Follow us on: [] @TheDailyPioneer 🚮 facebook.com/dailypioneer RNI No. TELENG/2018/76469 Established 1864 **ANALYSIS 7 SPORTS 12 MONEY 8 Published From** HYDERABAD DELHI LUCKNOW TEACHERS SHOULD PLAY TOTAL GOVT DEBT RISES DIDN'T FEEL PRESSURE OF BHOPAL RAIPUR CHANDIGARH ROLE OF FRIEND, PARENT TO RS 147 LAKH CR **REPLACING KULDEEP: UNADKAT** BHUBANESWAR RANCHI DEHRADUN VIJAYAWADA *LATE CITY VOL. 5 ISSUE 79 HYDERABAD, WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 2022; PAGES 12 ₹3 *Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable the ploneer

TS beacon for Golden India: KCR

NAVEENA GHANATE HYDERABAD

Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao has said that Telangana, having overcome many challenges and problems to reshape each of its sectors, has developed a model of progress for the entire country. Telangana State, which has overcome many obstacles, is a beacon of hope for the entire country, he suggested in a note appended to the book "8 Years of Telangana Pragathi Prasthanam", brought out by his staff. KCR said, "Telangana state is com-

peting with many states in the country which were established as states decades ago. The leadership of Telangana State has become a beacon of hope for the people of India who have been struggling with unre-solved issues for decades".

Development means integral development, inclusive development. It should not be forgotten that national development means development of states. Just because pensions grew about 10 times to Rs.



Telangana State has achieved develfederalism in the country. This shortcoming needs to be overcome". opment does not mean that the whole country has developed".

In the note KCR said: "It is mentioned How did Telangana State's Telangana has been spending Rs.50,000 crore funds every year for eight years of progress become a role welfare schemes. It has been giving model for the whole country? How social security for all people by did the state, which had lost its glory means of 10 types of support penin erstwhile state, regain it like the sions. In the 10-year period from 2004 to 2014, only Rs.5,558 crore was Phoenix bird resurrected from the ashes? What are the visionary poli-cies and activities followed by the allocated for pensions in the common state. Between 2014 and 2022, over state government in this direction? the eight-and-a-half-year period, What are the achievements? It contains photos, statistics and explana-

52,358.33 crore outlay tions with full information about the KCR said that known revolutionary changes and other as 'Ratnagarbha' from possible progress brought by the state government in the social, economic, political and cultural fields reflecting the beginning, India never had shortage of human resources and natural resources. "The the aspirations of the movement".

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This book is published in Telugu as well as Hindi and English. So that rulers of the country all the people of India and the world lacked a national vision to contribute to the can understand more about overall development of Telangana's eight years of progress. all the states while per-The state of Telangana, which has meating the spirit of provided a model of progress to the country, can be understood through this book on the development activities that need to be undertaken to invent the Golden India of tomorrow.

"It is hoped that this book will contribute towards the change in the country's development model by understanding the qualitative change in the lives of the people of Telangana. I appreciate my PRO Ramesh Hazari, CPRO office officials and staff for bringing the book in a way that even common people can understand."

From now on, more trips to New Delhi

PNS HYDERABAD

Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao will be making more trips to New Delhi in 2023. Indicating that the frequency of the trips will increase, the Chief Minister has reportedly deployed his secu-rity team in New Delhi, sources said. About 10 days ago, KCR returned to Hyderabad from New Delhi after inaugurating the BRS office.

The Chief Minister may be in New Delhi for a week or two. Sources said that the frequency will increase in the first half of 2023 and will keep fluctuating until the Assembly elections are over.

After this, the frequency of trips will increase based on the party's focus. With the CM flying to New Delhi more often, the priorities of main BRS leaders are likely to get defined. Sources said that KTR will be seen mostly in Hyderabad.

"KTR stayed back in Hyderabad when the BRS office in New Delhi was inaugurated, as KCR had asked him to do so. The message is clear that the dynamics in the state will be taken care of by the BRS working president," sources said. KTR has been largely the face for the party cadres when questions on BRS. Party leaders are trying their best to ensure that people get acquainted with the idea of BRS.

ED collects info on deals between Nanda & Abhishek

PNS HYDERABAD

The two-day questioning of Nanda Kumar, an accused in the Moinabad farmhouse case, by the ED ended on Tuesday in Chanchalguda jail.

The investigation was conducted under the supervision of ED Assistant Directors Sumit Goyal, Devendra Kumar and Veera Narayana Reddy. The officers interrogated Nanda Kumar for around five and a half hours and recorded his statement.

It is learnt that ED officials inquired about transactions interrogate Nanda Kumar for two amounting to Rs 7.50 crore that took place between Nanda Kumar MLAs poaching case.

and Seven Hills Manik Chand Gutka trader Avala Abhishek.

It is also learnt that ED officials collected information about trans-actions between BRS MLA Pilot Rohit Reddy and his brother Ritesh Reddy.

It seems that ED officials also questioned about the Rs 100 crore mentioned in the Moinabad farmhouse MLAs poaching case. All details revealed by Nanda Kumar will be submitted in court in a sealed cover.

The court allowed ED officials to days in the Moinabad farmhouse



Why celebrate HC's verdict?

KTR's poser to BJP on MLAs' case

PNS HYDERABAD

BRS Working President KT Rama Rao came down heavily on the BJP and Union Minister Kishan Reddy for celebrating the HC verdict trans-ferring the MLAs' poaching case to the CBI and for calling it a BJP vic-

tory.' Posing a number of questions to Kishan Reddy, KTR said the true have no connection with the accused colours of the BJP have come out. "When the accused Swamijis were caught you said you had no tigation.

AP CM arrives in Delhi, likely to meet PM today

PNS AMARAVATI/NEW DELHI

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy arrived in Modi and some Union ministers to

connection with them and now when the case is transferred to the CBI, you are celebrating it. Is it because the case is now with your

puppet agency?" KTR asked. the Congress in misusing investigat-ing agencies. "Earlier, people used to call the CBI 'Congress Bureau of Investigation,' but now people are why did they move court multiple times and interfered with the invescalling it 'Central BJP Investigation," he said.

"You are now publicly claiming that the BJP will get a clean chit as the case is with the CBI. This proves

how Central investigation agencies are compromised under BJP rule," said KTR. He said that earlier, accused individuals used to be afraid if the case got transferred to the CBI, but now they are celebrat-

KTR said the BJP has surpassed



CAT FIGHT OF

THE YEAR

KTR Vs Bandi Sanjay. It was a

year when #TwitterTillu took on

#TwitterTillu for KTR which kept

trending many times. KTR and

his team used many names

#Lavangam, #Tambaku Tillu, Joke of an MP and many others

for Sanjay. Their online fights

and counters amused political

Rama Rao and BJP leader Bandi

Sanjay Kumar engaged in a war of words on Twitter. Sanjay said

Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar

Enforcement Directorate probe

statement, KTR said that the

double-engine running the

country is "Modi and ED."

TRS Working President KT

Rao "will soon face an

Responding to Sanjay's

observers.

soon.'

#Lavangam on social media.

Sanjay coined the term



IIFT to be institute of national importance



Delhi on Tuesday and is expected to meet Prime Minister Narendra his state.

In Telangana, even 8,78,280 NEET rank can get an MBBS seat

PNS HYDERABAD

The Telangana government has set **NEE**





PNS NEW DELHI

The government is proposing to declare the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT) as 'institution of national importance' with an aim to empower it to attain standards of global excellence. IIFT has three branches in New Delhi, Kolkata and Kakinada. The institute is a deemed university.

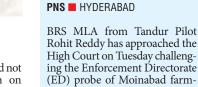
It was set up in 1963 by the government as an autonomous organisation to help professionalise the country's foreign trade management and increase exports by developing human resources, analysing and disseminating data and conducting research.

K VENKATESHWARLU HYDFRABAD

BRS MLA Pilot Rohit Reddy did not attend the ED investigation on Tuesday. It seems that ED officials are serious about Rohit's absence. The ED thinks that Rohit is ignoring the ED. The ED is preparing further

action in Rohit's absence. There is criticism that Rohit kept away from the ED probe after saying that he would cooperate with the investigation. Rohit has already filed a petition in the High Court that the ED is harassing him.

2



Rohit skips ED probe

O Disscusses the case with CM KCR

(ED) probe of Moinabad farm-house BRS MLAs poaching case. Rohit Reddy filed a writ petition in the High Court on the same making the Central Finance Department, ED, ED Deputy Director and ED Assistant Director as respondents. Rohit Reddy also urged the Court to give interim orders granting stay on the ED's investigation till the hearing ended.

Approaches High Court

Files a petition making Centre

and ED as respondents

According to official sources, the chief minister is likely to meet PM Modi, Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav and some other Union ministers on Wednesday.

Reddy is expected to bring to the notice of the prime minister various issues related to the AP Bifurcation Act and seek funds for the Polavaram project.

The state government which is implementing the Polavaram Irrigation Project on the Godavari river has been requesting the Centre to give some upfront amount so as to complete it without further delay.

to a student with a rank of 8,78,280 in NEET.

The number of seats available under the convener quota has also been increased from 3038 to 4094. The cut-off in the OC, EWS, SC, ST, BCA, BCB, BCD, and BCE categories was reduced to facilitate this.

Last year in the B category, the student who secured the rank of 2,71,272 got a seat. This time a student who secured the rank of 8,78,280 got a seat.

In the C category or NRI quota, the number of seats has been increased from 556 to 578. Last year, students with ranks up to 9,23,789 got a seat while this year it went down to rank 10,55,181.



The government established eight new medical colleges in this year and local reservation in the B-category has been increased to 85 per cent. Reservation for the ST category has also been increased from 6 per cent to 10 per cent.

Health Minster T. Harish Rao said, "The revolutionary measures taken by Chief Minister KCR are

nis year and local reservation in the B-category has been increased to 85 per cent. Reservation for the ST category has also been increased from 6% to 10%.

making the dream of Telangana students to become doctors possible. Medical services are also reaching remote districts. Many students are going to countries like China, Ukraine, Russia and the Philippines to study MBBS. But we are focused on helping students who want to become doctors."



TODAY

ALMANAC	
Month & Paksham:	Krishna Paksh
Tithi: Shashthi:	Dec 27 10:53 PN to Dec 28 08:44 PN
Saptami:	Dec 28 08:44 PN to Dec 29 07:17 PN
Nakshatram:	
Shatabhisha:	Dec 27 02:27 PN
Purva Bhadrapada:	to Dec 28 12:46 PN Dec 28 12:46 PN to Dec 29 11:44 AN
Rahukalam:	12:17 PM to 1:39 PM
Yamagandam:	8:10 AM to 9:33 AN
Varjyam:	06:53 PM to 08:25 PM
Gulika:	10:55 AM to 12:17 PM
Amritakalam:	04:04 AM to 05:36 AN
Abhijit Muhurtham:	

HYDERABAD WEATHER

Forecast: Mostly sunny Temp: 31° Humidity: 59% Sunrise: 6:45 AM Sunset: 5:50 PM

Updated: DECEMBER 27 2022 5:00 PM

Nationwide Covid readiness test done

Mock drills in hospitals across country

PNS NEW DELHI

Many hospitals across the country held mock drills on Tuesday to check preparedness of health facilities to deal with any spurt in COVID-19 cases, with Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya saying it was important to gauge operational readiness of equipment and human resources.

Mandaviya oversaw the drill at the Centre-run Safdarjung Hospital here, while health ministers reviewed the

drill in their respective states. The Centre has asked states and union territories to conduct the drill as part of precautionary measures following an increase in infection in China and other countries.

Officials said the mock drill focused on parameters such as the availability of health facilities in all districts, the capacity of isolation beds, oxygen-supported beds, ICU beds and ventilator-supported beds, and optimal availability of doctors, nurses, paramedics, AYUSH doctors, and other frontline workers, including ASHA and Anganwadi workers. Mandaviya said the drill was nec-

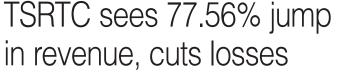
essary to know how prepared our hospitals are. Covid cases are rising all over the world and India might witness a spike in cases too. Hence it is important that the entire Covid infrastructure in of equipment, processes and human resources are in a state of operational readiness", he stated.

Clinical readiness at hospitals is crucial, Mandaviya said while noting that government as well as private hospitals are undertaking mock drills.

Cautioning against complacency, he urged everyone to follow Covid Appropriate Behaviour. He also asked people to refrain from sharing unver-

ified information and ensure high level of preparedness.

India recorded a single-day rise of 157 new COVID-19 cases, while the count of active cases of the disease has marginally decreased to 3,421, according to Union Health Ministry data updated on Tuesday.



PNS HYDERABAD

2021.

The Telangana State Road Transport Corporation has improved its finances by increasing traffic revenue and other revenues through innovative measures and by cutting losses

The TSRTC reported a 77.56% growth in revenue at Rs 5879.25 crore in Jan-Dec 2022 from Rs 3311.07 crore in 2021. Traffic revenue increased 45% to Rs 4641.30 crore in 2022 from Rs 3197.63 crore in 2021.

The occupancy ratio increased by

During the current fiscal (Apr

to Nov) the loss up to November, 2022 is Rs 421.08 crore against Rs 1,610.71 crore till November

2021 The revenue went up after TSRTC levied diesel cess, operated buses during the Medaram jathara, 4.4% to 64.99% from 60.59 % in Sravanamasam, 100 days challenge, 2021. Losses fell to Rs 650.57 crore 4 to 6 passengers increase per each in 2022 from Rs 1980.32 crore in trip challenge etc.

PM MODI'S BROTHER, FAMILY INJURED IN ACCIDENT NEAR MYSURU

rime Minister Narendra Modi's brother Prahlad Modi and family Dmembers sustained injuries when the car in which they were travelling met with an accident near here, police said on Tuesday. According to sources, other than the driver, Prahlad Modi, his son, daughter-in-law and a grandchild were in the car. They are said to have suffered some injuries and have been shifted to JSS Hospital for treatment. As per the police, the injuries are said to be "minor" in nature. The incident happened near Kadakola around 1.30 PM when their car, on the way to Bandipur, is said to have hit the road divider. Mysuru Superintendent of Police Seema Latkar has visited the spot and the hospital, sources said.

ONGOING YATRA ACROSS FIVE STATES RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT ANAEMIA

he Federation of Obstetrics and Gynaecological Societies of India is undertaking a yatra across five states to raise awareness about mitigating the rising incidence of anaemia among women. The 'Nari Swasthya Janandolan Yatra Anaemia National Ride' began from Rishikesh on November 28 and will cover 20 citiles across five states -- Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal. It will conclude in Kolkata in the first week of January, federation president Hrishikesh D Pai said. The yatra aims to bring holistic health awareness in Indian women, especially about anaemia prevention.

CAFFEINE MAY BOOST ATHLETIC PERFORMANCE, STUDY FINDS

affeine may significantly improve athletic performance, according to a study which found that caffeine supplementation reduced sprint time Un the 100-metre dash. Caffeine, a stimulant that affects the nervous system, is a popular choice among athletes as a performance-enhancing aid. The World Athletics, formerly known as the International Association of Athletics Federations, has recognised caffeine as an "ergogenic aid" in a consensus statement on nutritional strategy for athletics, the researchers said. "While previous studies have investigated the effects of caffeine on running activity, evidence from these studies is not conclusive enough to support the World Athletics consensus," said Professor Takeshi.



ays after residents' protest over gradual "sinking" of Joshimath, a team of experts on Tuesday conducted an onthe-spot inspection of the town in Chamoli district of Uttarakhand. The move comes following reports that Joshimath, considered as the gateway to Badrinath, is "sinking" with many of its houses, shops and hotels developing cracks. The fivemember team comprising senior officials, geological experts and engineers inspected the buildings which have developed cracks, spoke to the affected people and gave its feedback to the district administration, officials said.



hyderabad 02



BRS' national foray: Elbow room for TDP's regrouping in TS

Dolitics makes strange bedfellows indeed! In Telangana, where the phenomenal rise of the erstwhile Telangana Rashtra Samiti had eclipsed the Telugu Desam Party, things have changed dramatically in the last couple of months so much so that the Bharat Rashtra Samiti's plans for national foray has given elbow room for the TDP to make a comeback, whether on its own or riding piggyback on the ascendant Bharatiya Janata

Party. After TRS reemerged as BRS with the declared purpose of emerging as a formidable political force at the national level, there has been a feeling

there is scope for 'inclusiveness' on the part of the once regionspecific party. Telangana has previously tar-PIN geted Andhra POINT Pradesh, holding rulers of

AP origin solely responsible for the plight of Telangana as it stood before attaining statehood.

The TRS has always main-tained that AP rulers had exploited Telangana, which exploited Telangana, which had been forcibly merge with then existing Andhra state. The long-cherished dream of Telugu people's own state became a reality on 1 November, 1956. Despite the initial agitation for cenarate initial agitation for separate Telangana state in 1969 and

in some circles that In 2001, K Chandrasekhar Rao, a trusted lieutenant of then chief minister K Chandrababu Naidu, started the erstwhile Telangana Rastra Samiti (TRS) on 27 April, 2001 in 'Jaladrudhyam', house of the leader of Telangana movement Konda Lakshman Bapuji with the singular purpose of attaining statehood for Telangana.

> people's mandate in Lok Sabha Samiti (TRS) on 27 April, people's mandate III LOK Sauna elections of 1971 in support of the separate state, the then Union government headed by 2001 in 'Jaladrudhyam', house of the leader of Telangana movement Konda Lakshman Indira Gandhi rejected the Bapuji with the singular purpose of attaining statehood for Telangana. Despite having only two members in the Lok demand for separate states. In 2001, K Chandrasekhar Rao, a trusted lieutenant of then chief minister K Sabha subsequently, TRS got Chandrababu Naidu, started full credit for achieving a separate state with people's supthe erstwhile Telangana Rastra



port though ruling UPA led by Congress. People of Telangana reposed confidence in KCR and gave him the first chance to rule India's voungest state.

TRS managed to win the Khammam, though it does hearts of the electorate again in 2018

Today, KCR, in his new avatar as head of BRS, is eyeing support from non-locals i.e. Andhra people. This means he or BRS can no longer afford to fume at 'Andhra leaders' who had 'betrayed' the interests of Telangana region. This changed atmosphere across Telangana gives elbow room for the Telugu Desam Party to put out green shoots again.

Now circumstances have changed with the emergence of BRS. Striking while the iron is hot, the TDP has taken that can be vital in the evena plunge in TS to regroup its tual numbers game! moribund unit in the state. TDP started off with a rally at

not have a single MLA or MLC. TDP is convinced that, given BRS' national ambitions, there would be no hur-

Telangana.

and is thinking of forging an alliance with BJP and Jana Sena Party of film star Pawan dles for TDP's reemergence in TDP has been approaching Kalyan to ensure the defeat of its former leaders who had ruling YSR Congress Party joined TRS in their quest for (YSRCP) in the 2024 elections. It may be useful for BJP greener pastures. "We had no option left except joining TRS, if only for the development of to have an alliance or otherwise ensure support from our constituencies," was the stock reply of its former TDP in Telangana as the lat-MLAs. TDP may not as yet nurture hopes of coming to power in Telangana; yet, it can hope for a sizeable number

uation.

TDP in feiangana as the lat-ter is competing with Congress in taking on KCR. Sailing with BJP in both Telugu states may be useful for TDP. In AP, it also has the compulsion of preventing compulsion of preventing Chief Minister YS Jaganmohan Reddy from get-

tant thing in the changed sit-

for BJP in Andhra Pradesh

The TDP has a soft corner

TDP's relations with BJP are considered the most importing closer to BJP.

AICC names VH, Uttam as new Yatra observers in Puducherry, AP PNS HYDERABAD

The AICC which has already undertaken the Bharat Jodo Yatra from Kanyakumari to Kashmir has recently launched another pro-gramme named 'Hath Se Hath Jodo Yatra' and it will be conducted across the country

from January 26 onwards. The AICC has appointed 26 (25 states+Mumbai City) observers for the programme across the nation. These observers include former PCC presidents V. Hanumantha Rao and N. Uttam Kumar Reddy.

The AICC appointed VH as an observer of Puducherry and Uttam as an observer in Andhra Pradesh. The AICC appointed Girish Chodankar as the Telangana observer. The 'Hath Se Hath Jodo Yatra' will start on January 26 across the nation and end on June 2 in Telangana.

