www.dailypioneer.com

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



INTO SAHARA GROUP OF **COMPANIES UNDERWAY: FM** 

Chiyaan Vikram researched many tribes for

**THANGALAAN** 



### Suspensions galore in TG police...

The Telangana police department

has seen a surge in suspensions over the past month. A few officers caught by the ACB, another is under investigation for allegedly sexually abusing a woman, and several others have been suspended for misconduct, such as abusing citizens during vehicle checks, assaulting individuals for being outside at night and showing undue sympathy to accused persons in various cases. On Monday, August 5, it was surprising to see that Cyberabad

### Most of employed rural youth want...

Commissioner of Police Avinash

Mohanty ordered...

Around half of rural men aged 18 to 25 are employed while only a quarter of the women in the same age bracket are working, according to a survey involving 5,169 youths across villages of the country, the report of which was released on Monday. The report added that 70-85 per cent of the youth said they wanted to change their jobs. The State of Rural Youth Employment 2024, brought out by the Global Development Incubator (GDI), Global Opportunity Youth Network (GOYN), Development Intelligence Unit (DIU), and..

### Over Rs 177 cr lost on account of...

As much as Rs 177 crore was lost on account of credit, debit card and internet banking frauds in the 2023-24 fiscal. Parliament was informed on Monday. In a written reply to the Lok Sabha, Minister of Chaudhary said the amount of loss due to cyber fraud has increased from Rs 69.68 crore in FY23 to Rs 177.05 crore in FY24. The quantum of loss in FY22 was Rs 80.33 crore, it was Rs 50.10 crore in FY21 and Rs 44.22 crore in FY20. Chaudhary further said to help customers..

### With so much spin on offer, game...

"Was it a shock? I would say yes," said India's assistant coach Abhishek Nayar as he tried to make sense of the unexpected defeat to Sri Lanka in the second ODI, blaming it on the spin-friendly conditions that have the potential to completely alter the course of a match. India's fragility against spin was once again on display as legspinner Jeffrey Vandersay wreaked havoc with a six-wicket haul to hand the visitors a 32-run defeat in the second ODI here on Sunday. ...There is a surprise. But you anticipate and..

Asks him to move

trial court for bail

The Delhi High Court on Monday

upheld Chief Minister Arvind

Kejriwal's arrest by the Central Bureau

of Investigation (CBI) in the corrup-

tion case stemming from the alleged

excise policy scam, deal-

ing a massive blow to

leader.Justice

AAP

PNS NEW DELHI

# Bangla in turmoil



PNS DHAKA

With Bangladesh descending into chaos, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina surreptitiously fled the country for London in a military aircraft on Monday and the army stepped in to fill the power vacuum, ending one uncertain chapter and opening another in the nation's restive history.

As news of Hasina's departure spread, hundreds broke into Ĥasina's residence, vandalising and looting the interiors, providing dramatic expression to the anti-government protests that have killed more than 100 people in the last two days. At the centre of people anger is the Hasina government's controversial quota system reserving 30 per cent jobs for families of veterans who fought the 1971 liberation war.

With volatile crowds taking to the streets -- some clambering on Hasina's father and Bangladesh founder Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's statue and smashing it with hammers in a lasting image underscoring the fickleness of history -- Army chief General Waqar-uz-Zaman announced that the 76-year-old prime minister has Continued on Page 2

### Jaishankar meets PM

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar met Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday as Bangladesh leader Sheikh Hasina landed at the Hindon airbase near Ghaziabad on her way to London amid turmoil in her country. Jaishankar is believed to have briefed Modi about the evolving situation in the neighbouring country but there was no official word on the meeting.

### High alert across Indo-Bangla border

PNS KOLKATA

The Indo-Bangladesh border region in West Bengal has been put on high alert on Monday following the ongoing unrest in the neighbouring country, officials said.

Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee appealed to the peo-ple of West Bengal to maintain pace and avoid provocation.

The ongoing turmoil has also "halted" trade between the two neighbouring nations.

Air India and India

Air India and IndiGo cancelled scheduled flights to Dhaka, while bus and train services between West Bengal and Bangladesh were also affected.

According to BSF sources, a "high alert" has been issued across all its formations along the 4,096-km India-Bangladesh border in the wake of developments in the neighbouring country.



TELANGANA SHINES IN US

# **Invest in TG, reap returns**

CM Revanth hard sells proposed New City to NRIs

PNS HYDERABAD

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy during his US tour, invited successful Indians living abroad to invest in

Telangana at an event held on Sunday in New York.

Outlining the plans for a next level Hyderabad, he said, "The Future City will join Hyderabad, Secunderabad and Cyberabad as the fourth city (at Baigare Kanche Muchcherla). With a world class masterplan, benchmarked against the best in the world, it will have every conceivable facility. All it needs is you." "It is your land, your country but I also promise you the best bang for your buck, the maximum returns, if you invest here. The satisfaction of partnering in the journey ahead will be a bonus," he said, to thundering cheers from the

"Telangana has set up a new university for skill upgradation in PPP mode. I requested Anand Mahindra

to be the chairperson of that university. He is expected to take charge as the chairman of the university in two days," the CM said.

He also outlined how Telangana

is trying to invigorate and catalyse its strong base in software, pharma, vaccines, healthcare and would add strong competencies in future tech, including Artificial Intelligence and try to become the preferred manufacturing alternative to China for global corporations looking at backup destinations to China with China+one strategy.

Speaking to the audience, comprising several key members of the East Coast Indian community, the CM said, "You have made the US stronger with your skills. Now come to Telangana. The three-ring state gives you a distinct metro, semi-urban and rural ecosystems to invest in." He said Telangana has ORR which is a necklace and now Regional Ring Road will become a

Governor of Telanganai Jishnu Dev Varma called on Union Home Minister Amit Shah at his office in the Parliament House, New Delhi, and discussed various developmental issues and other relevant matters concerning the State of Telangana.

# Sagar brimming to the full, 16 gates opened

PNS HYDERABAD

Sixteen crest gates of the Nagarjuna Sagar Project (NSP) were opened on Monday, marking the 4.22 lakh cusecs, which end of a prolonged crop added 33 to 35 TMCs of scarcity in its extensive command area of 18 lakh acres across Telangana (6.3 lakh acres) and Andhra Pradesh (11.74 lakh acres).

gates were opened five storage capacity of 312

feet, releasing around 1.6 lakh cusecs of water. The decision to release the waters was prompted by a substantial inflow of ject's reservoir, mainly due to significant outflows from the upstream

Srisailam reservoir. The storage in NSP touched 294 TMCs on It started with two Monday morning and is gates and by evening, 16 projected to reach gross

• Inflow: 3,74,713 cusecs

Outflow: 1,63,220 cusecs

Full reservoir level: 590.00 feet

• Current water level: 584 feet

Total storage capacity: 312.5050 TMC Current water storage: 294.55 TMC

TMCs by day's end. The reservoir level increased to

584 feet, just shy of its full reservoir level (FRL) of 590

Continued on - Page 2



# Govt will ensure 24-hour quality power supply to farmers: Uttam

The Congress Government will ensure 24-hour quality electricity supply to farmers, domestic and industries round the year, Civil Supplies and Irrigation Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy said.

He was speaking after laying the foundation for a 33/11 KV power substation being built at a cost of Rs 2.5 crore at Bakkamanthula Gudem in Mathampally mandal in Kodad



Uttam said the public and farmers had been asking for this

power substation for a decade and directed officials to complete the NCL and Chennai Palam substations in Sultanpur Tanda.

He said the Congress Government had adopted a practical approach to resolve problems faced by the people. Unlike the BRS admin, which falsely laimed to provide a 24 hour claimed to provide a 24-hour power supply to farmers, the Congress Government is addressing problems at both micro and macro levels.

### **DEFECTION OF MLAS**

# BRS intensifies move for legal action

The BRS has intensified its attempts to launch legal action regarding the disqualification of its MLAs who had defected to the Congress. A team of senior BRS leaders, led by Working President KTR and Harish Rao held discussions with legal experts in New Delhi.

The BRS representatives also met constitutional experts on Monday. Constitutional expert Aryaman Sundaram told the BRS team that the Supreme Court has already delivered many verdicts regarding defections by MLAs, including those related to



BRS brass meeting legal experts in Delhi on Monday

in the past, the Speaker cannot qualification.

Manipur. He emphasized that, unlike indefinitely delay the decision on dis-

### Plastic waste generation doubles in TG High Court upholds Kejriwal's arrest by CBI

PNS HYDERABAD

The states of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh have seen a notable increase in plastic waste generation in recent years, contributing to the growing environmental challenge faced by

Data tabled in the Lok Sabha on Monday by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) says the plastic waste generated in Telangana rose from 1,83,014.65 tonnes per annum (TPA) in 2018-19 to 4,72,675 TPA in 2020-21, an increase of approximately 158.28 per cent.



Plastic waste generation rose from 2,33,655 TPA in 2019-20 to 4,72,675 TPA, an increase of 102.3 per cent. Similarly, Andhra Pradesh's plastic waste generation was recorded at 82,863 TPA in 2016-17, which fluctuated over the years but stood at 39,626.45 TPA in 2020-21. Despite this, in Andhra Pradesh plastic waste generation decreased by around 52.20% from 2016-17 to 2020-21

India's plastic waste generation increased from 3,469,780 TPA in 2019-20 to 4,126,997 TPA in 2020-21.

Similarly, Andhra Pradesh's plastic waste generation was recorded at 82,863 TPA in 2016-17, which fluctuated over the years but stood at

### **MEDIGADDA BARRAGE DAMAGE**

# Court issues notices to KCR, 8 others

**PNS** ■ HYDERABAD

The Bhupalpally Principal Sessions Court issued notices to former Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao and eight others including former Minister T. Harish Rao regarding the damage suffered by the Medigadda Barrage.

Accepting the revision petition submitted by one N a g a v e l l i Rajalingamurthy, the court stated that it will hear the case on September 5. The court directed the nine persons, who are being served notices, to attend hearing on September Earlier, Rajalingamurthy had approached

the Bhupalpally First Class Principal Judicial Magistrate Court. However, the court dismissed his petition. Then Rajalingamurthy approached the High Court alleging that the First Class Principal Judicial Magistrate Court dismissed his petition without citing any reason. Continued on Page 2

Neena Bansal Krishna dis-missed Kejriwal's Plastic waste generated in Telangana rose from 1,83,014.65 tonnes per annum (TPA) in 2018-19 to plea challenging his arrest, holding that it 4,72,675 TPA in 2020-21, an increase of cannot be said it was approximately 158.28 per cent without any justifiable reason. 💫

39,626.45 TPA in 2020-21.

# A historic waiver - putting farmers' interests ahead

sproving all apprehensions and dismantling opposition propaganda, the Revanth Reddy-led Congress government in the State has begun waiving off farmers' loans. This initiative demonstrates the government's strong commitment to the welfare of farmers. Not only was the promised loan waiver initiated within the deadline, but this year's State Budget also saw the highest allocation for the agriculture sector.

It is pertinent to note that the loan waiver for farmers was initiated in accordance with the promise made during the 'Raithu Declaration' announced at the Warangal public meeting in May 2022

by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, and the Congress government began implementing it within eight months of coming to power in

The State government has liberated lakhs of farmers in

Telangana from the shackles of indebtedness and associated agony. Farmers are now free from a burden they have long awaited relief from. Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy compared this historic waiver to India's independence. Lakhs of farmers felt overwhelming joy when they received the message from the banks, akin to the national jubilation when India declared independence. He It is pertinent to note that the loan waiver for farmers was initiated in accordance with the promise made during the 'Raithu Declaration' announced at the Warangal public meeting in May 2022 by Congress leader Rahul Gandhi, and the Congress government began implementing it within eight months of coming to power in the State.

said that the Congress government had promised to make agriculture a profitable sector and all its initiatives substantiate that statement.

The State government allocated Rs 31,000 crore for the farm loan waiver, a record amount for any State government in the country. Despite several financial challenges, the government aggregated monetary resources for this purpose.

The loan waiver process began on July 18, 2024, with the release of Rs 6,098 crore, Ambedkar benefiting 11 lakh farmers in the first phase. The event was



Chief Public Relations Officer to Chief Minister

organised at the Dr BR Telangana Secretariat in the presence of all Cabinet members, farmers,

and the Chief Minister himself. Loans of up to Rs 1 lakh were waived off in the first phase.

In the second phase, Rs 6,198 crore was released, benefiting 6.40 lakh farmers with loans of up to Rs 1.50 lakh. In just 12 days, the State government released Rs 12,000 crore, benefiting 17 lakh farmers. The event was held on July 30, 2024, at the State Assembly. The Chief Minister remarked that it was his biggest achievement to see the sparkle of joy in the eyes of farmers.

The Opposition had tried to mislead people by claiming that the Congress government in Telangana would not be able to waive off the loans

and challenged the government to do so by August 15 as promised. However, to the surprise and dismay of the opposition leaders and the joy of farmers, the government kept its word by pooling the

necessary funds. While the opposition may find it hard to believe, it is in the DNA of the Congress to support the interests of farmers and the agricultural sector. The slogan 'Jai Jawan Jai Kisan' was coined by the Congress. The Green Revolution took place during Congress rule. Major projects like Bhakranangal and Nagarjunasagar were built to benefit farmers. Indira Gandhi nationalised banks to

provide low-interest loans to farmers. The Manmohan Singh govern-ment, led by Sonia Gandhi, introduced the Food Security Act, waived loans worth Rs 72,000 crore and supported farmers. Congress has consistently proven itself to be a farmer-friendly party by pro-viding seeds, fertilizers on subsidy, free electricity, crop insurance and minimum support price. The welfare and farmer-friendly initiatives will continue under the Congress regime to achieve higher goals in the agriculture sector, making it more profitable, ensuring financial security for farmers and providing food security for the people.

# BRS launches WhatsApp helpline for crop loan waiver issues

**PNS** ■ HYDERABAD

government.

At a media conference held at the Telangana Bhavan, former minister Singireddy Niranjan Reddy, MLA KP Vivekanand and BRS leader Ibrahim discussed the confusion surrounding the loan waivers promised by the

They highlighted that the promises of the Congress gov-

lurch with unmet expectations of Rs 2,500 and Rs 4,000 pensions respectively. Niranjan asked why the

Congress government had not cabinet or announced it in the Assembly. He accused the

Congress of misleading farmers with partial loan waivers and making hollow promises

would waive loans of Rs 2 lakh by December 9, Initially, it stated Rs 40,000 crore, later reduced it to Rs 31,000 crore and finally waiving only Rs

Niranjan emphasized the disparity in the number of farmers' benefiting from the loan waiver, contrasting it with the larger numbers supported under the BRS government's initiatives.

He also criticized the Congress for releasing numerous advertisements about loan waivers without substantial implementation.

KP Vivekanand echoed these sentiments, criticizing the Congress for avoiding discussions on crucial farmer support schemes in the Assembly.

He pointed out that promises of Rs 2 lakh loan waivers by August 15 remain unfulfilled and accused the Congress of deceiving both farmers and the

Continued on Page 1

BRS leaders provided the legal experts with petitions filed in the High Court regarding the disqualification of three of its MLAs and the complaints made to the Speaker concerning the MLAs who had defected.

Given the clear guidelines of the Supreme Court, the legal experts said the High Court is unlikely to postpone its decision for an extended period. If the High Court does not announce a verdict promptly, the matter may be

taken to the Supreme Court.

KTR said the BRS will
continue its legal battle based on Supreme Court rulings and the advice of legal and constitutional experts. He expressed confidence that the issue of disqualifying the MLAs who had defected will be resolved within a month through either the High Court or the Supreme Court.

### 'BRS leaders now talking shamelessly

PNS HYDERABAD

Peddapalli MLA Vijaya Ramana Rao said that former minister Gangula Kamalakar is speaking without the slightest understanding of issues.

He said the Kaleshwaram Project was built and destroyed during BRS rule and that KT Rama Rao went to Kaleshwaram, took selfies and posed for photos. Are BRS leaders unaware of the fact that the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) have advised not to store water in Medigadda, Annaram and Sundilla? Speaking to the media on Monday at the CLP office, Vijaya Ramana Rao said that in the name of Kaleshwaram, BRS leaders wasted Rs 1 lakh crore. He said that projects like Nagarjunasagar, Srisailam, Pulichintala, Nizamsagar, Sriramsagar, and Yellampalli which were built during Congress rule have not collapsed till now.

### The high court also disposed

High Court upholds Kejriwal's...

Continued on Page 1

of the AAP national convenor's bail plea and granted him liberty to approach the trial court for relief.

The high court had on July 17 reserved its order on his plea challenging his arrest by

It had reserved the order on the AAP leader's bail plea on July 29 after hearing the arguments of the counsel for Kejriwal and the central

Kejriwal was arrested by the CBI on June 26 from Tihar Jail, where he was lodged in judicial custody in a connected money laundering case filed by the Enforcement

Directorate (ED). The chief minister, who was arrested by the ED on March 21, was granted bail by the trial court in the money laundering case on June 20. However, the trial court's order was stayed by the high

# Hyd given Rs 614.34 cr under NCAP

**PNS** ■ HYDERABAD

The National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) has been a crucial initiative of the Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) to address air pollution in urban areas.

Telangana, with its significant urban population, has been a key focus area under this programme. The NCAP aims to reduce PM2.5 and PM10 concentrations by 20% to 30% by 2024. City Action Plans (CAPs) have been implemented in 131 cities, including Hyderabad to achieve this. These plans are executed through coordinated efforts by states and their urban local bodies.

Telangana, the

Hyderabad Agglomeration (UA) received substantial funding under NCAP. As of March 31, 2024, Hyderabad was allocated Rs 614.34 crore, with a utilization rate of 66.19%. This is an improvement from the previous year's utilization rate of 49%, says data tabled in the Lok Sabha. The air quality in Hyderabad has shown notable improvement under the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP), launched in January 2019. Recent data indicates significant progress, with Hyderabad among the 16 cities demonstrating more than 20% improvement in annual PM10 concentrations compared to

the baseline levels of FY 2017-

8 cooling towers

The BRS launched a WhatsApp Helpline for crop loan waiver issues. Telangana Bhavan has set up a WhatsApp helpline (8374852619) for farmers to report loan waiver issues. Two experts will be available to assist unresolved cases and take it up with the

Congress government.

ernment, such as Rythu

Bandhu and Rythu Bharosa remain unfulfilled, leaving farmers and women in the

discussed Rythu Bharosa in the

for votes.

The Congress claimed they

Plastic waste...

Continued on Page 1

The states producing the highest quantities of plastic waste are Gujarat, Karnataka and Maharashtra. Gujarat topped the list with 337,693.96 TPA, followed by Karnataka with 368,080 TPÁ and Maharashtra with 311,254 TPA in 2020-21. These figures indicate the vast scale of plastic waste management required in these regions.

