



sunday pioneer

www.dailypioneer.com

Published From: HYDERABAD DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL RAIPUR CHANDIGARH BHUBANESWAR RANCHI DEHRADUN VIJAYAWADA



V-P hits out at PC for his remarks on women's quota law

5

Rs 6k cr scheme for pharma, MEDICAL devices sectors



6

Striking a chord with DIVERSE audience



7

QUOTE OF THE DAY
The pioneer

The people of Telangana are tired of the lacklustre governance of the BRS. They are equally distrustful of the Congress. Both the BRS and the Congress are dynastic parties that have no intention to serve the people. The people of Telangana will gain a lot from these projects worth around Rs 13,500 crore.



- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister

DON'T MISS...

PM must seek people's...

PM must seek people's forgiveness before stepping into TS: Minister "You need to ask for forgiveness from people before stepping into Telangana," Minister for Prohibition and Excise V Srinivas Goud on Saturday told Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He wondered whether Modi is visiting Mahabubnagar district to spew venom against Telangana people as he is jealous of the lush green fields of crops. Speaking at a media conference here...

-PAGE: 4

'Normal' rainfall in monsoon...

The four-month monsoon season has ended with India receiving 'normal' cumulative rainfall -- 820 mm against a long-period average of 868.6 mm -- with positive factors countering the effect of El Nino conditions, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Saturday. Rainfall between 94 percent and 106 percent of the long-period average (LPA) is considered normal. However, normal cumulative rainfall over the country during the monsoon season doesn't mean even spatial and temporal...

-PAGE: 5

Focus on niche products to tap...

The first edition of Global Travel Market (GTM 2023) and expo drew to a close here on Saturday with leading players of travel and hospitality sector calling for stepping up promotional efforts focusing more on niche areas like experiential travel, wellness and heritage to tap the full potential of post-pandemic surge in tourism. The four-day event, which saw a large number of business decisions being clinched during the B2B sessions by stakeholders from around the world, also stressed...

-PAGE: 6

A govt shutdown is nearing...

WHAT IS A GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN? A shutdown happens when Congress fails to pass some type of funding legislation that is signed into law by the president. Lawmakers are supposed to pass 12 different spending bills to fund agencies across the government, but the process is time-consuming. They often resort to passing a temporary extension, called a continuing resolution or CR, to allow the government to keep operating. When no funding legislation is enacted, federal agencies must stop all nonessential work and will not send paychecks as long as the shutdown lasts. Although employees deemed essential to public safety such as air traffic controllers...

-PAGE: 10

'KCR will become hat-trick CM with NTR's blessings'

NAVEENA GHANATE
■ HYDERABAD

Industries Minister KT Rama Rao said that NTR brought honour to Telugus and recalled his immense contributions.

After unveiling the statue of the legendary actor and former CM, the late NT Rama Rao, in Khammam, KTR said, "NTR brought honour to Telugus, and now, KCR is making the entire nation look at Telangana in astonishment."

He added that NTR was a great actor and a leader, but could not become a hat-trick CM. His disciple KCR will become a hat-trick CM with the support of the people and the blessings of NT Rama Rao, said KTR.

"What NTR couldn't do, his disciple KCR will do and become the first hat-trick CM in South India," KTR said.

"There is some power in the name Taraka Rama. A friend of mine who has the same name told me. We don't know what Gods Rama or Krishna are like. He is Rama and Krishna to us. NTR has a solid place in history," he said.

Addressing mammoth gatherings in Khammam and Sathupalli after attending the launch of developmental projects, the BRS Working President, KTR, appealed to the peo-

"There is some power in the name Taraka Rama. A friend of mine who has the same name told me. We don't know what Gods Rama or Krishna are like. He is Rama and Krishna to us. NTR has a solid place in history," KTR said.



Addressing mammoth gatherings in Khammam and Sathupalli after attending the launch of developmental projects, the BRS Working President, KTR, appealed to the people to vote for KCR and become a part of Telangana's growth story.

Attacking the Congress at the meeting, he ridiculed their six guarantees and said, "The Congress is functioning under three commands,

low command in Telangana, new command in Bengaluru, and the high command in New Delhi. They don't have any coordination amongst themselves."

People tired of BRS' governance: Modi

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Telangana is tired of the lacklustre governance of BRS, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said in a tweet on Saturday.

"I will be addressing a BJP rally in Mahabubnagar on October 1. The people of Telangana are tired of the lacklustre governance of the BRS. They are equally distrustful of the Congress. Both the BRS and the Congress are dynastic parties who have no desire to serve people" Modi said.

Prime Minister Modi will visit Telangana on October 1. At around 2:15 pm, the Prime Minister will reach Mahabubnagar district, where he will dedicate to the nation and lay the foundation stones of developmental projects costing around Rs 13,500 crore connected with road, rail, petroleum and natural gas and higher education.

During the programme, the Prime Minister will also flag off a train through video conferencing.

KCR busy hatching conspiracies: Kishan BJP State President G. Kishan Reddy said that the Congress is once again putting a hat on Telangana and that the people of Telangana would not believe the Congress even if it gives 60 guarantees instead of six.

Speaking to the media on Saturday after inducting former Ministers Chittaranjan Das and



Krishna Yadav at the State BJP office, he said that everyone knows the history of the Congress which ruled the country for 60 years.

He said that Congress leaders are hungry for power as they after have been out of power for 10 years.

Kishan said that during his visit, Prime Minister Modi is going to give gifts to Telangana.

He said that BRS Ministers themselves are going to lose in the elections. That's why KCR is playing a false game. When Prime Minister Modi is coming to Telangana, KCR is busy conspiring against the PM's tour programme.

He said that the Centre spent Rs 9 lakh crore for Telangana in nine years and that KCR will be in power only for 90 more days. KCR is going to stay in his farmhouse after that. He said 'KCR ko Hatao-Telangana ko Bachao' is the slogan of the people.



ACB seizes Rs 2cr in cash, gold from Tahsildar's house

PNS ■ RANGAREDDY/NALGONDA

The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) conducted raids on the residence of Murriguda Tahsildar, Manchireddy Mahender Reddy.

The ACB raids followed the allegation that the officer possessed assets disproportionate to the known sources of his income.

Erratum

In the item 'Ponguleti calls for strengthening BJP's booth committees' published in these columns on Saturday, a picture of Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy (instead of a picture of Ponguleti Sudhakar Reddy) was wrongly carried. The error is regretted.

-Editor

Medical colleges could be fined Rs 1 cr for violation rules



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Medical colleges that fail to comply with statutory provisions and National Medical Commission's regulations can be fined Rs 1 crore per violation, according to the new set of rules notified by the apex regulator on medical education and profession. A penalty of Rs 5 lakh can be imposed on the faculty/head of department/dean/director/doctor submitting false declaration/documents/records, including patients' records.

Further, they can also be charged or penalised for misconduct under the Registered Medical Practitioner (Professional Conduct) Regulations and the Maintenance of Standards of Medical Education Regulations, 2023, the new rules notified on September 27 stated.

If a medical college fails to comply with the statutory provisions and regulations as prescribed by the respective boards of the NMC, the commission may also withhold and withdraw accreditation for a period up to five academic years, the regulations said.

The regulations stated that any attempt to pressurise Under-Graduate Medical Examination Board (UGMEB), Post-Graduate Medical Education Board (PGMEB) or NMC through individuals or agencies will lead to immediate halt of the processing of all applications/requests by the medical institution.

Intellectuals hate both AIMIM, BRS: Sanjay

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Telangana BJP president Bandi Sanjay Kumar launched a scathing attack on the BRS and the AIMIM on Saturday stating that Old City intellectuals hate both the AIMIM and the BRS.

Sanjay said that both the BRS and the AIMIM are the reasons for the backwardness of the Old City.

He said that the BRS and AIMIM's objective is to destroy the peace in Telangana. The Congress and the BRS are opportunistic parties, Sanjay said.

He asked the BRS and AIMIM leaders to reveal whether they were patriots of Pakistan or Afghanistan



or whether they knew how to sing Jaganamama or Vande Mataram. He challenged the BRS and the AIMIM to sing Jaganamama or Vande Mataram at the Bhagalaxmi Temple if they were patriots.

Godrej plans Rs 300 crore palm oil plant in TS

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Industries Minister KTR attended the ground-breaking ceremony of Godrej Agrovet at Gubbagurthy Village in the Konijerla Mandal of Khammam District on Saturday.

This plant costing Rs 300 crore will support 50,000 farmers and will create employment for 2,000 people.

Speaking at the ground-breaking ceremony, KTR said, "Telangana is all set to become a new home for the Godrej group. With the ground-breaking of their first palm oil factory in Khammam, this is the first of the many investments in diverse areas like dairy, animal feed, retail, real estate, FMCG and much more that we are working closely together on. Khammam will host a world-class edible oil processing complex with India's first commercial seed



garden bringing top-end plant genetics to India."

"Godrej has come forward as a strong, reliable partner for Telangana

and we are fostering a deep relationship across many sectors.

Pro-Khalistan mob block Indian envoy's gurdwara visit in Scotland

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Indian High Commissioner to the UK, Vikram Doraiswami, who was touring Scotland this week was blocked from entering a gurdwara in the city of Glasgow by pro-Khalistan extremists.

During a planned visit to Glasgow Gurdwara Guru Granth Sahib on Albert Drive on Friday, members of Sikh Youths UK posted videos of their face-off with gurdwara officials as a few of them approached the High Commissioner's car and asked him to leave.

'Scamgress', 'Scamily'

War of words between KTR, Revanth

K VENKATESHWARLU
■ HYDERABAD

TPCC President Revanth Reddy said that preventing the victory of the Congress in the Assembly elections is not possible for Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao and IT Minister KT Rama Rao.

Re-tweeting the tweet of IT Minister KT Rama Rao on Saturday, Revanth said, "If the father catches cold and fever after seeing the six guarantees of the Congress, the son KTR is talking as if he is completely out of his mind. Are you people, who are neck deep in corruption and

talk about commissions even in sleep, speaking about the Congress? Leave your silly talk about neighbouring states for a while and tell me about your Kalvakuntla SCAMILY in Telangana. Tell me about the fact that your father himself admitted that 30 per cent kickbacks are being extorted from Dalit Bandhu beneficiaries. Tell me about the words that the whole country is saying that your sister earned Rs 300 crore from the Delhi liquor scam. Tell me about the fact that the CAG washed away that Telangana cannot be governed unless lands and liquor are sold. How many government lands



have been sold in Telangana, how many acres have you handed over to your real estate mafia, how many of your proxy builders are running the Hyderabad mafia empire, and how many lakhs of square feet sites are in the clutches of your mafia.

Exchange, deposit of Rs 2,000 notes allowed till Oct 7

PNS ■ MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank on Saturday extended the special drive to withdraw Rs 2,000 bank notes from the system by another week, till October 7.

The central bank said ever since it announced the move to withdraw Rs 2,000 notes on May 19, Rs 3.42 lakh crore of such notes have been received into the system either by depositing into bank accounts or exchanging, from the public.

The currency returned is 96 per cent of the Rs 2,000 bank notes in circulation as on May 19, the Reserve Bank said in a statement, adding only Rs 14,000 crore of such notes are in circulation now.

Earlier, the deadline to deposit/exchange Rs 2,000 notes was September 30, 2023.

"It has been decided to extend the current arrangement for deposit/exchange of Rs 2,000 banknotes until October 07, 2023," the central bank said in a statement.



OBTUSE ANGLE



Aditya-L1 escapes sphere of Earth's influence

PNS ■ BENGALURU

ISRO said on Saturday the Aditya-L1 spacecraft has travelled beyond a distance of 9.2 lakh km from Earth, successfully escaping the sphere of Earth's influence.

It is now navigating its path towards the Sun-Earth Lagrange Point 1 (L1), the Bengaluru-headquartered national space agency said in a statement on X, formerly Twitter. "This is the second time in succession that ISRO could send a spacecraft outside the sphere of influence of the Earth, the first time being the Mars Orbiter Mission," it said.

The ISRO said earlier this month the Aditya-L1 solar mission space-



craft has commenced collecting data which will help scientists analyse the behaviour of particles surrounding Earth.

Data collected around L1 would provide insights into the origin, acceleration, and anisotropy of solar wind and space weather phenomena,

Data collected around L1 would provide insights into the origin, acceleration, and anisotropy of solar wind and space weather phenomena, it said. The launch of Aditya-L1 by PSLV-C57 rocket was successfully accomplished by ISRO on September 2.

it said. The launch of Aditya-L1 by PSLV-C57 rocket was successfully accomplished by ISRO on September 2.



'Quota for women would have hit CM, many BRS ministers'

SNCN ACHARYULU
HYDERABAD

Thanks to the BJP-led Central Government for taking a decision not to implement reservation for women in the Lok Sabha and state Assemblies immediately.

If reservations for women had been implemented immediately as BRS MLC K. Kavitha demanded, it would not have been possible for Chief Minister K. Chandrababu Naidu, four BRS ministers and some prominent leaders to contest from their own Assembly constituencies. Reservations for women would have become a big setback for the AIMIM.

It may be recalled that parliament recently passed the Bill providing 33% reservations for women in the Lok Sabha and State Assemblies. President Droupadi Murmu also gave her assent to the Bill. However, reservations for women will come into effect only after the 2027 elections.

Constituencies reserved for Women the Assembly and Lok Sabha will be decided on population basis taking the

state as a unit. In Telangana, there are a total of 119 Assembly seats. Of these, 19 are reserved for SCs and 12 for STs. Reservations for Women will apply to SC and ST reserved constituencies too.

As per the 33% reservations formula in Telangana, women will get around 39 Assembly seats. In this around 10 are SC and ST reserved seats and around 29 general. The reserved seats for women will be selected based on the population of women in Assembly constituencies.

Going by this, the Gajwel Assembly constituency represented by Chief Minister K. Chandrababu Naidu, Medchal represented by Minister Ch. Mallareddy, Karimnagar represented by Gangula Kamalakar, Khammam represented by Minister Puvvada Ajay Kumar and Wanaparthy represented by Minister S. Niranjan Reddy would have become seats reserved for women.

At the same time, prominent BRS leaders like Danam Nagendar (Khairatabad), Dasyam Vinay Bhaskar

(Warangal West), Gandra Venkata Ramana Reddy (Bhoopal Reddy) and others would have lost the chance to contest from their constituencies as they will also become seats reserved for women.

Meanwhile, the 33% reservations for women have become a big blow to the AIMIM. In the last Assembly elections, the AIMIM had seven seats. Of them, except Charminar, the remaining six seats would have gone to women.

In future also AIMIM faces this threat. AIMIM Assembly floor leader Akbaruddin Owaisi would have lost the chance to contest from Chandrayangutta.

The Hyderabad Lok Sabha constituency may also go for women as a reserved seat.

CONSTITUENCY	MALE VOTERS	FEMALE VOTERS	MLA
Serilingampally	3,60,657	3,18,360	A Gandhi
Lal Bahadur Nagar	2,87,128	2,61,838	D Sudheer Reddy
Maheswaram	2,61,340	2,45,041	Sabita Indrareddy
Rajendranagar	2,81,395	2,57,288	T Prakash Goud
Medchal	2,99,549	2,81,201	Ch Mallareddy
Malkajiri	2,34,584	2,29,694	M Hanumantha Rao
Quthbullapur	3,42,059	3,08,773	KP Vivekananda
Kukatpally	2,33,684	2,11,819	M Krishna Rao
Uppal	2,64,290	2,43,380	B Subash Reddy
Karimnagar	1,68,447	1,66,575	Gangula Kamalakar
Patancheru	1,90,321	1,78,732	G Mahipal Reddy
Jubilee Hills	1,89,610	1,68,055	M Gopinath
Musheerabad	1,50,749	1,41,784	M Gopal
Malakpet	1,57,013	1,52,644	Abdullah Balala
Nampally	1,62,844	1,51,710	Jaffer Hussain
Karwan	1,77,357	1,67,145	K Mohiuddin
Chandrayangutta	1,63,619	1,62,931	Akbaruddin Owaisi
Yakutpura	1,73,148	1,67,082	Pasha Quadri
Khammam	1,51,783	1,62,599	Puvvada Ajay Kumar
Nizamabad (Urban)	1,34,871	1,43,192	B Ganesh
Ibrahimpattanam	1,54,593	1,48,726	M Kishan Reddy
Mancherial	1,30,471	1,29,944	N Diwakar Rao
Bahadurpura	1,51,146	1,46,780	Moazam Khan
Nizamabad (Rural)	1,15,832	1,31,733	Bajireddy Govardhan Reddy
Gajwel	1,29,986	1,31,266	KCR
Khairatabad	1,47,414	1,35,123	Danam Nagendar
Warangal West	1,36,010	1,38,087	D Vinay Bhaskar
Bhupalpalle	1,32,120	1,31,333	Gandra Venkata Ramana Reddy
Wanaparthy	1,30,657	1,30,128	S Niranjan Reddy

Cong list may be out after Oct 14

K VENKATESHWARLU
HYDERABAD

The Congress may release its first list of candidates for the Assembly elections only after October 14 due to Pitru Paksha days, it is learnt. The party also postponed its Screening Committee meeting, which was scheduled to be held on October 1, that is, Sunday.

In general, people consider the 16-day Pitru Paksha as extremely inauspicious and do not start anything new. People even postpone buying new things during these days and also avoid celebrations.

TPCC official spokesperson Boreddy Ayodhya Reddy told 'The Pioneer' that the party will announce its list only after Pitru Paksha (Moodalu) days. He said the party is also not in a hurry to announce the list as the election schedule has not been announced.



The party will use the Pitru Paksha days to do an extensive exercise in finalising candidates to ensure that there are no loopholes.

Before announcing the list, the party is going to complete the induction of leaders from other political parties. The party would also focus on pacifying leaders who are

going to lose tickets to those joining from other parties. The party would also take a final decision on the merger of the YSRTP with it.

The party would also take a decision regarding its alliance with the CPI, the CPM, the BSP and any other party that may come forward offering an alliance with the Congress.

'KCR will become...'

Continued from page 1

He also said that the Congress's warranty has expired, and their guarantees should not be taken seriously.

Expressing apprehensions about the six guarantees, KTR said that if Congress is given a chance to govern, three things would happen for the guarantee, and that included a three-hour power supply in a day, a change of CM every year and a lot of scams.

Talking about Congress leaders who are visiting the State, KTR said that these leaders are coming just before elections like singers coming to houses before Sankranti. All they do is make false promises and I request you to be cautious and do not fall into

their trap, he added.

KTR also said that Congress leaders were selling tickets for crores and would sell the State in future if given a chance.

He said that the Congress is a party which gave Rs 200 as pension for six decades and now they are promising to give Rs 4,000 as pension. People are not ready to believe Congress leaders and their false promises, he said.