Order special audit Congress files complaint with RBI against TS govt

PNS HYDERABAD

The Congress has appealed to the RBI to order a special audit of all statutory and ernment guarantees list with public sector undertakings tentative risk weightage). of Telangana and to take action against state govern-He said the Telangana State Road Transport Corporation is a statutory company which has not ment officials, and the officials of banks and financial institutions for allowing illebeen audited after 2014. gal bank loans. He said the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Corporation Ltd (CIN U

gal bank loans. The Congress appealed to the RBI to consider this complaint on priority as it concerns public funds amounting to billions. Former TPCC general secretary Bakka Judson on Tuesday, filed a complaint

Tuesday filed a complaint with the RBI saying that the Telangana State Civil Supplies Corporation Ltd (C I N U51900TG2015SGC098100) has received a loan of Rs 45,000 crore on state government security bond for meeting periodical require-ments but those guarantees are not recorded in the whose sole objective is to Telangana budget volume plunder public funds to fill the pockets of private con-5/B (it is the special volume in the budget for state govtractors.

Judson requested the RBI to initiate action against the officials responsible by ordering a special audit. He said that loans granted through government guarantees were not recorded in the Telangana state budget volume 5/B (the special vol-ume in the budget for state 73100TG2016SGC111329) is an irrigation project government guarantees list with tentative risk weigh-tage) and assets which are which doesn't have any repayment capacity but had taken a loan of Rs 97,449.16 hypothecated were undervalued. Assets hypothecated crore from banks and finanto the Andhra Bank consorcial institutions of the tium got submerged in the Godavari River floods.

Centre based on the guaran-He also asked what kind tee of the Telangana government and by hypothecating of guarantee do the RBI and assets which are undervalbanks give to bank deposiued. The REC granted a tors and what kind of repayloan of Rs 30536,08,00,000 ment capacity does the comfor an unapproved part of pany have to repay loans as this project and there are it does not have any profitmany other irregularities generating activities.

MLAs POACHING CASE

Approaches HC **Continued from Page 1**

Rohit Reddy mentioned in his petition that the ED has been troubling him in regard to MLAs poaching case. He alleged in his petition that the ED has been grilling him on his personal details and the details of the family members in the money laundering case. Rohit Reddy mentioned in his petition that the ED has been harassing him by serv-ing notices under money laundering and urged the Court to dismiss the ED's ECIR. He made it clear that there is no link with the MLAs poaching case and money laundering case. While speaking to the

media on the occasion, Rohit Reddy said that the ED officials have been questioning him during the investigation based on the WhatsApp messages of the investigative officer. However, the same officials are not recording the details told by him, Rohit Reddy said. He said that the ED has been questioning Nanda Kumar in connection with the case filed by the Banjara Hills police station.



K VENKATESHWARLU HYDERABAD

Committee leader Rahul Gandhi's two-week-long leg of Bharat Jodo Yatra in Telangana had all the ingredients of a grand show, including fun moments, motivational modules, poignant interactions with various groups having grievances, and more. The party unit has billed the Bharat Jodo Yatra as a big success in the state, though it is as yet not clear whether it will translate into some level of electoral success in the years ahead.

The party's prominent leaders, except Bhongir MP Komatireddy Venkat Reddy and a few others, who were busy with the Munugode bypoll, joined the Yatra with enthusiasm like school children participating in ence Day ce

father.

The party unit has billed the Bharat Jodo Yatra as a big success in the state, thoug it is as yet not clear whethe t will translate into some evel of electoral success in the years ahead.

ed a public meeting in Hyderabad. stituencies, including Hvderabad. Apart from Telangana and the BJP saying that both Congress leaders, many

nent nersons, cel

ties and social activists also

walked along with Rahul. In

fact, six Telangana Congress

activists, NSUI general sec-

retary Boosa Anulekha, All

India Adivasi Congress vice-

president T. Bellaiah Naik, a

TV anchor who joined the

Congress a few months ago,

Katti Karrthika Goud, Seva

Dal leader Venkat Reddy, All

India OBC cell coordinator

Kethoori Venkatesh and

Youth Congress general sec-

retary Santhosh Kolkunda

are the six leaders from

Telangana accompanying

Rahul in his yatra, which

will cover 3,570 km from

Kanyakumari to Kashmir.

of farmers who had commit-

ted suicide, women, weavers

and many other sections

interacted with Rahul. The

BJP criticized Rahul when

cine actress Punam Kuar

walked along with him for a

while joining hands by com-

grandpa Jawaharlal Nehru

Aggrieved groups like kin

Rahul criticized the BRS were looting the state and the nation espectively benefit their friends. He also spoke on farmers' issues and said that KCR has been regularly checking the Dharani portal to know how to grab the lands of the poor. He also said that KCR and Modi are friends deceiving the people with their divisive politics. In fact, the Munugode by-poll result came before the Moinabad farmhouse BRS MLAs' poaching case came to light. Rahul's Bharat Jodo Yatra started on September 7 from Kanyakumari and covered the four southern states of Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka before entering Telangana. After Telangana, Rahul entered Maharashtra on November 7 at Deglur in the Nanded district of Maharashtra from Menuru village in the Madnur mandal of Jukkal in the Kamareddy district of Telangana.

in the footsteps of his fore-

During his Yatra, Rahul

sprinted, played cricket, imi-

tated Pothurajus, and

danced with Dhimsa folk dancers. Rahul addressed

corner meetings every day

during his yatra. He attend-

Police issue notice to Sunil Kaunugolu, asks him to appear for questioning

PNS HYDERABAD

The Hyderabad Cyber Crime Police once again issued notices as per CrPC Section 41A to Congress strategist Sunil Kanugolu. It has been clarified in the notices that he

appear for questioning on December 26, but as he did not appear, the Cyber Crime police issued notices once again on Tuesdav. It may be recalled that

PNS HYDERABAD the police recently raided Sunil

Dramatic developments have

BRS on the defensive

Santosh no longer a sitting duck Telangana High Court transferred ing camp. the case to the CBI which was barred The SIT had been thinking

has to appear for questioning on December 30.

TPCC Senior Vice President Mallu Ravi accepted the notice on behalf of Sunil Kanugolu. The police have registered a case against Sunil Kanugolu and three others in his team for making false posts on social media against the State government and Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao.

In connection with this case, notices were given to

Continued from Page 1

He said in the petition that the

ED is harassing him wilfully.

Rohit was scheduled to attend the ED inquiry on

Tuesday. But he decided not to

attend the probe. Rohit did not

attend the probe after filing a

writ petition in the High

Court. His petition will be

heard on Thursday. He said

that he will take decisions

based on the HC's judgment.

Meanwhile, Rohit met KCR at

the Pragathi Bhavan. It is

learnt that they discussed

Rohit skips ED probe

Kanugolu in Madhapur regarding posts on social media. Notices as per Section 41A of CrPC have already been issued to Sripratap, Shashank and Ishan Sharma in this case. Sunil was abroad when the police conducted searches. After he returned to India, the

attending the ED probe. After the meeting with KCR, it is

possible to get clarity on Rohit

attending the ED investigation.

Rohit Reddy had informed the

ED through the mail that he

would not be able to attend the hearing on Tuesday. However, he clarified that he did not

send any mail to the ED on

petition in the High Court

regarding the involvement of

the ED and it will come before

the bench on Wednesday.

He said that he has filed a

attending the inquiry.

There were rumours that

office of

police issued him a Section 41A CrPC notice. He was ordered to come for questioning on Monday.

taken place in the BRS MLAs' poaching case. Now, everything is going against the BRS and in favour of the BJP. In a dramatic development when BL Santosh, one of the top

leaders of the BJP, who was the most wanted person by the Special Investigation Team (SIT) constituted by the BRS government to probe the poaching of MLAs

case, arrives in Hyderabad the SIT would have ceased to exist. Another shock to the BRS is that the

ment. From the beginning, the BRS government had been opposing the CBI probing this case and had been saying that the SIT is enough to

investigate the case. But the BJP opposed the SIT and had demanded a CBI probe. Finally, the High Court disbanded the SIT constituted by the BRS government and transferred the case to the CBI.

BL Santosh is visiting Hyderabad on December 28 to attend a BJP party workers' train-

Thursday.

Santosh when he comes to Hyderabad. Interestingly a day before Santosh's visit to Hyderabad the SIT was disbanded by the HC. However, BRS MLA Pilot Rohit Reddy who is the key person in the MLAs' poaching case,

is facing an ED probe. The ED has already started an investigation into the MLAs' poaching case. In addition to this now the CBI will also take up the

investigation as per the High Court's order.

Crucial BJP two-day meet today

PNS HYDERABAD

The BJP has made all arrangements to hold the meeting of BJP Vistaraks of TS parliamentary constituencies. The meetings will be held for two days on December 28 and 29 at the Leonia Resorts in Shamirpet, a suburb of Hyderabad.

BJP President JP Nadda will inaugurate the virtual meeting of vistaraks of Parliament constituencies at 2 pm on Wednesday. The BJP's Organizing General Secretary BL Santosh will come for the party will come to Hyderabad second-day meeting on from New Delhi to guide them.

Vistaraks from 92 parlia-mentary constituencies from Union Tourism Minister G. Kishan Reddy and party state president Sanjay will attend these meetings. Telangana BJP 16 states and two Union Territories will attend these meetings. In addition to Affairs in-charges Tarun Southern states, the vistaraks Chugh and Sunil Bansal, Shiv of parliamentary constituen-Prakash, Satish and others cies in Andaman Nicobar, would also attend the meet-

ings. The two-day meeting will Lakshadweep, Goa, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh will also concentrate on South India attend the meetings. Six and discuss how to win General Secretaries of the Parliament seats in the south.

tions

No doubt, Rahul Gandhi's Bharat Jodo Yatra infused josh in the Congress as it was witnessed during the Yatra with party activists putting in full efforts to participate in the Yatra from across the state although the Yatra went through only a few districts.

The Munugode result, which came two days before its conclusion in Telangana, did not deter the enthusiasm of party leaders in making the Bharat Jodo Yatra a big success

The Bharat Jodo Yatra entered Telangana on October 23 crossing the Krishna River at Gude Bellur in Makthal constituency in Naravanpet district near Karnataka's Raichur. After a three-day break for Diwali, the vatra resumed on October 27 and took another break on November 4.

Rahul walked about 375 km through seven Lok Sabha and 19 Assembly con-

paring Rahul with his great All told, the yatra did shake-up many circles. saying that Rahul is walking

CHICKEN RATES ₹/KG

₹180 Dressed/With Skin Without Skin ₹190 Broiler at Farm ₹140

EGG RATES ₹/100	
VIJAYAWADA	529
HYDERABAD	527
VISAKHAPATNAM	525
RETAIL PRICE	₹5.29

Continued from Page 1

due to better connectivity. This apart a massive People TSRTC Chairman Bajireddy Connect Programme, 'Prajala Govardhan Reddy and MD VC Vaddaku RTC' was taken up in Sajjanar released the annual all depots from 09/09/2022 to report of the corporation. The visit villages, colonies etc and corporation is implementing a ascertain their travel needs. Strategic Development Plan 897 routes were covered in (SDP) with the help of M/s 947 meetings conducted till Hansa Equity Partners LLP to now. On 474 routes, the collecformulate a transformation tion improved due to increased plan covering all departments. patronage. There are 2.09 lakh About 3,360 electric buses are proposed to be inducted in bus pass holders. Their numbers increased from 7.57 lakhs the corporation in a phased

in 2021 to 9.66 lakhs in 2022 TSRTC has proposed to convert 25 diesel buses to EV buses in GHZ as replacement to diesel buses using EV retro fitment kits. Digitalization of Stalls, Commercial activities, and iTIMS are proposed by March 2023. Smart Cards are going to be implemented in multiple phases to issue bus passes, purchase tickets and other payments.

The tour package 'Singareni Darshan' was introduced short-

manner by end 2025. The lyas an educational tour showing the process of production of coal from mines and use in power plants.

> implementation at Head Office. It is proposed to implement it in all the units of TSRTC in a phased manner. The TSRTC will soon roll out a TSRTC Commercial App

to accept digital payments for its bus station stalls, fuel outlets and advertisement revenue.

TSRTC sees 77.56% jump in revenue, cuts losses ernment established eight medical colleges creating a record in the country with the highest number of MBBS seats of 6,690 in 42 colleges. Telangana was also ranked first in MBBS seats

with the highest ratio of 19 seats to a population of one lakh and second in PG seats with a ratio of 7.22 seats to a population of one lakh. Earlier, only 495 seats were

allocated to local students out of 1,214 seats in the B category due to a lack of reservations in the academic year 2021-22.

In Telangana, even 8,78,280 NEET... **Continued from Page 1** The remaining 719 seats were 63.73 per cent of the manage ment quota and 62.98 per cent

allocated to non-local students. In 2022, the Telangana gov-The Telangana government ordered 85 per cent reservation in B category seats this time through GO No: 130. The change in reservation norms reserves 1,071 seats of the 1,276 seats for local students in 2022-23.

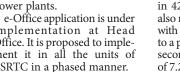
The ST quota has been increased from 6 per cent to 10 per cent with GO No: 33. The number of seats available for the ST category increased from 223 to 429. Women secured most of the MBBS seats in 2021-22. They bagged 62.68 per cent of the convenor quota,

of the 6,186 seats this year. Men secured only 39 per cent of the seats last year. This has gone down to 37 per cent this year. MLC K. Kavitha said, "The determination of KCR to provide the best for every individual in the state without any

support from the Centre is notable. The youngest state of India, despite being neglected by the Centre for eight years now continues to establish new benchmarks. The TS government has set up medical colleges, and has increased seats to ensure equal opportunity."

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hyderabad 03

12 new paramedical courses in nine TS medical colleges

PNS HYDERABAD

Telangana government has launched 12 B.Sc allied courses (Paramedical courses) in 9 government medical colleges. Minister for health T Harish Rao announced that 860 seats have been created and all the colleges

will be offering these courses es from this academic year. The Department of Health has released GO No. 156 to facilitate this. These courses will be started in courses will be started in Gandhi, Kakatiya, Rims, Osmania, Nizamabad, Siddipet, Nalgonda, Suryapet and Maha bubnagar Government Medical Colleges.

A total of 150 medical seats in Gandhi, 210 seats in Osmania, 130 in Kakatiya, 60 in Adilabad, 110 in Nizamabad, 50 in Siddipet, 40 in Nalgonda, another 40 in Suryapet, and 70 seats in Mahabubnagar have been offered adding up to a total of 860 seats.

Minister Harish Rao said, "Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao is tak-



ing fast steps to provide ancillary services of medical medical education along education. with super-specialty ser-In the first year of B.Sc,

vices to the people of the the government has given state. As part of this, 12 permission to start 12 supmedical colleges were startplementary courses in meded after the formation of the ical education. state, and steps are being The government is taking

steps to start these courses from this academic year (2022-23). The duration is four years inclusive of three years course and one year internship.

Schools where the strength is more than 200 have been picked for the installation of the solar panels. TS REDCO Chairman Y Sathish Reddy said, "Under the guidance of Chiaf

Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao, TSRED-

CO is executing installation of

Under Phase1 we will be cov-

About 916 schools with

plus power generated will be transferred to the grid."

ple, the government has decided to increase the These include courses in

500 govt schools to have

solar panels by March 2023

establish one per district in the next two years Anaesthesia, Operation Theatre, Respiratory Therapy, Renal Dialysis, Neuroscience, Critical Care, Radiology and Imaging, Audiology and Speech Therapy, Medical Records Sciences, Optometric, Cardiac and Cardiovascular

12 medical

colleges were

started after

the formation

and steps are

being taken to

of the state,

Technology. The latest decision will benefit 860 people every year. Thus the medical services in government hospitals are going to be better.

College management 'forcing' sick students to get discharged

PNS HYDERABAD

Several students of Kasturba Gandhi College who were hospitalised on November 18 following inhalation of poisonous gas have claimed that the college management wants even those who have not recovered to be discharged immediately.

The students revealed that three of the victims are in a serious condition and the doctors found water in one of the student's heart. They also said that have been falling sick again consistently and that hospital visits have become a routine. They complained of retal-iation from the management

after students fell ill due to the stench from a garbage dump near the campus last month. Students claimed that the management is asking those hospitalised to be discharged, or else their marks would be reduced in internal assessment and their certificates withheld. Parents have raised their voice against the management for the unhygienic conditions that led to such drastic consequences. They demanded that the management of the college take full responsibility and bear the expenses until their health improves.

Diversity is Hyd's strength and contributed to its success: Prez

PNS HYDERABAD

President Droupadi Murmu said that Hyderabad is a city with a rich cultural heritage and a diverse population, making it a melting pot of ideas and perspectives. "This diversity is one of

the city's greatest strengths, and has contributed to its success as a centre of growth," she said, while addressing the students and foculty members of the faculty members of the Memorial Keshav Educational Society at a function organised as part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav in Hyderabad on Tuesday. She also inaugurated a photo exhibition on 'Hyderabad Liberation Movement' show-

casing contribution of regional freedom-fighters. Noting that celebrations of the 75th anniversary of the Liberation of Hyderabad are being held as part of the

'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, the President said that this holds great significance for the people of this region and for the nation as a whole. She paid tributes to the brave leaders who fought for the liberation of Hyderabad, including Ramji Gond, Turrebaz Khan, Bheem, Komaram

Suravaram Prathap Reddy and Shoyabulla Khan.

She said that their valour and sacrifice would always be remembered and honoured. The President also addressed the probationers of the 74th Batch of the Indian Police Service at the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy, Hyderabad. She said, "Cybercrimes and issues related to social media pose novel challenges. Technology-driven policing is needed to combat hi-tech crimes. Police forces

have to be partners in progress of the country and transformation of the society. You have to ensure that an illiterate poor man living in a remote corner of the country, gets sympathetic support at the local police post." President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated 'Ŵide Plate Mill Facility' at MID-HANI, Hyderabad. The new facility aims towards selfreliance by rolling ultra high strength steel and producing superalloys for national strategic programmes.

7 more accused arrested in PITA case PNS HYDERABAD

Following the arrest of three under Prevention of Immoral Traffic Act (PITA) case on December 14, seven mpore members of a gang were apprehended by Anti-Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU), on Tuesday.

The Cyberabad police arrested Seelam Vinaya Kumar (40), Chintada Laxminarayana (40), Patamalla Satyanarayana (59), Dundi Devi (29), Gali Lavanya Reddy (43) and Ch. Laxmi (35).

Police revealed that 850 victims were involved in the prostitution racket, from AP, Telangana, West Bengal and Mumbai. The accused were procuring women from different places across India, posting ads in the websites, contacting the customers through call center and WhatsApp, facilitating the customers to reach the victims and indulge in prostitution in different hotels, Ovo rooms and collector money for this organised

PNS HYDERABAD

years.

In a bid to promote green energy usage, about 500 government schools will have solar PV power plants and solar fencing installed as part of Mana Ooru Mana Badi programme by March 2023.

taken to establish one per

district in the next two

medical services to the peo-

In order to provide better

The project under phase-I solar panels in government will be covering 1,521 schools schools of which the installation will be completed in 80 schools by ering 1,521 schools. The capac-December 31. While the cost of ity is 3072 KW for these 1,521 the project is Rs 30 crore, about schools. Once this is complet-Rs10 crore has been released for ed, we will expand it to all other the initiative. While 141 schools schools. have been picked in Ranga Reddy district, more than 50 capacity of 1,841 come under schools have been picked in TSSPDCL and 605 schools with capacity 1,231 will come under TSNPDCL. Sathish said, Medchal, Medak, Vikarabad, Nalgonda, Narayanpet, Khammam, Kamareddy, "A net metering system will be installed in the schools and sur-Gadwal, Iogulamaba

Mahabubnagar, Sangareddy

and Siddipet.

MADE-IN-INDIA KISAN DRONE Hyd's drones get DGCA type certification

PNS HYDERABAD

Telangana's leading drone manufacturer Marut Drones have received the Type Certification approvals from the Director General of Civil Aviation for their multi-utility agricultural drone AG 365. The drone is designed and developed for Indian conditions and can be used for multiple purposes giving a higher ROI to the user.