But some states have made significant strides in reducing plastic waste. Notably, Maharashtra which generated 4,43,724 TPA of plastic waste in 2019-20, managed to reduce

it to 311,254 TPA by 2020-21.
The total Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) of registered producers, importers and brand owners for plastic packaging is around 3 million tonnes in the year

2022-23, as per EPR guidelines. As on date, the EPR certificates generated by registered plastic waste processors after the processing of plastic packaging waste including recycling is 6.8 million tonnes. The Minister of State in the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Kirti Vardhan Singh said, "Unmanaged and littered plastic waste.

# Govt Will...

Continued on Page 1

He said the Congress Government headed by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy is focused on improving infrastructure at the ground level,

especially in rural areas. "Quality service could not be ensured without creating the required infrastructure at all levels. The Congress Government will ensure that government schemes reach the last mile and serves the last man in the State," he said.

He also announced that the

soon and that all steps would be taken to complete and upgrade lift irrigation pro-

"The Congress Government has set a target of adding an additional ayacut of 30 to 35 lakh acres in the next five years. This financial year, Rs 10,820 crore has been allocated to increase the ayacut by about 6 to 6.5 lakh acres. The completion of pending irrigation projects has been given top priority to ensure that investments already made in various projects are useful to the public. There would be no

repair of Amaravaram and Padavedu lift irrigation schemes would be completed

High alert ...

jects to increase irrigated area.

shortage of funds for priority projects," he said.

### Sagar...

Continued on Page 1

In anticipation of the increased water discharges, riverbank villages in Nalgonda and Palnadu districts were alerted a day earlier and fishermen Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. The gates were last opened on August 17, 2022.

### of Kothagudem Thermal Plant demolished PNS HYDERABAD Eight cooling towers of

the Kothagudem Thermal Power Station (KTPS) at Palvancha in Bhadradri Kothagudem district were brought down using a controlled implosion on Monday. Standing over 130 meters tall, these towers were part of the old KTPS (O&M) complex, which was decommissioned years ago.

Four of the towers dated back to 1966 and 1967, while the other four were constructed between 1974 and 1978. Initially developed with Japanese technology, these units supported power generation at that time.

The Telangana State Power Generation Corporation Limited (TSGENCO) had invited tenders for the demolition. The process faced delays due to election related restrictions, but it was finally done like the earlier demolitions of other towers at the old KTPS plant last February.

The demolition was overseen by experts from a Rajasthan-based company, ensuring all safety protocols were followed meticulously. The KTPS complex, which

earlier had units producing 720 MW across A, B, and C stations was replaced by an 800 MW supercritical coalbased thermal power station (KTPS stage-VII) commissioned at the end of 2018. This new unit aims to enhance power generation in the area.

# CM's efforts give big boost to women entrepreneurship

WK Holdings signs MoU for USD 5 million investment, to invest USD 100 million in five years

PNS NEW YORK (USA)

Phani Karra and Greg Walsh of next five years, WKH will also but also contribute to build-Walsh Karra Holdings, a USinvestment f Sita Pallacholla, the Chief Executive Officer of WE Hub, India's first state-led nodal organisation for women entrepreneurs, signed an MoU guaranteeing an investment of USD 5 million in the WE

Hub over the next five years. The MoU was signed in New York, in the presence of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and the Minister of IT E&C, I&C and LA, D. Sridhar Babu, during their official visit to the US. Chief Minister Revanth Reddy congratulated the entire team for this success.

'Women entrepreneurship will free our society and unleash the potential of Telangana. No society can achieve its fullest potential without empowering women,"

Sukla Paksha

Aug 05 06:03 PM

to Aug 06 07:52 PM Aug 06 07:52 PM

to Aug 07 10:06 PM

Aug 05 03:21 PM

Aug 06 05:44 PM to Aug 07 08:30 PM

3:32 PM to 5:07 PM

9:11 AM to 10:46 AM

02:39 AM to 04:26 AM

12:21 PM to 1:57 PM

03:05 PM to 04:51 PM

Abhijit Muhurtham: 11:56 AM to 12:47 PM

**Updated:** August 5, 2024 5:00 PM

HYDERABAD WEATHER

Forecast: Scattered showers

to Aug 06 05:44 PM

TODAY

**ALMANAC** 

Tithi: Dwitiya:

Nakshatram:

Purva Phalguni

Rahukalam

Varjyam:

Yamaqandam:

Amritakalam:

**Temp:** 28<sup>∞</sup>

Humidity: 75% Sunrise: 5:57 AM

Sunset: 6:37 4M

Magha:

the Chief Minister said.

"With this initiative, over the invest USD 100 million in start-ups incubating in the Telangana ecosystem. WE Hub incubated start-ups and beyond thus becoming a reliable partner in the growth story of Telangana," Greg Walsh said.

Walsh Karra Holdings (WKH) was co-founded by Global Entrepreneurs and Investors Greg Walsh and Phani Karra and operates from the United States and Singapore. It is uniquely positioned to find and develop new investment opportunities to drive the next century's sus-

tainable economy.

It supports early and growth stage companies that demonstrate commitment to solutions that model innovation, sustainability and profitability. By investing in these

Continued on Page 1

"I was here last year and

addressed you as the TPCC

president. I had promised

you that I will come back

here again only after a

Congress government comes

to power, ending a decade of

misrule and betrayals. I have

Listing the promises and

guarantees fulfilled for

farmers, youth, women,

teachers and students so

far, he said, "Free bus trav-

el, free electricity, subsi-

dized cooking gas, farmer

loan waivers and input

subsidies are just a start.

We will keep every

Addressing concerns of balance in governance, he

said, "We are going to pur-

sue rapid, sustainable,

promise."

kept my promise," he said.

solutions, WKH aims to not only accelerate scalability ing a more sustainable "I studied at Osmania

University and started my career in Hyderabad which propelled me to success on the international stage. The gratitude I feel to India and Hyderabad made me look for ways to give back something. With this partnership, we have found a reliable agency to ensure our investments make a positive impact in India," Phani said.

In keeping with the Chief Minister's vision to enable more and more women to become drivers of economic empowerment, WE Hub will be implementing targeted world class entrepreneurship and incubation and acceleration programmes in the next five years.

growth of epic proportions

through matchless investor

policies. Growth, augment-

ed revenues, high jobs cre-

ation at varied levels of

skills are equally in focus,"

concluded a huge deal with

global IT major Cognizant

on Monday. This involves

constructing a new facili-

ty in Hyderabad of over

one million sq. ft. which will create 15,000 new jobs.

leader in IT services and

Cognizant, a global

consulting, announced its year.

"We have now made it a

the Chief Minister said.

**Invest in TG, reap...** 

### Court..

Continued on Page 1

Then the High Court suggested that Rajalingamurthy should submit a revision petition in the Bhupalpally district court. Rajalingamurthy filed a revision petition in the Bhupalpally Principal Sessions Court then.

Rajalingamurthy said that he lodged a complaint with the local police station on October 25 when the Medigadda Barrage was damaged. Later, Rajalingamurthy also filed a complaint with the SP and the DGP. However the police did not register an FIR and did not take any action. Then he approached the court, Rajalingamurthy mentioned

won't come to power. Then

they said it won't last. Now

they are trying to insinu-

ate misapprehensions that

growth may be slow. We

will prove them wrong

again. We will compete to

develop Hyderabad not as

meeting the Chief Minister.

and Industries Minister D.

Sridhar Babu.

Revanth Reddy and IT

The foundation for this

new agreement was laid

out during the Davos visit

of the Chief Minister and

his delegation earlier this

in his revision petition. Rajalingamurthy said that

some people had said that the Medigadda Barrage was damaged due to terrorist action. He said the police had also filed an FIR (No: 174/2023) as per IPC Section 427. However, the police closed it on the very next day itself.

Rajalingamurthy said in his revision petition that Chief Minister KCR and irrigation Minister T. Harish Rao were responsible for ensuring quality and that they were negligent in maintaining the Medigadda Barrage and also in allowing a design defect.

In fact, Rajalingamurthy named KCR, Harish Rao.

Bangla in...

Continued on Page 1

An interim government will be taking over, he said in a televised address amid feverish speculation about where Hasina was headed.

ity (of the country). Please cooperate," Zaman added, signalling the end of Hasina's 15year power run. The Army chief said he had met political leaders and told them the Army would take over responsibility for law

and order. However, there

to end the violence. He vowed

"I'm taking all responsibil-

were no leaders from Hasina's Awami League party at the meeting. As protests spiralled across the country, the army chief said he had asked both Army and police not to fire any shots. Zaman also urged restraint and asked protesters

Continued on Page 1 "A high alert has been

issued and we are keeping a close tab on "A high alert has been issued and we are keeping a close tab on the movement in the bordering areas so that no untoward incident takes place," a BSF official said. BSF Director General (Acting) Daljit Singh

Chawdhary and other senior commanders toured several bordering areas in West Bengal to review the security situa-Chawdhary toured North 24 Parganas district and the Sundarbans riverine area to review

preparations, a spokesper-

son for the South Bengal

Frontier of the force head-

quartered in Kolkata said.

were advised to keep away from the river. Water has already been released to the Nagarjuna Sagar Left Canal (NSLC), which irrigates approximately 6.3 lakh acres in Telangana. Andhra Pradesh is drawing 5,700 cusecs from the right canal head regulator, while 4,613 cusecs have been released to the left canal supporting the command area in Telangana. The project gates had remained closed throughout 2023 due to the lowest inflows in 40 years, due to deficient rainfall in the Krishna basin's catchment area covering Maharashtra, Karnataka,

"justice" for all the people. future-oriented economic Although every possible care and caution has been taken to avoid errors or omissions, this publication is being sold on the condition and understanding that information given in this publication is merely for reference and must not be taken as having authority of or binding in any way on the writers, editors, publishers, and printers and sellers who do not owe any responsibility for any damage or loss to any person, a purchaser of this publication or not for the result of any action taken on the basis of this work. All disputes are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of competent court and forums in Delhi/New Delhi only. Readers are advised and requested to verify and seek appropriate advice to satisfy themselves about the veracity of any kind of advertisement before responding to any contents published in this newspaper. The printer, publisher, editor and any employee of the Pioneer Group's will not be held responsible for any kind of claim made by the advertisem of the products & services and shall not be made responsible for any kind of loss, consequences and further product-related damages on such advertisements.

habit to defy naysayers. a top city in India but the First they said Congress world," the CM said.

CM clinches deal with Cognizant

Chief Minister Revanth expansion plans in Reddy who is in the US Hyderabad, India after

Printed and published by B Krishna Prasad for and on behalf of CMYK Printech Ltd., Phone: 040-23322341, Hyderabad Office: F-502, Diamond Block, Lumbini Rockdale, Somajiguda, Hyderabad - 500 082. Telangana. Printed at Sree Seshasai Enterprises, Plot No.19, IDA Balanagar , Hyderbad-500037, Medchal -Malkajgiri District, Telangana. Editor-in-Chief: Shobori Ganguli. Resident Editor: B Krishna Prasad, AIR SURCHARGE of Rs 2.00.



Telangana Council of Higher Education to organize the Jayanti celebrations in all offices and educational institutions on August 6 as a State function.

> Community hall inauguration

Union Minister Kishan Reddy to inaugurate Pasigutta Community Hall in Boudha Nagar at 10 am on August 6

### **CBI** arrests offender in cheating case after 7 years

**PNS** ■ HYDERABAD

After declaring an accused in Rs 50 lakh cheating of SBI as dead, the Central Bureau of Investigation on Sunday arrested him in Tamil Nadu.

On Monday, the CBI mentioned that proclaimed offender V Chalapathi Rao worked with SBI's Chandulal Baradari branch, Hyderabad as a computer operator in 2002. On the allegations of Rs 50 lakh cheating, the CBI filed a case against him on March 1, 2002. Then, the accused had been absconding since 2004. His wife is also accused in the case. After he had been missing for 7 years, the court also passed an order claiming that he was

"During the investigation, the wife of the accused obtained a stay order from High Court of Telangana on the efforts to attach the property of proclaimed offender (PO). The PO resorted to numerous efforts, including constantly changing locations, contact numbers, identity and other ways.

# City Pioneer



HYDERABAD | TUESDAY | AUGUST 6, 2024

### **ALLEGED CRIMES OF COPS**

# Suspensions galore in TG police dept

The Telangana police department has seen a surge in suspensions over the past month. A few officers caught by the ACB, another is under investigation for allegedly sexually abusing a woman, and several others have been suspended for misconduct, such as abusing citizens during vehicle checks, assaulting individuals for being outside at night and showing undue sympathy to accused persons in various cases.

On Monday, August 5, it was surprising to see that Cyberabad Commissioner of Police Avinash Mohanty ordered suspension of detective inspector and five other constables of Shadnagar police station in a case of a Dalit woman being allegedly tortured in Shadnagar police station to forcibly admit a theft case.

"In continuation of the departmental action regarding the incident at Shadnagar police station, the detective inspector of Shadnagar and five other staff members of the rank of constable have been placed under suspension. Further departmental action will follow," said Avinash Mohanty, Commissioner Of Police, Cyberabad.

The Anti Corruption Bureau (ACB) of Telangana has alone caught red-handed nine police officials for taking bribes in var-

Suryapet District SP Sunpreet Singh issued an order suspending three constables M Rambabu, M Balakrishna and L Purnachander after allegations that they were assisting in smuggling sand and collecting money. The district SP warned that any irregularities in the performance of duties by any of the staff will be subject to the departmental action



ious cases. A few were also taking money in the police station while ACB arrived at

The police trapped in ACB net belong to police stations in districts such as Warangal, Kothagudem, Medak, Nagarkurnool, Jagityal and also in Cyberabad, Hyderabad and Rachakonda.

In a minor rape case, a cop showed negligence in Peddapalli district and the Director General of Police suspended a sub-

În another case in the city, a video went viral where a cop is seen beating people late at night. To get into details, an inspectorrank officer was holding a lathi and beating people standing outside houses late in

Inspector Durga Prasad of Moghalpura police station has been initially suspended and later attached to Telangana police

A police source speaking with The Pioneer, advised that all the Tri-Commissionerates Commissioners and CPs in a few districts and SPs must do surprise visits to the police stations to witness the behaviour of inspectors and constables to avoid the recurrence of the recent incidents of police committing crimes.

"In continuation of the departmental action regarding the incident at Shadnagar police station, the detective inspector of Shadnagar and five other staff members of the rank of constable have been placed under suspension. Further departmental action will follow.'

**Dengue-related** 

searches on rise

### **PHONE-TAPPING CASE**

# Why SIB chiefs & Intelligence are not witnesses, ask accused

**PNS** ■ HYDERABAD

In the phone-tapping case chargesheet, the police have not mentioned chiefs of Special Intelligence Bureau (SIB) and Intelligence departments as witnesses. The counsel who appeared for bail petitions of two accused citing the chargesheet and said that the complainant got the information from his superior officer about missing hard disks when he filed the complaint with the police. But why did the police not mention his superior officer as one of the witnesses in the chargesheet?, questioned the counsel.

On Monday during the bail petitions of Praneeth Rao and Radhakishan Rao, counsel on behalf of the accused, said that the chief of Intelligence also knew about everything but the police did not mention any of them in the chargesheet. Without notice of the heads of any departments, nothing would have happened in any

While 173 people were let off

with a warning, the police

sentenced to three-day jail

term and a fine of Rs 1,050

SHE Teams nab 305, including

16 minors for sexual harassment

produced the remaining individuals before the court

out of whom five were

was imposed

**PNS** ■ HYDERABAD

The Hyderabad SHE Teams

arrested 305 persons, includ-

ing 16 minors accused of sex-

ual harassment of women during Bonalu.
While 173 people were let

off with a warning, the police

produced the remaining indi-

viduals before the court, out of

whom five were sentenced to

three-day jail term and a fine

in July, the SHE Teams

Apart from Bonalu festival

of Rs 1,050 was imposed.

This is the first bail petition after police submitted the

Case filed in Panjagutta police station on March 10, 2024

Police arrested Praneeth Rao on March 13, followed by arrest of

department. People who matter are not witnesses in this case. The counsel said that according to the FIR, the complainant is not new to the SIB office. Also, why did the office take more than three months to find that some hard disks were missing?

The advocate said that however, one of the accused Radhakishan Rao did not work with the SIB. Then how come he was linked to this case? He neither gathered any information nor destroyed it. He just followed the instructions and did his duty. The counsel said that according to the FIR, in December 2023, accused Praneeth Rao destroyed the hard disks and threw them into

received 115 complaints more

pertaining to crimes against

women and children. SHE

facilitated registration of FIR

in 19 cases and in four cases

In 22 cases, the police warned and counselled the

offenders, while in a particu-

lar case, a cab driver who mis-

behaved with a woman pas-

senger was caught and pro-

duced before the court, where

he was sentenced to a six-day

jail term and a fine of Rs 1,050

was imposed.

POCSO Act was invoked.

the Musi river. The police recovered around them after four months. But how come those 20 hard disks have alpha numeric numbers even after four months. There are models, system number and name of every hard disk in the Forensic Science Laboratory (FSL) reports.

In the counter for the bail petitions of two accused, the government said that there are some more officers to be arrested and prosecuted. So the police requested the court not to give bail to the accused. But the counsel for the accused said that if someone is absconding, that is not a ground to not grant bail to other accused.

### People throwing garbage at **GVPs** in city

PNS HYDERABAD

Mayor Gadwal Vijayalakshmi said that though the Garbage Vulnerable Points (GVP) are garbage continues to accumulate till the evening. Most of them are students who are doing this. "We need to keep our surroundings clean along with our houses," she

Mayor Vijayalakshmi, along with GHMC Commissioner Amrapali and Commissioner Anurag Jayanthi launched the Swachadanam Pachadanam programme in Khairatabad zone NBT Nagar on Monday.

The Mayor said that efforts are being made to improve greenery and cleanliness in the city. "We are going ahead with the plan to make the city a clean, healthy and pleasant. More than 4.000 autos have been collecting garbage in the city, but people are still throwing out garbage," she said.

PNS HYDERABAD

Justdial, India's No.1 local search engine, released its latest consumer icant 33% spike in queries related to dengue testing and treatment services The data, comparing the period of April-June 2024 to January-March 2024, also highlights a notable uptick of 20% in the demand for doctors specialising in dengue fever treatment.

India has been grappling with a severe dengue outbreak this year, with several states reporting a substantial increase in cases. Delhi, in particular, has witnessed nearly double the number of cases recorded in the corresponding period in 2023. Maharashtra and Karnataka have also reported alarming numbers, highlighting the urgent need for preventive measures and timely medical attention.

The onset of monsoon season, a breeding ground for mosquitoes, has further amplified the situation. This is reflected in the search trends for mosquito net dealers, which have witnessed a staggering 64% growth in search volume nationwide. This trend is particularly noticed in Delhi, with a whopping 709% increase, followed by Pune (216%), Ahmedabad (160%), Bengaluru (122%), Kolkata (96%), Mumbai (31%), and Hyderabad (27%).

To combat the mosquito menace, people are increasingly turning to pest control services as well. The overall pest control category has witnessed a pan-India surge of 24%, with metro

cities registering a 25% increase and non-metro areas experiencing a 24% growth. Delhi leads the pack with a 97% jump, followed by Kolkata (68%), Ahmedabad (45%), Bangalore (19%), and Mumbai (13%).

