

Bharat Ke Veer anthem unveiled

Home Minister Rajnath Singh launched the official anthem of Bharat Ke Veer, an initiative with a corpus to help the families of paramilitary troopers killed in the line of duty.

- The anthem was, sung and composed by KailashKher
- The initiative, launched by the Home Minister last April, seeks to help the families of paramilitary personnel killed in combat operations. As part of the initiative, a corpus was formed to raise money for the kin of martyred soldiers.

STATE-TELANGANA

Campaign on compulsory registration of marriages

The Telangana government has decided to launch an awareness campaign across the State to sensitise people of all religions on compulsory registration of marriage.

Though the State had issued a GO after bifurcation adopting the A.P. Compulsory Marriage Registration Act-2002 to prevent child marriages, help women fight marriage frauds and polygamy, the compliance under the Act has been poor so far.

- Though the Right To Education Act encouraged some girls to defy parents and relatives to choose education over marriage with the help of NGOs, child marriages continue to be a concern in some parts of the State.

A committee comprising tehsildar, child development project officer (CDPO) of Woman and Child Welfare Department and mandalparishad development officer (MPDO) would spearhead the sensitisation campaign at the mandal level and they have to reach out to everyone associated with a wedding—priests, qazis, pastors, caterers, function hall owners, hotels, and allied wedding services.

- Everyone, beside the bride, groom and relatives, associated with the marriage is accountable under the Act and should inform the marriage registration officer for registration within a month after marriage.
- The marriage registration officers under the Act are gram panchayat secretary at the village level, MPDO at the mandal level, district collector at the district level, municipal commissioners and deputy municipal commissioners in the municipalities.

The Compulsory Marriage Registration Act would not interfere with the marriage laws of different communities and couples, irrespective of their religion, should register their marriage with the designated officer.