AG 365 is extensively tested for more than 1.5 lakhs acres and optimised for performance to be used in agriculture. Further, extensive research is undergone with the drone for development of crop specific drone spraying SOPs in collaboration with prestigious agriculture universities and



certificate for the model, the drone is now eligible for Rs 10 lakh unsecured loans from the Agri Infrastructure Fund at a minimal 5-6% interest. Further, a 50% to 100% subsidy can be availed from the Government of India. The made-in-India kisan drone -AG 365 have been developed particularly for agricultural purposes to reduce crop loss, lower agro chemical usage, better yield and profits to the

accorded RPTO approvals which enables training and capacity building of drone pilots focussed on safe agriculture operations, repair and maintenance. It is tying up with major universities to enable drone pilots with highest quality training and with this, it sees a vision of development of 2 lakh drone entre-

preneur in countryside. According to DGCA, a remote pilot training organisation (RPTO) is authorised by the DGCA to impart remote pilot training to any individual seeking for a remote pilot certificate under Rule 34 of Drone Rules 2021.

The certification enables the Hyderabad-based firm to bring the users their agricultural drone technology which can revolutionise Ind an agricul

TSRTC Cargo a big hit, fetches Rs170.13 cr

PNS HYDERABAD

TSRTC Cargo services have fetched big returns for the corporation. About 106.33 lakh parcels have been transported by buses and a revenue of Rs. 170.13 crore has been generated by the services for both cargo and parcels, as on date. In 2020 from June-Dec, Rs

in 2021 this went up to Rs

61.17 crore and in 2022 from

Jan-Dec, about Rs 86.10 crore

was realised. The Cargo and

Parcel Service in TSRTC was

conceptualised by Chief

Minister K Chandrasekhar

Rao and launched by Minister

for Transport on June 19, 2020. In all, 177 Cargo and

Parcel Centres were estab-

lished at major bus stations

besides appointing 443 private agents. For the bulk goods



tion of goods of government departments.

TSRTC Cargo and Parcel Service has transported 5,258 'Bangaram' parcels during Medaram Jathara 2022, home delivery of 88,658 packets of Thalambralu of Lord Sri Sita Ramula Kalyanam at Bhadrachalam during April 2022 and home delivery of famous Jagityal farm fresh Banginapalli mangoes to the doorstep of the customers during May 2022.

transportation, 193 cargo transport vehicles (CTVs) Bus on Contract bookings en fabricateo BoC) increased by 1,171 pe and are

prostitution.

Seelam Vinaya Kumar from Vizag was a brothel organizer for several years. He used to post ads in Locanto apps and guide customers to nearby hotels and pick the customer with his pickup boy.



SCR to run 94 Sankranti special trains

PNS HYDERABAD

South Central Railway will be operating 94 special trains to cater to the needs of rail passengers by pooling available resources for Sankranti. During the month of January, in view of the Sankranti festive season, the demand for travel between the two Telugu states is high and also there is demand from rail passengers to travel to various parts of the country.

Accordingly, to meet the additional travel needs during this period, SCR has announced operation of Sankranti special trains between various destinations so as to meet the travelling needs of the rail users. These trains are being operated on different dates from January 1 to 20.

SCR will operate 94 trips of through IRCTC website in



special train services on the above dates, which will be operated not only between the two Telugu states but also towards other popular destinations. These train services are having varied coach composition including both reserved coaches and unreserved coaches. The rail users seeking reserved accommodation can

book their tickets online

addition to the railway PRS counters. Similarly, passen-gers wishing to travel by unreserved coaches can purchase their tickets through UTS on mobile App; thereby avoid standing in queue at general counters

Arun Kumar Jain, General Manager, South Central Railway, has appealed to the rail users to make use of this opportunity of additional travel facility provided by the zone and make their journey safe,

comfortable and hassle free. Further, the zone is preparing plans to introduce more number of special trains as per the availability of resources like rolling stock, route, staff etc. in the coming days.

The routes in which demand is more is being analysed on regular basis so as to operate the trains more effectively to serve the purpose.

There has been a huge increase in electricity consumption in the state of Telangana. Officials said that more than 1,300 megawatts were used in the state in December. Officials claimed that 13,403 megawatts of electricity was generated at a record level at 8 am, which was never seen in December.

It is said that the reason for the demand for electric-ity is the increase in rainfall in the state.

Officials revealed that the cultivation area has increased significantly with continuous power supply.

Officials estimate that there will be a demand of up to 15,000 megawatts in summer. Officials clarified that even if the demand increases, electricity will be continuously supplied.

32% female buyers for used cars in Hyderabad

PNS HYDERABAD

PNS HYDERABAD

consumption

car retailing platform Spinny in 2022. The report showed a sizable growth in demand for used cars, especially from metropolitan cities in their annual report. They revealed that 52 per cent of cars sold were bought by first-time car buyers and 62 per cent of cars were sold online in

> the tech city. Post- pandemic, people are choosing personal mobility over public transport and the pre-owned car market is no stranger to this trend. Spinny also revealed that most of the car buyers were in the age group of 25-35. 62 percent of the users also purchased their



cars online. This also shows the

ver and grey. Annamalai AT, City Head, growing demand for e-com-Spinny, Hyderabad, said, merce platforms in the city. Top three automobile brands "Delivering a unique and delightful car buying experi-ence to customers has always preferred by the public include Maruti Suzuki, Hyundai and Honda while top three prebeen at the core of our brand's ferred car models are Elite commitment. i25, Grand i10 and Alto 800 in

the colors preferred white, sil-

Spinny and it's evident in the promising numbers including great traction for online purchases and interest that Spinny has been able to earn from women car buyers. " Spinny was founded in 2015. It is a used car retailing platform that aims to bring about transparency and convenience in the car buying and selling process in India. Every car on the Spinny platform comes with a 200-point inspection checklist, 5-day no questions asked, money-back guarantee and 1-year after-sales warranty. Spinny has 36 car hubs and is operational in 22 cities, including Delhi, Gurugram, Noida, Bengaluru, Mumbai, Pune, Hyderabad, Chennai, Kolkata, Ahmedabad, Lucknow, Jaipur, Chandigarh, and Indore, among others.

Hyderabad. Hyderabad prefers

The market for used cars is growing at a steady rate in

Training for nursing staff organised

PNS HYDERABAD

Chief Secretary to Government of Telangana, Somesh Kumar, on Tuesday inaugurated a special training programme for the pilot batch of nursing candidates selected from Telangana for job placements in Japan. The programme was organised by Telangana Overseas Man power Company Limited (TOMCOM) in partnership with Navis Human Resources Pvt Ltd. Somesh Kumar, said, The State government is

taking up several training and capacity-building initiatives to position Telangana as the 'skill capital of India', particularly in the healthcare sector and tap the huge job market in foreign countries.'

Hyd records 87% increase in housing sales

PNS HYDERABAD

Hyderabad recorded sales of approximately 47,500 units in 2022, a massive yearly increase of 87% over 2021 where 25,406 were sold.

On annual basis, prices have risen in the range of 6% in Hyderabad to Rs 4,620 per sft from Rs 4,372 sft in 2021, as per Anarock. The price rise is primarily due to an increase in the input costs and demand comeback post-COVID.

Residential sales stood at 3,64,900 units in 2022 against

2,36,500 units in 2021 across the top 7 cities - rising yearly

by 54%. NCR, MMR, Bengaluru, Pune, and Hyderabad together accounted for 90% of the sales in the quarter. Hyderabad added a new supply of approximately. 68,000 units in 2022 compared to 51,500 units in 2021 a healthy increase of 32%. Mumbai and Hyderabad witnessed maximum new launches in 2022, together comprising nearly 54% share of the total new launches in the year.

The top 7 cities recorded

DISTRICT OF LE

new launches of around 3,57,600 units in 2022 as opposed to 2,36,700 units in 2021, an annual increase of 51% over the previous year. Key cities contributing to 2022

new unit launches included MMR, Hyderabad, Pune, and Bengaluru, altogether accounting for 86% of the total addition.

Anuj Puri, Chairman -ANAROCK Group, says, "2022 has been a phenomenal year for residential real estate despite all headwinds including rising property prices, interest rate hikes and all geopolitical tensions. Housing sales in top 7 cities breached the previous highs of 2014 while new launches in comparison remained restricted.

Covid mock drill held in all Telangana hospitals

PNS HYDERABAD

Telangana is fully geared up to tackle any situation with regard

to COVID-19, Dr Ramesh Reddy, Director of Medical Education, said on Tuesday.

Speaking to reporters, Reddy said Covid mock drill to check infrastructure and preparedness to combat in case there is any spike in Corona virus cases has been conducted across all teaching, private, district, area and community hospitals in the state. Central govt sent a 76 column excel sheet and asked details on various aspects on beds, equipment like ventilators, oxygen

testing kits and details also about personnel. In the mock

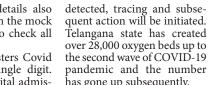
these "Telangana registers Covid cases hardly in single digit. There are no hospital admissions. There is nothing to worry. But we have to take precautions. We are fully geared up to tackle any situation. The state has not reported any case of BF.7 variant," he said

morning.

He said Gandhi Hospital, a COVID-19 nodal facility has genome sequencing centre and tanks, medicines, PPE kits, as when any new variant is

drill, states need to check all

The mock drill started at state-owned Gandhi Hospital and Medical College in the



pandemic and the number has gone up subsequently. According to him, almost all big_hospitals_have_oxygen

tanks. Dr Raja Rao, Gandhi super-

intendent said, "We checked all the parameters suggested by the Central government and all are working.

Even if wave comes, even a severe wave, we are ready and preparedness is there. I don't think wave will come, appeal to public is not to panic and nothing to worry.

Having been awarded type

TS sets record

in power

About 33 per cent of the used

car buyers in Hyderabad are

women according to the used-

In addition, it has been ture.

utilised for the transporta- month.

nave



VILLAGE COMMITTEE'S DECISION 'Boycott' of community over woman's defiance

There is a public furore over the village committee imposing social boycott on Mununnuru Kapu community in Nizamabad district

PNS NIZAMABAD

There is a public furore at Shapur village under Nandipet mandal in Nizamabad district following the village commit-tee imposing a social boycott on 80 families belonging to the Munnuru Kapur community. The community elders approached the district administration and the police for help.

It all began when a woman, Sujatha, built a house on land she bought a year ago. The village committee, however, claimed that the land on which Sujatha built the house, belonged to the village panchayat. The village committee imposed a social boycott on Sujatha's family. The committee instructed the villagers not to entertain the family members of Sujatha.



a year ago. The village committee, however, claimed that the land on which Sujatha built the house, belonged to the village panchayat

Defying the committee's decision, a villager, Muppati Gangaram, lent an electricity meter to Sujatha to enable her to get a power connection. On knowing it, the committee imposed Rs 10,000 penalty on Gangaram. The Committee

threatened to impose Rs 10,000 fine on anyone found talking to the families member on which a social boycott was imposed. The committee also instructed grocers not to sell essential commodities to the Munnuru Kapu families. These families could not even hire farmworkers to work in their agricultural fields. The Revenue Divisional officer said the district administraalso promised in writing that the meter would be returned to

tion was seized of the matter. Telangana Rashtra Munnuru Gangaram. But, the committee Kapu Yuvaka Mandali State failed to do so. Enraged by the demanded that the governfailure of the committee, ment intervene and punish Gangaram lodged a complaint the village committee members for imposing a social boycott The village committee memon the community.

bers, who were furious over Gangaram filing a police com-

plaint against them, imposed a

social boycott on 80 Munnuru Kapu families. The committee

Telangana

Murders, suicides taking place due to Dharani Portal: TPCC

PNS HYDERABAD

Declaring that murders and suicides are taking place every day due to the Dharani Portal, TPCC Working President B. Mahesh Kumar Goud said the state is facing mayhem due to Dharani.

Mahesh said that murders and suicides are taking place due to land disputes in the state. Speaking to the media on Tuesday at Gandhi Bhavan, Mahesh said that the PCC president and the CLP leader have given a memorandum on Dharani Portal issues, but there was no response. He said that some officials have been working as sycophants of Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao.

Demanding that the govern-ment should conduct the MLAs' poaching case and Delhi liquor scam impartially, Mahesh said that he has doubts on relations between the BJP and the BRS. He said that their stand is that the two parties are not different. Both the BRS and the BJP will create hype till elec-

tions, he said. Reacting on poll strategist Sunil Kanugolu's case, Mahesh said the case is not worthy of a stay from the police.

No sign of youth policy in TS

PNS HYDERABAD

Even after eight years of ruling Telangana, the TRS government is yet to evolve a youth policy. Barring an exer-cise conducted in 2016 by appointing a committee, so far the recommendations of the committee are not given the shape of youth policy.

Leaders of youth associations have been expressing concern over absence of selfemployment loans on subsidy and training programmes on skill development. The state government is supposed to undertake activities like conducting competitions in sports and cultural events to wean the youth away from anti-social activities, conducting national integration camps for youth, conducting district and state-level youth festivals, providing amenities to prepare for competitive exams, encouraging selfemployment for the benefit of youth, but it is not implementing them.

ed for the benefit of youth. Moreover, allocation of These programmes are not funds in the budget for the being implemented now-ayouth welfare activities is days. Moreover, self-employmeager. Moreover, the comment loans were given to plaint against the government youth. These schemes have been swept under the carpet is not releasing funds allocated in the budget for Youth now, it is alleged. welfare, SC and ST and

For representation purpose only

porations.

Minority development coris also not extending loans to the BC youth for self-employ-The annual release of funds ment for the past four years. to youth welfare department The pendency of applications, did not cross Rs 10 crore. In lodged with it in 2018, was put

at 9.50 lakh. undivided AP regime, CMEY Subsidised loans being given to Dalits by the SC programme, Velugu scheme, free computer training pro-Finance Corporation under grammes, training in spoken English classes were conduct-Dalit Bandhu have been suspended. The condition of ST and Minority Finance Develop ment Corporations was more or less the same.

Youth clubs founded in villages apolitically to promote social service, sports activities and cultural activities have The BC Finance Cororation disappeared now.

Minister for Panchyat Raju calling on his follower Sadanand Goud at Chintapalli in Warangal

Minister Dayakar Rao stresses need to serve people he visited door to door in the

PNS WARANGAL

Residents of Chintalapalli, which is a part of Panchayat Raj Minister Errabelli Dayakar Rao's Vardhannapeta constituency, accorded tumultuous welcome to the Minister when he visited the village on Tuesday to take part in Katamayya temple fair. Earlier, the Minister was elected from the constituency thrice.

Speaking on occasion, the teacher Bhanu Murthy and Minister said that politics enquired about him from his and serving the people on day-to-day basis. The people in the constituency considered him a friend. The people still love their former MLA in spite of Dayakar Rao moved away to another constituency. The villagers welcomed the Minister from Ambedkar Cross Roads and invited him to visit their homes. Responding to the invitation,

Sixth-century stone discovered in Wanaparthy dist

N S RAO WARANGAL

with the police.

They are not normal stones. Each stone has a story to tell. They are known as hero stones and Sati memorials. There are thousands of such stones, across the country, including Telangana.

A 1,500-year-old such stone, explaining the story of a woman who beheaded herself, for the good of the village and Kakatiya Empire in the pres-

ry of her and dated back to the 6th century. ence of Lord Šiva is something researcher Reddy Ratnakar According to noted scholar Reddy found it on the outskirts Prof Padigar of Dharwad, the of Wanaparthy in Lingala

Researcher Reddy Ratnakar Reddy explaining the importance of the 6th centuryold-stone discovered in the Wanaparthy district

stone was installed in memo-Ghanapuram of Janagoan district during a field visit last History week. The stone is five feet tall and divided into two portions. The lower portion indicates the severed head of a

CPM calls for fighting against communal BJP

PNS NALGONDA

unique.

The BJP-led Centre has been conspiring to divide the oppo-sition and turn India into a one-party state, said Communist Party of India-Marxist (CPI-M) leader and former MLA Julakanti Ranga Reddy on Tuesday. The saffron party was dividing people on caste and religio



opposition parties. The BJP- which has been waging a fight

woman tied to a wooden post using her hair. The upper por-tion indicates her noble status in the Heavens. She was in the company of her servants who were blowing fans. In some places, they are worshipped as village goddesses. Often animals are sacrificed to appease them. In Wanaparthy, a temple was built for such heroes. Some of the stones depict the head tied to a flag post and in some others, a severed head was tied to the wooden post. But, all the images belong to the males. But there was a lone stone indicating the supreme sacrifice made by a woman.



District Collector P Uday Kumar speaking at district-level bankers meeting in Nagarkurnool on Tuesday

Collector unveils strategic linked credit plan for 2023-24

PNS NAGARKURNOOL

District Collector P Uday Kumar on Tuesday unveiled the Nabard potential linked credit plan for the year 2023-24 here.

The plan, on the basis of the available physical and financial capacity, will be implemented in the district by the District Lead Bank with the help of other banks. The lead bank prepares the annual credit plan. The plan envisages Rs

3,456.17 crore for the agriculture sector, maintenance and marketing, Rs 8,04.57 crore for

total allocation to the priority sector in the district at Rs 5,574.84 crore. DDM of Nabard P Shanmukhachary, LDM Kaushal Kishore Pandey, Union Bank of India CPO Bhupal Reddy, agriculture offi-cer Venkateswarlu, DPRO Sitaram, groundwater officer Ramadevi, Horticulture officer Venkateswarlu and others

culture and allied sectors, and

Rs 95.34 crore for creating

basic amenities for agriculture.

Rs 413.81 crore for micro,

small and medium enterpris-

es. The Nabard estimated the

The plan has earmarked

family members Later performed special puja at Katamayya temple and took blessings of the deity. MPP Kalavati Narahari,

village and enquired about

The Minister visited the

home of his follower

Sadanand Goud who sus-

tained injuries due to a fall

from palm tree. The minister

wished him speedy recovery.

of former sarpanch Dudde

Damodar and spoke with the

family members. Afterwards,

he went to the house of

Later, he went to the house

well being of the villagers.

MPTC Pavani Yugender, sarpanches' forum mandal president G Babu, mandal party president Sarangapani, Red Cross Society vice-chairman N Venkateswarlu and others accompanied the Minister

said and called upon people to fight against the communal BIP.

Speaking at the CPI-M district committee meeting here, the Narendra Modi government is taking the country towards dictatorship. The saffron party has been unleashing political vendetta against the opposition and using money to buy the representatives of the

to destabilise the opposition governments and come to power in the opposition-ruled States, too, he said. The Modi government has been privatising the public sector to benefit the corporate. There was a need to build a strong movement against the BJP. The CPI-M, Ranga Reddy said, has extended its support to the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS)

party has been moving heaven and earth to destabilise the Left Front government at the Centre and topple it. The CPI-M leader demanded that the Centre fix a minimum support price for cotton at Rs 10,000 per quintal, demanded party Nalgonda district unit president Maddireddy Sudhakar Reddy. The millers are just paying Rs 7,000 per quintal.

BRS-backed Chikkala elected as CESS chief

PNS RAJANNA-SIRCILLA

After the candidates

A mother allegedly threw her two children into a stream near Banswada town on Monday night. The children, aged 4 and 6, were identified as Yuvaraj and Ananya.

Woman throws two

children into stream

PNS NIZAMABAD

According to police, the local people immediately swung into action and retrieved the children from the stream and admitted them to a hospital. But, the children died while undergoing treatment. The woman, identified as Aruna, allegedly tried to mislead the police by saying that an auto-rickshaw driver had thrown the children into the stream.

backed by the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) swept the polls held to the Cooperative Electric Supply Society (CESS) on Monday, the ruling party-backed director Chikkala Rama Rao was elected as Chairman and Devarakonda Tirupati as Vice-Chairman on Tuesday.

It may be recalled that



Rao assuming charge as CESS chairman in Sircilla on Tuesday

faith in democracy and has

started conspiracies in the

name of the farmhouse MLAs

poaching case.

the BRS-backed candidates votes in the Rajannacaptured all the posts of 15 Sircilla district outrightly directors in the CESS. The rejected the BJP. BJP State

Kumar, too, campaigned for the party-backed candidates. The polls witnessed keen contests. It was reminiscent of tough fights witnessed in general elec-tions. A day after the counting of votes was completed, the ruling party lost no time in nominating its candidate for the post of CESS Chairman.

The election authorities declared Rama Rao elected unanimously.

Later speaking to the media, Rama Rao promised to strive for the develop-

unit president Bandi Sanjay ment of the district. He assured the people that he would ensure transparent administration in the

> It may be recalled that the BRS-backed candidates scored a victory in all 15 constituencies and thus giving no chance to the BJP to gain a foothold in the Rajanna-Sircilla district. BRS working president K T Rama Rao said, "I whole-heartedly thank the voters of my district Rajanna-Sircilla for giving the BRS

CESS.

candidate absolutely brilliant victory in CESS.'

two dead, two injured in carlorry collision

PNS RAJANNA SIRICILLA

Two persons died and two others injured in a road accident that took place in the outskirts of Mudapalli of Chandurthi mandal in Sircilla district on Monday

night. The incident occurred when a car and lorry moving in opposite directions hit each other.