Beyond mosquitoes, there has been a significant rise in demand for services targeting other pests. Pest control services for lizards, honey bees, bed bugs, and snakes have witnessed substantial growth, with increases of 183%, 90%, 44%, and 33%, respective-

The rise in dengue cases highlights the importance of preventive measures such as maintaining clean surroundings, using mosquito repellents, and seeking medical attention promptly. Community awareness and individual efforts are essential in combating this



Significant increase of 33 per cent in queries related to dengue testing and treatment

# T-SAT

### **T-SAT** to broadcast lessons for Group-1 candidates

PNS HYDERABAD

The Telangana - Skills, Academic and Training (T-SAT) will broadcast special lessons for candidates appearing for Group-1 Mains exam on Monday.

According to T-SAT CEO Bodanapally Venugopal Reddy, "T-SAT Mains candidates will be provided special awareness syllabus for Prelims exam. About 750 episodes have been prepared for them. Mains will be conducted by the for them. Mains will be conducted by the Telangana Public Service Commission (TGPSC) on October 21. Syllabus taught by experienced faculty for candidates appearing for the exam will commence

on August 6 and end on October 19." He also stated that 10 episodes will be played at a frequency of five hours a day on T-SAT network for 75 days. The timings of the broadcast is from 5 pm to 10 pm. He advised candidates to take advantage of this opportunity. "Instead of spending lakhs of rupees and going to coaching centres, you can stay at home and go through the transmissions provided by T-SAT."

### TG official team to visit Paris Olympics

PNS HYDERABAD

Telangana officials left on Monday to Paris Olympics 2024. As per the directions of Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, under the leadership of Telangana Sports Authority Chairman K Shivsena Reddy, Sports Advisor Jitender Reddy, Member of Legislative Council Mahesh Kumar Goud, A Soni Baladevi IFS, N Prakash Reddy, Former Union Minister S Venugopala Chari and M Ravinder Reddy were in

The team will visit sports stadia and olympic competitions and observe arrangements and prospects, development in sports in different countries, procedures for hosting the Olympics in the future and implement such methods in Telangana to bring the best sports policy in the State.

"Through this visit, one can implement the measures undertaken for the development of sports in our State. Hence, the Telangana government has assigned us on this field trip", said K Shivsena Reddy and A Soni Baladevi.

### Grant announced to all govt schools

PNS HYDERABAD

Telangana government has announced on Monday to launch School Facility Maintenance Grant to all government, local body and model schools to meet the expenses of toilet-cleaning, watering plants and cleaning school premises in the interest of students.

As per the education department officials, currently the maintenance of toilets, cleaning of school premises and watering plants in schools has become an issue as it has been entrusted to the Panchayat Raj department for rural schools and the Municipal Administration department for urban schools. Hence, it was decided to release the School Facility Maintenance Grant to tackle the issue. The grant will be provided in addi-

tion to the Composite School Grant being provided under Samagra

Shiksha.
It shall be released directly to Amma Adarsha Pathashalas.

### PRAJAVANI

### **Reasons for unresolved problems should** be given in writing, says GHMC chief

PNS HYDERABAD

Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) Commissioner Amrapali Kata ordered officials to solve every grievance application in the Prajavani programme. If not solved by the corporation, the officials should take responsibility and send the reasons in written format for not solving the grievances to the applicants, she added.

On Monday, GHMC received 43 applications at the headquarters. Out of them Town Planning related 23 applications, Revenue department related four applications, Admin related three grievances, Chief Engineer (CE) Maintenance received 3 applications, Chief Medical and Health Officer (CMHO) received 2 applications and housing-related grievances were two.



GHMC Commissioner Amrapali Kata receiving applications from the people during Prajavani programme at the GHMC headquarters on Monday

# OU boarders cohabit with rodents, canines

fter completing Intermedi ate, how washrooms are, they are the worst." students believe that graduation

holds the key to a better future. But, they are most likely to face a rude shock when they set foot on the Osmania University

The hostels are in utter neglect and crave attention for renovation. When you visit the hostel rooms, it's not surprising to see that they are much messier than the exteriors. It looks like a single-bedroom cubicle where you need to cohabit with six to eight friends along with furry pets (strays), insects,

Akhila, a science student from OU, said, "I never thought I was going to share my room with six

Tejaswini, a commerce student said,

"Hostel rooms are okay, but at night they're restless. We need to face mosquito bites. The lighting in our room is not good. Rodents and stray dogs are frequent visi-

In regards to mess food, of course, no student can expect home-made food, but they still expect quality food. Nevertheless, they are served food of poor quality. For instance, dal curry looks like dal water. while some curries lack salt or spices. When it comes to rice, it may be undercooked or overcooked.

Srishti, an MBA student, said, "We don't have anything special to 12 members. It's such a small to say about mess food. The room; it's a bit congested. If you ask me food is fine here. Compared to outside

hostels, the food is okay. However, we hope that we are not served with insects or food eaten by rodents.' Ram Shiva, a BTech final-year student,

said, "Boys hostels are worse and messier than ladies' hostels. The rooms are not good at all. In several instances, we have seen dogs or rodents intruding into our rooms and biting our beds or eating food. In regards to food, it's the worst.

Jeevan, State Secretary of Akhila Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), said, "Compared to girls' hostels, our situation is worse. We don't have proper rooms. Even if we get rooms, we need to share with six to eight members. Food is not good at all. That's why most of us rely on canteen or outside food.'

Rashmi Bhumireddy bhumireddyrashmi@gmail.com Mobile:9502380615





HYDERABAD | TUESDAY | AUGUST 6, 2024

### Officials told to ensure cleanliness of town

PNS BHADRADRI **KOTHAGUDEM** 

District Collector Jitesh V Patil said that the main objective of the State government's ambitious cleanliness and greenery programme is to maintain sanitation and increase greenery in villages and towns.

District Collector Jitesh V Patil participated in the inaugural proramme. On the occasion, he removed the wild plants and garbage from the government land along with the officials.

Later speaking, he said that the government annoucned cleanliness and Greenery programme from August 5 to 9 with the aim of increasing sanitation man-

He called upon people to take part in the programme and make it a success. He directed the officials to ensure cleanliness of the

# **Gayatri Sugar Factory management** accused of cheating farmers

PNS KAMAREDDY

The All-India Progressive Farmers' Association on Monday staged a protest in front of the Collectorate demanding that the government take action against the management of Gayatri Sugar Factory for cheating farm-

The CPI-ML (PrajaPandha) state executive body member V Prabhakar and District secretary Ramakrishna alleged that the management obtained crop loans in the name of the farmers and demanded that the management pass on the loan waiver benefit to farm-

The factory management obtained crop loans on the farmers' names from Union Bank in Nizamabad. The government recently waived the crop loans, but the management did not pass on the benefit to farmers.

Therefore, they exhorted the government to lodge a criminal case against the management. They also urged the government to recover the amount from the man-



Farmers staging a protest at the Collectorate in Kamareddy on Monday

agement and give them to the farmers. They appealed to govern-ment to take action against bank officials who gave loans to the factory in the name of the farmers in

the absence of the farmers. They accused the factory management of appropriating Rs 25 to 30 crore belonging to over 2500 farmers. The bank agriculture officials also cheated the farmers lured by the kickbacks the facto-

ry paid to them, he alleged.
The farmers who participated in

the protest expressed the hope that the Congress government would take action against the factory managements and do justice to them. They demand that a criminal case be filed against the man-

# Collector calls on people to take part in Cleanliness-Greenery programme

PNS PEDDAPALLI

District Collector Koya Sri Harsha on Monday vowed to promote the district to number one position in the state in the implementation of cleanliness drive as part of Swachhadanam-Pachhadanam programme. Besides implementing the cleanliness, the district administration has been working to promote

greenery.

He called upon the people to take part in the cleanliness and greenery promotion drive to keep their localities clean and

He flagged off a rally at Government Junior College part of the promotion of cleanliness and greenery development. The rally proceeded through the main thoroughfares of the town. The cleanliness and greenery prometon drive would be implemented from Aug 5 to 9.

He asked the people to see to it that there is no stagnation of water in their surroundings and plant saplings and nurse them to promote greenery.

PNS RANGAREDDY

In an effort to promote environ-

mental sustainability, Shadnagar

MLA Veerlapalli Shankar and

Mahbubnagar MLC Nagarkunta

Naveen Kumar Reddy kicked off

a five-day Cleanliness and

Greenery programme at the Shadnagar Municipality office.

Organised under the leadership

of Municipal Chairman

Narender and Commissioner

Cheema Venkanna, the event

saw a large turnout of local res-

idents, government employees,

Addressing the gathering, MLA Veerlapalli Shankar

emphasised that cleanliness

and greenness are continuous

processes vital for societal

well-being. He stressed that

these responsibilities extend

beyond government officials

and require active participation

**PNS** ■ KOTHAGUDEM

been traced.

and officials.



Peddaplli Collector Koya Sri Harsha flagging off Cleanliness-Greenery programme in Peddapalli on Monday

take the number one position in the state in the implementation of Swachhadanam-Pachhadanam programme and check the use of plastics completely. Later, Additional

Cleanliness, Greenery programme

launched in Shadnagar

Shadnagar MLA Veerlapalli

Shankar and Mahbub Nagar

from all citizens. MLC Nagar

Kunta Naveen Kumar Reddy

echoed these sentiments, high-

lighting that such programmes

significantly enhance the qual-

ity of life in both urban and

launch, MLA Shankar and

MLC Naveen Kumar Reddy

Suicide bid: Woman jumps into Godavari river

As part of the programme's

rural areas.

MLC Nagarkunta Naveen

He exhorted the officials to Collector Arunasri distributed prizes among the winners of essay-writing competition organised on the occasion.

Later, shramdaan was rendered on Govt junior college

planted saplings in front of the Municipal Office, symbolizing

the start of the campaign.

They urged the community to

engage actively in maintaining

cleanliness and greenery in their surroundings.

During the event, Shankar suggested that the municipali-

ty simplify the process of

obtaining permissions for con-

struction of houses. He suggest-

ed that sanitation programmes

should be taken up as a collec-

tive movement, involving

mutual understanding and

cooperation among residents.

He emphasized the importance

of preparing a plan that encour-

ages community involvement

and long-term commitment to

Municipal Chairman Narender

to develop a comprehensive municipal master plan.

MLA Shankar also advised

cleanliness and greenery.

Peddapalli Municipal Commissioner Venkatesh, DMHO Dr Pramod Kumar, elected people's representatives, officials, students, artistes, MEPMA and women's groups representatives were present.

### 'Keep patrolling vehicles in good condition'

PNS ■ RAMAGUNDAM

Additional Deputy Commissioner of Police C Raju inspected the patrolling vehicle and Rakshak highway

meant to enable police personnel to reach a scene of offence speedily on receiving a complaint. Ramagundam police commissioner M Srinivas paid special attention to the maintenance of these patrolling vehicles. As part of this, these patrolling vehicles were inspected by Additional DCP Administration. He inspected their functionality, mainte-

the Additional DCP said that the patrolling vehicles have been doing public service without any interrurption in Peddapalli and Mancherial zones. He asked the police personnel to constantly monitor the maintenance of these vehicles and submit monthly reports on the status of these vehicles. He asked the police personnel to keep these vehicles under condition and wear police uniform when on duty. He asked the drivers

against cell phone driving

and not to drive vehicles

under tipsy conditions.

patrolling vehicles at the police headquarters here on Monday. In fact, these vehicles are

50,000 acres. nance and their condition.

Speaking on the occasion, When the matter was brought to the notice of MLA

## Annual credit plan of Bhongir district put at Rs 5279.34 crore

PNS ■ BHONGIR

Bhongir Collector has released Zendage Hanumant has released Rs 5279.34-crore annual credit plan for 2024-25 at the State-level Bankers' Committee meeting.
In fact, the annual credit plan should have

been released long back, but it was delayed due to the last year's Assembly elections and the recent Lok Sabha elections.

The District Lead Bank also gave priority to lending to the agriculture sector as the state and central governments paid special attention to the allocations to agriculture sector in annu-

The credit plan proposes to lend Rs 3,636.27 crore to 1,83,959 farmers. The total priority sector lending is put at Rs 4,513.09 crore, while non priority sector lending is put at Rs 766.51 crore. The credit plan targets to lend Rs 762.29 crore to small, micro and medium scale industries. It targeted to give loans to 13,974 units.

3,707.94 crore. This year's credit plan was pegged at Rs 1571.40 crore higher. Compared to the allocations made to all sectors in the credit plan last year, the allocations made in the current year's credit plan have been increased to a large extent.

Last year, loans have been given to various sectors to the tune of Rs 4,211.59 crore over and above the size, Rs 3707.94 crore, of the



Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe Commission Chairman Bhakki Venkataiah and SC Corporation Chairman Pritam calling interacting with Dalit Woman Sunitha Nagender in a hospital on Monday

### SC, ST Commission chief calls on Dalit woman

PNS RANGAREDDY

Cyberabad Police Commissioner Avinash Mohanty on Monday ordered Detective Inspector A Ram Reddy to report police headquarters after he was accused of subjecting a Dali woman to 'third degree' tortured in Shadnagar Police Station. Following the allegation of torture, the Police Commissioner directed the Assistant Commissioner of Police Rangaswamy to investigate

Additionally, the Detective Inspector and five constables involved in the incident were suspended on Monday as part of ongoing departmental action.

The incident occurred on the night of July 24 when Sunitha Nagender, a resident of Ambedkar Colony, Shadnagar, was taken to the police station, along with her husband Bhimaiah and their 13-yearband Bhimaiah and their 13-year-old son Jagadish, on the pretext of investigating a gold theft reported by their neighbour. At the station, Detective Inspector Ram Reddy, along with officers Rafi, Mohan Lal, Karunakar, and Akhila, allegedly subjected Sunitha and her family to severe physical abuse to extract a severe physical abuse to extract a

Sunitha recounted that the policemen beat her and her son

indiscriminately. Her son was also being beaten with a rubber belt. The violence lasted until 2 am on the fateful night, leaving the victims with severe injuries. Sunitha is currently under treatment at a government hospital.

The incident has sparked outrage and calls for justice. A team from the Telangana State Scheduled Cast, Scheduled Tribe Commission, led by Chairman Bhakki Venkataiah and Scheduled Caste Corporation Chairman Pritam, visited the victim and offered support and gathered details of the incident. Venkataiah said that a case under the SC/ST Atrocities Act has been registered against the officers and insisted on immediate action to ensure justice for Sunitha and her

Local leaders and activists joined the call for accountability, demanding stringent actions against the involved officers and support for the victims. The SC, ST Commission has pledged to bring the matter to the government's attention to ensure swift and fair justice.

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Commission Chairman Bhakki Venkatiah called on the Dalit woman who is under treatment in a hospital at Shadnagar

# Retired office subordinate seeks govt's help in getting PRC arrears

PNS KHAMMAM

Additional Collector D Madhusudhan Naik on Tuesday asked the officials to take steps to resolve the representations received from people as part of PrajaVaani.

B Ramana of Khammam city who retired as office subordinate in 2021 urged the authorities to help her get her PRC arrears.

A representation made by Vuppela Venkata Reddy who owned 11.06 acres of agricultural land under varisurvey numbers in possession agreement in favour of his wife Vuppela Swaroopa. But his r elatives belonging to Mudigondamandal have eyed his property and kidnapped him and threatened to kill him and got the land registered illegally in Konijerla Tahsildar Öffice in March 2022 in the name of Gandhi Sanjiva Reddy. He appealed to the authorities to probe into the incident and render justice to him. The matter was referred to city police commissioner for investigation.

A housewife belonging to Teldarupalli and her husband Veera Babu said that they have applied for allotment of a Mee Seva Centre and also submitted a DD for Rs 10,000 drawn in favour of e-governance Society. Since there was a change of notification, they appealed to authorities to help them get backtheir DD cancelling the previous notification. The matter was referred to Accounts Officer of Collectorate.

An autorickshaw driver D Upender ao of Pallipadu village of Konijerlamandal alleged that he bought petrol from Indane Petrol Bunk in front of Brown's Colony. Since water was mixed with petrol, his autorickshaw was damaged. The matter was referred to civil supplies department for favourable action.

District Revenue Officer M Rajeshwari and other district officials took part in the programme.

# Plea to release two TMC ft of water into Vana Durga project

PNS MEDAK

Farmers of Vana Durga Project at Ghanpur in Medak district, the only project in the district, have been demanding that the Irrigation Minister order the release of two tmc ft of water to the project from Singur Project to irrigate

The project irrigates 24,560 acres in Vanakalam and Yasangi under Fateh Nahar and Mahabub Nahar canals directly. Annually during the monsoon season, irrigation officials hold a meeting of the ayacut farmers with the District Collector in chair. However, this year the meeting was not conducted causing a concern to the farmers.

Mynampally Rohit Rao, he immediately addressed a letter to Irrigation Minister N Uttam



of two tmc ft of water to Ghanpur project from Singuru Project. But, the Irrigation officials have apparently not moved by the demand. They have been adopting dilly-dallying tactics on the pretext of the Singur project reservoir is

MLC Seri Subhash Reddy

raised the issue on the floor of the Legislative Council and quoted the example of how the previous government got water released from the Singuru project in spite of the fact that the project was not full. He appealed to the Congress government to release water to the Ghanpur project so that over 50,000 acres could be irrigated both directly and indirectly.

Generally the farmers cultivate crops under bore wells on either side of Manjira river.

Therefore, the farmers appeal to the collector to hold a meeting with him in chair and take steps to release water from the Singuru project to Vana Durga project.

# Student feared drowned in Gundla waterfalls

PNS KUMRAM BHEEM ASIFABAD

A polytechnic student was feared drowned in Gundala waterfalls. He fell into the waterfalls while trying to take a selfie on Monday evening.

The student was identified as 20year-old Sangi Rushi. He hailed from from peddapalli district, the police



He and four friends visited the waterfalls. All of the stood at the edge of the waterfalls while taking selfie. The student slipped into it.

The police with the help of swimmers are searching for the student.

The police arrived at the scene after local people informed them.

The woman was identified as 20-year-old Bhukya Shailaja of Lambadi

A married woman jumped into

the River Godavari at

Bhadrachalam in a bid to com-

mit suicide. The police and

swimmers are searching for her

in the river. Her body has not



She married P Ganesh, resident of Gandhinagar. It was a marriage

between them. The couple were said to have been facing financial difficulties for some time and it has led to a conflict between the couple.

The woman was not yet traced.