"Congress leaders failed to provide uninterrupted power supply during their term, but now accuse us of not providing power. I request them to come and hold a current wire anywhere in the State and check for themselves if electricity is being supplied or not," said KTR.

Intellectuals hate both...

Continued from page 1

He asked the police to explain why they are not taking action against AIMIM leaders for trying to attack BJP leaders. Moreover, the police are filing cases against BJP leaders who filed complaints against AIMIM leaders, he said.

"What message does the police want to give to society? Don't consider our patience as cowardliness. If you think like that, be careful. The BJP has the strength to fly the flag on Darussalam. The police must withdraw the false cases filed against BJP activists and take action against AIMIM activists," Sanjay said.

Sunil asks YSRTP chief Sharmila to wait for two days

PNS HYDERABAD

The Congress party's political strategist Sunil Kanugolu has appealed to YSRTP president YS Sharmila to wait for two days regarding her party's merger with the Congress.

It is learnt that Sunil entered the scene as per the directions of the Congress high command.

It may be recalled that Sharmila had set a deadline that she will announce her action plan on contesting the Assembly elections on her own after September 30 in case the Congress fails to respond to her party's request to merge with the Congress.

However, it is learnt that Sunil held talks with Sharmila and asked her to wait for two days. It is learnt that the talks were held in a cordial manner.

YSRTP sources said that Sunil will seek an appointment with Sonia Gandhi and Rahul Gandhi to discuss the merger of Sharmila's party with the Congress in the presence of the Congress brass in a day or two.

YSRTP sources said that



the Congress had accepted Sharmila's condition that the Congress must consider her as a Telangana politician.

It is learnt that the Congress and the YSRTP have agreed on a middle path, that is, the party will give the AICC general secretary post and the Khammam LS ticket to Sharmila instead of fielding her in the Assembly elections.

The party will also use her services as South India in-charge and as Star Campaigner during the Telangana elections.

Accepting these conditions, Sunil asked Sharmila to wait for two days and not to announce her action plan, it is

learnt. Sharmila may take her next decision in case the Congress fails to respond in the next two days.

Meanwhile, Sharmila's office sent a message on September 29 to YSRTP leaders saying, "As per the orders of YSR Telangana Party chief YS Sharmila, leaders who have been suspended from the party for various reasons at the state level, district level and mandal level are considered as fans of YSR and the suspension is removed.

The party chief has ordered district presidents and assembly constituency coordinators to retain them in the party."

'Scamgress', 'Scamily'

Continued from page 1

We will settle all the calculations. Stopping the Congress is not possible not only for you, but your father too."

Earlier in the day, KTR tweeted saying, "Apparently Karnataka's Congress Government has started levying a 'political election tax' of Rs

500 per square foot from Bengaluru builders to fund the TS Congress. Old habits die hard. The grand old party and its rich legacy of scams are legendary and that's why it's been renamed 'Scamgress'. No matter how much money they pump in, the people of Telangana cannot be fooled. Say NO to SCAMGRESS in TS."

Godrej plans Rs 300 crore palm...

Continued from page 1

Apart from oil palm, Godrej is looking at investments in dairy, pharma, personal care products (soaps, shampoos, cosmetics, etc.), furniture, real estate, retail, poultry, animal feed and aquaculture. Investment announcements across these sectors will also shortly follow as we conclude discussions on the same," said KTR. KTR said that Godrej has partnered with reputed global companies to establish India's first private oil palm seed garden on its premises to develop seeds suitable for the local climate and will establish a nursery with the capacity to produce 5 lakh saplings.

He also said that Khammam

is a core area of interest for the Godrej group and will be working with the TS government to create one-stop farmer care centres where all requirements of oil palms like fertilizers, harvest tools, plant protection solutions and extension services will be provided to farmers.

"The robust infrastructure of Rythu Vedikas and the strong agriculture extension machinery will enable the fast uptake of oil palm cultivation making Telangana a leader in yet one more sector. This is the first of many big announcements from Godrej in the state and Telangana is set to become a new home for the Godrej group," KTR said.

"The Telangana government

is providing a subsidy of Rs 50,000 per acre to farmers for cultivating oil palm," KTR said. He added that the abundant water availability has increased productivity and the production base of all crops including oilseeds has increased multi-fold. "Telangana has embarked on an oil palm mission to bring 20 lakh acres under cultivation," he added. KTR also said that the oil palm mission of Telangana is expected to improve incomes for about 5 lakh farmers and generate employment for 2.3 lakh people. "At this rate, Telangana will soon become the largest oil palm-producing state in India overtaking AP in the next one to two years.

CID serves notice to Lokesh

PNS VIJAYAWADA

Andhra Pradesh CID officials served a notice under 41A to Nara Lokesh, who is A 14 in the Amaravati Inner Ring road scam case on Saturday. As per the CID notice, Lokesh should attend the hearing on October 4 at 10 a.m.

The notice was issued to Lokesh at MP Galla Jayadev's residence in New Delhi. The AP High Court has ordered Lokesh to accept the notice and cooperate with the authorities in the investigation.

The CID registered a case on the complaint lodged by Mangalagiri MLA Alla Ramakrishna Reddy against the land grabbing carried out by the then TDP government under the guise of Amaravati Master Plan and Inner Ring Road Alignment designs.

Meanwhile, then CM Chandrababu Naidu, Minister P Narayana, Chandrababu Naidu's

close associate Lingamaneni Ramesh, Linga maneni Surya Rajasekhar, Anjini Kumar, director of Ramakrishna Housing Limited and others were named as accused in the case. Chandrababu Naidu's son and then minister Nara Lokesh was also included in the scam as accused number 14.

The CIS Special Investigation Team says that Lokesh, son of former CM Chandrababu Naidu, played a key role in the land grabbing in the name of finalising Amaravati IRR alignment during the TDP government. It is stated in the memo submitted to the court that Lokesh has been included as A 14 in this case. In the name of IRR Alignment, Chandrababu Naidu and Lokesh committed quid pro quo and thereby committed illegalities to increase the value of their family's Heritage Foods and Lingamaneni's family lands.

TODAY
ALMANAC
Month & Paksham: Krishna Paksha
Tithi: Dvitiya. Sep 30 12:21 PM to Oct 01 09:42 AM
Tritiya. Oct 01 09:42 AM to Oct 02 07:36 AM
Nakshatram: Ashwini. Sep 30 09:08 PM to Oct 01 07:27 PM
Bharani. Oct 01 07:27 PM to Oct 02 06:24 PM
Rahukalam: 4:32 PM to 6:01 PM
Yamagandam: 12:05 PM to 1:34 PM
Varjyam: 04:38 AM to 06:10 AM
Gulika: 3:03 PM to 4:32 PM
Amritakalam: 12:45 PM to 02:15 PM
Abhijit Muhurtham: 11:42 AM to 12:29 PM
HYDERABAD WEATHER
Forecast: Scattered Thunderstorms
Temp: 29°
Humidity: 77%
Sunrise: 6:06 AM
Sunset: 6:05 PM
Updated: September 30, 2023 5:00 PM

Aditya-L1 escapes...

Continued from page 1

Aditya-L1 spacecraft carries a total seven different payloads to study the Sun, four of which will observe the light from the Sun and the remaining three will measure in-situ parameters of the plasma and magnetic fields.

Aditya-L1 will be placed in a halo orbit around the Lagrangian Point 1 (L1), which is 1.5 million km from the Earth in the direction of the Sun. It will revolve around the Sun with the same relative position and hence can see the Sun continuously.

Pro-Khalistan mob...

Continued from page 1

The local police said it was called to the "disturbance" and its enquiries remain ongoing. "We were called around 1.05 pm on Friday, 29 September, to a report of a disturbance that happened in the Albert Drive area of Glasgow. There were no reports of any injuries and enquiries are ongoing to establish the full circumstances," said a Police Scotland spokesperson.

It follows Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's statement in the country's Parliament last week that the authorities are "actively pursuing credible allegations" related to Indian government involvement in the murder of Nijjar, a designated terrorist, allegations which the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has strongly rejected as "absurd and motivated".

ACB seizes Rs 2cr in cash...

Continued from page 1

ACB officials initiated searches at Tahsildar Mahender Reddy's residence located in Sainagar Colony in Hastinapuram. The raids, which began early in the day, allegedly uncovered a significant amount of cash and other assets. Notably, officials found wads of currency notes, totalling an astounding Rs 2 crore in a trunk at the Tahsildar's residence. Additionally, several documents related to immovable properties and a substantial quantity of gold were also seized during the operation.

The ACB officials conducted searches in his relative's houses too in his hometown of Eliminedu under Ibrahimpattanam mandal and also 15 other places. Mahender Reddy, who had previously served as the Tahsildar of Kandukur Mandal, is facing serious allega-

tions of corruption.

The ACB officials arrived at Mahender Reddy's residence in Hastinapuram at approximately 8 am and immediately swung into action. The Tahsildar was present at the house during the search and was questioned by authorities.

Substantial amounts of cash were reportedly seized during the operation, and ACB officials confirmed that over Rs two crores were discovered in a trunk. In addition to the substantial cash find, the ACB investigators confiscated numerous bundles of currency notes. Alongside the significant cash discovery, a considerable quantity of gold was also found within the residence.

The inspection of Mahender Reddy's assets has thus far revealed substantial wealth, prompting the ongoing searches that are expected to continue until midnight today.

Exchange...

Continued from page 1

In a surprise move, it had announced withdrawal of Rs 2,000 notes in May, but maintained that it was not akin to the demonetisation carried out in November 2016 when Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 notes were made illegal tender overnight.

In May 2023, RBI said the higher denomination notes were introduced for a faster remonetisation of the economy and the move had served its purpose. Since it had stopped printing the notes from FY19, there were also concerns surrounding the quality of the notes in circulation.

The Rs 2,000 note withdrawal move had some unseen impacts like helping banks report a higher deposit growth, a challenging aspect for the system for some time.

Medical colleges...

Continued from page 1

"Where the respective board has reason to believe that a medical institution has failed to comply with any statutory provision, regulations framed thereunder or has not complied with the Minimum Standards of Requirements (MSR) as prescribed by their respective Boards, or has conducted themselves in any manner which is not in accordance with the goals of medical education and practice, the board shall either penalise the medical college or medical institution and/or conduct further enquiry into such act and wherever needed provide an opportunity to rectify the same," the regulation

As per the regulations, medical colleges will have to furnish an "Annual Disclosure Report" to the corresponding board clearly demonstrating that they fulfil the required MSRs notified by UGMEB or PGMEB and regulations of NMC, as the case may be. "Keeping in mind the overall objectives of the National Medical Commission Act, the respective Board (PGMEB or UGMEB) may undertake the evaluation of the Annual Disclosure Report for verifying whether the medical college or medical institution fulfils the required conditions prescribed by way of MSRs or NMC Regulations as the case may be," the document said.

Women's reservation law historic step towards gender equality: Guv

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Asia Today Research and Media on Saturday conducted "Pride of Nation Award 2023-Southern India" to honour exceptional individuals from various fields for their dedication and expertise. Telangana Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan was the chief guest at the event.

This prestigious event felicitated the highest levels of achievement within the Indian community the world over, celebrating outstanding success across diverse sectors. The awards were presented to people excelling in Art and Entertainment, Education, Healthcare, Business, and Social work.

Among the awardees were renowned figures including Padma Shri Indian biologist and fisheries scientist Dr M Vijay Gupta, Pediatrician Dr Hanumantha Rao Pasupuleti, Indian actor Sayaji Shinde, cardiologist Dr Pallem Peddeswara Rao, joint replacement and sports surgeon Dr Paripati Sharat Kumar, nephrologist Dr Krishna Vijaykumar Patil and cardiologist Dr George Thayil. Also, in the medical field, neu-



Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan and CEO of Asia Today Research and Media PK Choudhary lighting the lamp at the Pride of Nation Award 2023-Southern India in Hyderabad on Saturday

rosurgeon Dr Uday Goutam Nookathota, hematologist Dr Karuna Kumar K dermatologist Dr Himabindu Mamidala, and gastroenterologist and advanced laparoscopic Surgeon Dr Rajesh Vunnamatta.

In the education and healthcare sectors, Dr V Kesava, Founder and Managing Director of Amrutha Heart Hospital, Dr SA Joy Raja, Chancellor of Joy University, and Anesthesiologist Dr Sashi Kumar. M., Ms. Pushpa Valli, Vice-Chairperson Ms Srividya Reddy Gunampalli at G Narayanamma Institute of Technology and Science for Women, and chief executive

officer R Rajapandian at Suham Speciality Hospital.

Addressing the gathering, Soundararajan, congratulated the awardees and said, "These awards not only motivate the recipients but also inspire others to excel in their respective domains. India has achieved remarkable milestones, including the historic Chandrayaan-3 mission's soft landing on the Moon's southern pole. The ongoing. It is a pleasure to have hosted the G-20 Summit, showcasing both urban and rural India to foreign delegates."

She further said, "Women's Reservation Act, ensuring 33 per cent reservation for women

in Indian parliament and State Legislative Assemblies, is a historic step towards gender equality and women's participation in politics. "With our rich heritage and global contributions, India continues to shine on the world stage," she said.

The 'Pride of Nation Award - Southern India' also highlighted their dedication to making a positive impact on society. Through this celebration of excellence, Asia Today Research & Media continues to encourage and motivate individuals to reach greater heights in their pursuits.

PK Choudhary, CEO of Asia Today Research & Media, said, "The Pride of Nation Awards were conceived with a clear vision: to create an event that celebrates exceptional achievements within the global Indian community. The Pride of Nation Awards is a groundbreaking and prestigious occasion, uniquely designed to honour our Indian accomplishments across various domains, with a special focus on inspiring achievements and remarkable role models in fields such as Art & Entertainment, Education, Healthcare, Business, and Social work."

International Breast Cancer Awareness Month: Hyderabad hotspots turns pink

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

October is world over recognised as International Breast Cancer Awareness month. Every four minutes a woman is diagnosed with breast cancer and every eight minutes a woman succumbs to the disease, making it the commonest cancer affecting women in India. With 200, 000 new cases every year and 100, 000 deaths per annum, for every two women diagnosed with breast cancer, one woman dies of it in India. Several iconic monuments and prominent buildings - Charminar, Buddha Statue, T -Hub, Prasads Imax, Durgam Cheruvu cable bridge and KIMS Hospital have been illuminated in PINK this evening for a record 15th consecutive year by Ushalakshmi Breast Cancer Foundation who has spearheaded the Pink Ribbon Campaign since 15 years said "Hyderabad is the only city in the world where so many historic monuments and prominent buildings have been turning PINK in one night for 15 consecutive years."

The aim of PAINT THE CITY PINK CAMPAIGN to



importance of early detection. The idea started off in the year 2000, when Estee Lauder group of companies illuminated their buildings world over in PINK to mark the beginning of International Breast Cancer Awareness month. Speaking on this occasion, Founder, CEO and Director of Ushalakshmi Breast Cancer Foundation who has been spearheading the Pink Ribbon Campaign since 15 years said "Hyderabad is the only city in the world where so many historic monuments and prominent buildings have been turning PINK in one night for 15 consecutive years."

spread the message of Hope, Survival and Courage to those who have fought breast cancer, and equally, remind people that women over 40 must get themselves an annual Screening Mammogram to detect breast cancer early. As breast cancer cannot be prevented, the only way to fight breast cancer is early detection. Women of all ages must be "Breast Aware" and report any new changes in the breast to their doctor without delay. Above all, women 40 years and over must get an annual screening mammogram done, which ensures early detection and is the key to saving more lives from the commonest cancer affecting women in India." Dr Smt

Tamilisai Soundararajan, Governor of Telangana, has given permission to the Foundation to illuminate Raj Bhavan in PINK for the FOURTH consecutive on 30 October, making this the only Raj Bhavan in the Country to support breast cancer awareness campaign.

Other Prominent monuments and buildings that also turn PINK in October world over include the White House, Empire State Building, Buckingham Palace, Tower of London & Eiffel tower, amongst others. Established in 2007, Ushalakshmi Breast Cancer Foundation - a not for profit breast cancer Charity based out of Hyderabad has been working with missionary zeal to transform breast cancer from a "taboo issue" to a much commonly discussed one through a number of innovative initiatives over the past 16 years, thus bringing about the much needed awareness about the importance of early detection, resulting in many lives being saved from the commonest cancer affecting women in India

JiTO organises jewellery, lifestyle expo in city

PNS ■ MEDAK

Jain International Trade Organisation (JiTO) Hyderabad organising Umang 2.0, South India's biggest jewellery and lifestyle expo at Hitex in Madhapur city. This is open from 10 am to 8 pm till Sunday. Entry to the expo is free.

The inauguration was a grand affair. To mark the inauguration, of Colours of India, a dance drama was performed. It featured various cultures of India with an inspiring message.

It was formally inaugurated by Rajarshri Shah, Medak District Collector, accompanied by JiTO dignitaries Sanjay Ghodawat, director, JiTO Apex, Prithviraj Kothari, Zone Chairman, Mumbai.

Speaking at the inauguration, Rajarshri Shah said that Umang 2.0 is not just an expo but is a spirit of entrepreneurship and a platform celebration. "It is also a fusion of tradition. The Jain community is tradi-



tionally a business community. Business is there in their genes. The Jain community may be less in numbers in terms of population, but their contribution to the GDP is very significant.

Jains are less than 0.5% in India still; they are among the highest contributors to personal Income tax. Jains are the only minority community in this country that never sought any minority favours/reservations."

Giving his opening notes, Sushil Sancheti said the exhibition is the labour of love of many months. It is spread over 4 halls. Hall 1 is the Corporate

and Wedding Arena; Hall 2 is the Diamond / Gold / Silver Jewellery section; Hall 3 is the Lifestyle Arena and related Products and Hall 4 is the Automobile Arena. Nearly 75,000 footfall is expected in the next three days.

The visitors were given a surprise by ferrying them in retro, vintage cars such as Rolls-Royce, Jaguar and Audi cars.

The expo spread over 2 lakh sq foot areas is spread over all three hangers at Hitex and has 500 exhibitors showcasing jewellery, lifestyle, furniture, automobiles, home decoration products and others.



Minister for Mines and Mineral Resources Patnam Mahender Reddy launching a mobile app for e-mining in Hyderabad on Saturday

Mobile app for e-mining launched

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Telangana e-mining mobile app was launched on Saturday. Patnam Mahender Reddy, Minister of Mines, Mineral Resources and Information Public Relations Department, said that this mining mobile app would help in curbing irregularities by increasing transparency in the Department of Mines and Mineral Resources. The Minister launched Telangana e-mining mobile app, along with Chief Secretary Santhi Kumari and Mines Managing Director Katyayani Devi.

Speaking on the occasion, he said that Telangana Mines, Department of Mineral Resources and National Information Science Center (NIC) in Hyderabad jointly developed this mobile app.