Two persons Mahesh and Kishore travelling in the car died on the spot while two other sustained injuries.

According to police, natives of Chandurthi mandal, the victims were moving towards Vemulawada town in a car. Meanwhile, a lorry was coming from the opposite direction. Both the vehicles rammed into each other near Mudapalli.

BRS MLA Marri Janardhan will soon get CBI notice: Achary

PNS HYDERABAD

Declaring that Nagarkurnool BRS MLA Marri Janardhan Reddy is in the list of those who have amassed illegal assets, senior BJP leader T. Achary said that the CBI will issue notices to Marri Janardhan Reddy in a day or two.

He said that Marri Janardhana Reddy has been making Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao's black money white through his cloth shop and through his cioin snop and that Marri Janardhan Reddy had raised Rs 10,000 crore illegally. He said that these issues have reached the CBI and the CBI will issue notices in a day or two.

Participating in a dharna at the Nagarkurnool collectorate on Tuesday as part of BJP's state-wide

dharnas demanding the abolition of the Dharani Portal and implementation of the loan waiver scheme, Achary said that Marri Janardhan Reddy is on the list of leaders who have amassed illegal assets.

Achary said the Excise Department has been running successfully and a gold medal should be given to Excise Minister V. Srinivas Goud if one wants to give awards to Ministers.He said that Chief Minister KCR who came to power chanting water, funds and jobs, grabbed thousands of acres through the Dharani Portal. He warned that there will not be any land in anybody's name if KCR becomes CM once again.

Achary said that KCR has been using the police against persons who question the government.

KCR directed film 'Farmhouse Files' total flop: Kishan

K VENKATESHWARLU HYDERABAD

Union Tourism Minister G. Kishan Reddy said that KCR's film 'Farmhouse Files' is an

utter flop. He said there is no stuff in the 'Farmhouse Files' produced and directed by KCR and that KCR's story and screenplay failed. Kishan said that people have been asking BRS MLA Pilot Rohit Reddy why the ED is investigating him if there is no money involved in the case. Lashing out at KCR he said that KCR has become the

laughing stock and has spoiled the SIT to the CBI. He said that the court verdict is a slap on the Telangana's image across the nation. He said that KCR is not face of the BRS government. answering why the phone records of BRS MLAs, who He said that lotus blooms from mud...but no mud stays on it. were involved in the Moinabad He said that KCR talking about farmhouse MLAs poaching defections is ridiculous and

case, is not being revealed. Kishan said the Chief Minister made it clear that he has full confidence in the courts and should explain why KCR kept welcomed the HC verdict in four MLAs, who were involved the farmhouse case. Kishan said that KCR has started new in MLAs poaching case, in Pragathi Bhavan. dramas to cover up his failings. The KCR government has no

Addressing the media at the State BJP office here on Tuesday, Kishan welcomed the High Court verdict transferring the MLAs poaching case from Union Minister to visit Suryapet today

PNS SURYAPET

Union Minister for Major Industries Mahendranath Pande will visit Suryapet to take part in Nalgonda Lok Sabha constituency meeting on Wednesday, according to a statement by the BJP on Tuesday.

At 11 am on Wednesday, the Minister will attend the Sakti Kendra in-charges meeting to be held at Tripple R Banquet Hall here. Later, he is scheduled to address the media at the same venue. At 3 pm, he will interact with students of SV Engineering College, according to BJP State vice-president Sankineni Venkateswara Rao

Students should value dignity of labour: Min

PNS WANAPARTHY

Agriculture Minister S Niranjan Reddy on Tuesday advocated that everyone should have the dignity of work without considering any task as demeaning. He told the students to understand the value of the dignity of work.

He was participating in the Mathematics Day celebrations held in memory of late mathematician Srinivasa Khilla Ghanapuram. The money earned through hardwork gives one satisfaction



Ramanujan at Zilla Parishad Minster for Agriculture S Niranjan Reddy speaking at Mathematics Day High School for Girls at celebrations in Wanaparthy on Tuesday

gender discrimination in In contemporary society, there is no respect for hard society and often are being work. Moreover, there is looked down upon.

In Europe and USA, all people enjoy equal rights and equal respect. The rights and penal code of all people are the same, including the PM, he said wishing that the same conditions should prevail in India.

The importance of a girl child in society has increased. Nowadays, girls are also pursuing higher education. All people should pursue higher education to achieve top positions in society, the minister said.

The minister assured girl students coming to the ZP high schools at Ghanapuram from other villages to provide with them bicycles.



nation 05

After stampede-like situation, school children get separate queue at Puri

day after nine students were injured in a stampede-like situation at the A Jagannath Temple in Puri, the district administration has decided to introduce As separate queue for school children to enter the 12th-century shrine, an official said on Tuesday. The nine injured school students, all of them girls, were released from a hospital here earlier in the day and they have left for home in Mavurbhani district. Puri Superintendent of Police KV Singh said. Earlier reports said that six students were injured

in the crowded temple on Monday night. "We have introduced a separate queue for school children (in the temple) from today keeping in view the arrival of pupils during the winter vacation. Now many schoolchildren are coming for picnics to Puri and going to the temple," Singh said. The new queue will not be there after the vacation, he said.



Indian American community observes Veer Bal Diwas

he Indian American community here has observed the maiden 'Veer Bal Diwas' during which they paid tributes to the unparalleled sacrifices made by 10th Sikh Guru Gobind Singh's four sons who laid down their lives while defending their faith. The martyrdom day of Guru Gobind Singh's sons -- Baba Ajit Singh, Baba Jujhar Singh, Baba Zorawar Singh and Baba Fateh Singh -- is observed as 'Veer Bal Diwas'. On the occasion of Guru Gobind Singh's birth anniversary on January 9 this vear. Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced that December 26 will be

observed as 'Veer Bal Diwas' Organised by the Indian Embassy at its premises here on Monday, a digital exhibition on the lives of the four Sahibzades was also mounted on the occasion. In her remarks, Charge d'Affaires

Sripriya Ranganathan highlighted the various initiatives taken by the Indian government to commemorate Sikh festivals.



Law student arrested over killing of delivery executive by car

20-year-old law student has been arrested over the death of a food delivery executive here after his motorcycle was hit by a speeding car bearing the sticker of "judge" on its Abonnet, the Noida Police said Tuesday. There were two more law students in the car at the time of the accident but they are at large. All three are friends of the son of a family court judge and had taken the car to go to Ghaziabad when the accident took place, an official said. The 27-year-old Zomato delivery executive was near Parthala Chowk when the Toyota Corolla car with registration in Prayagraj hit it around 1.30 am on Monday. The delivery executive,

identified as Parvindar Kumar, was taken to a private hospital in Bisrakh area but was pronounced dead on arrival, the police said. The occupants of the car had also fled the spot after the crash, leaving the damaged vehicle behind, according to the police. On Tuesday, a Noida Police spokesperson said, "Suyash Mishra, the driver of the car has been arrested. The delivery executive had got hit by the negligently-driven car. causing him severe injuries that led to his death on the spot.

India-backed projects in

Afghanistan, Myanmar hiť



Govt signs peace pact with insurgent group of Manipur

PNS NEW DELHI

The Centre on Tuesday signed a peace agreement with a Manipur insurgent group, which agreed to give up violence and join the peaceful democratic process.

The tripartite agreement was signed by the central and Manipur governments and the Zeliangrong United Front (ZUF) rebel group which mostly operated in Manipur.

In a statement, the Union Home Ministry said fulfilling the vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi of an 'insurgency-free and prosperous Northeast' and under the

guidance of Union Home Minister Amit Shah, the government of India and the

It said the central govern-

ment should urge the

Karnataka government to

implement the decision taken

in a meeting with the Union

Home Minister (over the bor-

der dispute issue). The central

government should give direc-

tives to the Karnataka govern-

ment to guarantee the safety of

the Marathi people in the

The Council passed

government of Manipur entered into a cessation of operation agreement in New

Delhi with ZUF that had

abjure violence and join the peaceful democratic process as established by law of the land, the statement said.

The agreement provides for rehabilitation and re-settlement of the armed cadres. A joint monitoring group will be constituted to oversee enforcement of the agreed ground rules. This will be a significant boost to the peace process in Manipur, the statement said.

by senior home ministry officials and the government of Manipur and the representatives of ZUF in presence of Chief Minister N Biren Singh.

the armed group agreed to

The agreement was signed

Afghanistan and faced numerous challenges in Myanmar due to the current political and security situations in these countries, the Ministry of External Affairs has informed a parliamentary panel. The Parliamentary Standing

India-backed projects have

suffered setbacks in

PNS NEW DELHI

Committee on External Affairs chaired by BJP MP P P Chaudhary noted that there has been a reduction in allocation in aid to Afghanistan.

In an action taken report tabled in Parliament last week, the Ministry of External Affairs said it has noted the parliamentary panel's observations and will work towards addressing them. India's development partnership with Afghanistan includes more than 500 projects spread across each of its 34 provinces and in various



sectors. "Several proposals in vations on allocations to this regard are already under process. Due to the political and security situation in Afghanistan, projects implementation has suffered setbacks," the ministry said in the report. Responding to the parliamentary committee's obser-

Myanmar, the ministry said despite the ongoing political situation in the country, India has completed and handed over a capacity building institution each on information technology and agriculture research in March this year.

SEEKS GUARANTEE ON SAFETY OF MARATHI PEOPLE Maha Council passes resolution on boundary dispute with K'taka

said.

PNS NAGPUR

The Maharashtra Legislative Council on Tuesday unanimously passed a resolution to "legally pursue" inclusion of 865 Marathi-speaking villages in Karnataka into the western state and that the Centre should ask the southern state to guarantee the safety Marathi people living in the border areas.

border areas, it added The ition moved



PNS UNITED NATIONS

India emerged as a voice of the Global South during its twoyear term in the powerful UN Security Council, which acrimoniously deliberated on Russia's invasion of Ukraine that led to unprecedented levels of global food and fuel insecurity as the world continued to grapple with inequalities ampli-fied by the pandemic.

Before relinquishing its nonrmanent seat in the the horse-shoe table.

ber Council on December 31, 2022, India presided over the powerful UN body in December with the country's first woman Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj sitting in the President's seat at Just about two months into India's second year of its 2021-2022 term on the Council as elected non-permanent member, Russian President Vladimir





and the General Assembly throughout the year, India consistently called for an immediate cessation of hostilities and an end to violence. New Delhi emphasised that dialogue and diplomacy are the only way forward and actions that exacerbate the conflict should be avoided. "Our world faced many trials and tests in 2022 some familiar, others we might not have imagined just one year ago," Guterres said, adding that

BJP fields Rekha Gupta for Delhi Mayor election

PNS NEW DELHI

The BJP on Tuesday declared Shalimar Bagh councillor Rekha Gupta as its Delhi Mayor candidate to challenge AAP's Shelly Oberoi in the January 6 election.

The BJP has also named Kamal Bagri as its deputy mayor candidate and Kamaljeet Sehrawat, Gajendra Daral and Pankaj Luthra for standing committee member posts, said Delhi BJP media cell head Harish All the party candidates filed Ukraine, the power of determined, discreet diplomacy has nominations for the elections after their names were announced by the Delhi BJP. Gupta, after filing her nomination, asserted that she will contest the election with full strength. "I appeal to all the councillors that vote for the development and betterment of Delhi. I hope they will choose the right mayor for the city listening to the voice of their conscience," she said. The AAP has

8

a clear majority in the 250-member Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD) House. Some BJP leaders, however, claimed that an intense contest could be witnessed for the mayor as well as deputy mayor posts since the anti-defection law does not apply to the MCD and floor crossing could be possible. The AAP ended the BIP's 15-yearrule in the MCD winning 134 of the 250 wards in the civic body polls earlier this month. The BJP anaged to win 104 ward Mayor candidate to challenge AAP's Shelly Oberoi in the January 6 election. The BJP has also named Kamal Bagri as its deputy mayor candidate and Kamaljeet Sehrawat, Gajendra Daral and Pankaj Luthra for standing committee member posts, said Delhi BJP media cell head Harish Khurana. All the party candidates filed nominations for the elections after their names were announced by the Delhi BJP.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA

PUBLICATION OF DECLARATION BY DISTRICT COLLECTOR, JAYASHANKAR BHUPALPALLY

FORM-VII

been active for more than a decade. Representatives of

Chief Minister Eknath Shinde in both Houses of the Maharashtra legislature expressed solidarity with the people living in the boundary areas. "The state government will legally pursue in the Supreme Court the case to include (in Maharashtra) inch and inch of land of Belgaum, Karwar Bidar, Nipani, Bhalki cities and the 865 Marathispeaking villages in Karnataka," the resolution

olution unanimously in the presence of Deputy Chairperson Dr Neelam Gorhe. The border issue dates back to 1957 after the reorganisation of states on linguistic lines. The Karnataka Legislative Assembly last Thursday unanimously passed a resolution on border row with Maharashtra, resolving to protect the southern state's interests and not to cede an inch of land to its neighbour.



Putin launched a 'special military operation' in eastern Ukraine on February 24. UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres made a direct and strong appeal to Putin to "stop your troops from attacking Ukraine" and give peace a chance as the UN chief called the invasion the "saddest moment in my tenure as

Secretary-General of the United Nations." As the Russian invasion unfolded, India's then UN envoy Ambassador T S Tirumurti in February underscored New Delhi's call for urgent de-escalation of tensions and cautioned that the situation was in danger of spiralling into a major crisis.

In statements in the Council

helped people and tackle unprecedented levels of global food insecurity. India abstained on most resolutions related to the Russia-Ukraine war in the Security Council, General Assembly and the Human Rights Council, including on a Security Council procedural resolution to convene a rare emergency special session of the General Assembly.

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'KATTAR PAAPI PARIVAAR' 'BJP dubs Gandhi family 'most corrupt'

PNS NEW DELHI

The BJP on Tuesday dubbed the Gandhi family as "kattar paapi parivaar" and the "most corrupt family in Indian politics" as it cited the Rajasthan High Court's rejection of Robert Vadra's plea to quash a money laundering probe against him.

BJP spokesperson Gaurav Bhatia said Rahul Gandhi and Sonia Gandhi should break their "silence" on corruption and money-laundering allegations against Vadra, who is married to Rahul's sister and

Congress general secretary Centre as well. Priyanka Gandhi, when their The Congress has often claimed that the corruption party was in power in Haryana and Rajasthan and at the charges against Vadra are polit-

ically motivated.

The Rajasthan High Court had last week rejected a petition seeking the quashing of an Enforcement Directorate investigation into the pur-chase of land in Bikaner by a company (Skylight Hospitality), linked to Vadra and his mother, through alleged shady means.

'This is a 'kattar paapi parivaar' (extremely immoral family) of India. Its only work has been to do corruption and grabbing land to hand over to Vadra," Bhatia alleged. He also rejected the

Congress's claim of witch hunt against Vadra, claiming that it amounted to casting asper-sions on the judiciary which has refused to quash charges against him.

They are the most corrupt family in Indian politics. Three members of the family are out on bail in corruption cases. It is a serious matter of concern for a government with zero tolerance for corruption," he said, in reference to the corruption probe against Sonia Gandhi and Rahul, both former Congress presidents, in the

PAK BOAT SEIZURE PROBE Arms and drugs were supposed to land on **Gujarat coast, says DGP**

PNS AHMEDABAD

The firearms and drugs seized mid-sea from a Pakistani boat off the Gujarat coast were supposed to land on the coast between Salaya and Okha towns, state DGP Ashish Bhatia said on Tuesday.He said the Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS) will probe who are the intended receivers of the seized items and their ultimate destination.As per the preliminary investigation, the contrabands were sent by a Pakistan-based drug mafia, identified as Haji Salim Baloch, the Director General of Police (DGP) said.

See Sub-rule(1) of rule-25 And Section-19 (1) of the Act-30/2013) JAYASHANKAR DISTRICT GAZETTE NO.JSB/BHPL/LA/40/2022 Dtd: 17-12-2022 kar Bhupalpally Proc. No. G/2107/2022) Dtd: 15-12-2022) No: J/325/2017 Dated: -12-2022 Where as it appears to the District Collector, Jayashankar that a tota Ac. 0-18 gts land is required in Jangedu Village, Bhupalpally Mand of Jayashankar Bhupeloally District for public purpose, namely For the urpose of River lands up to FRL+10 contour across Godavari River Therefore declaration is made that a piece of land measuring, mor r less Ac. 0-18 gts of standard measurement under acquisition for the bove said project in the Jangedu Village of Bhupalpally Manda ayashankar Bhupalpally Dist, whose detailed description is as following: SCHEDULE OF LAND Villages: Jangedu Mandal: Bhupalpally Dist: Jayashankar Bhupalpally Name of Name of Type 3 0 0 Name of Name of Name of Name of Second Patiedor with Occupant Title 2003 Father / With Father Name of Sy. No. Enjoyer with Father / Husband Name Husband Husband Name Name

1539 Pata 0-18 Naligeti

Swapna,

W/o Sathish

3 detained for taking bribe to clear	
passport documents in Assam	

PNS DHUBRI

Three persons were detained by the police for allegedly taking bribe to clear documents for passport verification in Assam's Dhubri district on Tuesday, a police officer said. After receiving a

complaint, a police team from Dhubri Sadar police station detained Regional Office here along

with two brokers from the

office premises here. The police had received complaints that the staff at the Passport office gives hint to applicants to get in touch with the cal instruments. brokers if they

PNS NEW DELHI

have any problems related to submission of required documents, Officer in

Charge of the police station an employee of the Passport Partha Pratim Gogoi told reporters here.

Notes of bamboo: Taking eco-friendly route to music

As the climate worsens and the world looks to find more sustainable ways of life, a musician here is leading the way towards a more ecofriendly future by using bamboo to manufacture a wide array of musi-Composer-percussionist Subhasis

Sabyasachi has turned to the fastgrowing bamboo to manufacture musical instruments, including xylophone phone, tabla, pakhawaj, sitar, veena and guitar -- all traditionally made using woods like teak, rosewood, red cedar, mahogany, and poplar, among

others

"If we continue cutting trees for any reason, we won't have any future for our children. The entire world is looking for ways to become plastic free. That is why I want to eliminate the use of wood in musical instruments and replace it with bamboo," Sabyasachi told PTI.It was Sabyasachi's guru and tabla maestro Braien Biswas who first came up with 'Brojo Tarang', a bamboo xylo-

"After guru ji's demise I am taking this forward, our orchestra plays with all bamboo instruments, mission is to convey a message my

about the climate, so that bamboo is used as a substitute," the Delhibased musician said.

He added that since bamboo is among the fastest-growing plants in the world and is widely used for climate change mitigation, it is ecological to use it for manufacturing musical instruments.

It is generally the flute that is made using bamboo, but Sabvasachi's musical kitty packs dholak, pakhawaj, tabla, kanjira, guitar, sitar and veena among other instruments."Every bamboo forest hides the instruments for a whole orchestra," he adds.

But doesn't using bamboo instead of traditional wood affect the sound quality?Other than offering a simble 'no' in response to the question, Sabyasachi adds other benefits of using bamboo to the list."Unlike other woods, bamboo is a hollow timber. You have to carve and cut through other material to create a hollow, which is naturally available with bamboo. And when it comes to sound, bamboo has a better resonance quality, creating better sound," the 41-year-old said, adding that the instruments made using bamboo are also comparatively

lightweight.

otal Extent 0-18 This declaration is made after hearing of objections of person rested and due enquiry as provided U/s. 15 of the Act No 30/2013. The number of families likely to be resettled due to lan equisition is for who resettlement area are nil.

sliget

Swapna,

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esh (0-05)

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Naliget Satheesh.

Naligeti Komuraiah, S/b Ravamallu (0-04) Naliped

Mallamma, Wo

Komutaiah (0-04)

Mines of coal, iron-stone, slate or other minerals lying under th aid land or any particular portion of the said land, except such parts of the mines and minerals which may be required to be dug o moved or used during the construction phase of the project for the purpose of which the land is being acquired, are not needed

A plan of the land may be inspected in the office of the Lan cquisition Officer & Revenue Divisional Officer, Bhupalpally on an vorking day. Sd/-Sd/-Sd/- Land Acquisition Officer Joint Collector Dist. Collector & Revenue Divisional Officer, Jayashankar Jayashanka Bhupaipally DIPR No. 1053/LA/PP-Pub/20

National Herald case

HYDERABAD | WEDNESDAY | DECEMBER 28, 2022

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pinion 06

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National parties?

