PATAN AFZAL BABU

HYDERABAD: The Telangana government has finalised an action plan for a focused multi-city campaign for three days

leading up to the "Invest Telangana Global Summit 2026" starting December 7, including curtain-raisers in Hyderabad, Delhi, Mumbai and Bengaluru.

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