"With this mining app, the staff can check the transport vehicles when transporting

mines, bricks and sand and check whether they have transporter farm and transporter permits or not, online," he said. For illegal transport, without permits, but despite permits, in case of illegal transport, action will be taken against them and a penalty will be imposed and the information will be sent to the vehicle owner through an online link. The staff will have the flexibility to collect the penalty immediately and the vehicle owner will have the flexibility to pay.

Dealers and leaseholders can also check the confirmation of departmental approvals for their transportation of minerals online. Also, it has been revealed that inspection of vehicles will be very easy for Mines Department.

He said that through this mining mobile app, action will be taken immediately against those who have committed illegalities and transparency will increase further.

Traffic restrictions released ahead of Milad-un-Nabi procession

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Hyderabad police on Saturday released traffic restrictions ahead of Milad-un-Nabi procession on Sunday. The restrictions will remain in place from 8 am to 8 pm.

When the procession starts from Syed Quadri Chaman, Gulam Murtuza Colony, the traffic coming towards Shamsheergunj, Engine Bowli areas will not be allowed and diverted at MBNR X Road towards Kandikalgate, Phisalband and Old Kurnool Road; When the Procession reaches Syed Quadri Chaman, Gulam Murtuza Colony, prior to 15 minutes the traffic will be diverted at Goshala and traffic will not be allowed towards Shamsheergunj & Engine Bowli; The traffic coming from Bahadurpura towards Kalapathar will not be allowed and diverted at Kalapathar 'Y' Junction towards Ali Nagar Jahanuma; When the main procession tail end reaches Engine Bowli traffic will be released from MBNR X Road and the same will be diverted at Engine Bowli towards Goshala as well as Syed Quadri Chaman road and traffic will not be allowed towards Nagulachinta and Charminar; When the procession reaches Shamsheergunj traffic will be diverted at Shamsheergunj and not

allowed towards Charminar behind the procession and diverted towards Goshala, Kalapathar and Bahadurpura area; When the procession reaches Shamsheergunj, traffic will not be allowed from the Laldarwaza Mode and diverted towards Laldarwaza Temple Chatrinaka; When the procession reaches Laldarwaza Mode, traffic will be diverted at Deccan Hotel, Akkanna Madanna Temple towards Ashoka Pillar, Mohammed Shukur Mosque Via... Sudha Library; When the procession tail end reaches Laldarwaza Mode, the traffic will be closed at Nagulachinta behind the procession and diverted towards Sudha Library, Ashok Pillar, Mohammed Shukur Mosque.

When the head of the procession reaches Laldarwaza Mode, traffic will be closed at Himmathpura Rajesh Medical Hall and should not allow towards the procession and diverted towards Akkanna Madanna Temple & Volga Hotel Khilwat; When the head of the procession reaches Laldarwaza Mode, traffic will not be allowed from Fathedarwaza as well as Khilwat towards Rajesh Medical Hall/Himathpura and it will be diverted at Volga Hotel towards Fathedarwaza, Khilwat vice versa; When the procession reaches Rajesh

Medical Hall, Shahali Banda, traffic will not be allowed at Panchmohalla and diverted at Shah Function Hall towards Khilwat Road (Barricades are existed and no traffic movement at Lad Bazar); When the tail end of the procession reaches Narayana School (Charminar) traffic will not be allowed towards Charminar and will be diverted at Rajesh Medical Hall towards Khilwat and Akkanna Madanna Temple, Moghalpura; When the procession passes from Mecca Mosque, traffic will not be allowed from Kalikaman towards Gulzar House and diverted at Armaan Hotel towards Etebar Chowk and on the other hand traffic coming from Sheer Bathil Kaman (Ghansi Bazar) will not be allowed towards Gulzar House and diverted under the Sheer Bhatil Kaman towards Meetikka Sheer and Ghansi bazaar vice versa; When the procession reaches Charkaman the traffic coming from Madina towards Charminar will not be allowed and diverted at Madina towards City College; When the procession reaches Charkaman the traffic coming from Sherton Hotel Lane will not allowed into the main road i.e., Machili Kaman.

At the same time the traffic coming from Agarwal Kaman will be stopped at the Agarwal Kaman.

FIRST-OF-ITS-KIND



K.T.Rama Rao will inaugurate Solar Roof Cycle Track at Narsingi MYHome Avatar on Sunday

HCA elections on October 20

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The election bell has rung in the Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA). The notification for the HCA elections was released on Saturday. It also released a list of 173 voters.

Election Officer V. Sampath Kumar will receive nominations from October 11 to October 13. The scrutiny of the nominations will be held on October 14 and nominations can be withdrawn till October 16. Elections will be held on October 20 and results will also be announced on the same day after counting.

'30 lakh unorganised workers migrated to TS for work'

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Minister for Energy Guntakandla Jagadish Reddy revealed that Telangana's power sector has been developed with Rs 1 lakh crore. Jagdish Reddy handed over the appointment papers to 1,362 newly appointed junior linemen of TSPDCL at Genco Auditorium in YSR Nagar on Saturday night.

Out of this, 10,312 were appointed by TSPDCL, 4,403 by Transco, 3,689 by Genco, and 4,370 by NPDC. 22,774 employees have been regularized. Similarly, 13,000 people have been appointed through direct recruitment. Minister Jagadish Reddy has announced that a noti-

fication will be issued soon for the filling of another 670 jobs.

In total, the State government led by Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao in Telangana has given jobs to 1,50,000 government employees so far, he said. In addition to that, 20 lakh people got employment by giving permission to 25,000 new industries in the state, he said. He said that once people migrated to distant places like Bombay, Dubai, Solapur etc for a better life, after the formation of Telangana, 30 lakh unorganized workers from different states of the country migrated to Telangana.

He praised the Chief Minister as a visionary who made plans for

the development of Telangana's electricity sector as well as in whose hands the organisations should be put in the hands of the movement. Transco & Genco Cmd Devulapalli Prabhakar Rao, TSPDCL CMD Raghuma Reddy, HR Director Parvatam along with Directors T Srinivas, J Srinivas Reddy, Madan Mohan Rao, K. Ramulu, Gampa Gopal, Swami Reddy and others participated. In the subsequent meeting, Minister Jagdish Reddy said that 35,774 jobs have been filled in the last nine and a half years in the newly formed state of Telangana. While the demand was 5,661 megawatts, it has now increased to 15,497 megawatts with an increase of

174%. Similarly, Telangana has created a record in per capita electricity consumption. The national average per capita electricity consumption is 1,255 units, but in Telangana state it is a record of 2,126 units.

He said that industrialists from all over the world are flocking to Telangana because of the success of the same power sector. He said that Telangana is the only state that has uninterrupted power supply without any shortage of power even in the blink of an eye. He said that the newly appointed employees should not ignore the fact that the role of line men is crucial in the success of the power sector.

Retired IAS officers all praise for Secretariat

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Chief Secretary of the State Government Shanti Kumari on Saturday evening, hosted a tea party at the Telangana Secretariat. A large number of retired All India Service officers from post 1970 to recent times, along with their family members, attended the programme organised on the orders of Chief Minister.

Retired IAS officers AK Kutty, Sujatha Rao, VP Jawahari, PC Parekh, KV Rao, Rajeev Sharma, SK Joshi, Jai Bharat Reddy, Rastogi, Minnie Mathews, AK Goyal, Dinakar Babu, G Sudhir, T S Apparao, G Nagi Reddy, Raymond Peter participated. After taking a group photo in front of the secretariat, the retired officers visited the newly constructed temple, mosque and church.

Later, the 6th floor and various floors of the Secretariat were examined.

Speaking on the occasion, CS Shanti Kumari explained the development and welfare programs being carried out in the state under the leadership of Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao. The Chief Secretary explained through PPT the way in which the Secretariat was constructed in a very short time in a wonderful way.

On this occasion, a coffee table book prepared on the development and welfare programs implemented in Telangana state and Yadadri temple offerings were presented to the retired officials.

Retired All India Service officers praised the wonderful construction of the new Secretariat and the unchallenged development going on in the state.

TELANGANA STATE POLLUTION CONTROL BOARD
REGIONAL OFFICE, MEDCHAL-MALKAJGIRI DISTRICT
H.No.6-3-1219, Block C, Ward No.91, 2nd Floor,
Backside of Country Club, Kundanbagh, Umanagar, Begumpet, Hyderabad - 500016.

ENVIRONMENTAL PUBLIC HEARING NOTIFICATION

In accordance with the Notification No. S.O. 1533 (E), Dated 14-09-2006 of Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, Government of India, it is hereby notified that the mining activity above 5.0 Ha is required Public Hearing. Ms Rotek Ravakoli Infra, Sy. No. 40(P), 41 (P), 42(P) & 43(P), Ravakole Village, Medchal Mandal, Medchal-Malkajgiri District, Telangana State has proposed mining of Stone & Metal - 3,56,485 Cubic meters/Year and Gravel - 2,00,215 Cubic meters Year in an area of 13.60 Ha. It is hereby notified to conduct Environmental Public Hearing in Medchal-Malkajgiri District for the proposed project. The details of the project activities given by the project authorities are as follows:

1) Name of the Project	M/s Rotek Ravakoli Infra, Stone & Metal and Gravel Mine (13.60 Hectares).
2) Location of the project	Sy. No. 40(P), 41 (P), 42(P) & 43(P), Ravakole Village, Medchal Mandal, Medchal-Malkajgiri District, Telangana State.
3) Name of the Authorized person to be Contacted with address and Ph.No	Sri. Mandava Raja Gopal, Managing Director, #B-3-677/19, First Floor, Plot No.19, Sri Krishna Deveraya Nagar, Yellareddyguda, Hyderabad-500073. Ph. No. +91 9386578526. Email: dsipatch.rotek@gmail.com
4) Capital cost of the Project	Total cost of the project is Rs. 40.0 Lakhs.
5) Name of the project consultants/ environmental consultant	M/s Rightsource Industrial Solutions Pvt. Ltd., Plot No.203, S-36/203, Prashanthnagar, IDAKulapally, Medchal - Malkajgiri District Mobile: 9849391244 Email: peddhar@gmail.com
6) Line of Activity / Capacity	Stone & Metal Mine and Gravel Mine of 13.60 Ha with Stone & Metal - 3,56,485 Cubic meters/Year, Gravel - 2,00,215 Cubic meters /Year
7) Date/Time/Venue of Public Hearing	31.10.2023 / 11.00 A.M. Venue: Near Project Site, Ravakole Village, Medchal Mandal, Medchal-Malkajgiri District, Telangana State.
8) Place of the availability of Executive Summary (Telugu & English) & Draft EIA Report of the proposed project along with C.D.	1. O/o. The District Collector, Medchal-Malkajgiri District 2. O/o. The CEO, Zilla Parishad, Medchal-Malkajgiri District 3. O/o. The District Industries Centre, Medchal-Malkajgiri District 4. Regional Office, Integrated Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change, 3rd Floor, Ananya Bhavan, Saifabad, Hyderabad, Telangana. 5. T.S. Pollution Control Board, Regional Office, Medchal-Malkajgiri District, H.No. 6-3-1219, Block C, Ward No.91, 2nd Floor, Backside of Country Club, Kundanbagh, Umanagar, Begumpet, Hyderabad - 500016. 6. O/o. T.S. Pollution Control Board, Parvatarana Bhavan, A-3, Industrial Estate, Sanathnagar, Hyderabad-500018 7. O/o. T.S. Pollution Control Board, Zonal Office, H.No.6-3-1219, Block C, Ward No. 91, 1st Floor, Backside of Country Club, Kundanbagh, Umanagar, Begumpet, Hyderabad - 500016. 8. Revenue Divisional Office, Keesara, Medchal-Malkajgiri District 9. Tahsiladar Office, Medchal Mandal, Medchal-Malkajgiri District 10. Gram Panchayat Office, Ravakole Village, Medchal Mandal.

Suggestions, Views, Comments and objections of the Public, if any, are invited within 30 days from the date of Publication of this Notification. All the interested persons can also make written suggestions to the undersigned Officer of the T.S. Pollution Control Board and can also participate in the proceedings of the Public Hearing on the date, time and venue specified above. The Draft EIA in English and Executive Summary in English & Telugu will be uploaded in TSPCB Website.

Place : Medchal-Malkajgiri District
Date : 29.09.2023

Sd/- Environmental Engineer,
T.S. Pollution Control Board,
Regional Office, Medchal-Malkajgiri District.
R.D. No: 7481-PP/CLAD/VI/2023-24, Date: 30-09-2023

PM must seek people's forgiveness before stepping into TS: Minister

PNS ■ MAHABUBNAGAR

"You need to ask for forgiveness from people before stepping into Telangana," Minister for Prohibition and Excise V Srinivas Goud on Saturday told Prime Minister Narendra Modi. He wondered whether Modi is visiting Mahabubnagar district to spew venom against Telangana people as he is jealous of the lush green fields of crops.

Speaking at a media conference here, the Minister explained that the Prime Minister failed to ensure the implementation of promises incorporated in the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act. That was why, he demanded Modi seek people's forgiveness before stepping into Telangana.

Srinivas Goud criticised Modi for failing to ensure that the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift



Minister for Prohibition and Excise V Srinivas Goud speaking at a media conference in Mahabubnagar on Saturday

Irrigation Scheme (PRLIS) is accorded national project status. The Prime Minister gave the assurance thrice that the national project status would be accorded to PRLIS, but in vain. He questioned Modi's purpose of visiting Mahabubnagar on October 1 after failing to fulfil his promise. The Prime Minister,

he said, was spewing venom against Telangana.

He accused the BJP of instigating the people to fight in the name of caste and religion and trying to foment trouble in the district.

The saffron party leaders promised to accord national status to the PRLIS if elected to power. He expressed the

Srinivas Goud criticised Modi for failing to ensure that the Palamuru-Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme (PRLIS) is accorded national project status

opinion that the people in Telangana would not fall into the BJP's trap.

Municipal Chairman KC Narasimhulu, Zilla Grandhalyaa Samastha Chairman Rajeswar Goud, Zilla Parishad Vice-Chairman Yadaiah, Municipal Vice-Chairman Ganesh and others were present.

'Centre delaying permission to Yadadri Thermal Power Project'

PNS ■ SURAPET

Minister for Energy G Jagadish Reddy on Saturday accused the Centre of delaying in according permission for the prestigious 4,000 megawatts Yadadri Thermal Power Project.

Speaking to the media here, the Minister said that the opposition parties were envious of the progress the State had made and were conspiring against the State government. The opposition parties were envious of the State government's flagship scheme of providing round-the-clock power to the farm sector.

He denied that the paddy crop wilted in the absence of rains. Not a single paddy crop was affected with 24x7 uninterrupted power supply was ensured. The Opposition was spreading falsehood, he pointed out.

Terming the denial of permission to the Yadadri



Minister for Energy G Jagadish Reddy speaking to the media in Suryapet on Saturday

Thermal Power Project as a "vindictive action," the Minister demanded that the Centre expeditiously accord permission to the project. The Centre was creating hurdles to the project. The Centre failed to respect the National Green Tribunal instructions also, he said. The State government completed all the works of the project, but the Centre has not according to permission. Jagadish Reddy demanded

that Narendra Modi spell out his stand on the promises incorporated in the Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act before he stepped into the district. Instead of giving a boost to the development, the Prime Minister was spewing venom against Telangana. The Centre was creating hurdles to development, he remarked. He expressed confidence that Telangana people would fall prey to false campaigns.

Death of worker by suicide at opencast mining triggers tension

PNS ■ MANCHERIAL

The death of a worker by suicide at the opencast mining project at Srirampur on Friday night triggered tension.

According to police Veeraswami Goud (50) died by suicide.

He came from Suryapet. The reason for suicide is yet to be ascertained.

The workers belonging to all trade unions staged a protest demanding action against the operator of the mine.

The union demanded that action be taken against the operator as the latter threatened to file a theft case against the worker. The unions alleged that the operator was exploiting the workers and failed to provide even basic facilities for them.

Chandrababu's arrest not justifiable, says Harish

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Health Minister T Harish Rao said that arresting Chandrababu at his age is not justifiable. He was speaking after laying the foundation stone for a palm oil factory at Narmetta in the Nangunur Mandal of Siddipet District.

"Former Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu said the Telangana region which was discriminated against in United AP has the highest land prices now. It is unfortunate that Chandrababu has been arrested at this age. His arrest is not a good thing," Harish said.

He said that past rulers made farmers commit suicide although they coined slogans like 'Jai Jawan Jai Kisan,' but Chief Minister KCR raised the stock of farmers, increased their incomes and also the value of their lands.



"There was a severe drought during the Rajasekhara Reddy and Chandrababu governments. But there was no drought during the 9-year rule of Chief Minister KCR. The blessings of the Lord are abundant on Chief Minister KCR who believes in God. That is why there has been no drought in Telangana in the last nine years. Rains are plenty and farmers have lots of water," Harish said.

"Even if there is development Congress leaders will

not see it. Congress leaders are shamelessly asking where is 24-hour electricity in Telangana. The Congress has no moral right to talk about free electricity supply to farmers," he said.

"Do you want Congress leaders to provide three hours of electricity for farming? Or do you want KCR to provide 24 hours of free electricity for three crops? KCR enabled farmers to live with self-confidence without committing suicide," he added.

"As Telangana came, we built the Kaleshwaram project. Because of the Kaleshwaram project the humidity in the air has increased and today we are able to cultivate oil palms here. This is possible due to the surrounding Ranganayak Sagar, Kondapochamma Sagar, Mallanna Sagar, Gauravelli Reservoir, Pochamma Reservoir, numerous check dams and ponds," he said.

Policewoman drowned in flood canal at Bhadrachalam

PNS ■ KOTHAGUDEM

A 48-year-old head constable R Sridevi drowned in a flood canal near the temple at Bhadrachalam in the district on Saturday.

She hailed from Gollagudem area in Kothagudem town. She was attached to the one-town police station in Kothagudem. She was sent to Bhadrachalam on duty during the visit of Minister for Information Technology KT Rama Rao.

The flood canal overflowed following heavy rain in the noon at Bhadrachalam.

According to police, Sridevi, while walking towards Annadana Satram, slipped into the canal. The personnel of the National Disaster



Response Force swung into action immediately and launched the search. Her body was found at the sluice.

The body was retrieved. Later, the body was shifted to Bhadrachalam Area Hospital for post-mortem.

A pall of gloom descended on Sridevi's family.

Harish Rao inaugurates Sakhi, Bharosa Centres

PNS ■ SIDDIPET

Minister for Finance and Health T Harish Rao on Saturday inaugurated Sakhi One Stop Centre and Bharosa Support Centre office buildings on the premises of Siddipet police station in the presence of DGP Anjan Kumar and Additional Director General women's safety Sikha Goel.

Addressing the gathering after the inauguration, Harish Rao appealed to the people saying, "Let us use the two buildings as women's safety complex."