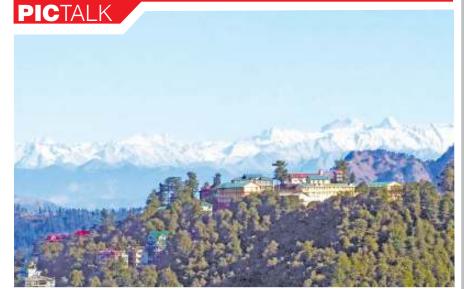
Both the BJP and Congress units in Maharashtra and Karnataka have opposite views on land dispute

aharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde has upped the ante by presenting a resolution on the decades-old border dispute with Karnataka in the state Assembly. VI It enunciates Maharashtra's resolve to contest the pending case in the Supreme Court with full strength for the inclusion of each and "every inch" of 865 villages including Belgavi, Karwar, Nipani, and Bidar Bhalki. This is reminiscent of the resolution that both houses of our Parliament unanimously adopted on February 22, 1994, stressing that Jammu and Kashmir was an integral part of India, and that Pakistan must vacate parts of the state under its occupation. But Pakistan is an enemy nation that has illegally grabbed our territory; in the present instance, both states involved are Indian and following the Indian Constitution. In both states, the Bharatiya Janata Party, which prides itself on its nationalist credentials, is in power. Such a resolution is an affront to nation-



al unity. To be fair to Shinde and his deputy, Devendra Fadnavis, their Government was apparently responding to an equally deplorable resolution passed by the Karnataka Assembly a few days ago. Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai moved the resolution which was unanimously adopted by a voice-vote. "There is no compromise on the matters relating to Karnataka's land, water, language and Kannadiga's interest. The feelings of Karnataka's people and members [of the Assembly] is one of this subject, and if it is affected, we are all committed to unitedly take constitutional and legal measures to protect the interest of the state." Since both resolutions were unanimously adopted in the respective Assemblies, all parties, includ-

ing the BJP and the Indian National Congress, consented to their contents. A question arises: where do these national parties stand on the land dispute between the two states? The state units of BJP and Congress Maharashtra believe that "every inch" of the land in dispute belongs to Maharashtra; similarly, the state units of BJP and Congress Karnataka believe that "every inch" of the land in dispute belongs to Karnataka. What, pray, do the BJP and the Congress believe --- that is, if they believe in anything other than power? For how long can national parties keep pandering to the groups which thrive on sentimentalism, be it region, linguistic, or religious? Governance is a serious business, which must be carried out with reliance on facts, commonsense, and reason; it cannot be allowed to run amok, following the vicissitudes of demagogic politicians. But, unfortunately, that is exactly what seems to be happening. Former Maharashtra chief minister Uddhav Thackeray is of the view that the Centre should declare "Karnataka-occupied Maharashtra" areas as a Union Territory. Despite the inappropriate description of the dispute areas, his suggestion is worth examining; it can be a UT till the Supreme Court decides over the matter. It is, however, not just the duty of the Centre to sort out the dispute but also of the two national parties.



Restore deterrence along LAC for peace

A 'Snow Leopard' style operation is needed to dissuade China from doing another Yangtse. The lasting peace can come only through quid pro quo.

am Madhav, once a powerful RSS voice who counted in the government, recently remarked that Indian action at Yangtse was only defensive but India is now prepared for China, adding that only Operation Snow Leopard against China was proactive. On the 15,000 feet high Yangtse plateau, the LAC follows Yangtse Ridge, the watershed where Indian border posts are located along a stone wall. Overlooking the plateau are the Yangtse heights which command a towering 360-degree view, especially of Tawang bowl 30 km away extending to Sela Pass where a tunnel is being built. It is one among several disputed areas resulting from the patchy marking of the McMahon Line on an 8-inch map and perhaps the only disputed area in Indian possession. This riles China as it was occupied by the bold actions of local commanders in Tawang when PLA infiltrated across LAČ into Wangdung/Sumdorong Chu in June 1986. Over time, Tawang developed into a fortress. It has the 341-year-old Galden Namgey Lhatse monastery, second only to Lhasa's Potala monastery, the world's largest Tibetan Buddhist place of worship. More importantly, the 6th Dalai Lama was born in Tawang which Tibet administered till 1950.

For China, the succession of the 14th Dalai Lama is linked to the status of Tibet and its control over Tawang. During the talks starting in 2005 over finding a political settlement to the border, skipping LAC identification, three clauses turned out to be key: 'not to disturb settled populations'; 'political compromise'; and 'national sentiment'. India's claim to Tawang's 'settled population' was trumped by China's use of 'national sentiment; and 'political compromise. The Chinese offer in the 1950s of a border solution was a swap: India conceded Aksai Chin while China accepted the McMahon Line. Unfortunately, his Chinese position has hard-



crook, even by use of force, try to retake Tawang which was under its possession for two months in 1962. China's new border law 2022 equates territory with sovereignty and makes recovery of lost territo-

ry sacred. The PLA's attempt to unilaterally alter the status quo at Yangtse is not their first. They've done so regularly since 2016 to assert China's claim over disputed territory. According to the Australian Strategic Policy Institute, supported by satellite imagery Dec 2022 of Planet Labs, Chinese infrastructure has improved significantly in one year with a road now 150 m short of LAC with new villages coming up close by. China's infrastructure development along LAC has created an 'escalation trap' for India which it tries to compensate for with increased readiness and surveillance to reduce the risk of accidental escalation. On 9 December, the PLA operation started around 3 am in foggy conditions, expecting to overwhelm Indian troops who were forewarned and beat back intruders with clubs and

Doklam in Bhutan where in 2017, Indian troops allegedly 'illegally crossed LAC' into Chinese territory to prevent the construction of a road to the disputed tri-junction invoking its treaty obligations with Bhutan. Following an INDIA HAS GONE agreement, the Indian and Chinese disengaged after 73 SILENT ON days. But the Chinese feigned DOKLAM IN withdrawal and soon returned. According to Planet Lab's, imagery obtained this month **BHUTAN WHERE** Chinese village 9 km east of IN 2017, INDIAN Doklam at Pangda is inside TROOPS Bhutan with now a bridge over Torsa Nullah. This will create ALLEGEDLY a new red-line situation for *'ILLEGALLY* India with Indian troops at Dokla just meters away from CROSSED LAC' PLA at Doklam. India has allowed the Doklam front to INTO CHINESE reopen as Bhutanese would any day settle their differ-TERRITORY TO ences with China but for PREVENT THE India's security concerns in Chumbi valley. CONSTRUCTION It is increasingly clear OF A ROAD TO China will neither clarify LAC nor settle the border question. It will repeat its 2020 tricks in THE DISPUTED East Ladakh in other areas as TRI-JUNCTION

India has gone silent on used after every clash with Indian troops in shifting the onus of blame to India. High time India paused to rethink its China policy of diplomacy which has hit a cul de sac. PM Modi's handshake at Bali with President Xi Jinping has made little difference. Last week's 17th round of military talks produced a blank with zero progress on friction points Depsang and Demchok. It is the end of Disengagement without any Deescalation.

Madhav is wrong claiming India is prepared for China. Far from it. Deterrence has broken down and military diplomacy has also failed. The government's resolve to keep Parliament in the dark and Modi's reluctance to utter the 'C' word add to the complexity of the LAC dilemma. China is extracting maximum advantage from it. One way to rebuild deterrence is through QPQ (Quid Pro Quo) operations like Snow Leopard. Political will is needed for QPQ but so is a worthy allocation to next year's defence budget to boost deterrence.

its infrastructure expands fur-(The writer, a retired Lt n. was Commander. IPKF

Snow-covered Himalayas mountain range after fresh snowfall seen from Shimla

Nature's wrath

Extreme weather is playing havoc in the USA where such a big chill is being witnessed after decades

t least 48 people have already died and thousands of flights have been canceled in the USA due to storms and severe cold conditions which are being touted as one of the biggest chills in decades. The cold is so stark that it is posing danger not only to humans but to entire ecosystem. Though it has been over a week there are no signs of any let-up and it is feared that the worst is yet to come. Buffalo, New York is one of the severest hit areas by the storm which is causing high-speed wind, rains, and snow across the US. According to the forecasts, the extreme cold settling over the US this week will be biting, as a blast of arctic air and strong winds threaten to plunge several regions into subzero temperatures. Roughly 150 million people across the US are facing the frigid conditions, posing life-threatening dangers to anyone without shelter, wrecking havoc on holiday travelers and causing power outrages, and blocking supply lines. Since this



extreme weather is not normally witnessed in the USA it is not as prepared to face it as Canada where subnormal temperatures are routine. Govt agencies across the country are urging households to prepare for the worst, with strong winds adding to the possibility of disruption in power supply. People are being advised to keep extra supplies, including blankets, to face any eventuality. This could be life saver. Ironically, worldwide stark winters are becom-

ing less common. The dramatic and sudden shift in temperatures, can have a profound effect on adaptation, especially for plants, animals, and ecosystem. The extreme weather and storms may be direct con-

sequence of upheaval in climate change, and fall out of human actions and interference . But it's clear that the underlying impacts caused by global heating may make them harder to endure. The abruptness of the drop in temperatures is also expected to impact aquatic life. It may be intriguing to know that such conditions can prevail in warmer climates like ours as some scientists are indicating. What has been the reason for such a sharp decrease in such a short span of time is still being debated but the reason for so many deaths can be attributed to a lack of preparedness and lesser tolerance for extreme cold conditions. This extreme winter is also a reminder that no matter how technically advanced you might be, you cannot beat nature which can take away what it gives. Life!

ened from concessions in the west to concessions in the east, mainly in Tawang. In no way

PT

Tawang and will by hook or status quo.

sticks. Through these attempts, says ASPI, China is testing Indian willingness and readi-China will compromise on ness to resist while eroding the

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

he decision or initiative of the Congress.

leader Rahul Gandhi who invited Samajwadi

Party (SP) President Akhilesh Yadav,

Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP) chief Mayawati and

Jayant Singh of Rashtriya Lok Dal (RLD) to par-

ticipate in the Bharat Jodo Yatra (BJY), as per

were marred in controversy owing to a

political crisis over sharing of power. His

decade-long armed struggle from 1996

to 2006 only ended with establishing

peace in November 2006 by means of an

economic instability where smaller par-

ties role as brokers by siding either with

Mr Deoba or Mr Oli, it is no surprise

then that its pressing problems like

maintaining law and order, fighting

corruption, creating jobs, improving

economic conditions, providing health

as ever. The new govt has its task cut out.

The political changes may not bode well

for India as the guerrilla leader's

proximity to China and his pro-China

stance will pose problems for a healthy

Sir — Sportspersons' careers often hang

on slender threads, waltzing amidst

swings in fortunes. None can be a bet-

ter example of this fact than the two soc-

SPORTSPERSONS' CAREERS

Vijay Singh Adhikari | Nainital

In a nation clouded by political and

greement.

relationship.

INVOKING ITS TREATY **OBLIGATIONS** WITH BHUTAN

ther. After withdrawal from Hot Springs in September, China said it would not accept the status quo of 2020 created by India's [†]illegal crossing of LAC.' This fiction China has

South, Sri Lanka, & founder member of the Defence Planning Staff, currently the Integrated Defence Staff; views expressed are personal)



WHOSE RESPONSIBILITY IS IT ANYWAY?

- This is in response to Prafull Goradia's article titled "The life & career of Mohammad Ali Jinnah" (December 24). Though it would be unfair to say that the Partition of India was the handiwork of MA Jinnah only, the whole world knows that the Muslim League leader played a pivotal role in that gory episode. Had Pakistan been achieved by taking resort to non-violence dialogues debates and the population of the sub-continent not got adversely affected; perhaps a favorable case could have been made for Jinnah.

But the fact remains that it was Jinnah's call of "Direct Action Day" that provoked the year-long Great Calcutta Killings and resulted in thousands of innocents being butchered to death. Jinnah's dream of Pakistan got fulfilled at the expense of the lives of millions. And those who survived the mayhem found themselves raped, widowed, orphaned, uprooted, and homeless overnight. After achieving his goal, Jinnah acted pious by promising equality for all Pakistanis, irrespective of their religious affiliation! But that rhetoric is not enough to absolve Jinnah of the deadly crime that he had perpetrated against humanity. So painting him as "originally secular" is meaningless in the context of his future deeds.

Kajal Chatterjee | Kolkata and quality education remain as elusive

NEW GOVT IN NEPAL

Sir — Instability in Nepal for the last few decades has cast an ugly shadow on both its internal and external affairs. The November general election failed to produce a single candidate as no party could claim to form the govt despite Nepali Congress emerging as the single largest party. However, in a dramatic turn of events after weeks of speculation and negotiations were put to rest as former Maoist rebel leader Pushpa Kumar Dahal, Prachanda, is set to become the cer giants - Lionel Messi and Cristiano PM of the Himalayan state. His previous Ronaldo, whose contrasting campaigns two terms in 2008–2009 and 2015-16 were the highlights in the recently con-

A good decision sources for the unity of the country is a wel-

come step. A formal letter has been written by the Congress leader but its not received consent from these leaders

The Bharat Jodo Yatra will resume on January 3 from Ghaziabad in UP and it is said that Congress wants all like-minded parties to participate in the Yatra which is already successful in other states with a very large participation of people from all castes, communities, and religions. Earlier, many non-Congress leaders and celebrities including actor and politician Kamal Haasan joined the vatra. It is high time leaders of political parties must join the Yatra irrespective of different ideologies Bhagwan Thadani I Mumbai had no enemies, like Ajatshatru. Former President — Ram Nath Kovind l wished (Modi) a successful G20



He (Vajpayee) was

a rare combination

of a politician, poet

being, and sympa-

thetic leader who

fearless human

participation in its implementation. I also thanked (him) for humanitarian aid and support in the UN. Ukraine President

– Volodymyr Zelensky

... I was coming out of some serious cinema with Uri. Bhoot. As an actor. even I was hungry to exploret.



Acto Vicky Kausha



Managemen Committee and will have no stone unturned in fulfilling this responsibility to the best of my abilities Pakistan cricketer

— Shahid Afridi

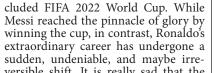
A lot of lies are being spread about Rahul-ji. They should start Rahul Gandhi Troll Ministry and put

Smriti Irani as the in-charge. She **Congress Social Media incharge**



does not talk about when atrocities are committed against women.

— Supriya Srinetra



sudden, undeniable, and maybe irreversible shift. It is really sad that the Portugal star, post world cup, has been relegated to a state where he has millions of die-hard fans, yet still being lonely. Imagine a football giant, who everyone came to watch, yet was stuck on the

bench often because of the rift in the relationship between him and Coach Fernando Santos. Or precisely, being Cristiano Ronaldo, yet not being wanted now.

Hitting the football into the net with regularity was what Ronaldo had been doing for years. But when he can't do that anymore, his value plummets. Sadly, just in the space of one world cup, Ronaldo's legacy has been battered beyond repair. As for Messi, completing the set of trophies with the summit clash of the

game is not only phenomenal but also like cutting through the knife in the heart of Ronaldo.

Ranganathan Sivakumar | Chennai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com



HYDERABAD | WEDNESDAY | DECEMBER 28, 2022



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FIRSTCOLUMN HEALTHY, FIT INDIA IS MUST FOR WELLBEING

Govt is addressing numerous critical health challenges



MONIKA ARORA

ealth is the building block for the prosperity of a nation. The Covid-19 has brought the focus back on healthy living and the need for robust health infrastructure, and the Indian government has been quick to respond. Even before the pandemic struck, the government was emphasising on the holistic health and well-being of all

With programmes like Ayushman Bharat and Mission Indradhanush, the government has been addressing numerous critical health challenges and promoting Universal Health Coverage (UHC). Another important but often ignored area for health programming has been women and adolescents. The health of the nation depends on the health of its women, children, and youth but health-seeking data among them in India is less than one per cent as per a study.

Similarly, only a few adolescents (5 per cent young men and 8 per cent young women) are aware of AFHC in India. Health Promotion among adolescents is the need of the hour as their empowerment is crucial to address the looming burden of overweight - obesity and NCDs among adolescents alongside the unfinished agenda of malnutrition and communicable diseases.

POSHAN Abhiyaan is a path-breaking government flagship programme to improve nutritional outcomes for children, adolescent girls, pregnant women, and lactating mothers.



CNNS data has highlighted huge overweight-obesity prevalence among 10-19 years in India with five per cent in both girls and boys. Over 17 million children, aged 5-19 years in India are affected by obesity. If left unchecked, these numbers will increase to 27 million by 2030-34. Thus, addressing the food environment to enable healthy choices for children and adolescents is crucial. Findings of a recent study conducted by the PHFI's research team with support from the WHO country office for India in 2021 highlighted that the advertising environment in and around schools is obesogenic, despite government and educational institutes guidelines on restricting the availability and accessibility of HFSS foods.

Another PHFI study conducted a content analysis of food advertisements on popular television channels among children and youth in India. The results revealed that a total of 88.6 per cent of 1735 food advertisements were for HFSS foods and a higher proportion of food advertisements were seen on children's channels (38 per cent) than on youth channels (23 per cent). The study highlighted that the majority (90-95 per cent) of advertisements broadcast on television channels targeting children and youth were of HFSS foods. These studies laid the foundation for designing and initiating the "Let's Fix Our Food" (LFOF) campaign to combat an obesogenic environment for children and youth. Better adolescent health can only be achieved by meaningfully engaging adolescents in intervention design and implementation. Recently, when multiple stakeholders convened nationally on the issue of addressing obesity among children and adolescents in India, it was noted that adolescents' voices were missing in these academic and scientific debates. It led to the launch of the 'LFOF initiative, which is co-created with adolescents. Under this initiative, their meaningful engagement in creating a healthy food environment in the country and leading to ownership of issues as campaigns are designed and delivered by the youth themselves. It will create health-promoting norms among adolescents, in families, and communities and will also support policies that will enable addressing malnutrition by addressing both ends of malnutrition: obesity and undernutrition. The time is ripe to come together and work towards the nation of our dreams, a healthier and happier India, by bringing all the relevant stakeholders for strengthening awareness and adoption of healthy behaviours around nutrition and physical activity among adolescents. (The author is Vice-President, Public Health Foundation of India)

Teachers should play role of friend, parent



analysis 07

A teacher's job is to equip the students to overcome the travails they face in their later life

here was a time when a teacher was looked upon as a role model by students. Apart from tude and character in their private life. A

teacher is considered at par with God; whatever they deliver is considered divine by the students and the parents. They were the sole provider of knowledge for students. Before the implementation of the Right to Education (RTE) Act 2009, corporal punishment by teachers was never considered a punishable act.

There are instances where parents supported the action of the teachers, for they knew that teachers punish students only for their betterment. Situations have changed recently, and parents consider even compelling a student to learn as a grave crime! If a student commits suicide, authorities make the teacher a culprit, and the media also goes against the teachers. A true teacher should act as a guiding light in the life of students, correcting them when they make mistakes and acting as a philosopher to provide tips to manage the travails in life.

But in today's digital era, the public perception of teachers has changed a lot. They are no longer considered a provider of knowledge. For today's generation, Google and YouTube are the knowledge sources. Even a kindergarten child knows how to use these on a laptop and smartphone. Today's children learn to attain every skill through the internet. They learn foreign languages, learn music and other skills easily using apps available on the internet.

Suppose the purpose of a university is to facilitate the advancement of knowledge and the development of high cognitive skills in the community. In that case, Google can aptly be called a 'Google University'.

In this era of 'Google University', a teacher is considered secondary, mostly to act as an intermediate between humans and machines. For teachers to survive in this new world is challenging, especially for school and college teachers.

Teachers in the earlier generations ranked based on their knowledge in their domain and their attitude. Today if



Many of today's teachers try to be friends with students to be in their good books and be among them. Partying with students, dancing with them and being with them on social media are new means of impressing students. There are hardly very few students IN THIS ERA OF who expect their teachers to be a knowledge repository.

