

# DECCAN Chronicle

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED ENGLISH DAILY IN SOUTH INDIA  
HYDERABAD | MONDAY | 5 JUNE 2023

## WEATHER

Max: 38.1°C  
Min: 28.5°C  
RH: 62%  
Rainfall: .02mm  
Forecast: Cloudy sky.  
Moderate rain likely.  
Max/Min temp. 39/29°C

## ASTROGUIDE

Shobhakarut; Uttarayana  
Tithi: Jyeshtha Bahula Padyami till 6.38 am; Vidiya till 3.48 am (Tuesday)  
Star: Mula till 1.21 am (Tuesday)  
Variyam: 11.53 pm to 1.21 am (Tuesday)  
Durmuhurtam: 12.40 pm to 1.32 pm; 3.16 pm to 4.08 pm  
Rahukalam: 7.30 am to 9 am  
HJRI CALENDAR  
Ziqad 14,1444 AH  
PRAYERS  
Fajar: 4.31 am  
Zohar: 12.24 pm  
Asar: 4.50 pm  
Maghrib: 6.53 pm  
Isha: 8.10 pm  
SUNSET TODAY 6.48 PM  
SUNRISE TOMORROW 5.40 AM  
MOONRISE TODAY 8.19 PM  
MOONSET TODAY 6.27 AM

## COUNTER POINT



Not me, sir... detain all political leaders to control riots!

## BRIEF

### 3-member panel on Manipur probe

New Delhi: The Centre on Sunday set up a Commission of Inquiry, headed by former chief justice of the Gauhati High Court Ajai Lamba, to probe the recent violence in Manipur that claimed over 80 lives. The Union home ministry issued a notification saying it will probe events leading to and all the facts relating to such violence.

### Gyanvapi litigant to withdraw

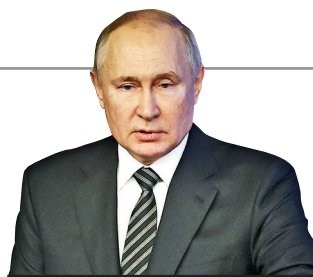
Varanasi (UP): One of the main litigants from the Hindu side Jitendra Singh Visen said he and his family are withdrawing from all cases related to Gyanvapi issue due to alleged "harassment". His lawyer Shivam Gaur had earlier withdrawn. Visen alleged that they were facing harassment from various quarters including from the Hindu side and felt humiliated.

### Weather alerts on TV, radio soon

New Delhi: Soon, TV screens will flash warning messages about impending extreme weather events and songs on radio will be cut short to make way for the urgent alerts. The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) has recently started sending text messages on mobile phones to disseminate critical information about heavy rainfall, thunderstorms and heat wave, among others.

### Indian oil imports from Russia rises

New Delhi: India's import of cheap Russian oil scaled another record in May and is now more than the combined oil bought from Saudi Arabia, Iraq, UAE and the US, industry data showed. India took 1.96 million barrels a day from Russia in May, 15 per cent more than the previous high in April, according to data from energy cargo tracker Vortexa.



## WORLD | 12

### Vladimir Putin orders bomb shelter at elite hospital

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## SPORTS | 14

### Djokovic enters French Open quarters

## TABLOID

### Adipurush movie makers panned



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## Rahul: After Karnataka, Congress will win in TS

G. RAM MOHAN I DC  
HYDERABAD, JUNE 4

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Sunday said that the party would defeat the "hated-filled ideology" of the BJP and decimate it in the Assembly polls in Telangana and other states. "It will be hard to find the BJP in Telangana after this election," he said. "They tried everything in the book. They have the media with them. They had ten times the amount of money we had. They had the government, they had the agency. But we just did not defeat them. We smashed them in Karnataka." Rahul Gandhi said at a dinner hosted by the Indian Overseas Congress-USA in New York. "We are going to decimate them in Telangana next. It will be hard to find the BJP in Telangana after the elections. The people