The victims - whoever they are - can get justice here. The centre provides health care, protection and justice to the victims. Such facilities are highly useful with atrocities are perpetrated on children and women.

The building was constructed at a cost of Rs 1.18 crore, he



Minister for Finance T Harish Rao inaugurating Sakhi centre in Siddipet on Saturday

said making a special mention of a girl called Akarshana supplying 780 books to the library here.

Speaking on the occasion, the DGP Anjan Kumar said that the state government is working with commitment after 2014. There were no Sakhi One Stop Centre and Bharosa Support Centre services in other states. These centres are highly useful to women and children.

Sikha Goel, in her address,

declared that Hyderabad is relative safe for all. She maintained that her department is conducting many special programmes for the safety of women.

DIG of police Ramesh, Collector Prashant Jeevan Patil, Police Commissioner Swati, ZP chairperson V Roja Radhakrishna Sarma, SUDA chairman Ravinder Reddy, state nursing council member P Sairam and others took part in the event.

Mynapally's entry creates ripples in Medak Congress unit

PNS ■ SANGAREDDY

The political equation is fast changing in Medak District unit of the Congress party after BRS MLA Mynampally Hanumanth Rao joined the party.

On Thursday last, Malkajgiri MLA Mynampally Hanumanth Rao and his son Mynampally Rohit joined the Congress in the presence of AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge.

It is said that Medak District Congress Committee unit president Tirupati Reddy right from the beginning opposed Hanumanth Rao's entry into the Congress. Tirupati Reddy sought the party ticket to contest from Medak. Tirupati Reddy went on record by stating that he would not give up his efforts to secure the party ticket to contest from Medak.



The TPCC president announced that the party would give two Assembly tickets to Hanumanth Rao's family.

It is learnt that Tirupati Reddy was summoned to Delhi. Former deputy chief minister Damodara Raja Narasimha was given the task of pacifying Tirupati Reddy. The Congress high command reportedly assured the DCC president that he would be sent to the Legislative Council.

MLA asks people not to be misled by false promises

PNS ■ NAGARKURNOOL

MLA Marri Janardhan Reddy on Saturday said that he fulfilled the promises that he made to the people and asked the people to bring their problems, if any, to his notice for resolution.

As part of his Praja Prasthanam Pada Yatra, he toured several villages in Tandur mandal of the district.

In Potireddyppalli village, he visited every household to gain first-hand knowledge of their problems.

The villagers extended a grand welcome to the MLA on a tour of villages and welcomed him with Bonams and floral patterns. Addressing the gathering, the MLA claimed an overwhelming response to his pada yatra because of the good work done by him in the constituency.

Currently, the people want allotment of 2 BHK houses. The MLA completed the pada



MLA Marri Janardhan Reddy speaking to the media at Tandur in Nagarkurnool district on Saturday

yatra of three mandals and said that he would soon be completing the tour of other mandals too to know the problems of people.

The BJP wants the votes of the people of Mahabubnagar district and Lok Sabha seats but is not bothered about the problems of the region.

He alleged that the BJP did not give a single paisa for the Pamamuru-Rangareddy LI Scheme and Kaleswaram Project.

The government of Telangana successfully faced the legal battles waged by the Opposition parties to stop the development in Telangana, he said.

While the BRS is implementing a series of welfare and development schemes, the Congress leaders who could not do much during the past six decades are approaching the people with six guarantees, he said, asking the people to chase away the leaders approaching them with false promises.

In Karnataka, the ruling Congress did not provide a power supply 24x7 to the farm sector. The state is also ignorant of Rythu Bandhu and Rythu Bima, he alleged.

The opposition parties would have no option to quit politics in future, he said appealing to selfish political leaders to quit politics at least now.

He hinted at continuing his pada yatra from Bijinepalli from October 4.

Political leaders Jakka Raghunandan Reddy, Baikani Srinivas Yadav, Mangi Vijay and others were present.

NEWS FROM ANDHRA PRADESH

TDP headed for a leadership crisis?

C PRADEEP KUMAR ■ VIJAYAWADA

After TDP chief N Chandrababu Naidu got arrested in the Skill Development scam case, his party's general secretary, Nara Lokesh, moved to New Delhi to get support from national political leaders. Unfortunately, he didn't succeed. Some experts think Lokesh is in Delhi to avoid getting arrested in other scam investigations.

On Saturday, CID officials sent Lokesh a notice regarding the Amaravati Inner Ring Road alignment scam. They asked him to appear at the CID office on October 4, and what happens next depends on the CID.

Investigative agencies keep filing cases for various scams

that occurred during TDP's rule from 2014 to 2019. These include the Skill Development scam, Amaravati Inner Ring Road Scam, Amaravati Assigned lands scam, Fibernet scam, and more.

The TDP, which has been around for over 40 years, is in deep trouble because they don't have a leader if Lokesh gets arrested in any of these scams. That's what political analysts are saying.

The Yuvagalam Padayatra, which was led by TDP chief Naidu, has stopped since he got arrested and jailed in Rajahmundry. Initially, TDP supporters were enthusiastic about Lokesh, but now they're worried because both father and son are trying to get bail for multiple cases in various courts.

'GHMC to undertake median plantation with special fund'

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

GHMC Commissioner Ronald Rose has said that the GHMC will undertake median and avenue plantation under the greenery along the roads on a wide scale to provide a pleasant environment to the people of the city. GHMC has allocated a special fund to increase greenery across the city.

On Saturday in Kukatpally zone, Kutbullapur circle, a

massive plantation programme was held by Commissioner, along with Kutbullapur MLA Vivekanand. On this occasion a plantation drive from Suraram Katta to Maisamma pond, Shahpur Nagar has been organised. saplings in the median are sown in collaboration with GHMC and Aegars Federal, Rotary Club of Lake Moinabad for 5km stretch.

On this occasion, legislator Vivekanand said that tree

planting programme is a continuous process and it is a good programme. He said that trees are very useful for future generations. Kukatpally Zonal Commissioner Mamata said that when the Commissioner visited 2BHK he was instructed to take action for Median Plantation and accordingly action was taken.

Volunteers also participated in the 2k run organized by GHMC.



BJP hails HC stay on allotting 2BHK houses in Mankhal

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Thulla Virender Goud, the State Spokesperson of the BJP, said that the High Court stay on the irregularities in the allotment of double-bedroom houses constructed in the Mankhal village of Maheshwaram mandal in Maheshwaram constituency is a victory of the public.

Addressing a press conference on Saturday in Hyderabad he said that GO No: 10 is against guidelines.

He said that the High Court had found irregularities in this and had issued a stay order. Virender expressed his happiness at the verdict.

In fact, the design of this organism is flawed, he alleged. It is alleged that even officials were unable to implement the procedures mentioned in the GO. It is stated that the court has pointed out the errors, he said.

He said the mistakes made by the government should be rectified and double-bedroom houses should be allotted to deserving people.

He said that when around 300 poor women protested, they were arrested.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA SPECIAL DEPUTY COLLECTOR (L.A.) (JLISP) JAWAHAR LIFT IRRIGATION PROJECT :: GADWAL JOGULAMBA GADWAL DISTRICT							
FORM - VII							
As per Section -19 (1) of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (Central Act No. 30/2013 and sub Rule (1) of Rule -25							
DECLARATION							
Collector Proceedings No: G3/2023 Dt: 25.09.2023							
Special Deputy Collector L.No. G7/1/13 Dt: . 2023							
Gazette No. 153/2023							
Where as it appears that total of Ac 2.88 Cts., land is required for acquisition in the Pudur village of Gadwal Mandal Jogulamba Gadwal District, for public purpose, namely proposed Jawahar Lift Irrigation Scheme Project for D-1L of Package No. 100.							
Therefore declaration is made for the land measuring Ac.2.88 Cts., in Pudur village of Gadwal Mandal Jogulamba Gadwal, which is needed for construction of above said project, whose detail description is as following, is proposed for acquisition.							
SCHEDULE							
S. No.	Patal/ Inam/ PP or Govt.	Wet/Dry	Total Area to be acquired	Name of the Pottadar / Name of the enjoyer	Area of the Pottadar / Name of the enjoyer in Hectares	Area of the Pottadar / Name of the enjoyer in Cents	
1	588	Patta	Dry	0.77	1) Adakavala Yonesudu S/o Jannappa 2) Adakavala Beethanna S/o Nagappa	-	-
2	590	Patta	Dry	0.05	1) Thimmakka W/o Thirumanna 2) Davidu S/o Eastanna 3) Ravi S/o Chinnu Beesanna 4) Nagaraju S/o Bheemudu 5) Leuchanna S/o Kamanna 6) Mosanna S/o Lasanna Enjoyners:- 1) Ravarath S/o Saruvelu	-	-
3	591	Patta	Dry	0.08	1) Thimmakka W/o Thirumanna 2) Davidu S/o Eastanna 3) M.Prabhavathi W/o Krishna 4) Yesanna S/o Pedda Bheemanna 5) Jeevaratham S/o Pilli Beesanna 7) Yesanna 8) Beesanna S/o Chevitanna 9) Beesanna S/o Lasanna 10) Gopali S/o Kotanna 11) Muthanna S/o Kamanna Enjoyners:- 1) John Hank S/o Paulanna	-	-
4	615	Patta	Dry	0.64	1) Mangali Thippenna S/o Chinnu Thirumanna 2) M.Laxmireswamy S/o Boochupalli 3) Thippenna S/o Ramulu Enjoyners:- 1) Manjunatha S/o Naganna 2) Veerababu S/o Ramulu	-	-
5	617	Patta	Dry	1.34	1) Manjunatha S/o Nagaiyah 2) Mangali Ramaiyah S/o Nagaiyah 3) Mangali Srinivasa S/o Nagaiyah 4) M.Rajasekar S/o Balaramudu 5) M.Soyanna S/o Balaramudu 6) M.Venkatulu S/o Mangali Ramudu 7) M.Ukunda S/o Mangali Ramudu 8) Panavathanna W/o Eastanna 9) Keshanna W/o Prashad Enjoyners:- 1) Balaramudu S/o Venkatesulu 2) Thippenna S/o Venkatesulu 3) Beesanna S/o Naganna 4) Nagaraju S/o Desanna 5) Thippenna S/o Thirumanna	-	-
			Total	2.88			

This declaration is made after considering the objections from interested persons as provided under section 15 (Central Act No. 30/2013). As there are no Objections/No Objections/No Objections lost due to acquisition R.R.Sidwana provisions are not applicable.

Mines of coal, iron, stone or other minerals lying under the said land or any particular portion of the said land, extend such parts of the mines and minerals which may be required to be dug or removed or used during the construction phase of the project for the public purpose of which the land being acquired are not needed.

A plan of the may be inspected in the office of the land acquisition Special Deputy Collector (Land Acquisition) Jawahar Lift Irrigation Project-Hq at Gadwal on any working day during the working hours.

Spl. Deputy Collector, L.A. Jogulamba Gadwal
Spl. Add. Collector (Revenue) Spl. Dist. Collector, Jogulamba Gadwal
J.L.P. Gadwal
DIPR No.665/LA/PP-Pub/2023-24

'Let's not normalise what is happening in Canada': EAM

PNS ■ WASHINGTON

Hitting out at Canada, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has said it is necessary to call out things like violence, threats and intimidation against Indian diplomats and missions and wondered if this had happened to any other country would the world have taken it with equanimity.

"Let's not normalise what is happening in Canada," Jaishankar said during an interaction with Indian journalists here on Friday.

His remarks came amidst simmering tensions with Ottawa following Prime Minister Justin Trudeau's explosive allegations of the "potential" involvement of Indian agents in the killing of Khalistani extremist Hardeep Singh Nijjar on June 18 in British Columbia.

India had designated Nijjar as a terrorist in 2020.

India has angrily rejected the allegations as "absurd" and "motivated" and expelled a senior Canadian diplomat in a fit-for-tat move to Ottawa's expulsion of an Indian official over the case.

"We have had an ongoing problem with Canada and the Canadian government for some years now. The ongoing problem really revolves around the permissiveness to terrorism, extremism and violence. This permissiveness is also reflected in the fact that some important extradition requests have not been responded to from their side," he said.

"We have had smoke bombs thrown at the mission, we have had violence in front of consulates, there are posters put up. Do you consider this normal? If this had happened to any



other country, how would they react? Let's not normalise what is happening in Canada. It is important to call out what is happening there," Jaishankar said.

"What is happening in Canada, had it happened anywhere else, do you think the world would've taken it with equanimity?" he asked.

When asked about Trudeau's

allegations, he said India has already pointed out to Canada that this is not the government of India's policy.

"But if they are prepared to share with us specifics and anything relevant, we are also open to looking at it. So in that sense, that's where the matter stands," Jaishankar said.

Jaishankar said one of the problems is that no incident is

isolated and the totality as there is a context for everything.

"There are multiple problems out there. So, I guess in the case of individual incidents, the concerned governments will have to talk to each other and see how they sort of take it forward," he said.

"But there is a larger issue. And I think it's important that the larger issue should be flagged. The larger issue is this permissiveness that I have spoken about," he said.

He also asserted that it was not acceptable to make threats and intimidate diplomats in the name of freedom of speech.

"We don't need to learn from other people what freedom of speech is about. But we can tell people this. We don't think freedom of speech extends to incitement, to violence.

Don't give another chance for Cong to rule in Chhattisgarh

PNS ■ BILASPUR

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday launched a scathing attack on the Congress government in Chhattisgarh, claiming that it was mired in corruption, and if given another chance, it will be emboldened to continue in the same way.

Speaking at 'Parivartan Mahasankalp rally', the concluding function of the BJP's two 'Parivartan Yatra' outreach campaigns here ahead of assembly elections in the state, he also alleged that the Congress cannot tolerate the rise of Dalits, Scheduled Tribes and backward classes, and it abuses backward classes on the pretext of targeting him.

"Chhattisgarh is steeped in corruption and misrule. There is a scam in every scheme in the state," Modi said, hitting out at the Bhupesh Baghel government over alleged scams in ration distribution, liquor



trade, Public Service Commission (PSC) recruitment, District Mineral Foundation (DMF) fund utilization and cow dung procurement.

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) was completely dedicated to the development of Chhattisgarh whether it was in power at the Centre or in the state, the prime minister said.

"Today I have come to give you a guarantee that Modi will leave no stone unturned to make your every dream come true. It is Modi's guarantee that

your dreams are Modi's resolution," he said.

"No matter how much I try from Delhi to ensure that development reaches you, the Congress government here keeps trying to disrupt it. In the last five years, Chhattisgarh has received thousands of crores of rupees from the Centre for development works. There is no shortage of money for the state, and I am not saying this but deputy Chief Minister (TS Singh Deo) of Chhattisgarh has said this in a public programme," Modi said.

PM Modi has become 'global hero of ground zero': Naqvi

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has proved to be the "global hero of ground zero" by depreciating dynastic dominance through decisive delivery and development, BJP leader and former Union minister Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi said on Saturday.

"Modiji's perfect, potential performance with the passion of 'never let it rest till your good is better and your better is best' has proved that democracy can deliver with decisive determination without dynastic dominance in governance," Naqvi said at the BRICS Chamber of Commerce and Industry's 'Indian Brand and Leadership Conclave 2023' here.

The BJP leader said that a brand of any product or personality is proved potential and perfect "not by chance but by choice".

Credibility of a product and reliability of production is paramount to convert people's habits into "hysteria for a brand or brand ambassador," Naqvi said in a statement issued by his office.

Integrity and acceptability ensures the global glamour and popularity, he added.

Naqvi further said a technology and connectivity revolution has made the world smaller and the competition bigger.

"People keep a close watch on the business, political, economic, cultural, religious, educational, administrative activities of every part of the world," he said.

"...keep your eyes on the sky and feet on the ground" so that if you fell down, you can stand up easily, the BJP leader said.

Maintaining the global credibility of a personality, product, industry or institution is the necessity of today's digital demography, he added.

Naqvi said technology must be saved from the "confinement of chronology".

"Concern yourself not with what you tried and failed in, but with what it is still possible for you to do," he said, adding, "That is why transformation, conviction, commitment and credibility have become an effective and successful formula for perfect products."

The former Union minister said that while 'Bharat' is one of the fastest growing economies of the world, it has also emerged as a "favourite" global digital destination.

Cong willing to conduct caste-based census in country: Rahul

PNS ■ BHOPAL

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Saturday said if his party is voted to power at the Centre, it would conduct a caste-based census to know the exact number of OBC people living in the country.

He claimed that the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) and central government officers were framing the laws of the country instead of

the elected representatives of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

Addressing a public meeting in Kalapipal assembly constituency in Shajapur district of Madhya Pradesh, where state elections are due by the year-end, Gandhi described the state as an "epicentre of corruption" and claimed that 18,000 farmers have ended their lives there in the last 18 years under the BJP rule.

"Soon after coming to power, the

first thing we will do is to go for a caste-based census to know the exact number of OBCs and other sections of people for the benefit of all as no one knows their exact number," Gandhi said.

He claimed that the country was being run by only 90 officers, including the cabinet secretary and secretaries, while the BJP MPs and MLAs had no role in framing policies and laws in the country.

"The RSS and bureaucrats are framing laws instead of elected BJP members...The RSS has given the job to the government to divert people's attention from core issues," he said.

The former Congress president said he was disqualified from the Lok Sabha after he spoke against an industrialist Gautam Adani in the House. "After I raised the issue, BJP quashed my membership. I don't bother, I will speak the truth," he said.

On the women's reservation law, he said it would take around 10 years to implement, and wondered why it does not have reservation for women from Other Backward Classes (OBC) category. "Women's reservation is good. But they have incorporated two lines in it. It will be implemented after (population census) survey and de-notification (delimitation). This will take 10 years...Why is there no OBC reservation in it?" he said.

V-P hits out at PC for his remarks on women's quota law

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar on Saturday hit out at Congress leader P Chidambaram for his remarks that reservation for women in legislatures was still years away, saying it is shameful to convert ignorance of the people into political equity.

Addressing an event here, Dhankhar said he lacked words to express his anguish on the remarks made on the women's reservation law by a "senior member of the Rajya Sabha who had been a Union minister and has held high profile positions".

Without naming Chidambaram, Dhankhar spoke on the former Union minister's comments, "What is the use of a law that will not be implemented for several years, certainly not before the 2029 Lok Sabha elections?"

Dhankhar referred to Chidambaram's remarks posted on X last night that the women's reservation law is a "teasing illusion, a reflection of



the moon in a bowl of water or a pie in the sky"

The vice president dubbed it a "distorted mindset" and wondered whether a sapling planted today would start giving fruits immediately or whether a person would get a degree soon after admission to an institute.

"It is shameful to convert ignorance of the people into political equity," he said.

The vice president said the youth of today will have to fight this as they have access to information.