The police booked a case and investigation is underway



### ACROSS THE STATES



### **Peacocks died of heat stroke** in Palam in June: Min

he 27 peacocks found dead at the Palam air base in June had succumbed to heat stroke and a post-mortem revealed they had no disease, Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav said in the Lok Sabha on Monday. He said the Central government is very concerned about the protection of the country's national bird and has taken several steps. The government has designated two sanctuaries in south India for peacocks, he said during Question Hour. "Twenty-seven peacocks died during the summer. Their postmortem were done and no disease was found. The peacocks died due to heat stroke," he said. The minister said there are three types of peacocks. Those found in India are also available in Nepal, Bangladesh, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. Another type is found in China, Cambodia and some other Asian countries and the third species in Congo. "According to international reports, the peacocks found in India is the safest. Those found in China and other Asian countries are in the category of endangered while



### Ahead of I-Day, CISF to intensify security checks

Achecks at metro stations from August 9, and Sommon Monday and advised commuters to plan their journeys accordingly. The Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) also urged passengers to cooperate with security personnel "In view of the enhanced security arrangements ahead of Independence Day on August 15, security checks for passengers will be further intensified by the CISF (Central Industrial Security Force) across metro stations from Tuesday, the DMRC's principal executive director Anuj Dayal said. The enhanced checks might result in longer queues at some metro stations, especially during peak hours, he added. The DMRC advised the passengers to allow for additional time for their commutes. "Passengers are requested to cooperate with the security personnel during security checks," it said.

head of Independence Day, the CISF will intensify security



### **Nobel Prize-winning physicist Tsung-Dao Lee dies at age 97**

hinese-American physicist Tsung-Dao Lee, who in 1957 became the second-youngest scientist to receive a Nobel Prize, died Sunday at his home in San Francisco at age 97, according to a Chinese university and a research center. Lee, whose work advanced the understanding of particle physics, was one of the great masters in the field, according to a joint obituary released Monday by the Tsung-Dao Lee Institute at Shanghai Jiao Tong University and the Beijingbased China Center for Advanced Science and Technology. Lee, a naturalized US citizen since 1962, was also a professor emeritus at Columbia University in New York. Robert Oppenheimer, known as the father of the atomic bomb, once praised Lee as one of the most brilliant theoretical physicists of the time, whose work showed "remarkable freshness, versatility and style." Lee was born in Shanghai on November 24, 1926, the third of six children to a merchant father, Tsing-Kong Lee, and a mother, Ming-Chang Chang, who was a devout Catholic, according to local newspaper Wenhui Daily.

# Coaching centres have become 'death chambers'

Supreme Court issues notices to Centre, Delhi govt





PNS NFW DFI H

Coaching centres have become "death chambers" and are playing with the lives of students, the Supreme Court said on Monday as it issued notices to the Centre and the Delhi government on three IAS aspirants drowning in the basement of an institute here.

Taking suo motu cognisance of the matter, a bench of Justices Surya Kant and Ujjal Bhuyan said the incident was an eyeopener for all.

On July 27, three civil services aspirants drowned in the basement library of Rau's IAS Study Circle in the Old Rajinder Nagar area here after it was flooded following heavy rain. Seven people, including Rau's

IAS Study Circle CEO Abhishek Gupta and coordinator Deshpal Singh, have been arrested in the

"This is horrible what we are reading. If need be, we will even close down these coaching centres. For the time being, the coaching should go online, one and all. We, therefore, unless there is meticulous comdeem it appropriate to expand pliance of building regulations the scope of proceedings and and other safety norms. issue notice to the Centre and the NCT of Delhi to show

"These places (coaching centres) have become death chambers. Coaching centres are playing with the lives of these aspirants who have come from different parts of the country with dreams and are working hard, the bench said.

Taking suo motu

cognisance of the

matter, a bench of

Justices Surya Kant

and Ujjal Bhuyan

said the incident

was an eye-opener

for all

"The recent unfortunate incident which took away lives of three young aspirants who joined the coaching centres for their career is an eye-opener for

Terming the plea frivolous, the apex court dismissed the appeal while imposing a cost of Rs 1 lakh on the association and said no coaching centre should be allowed to operate unless there is compliance with fire safety norms and other requirements.

On Friday, the high court transferred the probe into the deaths of the three students from Delhi Police to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) "to ensure the public has no cause as to what safety norms doubt over the investigation". have been prescribed so far and what is the effective mechanism The three who died were evolved to ensure compliance,"

Shreya Yaday (25) of Uttar Pradesh, Tanya Soni (25) from Telangana and Nevin Delvin (24) from Kerala.

Students enrolled in various coaching institutes have been protesting since the incident, demanding improved safety measures at coaching centres.



# 4 Hindu temples suffer damages in Bangladesh

PNS DHAKA

An Indian cultural centre was vandalised by an unruly mob in Bangladesh's capital and four Hindu temples suffered "minor" damages across the country on Monday, eyewitnesses and a community leader said.

Kajol Debnath, Hindu Buddhist Christian Unity Council leader, said he has received reports that at least 4 Hindu temples were damaged across the country.

"These are minor damages," he said. However, some Hindu community leaders are afraid in the wake of the tense situation after Prime Minister Sheikh

Hasina's ouster. The Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre located in Dhaka's Dhanmondi area was damaged by the unruly mob, according to eyewitnesses. The protesters also set fire to several key locations in Dhaka, including Bangabandhu Bhaban, also known as the

Bangabandhu Memorial Museum, at Dhanmondi 32, the Dhaka Tribune newspaper reported.

The museum was dedicated to Hasina's father Sheikh Mujibur Rahman who was assassinated while serving as president in

The development comes as a massive protest forced Prime Minister Hasina to resign and leave Bangladesh. Army Chief General Waqar-uz-Zaman announced that an interim government was being formed and urged protesters to end the violence. The Centre, formally inaugurated in March 2010, promotes bilateral cultural linkages between India and Bangladesh by organising cultural programmes, cultural seminars, workshops and engaging India based Gurus professionals and trainers for Yoga, Hindi, Indian classical Vocal Music and Indian

Dances such as Kathak and

### Assembly polls in J-K will be held in September: Kishan



The Assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir will be held in September, Union Minister G Kishan Reddy said on Monday, urging people in the Union Territory to vote taining the "development tempo" and rooting out terrorism.

He said the activities of Pakistan and its intelligence agency ISI have been largely curtailed in J&K after the abrogation of Article 370 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government on

August 5, five years ago and warned the neighbouring country against supporting terrorism in the Union Territory.

Reddy, who is also election in-charge of the BJP in Jammu and Kashmir, was addressing 'Ekatma Mahotsa organised by his party on the fifth anniversary of Article 370 abrogation at the Bana Singh Stadium here in the outskirts of Jammu. BJP national general secretary in-charge J&K Tarun Chugh and J&K BJP president Ravinder Raina were among the other prominent speakers.

### LS passes demands for grants after applying guillotine

The top court took cognisance of the matter while hearing a petition filed by an asso-

ciation of coaching centres

challenging a December 2023

Delhi High Court order which

had directed the city's fire ser-

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Lok Sabha on Monday approved the budget estimates for expenditure contained in the demands for grants for different ministries after applying a guil-

The guillotine was applied after the House discussed demands for grants of 4 ministries -- Railways, Education, Health and Fisheries.

The House also passed the Appropriation Bill 2024, which authorises the governfrom and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the services of the financial year 2024-25.

Guillotine means that the

demands for grants for the ministries, on which it is being applied, are considered approved without a discus-

# Spend more on health infrastructure: Nadda to states

Health Minister J P Nadda on Monday urged state governments to spend more on improving healthcare infrastructure and dismissed opposition allegations on reduction of allocations under the PM-Ayushman Bharat Healthcare Infrastructure Mission (PM-ABHIM).

Replying to the debate on the demand for grants for the health and family welfare min-istry in the Lok Sabha, Nadda listed the increase in number of medical colleges, steps taken for the reduction of out-ofand initiatives for early screening of diseases such as cancer and sickle cell anaemia as achievements of the govern-

"We don't believe in just making announcements. We believe in effective planning, ensuring last mile delivery, identifying bottlenecks in last



mile delivery and taking steps to remove them," the minister

Nadda dared Trinamool Congress members, who were sting to tell the House why the West Bengal government had not shared the dengue registry with the

On opposition claims on reduction of funds for the health infrastructure mission, the health minister said states were able to spend just Rs 1,806 crore out of the bud-

getary allocation of Rs 4,200 crore in last year's budget.

"We are giving money, but it is not spent. You spend the money, we will allocate more funds if the existing funds are spent," Nadda said, adding that Rs 3,200 crore have been earmarked for PM-ABHIM this year.

Nadda said the Modi government has placed healthcare as a priority sector in the allo-cation made in the Union Budget.
"The health policy released

in 2017 had set a target of 2.5 per cent of GDP for the healthcare sector by 2025. In this year's budget the allocation for the health sector is 1.9 per cent of the GDP and we are on track of achieving the target," the health minister said.

Nadda said that in 2013-14, the budget for the health sector was Rs 33,278 crore, and today it stood at Rs 90,958 crore, which is an increase of 164 per cent.

# Most of employed rural youth want to switch job

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Around half of rural men aged 18 to 25 are employed while only a quarter of the women in the same age bracket are working, according to a survey involving 5,169 youths across villages of the country, the report of which was released on Monday.

The report added that 70-85 per cent of the youth said they wanted to change their jobs.

The State of Rural Youth Employment 2024, brought out by the Global Development Incubator (GDI), Global Opportunity Youth Network (GOYN), Development Intelligence Unit (DIU), and Transform Rural India Foundation (TRI), is based on

interviews with 5,169 rural youths between 18 and 35 years of age.

The survey findings indicate that more than half of the male youth aged 18-25 are employed, whereas only a quarter of the female youth in the same age bracket are work-

Among those aged 26-35, about 85 per cent of men are employed, and nearly 10 per cent are currently unemployed after having worked earlier.

In contrast, 40 per cent of women in this age group are employed, while a quarter had exited the workforce, and a third had never been employed.

These findings highlight a gender disparity where most



male, while a majority of those who had never worked were female," a statement on the report said.

According to the report, 70 to 85 per cent youth currently employed expressed a desire to change their jobs, seeking new opportunities.

Among those aiming for a career change, a majority of both genders and age groups showed interest in starting small manufacturing, retail, or trading ventures.

However, younger women stood out with a preference for securing salaried positions in government roles," the report

The report stressed on finding out what the rural youth wants.

"Rural India makes up 70 per cent of the country but contributes only 46 per cent towards the country's GDP. Rural India is also home to two-thirds of India's 378 million youth, with agriculture and allied activities employing 80 per cent of these youth. However, with low productivity and decreasing returns, overall low value-added economic activity in rural areas, and seasonal distress migration, hidden/under employment is a critical challenge in the country," the report said.

Citing "huge" gaps in past long-term data and an inadequate

understanding of climate-related

### **MANIPUR VIOLENCE**

### **SC** extends tenure of Mittal panel by 6 months

PNS NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Monday extended by six months the tenure of the Justice Gita Mittal committee set up to oversee relief and rehabilitation of the victims of ethnic violence in Manipur. A bench of Chief Justice DY Chandrachud, Justice JB Pardiwala and Justice Manoj Misra extended the term of the panel after it was informed that its tenure ended on July

"The committee chaired by Justice Gita Mittal stands extended by six months," the bench said.

On August 7 last year, the bench had ordered setting up of the committee of three former women high court judges to oversee relief and rehabilitation of the victims and compensation to them besides asking former Maharashtra police chief Dattatray Padsalgikar to monitor the probe in criminal cases.

The committee was authorised to submit its reports directly to the top court which is monitoring the cases related to ethnic strife. The panel, headed by former

Jammu and Kashmir High Court Chief Justice Mittal, includes Justices (retd) Shalini P Joshi, a former judge of the Bombay High Court, and Asha Menon, an ex-judge of the Delhi High Court.

# BJP likely to get chairmanship of 7-8 LS committees, Cong three stakeholders and influence

PNS NEW DELHI

The BJP may get the chairmanship of seven to eight department-related parliamentary committees of the Lok Sabha, the Congress three and the Samajwadi Party one, sources said on Monday as the process for the constitution of 16 of these

panels gets underway. No other party, including the Trinamool Congress that is the fourth largest with 29 MPs, has the numbers to

give them a numerical claim over the chairmanship of a committee, they said, adding that Lok Sabha Speaker Om

Rajya Sabha members, are a

key multi-party oversight

over the working of different

ministries, allowing their

members to interact with

Birla would use his discretion to ensure fair representation at the top of these panels and among their members. The department-related committees, 16 headed by Lok Sabha MPs and eight by

policy. The BJP, party sources said, might back some of its allies,

especially the Shiv Sena, to get at least one chairmanship. The Sena is the only major BJP ally without a Cabinet portfolio in the central government. With the opposition's strength in the Lok Sabha sizeably higher than the previous House, their representation in these pan-

els is also likely to go up con-

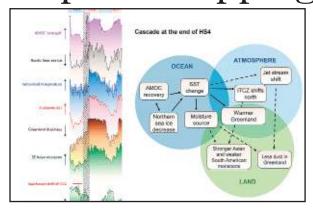
siderably

## 'Climate data, knowledge not enough to predict tipping points' extend the trends into the future.

PNS NEW DELHI

Current data and understanding of Earth's climate are not up to the task to accurately predict tipping points, or points of no return, for critical regions including tropical rainforests, according to a new

Climate tipping points play out in response to human-caused global warming and are marked by irreversible changes and consequences. To predict a climate tipping point, scientists use past information to extrapolate or



processes, the study's authors said that the idea of predicting climate tipping points, while appealing, is "fraught with uncertainties." 'Our research is both a wakeup call and a cautionary tale," said Maya Ben-Yami, a doctoral researcher at the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research (PIK), Germany, and lead author of the study published in the journal Science Advances.

### www.dailypioneer.com

facebook.com/dailypioneer | @TheDailyPioneer | instagram.com/dailypioneer/

-PAPER WITH PASSION

# **Justice delayed**

Chief Justice of India highlights frustration over court delays, calls for urgent reforms to address pendency

he Chief Justice of India has voiced a growing concern shared by many: the prolonged delays in Indian courts are causing immense frustration among the public, turning the judicial process into an unwelcome ordeal. In a recent statement, the Chief Justice D Y Chandrachud remarked, "People get fed up with protracted court proceedings, the process becomes a punishment." This stark observation brings to light the urgent need to address the pervasive issue of case pendency in India's legal system. The Indian judiciary is grappling with an overwhelming backlog of cases, which has long been a subject of public discontent and legal scrutiny. The Chief Justice of India's recent statement underscores the severity of this issue, highlighting how extended court delays are not only hindering justice but also eroding public trust in the legal system. As of recent estimates, over 40 million cases are pending across various levels of the Indian judiciary and may take 300 years to clear it at the going pace. This

staggering number includes civil, criminal, and administrative cases, many of which have been unresolved for years or even decades.

The backlog creates a bottleneck that prevents timely justice, leading to prolonged legal battles and increasing costs for the litigants. Extended delays can lead to a lack of confidence in the judiciary, with people perceiving the legal process as slow and inefficient. When cases languish in the courts for years without resolution, individuals begin to doubt the effectiveness and reliability of the judicial system. Knowing that legal proceedings are likely to be drawn out, many individuals may avoid seeking justice through the courts altogeth-

er. This reluctance is particularly pronounced among those who cannot afford prolonged litigation or who need prompt resolution due to personal or financial constraints. The inordinate delays can drive people to seek alternative, and often extrajudicial, means of resolving disputes. Moreover, businesses and investors rely on a robust legal system to enforce contracts and resolve disputes. Addressing these delays is crucial for maintaining the integrity and efficacy of the judicial system and ensuring that justice is accessible and timely for all citizens. Several factors contribute to the chronic issue of case pendency in India. A significant number of judicial positions remain unfilled. The legal procedures in India can be highly complex, often leading to unnecessary delays. Many courts lack the necessary infrastructure and technological support. But the biggest source of delay is the practice of frequent adjournments, often granted for frivolous reasons. A Bollywood film dialogue 'tareekh pe tareekh' sums it up succintly. Some issues have been dealt with in the amendments to the Indian penal code which are now called 'Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita' but a lot more needs to be done to expedite justice and establish a rule of law! As the saying goes, "Justice delayed is justice denied," and the legal system must cope with the needs of a fast-paced society that we have today.



People take a dip before performing rituals on the occasion of 'Aadi Amavasai', in Rameshwaran

# Grim prospects for peace in West Asia



The killing of Hamas leader threatens to derail any hopes for a ceasefire in Gaza further complicating efforts for peace in the region



srael seems to have eliminated Hamas leader Haniyeh, using an airborne guided projectile in an early morning attack. Haniyeh was in Iran for the Iranian president's swearing-in ceremony as a state guest and was staying in one of the residences for veterans. The events n the Middle East are shaping dangerously, the things as they are turning out to be, it's not out of the scope of imagination that soon Iran may be part of a major regional conflict. We have already seen that a con-

frontation between Hezbollah and Israel is underway in Lebanon. However, Israel has still not taken responsibility for the strike. Israel has been accusing Iran of harbouring Hamas leaders like Haniyeh and has openly vowed to kill them. Israel not taking responsibility for the attack shows that it does not want a direct confirmation with Iran right now. It remains to be seen how things play out, there is also a section in Israel that is suspicious of Iran's state media's claim that Haniyeh has even been killed

Having said that there are little or no takers of the version that Israel is not responsible for the killing of Hamas's political leader. Palestinian Prime more complicated. It has Minister Mohammad Mustafa has condemned the assassina-

tion of Ismail Haniyeh and termed it a violation of the entire international rule of law. The act is a grave violation of Iran's sovereignty and the supposed security bubble of the Iranian capital. This is likely to have far-reaching consequences in the short and the long term. Haniyeh, normally based in Qatar, had been the face of international diplomacy for Hamas. He had been an important part of internationally brokered indirect talks on reaching a ceasefire in the Palestinian enclave. This killing appears to set back chances of any imminent ceasefire agreement in the 10-month-old war in Gaza and Lebanon. Vowing to retaliate, Iran declared three days of nation-

the U.S. for providing Israel with the missiles that have been fired, and hence holding it directly responsible. The US itself has accepted that the risk of escalation is certainly up right now. The killing of Haniyeh has made the task of de-escalation, deterrence and dissua-

sion towards war, which is the

goal of the UN and the inter-

national community, much

given a reason for those who

want things to escalate on

al mourning. Iran has blamed

HEZBOLLAH WILL FIND LEGITIMACY IN TAKING ON ANY POSSIBLE TARGET IN ISRAEL, CIVIL OR MILITARY. IRAN

CONVENIENT TO DIRECTLY USE SOME OF ITS MISSILES AGAINST ISRAEL AND THE YARDSTICK TO JUDGE ITS WOULD BE THE

WOULD FIND IT

NUMBER OF

CIVILIANS KILLED

both sides to scuttle chances of peace and also provided them with the fodder to fuel further attacks on each other with impunity.

The immediate consequences of this escalation, Netanyahu will get support from the far right in Israel and he may push for attacks deeper into Lebanon. Hezbollah will find legitimacy in taking on any possible target in Israel, civil or military. Iran would find it convenient to directly use some of its missiles against Israel and the yardstick to judge its effectiveness would be the number of civilians killed. The Houthis will attack commercial ships in the Red Sea even more, leading to loss of business and livelihood across the world. Palestinians would cry on the streets for lack of food and medicine even more, but like always would only get lip service.
Oil prices will go up and some people will make even

more money. less time. More and more areas may become dangerous even for the media. Schools and hospitals may be targeted even more since all the terrorists are hiding there only. In the US leaders would keep

E EDITO

blaming each other for the escalation with each side doing what is required to be done to get votes. UN is likely to look even more helpless in the days to come.