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi during an event at the Roosevelt House, home of former US president Franklin D. Roosevelt, in New York, USA on Saturday. — PTI

of Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Chhattisgarh will do the same," he said. "That is what is going to happen in the next few states. And then after that in 2024 we will do the same. The Opposition is united, we are all working together. It is an ideological battle. On one side, there is a divisive ideology of the BJP, the hate-filled ideology of the BJP. On the other side, there is the affectionate, loving ideology of the Congress party," he said. Rahul Gandhi had visited Washington and San Francisco before coming to New York. ■ Page 4: Not difficult to fight against BJP: Rahul

## Top guns



DGP Anjani Kumar shares a lighter moment with police commissioner C.V. Anand, home minister Md. Mahmood Ali holding a revolver and additional DGP Swati Lakra during the police expo on Sunday. ■ Full coverage on Page 2 — DEEPAK DESHPANDE

## Bandi rules out alliance with Desam in TS or AP

NARENDER PULLOOR I DC  
HYDERABAD, JUNE 4

BJP state president Bandi Sanjay ruled out any electoral alliance with the Telugu Desam in either of the Telugu states. Whispers of an alliance emerged after TD president N. Chandrababu Naidu met Union home minister Amit Shah and BJP president J.P. Nadda in New Delhi on Saturday. "What is wrong if a former CM meets BJP leaders," Sanjay asked, during



Bandi Sanjay

leaders asked him about the possibility of the TD alliance. BJP was committed to national integrity and development of states and its national leadership could meet any leader, including Naidu, Sanjay said. As BJP was gaining in strength in Telangana state, BRS, Congress and other forces were trying to defame it, he said. He claimed that the BRS, Congress, MIM and Communist parties will unite for the Assembly elections.

## Railway Board calls for CBI probe into mishap

Signalling interference, sabotage likely behind train mishap

AKSHAYA KUMAR SAHOO I DC  
with agency inputs  
BHUBANESWAR/DELHI, JUNE 4

The railways on Sunday virtually ruled out driver error and system malfunction, indicating possible "signalling interference" and hinting at "sabotage" and tampering of the electronic interlocking system behind the triple train accident that claimed 275 lives in Odisha. Railway minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said that the root cause behind the tragic train mishap has been ascertained and sought a CBI inquiry into the accident. "It happened due to a change made in the electronic interlocking and point machine," Vaishnaw said. "We've identified the root cause of the train accident and the people responsible for it. The accident happened due to a change in electronic interlocking. Right now our focus is on restoration," Vaishnaw tweeted. "Our target is to finish the restoration work by Wednesday morning so that trains can start running on this track," Vaishnaw said. Dispelling media reports and theories, the railway board made some startling



Relatives try to identify photos of passengers on display at the NOCCI Business Park, Balasore on Sunday. — PTI

revelations on Sunday regarding the involvement of multiple trains in the mishap. Member of operation and business development at the railway board Jaya Varma Sinha said that the preliminary findings suggest that there have been some issues with the signalling. "There is a probability

that some kind of signalling interference, whether it was manual or incidental, wear and tear-related, maintenance-related or weather-related, will come out in the CRS inquiry. We need to understand that only the Coromandel Express met with the accident." Sinha said the goods train did not get derailed.

## TRAIN DRIVER GOT SIGNAL TO ENTER LOOP LINE

New Delhi, June 4: The railways on Sunday said the Coromandel Express was "not over-speeding" and received the green signal to enter a loop line on which a goods train was stationary, virtually clearing its driver of any role behind the accident. Two key officials of the Railway Board described the functioning of the interlocking system that could have led to the accident. ■ Report on Page 11

## BIDEN EXPRESSES SHOCK AT DEATHS IN TRAIN MISHAP

New Delhi, June 4: United States President Joe Biden issued a condolence message on the horrific train accident in Odisha, saying he and First Lady Jill Biden were "heartbroken" at the train-crash. ■ Report on Page 11

## U.S. DEFENCE SECY REACHES INDIA TO BOOST TIES WITH TECH TRANSFER

DC CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, JUNE 4

US secretary of defence Lloyd Austin arrived in New Delhi on Sunday on a two-day visit to explore ways to further strengthen bilateral defence cooperation and the growing Indo-US defence partnership, especially in areas of the transfer of critical technologies for the co-development of military hardware. "I'm returning to India to meet with key leaders for discussions about strengthening our major defence partnership. Together, we're advancing a shared vision for a free and open Indo-Pacific," he said after arriving in India for a two-day visit from Singapore. The US secretary of defence will hold bilateral talks with defence minister Rajnath Singh on Monday. India is keen on finalising an agreement with the US for the manufacturing of jet engines in the country.