The bill to provide 33 per cent reservation to women in

Lok Sabha and state legislative assemblies was passed by the Lok Sabha with near unanimity and the Rajya Sabha with unanimity during the special session of Parliament.

President Droupadi Murmu gave assent to the bill on Thursday. Now, it will be officially known as the Constitution (106th Amendment) Act.

According to its provision, "It shall come into force on such date as the central government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint."

During a special session of Parliament earlier this month,

Violence outside and "lens" inside Raj Bhavan: Bengal Guv

PNS ■ KOLKATA

West Bengal Governor CV Ananda Bose in a veiled attack on the TMC government said Saturday there is "violence outside" and "lens" inside the Raj Bhavan.

Bose was speaking at a function to swear in the newly elected TMC MLA from Dhurguri at the palatial Raj Bhavan which doubles up as the Governor's residence and office. The Governor told newsmen at the gathering that "there is a lot of violence outside the Raj Bhavan and lens inside". The quip on 'lens' seemed a reference to his earlier complaints that he was being monitored.

People of MP will vote out every 'corrupt Congress leader': Goyal

PNS ■ JABALPUR

Union Minister Piyush Goyal on Saturday said the people of Madhya Pradesh will vote out "every corrupt Congress leader" in the upcoming Assembly polls.

Assembly polls are to be held at the end of the year in the state.

Speaking to reporters after a 'prabuddhan sammelan' (intellectuals' conference) here, Goyal said MP had achieved new heights due to efforts of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan as well as all the Bharatiya Janata



Party ministers. Madhya Pradesh has achieved 18 per cent growth in GSDP in the last 20 years due to these efforts, he said.

The BJP has been in power in MP since 2003, expect for a period between December 2018 and March 2020 when

the Congress ruled under Kamal Nath.

"People of Madhya Pradesh will vote out every corrupt Congress leader and make them sit in their homes," the Union minister said.

The country's exports stood at Rs 60 lakh crore in March this year, up from Rs 38 lakh crore in the corresponding period in 2021.

PM Modi took the initiative on August 6, 2021 to boost exports, which now has witnessed 55 per cent growth, he said.

The industrial sector growth has been 12 per cent despite recession abroad, the Union minister added.

India to see normal to above-normal maximum temp in Oct: IMD

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Most parts of India are likely to record normal to above-normal maximum and above-normal minimum temperatures in October, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Saturday.



It said the northeast monsoon, which brings rainfall to five meteorological sub-divisions of south peninsula India -- Tamil Nadu, coastal Andhra Pradesh, Rayalaseema, Kerala and southern interior Karnataka -- in the October to December period is most likely to be normal. This means, the region may receive 88 per cent to 112 per cent of the long-period average of 334.13 mm of rainfall.

The Met office said normal to above-normal maximum temperatures are likely over most parts of India in October.

Above-normal minimum temperatures are predicted over large parts of the country, barring some parts of northeast, it added.

'Normal' rainfall in monsoon as positive factors counter El Nino effect

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The four-month monsoon season has ended with India receiving "normal" cumulative rainfall -- 820 mm against a long-period average of 868.6 mm -- with positive factors countering the effect of El Nino conditions, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Saturday.

Rainfall between 94 per cent and 106 per cent of the long-period average (LPA) is considered normal.

However, normal cumulative rainfall over the country dur-

ing the monsoon season doesn't mean even spatial and temporal spread of precipitation.

The Indian monsoon refers to inherent fluctuations and changes that occur over time due to various natural factors. This is called natural variability.

Research, however, shows climate change is making the monsoon more variable. Increased variability means more extreme weather and dry spells.

Addressing a press conference, IMD Director General Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said



that with positive factors countering El Nino, the 2023 monsoon season concluded with 94.4 per cent cumulative rain-

fall which is considered "normal".

Monthly rainfall across the country as a whole stood at 91

percent of LPA in June, 113 per cent in July, 64 per cent in August, and 113 per cent in September.

Out of the 36 meteorological subdivisions, three (constituting 9 per cent of the total area) received excess rainfall, 26 received normal rainfall (covering 73 per cent of the total area), and seven received deficient rainfall.

The seven subdivisions with deficient rainfall are Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram, and Tripura, Gangetic West Bengal, Jharkhand, Bihar, East UP, South Interior Karnataka, and

Kerala," the IMD chief said.

The IMD reported that East and Northeast India recorded 1,115 mm of rainfall against a normal of 1,367.3 mm, which translates to an 18 per cent deficit.

Northwest India recorded 593 mm of rainfall compared to a long-period average of 587.6 mm. Central India, where agriculture predominantly relies on monsoon rains, recorded 981.7 mm against a normal of 978 mm. The South Peninsula experienced an eight per cent deficit.

INDIA CORNER

Man guns down homoeopath, his wife; attempts suicide



A 25-year-old man allegedly shot and killed a homoeopath and his wife and attempted to commit suicide at a clinic in Madhya Pradesh's Chhindwara district on Saturday, police said. The incident took place in the Amarwada area of the district

around 2 pm, an official said. Sonu Malviya stormed into the clinic of Mahesh Dehariya (55), who held a degree in homoeopathic medicine and surgery, and opened fire at him, additional superintendent of police (ASP) Awadesh Pratap Singh said. The accused also fired at Dehariya's wife Vandhana when she came to his rescue, and he then held the pistol to his temple and pulled the trigger, he said. The accused sustained an injury and slumped to the floor, he said. The police rushed the couple to the district hospital, where doctors declared them dead, the official said. Dehariya sustained injuries to his chest and belly and Vandana was shot in the back, he said, adding that the deceased man is the president of the Bahujan Samaj Party's district unit. The accused is admitted to a hospital and his condition is said to be critical. The police are investigating the motive for the shooting, the official said.

Punjab farmers' 'rail roko' stir ends; 600 trains hit



Farmers Saturday evening ended their three-day 'rail roko' stir that hit the movement of trains, causing inconvenience to passengers in Punjab and Haryana. Protesters were holding their agitation against the Centre in support of various demands including compensation for crops damaged in the recent

floods, a legal guarantee on MSP and a complete debt waiver. The agitation that began on Thursday hit the movement of trains, with many being cancelled, short-terminated or diverted, railway officials said. According to railway officials of the Ferozepur division, the three-day farmers' stir affected the movement of 581 passenger trains and 17 goods trains. Of passenger trains, as many as 376 trains were cancelled, 89 were short terminated, 46 short originated, and 70 were diverted.

Sri Lanka targets to cross 2018 tourists arrival level



Sri Lanka is betting big on its tourism industry to boost its economy and targets to cross the 2018 tourist footfall level within this year, Sri Lanka Convention Bureau General Manager Krishantha Fernando said on Saturday. Sri Lanka has been grappling with crises since 2019 when the country was

rocked by a series of deadly blasts on Easter in April damaging the tourist industry, and this was followed by Covid-19 and then the financial crisis thereafter. The island nation, which is recovering gradually and is stepping up its efforts to attract international tourists back to Sri Lanka, hosted 1 million international travellers, of this 1,80,000 travellers were from India, Fernando told PTI over the phone. The tourism industry is recovering and we have welcomed 1 million international tourists, of this 1,80,000 tourists were from India. Looking at the current momentum, we expect to cross the 2018 level, one of the best years for the tourism sector, within this year," Fernando said on the sidelines of a two-day 'BLTM (Business+Leisure Travel and MICE) 2023' that ended on Saturday.

UIDAI chief Amit Agrawal gets one-year extension

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Senior bureaucrat Amit Agrawal has been given a one-year extension, till November 2 next year, as the Chief Executive Officer of Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), an official order said. Agrawal is a 1993-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of Chhattisgarh cadre. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved extension in Agrawal's tenure as the CEO, UIDAI for a period of one year beyond November 2, 2023 i.e. up to November 2, 2024, said the order issued by the Personnel Ministry.

Online gaming cos to net 28% on full bet

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

From October 1, online gaming companies will charge 28 per cent GST on full value of bets, while offshore platforms too would be required to have GST registration to operate in India.

The finance ministry late on Friday notified October 1 as the appointed date for the amended provisions in Central GST and Integrated GST laws to come into effect.

E-gaming companies, however, flagged that since many states are yet to pass amendments in their respective State GST (SGST) laws, this notification by the union government in CGST and IGST laws will create confusion.

According to the changes to the Central GST Act, online gaming, casinos and horse racing will henceforth be treat-



ed as "actionable claims" similar to lottery, betting and gambling and subject to 28 per cent Goods and Services Tax (GST) on full face value of bets.

The amendments to Integrated GST (IGST) Act makes it mandatory for offshore online gaming platforms to take registration in India and pay 28 per cent tax in accordance with the domestic law.

The amendments will also

provide for blocking access to online gaming platforms located overseas in case of failure to comply with registration and tax payment provisions.

In its meetings in July and August, the GST Council, comprising finance ministers of Centre and states, had approved amendments to the law to include online gaming, casinos and horse racing as taxable actionable claims, and clarified that such supplies would attract 28 per cent tax

on full bet value.

Parliament last month passed amendments to the Central GST and Integrated GST laws to give effect to the Council's decision. Following that, rules for valuation by these companies were also notified on September 6.

The finance ministry has now notified that October 1 will be the appointed date for implementation of these provisions.

In a letter to Revenue Secretary Sanjay Malhotra, All India Gaming Federation (AIGF) sought to know that with around 15 states yet to make changes to their respective State GST laws, what would be GST treatment that ought to be adopted by online gaming companies registered in those states in relation to deposits received from players of those states.

BoM appoints Pradeep Kumar Srivastava as Chief Technology Officer

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

State-owned Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) has appointed Pradeep Kumar Srivastava as Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of the bank.

His appointment is effective from September 28, 2023, the Pune-based lender said in a statement.

He brings with him a wealth of experience spanning over 28 years in the realm of the IT industry, it said.

Prior to joining BoM, Srivastava held the position of Vice President - Lead Enterprise Architect with Barclays Global Technology Centre in Pune.

MONEY MATTERS

Popular Vehicles and Services files IPO papers with Sebi again



Popular Vehicles and Services Ltd, which is engaged in automotive dealerships, has filed preliminary papers with capital markets regulator Sebi to raise funds through an initial share sale. This is the company's second attempt to go public. Earlier, the company filed draft papers with the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) in August 2021 for

floating an Initial Public Offering (IPO) but deferred the maiden public issue amid uncertain market conditions. According to the Draft Red Herring Prospectus (DRHP) filed on Thursday, the IPO comprises fresh issuance of equity shares worth Rs 250 crore and an Offer For Sale (OFS) of 1.42 crore equity shares by Banyantree Growth Capital II, LLC. Besides, the company is looking to raise Rs 50 crore in a pre-IPO placement round. If such placement is undertaken, the fresh issue size will be reduced. Proceeds of the fresh issue will be used for payment of debt and general corporate purposes.

Dhaka slowest city in the world on speed



Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh is the slowest city in the world while the fastest city on the speed index is Flint in the US state of Michigan, according to a US-based private nonprofit research organisation's findings. The study was done by the National Bureau of Economic Research (NBER) which covered 1,200 cities in 152

countries. The fastest city in the world is Flint (of Michigan) United States, with a speed index of 0.48. The slowest is Dhaka, Bangladesh, with an index of -0.60, read the NBER report uploaded to their website. The NBER said all cities in Bangladesh were among the slowest 15 per cent of world cities while it listed the central-north Mymensingh and the southeastern port city of Chittagong as the ninth and 12th slowest cities across the globe. Most strikingly, all cities with the fastest speed or uncongested speed are in rich countries, and all the slowest cities are in poor countries, commented the report by Cambridge, Massachusetts-based NBER.

A M Naik steps down as chairman of L&T Group

A M Naik stepped down as the chairman of L&T Group on Saturday. He handed over the reins of the USD 23 billion conglomerate to S N Subrahmanyam at an event in Mumbai. Naik, 81, will now be the chairman of the employees trust. He will focus on increasing many philanthropic initiatives that he has been undertaking for the past few years, according to a statement. India Post unveiled a postage stamp on Naik on the occasion. Naik's attention going forward will be on his philanthropic initiatives, including the Naik Charitable Trust which focuses on education and skill-building of the underprivileged, and the Nirali Memorial Medical Trust dedicated to facilitating super speciality healthcare at subsidised cost. Naik joined the company in 1965 as a junior engineer and went on to become its Group Chairman. In the nearly three decades in leadership roles, Naik helped the company grow to its present size and stature, the statement said.

Indus Towers inks pact with IOC Phinergy for clean energy systems

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Indus Towers and IOC Phinergy (IOP) have inked a pact for the deployment of 300 zero-emission energy systems to optimise diesel consumption at Indus' telecom tower sites.

This move accelerates Indus Towers' progress towards its sustainability priorities, according to a release.

"Indus Towers Limited and IOC Phinergy Private Limited (IOP) have signed an agreement for deployment of 300 zero-emission energy systems based on aluminium-air technology, to optimise diesel consumption at Indus' telecom tower sites," the

release said. Indus Towers' CEO Prachur Sah said as part of the company's ESG vision, Indus Towers believes in nurturing environmental stewardship, being socially responsible and having robust governance.

"Indus Tower's agreement with IOP is a testimony of the company's commitment to build eco-friendly telecom tower sites by investing in solutions for resource optimisation," Sah added.

IOP is a joint venture company formed by IOCL and Phinergy Ltd, Israel to manufacture, sell and service aluminium-air systems using Phinergy's technology in India.

Rs 6k cr scheme for pharma, medical devices sectors

PNS ■ GANDHINAGAR

The Centre has approved investment of Rs 6000 crore to 74 industries in the pharmaceutical and medical device manufacturing sectors under the production linked incentive (PLI) scheme, Union Home Minister Amit Shah said here on Saturday.

Shah was addressing a gathering after dedicating the newly built campus of the National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER) at Gandhinagar.

"The Union government has taken a holistic approach and begun the process for the development of a cost-effective, sustainable and affordable process for 16 APIs (active pharmaceutical ingredient) and two KSMs (key starting material)," he said.

In the next one decade, India will not just become self-reliant but also be in a position to export them (APIs and KSMs), Shah added.

"The Narendra Modi government has given permission



"The Narendra Modi government has given permission for the investment of Rs 4000 crore to about 48 small and big industries in the sector of pharmaceutical manufacturing under the PLI scheme."

for the investment of Rs 4000 crore to about 48 small and big industries in the sector of pharmaceutical manufacturing under the PLI scheme," Shah said. The PLI scheme was also launched for medical device manufacturing, under which the Centre has given permission for investment of Rs 2000 crore to 26 investors, he said.

The government has built three bulk drug parks with a total cost outlay of Rs 3000 crores, he said.

For India to become self-reliant in the field of medical

Hyderabad, Kolkata and Raebareli is in progress, he said.

"NIPER is today a big name in higher, technical education, with around 8000 students having so far proved their success after joining the industry. NIPER is also credited with more than 380 patent registration, and more than 7000 research papers," Shah informed. He said the Rs 2,200-crore budget granted for the state-of-art laboratory will help research, adding that more than 270 MoUs had been signed between NIPER and the industry.

Shah thanked the pharmaceutical industry and said the Pradhan Mantri Bharatiya Janashadhi Pariyojana could not have been made possible without its help.

People have been able to save medicines worth Rs 30,000 crore in the last nine years because of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's dedication to the poor and desire for their upliftment, the Union minister said.

GLOBAL TRAVEL MARKET

Focus on niche products to tap demand

PNS ■ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

The first edition of Global Travel Market (GTM 2023) and expo drew to a close here on Saturday with leading players of travel and hospitality sector calling for stepping up promotional efforts focusing more on niche areas like experiential travel, wellness and heritage to tap the full potential of post-pandemic surge in tourism.

The four-day event, which saw a large number of business decisions being clinched during the B2B sessions by stakeholders from around the world, also stressed on firming up sectoral collaborations and government-industry relations to impart a further momentum to the highly promising sector.

GTM 2023 was organised by South

Kerala Hoteliers Forum (SKHF), Trivandrum Chamber of Commerce and Industries (TCCI), Tavaz Ventures, Metro Media and Citrine Hospitality Ventures, a statement said here on Saturday.

GTM CEO Siji Nair said the expo had participants from around 24 countries and more than 20 states, making the event a grand success.

Overall, more than 1,000 trade visitors, 600 plus domestic and 100 international tour operators and 100 plus corporate buyers attended the four-day summit began on September 27, it said.

The travel and trade exhibition of GTM 2023, held at Travancore International Convention Centre, Greenfield International Stadium at

nearby Karyavattom, had 200 plus stalls of major hoteliers and resorts, tourism boards and organisations, airlines, travel agents, tour operators and travel tech innovators.

Addressing the valedictory session of GTM at Kerala Arts and Crafts Craft Village at Kovalam last evening, A Vincent, MLA, said it is vitally important to showcase products like Ayurveda, handloom, traditional cuisine and handicrafts before visitors and make them spend more days in the state. "GTM is a great endeavour in this direction," the MLA noted.

A seminar was also held on 'The Role of Media in Promoting the Tourism Industry' at the expo venue on Saturday.



Dell considering fresh investment in Bengaluru

Seeks K'taka govt support to overcome restrictions on SEZ

PNS ■ BENGALURU

In a bid to further strengthen its presence in Karnataka, Texas-based technology conglomerate Dell is considering a fresh investment in its research and development (R&D) centre in Bengaluru, according to the office of Karnataka Large and Medium Industries & Infrastructure Minister M B Patil. The company already operates a prominent research and development centre in Bengaluru. At the global level, Dell operates around 25 manufacturing facilities with 14 of these facilities dedicated to R&D.

On Friday, senior officials from Dell held meetings with Patil at Austin in the USA and sought support from the Karnataka govern-

ment to overcome import restrictions on Special Economic Zone (SEZ) operations, which would enhance cost sustainability for Dell's expansion in India, his office said in a statement here.

A business delegation led by Patil is visiting various states in the US to attract investments into the state. The delegation also met leading semiconductor manufacturing company Global Foundries (GF), which expressed interest in increasing its workforce in Bengaluru with an addition of 200 skilled workers, it said.

The Minister has assured to extend the government's support in this regard and will also help Global Foundries to establish connections with customers and suppliers, it added.

The \$30-billion Global Foundries has also expressed interest in establishing and expanding its Aerospace and Defence (A&D) presence in Karnataka, with plans for further engagement to develop a comprehensive business strategy, the statement added.

Airtel logs 50 million customers on its 5G network

Says services now span all districts

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Bharti Airtel on Saturday announced it has garnered over 50 million 5G customers on its network - a feat achieved within one year of the launch of Airtel 5G Plus.

The Sunil Mittal-led telecom company also said Airtel 5G Plus services are available across all districts in the country. "Airtel continues its 5G growth streak with 50 million

unique customers on its network," the company said.