'GOOGLE Everyone in our society, be it UNIVERSITY', A students or teachers, has become an attention seeker through social TEACHER IS media. Seeking attention is the basic human instinct. Toddler seeks attention from their parents; SECONDARY, a student seeks attention from their teachers; a teenager from friends

MOSTLY TO ACT AS AN INTERMEDIATE Seekers. seekers.

BETWEEN The quantum of posts available on various social media platforms HUMANS AND like Instagram, Facebook, or MACHINES. FOR Pixstory is ample proof of this. A teacher being a part of this new TEACHERS TO digital society is no exception. Feachers dancing with students.

tions like any other person. The authorities should check whether the teacher is doing their profession judiciously.

Even though a good teacher should be a friend to a student, they should know where to draw the line. They should know how to keep a distance from students. Too much closeness to students may be misused by some.

Many institutions have put forth a dress code for teachers, driven mainly by the prevailing traditions in that society. The dress code also gives dignity to the profession and helps demarcate teachers from students. Otherwise, it would be tough to identify a young teacher from a student. Imagine how our army men/women would look without

proper uniforms. The unwritten rules and codes of ethics formulated by society are based on the experience our ancestors gained through their experience. The teachers are dealing with students, who are mostly in the age group of adolescents or teenagers. Their brain is fluid and is driven by the temptations caused by body chemicals. Many times the outward behaviour a student expresses is beyond their control. It's the duty of every teacher not to instigate their physiological status to extremes. In a recent affidavit filed by the Kerala University of Health Sciences at the Kerala High Court, it was stated that "absolute freedom on attaining the age of 18 may not be appropriate and good for the society, and

ished now.

the Opposition.

the prime ministerial candi-

In this digital communication world, a teacher must be more cautious in their attitude and behaviour on social media, as their students are constantly monitoring them. In this era, it is the duty of teachers to teach students how to behave on social media and how to tackle crimes associated with it. They should teach students how to use the internet judiciously.

With the emergence of AI technologies, all creative things like writing, drawing, compositions, etc., where human brains need to be used, can be done using the internet within minutes. In this situation, evaluating a student and developing content for teaching is an arduous task for the teachers.

A teacher's job is not only to complete the syllabus or pass examinations but to equip the students to overcome the travails they face in their later life. A good teacher should play the role of a good student, friend and parent. Only if they consider themselves a student will they be curious to learn more from their domain. Similarly, they should be a good friend to students, listening to their concerns. They should also play the role of parents showing empathy and correcting them when they make mistakes.

a teacher has to earn respect in the knowledge domain, they need to overpower the 'Google University'. This is a difficult task for many. The attitude of a teacher in the present generation is hard to define. Indian society gives high respect to teachers and the teaching profession. Our tradition considers teachers at par with God, and hence they expect some qualities from a teacher that a student can emulate.

Truthfully speaking, most teachers are just moving with the trends of the society and never try to keep their individuality at the forefront. They try to satisfy the needs of the present generation of students.

SURVIVE IN THIS partying with students, or even NEW WORLD IS dating students and posting their photos and videos on social media CHALLENGING, has become a new norm in this ESPECIALLY FOR new world. Many teachers play appeasement politics with their SCHOOL AND students for their survival.

Of course, like any other per-COLLEGE son, a teacher has a professional as well as private life. There is no need TEACHERS well as private into their private life. That doesn't make sense to have the teacher and student consum-(The author is a science communicator and

ing alcohol together or taking a smoke together. There are excellent maturation is fully accomplished teachers who have their tempta- at the age of 25".

The problem we face in our education system is that we lack teachers who are passionate about the profession. Many have taken up the job either by accident or by peer pressure.

Teaching is a divine profession, and teachers should show divinity by inculcating the spirit gained from our rich heritage.

YOU CHANGED THE ENTIRE [PCB] CONSTITUTION TO BRING IN ONE PERSON, NAJAM SETHI, AND TO ADJUST HIM. I'VE NEVER SEEN THIS ANYWHERE ELSE IN THE WORLD. - EX-CHAIRMAN OF PAKISTAN CRICKET BOARD **RAMEEZ RAJA**



THE CRICKET REGIME HEADED BY RAMIZ RAJA IS NO MORE. THE 2014 PCB CONSTITUTION STANDS RESTORED THOUSANDS OF CRICKETERS WILL BE EMPLOYED AGAIN. THE FAMINE IN CRICKET WILL COME TO AN END. - CHAIRMAN PAKISTAN CRICKET BOARD **NAJAM SETHI**

Next year will be crucial for India on several counts

academic)

Economy, politics and foreign affairs will hog limelight with keen global interests in 2023

youth population.

hat is in store for the year 2023? Will it be good or bad? For the past three years, the world has faced an unprecedented pandemic, Covid-19, which has devastated the globe. Crystal-ball gazers are hoping for a better scenario next year. They expect the economy's health will be restored and hope to resolve the war-like situation in Ukraine.

But the famous French astrologer Nostradamus predicted that in 2023 the Ukraine crisis might lead to a world war. He foretold a temperature rise and heralded the arrival of a new Pope, a civil war in America, civil unrest in the world, and a Mars landing.

The Economist magazine notes the global interlocking challenges, including the war



(The author is a senior

journalist)

KALYANI SHANKAR

in Ukraine, food and fuel event next year. Politically, for prices, the fight against infla-India, the upcoming nine tion, the transition to renewstate elections are the most able energy, and China's significant in 2023. It will uncertain post-pandemic decide the fate of several parpath. India might overtake ties and their leaders, includ-China as the world's most ing Congress, the BJP, and other regional parties. The populous country next year. It has the world's largest strength of Rahul Gandhi will be tested in these polls On foreign policy, India

will host the prestigious 18th G20 Heads of State and Nine states will go to polls over the next 12 months. They Governments summit on September 9-10, 2023 in New are-Meghalaya, Tripura, and Delhi. As part of the Summit, Nagaland in February; India will hold more than 200 Karnataka in May; Chhattisgarh, Madhva events spread across major metro cities. Prime Minister Pradesh, Mizoram, Telangana, Modi plans to showcase himand Rajasthan in November. self and India in a grand show The government might also to project himself as a world hold elections in Jammu and leader ahead of the 2024 polls. Kashmir. The results will be a The coronation of King Charles 111 is a colourful

who loses will impact the elec-torate and the workers' morale.

The ruling BJP is making all efforts to expand its base. For the Opposition, it is vital to ensure that non-BJP parties win to stop the BJP juggernaut. There is a direct fight between the BJP and the Congress in Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh, and Madhya Pradesh. In Karnataka, there will be a triangular contest between BJP, Congress, and JDS. In Telangana, a triangular fight will be between TRS, Congress, and BJP. In Tripura, too, there will be a triangular fight between the BJP, the ongress, and the Left Front.

Of these, the BJP rules Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh. Both are critical for precursor for the 2024 Lok Congress and the BJP. And so has a chance to wrest the Sabha polls. Who wins and are Chhattisgarh and ernment from the BJP.

Rajasthan, the only two states Congress currently holds. The BJP wants to wrest Telangana from chief minister K. Chandrashekhar Rao, who fancies himself as the challenger to Modi. Confident because his party has maintained over 40 percent vote share, establishing its formidable position in Telangana, KCR wants to perform a hat trick. Though he has finished the Congress and Telugu Desam, to his dismay, the BJP has emerged as the main opposition party in the space vacated.

The immediate focus is on Karnataka. The BJP has high stakes as that is the only state the BJP is ruling in the south. The Congress-JD(S) combine has a chance to wrest the gov-

Tripura, Meghalaya, date only after the polls. agaland, and Mizoram are There are at least half a dozen poll bound in the Northeast. contenders, mostly the egois-The BJP currently rules tic regional satraps like Mamata Banerjee, KCR, and Tripura. In Meghalaya and Nagaland, the BJP-backed Arvind Kejriwal. The return of covid with a governments are in power.

The Mizo National Front new variant is a new threat. government is ruling in India managed to contain the pandemic by vaccinating a Mizoram. The once pre-eminent Congress is almost finbillion plus people. Still, the government should be on guard against any new variants.

Will Congress revive its strength? Will Rahul Gandhi On the economy, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman emerge stronger? The Himachal Pradesh win this will present the Union Budget month has boosted the morale on February 1. Inflation and of the Congress. It has allowed price rise are two critical issues. The World Bank expects a chance for Congress to unite India's GDP growth to be bet-The opposition parties ter than expected, but inflation

have realised that Modi will would stay above 7 per cent. get a third term unless they Overall, 2023 might bring combine. They will decide on

us better prospects in most spheres.

after his current Bharat Jodo yatra ends in February.

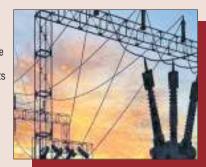


Money 08

Power Min, DRDO ink pct for early warning system for hydro projects

he Power Ministry on Tuesday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) for the implementation of an early warning system for vulnerable hydro projects or power stations. The ministry and the DRDO will jointly work towards developing suitable mitigation measures against avalanches, landslides, glaciers, glacial lakes and other geo-hazards, an official

release said. The expertise of the DRDO will also be utilized in developing comprehensive Early Warning System for vulnerable hydro projects/ power stations in hilly regions. The ministry has taken the initiative of implementing Early Warning System (EWS) in the hydro power projects especially those located in upper reaches of hilly regions. The EWS is an integrated system of hazard monitoring, forecasting and prediction, disaster risk assessment. communication and preparedness for timely action to reduce disaster risks in advance of hazardous events



Sensex, Nifty rise for 2nd day as banking, metal shares shine

Benchmark stock indices Sensex and Nifty closed higher for a second straight day Benchmark stock indices Sensex and Nifty closed higher for a second straight day global markets. The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 361.01 points or 0.60 per cent to settle at 60,927.43. During the day, it rallied 420.26 points or 0.69 per cent to 60,986.68. The broader NSE Nifty climbed 117.70 points or 0.65 per cent to end at 18.132.30. From the Sensex pack,

Tata Steel. Tata Motors, Larsen & Toubro, Asian Paints, Wipro, Bajaj Finance, ICICI Bank, Tech Mahindra and Titan were the major winners. Hindustan Unilever, ITC, Mahindra & Mahindra and Nestle were the laggards. "With strong support from global peers, the domestic market is attempting to recoup its previous week's losses. Metal stocks shone amid hopes of a demand revival in China on reports of loosening COVID restrictions



Myplan8 launches app to sensitize about carbon footprint

Speople about their carbon footprint and help reduce the emissions. The application would help track carbon footprint caused by day-to-day lifestyle activities, according to the company. An individual can check about their carbon footprint through Myplan8, by answering few questions on the application, it said. The app will help

2 YEAR-ENDER 2

neonle move towards a more sustainable way of living, through a carbon-conscious lifestyle. "Every nation stresses on carbon footprint reduction...We aim to eliminate roughly 1 Giga tons of carbon emissions by 2030 by enrolling 100 million people in Myplan8," its Cofounder Nidhi Mehra said in a statement. The app will help evaluate aspects like usage of water, electricity, food habits. waste management, and mode of transportation



Total govt debt rises to Rs 147 lakh cr

PNS NEW DELHI

The total liabilities of the government increased to Rs 147.19 lakh crore at September-end from Rs 145.72 lakh crore at the end of June this fiscal year, according to the latest data on public debt.

In percentage terms, it reflects a quarter-on-quarter increase of 1 per cent in second quarter of 2022-23.

Public debt accounted for 89.1 per cent of total gross liabilities at September-end 2022, up from 88.3 per cent as on June 30, the quarterly report on public debt management released by the finance ministry on Tuesday said.

Nearly 29.6 per cent of the outstanding dated securities had a residual maturity of less than 5 years, it said.

During the second quarter, it said, the central government raised Rs 4,06,000 crore through dated securities, as



against notified amount of Rs 4,22,000 crore in the borrowing calendar, while repayments were at Rs 92,371.15 crore.

The weighted average yield of primary issuances hardened to 7.33 per cent in Q2 FY23 from 7.23 per cent in Q1 FY23, it said, adding, the weighted average maturity of new issuances of dated securities was lower at 15.62 years in Q2 government securities indicates that share of commercial banks stood at 38.3 per cent at Septemberend 2022 as against 38.04 per cent on June 30, it said.

Liquidity Adjustment Facility as compared to 15.69 years in (LAF) including Marginal During July-September 2022, the central government Standing Facility and Special Liquidity Facility was at Rs 1,28,323.37 crore during the did not raise any amount through Cash Management quarter, it said.

Bills.The Reserve Bank did The yields on government not conduct Open Market securities in secondary market operations for government hardened in short-end curve securities during the quarter. due to near-term inflation and The net daily average liquidliquidity concern though softity absorption by RBI under ening of yield was observed for

the longer tenure securities during the second quarter, it said.Monetary Policy Committee decided to hike Policy the policy repo rate by 100 bps, i.e., from 4.90 per cent to 5.90 per cent during Q2 largely with an intention to contain inflation, it said. The ownership pattern of

central government securities indicates that share of commercial banks stood at 38.3 per cent at September-end 2022 as against 38.04 per cent on June 30, it said.

exchange reserves, the report said, it stood at USD 532.66 billion as on September 30, 2022, moderated from USD 638.64

billion on September 24, 2021. Between July 1, 2022 and September 30, 2022, the rupee depreciated by 3.11 per cent. The value of rupee against the dollar as on July 1 stood at 79.09 as against 81.55 on September 30, it said.

Implementing labour reforms, expanding social security coverage PNS NEW DELHI

Expanding the social security coverage for unorganised workers and pursuing states

to make rules for labour codes will be the key priori-With regard to foreign ties for the government in 2023, as efforts continue to strengthen the country's labour market. With India set to host G-

20 leaders' summit for the first time next year, the Union labour ministry will also pursue key employmentrelated agenda touching upon global skill gaps, gig and platform economy, sustainable financing of social security schemes and other issues.

"Our efforts will be to cover a large number of unorganised sector workers under the ambit of social security schemes in 2023 and provide them with eligible benefits online. We want to make processes paperless in the ministry," Union Labour and Employment Minister Bhupender Yadav told PTI.

envisages provisions for annual health check-up and The four labour codes on social security, industrial relations, wages, and Occupational Safety Health & Working Conditions (OSH) have already been cleared by Parliament but they can be implemented only when the Centre and states notify the respective rules since labour

The applicability of Employees' Provident Fund ing unorganised workers, in terms of statutory minimum has been extended to all wage, social security and healthcare. They also provide industries under the codes as for a statutory right for minagainst scheduled industries imum wages and timely paypresent under the new ment of wages for all worklegal framework. ers to support sustainable growth and inclusive devel-Another major issue will

be on the way forward with respect to the Supreme Court Among others, the codes order on Employees Pension provide for a uniform defin-Scheme 1995 (EPS-95). "We are examining the judgement," Yadav said. ition of 'wages' that will help in reducing multiple interpre-

Last month, the apex court upheld the Employees' Pension (Amendment) Scheme, 2014 and allowed employees to opt for enhanced pension coverage alongside their employers in four months' time.

In a written reply to Rajya Sabha earlier this month, Minister of State for Labour and Employment Rameshwar Teli said the apex court judgement has legal, finan-cial, actuarial and logistical implications.As per the court order, employees who were existing EPS-95 members as on September 1, 2014 can contribute up to 8.33 per cent of their actual salaries, as against 8.33 per cent of the pensionable salary capped at Rs 15,000 a month towards pension. It had also struck down the requirement in the 2014 amendments mandating employer contribution of 1.16 per cent of the salary exceeding Rs 15,000 per month. This will facilitate the subscribers to contribute higher to the scheme and get enhanced benefits accordingly. The Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has more than six crore subscribers and a large number of them will benefit from opting for contribution on wages higher than the threshold of Rs 15,000 per month. As the chair of the influential G-20, a grouping of developed and developing nations, India will host the G-20 leaders' summit in November 2023, where labour issues will also be discussed.

Late Payment Surcharge Rules help cut receivables of power producers

PNS NEW DELHI

Late Payment Surcharge 2022 Rules is facilitating receivables reduction for independent power producers, according to India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra).India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) said the implementation of the LPS Rules 2022 issued by the Ministry of Power on June 3, 2022, has brought in greater discipline from state electricity distribution companies (discoms) in making timely payments to independent power producers (IPPs) in the renewable and thermal power sectors.Ind-Ra's portfolio has witnessed reductions across most states, significant in some -- such as Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh (receivables on October 22 at 30-90 days compared to 120-450 days in May 2022) -- and an improving trajectory in others, namely Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, the statement said.The scheme encourages



payment discipline from dis-

coms, given the risk of losing short and eventually mediumor long-term access to the power supply through the interstate transmission system (ISTS), it added.Along with the reduction, a greater alignment across IPPs and a level playing field with central utilities for payment security provide for greater stability in cash flows and mitigate liquid-ity pressures in the stressed project, the agency said. Ind-Ra expects ratings in its portfolio in the investment grade to remain resilient.

India-Australia FTA to help increase apparel exports

PNS NEW DELHI

Customs duty advantage under the India-Australia free trade agreement will help Indian apparel exporters get greater market access in that country as compared to their competitors, AEPC said on Tuesday.

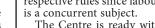
into force from December 29. Apparel Export Promotion

The agreement is coming

Council (AEPC) Vice imports in the Australian mar-Chairman Sudhir Sekhri said ket," he said.



An outreach programme



other hand, the rules will limit downside risks to stressed projects in the non-investment grade. However, the EMI (equated monthly instalments) payments for realising the accumulated dues up to June 3, 2022, through the scheme are primarily facilitated by funding Power Finance from Corporation Ltd and/or REC Ltd (IND AAA/Stable), adding to the debt liability of discoms, the agency pointed out.

LOAN FRAUD CASE

ing the Kocchars said that no

prior sanction, as required under the law, was obtained by the CBI

before their arrest. The probe

agency arrested the Kochhars on

Friday night after questioning them briefly. It alleged that they

were evasive in their responses

and did not cooperate in the

investigation. The CBI had

named the Kochhars and

Venugopal Dhoot, chairman of

the Videocon Group, along with Nupower Renewables (NRL)

managed by Deepak Kochhar,

husband approach HC against their arrest

Ex-ICICI Bank CEO Chanda Kochhar,

Australia is the largest importer of garments in the

southern hemisphere. While China's share in import of apparel into Australia is more than 70 per cent, India's share is less than per cent."With the India-Australia ECTA (Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement) getting operationalised, India will have a slight duty advantage over Vietnam and Indonesia for

India's ready-made garment exports to Australia have seen a growth of an average of 11.84 per cent over the last 5 years, which is "purely on account of China Plus One strategy adopted by most countries," he added.Going by this growth trend and with the agreement coming into play, AEPC believes that the exports to Australia would grow three times by 2025, the Vice Chairman said.

organised on Tuesday by the Department of Commerce in association with AEPC and Okhla Garment Textiles Cluster (OGTC).OGTC President P M S Uppal said most of the big Australian companies have deep roots in China and they will only be considering India as an option "we give them lucrative incentives and reasons to shift to India for sourcing their requirements".

OPEN MARKET SALE SCHEME Govt mulls offloading 15-20 lakh tons of wheat from FCI to contain prices in 2023

PNS NEW DELHI

The government is considering releasing 15-20 lakh tonnes of wheat next year from the FCI stock for bulk consumers like flour millers, under the Open Market Sale Scheme (OMSS) to contain rising retail prices, according of official sources.

According to the data maintained by the consumer affairs ministry, the average retail price of wheat was at Rs 32.25 per kg on December 27, higher than Rs 28.53 per kg in the

year-ago period. Wheat flour (atta) price too remained high-er at Rs 37.25 per kg than Rs

31.74 per kg a year ago. Under the OMSS policy, the government allows state-run Food Corporation of India (FCI) to sell foodgrains, especially wheat and rice, at predetermined prices in the open market from time to time to bulk consumers and private traders. The purpose is to boost the supply during the lean season and moderate the

general open market prices.

the rules, while some states are yet to complete the rulemaking exercise. As many as 31 states and

Union Territories have issued draft rules for The Code on Wages, 2019 while 28 states each have done this exercise for The Industrial Relations Code, 2020 and The Code on Social Security. There are 26 states which have issued draft rules under The Occupational Safety Safety Health and Working Conditions Code, 2020.The Centre is working with states for the implementation of the four codes that will be the key in providing social security to all informal workers in the country

"India has a federal structure. Labour is a concurrent subject. We have already prepublished draft rules on the four labour codes. The states are in the process of completing this exercise. We are pur-suing them to complete the exercise. I hope that the codes are implemented at the appropriate time," Yadav said.The four codes envisage strengthening the protection available to workers, includ-

providing socia security to all informal workers in the country.

implementation of

the four codes that

will be the kev in

tations of the labour law and

related litigations. It also

The Centre is

working with

states for the

opment.

medical facilities to enhance labour productivity and increase life expectancy.