## Dump Congress leaders in Bay of Bengal, says KCR

PILLALAMARRI SRINIVAS I DC  
YELLAPALLI (NIRMAL), JUNE 4

Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao called upon people to throw the Congress into "Bangalokatham (Bay of Bengal)" — where it said it would throw Dharani portal if it is voted to power in the upcoming Assembly elections. Focusing the meeting on the Dharani portal, he warned the people that if the Congress came to power in Telangana, it would welfare schemes. "They will say 'Ram Ram' to Rythu Bandhu and 'Jai Bheem' to Dalit Bandhu," the CM remarked to loud applause from the gathering at a public meeting in Nirmal on Sunday. He had earlier inaugurated the BRS district office and integrated district collectorate complex and laid the foundation stone for the government medical college and formally inaugurated 2,000 2BHK units. Despite a drizzle, the meeting began on schedule.



Chief Minister K. Chandrashekar Rao being welcomed before inaugurating the Integrated District Collectorate Complex in Nirmal on Sunday. — BY ARRANGEMENT

He mostly targeted the Congress and its leaders' for their anti-BRS utterances. Rao repeatedly asked the gathering whether they wanted the Dharani portal to continue or not, to which the people replied in the affirmative. Rao cautioned that if the Dharani portal was scrapped, it would bring back the dangerous pat-

wari and VRO system. "They will snatch the land of farmers by changing manual land ownership title records as per their whims and fancies," he said. This would fuel corruption and farmers will be forced to bribe revenue officials for registration in order to protect their land. ■ Page 10: Dharani portal checked graft: KCR

## GREEN | STATE Government credits Haritha Haram for its performance; pollution in city water bodies increasing

## TS best in environment conservation, finds report

AARTI KASHYAP I DC  
HYDERABAD, JUNE 4

Telangana topped a list of states and Union Territories for environmental conservation, with an increase in forest cover and sewage treatment playing a key role in helping the state secure the top post, according to a report released by a renowned think tank. The Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), a public interest research and advocacy organisation, in its annual compendium of data titled

'State of India's Environment 2023: In Figures', gave Telangana seven of 10 marks in the report published ahead of the World Environment Day, which falls on June 5. The state was followed by Gujarat, Goa and Maharashtra, while Rajasthan, Nagaland, Bihar, West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh and Manipur were at the bottom. The indicators comprised change in forest cover in 2021 over 2019, share of municipal solid waste that gets treated (2020-21), share of sewage that gets treated

## FINDINGS FROM REPORT OF THINK TANK ON TELANGANA

Takeaways from the report  
● 7 of 10 was Telangana's score in the CSE report.  
● Gujarat, Goa and Maharashtra were other top performers.

What Telangana did right  
273 crore saplings planted in past 9 years.  
24.06% of Telangana's geographical area is covered with forests.

26,969 sq km is forest cover, up from 19,854 sq km in 2015-16.  
24 MW of power produced from WTE plants.

## TS LED THE WAY IN GENERATING POWER THROUGH ALTERNATIVE SOURCES

(as of June 30, 2020), change in installed grid renewable power in 2020-21, percentage change in the number

of polluted rivers in 2022 over 2018, stage of groundwater extraction in 2022 and percentage of water-

bodies not in use in 2022. However, Telangana performed below average in three parameters — share

of waterbodies not in use, stage of groundwater extraction and change in number of polluted river stretches. The performance indicated high levels of pollution in river stretches in the city, shrinking water bodies that exist in the city limits and an increase in groundwater extraction. Minister K.T. Rama Rao, in a release, attributed the state's good performance to the 'Haritha Haram' flagship forestation programme of the state, besides other conservation efforts taken across the

state. He cited government initiatives for a "remarkable increase in the green cover" in rural and urban areas, besides waste-to-energy plants and other initiatives, that subsequently led to social benefits, and national and international recognition. The minister said that the Haritha Haram aimed to increase the green cover from 22 per cent to 33 per cent, as part of which about 273 crores of saplings were planted in the past nine years, which led to an increase in the forest cover in the state.