Making it one of the fastest rollouts in the country, Airtel 5G Plus is available across all the 28 states and 8 union territories. Randeep Sekhon, Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of Bharti Airtel said the telco is thrilled at the speed of adoption of 5G by millions of customers and added "we are reaching this milestone earlier than planned."

"This marks a big expansion of Airtel's 5G coverage going from 1 million in October of

2022 to 50 million in just 12 months of the launch. The expansion continues at full speed and I am sure, we will continue to rapidly multiply as we work towards nationwide coverage and enable all our customers to enter the 5G age," he said.

The services are now available across all districts in the country (with the exception of districts in Pakistan occupied Kashmir, naxal affected areas of Chhattisgarh and the islands of Lakshadweep, which are connected through VSAT).

Rs 100 cr for Aspirational Blocks Programme

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The government in this financial year has allocated Rs 100 crore for Aspirational Blocks Programme (ABP), which aims to improve governance at the block level, in order to enhance the quality of life of citizens, a top government official said on Saturday.

ABP is being implemented in 500 aspirational blocks across 329 districts in the country. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the nationwide programme on January 7.

"The government has allocated Rs 100 crore for the Aspirational Blocks Programme in 2023-24... We expect that all 500 backward



blocks will reach the state average in terms of development in three years," the

official said on the condition of anonymity. Out of 500 aspirational

blocks, 160 blocks are part of the 112 aspirational districts.

Uttar Pradesh has the maximum number of blocks (68) under this programme followed by Bihar (61). NITI Aayog would undertake ranking of aspirational blocks every quarter based on their performance, the official added.

Prime Minister Modi on Saturday said the aspirational districts programme changed the lives of more than 25 crore people in 112 districts of the country and its success will now form the basis of Aspirational Blocks Programme.

Modi made the remarks as he launched a unique week-long programme for aspirational blocks called 'Sankalp Saptah' at the Bharat Mandapam here.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
SPECIAL DEPUTY COLLECTOR (LA)
JAWAHAR LIFT IRRIGATION PROJECT - I, GADWAL
JOGULAMBA GADWAL DISTRICT
FORM - VII
As per Section-19(1) of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (Central Act No. 30/2013) and sub Rule (1) of Rule-25

DECLARATION
Collector Proceeding No. G/46/2023 Dt: 15.06.2023
Special Deputy Collector L.No. A/1125/19 Dt: 30.06.2023
Gazette No. 15/1/2023

Where as it appears that total of Ac. 0.64 Cts. land is required for acquisition in the Uttara Village of Keja Mandal Jogulamba Gadwal District, for public purpose, namely for providing excavation of 06/14M/Minor. Therefore declaration is made for the land measuring Ac. 0.64 Cts., in Uttara Village of Keja Mandal Jogulamba Gadwal, which is needed for construction of above said project, whose detail description is as following, is proposed for acquisition.

SCHEDULE						
S. No.	S. No.	Patil/ Inam/ PP or Govt	Wet / Dry	Total Extent to be acquired	Name of the Pattaedar / Name of the enjoyer	Type of the land/ Nature of the acquisition
1	370	Patil	Dry	0.64	1) Golla Eshwananna S/o Somanna 2) Golla Venkataramu 3) Boini Padda Venkataramu 4) Boini Chinnu Venkataramu 5) Golla Ramalinganna 6) Patta Somanna Enjoyers:- 1) Boini Padda Venkataramu 2) Boini Thippanna	-
Total				0.64		

This declaration is made after considering the objections from interested persons as provided under section 15 (Central Act No. 30/2013). As there are no displaced Families/No livelihoods lost due to acquisition R&R Scheme provisions are not applicable.

Minerals of coal, iron, stone or other minerals lying under the said land or any particular portion of the said land, extent such parts of the mines and minerals which may be required to be dug or removed or used during the construction phase of the project for the public purpose of which the land being acquired are not needed.

A plan of the land may be inspected in the office of the land acquisition Special Deputy Collector (Land Acquisition) Jawahar Lift Irrigation Project, Gadwal on any working day during the working hours.

Sd/- Spl. Deputy Collector, L.A. Jogulamba Gadwal
JLP, Gadwal

Sd/- Addl. Collector, Jogulamba Gadwal

Sd/- Dist. Collector, Jogulamba Gadwal

DIPR No. 66/LA/PP-Pub/2023-24

GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
e-PROCUREMENT NOTICE
NIT No. 30/SE/KPZ/GHMC/2023-24, Date: 30.09.2023
Name of work: CC Roads, Box Culvert, Estimate Amount/ ECV: 448.80 Lakhs, Start Date & Time: 30.09.2023 @ 03.00 PM, Last Date & Time for Receipt of Bids: 03.10.2023 @ 03.00 PM, Name & Address, Officer Cell No: SE/KPZ, GHMC, Cell No. 9989930363, Sd/- Superintending Engineer Kukatapally Zone, GHMC
R.O.No: 1487-PP/LA/DT/1/2023-24, Dt: 30.09.2023

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
IRRIGATION & CAD DEPARTMENT
TENDER NOTICE
Tenders were floated vide Tender Notice No. 12/2023-24, Dt. 29-09-2023 for an amount of Rs. 13.39 crores for the work of "Construction of Check Dams across 1) Bugge Vagu near Gouram (V), 2) Nellovely (V) of Indalwei (M), 3) Kappavevagu near Gadkole (V) of Sitikonda (M), 4) Indalwei Vagu near Rampur (V), Indalwei (M), 5) Keshapur Vagu near Keshapur (V), Nizamabad Rural (M), 6) Khanjar Vagu near Tharekund (V) Muggal (M) under Nizamabad (R) Constituency Nizamabad District". Available from 28-09-2023 to 07-10-2023. Further details can be seen @ <https://tender.telangana.gov.in>. Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Irrigation Circle, Nizamabad.
R.O.No: 7486-PP/LA/DT/1/2023-24, Dt: 30.09.2023

"Reflecting on where I came from helps me to appreciate and balance what I have now"
— Meghan Markle



REMEMBERING JAYANTA MAHAPATRA

A POET OF DEPTH AND HUMANITY

Jayanta Mahapatra, revered Indian poet, delved into human psyche with poignant verses. His works, spanning social disparity and existential reflection, resonate beyond accolades. His legacy is one of profound introspection and empathetic insight, leaving an enduring impact

All the poetry there is in the world/appears to rise out of the ashes.

Jayanta Mahapatra in "All The Poetry There is"

Poetry and poetic experiences are strange phenomena. That was the precise reason Plato banned poets from entering his ideal Republic. Athenian society, at the zenith of rationality, offered poison to Socrates. Socrates's fault was his belief in the power of scrutiny, of judgement. He found "an unexamined life is not worth living." Genuine poets pierce through the layers "an unexamined life" is made of and then let gathered clouds in their minds get scattered by the sunlight of their musings.

Jayanta Mahapatra, such a poet, was one of the most revered doyens of English poetry in India who delved into deep, unexplored human psyche wherein he slipped into pseudo-realistic visions: more real than real. We lost him.

I knew him since 2005 when the then Sahitya Akademi's Secretary Nirmal Kanti Bhattacharjee introduced me to him. Since then we cherished a relationship words can hardly describe. Many handwritten letters, a few telephonic conversations and his FOREWORD to my book of poems SHADOWS OF THE REAL are the aftermath. I went to meet him once at Jaipur Airport but briefly, when he was returning from Ajmer after attending a literary programme. He was old but far from serious illnesses. The warmth of his embrace is still a treasure with me.

During the course of more than fifteen years of association, I chanced upon reading many of his poetry books including *Relationship* that fetched him Sahitya Akademi Award in 1981. He sent me a number of issues of the prestigious literary journal *Chandrabhaga*. He wanted me to read *The Hudson Review* from the USA that I subscribed to and was immensely pleased to read Mahapatra's long letter to its Editor (one of the features of the magazine was to feature each issue a long letter from world's top litterateurs across the world.)

If I were to summarise Mahapatra's poetry, I find it in one of the issues of *Chandrabhaga*, where he pens in "First Page", "It is a small life I live. Perhaps in the way I am, doing small things, like plucking a half-ripe guava from the tree in our yard, the green cozying up to my senses, the mesmerising aroma waking me up.....Perhaps one should not be one of those who suffer because the world is a wreck, it's hard to say. Does it matter?"



KK SRIVASTAVA

HIS POETRY IS ABOUT TRUTH, JUSTICE, DEPRIVATION, SELF-DELUSION, ANXIETY, SELF-PACIFICATION AND SOLACE. AT TIMES LUCIDLY, AT TIMES SURREPTITIOUSLY, HIS POETRY HARPS ON THE ESSENTIAL HARMONY IN THE DIVERSITY OF THINGS: LATENT OR APPARENT. HE OBSERVED EVERYTHING OF THE UNIVERSE AS A COMMON HERITAGE FOR ALL: POOR OR AFFLUENT. READERS OBSERVE IN THE DEPTH AND MAGNITUDE OF THE FEELINGS/SENTIMENTS MAKING HIS POEMS, THE RISING STORMS IN MAHAPATRA'S MIND. HE KEPT ON EXPLORING THE SOCIAL POWER OF THE PLEBEIANS THROUGH HIS POETRY



But look at concluding lines that amaze:

It's my job to love people again and again. To feel flowers blossoming in the sun, butterflies dipping into the pollen.

He was certainly not the poet of the great and prosperous. He evolved over a number of years through his penetrating observations and interactions. He developed a tender fellow feeling for the men, women and children on the margin.

"Hope lay perhaps in burning the home I lived in."

He writes in *HUNGER*. Readers can interpret the way they wish.

Always there was the question in his lips, the bewilderment in his eyes, the rebellion of his soul. He spent his last days in extreme loneliness tackling the tyranny of his memories and dreams. He writes in *SPRING*, "Somehow it seems the light/has spent its night in another's arms/But it's here with me now/with a story of a million words." He had faith in the power of words. He transferred his own fluid moment into the frozen store of memory and surveyed his dreams through a pragmatic eye.

His poetry is about truth, justice, deprivation, self-delusion, anxiety, self-pacification and solace. His poetry is indispensable irrespective of time and space. His poetry oscillates between the virility and verisimilitude. As in *Mask of Longing*—

A time when even oxygen seems to hiss cruelly

In those crumpled eyes of hers the light of death goes on gathering shadows. And I feel I'm late with my life. At times lucidly, at times

surreptitiously, his poetry harps on the essential harmony in the diversity of things: latent or apparent. He observed everything of the universe as a common heritage for all: poor or affluent. Readers observe in the depth and magnitude of the feelings/sentiments making his poems, the rising storms in Mahapatra's mind. He kept on exploring the social power of the plebeians through his poetry.

His poems endeavour to trace different facets of human life and existence: love, lust, revenge, sufferings, fears and deprivations. His voice is melancholic, sharp, intimate and scans the movement of time and human beings' silence. Many of Mahapatra's collections are kaleidoscopic collections of poems written with diverse thought processes underway. These engage readers with preoccupation of human beings with fleeting time and man's questionable existence in the universe. His poems weave a quagmire of wonton thought that invades poet's psyche very incisively. Nostalgia aches.

There was something I did not like: his returning Padma Shri in November 2015. I conveyed it to him. Though nothing was heard from him, I got Mahapatra's last letter to me on August 5, 2019. He wrote of the sad demise of his wife, son and son's family, and summarising his concluding days by quoting from my poem *DEPRESSION* from my book of poetry *Shadows of the Real*, "the same known fire burns me from inside" and then added, "a fire unknown and nameless still goes on burning through the nights." His greatness lay in making small, unknown writers like me happy and joyous through his words.

His concluding life reminded me of a line from his poem *A STILL WINTER MORNING*, "standing like a lost sheep/huddled away from death." Or as Brazilian poet, Izacyl Guimarães Ferreira confronts us with what he thinks of life in his poem — *A WAR*

WITH NO NAME, "There is too much and there is too little/there is warmth and there's a chill." Life links; it delinks too.

In Indian Summer, Mahapatra in his characteristic way, bemoans loneliness of a woman:

The good wife lies in my bed throughout the long afternoon, dreaming still, unexhausted by the deep roar of funeral pyres.

In this poem there are all disconnected pictures, with none of them being in any way inter-related to the others. "funeral fires" convey the deepest amount of mental agony of "a good wife".

Truth is either the most simple or the trickiest of the phenomenon a man has to deal with. It brings awakened enlightenment thought amidst suffocating pains for those who keep tuff on the highest pedestal. Look at following lines:

The worn-out face of India/ holds the weak eyes of dumb,/ solitary poets who die alone.

For truth seekers, there are no engrossing dilemmas; no consequences. He clarifies doubts; he clears doubts as far as yearning for truths is concerned.

WH Auden pointed out three attributes in a poet to deserve him a classification of being a great poet, "Firstly a gift of a very high order for memorable language, secondly a profound understanding of the age in which he lives, and thirdly a working knowledge of and sympathetic attitude towards the most progressive thought of his time."

Mahapatra met all these stringent conditions based on which we remember him as a great poet. His deathless poems enabled him to pave his way into the mists of eternity.

Imagist simplicity with dense connotations, oscillating rhythms of ebbs and flows are a few scintillating characteristics of his poetry.

Poets who believe, to use writer, critic and Centennial Professor of English at Vanderbilt University, Mark Jarman's words, in "poetry with an edge", poetry has lasting impact on the world, for every poet contributes his little bit to keep the edges of poetry sharp. The moot question is: how capably each and every poet contributes to that edge. Poets have to determine poetry's strength and future. They possess their own ultimate destiny, which Mahapatra summarises in his poem, *Twilight* —

Newly-lit lamps in the houses across the street make me look out at the wet August evening that holds up the vast unknown in such small delicate hands.

As for Mahapatra, he belonged to the intellectual aristocracy of the world though he lived a very down-to-earth life in Cuttack, never hankering after literary awards and recognition. Reclusiveness is a serious writer's sine qua non.

(KK Srivastava is a former Additional Deputy Comptroller & Auditor General, an acclaimed poet, writer and columnist for *The Pioneer*, *The Daily Guardian* and *Brazilian Literary magazine SIBILA*. Currently, he is a nominated member from the category of 'Literate person from the public and community' of Ethics Committee on Research of mental health establishment- IHBAS (Institute of Human Behaviour and Allied Sciences), of Government of NCT of Delhi where he is working with a group of psychiatrists/neurologists on research work on mental health. Views expressed are personal.)



LOVE YOUR HEART

Ignorance may be bliss sometimes but never when it comes to the heart. Rapid urbanisation inducing stress and a stressful lifestyle, coupled with dietary issues, are alarmingly taking toll on the heart, spiking cardiovascular diseases year after year. These ailments have increasingly affected the younger age groups, imposing economic and social burdens on the society, doctors point out in a chat with THE HEALTH PIONEER

Dr Vivek Tandon, Additional Director, Interventional Cardiology, Fortis Hospital Greater Noida, said, "Cardiovascular diseases are one of the leading causes of mortality in India.

In the last few years, there has been a rise in heart attack cases which has also been recorded in various studies: 25% of Indians below 40 years of age are at a higher risk of suffering heart attacks or other serious heart-related ailments.

This risk increases to 50% for people between 40 and 50 years of age. Regular Health Screening, Weight Management and moderate exercising lowers the risk of heart attack, advises the medicos.

People with family history of cardio vascular diseases, smoking and high stress levels are at greater risk, they warn.

"Since heart health has been a serious concern in India, the need for introducing light to moderate exercise regime, maintaining body weight, healthy diet intake, reduce consumption of alcohol and tobacco are critical to avert any cardiac related ailments.

"Even if we are active, take a

balanced diet, give up smoking and alcohol, and introduce methods to keep stress levels under control, sudden cardiac arrests can be averted. One of the major reasons for increasing heart attack cases in the young population is the long working hours, reduced sleep, and relationship issues, which cause stress and lead to heart disease. People with risk factors like family history of cardiovascular disease and exposure to an unhealthy lifestyle must get themselves examined by doctors", added Dr Tandon.

Cardiologists at Amrita Hospital, Faridabad concurred even as they blamed stress, smoking and overeating-led visceral weight gain as the flagbearers of risk factors leading to cardiovascular challenges.

Dr. Vivek Chaturvedi, Head of Department (Adult Cardiology), Amrita Hospital, Faridabad said, "Stress management takes center stage in heart health so, it is crucial to avoid excessive stress and also smoking which is caused by it.

Additionally, maintaining control over eating habits is crucial; overeating should be avoided, and a healthy diet should be embraced. Abdominal obesity is a significant

concern for heart health which can be prevented through regular exercise and physical activity. Such activities hold great significance in preventing a range of diseases, including hypertension, diabetes, and obesity. Weight loss and blood pressure reduction can often be achieved through regular exercise without the need for medication."

The doctors emphasized upon inculcating healthy habits among students in the early stage itself. "School students should adapt to a healthy lifestyle early on in their lives which will help them sidestep adverse heart diseases in the long run," said Dr. Mohit Bhutani, Assistant Professor, Dept of Adult Cardiology, Amrita Hospital, Faridabad.

He added, "Students should focus on taking a balanced diet, with an adequate intake of proteins, carbohydrates, fats, and nuts while cautioning against excessive consumption of fatty foods. In the educational setting, schools play a pivotal role in promoting heart health among students. Schools to monitor students' anthropometry regularly, which includes measurements like height, weight, and body mass index, to identify and address

potential obesity concerns early on.

"Incorporating yoga and meditation into daily routines can enhance mental and emotional health of students. It is essential for students to avoid harmful habits such as smoking, excessive alcohol consumption, and substance abuse. Teachers are urged to lead by example by proactively integrating heart-healthy practices into their lives, including regular exercise, tobacco and alcohol avoidance, and stress management through activities like yoga and meditation."

Pramit Mishra, Facility Director, Fortis Hospital, Greater Noida stressed on having complete sleep.

"In these competitive times, our sleep takes a toll, which impacts the overall health, whereas people who complete their sleep cycles and have healthier sleep patterns are better at managing health factors like weight and blood pressure along with a healthy heart."

India's share of one-fifth in the 17.9 million global heart attack deaths, as per WHO, is a stark reminder that heart disease is now affecting people in their 30s and 40s. This shift highlights the urgent need for preventive measures and

early detection in younger adults to curb this alarming trend.

Dr Jyoti Kapoor, Founder-Director and Senior Psychiatrist from Manasthali felt that one way to keep heart healthy is by keeping one free from stress.

"Stress is the silent architect of heart disease, weaving a web of risk factors that can shatter the strongest of hearts. It's not just an emotional burden; it's a potent risk factor for heart disease. When stress takes center stage in our daily existence, it orchestrates a symphony of physiological changes that can, over time, harm our cardiovascular health. Like a relentless storm, chronic stress can erode the resilience of our hearts, leading to increased blood pressure, inflammation, and unhealthy lifestyle choices.