As part of efforts to fomalise the employment of more people, the codes also require issuance of appointment letters to every employee of an establishment.

Such a system is expected to enhance job security as well as enable a worker to claim statutory benefits such as minimum wage and social security.Under the codes, the gig and platform workers have been defined for the purpose of formulating schemes to provide social security benefits. Another provision is that the central government may extend benefits to unorganised workers, gig workers and platform workers and the members of their families through Employees' State Insurance Corporation or Employees' Provident Fund

Organization.

Quality of domestic coal has increased considerably

Supreme Energy Private Ltd

(SEPL), Videocon International

Electronics Ltd. (VIEL) and

Videocon Industries Limited, in

its FIR registered in 2019 under

IPC sections related to criminal

conspiracy and the Prevention of

Corruption Act.The CBI has alleged that ICICI Bank had

sanctioned credit of Rs 3,250

crore to the companies of the

Videocon Group promoted by

Dhoot in violation of the Banking

Regulation Act, RBI guidelines,

and credit policy of the bank.

PNS NEW DELHI

PNS MUMBAI

Former ICICI Bank CEO and

MD Chanda Kochhar and her

husband Deepak Kochhar on

Tuesday approached the Bombay

High Court, calling their arrest

by the Central Bureau of

Investigation in a loan fraud case

illegal. The court, however,

refused to grant urgent hearing

and directed the Kochhars to

mention the matter before the

regular bench once it resumes

after vacation.A lawyer represent-

The government on Tuesday said the quality of domestic coal has increased considerably as the grade conformity of fossil fuel has improved to 69 per cent in the current fiscal. The government and the coal companies, including Coal India, have taken several steps to achieve the objective of supplying quality coal to all consumers. In a statement, the coal ministry said, "The grade conformity (of coal) has jumped to 69 per cent in 2022-23 (till November 2022) as against 51 per cent in 2017-18.

These companies have

taken steps like periodic regradation of coal mines, introduction of improved mining technology and installation of auto analyzers, among others to improve the quality of Indian coal.

An app called "UTTAM" --Unlocking Transparency by Third Party Assessment of Mined Coal -- was also introduced in 2018 for coal quality monitoring. It has been helping consumers to view the third-party validation of coal supply.Many consumers are taking advantage of this app in planning their coal usage, the statement added.



Rupee falls to 82.85 against US dollar PNS MUMBAI

The rupee declined 20 paise to close at 82.85 (provisional) against the US dollar on Tuesday, pressured by month-end dollar demand from importers and foreign capital outflows.At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened lower at 82.71 against the greenback and witnessed an intraday high of 82.69 and a low of 82.87.It finally settled at 82.85, down 20 paise over its previous close of 82.65. The dol-lar index, which gauges the greenback's strength against a basket of six currencies, was trading 0.27 per cent lower at 104.02. Global oil benchmark Brent crude futures rose 0.83 per cent to USD 84.62 per barrel.



the pioneer uerabad

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Wednesday December 28, 2022

'The stand-up comedian that you see is recalibrated for Shark Tank'

Recently, it was announced that comedian Rahul Dua replacing Rannvijay Singha as the host of the business reality shows Shark Tank. The Pioneer quickly connected with the comedian, who shares with us his learnings from donning this new cap, and some more insights.

SHIKHA DUGGAL

 \mathbf{T} e have a business reality show in our country too and Shark Tank India is all set for its second season. And guess what? Fans' favourite Rahul Dua will be there in the new season! Recently, there was a major change made on the show which took not just netizens but media also by surprise. When Rannvijay Singha exited the show, in his place, comedian Rahul Dua has been roped in to host the business reality show.

And, we can't keep calm! Welcoming him into this new venture, we ask him about the magical aspects and learn-

ings from donning this cap now and he They wanted a discrete element via an had a lot to tell us.

"All the entrepreneurs that were paving their had sentiments attached to their entrepreneurial pitches. From liasioning with a scrap dealer, and farmers to a student who was brought up by his professor — their spirits were unwavering. After a point, I started doubting myself (he bursts out laughing) whether am I doing something legitimate for myself or not," he shared.

According to the YouTuber, it wasn't as if he was a succession to Rannvijay, instead, he stated it as, "There was never an exchange of information between Rannvijay sir and me — it was the channel's call. spot: Rahul Dua was back.

artist, who can take over behind the scenes. The stand-up comedian that you guys see is recalibrated for this show! There was no set prepared for me, instead, I was a friend to the pitchers. When they go inside the tank, meet the sharks: the atmosphere over there is very hair-raising. Even the produc-tion is also very disciplined, they have no time to sympathise with the ones who couldn't get any funds because they are busy making a number one show for the country! So, who's left? It's me, as a host and dost. Before entering the tank, I used to calm their nerves down and once they are out of the tight

recalls, "I was doing my engi-neering — my hostel mates used to download shark tank global back then from the torrent and make me watch it too! Earlier, I was a banker by profession and that's when I wanted to materialise something of my own and I left the CITI Bank. Moving ahead, that did-n't work back then and I became a stand-up comedian by chance.

Doing comedy is also a business for us, we have a full-blown team that we are expanding!" The sharks are way too impressive

and Rahul, just at the first instance understood that you can't step up the line with them because each one of them is so well informed. He continued, "They are very influential, you just can't cook up a blue story with them. They'll speck you out immediately! Their approaches are also very extraordinary, joining them were the two new founders. If they were owning a cricket team of their own, each one of them would have won for

He's conscious of entrepre-neurship, he had a "keeda" in him during his college days. He while moving ahead I understood by the time he used to reach his 6th question he was actually gauging the pitcher's intelligence and passion towards his startup ecosystem, and of course his/her honesty. You asked me about Ashneer Grover, forget about him, on the contrary, even I am not there in the promos funnily (he giggled). I myself am a spontahow will I miss Ashneer sir?"

neur soon, Rahul Dua is gear-ing up to launch a mixed line of his own. He exclaimed, "As a comedian, the first move that naturally appears to us is launching merchandise of our it didn't turn out to be a launching a thundering designer label of my own and it will sure. In the beginning, when Amit Jain used to interrogate the pitcher consec-to do well in the market."

neous takeaway from the show, Hoping to turn an entrepre-

own and I did. Unfortunately, resounding trend as I expected. Down the lane, will soon be be so astonishing that it will have

Content Creation: Influencers who represented India on global platforms



Millia London orange ruffle gown York fashion week. with a trail that swept us off our feet followed by an It-girl saree from Papa Don't Preach by Shubhika. **Diipa Buller Khosla**



Radhika Bangia



5 musts to ace the New Year's eve look

Name we Year's Eve is fast approaching, and while we're sure you've already picked the absolutely perfect outfit, the perfect shoes, and all the matching accessories, we want to make sure you've packed everything you



have a lasting effect on our personalities and that's why I don't step out of home without mine! I am constantly on the go and need my perfume easily accessible. I've always wanted a fragrance that is sleek. stylish, and easy to carry. Engage L'amante Click & Brush perfume was my answer to that - it is so easy to carry along for fragrant touch-ups and fits perfectly in my travel sling bag – ideal for the mod-ern woman and our active life style!." Blotting Paper: Being a tad bit over prepared when it comes to your makeup on New Year's Eve is perfectly okay. To keep your makeup looking as fresh as possible for hours, dab on some blotting paper after applying your foundation, and then touch up during the night to avoid getting too greasy. Lip and Cheek Stain: Keeping essen-tial makeup items at home is not an option when you're at any party. A lip and cheek stain serves several purposes and also helps you carry less makeup items in your purse. It can instantly lift your entire look but dabbing some on, on the apples of your cheeks and lips! Hair Ties: After the party is done and you enter the new year with a bang, you may just want to put your hair up in a sloppy bun and call it a night. A hair tie is a must-pack item; extra points if it sparkles!

influencers. This year, there have been several influencers who have taken the content creation to a whole different level, representing that nation on various global platforms.

Let's rewind back and have a look to the influencers who have made us proud.

Niharika NM



Niharika NM has been one of the most renowned social media stars, Niharika was titled with the 'Youth Icon- Entertainer of the year 2022' at the World Influencers and Bloggers Awards. Niharika was one of the influencers who waved the Indian flag at the Cannes Film festival. For the Cannes, she looked drop-dead gorgeous in her black ensemble from Geisha Designs.

Masoom Minawala



Globally recognized influencer Masoom Minawala is known for her choice of classy fits. She is the perfect example of how a fashion influencer should be, giving us affordable and stylish looks in one go. For Cannes, she was spotted in a wide range of looks, each look giving us a hint of her colorful and vibrant personality.

Malvika Sitlani Aryan

Digital creator and CEO of her own brand Masic Beauty, she made her debut at the Cannes Film Festival this She year. opted for a

Diipa gave us some major fashion goals with her outfit choices at the Cannes Film Festival 2022. Styled by Manish Malhotra, for her first look, she wore a beautiful ivory saree by the fashion designer himself. She continued with the ivory and white streak with a shimmery gown by Nedret Taciroglu. She also chose a bright orange outfit by Georges Hobeika and for her last look, she donned a black and white ensemble by Avaro Figlio.

Tarini Peshawaria



Skincare influencer Tarini Peshawaria had her debut at the Cannes Film Festival and she did not disappoint. Staying in touch with her minimalistic style, she opted for a pastel blue ruffle gown by Ambika Lal and a sequined saree by Manish Malhotra.

Aashna Hegde



Aashna Hegde is the queen of fashion and content creation. She was one of the influencers who represented India at the VidCon. She has posted a few vlogs as well on her YouTube channel talking about her experience and you should totally check it out to know more about the entire event. She also walked the runway for New

Honestly, it looks like one hell of an experience. She interacted and conversed with so many creators all around the globe which gave her quite a few insights too about the community.

Gautami Kawale and Abhyudaya Mohan



Gautami Kawale and Abhvudava Mohan were invited for a talk at this summit and it's such a huge thing to give a speech among some amazing global creators.

Nagma Mirajkar



Nagma Miraikar became the first Indian content creator to walk the London Fashion Week Runway. She walked the ramp as one of the showstoppers representing Indian influ-encer presenters at the global platforms.

Gaurav Taneja and Ritu Rathee



Gaurav Taneja who is also popularly known as Flying beast will be seen walking the New York Fashion week runaway along with his wife Ritu Rathee.

need.

Need a refreshed fragrance post the fun on the dancefloor? We got you cov-ered. Smudged your eyeliner? No problem! No matter what hurdles life may throw your way, it is essential that you equip your purse with everything you need to guarantee a flawless celebration.

We have created this survival guide with the help of Tara Sutaria, for the absolute must-haves in your bag before you head to a New Year's party:

A mini 'fashion emergency' kit: Fashion emergencies can come anywhere and at any time. Fixing them up ASAP can be a little challenging especially when you're at a party with a whole bunch of party-people. Carrying a mini sewing kit can always come in handy in case your tights caught on your fingernail or if a button pops. A perfume that fits: We are all aware

that New Year's Eve is all about the dancing and the midnight kiss! But you also want to smell super fresh and clean at all times. A pen perfume is the ultimate tool that you need to have in your bag. Tara

Sutaria, Brand Ambassador, ITC Engage says, "I strongly believe that fragrances

Providing an adaptive curriculum by bridging learning gaps

he trend of homeschooling has been growing over the past several years. Homeschooling provides flexibility to students in terms of timing and pursuing a passion-based career. It is the way forward for the education sector and a mix of some hybrid learning activities.

With an aim to impart holistic learning where all-round development of the student is the prime focus, Birla Brainiacs is here to achieve this through student engagement and experiential learning models allowing the student to build knowledge which caters to their individual needs and the needs of the 21st century. All this while making learning enjoyable and fun. Birla Brainiacs is an Edtech company

founded by Nirvaan Birla in 2019. The Edtech platform was founded to cater to every section of society who wanted to study in good schools but could not study due to higher fees or the unavailability of good



schools in their locality. Its main objective is to provide the best education at a minimal fee. It is also for those students who want to make their passion-based career like sports, dance, technology, music etc., but cannot pursue their dream career after 8-10 hours of schooling.

They are here bringing a solution for both

students and parents in many ways. It is a hybrid option combining the best of both worlds (Offline+Online). It offers flexibility and freedom to students to learn at their own pace. For students, they have to spend a daily of only 3 hours as compared to 8 hours in a physical school. They do not need to carry 8-10 kg of heavy school bags. With limited accessories, parents can afford premium education at 1/4th of the cost and can track their child's daily progress. Covid has impacted the lives of people

and students in many ways. While everyone was busy gadgetsizing their offline school for a temporary online school, Nirvaan Birla - The founder of Birla Brainiacs unleashed the opportunity and founded Birla Brainiacs, where anyone can complete their schooling from home. They have also developed its app and web feature where one can access an entire school thing from home itself.





what's brewing?





o Star launched the 2023 Scalendar and celebrated Christmas at Deccan Serai Hotel in Madhapur. The auditions for the South Indian show, 'So Star Season 2' event organizers will train the shortlisted candidates to become models and give them the opportunity to prove their luck. The launch was graced by Andlab Zaidi, Ani Rathore, Raj, and Alekhya Angel.







Women Business Cult founders Anika Khara and Deepika Maheshwari celebrated Christmas with several women entrepreneurs, with an aim to network and bond women in business together.









Promotel and Sribhi events, launch the poster of its New Year event titled 'Night in Paris theme", which will be held at Taj Deccan, in Banjara Hills on December 31.



The city of Nizams to host the biggest New Year event with "Bollywood singer Darshan Raval", which will be held on December 31 at Om Convention. The curtain raiser and poster launch of the event at Bonfire Drive-in, Madhapur.



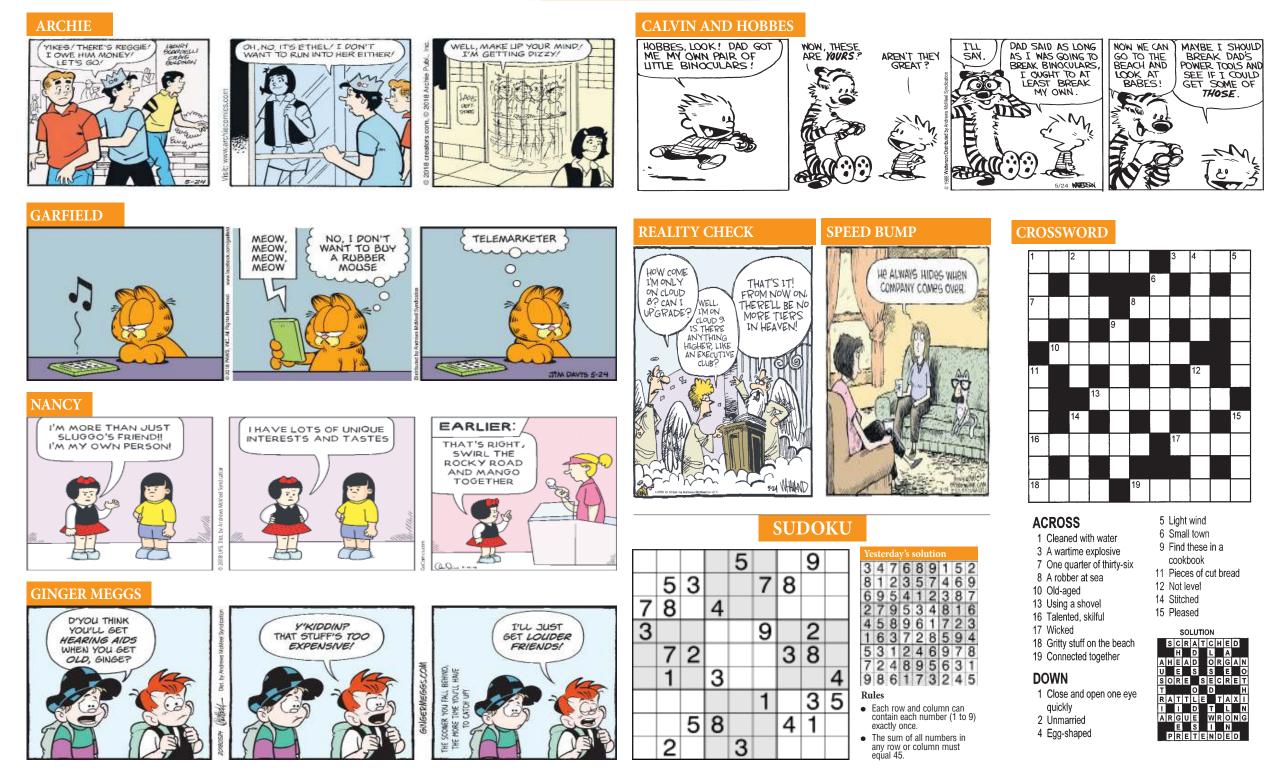


Alini Devarakonda performed her Kuchipudi Arangetram here in Hyderabad. She is the youngest ever dancer to make a Kuchipudi (Director of IDRTC and official state representative Ministry of Culture, Govt of India), Kalasri, Prof.P.RamaDevi (Faculty Dept.of. Kuchipudi Dance, University of Silicon Andhra California USA and Vedantham Radhesyam (Kuchipudi Dance Maestro and Presidential award winner).



FUN 🗧

hotos by SV Chary





tollywood

S5 No Exit has an unimaginative narrative'

PNS | HYDERABAD

S 5 No Exit starring Tarakaratna, Prince, Sunil, Ali, and Sai Kumar is being promoted on a grand scale. The film, a horror thriller is directed by Bharat Komalapati is produced by Adoori Pratap Reddy, Devu Samuel, Shaikh Rehim, Melki Reddy Gade, and Gautham Kondepudi under the banner Shourie Entertainments. Ahead of the film's release on the 30th of this month,

the director of the film Bharat and producer Gautham spoke to the media about the film.

Bharat Komalapati said, "I started working in the field from 2004. The original plan was to emerge as a hero. After then, my friends gave me the affirmation that I was dancing well after they saw me perform in a few a pro-grammes. I then took part in *Aata dance show*. Designing a concept for every song became a habit. My reputation as a choreographer consequently improved. The opportu-

as a choreographer consequently improved. nity to perform a song in Jyotilakshmi was given by Puri Jagannadh. Even though I still work as a choreographer, I was pas-sionate about direction. I used to write various concepts and stories when I was free. *S5 No Exit* is one such story. An entire coach catches fire on a train going from Hyderabad to Visakha. It will be interesting to know why that single bogie caught fire."

In the film, Tarakaratna plays the role of Subbu. "He is the son of CM Sai Kumar. A coach is booked to celebrate his birthday. All of them decorate the bogi and have a party. Then suddenly the coach doors close. There is no exit. Then there is the fire. Why the fire actually happened, how it happened, and what happened afterward are very interesting. The narrative is unimaginative, added the direc

Tarakaratna starrer *S5 No Exi*t is all set to hit the theaters on December 30. Just two days before its release, director Bharat Komalapati, and producer Gautham Kondepudi interacts with the Hyderabadi media and shares some interesting insights about the film.

tor about the story of the upcoming film. The director says there is also a political drama angle to this. Tarakaratna worked hard for this movie for 45 days. He is a man who does not speak much but follows the word of his father. Also, the performance of Ali in the role of TC and Sunil in another key role is impressive. An ani-

mated song comes before the start of the movie. I am confident that all those who will watch the movie will like it," said Bharat adding, he is going to do more films as a director. Meanwhile, producer Gautham said, "Bharat is my friend. He used to tell interest-ing points and stories that he felt. One day he told the story of S5 No Exit. I liked it very much and decided to do it with new people. But the story was so good, we decided to go with the padding artists. We started the set work the week after the story was approved. We made this movie without compromising anywhere. That's why many distributors came to the competition, but Saga Entertainment is releasing the film on a grand scale. So you can understand how much faith they have in the film. Also, if a music director like Mani Sharma gives a background score to a horror movie, vou can only imagine how good this movie is going to be. Cinema-tographer Garuda Vega Anji is also a big strength of our film. It will be released in more than 200



Abhishek Agarwal arts brush off rumours being associated with Prabhas & Sukumar

Production banner Abhishek Agarwal Arts has dismissed rumours about the company being associated with "multiple high-profile projects". Recently, there were reports claiming that the banner will be backing a film by Sukumar featuring Prabhas. It further suggested that the film will start shooting in 2024. However, dismissing the rumours, the banner said in a statement, "From the past few weeks, the name of Abhishek Agarwal Arts has been associated with multiple high-profile projects. The reports of the same were on social media as well as shared by fans on social media.