Apart from this humanity would be disgraced for it does not feel ashamed of any act of inhuman violent behaviour anymore. Aircraft carriers from the US will be deployed to safeguard the territorial integrity of Israel. There will be calls for people to join hands in the name of religion, and they will, only humanity will be divided and more people will die.

Some people in India may find this killing of Haniyeh a great act of bravery, and they may even ask the political hierarchy to take lessons or even replicate this kind of attack

Little do they realise that Israel has been fighting for existence, and are not at peace with themselves, peace has eluded them since their More arms would be sold and existence. However, we as a better technology would be country are at peace and no used to kill more people in one can dare challenge our existence, and hence we should never think of acting whimsically.

(The writer is expert on geopolitics and international Affairs. The views expressed are personal)

# Handling disrespect and finding inner peace



We should recognise the value of pausing and reflecting, to determine whether our reactions to perceived insults are genuinely justified

read a beautiful story by a well-known Indian lacksquare author about a middleclass household. The lady of the house locks herself in an earmarked dark room whenever she feels unloved and uncared for by her family. We too retreat to our inner self, the equivalent of our dark room, sometimes in our lives.During a recent vacation, my wife's friend compared me to a beast of

used by parents admonishing their good-for-nothing sons. The word is probably also applicable to all husbands. I sulked till a couple of hours later, I gave it back to her.

This time my wife objected, forcing me into another sulk. They had probably expected a better sense of humour. I was not amused. A friendly neighbour objected to my entrance to attend a meeting in a rather loud stage whisper for reasons I was unaware of. I was asked to wait outside. It turned out that he was retaliating to an earlier fight

The adjective is also often me to empathise with his unexpressed anguish. I felt

insulted. Another time, a neighbour acting as an observer in society elections, got up rather aggressively, started shouting at me, and asked me to get out, on the grounds of some rules not mentioned anywhere.

A couple of hours later, he came out and shook hands with me. I tried to mend fences by putting on my best smile. He rudely turned his face away, telling anyone who cared to listen, "He is a writer; he does not even know the rules." I could not understand the counter.

thinking about the incident a day later, I thought he was probably venting his frustration about inadequate writing skills. It was no consolation.

I faced several unpleasant events in my professional life. I took them in my happened within a few weeks after I had joined my first working post in the railways.

I sat in the senior foreman's office after my usual morning round of the maintenance shed, when I was interrupted in my discussions by the entry of 30 odd staff led by a union leader. Listening to the problems, was startled by the landing of an earthenware teacup on the table.

They were trying to gauge my reaction. I took it as a management challenge, not an insult.I witnessed a catfight between two young ladies in an upmarket shop in Delhi. One lady had tried to get ahead of the other at the payment

with another neighbour. relationship between a I was relieved that it He had probably expected writer and knowledge of remained a verbal duel,

unwritten rules. Rationally rather than turning into a fisticuff. In another incident, a mother trying to help her teenage son choose clothes was rudely snubbed by the latter, "Do not talk like a fool." The mother had tears in her eyes as she surreptitiously looked around, and then fussed some more stride. One such incident over her child. I too looked the other way, embarrassed at the rude snub in public to a mother's affection.

There are many such incidents that we face in our lives. We take a few more seriously than the others, while others we shrug off. The line between a perceived insult and rational logic is often blurred.

It is easy to cross this line without even realising it.It may save a visit to the inner dark room, if we do not react, but pause, reflect, and remember the Greek philosopher, Epictetus, "It is not he who reviles or strikes you who insults you, but your opinion that these things are insulting." (The author is an electrical

engineer with the Indian Railways and conducts classes in creative writing; views are personal)

### **FOOD SECURITY VS RISING PRICES**

Madam — Apropos "Modi reaffirms India's role as Vishwa Bandhu, Aug 4. According to him, Inda has become a food surplus country and second largest producer of foodgrains, fruits and vegetables etc. But the high prices of cereals, pulses, edible oils, vegetables and fruits etc. has indeed impacted households across the country and made them beyond affordability of many.

According to the Economic Times, since November 2023, food inflation in the country has persisted at around 8% yearon-year. The Opposition too raises repeatedly about high food inflation. Percapita consumption of pulses, fruits and vegetables in India are one of the lowest in the world. Low consumption of them affects overall health, leading to deficiencies in vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants and accordingly Indians are deficient in them, particularly in children it is a grave concern. Vegetarianism is a major dietary choice in India, therefore, plant-based food must be available at affordable prices in adequate quantities for a healthy nation. O Prasada Rao Hyderabad

### **INDIAN HOCKEY TEAM EXCELS**

Madam—Who could have asked for more intriguing and a close contest in Sunday that added yet another unforgettable moment to India's hockey history that snatched victory from the jaws of defeat that once loomed large

After surprising world class Australia in a span of 52 years, India continued their winning streak by defeating England 4 2 in a nail biting finish in Olympics Hockey that kept millions of fans glued to their t.v. sets. With this resounding win, India enter into the semi finals.

The national game of India Hockey is again in the limelight as India produced a real fitting spirit especially at a critic moment when the odds are stacked against them as they were reduced to 10 . This also could not dampened their spir-



Upholds Quota Within Quota" (August 3). The Supreme Court's historic verdict now allows states to sub-categorize Scheduled Castes (SCs) for reservations. This sub-categorization is crucial as many SCs, particularly marginalized groups like the Balimiki in North India, Madiga and Arunthathiyar in South India, and Mang in Maharashtra, have been left behind in accessing benefits meant for SCs. Previously, states struggled to ensure their share of benefits due to an

prowess that even saved penalties to see India remain in contention for a medal. This achievement has added yet another feather in the cap of Indian hockey since the 1972 Munich Olympics that India reached the semifinals in back to back games, followed the bronze medal in

The English team could not penetrate the Great wall of India as Indian players fought like warriors throughout the match and took it to the penalties. It seems that the golden era of Indian hockey is returning No matter what the outcome of the forth coming matches, but one positive is the world class overall performance and team coordination, cooperation, fighting spirit until the last, hard work has really won hearts of millions.

Vijay Singh Adhikari | Nainital

### **SMOKING IS INJURIOUS TO HEALTH**

Madam — A bulletin issued by the World Health Organization explores the increasing smoking among women and its health it as Veteran Goalkeeper P.R Sreejesh effects on children or unborn babies. A saved one goal after to showcase her shocking reality has come to light. earlier Supreme Court judgment in the EV Chinnaiah case. However, the recent Supreme Court ruling has highlighted the political dilemma faced by parties. During the assembly elections in Telangana last year, Prime Minister Modi announced a committee to examine the Madigas'

demand for sub-categorization.

Implementing this sub-categorization is challenging in many other states, as it faces opposition from NDA ministers like Chirag Paswan and Ramdas Athawale. Sub-categorisation could affect the interests of dominant castes such as Paswan in Rihar Mahars in Maharashtra and Jatavs in UP, Rajasthan, and Delhi. Will the BJP risk losing Paswan's support in Bihar? Additionally, the BJP is seeking to gain Jatav votes in UP, traditionally supporters of the BSP. Therefore, it will be interesting to see the BJP's stance on the Supreme Court's decision

Manoj Parashar | Ghaziabad

Children's lungs are affected by women who smoke. Also, such children have weak immune system and children suffering from diseases like asthma are struggling with lung related diseases throughout their life. In adolescence and old age, such children's immunity decreases. It has been

Women are also suffering from various lung diseases due to the addiction of v-cigarettes and e-cigarettes. The major disease in these patients is asthma. It has been observed significantly. Also, children in such households are constantly sick due to various reasons. Increasing smoking among women affects the infant and children born with smaller lungs and weak immune system. It has been found that India has Also, the warning given by the World Health Organization must be taken seriously. The problem of babies born with small lungs due to smoking is a big chal-

Dattaprasad Shirodkar | Mumbai

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

www.dailypioneer.com

facebook.com/dailypioneer | @TheDailyPioneer | instagram.com/dailypioneer/

## **FIRST COLUMN STRATEGIES TO COMBAT CHRONIC STRESS**

Understanding and managing stress effectively is essential for a healthier life



he human body is designed to experience stress. The 'fight or flight response' otherwise thought of as an 'acute stress' response are inbuilt mechanisms that allow an individual to deal with threats to survival. Stress at the workplace can arise from various factors, often stemming from the demands of the job, the work environment and individual characteristics. Chronic stress is a state of ongoing, persistent stress that can develop when a person faces prolonged challenges or pressures without adequate periods of relaxation or recovery. Unlike acute stress, which is short-term and can even be beneficial in certain situations (like a deadline or a sudden challenge), chronic stress lasts for an extended period and can have deleterious effects on both physical as well as mental health.

Signs of chronic stress at the workplace can manifest in various ways, affecting an individual's physical health, emotional well-being, cognitive abilities and behaviour. Cognitive-behavioural approaches, mindfulness training and resilience-building programs have been shown to help employees manage stress more effectively. These strategies can enhance employees' ability to cope with stressors and reduce the negative impact of stress on their health and performance. It can lead to significant economic costs for employers, including healthcare expenses, lost productivity, absenteeism and turnover. Organizations through interventions such as job redesign, flexible work arrangements, employee wellness programs and stress management training can reduce chronic stress as these interventions aim to reduce job



demands, increase job control and provide employees with the resources they need to cope effectively with stress. Recognizing these signs early can help in addressing the underlying issues before they escalate. Research shows that in the United States, the American Institute of Stress (AIS) has estimated that around 40% of worker turnover is due to stress and the cost of stress in the workplace has been estimated to be over \$300 billion per year.

Studies also show that perceptions of stress and coping mechanisms can vary across cultures. The shift to remote work during the COVID-19 pandemic has introduced new stressors related to work-life balance, isolation and digital overload. Ongoing research is exploring how these changes affect chronic stress levels and what interventions are most effective in this new work environment. Furthermore, studies highlight the role of leadership in either mitigating or exacerbating stress. Supportive leadership styles, clear communication and recognition of employee efforts can reduce stress, while authoritarian or inconsistent management can increase it. There is no denying the fact that different industries have unique stressors. For instance healthcare professionals often face stress due to high-stakes decision-making and emotional demands, while employees in tech industries might experience stress from rapid changes and constant innovation.

This type of stress can lead to individual burnout, which is when the body's budget is depleted. Unlike acute stress, which is short-term and can even be beneficial in certain situations such as a deadline or a sudden challenge, chronic stress lasts for an extended period. It can have detrimental effects on both physical and mental health. It is the chronic stress that comes from any area of our lives that can lead to a place of exhaustion and demotivation. It's tough, but the individual needs to find the will within self to get inspired and take recovery into their own hands. Understanding the sources of stress is crucial for both employees and employers to develop strategies to manage and reduce stress, thereby creating a healthier and more productive work environment.

(The writer is an educator, views expressed are personal)

# Japan's defence dilemma: Pacifism vs security



As the world commemorates the 79th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan contemplates pivotal shift in its defence policy



s the world commemorates the 79th anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, a profound moment of reflection intersects with a pivotal shift in Japan's defence policy.

On August 6 and 9, 1945, the cities of

Hiroshima and Nagasaki in Japan were devastated by atomic bombs dropped by the United States, marking a pivotal moment in World War II and the history of warfare. The bombings resulted in the immediate deaths of tens of thousands of people, with the total number of casualties, including those from radiation sickness and injuries, rising to over 200,000. Hiroshima, targeted first, saw the "Little Boy" bomb obliterate much of the city, while Nagasaki was struck by the "Fat Man" bomb three days later.

The immense destruction and loss of life precipitated Japan's surrender on August 15, 1945, effectively ending World War II. These events also ushered in the nuclear age, highlighting the devastating power of atomic weapons and sparking global debates on nuclear ethics, warfare, and disarmament. The bombings remain a somber reminder of the catastrophic consequences of nuclear conflict and the importance of striving for peace and international cooperation.

The devastation, which claimed the lives of civilians, imprinted an indelible mark on the nation's collective consciousness and laid the foundation for its pacifist constitution. In the aftermath of these horrific events, Japan adopted a policy of defensive neutrality, enshrined in Article 9 of its constitution, renouncing war and prohibiting the maintenance of armed

This commitment to pacifism became a cornerstone of Japan's identity, earning it a place of respect in the global community and even frequent nominations for the Nobel Peace Prize. However, as



JAPAN'S NEW NATIONAL SECURITY RESPONSE TO THE GROWING TENSIONS IN THE

REGION. NORTH KOREA HAS ALREADY CONDUCTED MISSILE TESTS CAPABLE OF REACHING JAPANESE TERRITORY, WHILE CHINA'S INCREASING ASSERTIVENESS IN THE SOUTH

the world grapples with evolving geopolitical threats, Japan has announced a significant shift in its defence policy.

The government has decided to allocate 2% of its GDP to defence spending, marking a departure from its longstanding pacifist stance. This decision, driven by perceived threats from North Korea and China, positions Japan as the second-largest arms importer globally, following Saudi

Japan's new national security strategy is a response to the growing tensions in the region. North Korea has already conduct-STRATEGY IS A ed missile tests capable of reaching Japanese territory, while China's increasing assertiveness in the South China Sea and its broader regional ambitions have raised alarms in Tokyo. These developments have

prompted Japan to reconsider its post-World War II defence posture. Former Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, a staunch advocate for revising Japan's pacifist constitution, argued that the nation must strengthen its military capabilities to counter regional threats. Although Abe's tenure saw some legislative changes allowing for a modest selfdefence force, widespread public opposition prevented a complete overhaul of Article 9. Nonetheless, Abe's vision of a robust Japanese military continues to influence current policies. Current Prime Minister Fumio Kishida, with the backing of both the House of Councillors and the House of Representatives, has CHINA SEA pressed forward with this new defence agenda. However, public

these changes. According to a Kyodo News Agency survey, 80% of the population opposes the government's constitutional amendment efforts, reflecting a deep-rooted commitment to pacifism among the Japanese

The decision to shift defence policies on the anniversary of Hiroshima and Nagasaki is particularly poignant. The memories of the atomic bombings serve as a stark reminder of the horrors of war and the importance of peace. The destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki was not just a military strategy but also an unprecedented human tragedy. bombings, justified by the U.S. as necessary to end the war, were, in reality, cruel scientific experiments that unleashed untold suffering and long-term consequences.

The atomic bombings forced Japan to adopt a peace-oriented constitution, promoting disarmament and dialogue over conflict. Article 9 has been a symbol of hope and a testament to Japan's commitment to ensuring that such devastation never occurs

The policy shift, therefore, raises important questions about the future of pacifism in Japan and its role in international peace and security. As Japan increases its defence budget and modernizes its military capabilities, it steps into a complex and competitive arms race.

The nation that once stood as a beacon of pacifism now finds itself at a crossroads, balancing its historical commitment to peace

sentiment remains largely against with the pressing need to address contemporary security challenges. The legacy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki endures, reminding the world of the catastrophic consequences of war and the enduring value of peace.

As Japan navigates this new defence trajectory, it must reconcile its past with its present, ensuring that the principles of peace and humanity remain at the forefront of its national identity. In the shadow of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan's defence policy evolution marks a significant chapter in its history. The world watches closely as Japan seeks to uphold its commitment to peace le safeouarding its future in an increasingly uncertain global

The devastating bombings marked a turning point in World War II, leading to Japan's surrender and the end of the conflict. These tragic events imprinted a commitment to pacifism in Japan's national consciousness, enshrined in its post-war consti-

However, with rising geopolitical threats from North Korea's missile tests and China's regional ambitions, Japan has no choice but to reconsider its pacifist stance and increase its defence spending, sparking a national debate on the future of its longheld commitment to peace.

> (The writer is an asssociate professor Centre For South Asian Studies, School of International Studies & Social Sciences Pondicherry Central University; views are personal)

# Bangladesh's political shakeup: A diplomatic setback for India

The resignation of Sheikh Hasina poses a significant challenge for New Delhi, as it now faces an uncertain political situation in its neighbouring country

hile Bangladeshis may be celebrating the ouster of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina after she was forced to resign and flee the country on Monday, her removal is a huge blow to India. Not only had New Delhi-Dhaka ties flourished under her prime ministership but the Awami League leader had been mindful of India's strategic interests. She had even tried to keep India's strategic interests in mind vis-à-vis China while adroitly balancing relations with both. During her 15 years of unbroken rule, New Delhi-Dhaka ties enjoyed both stability and mutual trust.

But with the army taking charge in Bangladesh and an interim government in place. interim government set to Thirdly, India will be dealing take over, India has a lot to with an entirely new politi- with Dhaka had been a "son-



PARUL CHANDRA

worry about. For one, it now has to deal with a new dispensation after having built very comfortable working relationship with the Sheikh Hasina government over the last 15 years. Secondly, it will also have to contend with the fact that it is the actual control even with an

tions are held in Bangladesh to install a new government. With India having thrown all its weight behind Sheikh Hasina, it may be faced with a huge challenge to build ties with the Opposition parties. India could also be in deep trouble if the pro-Pakistan Bangladesh National Party (BNP) returns to power. It

had recently triggered antisentiments in Bangladesh by carrying out an 'India Out' campaign which fortunately fizzled out early. Opposition parties can fan the simmering of these sentiments again, especially army that will be exercising given how closely New Delhi was identified with her government.

Indeed, for New Delhi, ties

cal set-up if and when elections are held in Bangladesh ali adhayay" (golden chapter) under Sheikh Hasina who delivered on New Delhi's expectations, while choosing to downplay India's inability to deliver on the important Teesta waters sharing agreement. But with a new government in power, all this might change. New Delhi, therefore, will have to deftly manoeuvre its way through a tricky diplomatic situation now. It has no choice but to do so given that it has vital stakes in the stability of Bangladesh, ranging from the economic to the strategic, in a country with which it shares a 4,096-km long bor-It will also be hoped that the

situation in Bangladesh will stabilise soon, knowing well that prolonged instability pursuit of the pro-Pakistan with Bangladesh, any such



there can have serious security and economic ramifications for India. For instance, taking into account New Delhi's security concerns, Sheikh Hasina had cracked down on northeast insurgents sheltering in Bangladeshi territory early on in her second stint as PM.