"To protect the heart's sanctity, we must become vigilant guardians of our well-being, mastering the art of stress management. As we unravel the knots of tension, we fortify the heart's defenses, nurturing a future where stress is but a fleeting gust in the gentle breeze of a healthy heart."

The WHO South-East Asia Region member states need to join the global call to raise awareness

about heart health and accelerate actions to prevent, detect and manage cardiovascular diseases. The region is home to a quarter of the world's population, said WHO Regional Director for South-East Asia Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh on the occasion of World Heart Day observed on September 29.

The WHO South-East Asia Region is experiencing a very high burden of noncommunicable diseases. Cardiovascular diseases are responsible for 3.9 million or 30 per cent of all deaths annually.

"Alarmingly, almost half (48 per cent) of these cardiovascular disease-related deaths occurred prematurely, affecting individuals aged 30-70 years and imposing significant socioeconomic burdens on families, communities and countries," Singh said.

The main causes to the burden of cardiovascular diseases include modifiable lifestyle factors such as tobacco use, alcohol consumption, unhealthy diets -- especially high salt intake -- and lack of physical activity. Raised blood pressure and glucose levels are the key drivers and these can be detected, diagnosed and managed adequately in primary care, she added.

SEVEN-DAY SELF-CARE FOR HEART HEALTH

Here is a seven-day self-care plan that is sure to get you on the road to improving your heart health:

● **Healthy Eating for Your Heart**
Everyone has heard that they need to eat healthier, but knowing what that actually means can be overwhelming and confusing. If your doctor has told you to lower your cholesterol to reduce your risk for heart disease, then ask the dieticians what type of food will work.

● **Get Your Blood Pressure Checked**

Did you know that you can feel fine and still be suffering from high blood pressure, also known as the "silent killer"? For that reason, it is recommended that you have your blood pressure checked at least once per year. If you also grapple with "white coat syndrome" (an increase in blood pressure due to the presence of a doctor or other medical professional), it is reasonable to use at-home cuffs or grocery store cuffs to get an idea of what your numbers are. Make sure that you remain quiet and calm for several minutes before taking the reading. Knowing your blood pressure and working with your medical team can be life-saving.

● **Engage in High-Quality Sleep**
Sleep disorders can have an impact on heart health; therefore, it is important to know the signs of a sleep disorder. Because you are unconscious when asleep, asking a family member or person with whom you live about your sleep behaviors is informative.

● **Weight Management and Maintenance**

Managing your weight is much easier said than done; however, obesity greatly increases your risk of heart health difficulties. If you have tried dieting and exercising with no success, there is still hope. If you feel that you have exhausted all options, speak with a physician to discuss next steps.

● **Moderate Your Sugar Intake**

Sugar intake is closely linked to inflammation and heart disease. If you have a sweet tooth, try to snag a fruit instead of a treat. Moderating your refined sugar intake will help keep your heart healthy, keep your weight down and get you feeling more energized throughout your day.

● **Quit Smoking and Avoid Smoke**

Smoking and regularly coming into contact with cigarette smoke is detrimental to your overall health and especially to your heart health. Did you know that when you quit smoking you begin to experience health benefits within just half an hour?

● **Be Active for 30 Minutes or More**

If lifting weights at a gym sounds intimidating, fear not. You can improve your heart health by focusing on increasing your physical activity by at least 30 minutes per day. Some ideas include dancing, swimming, walking and anything else that gets your body moving.

Courtesy: Washington University Physician

Unique SOS QR Code to ensure timely aid within 'Golden Hour'

This groundbreaking service of detecting the accurate location of the patient in need and providing ambulance service underscores the Manipal hospital's bid to transforming Bengaluru into a Heart Smart City, reports THE HEALTH PIONEER

In a bid to save lives and provide first aid faster during medical emergencies, Manipal Hospitals has launched an advanced SOS QR code through which one can avail ambulance service at the earliest in times of distress.

Manipal Hospitals has strategically positioned the QR codes at key traffic intersections, apartments, and a few vehicles for easy access during emergencies.

Patients or their caregivers can in an instant scan these codes using their Android and iOS mobile phones. The QR code will seamlessly provide real-time, patient location information to the nearest Manipal Ambulance Response Service and 108 Ambulance team.

These ambulances have been strategically stationed at various key points throughout the city so that they can transport patients to the nearest hospital. Manipal Hospitals has also launched a cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) education programme for Bengalureans and proposed to the state government to make CPR education mandatory in colleges and schools

Guj Govt takes lead in heart diseases treatment

The Gujarat Government has spent approximately Rs 1614 crore on the diagnosis and treatment of heart disease patients in last five years even as it included the heart transplant procedure under AB PMJAY-MA.

Thus, making Gujarat the first and only state in the country to do so

On World Heart Day on September 29, the Gujarat Government shared that more than 2 lakh 95 thousand heart disease patients have availed free treatment under AB PMJAY-MA (Ayushman Bharat-Prime Minister Jan Arogya Yojana-Chief Minister Amrutam) in the last five years.

When considering the number of claims submitted by these beneficiaries, the figure exceeds 2 lakh 99 thousand.

Under AB PMJAY-MA, a range of diag-



nostic and treatment procedures for heart diseases are available. These include diagnostic angiogram, Coronary artery bypass grafting (CABG), Valve Procedures, Pacemaker Implantation, AICD - Automatic Implantable

Cardiac Defibrillator, Device Closure, femoral bypass and Ventricular pacing, etc.

It is well-known that the diagnosis and treatment of heart-related diseases are quite expensive. In such a situation, the Gujarat government has implemented the Prime Minister's Ayushman Bharat Yojana in the state in such an effective manner that the state's underprivileged families no longer need to wander extensively in search of heart-related check-ups and treatment.

In a significant move to provide an additional facility to serious heart disease patients from poor and middle-class families, the State Government has also decided to include the heart transplant procedure under AB PMJAY-MA, making it the first and only state in the country to take this step.

to make the community capable of providing critical assistance during medical emergencies.

Through these initiatives, the multi-specialty healthcare chain said, it aims to ensure that every crit-

ical patient receives timely assistance during the 'golden hour'. In medical circles, the 'golden hour' is referred to as the period of time immediately after an adverse health event such as a heart attack or stroke or tra-

umatic injury during which there is the highest likelihood that prompt medical and surgical treatment would prevent death.

As part of its health awareness programme, Manipal Hospitals has

also transformed traffic signals into heart-shaped symbols. These traffic signals display SOS QR codes for easy access to the ambulance service.

The heart-shaped signal at the traffic junction is meant to be a

reminder to everyone that every life counts and that one should not neglect one's own heart health.

This trend was set by introducing red heart signals last year at key traffic junctions, which was expanded to 37 traffic signals this year as well, with the support of Bengaluru Traffic Police and BBMP.

The event was inaugurated by Home Minister G Parameshwara and Minister of Health and Family Welfare Dinesh Gundu Rao along with Dr Sudarshan Ballal, Chairman of Manipal hospitals.

As per data from the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, almost 47 per cent of cardiac arrest fatalities occur prior to a patient's arrival at the hospital. The key to saving lives during heart attacks lies in delivering prompt assistance such as CPR during the 'golden hour'.

Speaking about the newly launched initiatives, Dr Ballal said that at the time of an accident or a medical emergency, one just needs to scan the QR code and one of the ambulances of the hospital would get activated and rush to the spot as

early as possible.

"We have about 35 ambulances in our system in Bengaluru, which may not be enough. So, we have also sought the help of the '108' ambulance service so that there are enough ambulances to address the issue in case of emergency. We also want to educate as many number of people as possible about CPR so that we can save lives," he said.

Home Minister Parameshwara said he will make CPR training mandatory in police training academies in the state and also take efforts to include it in school and college curricula. "We have more than 12 police training academies in Karnataka and we will include CPR as part of our police training programme," he said.

Health Minister Gundu Rao said that in emergency situations, the quicker the patient is brought to the hospital, the better the chances of recovery increases. "We are also working to improve 108 ambulance service facilities and will push for giving CPR training to more and more people, as it can save more lives," he added.

Nagorno-Karabakh conflict: No endgame

The conflict in the Nagorno-Karabakh region is now more than three decades old. This disputed territory lies in the mountainous South Caucasus region, situated between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea. Known as Artsakh to Armenians, this landlocked region falls within the sovereign borders of Azerbaijan, but it is predominantly populated by ethnic Armenians. While internationally recognised as a part of Azerbaijan, it is currently home to over 120,000 Armenians who resist being under Azerbaijani control. Both Azerbaijan and Armenia fought in the 1980s and 1990s to gain control of this hilly region, but were unsuccessful in their attempts.

As the conflict has resurfaced, it is worth examining the historical background of the issue. In 1923, Vladimir Lenin, the first leader of the USSR who ruled the Soviet Union from 1917 to 1924, established the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast within the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic. At that time, it was home to a 95 per cent ethnic Armenian population. The problem arose in 1988, just two years before the dissolution of the USSR, when the regional legislature of Nagorno-Karabakh passed a resolution indicating its desire to join Armenia, despite the region being an integral part of Azerbaijan. It is widely understood that ethno-nationalism has played a vital role in mobilising people for nationhood since the beginning of modern civilisation. This strongly influenced the Armenians living in this enclave, and they gradually prepared themselves to become a part of neighbouring Armenia. With the dissolution of the USSR in 1991, both Armenia and Azerbaijan became independent nations.

Meanwhile, the Nagorno-Karabakh oblast declared independence, leading to intense fighting between Armenia and Azerbaijan. By 1993, the Armenian security forces had occupied the region and also gained control over 20 per cent of the neighbouring Azerbaijani territory. In 1994, Boris Yeltsin, the first leader of the Russian Federation, successfully negotiated a peace deal known as the Bishkek Protocol between the two former Soviet Republics.



A convoy of cars of ethnic Armenians from Nagorno-Karabakh moves towards Kornidzor in the Syunik region in Armenia

AP

However, it did not resolve the territorial dispute and left the Nagorno-Karabakh region de facto independent. Peace between the two warring neighbours was maintained for some time with the influence of Moscow. However, once the USSR disintegrated, these peripheral republics became more conscious of their rights, priorities, and sovereign frontiers and they tried to re-establish their external relations with other nations around the globe.

From 1994 to 2015, there was peace between Armenia and Azerbaijan. In 2016, heavy fighting erupted once again. Then, in late September 2020, fresh clashes broke out along the Azerbaijan-Nagorno-Karabakh border. Azerbaijan regained much of the territory from Armenia and left a small portion of Karabakh to Armenia. The war came to an end with a Russia-brokered peace deal in November 2020.

The most significant aspect of this agreement was the

establishment of the Lachin Corridor, which allowed Armenia to connect to the Nagorno-Karabakh enclave under strict monitoring by Russian peacekeepers. The main trouble started in December 2022 when activists from Azerbaijan blocked the Lachin Corridor, halting all supplies coming to Nagorno-Karabakh from Armenia. This further led to the opening of a checkpoint by the Azerbaijani government on the corridor, alleging the supply of arms to Armenian separatists in the Nagorno-Karabakh region.

To put an end to the hostilities between the two neighbours, the US, Russia, and the European Union hosted talks with representatives from Baku and Yerevan. Finally, Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan and Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev made considerable progress towards peace after constant intervention by the major powers and pressure from the UN to maintain tranquility in the region. It

is positive for the international community that Pashinyan recognised the entire Nagorno-Karabakh enclave as the sovereign territory of Azerbaijan. He also emphasised that Baku must respect the internationally recognised boundary of Armenia and ensure the protection of ethnic Armenians living in the Nagorno-Karabakh region."

What has happened in Nagorno-Karabakh now? On September 19, in the days following the opening of the Lachin border, people from both sides of the frontier hoped that normalcy would be back to the disputed territory. This deal came as a result of an understanding between the Azerbaijan Government and the Armenian separatists of the Nagorno-Karabakh oblast. The agreement aimed to reopen two disputed transport routes, including a crucial link road known as the Lachin Corridor.

What has really worsened the ground situation is that for the last more than nine

months, Azerbaijan authorities are tightly restricting the movements of the Armenian Government with the Nagorno-Karabakh oblast through the Lachin Corridor.

Earlier Azerbaijan accused Armenia of smuggling arms and ammunition by using this route to the Nagorno-Karabakh. When the historic deal was sealed between two warring nations, the self-proclaimed Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh declared the election of a new President named Samvel Shahramanyan for it simultaneously. This move, which irked the Azerbaijani Government, was declared as illegal. For Baku, this election is purely illegal. Azerbaijan referred to the government as a "puppet separatist regime" at the heart of all troubles between the two nations.

While echoing concerns for a new flare-up, the Azerbaijani foreign ministry reiterated that "the only way to achieve peace and stability in the region is the unconditional

and complete withdrawal of the Armenian armed forces from the Karabakh region of Azerbaijan and the disbandment of the puppet regime".

Meanwhile, both Ukraine and Turkey voiced support for Azerbaijan's claim over Karabakh and denounced the election held in the region. The European Union has taken a very cautious stand by saying that it did not recognise the election but wanted the people of the Nagorno-Karabakh to consolidate around its de facto leadership while dealing with Armenia.

Many in Armenia fear that the people in the Nagorno-Karabakh enclave may face genocide in 2023. The way Baku is asserting control over the disputed territory is alarming. We are all aware of the Armenian genocide of 1915, when people of Armenian origin were massacred in Anatolia, in what is now modern-day Turkey. It is ironic that the US remained silent about the Armenian genocide until 2021,

when President Biden finally publicly recognised it.

Currently, the ethnic Armenians in the Nagorno-Karabakh oblast need the support of global governance institutions like the UN, as well as intervention from major powers such as the US, the Russian Federation, and the European Union, to prevent a potential genocide in the enclave.

What is concerning are the messages coming from Baku and President Aliyev. In the past, Aliyev did not abide by the verdict of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) which instructed Baku to reopen the Lachin Corridor. He has consistently disregarded requests from the UN and US Secretary of State Antony Blinken to comply with the ICJ's ruling. His government has assured the international community that reintegration will bring development and prosperity to Nagorno-Karabakh.

However, it is alarming that since 2010, Aliyev has reportedly stated that Armenia itself is "Western Azerbaijan", and last December, he declared that "present-day Armenia is our land". Furthermore, for years, Azerbaijan has maintained that Armenia is an illegitimate state. These are serious warning signals for the entire world, for Armenia, and for the conflict-ridden Nagorno-Karabakh oblast.

At present, Azerbaijani forces have fully occupied the Nagorno-Karabakh region whose separatist leaders have laid down their arms. However, thousands of ethnic Armenians are fleeing to Armenia, fearing for their lives and the sudden change in the status quo.

It is time for the international community to ensure the future safety of ethnic Armenians in Azerbaijan. President Aliyev must work towards restoring peace and tranquility to the Nagorno-Karabakh region. He should refrain from seeking further escalation of the crisis. Otherwise, pressure on Pashinyan might lead Armenian forces to reclaim the oblast, potentially sparking a bloody war in the region.

The time has come for both Baku and Yerevan to bid farewell to arms.

(The writer is currently president of the Global Research Foundation)

The Nagorno-Karabakh conflict spans over three decades, rooted in territorial disputes between Azerbaijan and Armenia. Despite internationally recognised as part of Azerbaijan, the region is predominantly Armenian-populated. Recent tensions, exacerbated by border restrictions, pose a risk of genocide. International intervention is crucial to ensure ethnic Armenians' safety and regional peace.



MAKHAN SAIKIA

PERSPECTIVE

Planet burns as superpowers desert multilateralism

The planet is on fire, but almost all the firefighters have deserted. At the meeting of the United Nations General Assembly, which began on September 19 in New York, the leaders of four of the five permanent members of the Security Council — the UN's most powerful executive body — were absent.

The absence of the top representatives of France, the United Kingdom, Russia and China, replaced by ministers or diplomats, demonstrated the emptying of the main global multilateral forum and highlighted the speeches of the two presidents who opened the General Assembly: Brazil's Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva and the US' Joe Biden.

Both leaders, with decades of experience, referred bluntly to fires that are ravaging the planet — starting with the climate emergency and the war in Ukraine. And both, albeit in very different tones, pointed the finger at the central issue hanging over the meeting, which the absentees made clear: the crisis of the UN and the multilateral system that has been built around it in recent decades.

The UN was created in 1945, on the initiative of the United States and with the support of the allied countries that had defeated Nazism and

fascism (primarily the Soviet Union, Great Britain and France) with the aim of "preserving future generations from the scourge of war".

A year earlier, in 1944, the Bretton Woods Agreements had laid the foundations for the post-war global financial system, and created the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. Over the years, dozens of agencies, funds and specialised programmes have been added, gradually building up what is known as the UN System.

Practically every country in the world is a member of the UN and the organisation deals with countless issues, ranging from protecting life in the oceans to coordinating satellite orbits, humanitarian aid operations, vaccination campaigns, agreements to limit climate change and, more recently, attempts to create regulations against disinformation on social networks and to combat tax avoidance by large international corporations.

An imperfect system, but one that worked

The system, as Biden pointed out in his speech, "is not always perfect and has not always been perfect", but with its ups and downs, it worked reasonably well for seven decades. During the Cold War,

the UN was a crucial channel of communication that contributed to avoiding nuclear conflict. After it, the UN's remit expanded further: for example, with the multiplication of peacekeeping operations.

Despite the genocide in Rwanda, the civil war in the former Yugoslavia and the invasion of Iraq in 2003, in those two decades the number of armed conflicts (between countries and within countries) steadily declined, as did the number of victims. The curve reversed in 2012, when the civil war in Syria worsened, and since then it has continued to rise year on year. According to the Conflict Data Programme at Uppsala University, 184 different conflicts were recorded in 2022, including the war in Ukraine, with more than 238,000 victims in total, compared to an average of 120 conflicts and 30,000 victims per year between 2001 and 2012.

The UN's inability to respond appropriately to the war in Ukraine is more an indicator than a trigger of the crisis of multilateralism. Russia has brought the war of aggression, of territorial annexation, back as a tool of foreign policy. But the same Western powers with permanent seats on the Security Council that are right-

ly criticising the Russian invasion today have resorted to the unilateral use of military force in recent decades, contrary to the UN Charter and international law.

What we usually call multilateralism is the way in which the international system adopts a grammar of principles and norms that, in theory, should be followed by all states. It is a process of institutionalising forms of coordination and cooperation in public policy that generates a certain stability and predictability in relations between states and societies.

In the way the UN works, there is an element of equality in the treatment of states (all 193 member countries have the right to vote and voice in the General Assembly), but there are also obvious asymmetries of power, such as the special status of the five permanent members of the Security Council. The so-called P5 have kept their veto power unchanged since 1945 and often ignore the rules they are supposed to enforce — a historical incongruity that Lula rightly attacked again in his speech in New York.

Global governance

Even so, this grammar organises a large part of global governance mechanisms,

which increase international dialogue and cooperation, and decrease the propensity to use force as the main instrument for settling disputes.