We would like to clarify that these are baseless rumours and there is no fact in it whatsoever. Any news or updates regarding such prestigious projects would be given by us to the media and the same would be published on our official handles.

Director Harish Shankar unveiled the concept poster & title of Annapurna Photo Studio



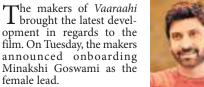
nnapurna Photo Studio is the sixth film from Big Ben cinemas, which has to its credit meaningful movies like *Pelli Choopulu, Dear Comrade* and *Dorasani*. Producer Yash Rangineni has roped in Chaitanya Rao and Lavanya to play lead roles. Chendu Muddu of *O Pitta Katha* fame is its director.

A village-based crime comedy, the film's con-cept poster and title reveal was made today at the hands of star director Harish Shankar. The title Annapurna Photo Studio and a caption that says that beautiful photos will be clicked in the studio,

that beautiful photos will be checked in the status, are mentioned on the poster. Speaking on the occasion, Harish Shankar said, "The title sounds refreshing and it's the first such feeling I am having in a long time. In the old days, every village used to have a photo studio and we used to eagerly wait for our photo every-time. The 1980s backdrop of the film and the crime comedy genre seem promising. The title and the poster design are exciting. All the best to the entire team."

Director Chendu Muddu said, "I thank Harish Shankar garu for releasing the poster. This film is set in the 1980s. This crime comedy takes place in a village. I hope the film is going to be liked by the audience. They encouraged me when I debuted with *O Pitta Katha*." Hero Chiatanya Rao said, "Harish Shankar garu happened to support my web series 21 Weds 30 in the past. And here is again, supporting our movie Annapurna Photo Studio. The film is com-ing out so well. We are confident that it will be loved by the audience." Heroine Lavanya said, "I thank Harish Shankar garu for supporting us today. Expect regular updates from our team. We need the audience's support." set in the 1980s. This crime comedy takes place support."

Minakshi Goswami The makers of Vaaraahi brought the latest devel-opment in regards to the film. On Tuesday, the makers announced onboarding Minakshi Goswami as the



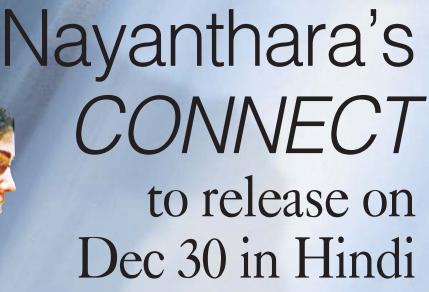


theaters.'

onboard for Minakshi is a theater artist from Rajasthan. Sumanth is

making the film based on the temple of Vaaraahi Amma, who derives from the power

Vaaraahi of Varaha Swami. The film is directed by Santosh Jagarlapudi. The film marks the second film of the combo after *Subrahmanya Puram* which was a success.



A fter having received a phenomenal response for its Tamil version, the rising demand for the film led to compelling the makers to release Nayanthara starrer Tamil horror thriller film *Connect* in Hindi that has eventually made its name count among one of the biggest Hindi releases coming from the South this year. While the audience has seen a flood of South Indian blockbusters films setting up their charm all across the globe, with the kind of response *Connect* is receiving from the audience, it seems like it is yet another film that is all set to create a rage in the Hindi market with its release on 30th December.

With films like KGF, Kantara, RRR, Vikram, and Pushpa, the south Indian film industry has left everyone impressed with their mind-blowing content. Be it winning the hearts of the audience to creating records at the box office, south Indian films have profoundly booked their mark all across the world.

Now, as Nayanthara's Connect is all set for its release in the Hindi market on 30th December, it seems like yet another film that is about to cre-ate an example of its success with its release. While the audience saw the ate an example of its success with its release. While the audience saw the films winning the hearts of the audience with their different kind of gen-res, *Connect* is one of its types of horror thriller films that the audience will witness after a long time in the theaters. Produced by Vignesh Shivan under Rowdy Pictures, *Connect* is directed by Ashwin Saravanan. The film stars Nayanthara, Sathyaraj, Anupam Kher, and Vinay Rai. The film is written by Ashwin Saravanan and

Kaavya Ramkumar and has been released in Tamil, Telugu, and Malayalam on 22nd December and will be released on 30th December in Hindi

SHETTY & SHETTY: 777 Charlie, Kantara Stars Joining Hands For Richard Antony?

Superhit movie *Kantara* actor and helmer Rishab Shetty's latest update featuring his photograph with his friend and 777 Charlie star Rakshit Shetty has triggered of speculation that the two Shettys are coming together for *Richard Antony*. The movie is being produced by Hombale Films, the production house behind *K.G.F. Chapter-1* and *K.G.F. Chapter-2* as well as *Kantara*. The title launch of the movie has already become a sensation among Kannada moviegoers. Rishab has shared an old picture of himself with Rakshit, actor Pramod

Shetty, Pragathi Shetty (Rishab's wife) and journalist-turned-director Sheetal Shetty. Rakshit is directing and acting in

rumours are rife that Rakshit and Rishab will be seen together in the action-packed drama. Fans of both the stars, who are known for experiments, are hoping for the best.

Rakshit is at the end of his new Kannad project *Sapta Sagaradacheyello* and has already begun work on *Richard Antony*. The music for the film is being composed by B. Ajneesh Lokanath of *Kantara*



fame. The fans of the two Shettys are now hoping that the two of them, who have made it to the top from the scratch, get together and produce magic.



sport 12

DIDN'T FEEL PRESSURE OF REPLACING KULDEEP: UNADKAT

PTI NEW DELHI

Taydev Unadkat did get his much-awaited chance with the red ball and he kept his "promise" with a spirited effort in his first Test for India after 12 years.

His love for the longer version of the game became apparent more than ever in January when he typed a tweet that went viral.

"Dear red ball, please give me one more chance.. I'll make you proud, promise!" the leftarm pacer had posted.

"Everyone thought that I was referring to a national comeback. I was just missing red ball cricket in general as Ranji Trophy was postponed for a second time (due to COVID)," Unadkat said after his arrival from Bangladesh. The 31-year-old, who had

played his first and only Test way back in 2010 with the great Sachin Tendulkar and current head coach Rahul Dravid being his celebrated teammates, featured in his second outing last week in remarkable circumstances.

Having not been on selectors' radar despite a recordbreaking performance in the 2020 Ranji Trophy, a national recall came for Unadkat when he expected it the least.

He was not even part of the India A side that toured Bangladesh before the Test series, so one could not fault



him for keeping his hopes to bare minimum.

Eventually, his patience gave Unadkat the big break he and perseverance prevailed as was waiting for while toiling on he was flown to Bangladesh as the domestic circuit for years. a backup pace option, with Mohammad Shami not regainthe expense of spinner Kuldeep ing full fitness for the series. Yadav, whose exclusion after an

The visa delays meant he eight-wicket haul in the series could only reach Chattogram opener triggered a selection after the start of the first Test controversy

The scoreboard would stand-in skipper K L Rahul show that Unadkat took three wickets in his comeback Test but his impact was bigger in the game

With years of first-class The opportunity came at experience under his belt since his Test debut in South Africa, Unadkat relished the pressure. Getting the most out of flat tracks in Rajkot is something

Unadkat had done for years and the Porbandar-born cricketer found himself in similar

territory in Mirpur. It did not take long for him to make his presence felt as he removed previous game's cen-turion Zakir Hasan with a ball that jumped from good length. That was his maiden wicket in Tests and Unadkat says that moment will remain the most special of his career.

"I was trying to extract bounce off length and I felt I could do that. The feeling (when it happened) will remain one of the most special memories of my cricketing career. Getting a Test wicket is something I visualised 1000 times," said Unadkat.

Did he feel the pressure of replacing Kuldeep?

'Absolutely not. When you don't expect things and they happen, I take it in my stride. I just wanted to contribute. If not take a wicket then create pressure from the other end. That was the thought.

"Domestic cricket has helped me immensely that way. You always have a role to play as a bowler even when you aren't getting the wickets. You can create pressure and put bat-ter in doubt and other bowlers can capitalise on that.'

What worked for Unadkat was his ability to bowl long spells on flat decks. 12 years from his debut, he was also a much wiser man having cap-

tained Saurashtra to unprecedented success.

"I got my chance as the management felt I was suited to the pitch. Like you said the conditions were similar (to Rajkot), not a lot of pace off the wicket and you will have to extract whatever you can by hitting the length hard.

"I knew if I will stick to my strengths, there will be something coming my way and that is how I got that extra bounce."

Unadkat could be the next left-arm pacer India have been looking for years but he is not thinking about that. When Jasprit Bumrah and Jasprit Moĥammad Shami are back, finding a spot in the XI will be much tougher.

"I was pretty young when I made my debut. All these years (at Ranji level) I never felt like a veteran. I am still 31 and at my peak. These four to five years would be the peak of my career and I want to continue as much as I can."

Does he see himself retaining his place for the Border Gavaskar Trophy beginning next month?

"I don't want to expect things as that has been helping me honestly. I am looking forward to the next round of Ranji (against Delhi), and that is all I am thinking about. If it

has to happen, it will happen. "I hope India dominate Australia. It is going to be a great series," he said

India beat SA by 54 runs PTI PRETORIA

The Indian U-19 women's cricket team produced an all-round effort to beat South Africa by 54 runs in the first T20I of the five-match series here on Tuesday.

The series serves as preparation for both teams ahead of the ICC U-19 Women's T20 World Cup to be held in South Africa from Longaw 14 to 20 from January 14 to 29.

Opener Shewata Sehrawat and Soumya Tiwari scored 40 each off 39 and 46 balls respectively to guide India to 137 for five after being asked to bat.

But the start was far from rosy for the Indians as they lost skipper Shafali Verma in the first delivery of the match.

But Sehrawat and Tiwari then joined hands and stitched 70 runs off 74 balls for the second wicket to set the platform for India's total.

While Sherawat decorated her innings with five boundaries, Tiwari hit three fours and six.

Kayla Reyneke (2/13) and Ayanda Hlubi (2/22) picked up two wickets each for the home team.

Defending the modest here on Thursday.

Warner retires in pain after making 200 in 100th Test



atures touching 37 degrees Celsius (98.6 Fahrenheit). Opener Warner, 36, snapped a near-three-year century drought in typically aggres-sive and gritty fashion, reaching three figures for a 25th time after coming into the game under pressure on a lean run.

It was his first Test hundred since January 2020 and as the opposition bowlers tired, he battled the elements and con-verted it to 200 for only the third time

His wife Candice told host ou'd think b



England to tour B'desh for white-ball series in March

played a series was in 2016

Board (ECB) statement.

interim CEO Clare Connor.

Conway, Latham take New Zealand to 165-0

AP KARACHI

New Zealand's opening pair of left-handed batters responded with a solid 165-0 in the first cricket Test on Tuesday after Agha Salman had scored his first Test century and led Pakistan to 438.

Devon Conway and Tom Latham batted confidently against the challenging spin of Abrar Ahmed on a dry wicket to remain unbeaten on 82 and





total, medium pacer Shabnam Shakil (3/15) shone bright with the ball as Indian bowlers picked up wickets at regular intervals to restrict South Africa to 83 for eight.

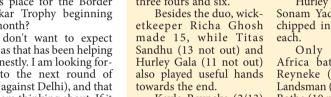
Shakil struck in her opening two overs to reduce South Africa to 10 for 2 inside three overs, a position from which the nosts never recovered. Besides Shakil, off-spin-

ner Archana Devi (3/14) also sparkled with the ball in the middle overs. Hurley Gala (1/13) and

Sonam Yadav (1/15) also chipped in with a wicket each.

Only three South Africa batters -- Kayla Reyneke (20), Madison Landsman (10) and Jemma Botha (10 not out) -- managed double digit scores.

The second match of the series will be played



AP MELBOURNE

David Warner battled through searing heat to hit an epic unbeaten 200 in his 100th Test on Tuesday before retiring in pain as Australia consolidated their advantage against South Africa at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

On a scorching day, the hosts were 386-3 at stumps on day two of the second Test, leading by 197 after the Proteas were dismissed in their first innings

for 189.

Travis Head was not out 48

with Alex Carey on nine. Steve Smith (85) and

Marnus Labuschagne (14) were the only wickets to fall. But worryingly for Australia, Cameron Green, who took 5-27 in South Africa's first innings, also retired hurt after a nasty rap on the fin-

ger from Anrich Nortie. Smith and Warner's 239run partnership took the game further away from South Africa, whose bowlers toiled in tempernow people would know writing David Warner off is the

wrong thing to do.' But it was an exhausting effort, as he passed 8,000 Test runs en route

Chairs had to be brought out for Warner and Smith to rest on in the drinks breaks, with towels draped over their heads and ice-packs on their shoulders.

Warner needed treatment for cramp several times and retired in pain after reaching 200 and dropping to his knees, eventually helped from the field by support staff. "The boys were cramping

left, right and centre," Smith told reporters. "So, difficult (conditions) but nice to get us to the position where we are now. I think we're in a nice spot."

The England men's team will undertake its first tour of Bangladesh since 2016 when it travels to the country to play three One-day Internationals and an equal number of T20Is in March next year.

The tour will commence with three ODIs, the first two matches taking place at the Sher-e-Bangla National Cricket Stadium in Dhaka on March 1 and 3. The final match of the series will take place on March 6 at Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury Stadium in Chattogram.

The three-match T20I series will start on March 9 in Chattogram, with the final two matches, on March 12 and 14, scheduled to be played in Dhaka

The last time the teams ditions.

when England won the ODIs 2-

the second day. New Zealand trails by 273 in its first Test tour to Pakistan The England squad is expected to play two warm-up since 2002.

fixtures ahead of the ODIs, the Conway also completed 1,000 Test runs in 19 innings, dates for which will be announced in due course, said taking the national record prean England and Wales Cricket viously held by John F. Reid.

Both batters used their "It is exciting that the England Men's white-ball feet well against Abrar, who took 17 wickets in two Test matches against England earsquad will return to Bangladesh for the first time since 2016. lier this month. Conway reached his half century off 89 The atmosphere generated in Dhaka and Chattogram for balls with nine fours, including four against Abrar. this eagerly-anticipated tour

will be fantastic," said ECB Latham followed in reaching his 50 off 96 balls with six fours as both batters grew in "There is a great passion for cricket across Bangladesh, and confidence and didn't hesitate we expect a tough challenge to even reverse sweep on a wicket which still has some against a side who have an turn for the spinners. excellent record in home con-

the company of tailenders to attack in the absence of injured Shaheen Afridi, Haris Rauf score 103 with 17 fours. He was and Naseem Shah, didn't offer a challenge to Conway and Latham with the new ball as both batters took New Zealand to 41-0 by tea before adding

124 more runs in the final ses-Leftarm fast bowler Mir Hamza, recalled after four vears since playing his only Test against Australia in 2018, and Mohammad Wasim, also playing only his second Test, couldn't break through.

Earlier, the 29-year-old - shared six wickets.

the last batter to be dismissed when Pakistan was bowled out an hour after lunch. Tim Southee, the Kiwis new test captain, picked up his 350th Test wicket and wrapped up the innings when Salman

tried to play across the seam-er, was struck on the back leg and was ruled out leg before wicket. Southee was the pick of the bowlers with 3-69 while three spinners -- Michael Bracewell (2-72), Ish Sodhi (2-87) and Ajaz Patel (2-112) -

Pakistan's weakened pace Salman batted resolutely in

sion

Avesh picks four as MP bowl out Railways for 274

PTI 📕 INDORE

vesh Khan took four wickets as Adefending champions Madhya Pradesh bowled out Railways for 274 on the opening day of their Ranji Trophy Group D match here mark. on Tuesday.

Avesh returned with figures of 4 for 69, while Saransh Jain and Puneet Datey (2/52) shared four wickets between them as Madhya Pradesh took 87.4 overs to fold Railways' innings.

Besides, Kumar Kartikeya (1/57) and Shubham Sharma (1/8)picked up a wicket each.

Electing to bat, Railways did not have the best of starts as Avesh struck in the fifth delivery of the match, removing Vivek Singh.

The India pacer came back in the 16th over to account for the wicket of Shivam Chaudhary (21) before Shubham Sharma dismissed Rahul Rawat (29) to reduce Railways to 68 for 3 in the 25th over.

Mohammad Saif (39) and Shubham Chaubey (24) added 44 runs for the fourth wicket before both the batters departed.

Skipper Upendra Yadav top-

off 123 balls and hit eight boundaries in the process.

Towards the end, Akash Pandey (24 not out) and Adarsh Singh (24) played useful hands to take Railways past the 250-run

SAMARTH'S TON DRIVES K'TAKA

Porvorim: Opener R Samarth's fine knock of 140 and his century partnerships with skipper Mayank Agarwal and Vishal Onat powered Karnataka to 294/3 against Goa in their Group C match.

Agarwal won the toss, opted to bat and provided a strong start for the team by adding 116 runs with Samarth. The two looked untroubled against the Goa attack and completed a century stand after a cautious start.

Agarwal appeared set for a big score before he fell LBW to Lakshay Garg for 50, which included five boundaries and two sixes. Samarth and Onat (73 batting,

172 balls, 9 fours) built on the platform provided by the opening partnership and piled on the Goa owlers' misery.

The home team attack comscored for Railways with a gritty 61 prising Arjun Tendulkar, Garg, and Puducherry in previous games.



Darshan Misal and Mohit Radkar was taken to the task by Samarth and Onat.

Samarth raced to a ton and was batting on 120 at tea. He added 20 more runs to his score before being dismissed by Tendulkar (1 for 30). It was a third straight firstclass century for Samarth, after having done so against Services

At Thumba, Kerala ended the day at 100 for 2 after having dismissed Chhattisgarh for 149 in under 50 overs with the experienced spinner Jalaj Saxena picking up five wickets.

TN RESTRICT DELHI

New Delhi: In-form Dhruv Shorey blew away an opportunity to score his third successive hundred in as ting after the first hour and half.

many innings as Tamil Nadu restricted hosts Delhi to 212 for six on opening day of a Group B Ranji Trophy game here on Tuesday.

Shorey (66, 168 balls) and lefthanded Jonty Sidhu (57, 107 balls) added 105 runs for the third wicket but the home team could hardly dominate on a Feroz Shah Kotla track which became good for bat-

But the manner in which Sidhu and Vaibhav Rawal (11) were out defending slow bouncers from pacer Sandeep Warrier (3/59 in 22 overs) was embarrassing to say the least.

Warrier and fellow seamer L Vignesh (3/42 in 19 overs) were disciplined as they bowled a probing line and hit good lengths time and again.

DHAPOLA TAKES 8

Dehradun: Uttarakhand seam bowler Deepak Dhapola breathed fire on the opening day of their Group A match, grabbing eight Himachal Pradesh wickets as the visitors were bundled out for 49 runs on Tuesday.

Dhapola, 32, dismissed three players for duck and returned figures of 8/35 off 8.3 overs as Himachal could not weather the storm and were dismissed inside 17 overs.

At stumps on day one, Uttarakhand were batting on 295 for six, having taken a massive 246run first-innings lead. Aditya Tare (91 not out) and Abhay Negi (48 not out) showed there were no demons in the pitch as they batted with confidence.

But the highlight of the day was Bageshwar-born Dhapola's bowling. The seamer, who made his first-class debut in 2018 and is playing only his 15th game, had a previous best bowling figures of 7/50 in an innings, but on Tuesday he bettered his personal best as Himachal batters made a beeline to the dressing room.

Dhapola's feat did not miss the attention of the BCCI secretary Jay Shah who termed it as one of the finest bowling performances of the tournament.

"Ranji Trophy has time and again helped bring out raw homegrown talent onto the forefront. This time it's Deepak Dhapola! His 8/35 against Himachal is one of the finest bowling performances of the tournament. Long way to go!' tweeted Shah.

Dhapola, who was the leading wicket-taker for his state in the group stage of the 2018–19 Ranji Trophy with 44 dismissals in seven matches and finished the tournament with 45 wickets in eight games, will look to improve his best bowling figures in a first-class match (12/96) when he comes out with the red cherry in the second innings.