Her government's relentless

BNP as well as its ally JeI, influx could pose a huge also helped India's security interests. Equally worrying for India has been the rise of other radical Islamist outfits like the Hefazat-e-Islam in Bangladesh, which had organised anti-India protests ahead of PM Narendra Modi's visit there. The over one million

Rohingya refugees who fled Myanmar and are sheltering in Bangladesh too have been a security concern for India. Already home to a sizable number of illegal Bangladeshi immigrants,

India would also be concerned about a further influx of refugees seeking to flee their troubled country. With five Indian states in the northeast sharing a border

security challenge for the

Additionally, prolonged turmoil there could hurt Indian efforts to boost connectivity to the NE via Bangladesh using rail links and the sea route. India has for long been seeking alternative routes to bypass the vulnerable Siliguri corridor, which if blocked can cut off land access to its entire NE. The push for shorter routes to the NE via Bangladesh, which would cut down time and costs for the movement of goods, could also receive a

The quota stir has already hit bilateral trade after the movement of trucks was stalled at the land ports. While cross-border trade

has now resumed, there have been huge economic losses on either side. Prolonged turmoil can only worsen trading ties between the two countries. Bangladesh is India's biggest trading partner in South Asia. In FY 2022-23, the bilateral trade was \$15.9 billion, though it remains heavily skewed in favour of India. A lot is at stake for India as its close neighbour witnesses some tectonic changes in its governance and political landscape. It means it will have to put in all its diplomatic and political heft into its outreach to whoever is in charge of the new dispensation in Bangladesh.

(The writer is a senior New Delhi-based journalist writing on foreign affairs) HYDERABAD | TUESDAY | AUGUST 6, 2024

Global equity rout

in two days to more than Rs

19 lakh crore.

In the broader

market, the BSE

smallcap gauge dropped 4.21 per cent

and midcap index plummeted 3.60 per cent.

An over 12 per cent plunge in Japan's Nikkei

# IN BRIEF



### **Cargo traffic at major ports** grows 5.92% to 70.08 MT: IPA

argo traffic at 12 major ports in the country grew 5.92% to 70.08 million tonnes (MT) in July from 66.17 MT handled in the year-ago period, according to the data released by major ports' apex body Indian Ports Association. The data also showed that 10 of these major ports logged positive growth in cargo traffic handling, while the remaining two saw a negative growth, as per the IPA. The 12 major ports are Deendayal (Kandla), Mumbai, Mormugao, New Mangalore, Cochin, Chennai, Ennore (Kamarajar), Tuticorin (VO Chidambaranar), Visakhapatnam, Paradip and Kolkata (including Haldia) and Jawaharlal Nehru Port. In July, IPA said Cochin Port registered the maximum cargo growth at 24.77%, followed by Visakhapatnam Port (10.80%) and JN Port (9.07%). Chennai Port handled 8.89% more traffic compared to July 2023, while cargo traffic at Deendayal Port and  $\dot{V}$  0 Chidambaranar Port grew 7.13% and 6.74% respectively.



### CIL, GAIL to set up coal-tosynthetic natural gas project

tate-owned CIL on Monday said it has entered into a joint venture agreement with GAIL (India) Ltd to set up a Coal-to-synthetic natural gas project in West Bengal. While Coal India Ltd (CIL) will have 51 per cent shareholding in the joint venture, GAIL, the nation's largest gas transportation and distribution firm, will have 49 per cent. The joint venture will be incorporated as a private limited company. The initial paid-up share capital is Rs 1 lakh, CIL said in a BSE filing. The registered office of the joint venture will be in West Bengal and CIL and GAIL each will have the right to nominate three executives as directors of the JV. Earlier this year, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs had approved setting up a coal-to-synthetic natural gas project through a joint venture between CIL and GAIL, and a coal-to-ammonium nitrate project through a venture between CIL and BHEL.



### **UPI** transactions jump to Rs 60 lakh cr

PI transactions in the first three months of the current fiscal have grown over 36 per cent to Rs 60 lakh crore, Parliament was informed on Monday. As per the details of UPI transactions shared by Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary in the Lok Sabha, 4,122 crore UPI transactions worth Rs 60 lakh crore took place between April and June in 2024-25. In the April-June period, 2,762 crore UPI transactions took place, having a value of Rs 44 lakh crore. For the full fiscal 2023-24, 13,113 crore UPI transactions were made with a value of Rs 200 lakh crore. In FY23, a total of 8,371 crore UPI transactions took place with a value of Rs 139 lakh crore, while in FY22, there were 4,596 crore transactions involving Rs 84 lakh crore. Chaudhary further said that a facility of cardless cash deposits on an interoperable basis has been extended through UPI. Presently, this facility has been made available by a select few banks.

### Gold rises Rs 250 to Rs 72,800 per 10g; silver tumbles Rs 1,300

PNS NEW DELHI

Gold prices rose by Rs 250 to Rs 72,800 per 10 grams in the local market here on Monday amid increased demand

from jewellers. The precious metal settled lower at Rs 72,550 per 10 grams in the previous session on Saturday.

Extending its

losses for the third straight day, silver prices Comex gold is trading at tumbled by Rs 1,300 to Rs US\$ 2,461.10 per ounce, down 84,200 per kg on decreased offtake by coin makers and

industrial units, according to the All India Sarafa

Association. It had ended at Rs 85,500 per kg in the previous session. In addition, gold of

99.5 per cent purity increased by Rs 250 to Rs 72,450 per 10 grams from the previous close of Rs 72,200 per 10

grams. In the international markets, by US\$ 8.70 from the previous

44.22 crore in FY20.

Chaudhary further said to

Investors lose

election results.

Stock markets crashed nearly 3 per cent on Monday due to across-the-board selling in banking, IT, metal and oil & gas shares following a global equity rout, wiping out more than Rs 15 lakh crore of investor money in a single

Rs 15L cr in

single day

PNS MUMBAI

day.
The 30-share BSE Sensex plummeted 2,222.55 points or 2.74 per cent to settle at over a month's low of 78,759.40, marking its worst single-day retreat since June 4, 2024. During the day, the index tanked 2,686.09 points or 3.31 per cent to 78,295.86.

The NSE Nifty slumped 662.10 points or 2.68 per cent to settle at more than a month's low of 24,055.60. During the

tumbled 824 points or 3.33 per cent to 23,893.70. Nifty also saw its worst single-day fall since June 4, 2024, when markets crashed more than 5 per cent due to general

Sensex and Nifty had

sessions to Monday, the key indices have corrected around 4 per cent declined more than 1 per cent in the previous session on

Sensex and Nifty had declined more than 1 per

cent in the previous session on Friday. In two

corrected around 4 per cent. Investors lost more than Rs 15 lakh crore in the market crash as the total valuation of BSE-listed companies dropped to Rs 441.84 lakh crore on Monday. Investors lost Rs 4.46 lakh crore on Friday, taking the

Friday. In two sessions to

Monday, the key indices have

and geopolitical tensions in the Middle East dented market sentiment, analysts said. In Asian markets, Seoul, Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong

Kong settled sharply lower. Japan's benchmark stock index plunged 12.4 per cent on Monday, compounding a global market rout set off by investor concerns that the US economy

could be headed for recession.

report on Friday show-ing hiring by US employers slowed last month by much more than expected convulsed financial markets, vanquishing the euphoria that

had taken the Nikkei 225 to all-

time highs of over 42,000 in

On Monday, the Nikkei closed down 4,451.28 points at 31,458.42. It had dropped 5.8 per cent on Friday, making this its worst two-day decline ever. Its worst single-day rout was a plunge of 3,836 points, or 14.9 per cent, on October 19, 1987, a global markets crash that was dubbed "Black Monday" but proved to be only a temporary setback despite fears it might have augured a worldwide downturn. European markets were also trading with deep cuts. The US markets ended

significantly lower on Friday. From the Sensex pack, Tata Motors slumped over 7 per cent. Adani Ports, Tata Steel, SBI, Power Grid, JSW Steel and Maruti were the other big laggards.

### Rupee tumbles 31 paise to close at all-time low of 84.03 against US \$

PNS MUMBAI

The rupee slumped 31 paise to settle at an all-time low of 84.03 (provisional) against the US dollar on Monday, following a sell-off in broader global markets amid rising geopolitical tensions in the Middle East and worries over recession in the US.

Forex traders said the downfall in the domestic unit came on the heels of a sharp downturn in the Indian equity markets and significant foreign fund outflows.
At the interbank foreign

exchange market, the local unit opened at 83.78 and touched an intra-day high of 83.76 and a low of 84.03 against the dollar during the

It finally settled at its fresh record low level of 84.03 (provisional) against the American currency, down 31 paise against its previous close. On Friday, the rupee settled 1 paisa higher at 83.72 against the US dollar in a range-bound trade.

# Indian economy likely to grow at 7-7.2% in FY25: Deloitte

help improve supply-side demand, curb inflation, and

prop up consumer spending,

Deloitte India Economist

Rumki Majumdar said, India

will witness robust growth in

the second half after a period

especially in rural areas.

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India's economy is expected to grow at 7-7.2 per cent in the current fiscal year driven by robust economic fundamentals and continuity in domestic policy reforms, Deloitte India said on Monday.



The August update of Deloitte's India Economic Outlook said several initiatives in the Union Budget 2024-25 toward improving agriculture productivity, creating jobs for the youth, and in manufacturing and addressing the challenge of access to finance for micro, small, and medium

PNS NEW DELHI

companies.

growth.

The government on Monday

said there is no proposal under

consideration for merger of

public sector general insurance

Finance Pankaj Chaudhary

said Rs 17,450 crore was

infused during 2019-20 to

2021-22 in three PSU general

insurance companies namely

Oriental Insurance, National

Insurance and United India

Insurance to focus on their

consideration of government at

present for merger of public

sector general insurance com-

In the Budget for 2018-19,

the then finance minister Arun

panies," Chaudhary said.

"There is no proposal under

In a written reply to the Lok Sabha, Minister of State for months of the year.

"Key contributing factors include the continuity in domestic policy reforms, reduced uncertainties in the US post-elections, and more synchronous global growth within a low inflation

regime.

No proposal to merge public

sector general insurance cos

IN THE CHAIR : HON BLE SPEAKE

Jaitley had announced that

the three companies would be

merged into a single insurance

However, the merger process could not be complet-

ed due to various reasons,

including poor financial health

on non-performing assets in

the MSME sector, Chaudhary

In reply to another question

of these companies.

central banks in the West ease their monetary policy stance, will enhance capital flows and drive higher investments, particularly in the private sector," Majumdar said.

Observing that strong economic fundamentals would drive GDP growth between 7 per cent and 7.2 per cent in FY25, the Economic Outlook report said effectively addressing the urbanrural consumer spending gaps, inflation, and employment concerns can significantly enhance the affordability of aspirational rural consumers.

"The much-desirable policy pivot was evident in the Union Budget presented last month. Reducing the urban and rural spending gap in the coming years will ensure sustained consumer demand from a larger consumer base," it added.

Deloitte India's growth projection is at par with that of RBI, which projected FY'25 growth at 7.2 per cent. It is higher than Finance Ministry's Economic Survey which estimated GDP expansion enterprises (MSMEs), would global liquidity conditions, as between 6.5-7 per cent.

# SFIO probe into Sahara group of companies underway: FM



PNS NEW DELHI

Serious Investigation Office (SFIO) is carrying out a detailed probe into the matter related to the Sahara group of companies and it is also looking into the reason behind a sizeable number of investors not coming forward to claim the invested money in the com-Minister Nirmala Sitharaman said in Lok Sabha on Monday.

Sitharaman also said the entire affairs of the Sahara group are being monitored by the Supreme Court and the government is acting according to the directives of the apex

"It is true that only small investors have come forward to claim the refunds. The SFIO is investigating the entire matter. It is also looking into why all the investors have not come forward to claim the refunds and where are they.

"The SFIO is going into a

detailed analysis of this. We hope that at the end of it more legitimate claimants come and we can give the money," she said during Question Hour.

The minister said the whole picture will be clear and action can be taken after the detailed analysis of the SFIO.

"I want to dispel this thought that the government of India

is not doing anything. We are constantly reporting to the Supreme Court.

"Three panels of retired judges of the Supreme Court are monitoring us. They are approving every claim. Let no one doubt the intent and interests of the central government which is doing its best," she

### 'Public sector banks' NPAs on Mudra loans fall to 3.4%

Public sector banks' non-performing assets associated with the Mudra loan category have declined to 3.4 per

cent in the 2023-Nirmala Sitharaman said on This marks an improve-

ment from 4.77 per cent in 2020-21, 4.89 per cent in

2019-20, and 3.76 per cent in 2018-19, she said in response to a query in the Lok Sabha during Question Hour.

Sitharaman 24 fiscal, Finance Minister addressed questions regarding the non-performing assets (NPA) associated with Mudra loans, highlighting a significant reduction in NPA rates over the past few years.

### Sebi proposes uniform timeline for credit, trading of bonus shares

PNS NEW DELHI

New Delhi, Aug 5 (PTI) Markets regulator Sebi on Monday proposed a uniform timeline to ensure timely credit and trading of bonus shares in a bid to streamline the process to enable T+2 trading of such shares after the record

Capital and Disclosure Requirements) rules prescribe overall timelines regarding implementation of the bonus issue, however, there are no specific timeline on credit of bonus shares and trading of such shares, from the record date of the issue.

Thus, absence of any specific guidelines on this aspect The current ICDR (Issue of leads to non-uniformity with

respect to timelines in which shares are credited and made available for trading in bonus issue," Sebi said in its consultation paper.

Currently, after a bonus issue, existing shares continue to trade under the same ISIN, and the new bonus shares are credited and available for trading within 2-7 working days post record date.

# Over Rs 177 cr lost on account of banking frauds

said the total credit outstand-

ing of Scheduled Commercial

Banks (SCBs) to the sector as

on March 31, 2024 is Rs 28.04

lakh crore of which non-per-forming assets is Rs 1.25 lakh

The gross NPA percentage of SCBs for the MSME sector

is 4.46 per cent as against 2.74

per cent for total loans and

advances, he added.

PNS NEW DELHI

As much as Rs 177 crore was lost on account of credit, debit card and internet banking frauds in the 2023-24 fiscal, Parliament was informed on Monday.

In a written reply to the Lok Sabha, Minister of State for Finance Pankaj Chaudhary said the amount of loss due to cyber fraud has increased from Rs 69.68 crore in FY23 to Rs 177.05 crore in FY24.

The quantum of loss in FY22 was Rs 80.33 crore, it was Rs 50.10 crore in FY21 and Rs

help customers recover the loss on account of fraudulent



transactions, the RBI has issued instructions to banks on limiting the liability of customers in cases of unautho-

rised electronic banking trans-

A customer need not bear any loss if the deficiency is on

the part of the bank and in cases, where the fault lies neither with the bank nor with the customer but lies elsewhere in

the system and the customer notifies the bank within three working days of receiving the communication about the unauthorised transaction.

Where the loss is due to the customer's negligence, the customer has to bear the entire loss until he/she reports the unauthorised transaction to the bank.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA Olo Engineer-In-Chief, MISSION BHAGIRATHA DEPARTMENT, HYDERABAD E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE Tender Notice NIT No.1/AEE/DEE/ Mallanna sagar/ 2024-25, Dt:05.08.2024, Name of the work: "Balance work Construction of Intake Structure, WTP and Pipelines for four HMWS Segments (Alair

source. Tenders will be available at https:// tender.telangana.gov.in from 08.08.2024 Officer.Concerned: Superintending Engineer, MB Circle, Siddipet, Phr. 9100121970. Sd'- Engineer-In-Chie Mission Bhagiratha, Hyderabad R.O.Ne: 403-DP/CLIADVT/1/2024-25, Dt. 05-68-203-

Bhongir, Medchal, Gajwel & Jangaon), Sr Komaravelli Mallanna Sagar reservoir as a

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA PANCHAYATI RAJ ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT SHORT TENDER NOTICE Short Tender Notice No. TO.4/2024-25

Total Number of works (29) with an estimated cost of Rs.201.22 lakhs Tender Application from 05.08.2024 upto 13.08.2024, 5.00 p.m, Tender schedules can be had on 14.08.2024 from Office of the Executive Engineer, PR Division, brahimpetham, Rangereddy District and participate on 14.08.2024 upto 3.30 p.m from date of issue. Other details can be had from Office of the Executive Engineer, PR Division, Ibrahimpatham RR District email ID

Office of the Executive Engineer, Pr. Limbbur, epinburg Sgl-Executive Engineer, PR Division, epinburgsgmail.com Office phone number 9440904198. Sgl-Executive Engineer, PR Division, executive Engineer, PR Division, Brahimpatham, Rasgareddy District



# 'PRODUCTION FACED QUITE A CHALLENGE FINDING LOCATIONS **MATCHING SHEKHAR'S VIBE'**

**AARTI SREENATH** 

*hekhar Home*, a highly anticipated series based on the classic detective Sherlock Holmes, is scheduled to debut soon, enchanting viewers with its unique mix of Indian essence and thrilling narrative. Starring the versatile actor Kay Kay Menon in the titular role, the show promises to offer a fresh take on the detective genre. Menon, known for his nuanced performances and ability to bring complex characters to life, takes on the challenge of portraying Shekhar, an eccentric and unpredictable investigator. Set in 1990s Bengal, the series explores the mysteries and supernatural elements that surround the sleepy town of Lonpur, all while staying true to its Indian roots. As fans eagerly await its release, Shekhar Home is poised to become a must-watch in the world of Indian entertainment.

portrayal, while also reflecting on the challenges and nuances of adapting a story set in 1990s Bengal. When asked how he approached the role by bringing a unique Indian flavour while staying true to the essence of Sherlock Holmes, the Life in a Metro star remarked, "Being Indian naturally helped. The scriptwriters, who are also Indian, have experienced life here, which made the

transition smoother. For me, it was more

about understanding Shekhar's character

During a candid conversation, Kay Kay

portraying the lead role in the upcoming

series, his approach to the character and

how he infused an Indian essence into the

Menon discussed his thoughts on

and finding that person within myself." The ABCD actor's portrayal of Shekhar Home promises to be a captivating blend of Indian sensibilities and the classic detective genre, making it a series to watch out for. "Shekhar, as I discovered, is quite eccentric, a maverick with a unique sense of humour that he doesn't even realise he has. People find him funny, but he's also unpredictable. These elements combined were my contributions as an actor to shaping Shekhar from the script and adding an Indian touch.' The series, as we are all well aware of, is set in the 1990s in Bengal, a period without modern conveniences like Zoom meetings and smartphones. Haider fame, explained how this influenced his portrayal, saying, "Back then, the time period had its own pace and rhythm. The fictional town of Lonpur, where the story unfolds, is depicted as a sleepy place. I derived Shekhar's persona from this easy-going setting with a unique rhythm. The production team faced quite a challenge finding locations that matched this vibe. We shot on the outskirts of Bolpur, near Shantiniketan and Haldia, among other places. Visiting these locations was fascinating for us as actors.' Reflecting on the experience of filming in historically rich locations, he shared, "There's an old-world charm in these places that you can feel in the air. It's like time has stopped. Even with modern vehicles around, the essence of the place remains intact. It's a subjective experience; some feel it, some don't. For me, it was palpable.'