The UN system is based on the idea that power relations between states should not be the only element that determines the shape of international relations. In fact, as recently as 2015, the multilateral system reached a consensus to adopt two global agreements of great importance and impact: the Paris Agreement for the reduction of greenhouse gases, responsible for the climate emergency, and the Agenda 2030 for sustainable development.

From then on, the multilateral system was able to do little more than try to manage a growing number of humanitarian emergencies. In June 2023, the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance (OCHA) estimated that there were 362 million people around the world in need of international aid to meet their basic survival needs.

Crisis of legitimacy and authority

During the COVID-19 pandemic, the World Health Organisation, under heavy fire from the administration of then US President Donald Trump, was virtually ignored

by the richest countries in its attempt to ensure equitable distribution of vaccines. The conflicts in Syria, Yemen and Israel/Palestine drag on, with no solution in sight. Efforts to strengthen the UN's capacity for preventive diplomacy, promised by Secretary-General António Guterres, have backfired, and the organisation has been unable to do anything to prevent the invasion of Ukraine or to facilitate a ceasefire. The system has apparently ground to a halt.

It continues to shape a large part of international interaction, but today there are two key areas of resistance to it: the emergence of countries in the Global South willing to reinterpret the hegemony of the liberal order, and the growth of a transnationally articulated radical right.

In the international debate, there is much more attention paid to the first question than the second. However, as the experience of the Trump and Bolsonaro governments has shown, the radical right's sovereignist vision is at odds with the essence of multilateralism, which requires agreed transfers of national sovereignty in favour of common goals, such as the fight against climate change. It is no coincidence that the Spanish radical right party Vox has been running a

campaign against the 2030 Agenda for years, which has been expanding throughout Latin America. Even so, the entire UN bureaucracy, from Secretary-General Guterres onwards, is reluctant to engage in open conflict with the radical right.

A strategic problem

For Brazil, and Latin America in general, the crisis of the multilateral system is a strategic problem. The region has an old multilateralist tradition, in which conflicts between states have been resolved by diplomatic means and not by arms. A dozen countries from the region took part in the creation of the League of Nations in 1920, and 20 were among the 51 founding nations of the UN. To this day, the multilateral space represents the only international arena in which the region has any influence, since from an economic and military point of view Latin America's weight is extremely limited: the region is home to 8 per cent of the world's population, but in 2022 it accounted for only 5.26 per cent of global GDP.

At the same time, the collective influence of the so-called Global South is increasing. In the weeks leading up to the UN General Assembly, the leaders of developing nations

met at the BRICS summits in South Africa, the G20 in India and the G77+China in Cuba.

For Brazil and the other countries of the Global South, the challenge is to maintain political independence and action, seeking to defend the interests of their populations, without taking sides in the dispute over the new global hegemony between China and the US. It is the concept of active non-alignment.

Concluding his speech in New York, Lula recalled that "the UN needs to fulfil its role as a builder of a more just, supportive and fraternal world. But it will only do so if its members have the courage to proclaim their indignation at inequality and work tirelessly to overcome it".

Brazil and the Global South must endeavour to reform the multilateral system, such as the unsustainable composition of the Security Council, while respecting all its norms, especially with regard to the UN Charter and all human rights protection mechanisms, including the International Criminal Court. Only in this way will it be possible to reaffirm the legitimacy of multilateralism, reduce global power asymmetries and try to put out the fires that threaten our planet.

(The Conversation)

A govt shutdown is nearing

What does it mean, who's hit and what's next?

The government is headed towards a shutdown this weekend that could disrupt many government services, squeeze federal employees and roil politics as Republicans in the House, fuelled by hard-right demands to slash budgets, force a

confrontation over federal spending. While some government entities will be exempt Social Security checks, for example, will still go out other functions will be severely curtailed. Federal agencies will stop all actions deemed non-

essential, and many of the federal government's roughly 2 million employees, as well as 2 million active-duty military troops and reservists, won't receive paychecks. A look at what's ahead if the government shuts down on Sunday.

WHAT IS A GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN?

A shutdown happens when Congress fails to pass some type of funding legislation that is signed into law by the president. Lawmakers are supposed to pass 12 different spending bills to fund agencies across the government, but the process is time-consuming. They often resort to passing a temporary extension, called a continuing resolution or CR, to allow the government to keep operating.

When no funding legislation is enacted, federal agencies must stop all nonessential work and will not send paychecks as long as the shutdown lasts.

Although employees deemed essential to public safety such as air traffic controllers and law enforcement officers still have to report to work, other federal employees are furloughed. Under a 2019 law, those workers are slated to receive backpay once the funding impasse is resolved.

WHEN WOULD A SHUTDOWN BEGIN AND HOW LONG WILL IT LAST?

Government funding expires Oct. 1, the start of the federal budget year. A shutdown will effectively begin at 12:01 a.m. Sunday if

the plan is on fire, but almost all the firefighters have deserted. At the meeting of the United Nations General Assembly, which began on September 19 in New York, the leaders of four of the five permanent members of the Security Council the UN's most powerful executive body were absent.

The absence of the top representatives of France, the United Kingdom, Russia and China, replaced by ministers or



Congress is unable to pass a funding plan that the president signs into law.

It is impossible to predict how long a shutdown would last. The Democratic-led Senate and Republican-controlled House are working on vastly different plans to avert a shutdown, and House Speaker Kevin McCarthy is struggling to win any support from hard-right conservatives to keep the government open. Many

are bracing for a stoppage that could last weeks.

WHO DOES A SHUTDOWN AFFECT?

Millions of federal workers face delayed paychecks when the government shuts down, including many of the roughly 2 million military personnel and more than 2 million civilian workers across the nation. For many workers, the first payday they would miss is Oct. 13.

Nearly 60% of federal workers are stationed in the Department of Defense, Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security. While the military's active-duty troops and reservists would continue to work, more than half of the Department of Defense's civilian workforce roughly 440,000 people would be furloughed. Across federal agencies, workers are stationed in all 50

states and have direct interaction with taxpayers from

Transportation Security Administration against disinformation on social networks and to combat tax avoidance by large international corporations.

An imperfect system, but one that worked

The system, as Biden pointed out in his speech, "is not always perfect and has not always been perfect", but with its ups and downs, it worked reasonably well for seven decades.

During the Cold War, the UN was a crucial channel of communication

finger at the central issue hanging over the meeting, which the absentees made clear: the crisis of the UN and the multilateral system that has been built around it in recent decades.

The UN was created in 1945, on the initiative of the United States and with the support of the allied countries that had defeated Nazism and fascism (primarily the Soviet Union, Great Britain and France) with the aim of "preserving future



The absence of the top representatives of France, the United Kingdom, Russia and China, replaced by ministers or

What the Global South must do with the UN and the multilateral system in crisis

diplomats, demonstrated the emptying of the main global multilateral forum and highlighted the speeches of the two presidents who opened the General Assembly: Brazil's Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva and the US's Joe Biden. Both leaders, with decades of experience, referred bluntly to fires that are ravaging the planet - starting with the climate emergency and the war in Ukraine.

And both, albeit in very different tones, pointed the

generations from the scourge of war". A year earlier, in 1944, the Bretton Woods Agreements had laid the foundations for the post-war global financial system, and created the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

Over the years, dozens of agencies, funds and specialised programmes have been added, gradually building up what is known as the UN system.

Practically every country in the world is a member of the UN and the organisation deals with countless issues, ranging from protecting life in the oceans to coordinating satellite orbits, humanitarian aid operations, vaccination campaigns, agreements to limit climate change and, more recently, attempts to create regu-

that contributed to avoiding nuclear conflict. After it, the UN's remit expanded further: for example, with the multiplication of peacekeeping operations. Despite the genocide in Rwanda, the civil war in the former Yugoslavia and the invasion of Iraq in 2003, in those two decades the number of armed conflicts (between countries and within countries) steadily declined, as did the number of victims.

THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE NOBEL PRIZES

Fall has arrived in Scandinavia, which means Nobel Prize season is here. The start of October is when the Nobel committees get together in Stockholm and Oslo to announce the winners of the yearly awards. First up, as usual, is the Nobel Prize in medicine or physiology, which will be announced Monday by a panel of judges at the Karolinska Institute in the Swedish capital. The prizes in physics, chemistry, literature, peace and economics will follow, with one announcement every weekday until Oct 9. Here are some things to know about the Nobel Prizes:

AN IDEA MORE POWERFUL THAN DYNAMITE

The Nobel Prizes were created by Alfred Nobel, a 19th-century businessman and chemist from Sweden. He held more than 300 patents but his claim to fame before the Nobel Prizes was having invented dynamite by mixing nitroglycerine with a compound that made the explosive more stable.

Dynamite soon became popular in construction and mining as well as in the weapons industry. It made Nobel a very rich man. Perhaps it also made him think about his legacy, because toward the end of his life he decided to use his vast fortune to fund annual prizes "to those who, during the preceding year, have conferred the greatest benefit to humankind."

The first Nobel Prizes were presented in 1901, five years after his death. In 1968, a sixth prize was created, for economics, by Sweden's central bank. Though Nobel purists stress that the economics prize is technically not a Nobel Prize, it's always presented together with the others.

PEACE IN NORWAY

For reasons that are not entirely clear, Nobel decided that the peace prize should be awarded in Norway and the other prizes in Sweden. Nobel historians suspect Sweden's history of militarism may have been a factor.

During Nobel's lifetime, Sweden and Norway were in a union, which the Norwegians reluctantly joined after the Swedes invaded their country in



The first Nobel Prizes were presented in 1901, five years after his death.

Thousands of women march in Latin American cities

The streets of cities across Latin America were bathed in green Thursday as tens of thousands of women marched to commemorate International Safe Abortion Day.

Decades of activism by women's rights groups have led Latin America to make strides in rolling back restrictions on abortions and expanding services at the same time the United States has slashed access to the procedure.

In Mexico, marchers celebrated the recent decision by Mexico's Supreme Court to decriminalise abortions at the federal level. In Argentina, marchers had a more somber tone, worrying that the strength of a populist far-right presidential candidate going into elections in October could signal peril after years of work by feminists.

Abortion was the heart of the protests, but crowds of women also raised alarm about the region's high rates of gender-based violence as well as abuses aimed at LGBTQ+ communities. Green smoke floated over a roaring crowd of thousands of women in Mexico City who waved green handkerchiefs, which have become the symbol of Latin America's "green wave" abortion movement. Signs reading "It's my decision" and "Free and safe abortions for everyone" speckled the crowd.



It's absolutely an achievement," said Fernanda Castro, an organiser at GIRE, the women's rights organization that brought forward the lawsuit before Mexico's high court.

While 20 Mexican states still have abortion bans on the books, the decision by the Supreme Court greatly expanded access to the procedure in a country where reproductive laws were long defined by its religious and conservative roots. Latin American feminists have spent decades fighting to roll back strict prohibitions. Mexico City was the first Mexican jurisdiction to decriminalise abortion 15 years ago. The trend picked up speed in Argentina, which in 2020 legalised the procedure. In 2022, Colombia, a highly conservative country, did the same. Brazil may be next. Currently, abortion is a crime with exceptions for cases of rape and birth defects in a fetus, but a case before the nation's Supreme Court could potentially decriminalise the procedure up to 12 weeks of gestation.

march came just weeks after Mexico's Supreme Court knocked down all federal criminal penalties for abortion, ruling that national laws prohibiting the procedure are unconstitutional and violate women's rights. The move will also require federal health institutions to offer abortion to anyone who requests it.

"It's absolutely an achievement," said Fernanda Castro, an organiser at GIRE, the women's rights organization that brought forward the lawsuit before Mexico's high court. "And now we have another even more important fight decriminalizing abortion in the minds of the people."

While 20 Mexican states still have abortion bans on the books, the decision by the Supreme Court greatly expanded access to the procedure in a country where reproductive laws were long defined by its religious and conservative roots. Latin American feminists have spent decades fighting to roll back strict prohibitions. Mexico City was the first Mexican jurisdiction to decriminalise abortion 15 years ago. The trend picked up speed in Argentina, which in 2020 legalised the procedure. In 2022, Colombia, a highly conservative country, did the same. Brazil may be next. Currently, abortion is a crime with exceptions for cases of rape and birth defects in a fetus, but a case before the nation's Supreme Court could potentially decriminalise the procedure up to 12 weeks of gestation.

Short bouts of activity like chores can reduce heart attack, premature death risks

Short bouts of activity, the kind done as part of daily living and including household chores, has shown to reduce risk of heart attack, stroke and even pre-

mature death, new The Lancet Public Health research shows.

However, duration and intensity of the activity matters, the research team from the UK and Australia, led by the University of Sydney, said, having tracked more than 25,000 UK adults over roughly eight years.

"From walking up the stairs to speedily mopping the floors; in recent years we've come to understand that it is not just structured exercise that is good for our health, but we know very little about how these short bouts of incidental activity translate to health benefits," said the study's senior author Emmanouil Stamatakis, University of Sydney.

The adults studied were aged 42-78, all of whom self-reported no participation in exercise or sport.

The researchers used wrist-worn wearables data from the UK Biobank and machine learning and analysed their seven-day incidental physical activity patterns down to a 10-second time window.

They then compared these physical activity micropatterns with the participants' health records, by following them for close to eight years to understand the health impacts of the duration and intensity of the physical activity bouts.

The researchers found that nearly all of the entire day's physical activity, 97 per cent, was accumulated in multiple slots, each

lasting less than 10 minutes, with longer slots being better.

"The idea of accruing short bouts of moderate to vigorous activity through daily living activities makes

physical activity much more accessible to people who are unwilling or unable to take part in structured exercise," said Matthew Ahmadi, Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Sydney, adding that data showed that the length and intensity of these activities mattered. Further, "moderately" or "vigorously" intense activity in these slots were associated with a steep decrease in major cardiac events, like heart attack or stroke, and death by any cause, they found.

Also, those who huffed and puffed for at least 10 seconds per minute, or 15 per cent of one physical activity bout or slot, saw the greatest benefit, they found.

"If you are huffing and puffing and unable to hold a conversation for some of that time (in one bout) you have hit the sweet spot," said Stamatakis.

"The take-home message here is any type of activity is good for your health, but the more effort you put into those daily tasks and the longer you keep up that energy, the more benefits you are likely to reap," said Stamatakis.

In their study, the authors write, "If verified in future research, our findings could inform future public health messaging targeting the general population raising awareness of potential health benefits from short physical activity bouts in everyday life, especially for adults who do not or cannot exercise."

"The green wave is going to keep growing and (Brazilian women) are not alone," Castro said.

standing or because it aligns with the political preferences of the judges.

The scrutiny can get intense for high-profile awards, such as in 2009, when

President Barack Obama won the peace prize less than a year after taking office. The Norwegian Nobel Committee is an independent body that insists its only mission is to carry out the will of Alfred Nobel. However, it does have links to Norway's political system. The five members are appointed by the Norwegian Parliament, so the panel's composition reflects the power balance in the legislature.

To avoid the perception that the prizes are influenced by Norway's political leaders, sitting members of the Norwegian government or Parliament are barred from serving on the committee. Even so, the panel isn't always viewed as independent by foreign countries. When imprisoned Chinese dissident Liu Xiaobo won the peace prize in 2010, Beijing responded by freezing trade talks with Norway. It took years for Norway-China relations to be restored.

Consciousness: why a leading theory has been branded 'pseudoscience'

Civil war has broken out in the field of consciousness research. More than 100 consciousness researchers have signed a letter accusing one of the most popular scientific theories of consciousness the integrated information theory of being pseudoscience.

Immediately, several other figures in the field responded by critiquing the letter as poorly reasoned and disproportionate.

Both sides are motivated by a concern for the long-term health and respectability of consciousness science.

One side (including the letter signatories) is worrying that the association of consciousness science with what they perceive to be a pseudoscientific theory will undermine the credibility of the field.

The other side is pressing that what they perceive as unsupported charges of pseudoscience will ultimately result in the whole science of consciousness being perceived as pseudoscience.

Integrated information theory often referred to as IIT is a very ambitious the-



ory of consciousness proposed by neuroscientist Giulio Tononi. It ultimately aims to give mathematically precise conditions for when any system a brain or some other lump or matter is or is not conscious.

The theory revolves around a mathematical measure of integration of information, or interconnections, labelled with the Greek letter phi.

The basic idea is that a system becomes conscious at the precise moment when there is more phi in the

system as a whole than in any of its parts.

IIT implies that many more things are conscious than we ordinarily suppose. This means it gets close to a kind of "panpsychism" the view that consciousness pervades the physical universe.

Having said that, there are big differences between IIT and the new wave of Bertrand Russell-inspired panpsychism which has recently been making waves in academic philosophy, and which has been the focus of much of my research.

IIT even implies, as pointed out by the computer scientist Scott Aaronson, that an inactive grid of connected logic gates would be conscious.

The signatories of the letter worry that, while certain aspects of IIT may have been tested, the theory as a whole has not.

Therefore, they argue, there is little experimental support for these bold and counter-intuitive implications.

Opponents of the letter say that this is true of all current theories of consciousness, and reflects challenges with current neuroimaging techniques.

Gender bias seen in AI-generated content on leadership, finds research

New research has revealed an inherent gender bias in the content - text, images, other media - generated by artificial intelligence (AI).

Analysing AI-generated content about what made a 'good' and 'bad' leader, men were consistently depicted as strong, courageous, and competent, while women were often portrayed as emotional and ineffective, researchers at the University of Tasmania, Australia, and Massey University, New Zealand, found.

Thus, AI-generated content can preserve and perpetuate harmful gender biases, they said in their study published in the journal Organizational Dynamics.

"Any mention of women leaders was completely omitted in the initial data generat-



ed about leadership, with the AI tool providing zero examples of women leaders until it was specifically asked to generate content about women in leadership.

"Concerningly, when it did provide examples of women leaders, they were proportionally far more likely than male leaders to be offered as examples of bad leaders, falsely suggesting that women are more likely than men to be bad leaders," said Toby

Newstead, the study's corresponding author.

Generative AI learns the patterns in input data, using which the AI is trained, and then creates content bearing similar characteristics. The AI depends on machine learning concepts for content creation.

For training these generative AI technologies, vast amounts of data from the internet along with human intervention to reduce harm-

ful or biases are processed.

Therefore, AI-generated content needs to be monitored to ensure it does not propagate harmful biases, said study author Bronwyn Eager, adding that the findings highlighted the need for further oversight and investigation into AI tools as they become part of daily life.

"Biases in AI models have far-reaching implications beyond just shaping the future of leadership. With the rapid adoption of AI across all sectors, we must ensure that potentially harmful biases relating to gender, race, ethnicity, age, disability, and sexuality aren't preserved," she said.

"We hope that our research will contribute to a broader conversation about the responsible use of AI in the workplace," said Eager.