Discussing his on-screen chemistry with co-star Ranvir Shorey, who plays Jayvrat

Sahni, *The Special Ops* fame noted, "Ranvir and I hit it off instantly. We have what I like to call a 'jugalbandi.' He's a brilliant actor, and we improvised a lot on set. There were moments when the directors would say, 'How much more will you improvise?' It was great fun."
When asked if he believes in the supernatural events happening, he responded thoughtfully, "I don't disaffirm anything I don't know. Just because I haven't experienced it doesn't mean it doesn't exist. In acting, you often get carried away; you immerse yourself fully into the character. Sometimes, things happen beyond human design. That's the magic of acting—it goes beyond intellectual design. That's why I never take ownership of my performances; there's always an element of something beyond." The *Mumbai Meri Jaan* actor also emphasised that he didn't delve into Sherlock Holmes stories or other detective literature to prepare for the role. "I'm playing Shekhar, not Sherlock. I'm more interested in the human being I'm portraying. Each character, whether a cop or a detective, is unique. For me, the person I'm playing is more important than the role itself.' Finally, when asked about the wordplay in the show's title, *Shekhar Home*, *The Black* Friday star admitted, 'I was as intrigued as you are. Once I read the script, everything made sense. The surname 'Home' is actually quite common—just Google it!" Kay Kay Menon's portrayal of Shekhar

Home promises to be a captivating blend

detective genre, making it a series to watch

of Indian sensibilities and the classic

looked into an exclusive conversation

with Lisa Mishra, an American singer.

Yaari Jam actually commemorated friendship. The musician shares a poignant tale of how friendship has impacted her musical path, saying, 'Since friendship is something I share with my band, friendship has been essential to my creative journey. After six years of togetherness, they rank among the people in Mumbic with whom Lore closest' Yeari James ple in Mumbai with whom I am closest." Yaari Jam made this friendship day even more special by throwing a star-studded night and having a great time with pals.

"To me, it is simply a part of who I am. Since I'm Indian American, I believe that creating music in multiple languages is true for me and comes effort-lessly. Fans can undoubtedly anticipate some of their favourite covers and mashups. And of course my originals, which blend Hindi and English," she gave some insight into how she approaches fusing several musical genres in her live performances. Everyone was seen singing and swaying to the newest tracks that were topping the charts. *Yaaron Waali Baat* emphasised how little deeds may have a profound effect on friends and the many opportunities that result from deep connections. *Tareefan* fame continued the discussion, saying,

ences really enjoyed our set. I believe that people witnessed our enthusiasm while performing and the friendship among my band members, which is greatly impacted by Yaari Jam." On the other hand, though, "Kehlani and SZA are the two artists that I believe have inspired me the most recently. They seem to speak quite easily and they are two women who genuinely just know who they are. I therefore draw inspiration from them and sort of just do what I need to do rather than adhering to the status quo for female performances. And you know what? By observing them being who they are,

"We really did have songs about friend-ship built into our set list, so the audi-

I've learned to be myself." Additionally, she believes that every performance she has ever given has something to offer she believes that the best approach to introducing her fan base to the new music she released this year is to also sprinkle in a few covers and well-known favourites so they never feel left out. She constantly attempts to make sure that her own original work is available in addition to something for older and younger audiences. "I believe that the musicianship

in my music

exclusive interview with The Pioneer. While performing with well-known Gen Z musicians, she thought back on the significant impact friendship had had on her career. She also discussed the ways in which her close relationships with her bandmates have influenced her creative process!

has only grown stronger as it has aged. Our live set was the culmination of years and years of practice, honing my craft as a composer and arranger. I pre-fer to go slowly. I don't believe that worrying or paying attention is necessary on performance day. We ing attention is necessary on performance day. We are a very seasoned group of individuals. Because our band is so close-knit and, in my opinion, extremely situation-adaptable, we don't like to overthink things. On the day before the performance, we relax," *The Wakhra Song* fame adds.

Lisa carries a lot of profound emotion in her song Saza, which is from her most recent

album, Sorry I'm Late. It appears that listeners relate to the song a lot. It's a lovely, straightforward song about heartbreak and a lack of resolution. Moreover, "it's all about the supporters. I talk a lot when I'm on stage. It's fun around here. We laugh and joke around. I behave as though they are my buddies. I don't know if it can startle some people to see how much audience participation there is during my set! In my opinion, being a performer means creating an environment that is enjoyable, secure and friendly for everyone, even those who haven't heard my music. As opposed to a rigid, formulaic approach that has never seemed to

> interaction's versatility." Naadaanivan fame is overjoved with the quantity of songs she has put out this year, particu-larly her first album. She believes that in order to compose more stories and experience life once more. She believes that she is reentering a state of self-discovery and that music will come from it, but

work for me, I prefer

to keep things sim-

ple and honest.

That's how I think

it's done much bet-

ter by others. I still

need the crowd

another project or work with new people, she is currently in a place where she may gather nothing concrete just yet. The post-meal impulse consumption of

ou've just had a scrumptious biryani and are craving a shahi tukda. Well, you're not alone. A recent survey reveals that 82% of Indians prefer indulging in traditional sweets like Rasmalai and Shahi Tukda following their meals. This preference for traditional sweets stands out significantly against other dessert options, such as chocolates, ice creams and Western desserts like cakes. This insight highlights a significant trend in the Indian culinary landscape, underscoring the enduring appeal of mithais as the quintessential post-meal treat.

### **Cultural significance of 'Mithai'**

*Mithais* are a deeply ingrained part of India's food culture and they reign supreme after meals for several reasons. Indian cuisine is known for its bold flavours and spices and mithai provides the ideal sweet counterpoint, balancing the heat and adding a perfect end note to a flavorful meal. The tradition of wanting something sweet after lunch or dinner is a deeply ingrained cultural practice, often encapsulated in the phrase 'Kuch meetha ho jaye.' This practice not only satisfies the palate but also symbolises a sweet ending to a meal, making desserts an integral part of the dining experience.

### **Diversity of flavours and textures**

From rich milk-based sweets like barfi to lighter, nut-filled options like peda, there's a *mithai* for every taste and occasion. The diversity of Indian sweets caters to a wide range of preferences, ensuring that everyone finds something they enjoy. This variety is one of the reasons why mithai remains a favorite among Indians.

The traditional recipes, often passed down through generations, offer a sense of nostalgia and comfort, while innovative twists and comfort, while innovative twists are tagging and comfort, while innovative twists are the traditional recipes, offer a sense of nostalgia and comfort, while innovative twists are the traditional recipes, offer a sense of nostalgia and comfort, while innovative twists are the traditional recipes, offer a sense of nostalgia and comfort, while innovative twists are the traditional recipes, offer a sense of nostalgia and comfort, while innovative twists are the traditional recipes and the traditional recipes are on these classics cater to modern tastes and trends. Traditional sweets have been given a modern twist to appeal to contemporary palates. For instance, vanilla barfi combines the rich, creamy texture of classic barfi with the subtle, aromatic flavour of vanilla, creating a delightful fusion that maintains the essence of the original while introducing

cream, offering a refreshing take on beloved desserts like *gulab jamun* or *jalebi*, served with a scoop of vanilla or pistachio ice cream.

### **Natural ingredients and** nutritional value

Many traditional Indian sweets are made with natural ingredients like milk,

nuts and ghee. These ingredients not only offer a burst of flavour but can also be a source of essential nutrients. Milk provides calcium and protein; nuts add healthy fats and vitamins; and ghee, when consumed in moderation, offers a rich taste and several health benefits. This focus on natural, wholesome ingredients sets Mithai apart from many other dessert options that rely heavily on processed components.

### **Untapped market potential**

Indian sweets represents a huge white space and a massive untapped opportunity. Despite the widespread love for traditional sweets, the market for post-meal indulgence remains relatively unexplored. New-generation one-stop shops and innovative dessert brands are beginning to tap into this potential, creating products that cater to the evolving tastes and preferences of Indian consumers. These

brands are not only focusing on traditional favourites but also introducing fusion sweets that combine the familiar with the novel, appealing to a broader audience.

### Trends in consumer preferences

The recent data indicates a noticeable shift towards healthier dessert options. Consumers are becoming more conscious of their dietary choices, seeking desserts with less sugar, healthier ingredients, and greater nutritional value. This trend has led to the emergence of innovative and fusion variations of traditional desserts, such as mithai sundaes and vanilla angoori basundi. These new creations retain the essence of traditional sweets while offering a modern twist that caters to contemporary tastes.

### **Saccharine saga**

The enduring popularity of traditional Indian desserts is a testament to their cultural significance, diverse flavours and nutritional value. As consumer preferences evolve, there is a growing demand for innovative and healthier options within the category of traditional sweets. By understanding and tapping into these trends, brands and businesses have the opportunity to redefine indulgence and cater to the ever-evolving tastes of Indian consumers. This dynamic landscape offers a promising future for the postmeal consumption of mithai, ensuring that these beloved sweets continue to hold a special place in the hearts and palates of Indians.

> (The author, Sanket S, is the cofounder of Scandalous Foods.)





# what's brewing?















Afresh, Vikrant Massey spoke to a group at a special event. During the event, inDrive made a sizable donation to CRY India of Rs. 34,00,000 in order to further solidify its commitment to community support and social responsibility. With the help of Vikrant Massey, this kind of donation has made a substantial contribution to the company's goal of improving impoverished communities.



Chopra and Kirron Kher.

A thrilling tournament known as the Crimson Inter-School Basketball Championship - Season 1 took place at St. Michaels School in Alwal, Hyderabad. The Telangana Basketball Association provided assistance for the event, which saw spectacular wins and a resounding turnout from 17 schools in the city. Teams were split up into four groups and each round of play was knockout.















Suroskie is thrilled to announce the appointment of leading actress Tara Sutaria as its brand ambassador for the hair care segment!

### 'Nizami Chowki' Dinner!

-xperience the rich flavours and traditions of the Asafiya dynasty with NIZAMI xperience the rich flavours and traditions of the Asafiya dynasty with NIZAMI CHOWKI Dinner, hosted by Novotel Hyderabad Airport (NHA), situated at GMR Aerocity in Hyderabad. Every Saturday evening offers a unique opportunity to explore the decadent culinary legacy of the Asafiya era. Join us them for a spectacular dinner where history and taste come together. Indulge in a variety of delectable dishes, from Gosht Dungar Haleem to Hyderabadi Gosht Shikampuri kebabs and many more, which captures the grand Nawabi tradition. The menu features an assortment of traditional breads and desserts, all expertly crafted to provide an authentic glimpse into the past. In addition to the exquisite cuisine, enjoy the luxurious ambiance that reflects the grandeur of the Asafiya period. The atmosphere is designed to be as opulent and inviting as the food, ensuring a memorable experience. Don't miss out on this extraordinary culinary journey, celebrating the royal flavours of India.

Where: Food Exchange, Novotel Hyderabad Airport, GMR Aerocity arena When: 3rd – 31st August, 2024, Every Saturday Time: 7PM – 11PM

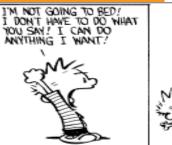
### ARCHIE







### **CALVIN AND HOBBES**







**CROSSWORD** 



### GARFIELD







# PENICILLIN IS HIS KRYPTONITE!

REALITY CHECK









### **SUDOKU**

	8	5		1		2		7
	2		5			2 3 4		
9		3				4		
		7		6	2			
8								9
			4	9		6 5		
		6				5		3
		6 8 9			5		2	
2		9		3		7	6	

		7	Yesterday's solution										
-		/		2	6	3	1	9	8	4	7		
				8	5	7	4	6	3	1	9		
Ī				4	1	9	2	5	7	6	3		
				7	3	5	6	2	1	8	4		
				6	9	8	3	7	4	2	5		
		$\overline{}$		1	2	4	5	8	9	3	6		
		9		9	7	2	8	4	6	5	1		
				3	8	6	9	1	5	7	2		
		_		5	4	1	7	3	2	9	8		
		3		Ru	les								
	2			Each row and column can contain each number (1 to									
	6		exactly once.										

- 1 9 8 4 7 5 4 6 3 1 9 2 2 5 7 6 3 8 6 2 1 8 4 9 3 7 4 2 5 1 5 8 9 3 6 7 8 4 6 5 1 3 9 1 5 7 2 4 19 A nice place to go out to for a meal DOWN 1 Donate 732986

ACROSS

10 Robbery

14 Stories

a tripod

2 Talk with in a friendly way

6 A warning tower for ships

8 Wide awake and watchful

13 Your mother's mother

17 The number of legs on

- 3 Injured by a bullet 4 Make well again

11 A house for a pet

12 A big Australian

flightless bird

16 An adult male deer

18 A place for ice skating

15 Opposite of first

17 Grow weary

rabbit

### **GINGER MEGGS**







n each number (1 to 9)

• The sum of all numbers in any row or column must equal 45.

5 Periods of 100 years Female children

9 Wash the soap out of

Hyderabad | Tuesday August 6, 2024

# Chiyaan Vikram researched many tribes for *Thangalaan*

PNS | HYDERABAD

ctor Chiyaan Vikram shed light on his role in the much-anticipated film *Thangalaan*, offering a glimpse into the making of this epic period drama. Vikram discussed his collaboration with director Pa Ranjith, the extensive preparation for his role, and his admiration for fellow stars.

Vikram's enthusiasm for Thangalaan was palpable as he explained what drew him to the project. Vikram began, "My admiration for Pa Ranjith played a sig-nificant role. I've always been a fan of his work and have long wanted to collaborate with him. When he presented the story of Thangalaan, I was instantly captivated. The narrative transcends traditional boundaries. It's not confined to any particular language or region; it has a universal appeal. The film goes beyond just gold hunting to explore themes of freedom and the human spir-it. Ranjith's storytelling is similar to the immersive experience we had with Sarpatta Parambharai. I believe Thangalaan will resonate with audiences globally."

The conversation then turned to the film's unique aspects, particularly Vikram's preparation for his role as a tribal leader. "Absolutely, the tribal leader. Absolutely, the tribal leader in the film has a distinct and authentic appearance," Vikram noted. "Initially, I wondered if the look might resemble something from *KGF*, but I quickly realised this character is unique. Preparing for the role involved extensive makeup sessions, which sometimes took several hours for application and removal. We shot under extreme conditions—both cold and heat—but passion for the role makes such challenges secondary. My focus was always on embodying the character fully, rather

than seeking awards. While I value awards, the audience's response is what truly matters."

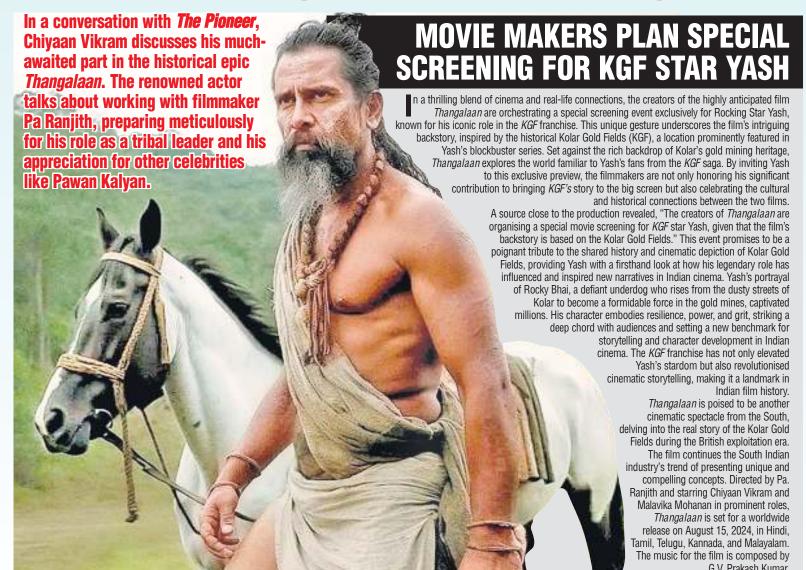
In terms of authenticity, Vikram revealed that he undertook significant research to portray the tribal leader effectively. "Yes, indeed," he confirmed. "I delved into research on various tribes, including African ones, to better understand their appearance and culture. This research was crucial for capturing the essence of my character. We aimed to get as many scenes right in a single take as possible, even if it sometimes took 30 attempts. Despite the absence of subtitles, we've crafted a film that connects with audiences across all languages in India. I'm confident Thangalaan will

surprise and engage viewers in theaters."
The discussion also touched upon Vikram's respect for Power Star Pawan Kalyan. "Certainly," Vikram said with admiration. "I've always respected Pawan Kalyan for his commitment and dedication, both in cinema and politics. His decade-long involvement in politics and his current role as Deputy CM are truly commendable. It shows that someone can make a meaningful impact beyond their primary field of work. His journey offers inspiration to many, including those of us who contemplate

entering politics."

As the interview wrapped up, Vikram shared his hopes for the film's audience. "I hope *Thangalaan* leaves audiences with a sense of wonder and excitement," he said. "The film is crafted to offer an immersive experience, much like how we were immersed in the story during its making. I believe it will be a surpris-ing and memorable experience for everyone who watches it."

With the film's grand release on the horizon, Vikram's insights offer a tantalizing glimpse into what promises to be a captivating cinematic journey.



G.V. Prakash Kumar. **Sparks fly: Janhvi and Jr NTR ignite OM SHIVAM** 



# Introducing Devaraj as 'Mundadu' in *Kannappa*

as production moves ahead swiftly. With the film featuring extensive VFX work, the team is dedicating ample time to perfecting post-production details. As part of the promotional strategy, the creators are unveiling key characters from the movie.

The latest reveal introduces Devaraj as Mundadu. The character poster showcases him in a fierce and commanding presence, wielding an axe and casting a steely gaze. Mundadu is the formida-ble chief of the Erukalu clan, residing deep within Nilipala

The buzz around Vishnu Manchu's ambitious pan-India project, Kannappa, continues to build as production moves abuild as productio skills. Mundadu's rule is absolute, while his son Bebbuli harbours ambitions for the throne. The clan is renowned for their consumption of the enchanted steam of Nandi Vinti, further adding to their mystique.

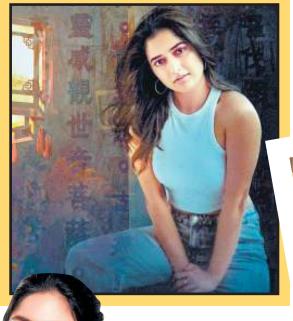
Kannappa delves into the legendary tale of Bhakta Kannappa and his unwavering devotion to Lord Shiva. The film is set for a grand release in December and will be available in multiple languages, including Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada, Hindi, Ashika Ranganath onboards Karthi's

ero Karthi's film Sardar has been a blockbuster hit in both Tamil and Telugu. Recently, the regular shooting of Sardar 2 commenced on a grand set in Chennai. Directed by PS Mithran, who also directed the prequel, Sardar 2 is being produced by Prince Pictures on a grand scale. In this film, Malavika Mohanan stars as the female lead and SJ Surya plays a powerful role

The makers have recently shared another exciting update. In Sardar 2, the dazzling beauty Ashika Ranganath will appear as another female lead. The makers welcomed Ashika Ranganath to the project while sending her birthday wishes.

Sardar 2 is set to be a high-budget film with a huge scale. The top technicians are working on this movie. Yuvan Shankar Raja will provide the music for Sardar 2. The

cinematography is handled by George C. Williams, with Dilip Subbarayan as the stunt director. Rajeev Nambiar is the production designer. Vijay Velukutty is the editor, and AP Paul Pandi is the production executive. E. Venkatesh is the co-producer, and S l akshman Kumar is the producer





among fans and movie enthusiasts. The song, titled Chuttamalle, is a captivating addition to the film's soundtrack and has been composed by the talented Anirudh Ravichander. Renowned for his ability to blend traditional and contemporary music, Anirudh has crafted a beautiful melody that perfectly complements the film's narrative. Shilpa Rao lends her soulful voice to Chuttamalle, delivering a performance that captures the emotional depth of Janhvi Kapoor's character. The lyrics, written by the lyricist Rama Jogayya Sastry, narrate a heartfelt tale of love and longing. In the song, Janhvi's character expresses her deep its and emotions about her lover, portrayed by NTR. The lyrics paint a vivid pic-ture of her being completely immersed in her lover's thoughts, highlighting the romantic tension between the two characters. In a genre that typically emphasises energetic dance numbers, this track offers a refreshing change with its focus on a solo female vocal performance. Shilpa Rao's vocals beautifully capture the essence of Janhvi's character, who is depicted as a rural girl. The choice to feature a solo female voice in a mass movie setting is unconventional, yet it adds a layer of

depth and authenticity to the narrative.

NTR, known for his powerful screen presence and dynamic performances, showcases a more subdued and introspective side in this song. While he delivers some impressive dance steps, he maintains a calm and composed demeanour, allowing the emotional weight of the song to take center stage. Janhvi Kapoor, on the other hand, exudes glamour and elegance, perfectly embodying her character's allure and charm.

# **COMPLETES**

The film *Om Shivam* marks Bhargav Krishna's debut as the lead hero under the Deepa Movies banner. Produced by K.N. Krishna Kanakapura and directed by Alwin, this film is being made in Telugu, Tamil and Kannada. Viranika Shetty stars as the female lead. According to the film team, Om Shivam blends commercial elements with surprising twists in the life of a devout Shiva devotee. Producer K.N. Krishna Kanakapura revealed that the shoot took place in various locations Director Alwin added that the film has completed shooting and is now moving swiftly through post-production. The director emphasised that the film's story, music and cinematography are key highlights. After being impressed by the story, the decision was made to produce the film in multiple languages. A well-known audio company is preparing to release the soundtrack in all three



# Pushpa 2: The Rule climax action shoot is on

umerous celebrities have stepped up to assist the victims of the devastating landslides in Wayanad, Kerala. Among them, the prominent actress Samyuktha has made a donation to aid the affected individuals. The talented actress took to social media to express her sorrow and call for public support. She personally handed over her donation to the Vishwasanthi Foundation and shared a picture of the event online. Actor Mohanlal's ViswaSanthi Foundation has announced a contribution of Rs 3 crore for relief efforts.

Samyuktha wrote, "It deeply pains me to witness the calamity that has devastated the lives and livelihoods of our beloved people in Wayanad. I stand in solidarity with them and, as a first step in extending my support, I am contributing to the Vishwasanthi Foundation for the noble work they are undertaking in Wayanad. I urge everyone to join this cause. Let's donate to Wayanad and offer our prayers and support to those in need, @viswasanthifoundation."

Following her success in Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam and Kannada films, the actress is now busy with her Bollywood debut film Maharagni and several other exciting projects, including Swayambhu.

pushpa 2: The Rule is set to be icon star Allu Arjun's most ambitious film yet. This pan-Indian action extravaganza has already generated significant buzz with its expertly crafted promotional content. The teaser has been a massive hit, showcasing the prowess of director Sukumar. The film's first song, Pushpa Pushpa, has captivated audiences with its dynamic appeal, while the second track, Sooseki in Telugu, has also been a tremendous success. Rock star Devi Sri Prasad continues to deliver unforgettable music.

Currently, the film is shooting a climactic action sequence that perfectly embodies Sukumar's vision. Allu Arjun is leading this extensive shoot, joined by key cast members, on a specially built set at Ramoji Film City. The climax is expected to be a thrilling highlight, promising to give viewers an exhilarating experience in theaters.

Produced on a grand scale by Mythri Movie Makers and Sukumar Writings, the film is being overseen by producers Naveen Yerneni and Y Ravi Shankar, ensuring top-tier quality. Cinematographer Mireslow Kuba Brozek is set to deliver some of his finest work, while S. Rama Krishna and N. Monica's production design, along with other technicians, are poised to achieve remarkable

Pushpa 2: The Rule is slated for a grand worldwide release in multiple languages on December 6, 2024.



The eagerly awaited film *Committee Kurrollu* is set to make its debut on August 9, and the buzz around it is already electrifying Pithapuram. As part of its promotional campaign, the film team is actively engaging with the community, generating considerable excitement

A key highlight in the lead-up to the release is the prerelease event, scheduled for August 5 in Hyderabad. This event has drawn significant attention due to the presence of Niharika Konidela, who has stirred up considerable interest in the Pithapuram constituency. Niharika's connection to Jana Sena leader and current Deputy CM Pawan Kalyan—her uncle—has made her appearance in the constituency a hot topic within the film industry. Produced by Niharika Konidela under Pink Elephant Pictures LLP and Sriradha Damodar Studios, Committee Kurrollu is directed by Yadhu Vamsi.

film's narrative, while cinematographer Raju Edurolu captures the story's essence with his striking visuals. Behind the scenes, Committee Kurrollu benefits from a

strong creative team, including the writing duo Venkata Subhash Cheerla and Kondal Rao Addagalla. Their dialogue brings a unique authenticity to the film. reflecting the rich, relatable language of its rural setting. With its innovative approach and dedicated team, Committee Kurrollu promises to deliver a captivating cinematic experience when it releases on August 9.

Despite featuring a fresh cast, the film has captured the public's attention, thanks in part to the positive

Veteran editor Anwar Ali is bringing his expertise to the

engaging final product. Music director Anudeep Dev has

crafted a compelling soundtrack that complements the

post-production phase, ensuring a polished and

reception of its teaser and songs.



# WITH SO MUCH SPIN ON OFFER, GAME CAN TURN ON ITS HEAD: INDIA ASSISTANT COACH NAYAR

as it a shock? I would say yes," said India's assistant coach Abhishek Nayar as he tried to make sense of the unexpected defeat to Sri Lanka in the second ODI, blaming it on the spin-friendly conditions that have the potential to completely alter the course of a match.

India's fragility against spin was once again on display as leg-spinner Jeffrey Vandersay wreaked havoc with a sixwicket haul to hand the visitors a 32run defeat in the second ODI here on

Sunday.
"...There is a surprise. But you anticipate and understand that in these conditions the game can turn on its head because there is so much spin on offer," Nayar said at the post-match press conference.

press conference.
India were chasing 241 on a pitch that had plenty of assistance for the spinners, and they ended up at 208 all out in 42.2 overs. In the previous game as well, the Indian batters barring

skipper Rohit Sharma had struggled.
"Even if you look at the last game, it was relatively easy to score against the new ball. As the ball got older, the conditions when batting second got slightly tougher. Sometimes in tough conditions, especially in the 50-over format, this happens," he added.

The assistant coach said the think-tank will reflect on what has gone wrong so



"My belief is that in any sport, position only matters if you're playing in different areas of a game. We lost wickets in the middle phase, and that's "We want to go back and understand, and rectify, why it happened twice in a row. The day before yesterday, we were where the middle order batters batted. It's not as if middle order batters batted towards the end.

row. The day before yesterday, we were able to stitch partnerships but today we lost quite a few wickets in a bundle." India shuffled their middle order, promoting Shivam Dube (0) to the number four spot, while maintaining the right-left batting combination with "The thought process was right. When it doesn't work out, these questions are asked often. But I've always believed Shreyas Iyer (7) and KL Rahul (0) at that if a middle order batter bats as a middle order batter, it is the right numbers six and seven, respectively.

decision," Nayar said. Navar feels there is more pressure on

Nayar teels there is more pressure on the team batting second.
"When you are batting first, there is less pressure. When you are chasing, the pressure is more because you have to keep an eye on the run rate, wickets.
"Whenever you bat first, you often have partnerships. Wellalage batted really well both in the last game and really well, both in the last game and this game. They scored important runs in the lower order."

Dinesh Karthik appointed SA20 league ambassador

**PTI** ■ JOHANNESBURG

Patter Dinesh Karthik was on Monday appointed the league ambassador of the SA20

League. Karthik, who is the first Indian player to be associated with the South African tournament, retired from all forms of cricket earlier this year.

'The league has been electric in the first two seasons with some of the world's best players on show and exciting young

Internet fodder aside, Nedoroscik and his eyeglasses

have brought visibility to an eye condition called coloboma,

which occurs when part of the tissue that makes up the eye is

media release.

media release.

"Karthik will be working very closely with fellow SA20 ambassador AB de Villiers and the management team to help strengthen the league's global fan base and reinforce brand awareness across key strategic markets in India and the United Kingdom," the release

Former South Africa captain league commissioner

Great Scottie!

Scheffler gets Olympic

talent putting up their hands on the global stage," Karthik was quoted as saying in a and personality make him the perfect fit for our league and his involvement will undoubtedly elevate the league's status globally and in

> The SA20 comprises six franchises -- MI Cape Town, Joburg Super Kings, Durban Super Giants, Paarl Royals, Pretoria Capitals, Sunrisers Eastern Cape, all of which are owned by the owners of IPL



# Former England batter Graham Thorpe dies at 55

 $F^{\text{ormer England and Surrey}}_{\text{batter Graham Thorpe has}}$  died aged 55 after battling a "serious illness" since 2022, the country's cricket board announced on Monday.

Considered one of the batters of his generation, Thorpe was hospitalised shortly after being named the head coach of Afghanistan in 2022 but the details of his medical condition are not

known. He is survived by his wife Amanda and four children, Henry, Amelia, Kitty and

Emma. "It is with great sadness that the ECB shares the news that Graham Thorpe, MBE, has passed away," ECB said in a statement, without giving the exact cause of his death.

"There seem to be no appropriate words to describe the deep shock we feel at Graham's death. More than one of England's finest ever batters, he was a beloved member of the cricket family and revered by fans all over the world," the statement read.

Thorpe began his Test career in 1993 with an Ashes century and repeated the feat on the CCC.

Refugee Olympic Team that was

created to call attention to the plight

Ngamba's victory at the Paris Games

comes after a fierce bout with French

boxer Davina Michel in the women's

75-kilogram quarterfinals in front of

Ngamba, who screamed and pumped

her fist when she won, has scored at least a bronze medal as she advances

of refugees across the world.

a passionate French crowd.

believing in yourself."

February 1995. The left-hander was also instrumental in England's

back-to-back series wins in Pakistan and Sri Lanka during the 2000-01 season. A lynch-pin of England's middle order, he went on to

play 100 Tests for England between 1993 and 2005 and averaged 44.66 with 16 centuries. He also represented the Three

Lions in 82 ODIs, collecting 2830 runs at an average of 37.18.

Thorpe enjoyed success at the county level as well. He was picked at the under-11 level by Surrey and played for them for 17 years, scoring close to 20,000 runs for the team.

"Graham is one of the great sons of Surrey and there is an overwhelming sadness that he will not walk through the gates of the Oval again. He is a legend of Surrey and brought great pride to the Club wearing both the Three Feathers and the Three Lions.

"He made outstanding contributions to the Club as a cricketer, and as a man, and he will be so sorely missed," said Oli Slipper, Chair at Surrey

# From 'monkey boy' to 'horse guy', Stephen is soaking up in limelight

Stephen Nedoroscik is leaning into his newfound stardom as a geeky, bespectacled, Rubik's Cubesolving video gamer who just won two bronze medals at the Paris Olympics.

Paris Olympics.
"It's still just surreal to me. I wake up in the morning, I'm like, Oh my gosh, I'm a two-time Olympic medalist!' It is so cool," he told The Associated Press. With both medals hanging around his neck, he beamed and laughed as he marveled at his rise to fame marveled at his rise to fame and the attention his specialty in gymnastics is receiving.

The 25-year-old U.S. Gymnast finished third in the pommel horse on Saturday, five days



after helping the American men's team earn bronze - its first Olympic medal in 16 years. Along the way, he's captured the hearts of Olympics viewers with his endearing personality and nerdy tendencies.
Images and clips of Nedoroscik

hopping on the pommel horse for a focused routine have gone viral. The memes and tweets have likened him to Clark Kent taking off his glasses and transforming into a hero.
"The memes are hilarious and

removing his glasses and centering himself before

tissue that makes up the eye is missing. Fans have approached him thanking him for being a role model for children who need to wear glasses. "Even just last week, for the first time, I met someone else who has the same eye condition as me," Nedoroscik said - a young boy whose mother said he really wanted to meet the gymnast. "It was also my first time meeting someone outside my family that has that outside my family that has that disease. That was so cool to see that. And, you know, he was just so happy."

gold medal in thriller AP SAINT-QUENTIN-EN-YVELINES (FRANCE) Cottie Scheffler was a model

were assured.

of calm and greatness as he delivered the greatest closing round of his career. The final two hours were about

harges and collapses, pure theater that ended Sunday with the Olympic gold medal fittingly draped around the neck of golf's No. 1 player. It was only when Scheffler stood

on the top podium, when the final few bars of the national anthem belted out across Le Golf National, that he lost control. The medal dangling beneath his right hand fixed across his chest, Scheffler raised his left arm to cover the sobs.

Tears are nothing new for Scheffler. His latest trophy brought out his very best. Four shots behind to start the final round, six shots behind early on the back nine, Scheffler birdied five of six holes down the

one-shot victory over Tommy Fleetwood. "It's been a long week. It's been a challenging week. I played some great golf today, and I'm proud to be going home with a medal," Scheffler said. "These

stretch and matched the course

record with a 9-under 62 for a

guys played tremendous golf and I think we should all be proud of the golf that we played this week." It was a show-stopper, the best of the three men's competitions since golf returned to the Olympic program in 2016 before 30,000 spectators that got their euros' worth.

The remarkable surge by Scheffler, who shot 29 on the back nine. The relentless play of Fleetwood (66) and Hideki Matsuvama, who had birdie chances on the final six holes and had to settle for pars for a 65 to win the bronze.

And there was a stunning collapse by Jon Rahm, who saw a four-shot lead disappear in two holes and his hopes vanish with a double bogey; by Rory McIlroy, one shot behind until hitting wedge into the water; and by Xander Schauffele, the PGA and British Open champion who had a chance to win another gold until playing a four-hole

stretch in 4-over par.
Not to be overlooked was Victor Perez of France, who hit the opening tee shot on Thursday and came within one shot of a medal on Sunday. He should know the lyrics to "La Marseillaise" if he didn't already. Fans serenaded him on just about every tee.

# High jumper Yaroslava wins Ukraine's 1st individual gold of Paris Olympics

**AP** ■ SAINT-DENIS (FRANCE)

t was a night for war-torn Ukraine to reioice.

Thousands of Ukrainians watched on YouTube as high jumper Yaroslava Mahuchikh won gold for the country she was forced to flee, then celebrated with two teammates who also medaled at the Paris Olympics on Sunday.

Iryna Gerashchenko shared bronze in the high jump and Mykhaylo Kokhan then claimed a bronze in the hammer throw, too - doubling Ukraine's Olympic medal haul from three to six in the span of about

"Medals are very important for Ukraine because the people are having a very happy time, and they can cheer us and they can celebrate this with us and not think about the war for one day," Kokhan said.

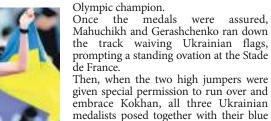
Mahuchikh, who left her home due to the war with Russia, earned Ukraine's first



individual gold of these Summer Games, following a victory in women's team saber fencing on Saturday.

She is from Dnipro, a city of nearly 1 million located only about 100 kilometers (60 miles) from the front lines of the war. When Russia invaded, she piled as much as she could into her car and left town quickly. On her way out, she heard gunfire and could, at times, see shells raining down miles away.

The next time she returns, it will be as an



and yellow flags.

It wasn't all about celebrating, though. Mahuchikh also recalled the "almost 500 sportsman (who) died in this war.

They will never compete. They will never celebrate. They will never feel this atmosphere," she said, adding that her gold medal is "really for all of them."

Mahuchikh succeeds Tokyo gold medalist Maria Lasitskene, a Russian who - along with everyone else from her country - has been banned from track and field's international events since the country

### Boxer Cindy becomes first athlete competing as refugee to clinch Olympic medal **AP** ■ VILLEPINTE (FRANCE) athletes making up the biggest Refugee Olympic Team since the idea champion Tammara Thibeault of refugees and displaced people," U.N. Canada in her first bout, entered her $B_{\text{by becoming the first athlete}}^{\text{oxer Cindy Ngamba made history}}$ was born ahead of the 2016 Summer Sunday match aggressively against Grandi congratulated Ngamba, writing on X: "You do us all very, very proud! And now onward to gold." Michel, quickly dodging the French boxer's swipes. Michel received Games in Rio de Janeiro. The International Olympic Committee Olympic medal. created the team as a way for deafening cheers from French fans, The 25-year-old originally from Cameroon offered hope for the displaced athletes and migrants to



to the semifinals Friday night. She She told reporters Sunday that she struggled when she first moved to the will face Atheyna Bylon, who U.K., going from a bubbly kid in ensured that Panama would get its fourth-ever Olympic medal with her Cameroon to an introvert as she learned English and adapted to her new home. She said she found her own win shortly after Ngamba's fight. "It means the world to me to be the home in boxing and on the Olympic first ever refugee to win a medal," Ngamba told reporters. "I want to say to all the refugees around the world ... Keep on working hard, keep on

federations.

"I had my family and my team by my side every day," she said. "The refugee team welcomed me with open arms.' Ngamba, who upset former world She was a flag bearer for the 37



while Ngamba said she heard boos in

North Paris Arena. "I think I only listened to boos as I walked into the ring," Ngamba said, adding that the spectators were just another group of people who didn't believe in her throughout her journey to get where she is todav.

While some of the athletes on the refugee team have already won Olympic medals for their countries in past Games, Ngamba has been seen as the team's best chance at medaling in Paris.

The success of Ngamba and other athletes on the refugee team comes at a time of record migration and as 100 million people around the world have been forcibly displaced from their homes. The Refugee Olympic Team has nearly quadrupled in size since its debut.

The team is "a symbol of inclusion, of equality, of achievement for a large community around the world of

High Commissioner for Refugees Filippo Grandi told the AP in an

The refugee team was among the first Olympic delegations to cruise along the Seine River in the opening ceremony last week.

Ngamba's victory comes as women's boxing has drawn intense scrutiny in recent days as fighters Lin Yu-ting of Taiwan and Imane Khelif of Algeria faced a cascade of online abuse, with comments falsely describing them as transgender or men. Both boxers won their fights this weekend as the IOC backed both women and warned against turning the competition into a "witch hunt."

Looking forward to her next match, Ngamba wants to keep sending a message of hope to refugees everywhere, saying that while she's got at least a bronze medal locked down, she's going for gold.

"Hopefully in the next round, I will get the job done - not hopefully.