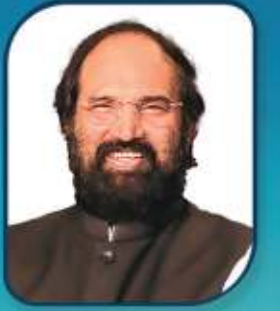




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15th AUGUST

RYTHU SWARAJYAM in TELANGANA

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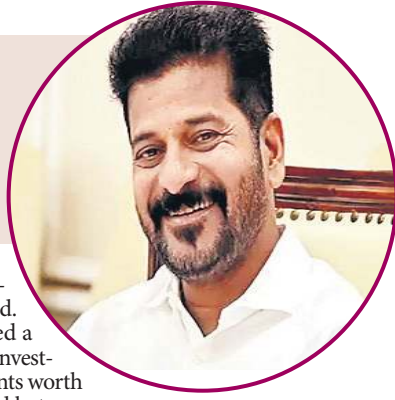
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TG bags investments worth Rs 81,564 crore in 8 months

- January – Davos trip – Rs 40,232 crore
- February to July– Agreements worth Rs 9,800 crore
- August– US tour – Rs31,532 crore



PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Telangana has reportedly secured an impressive Rs 81,564 crore in investments in the last eight months, setting a new benchmark for the state, CMO sources said.

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's proactive efforts, including his recent foreign tours, have been instrumental in achieving this milestone, officials said.

Sources claimed that during his 10-day tour to China in 2015 former Chief Minister KCR could bag only investments worth Rs 1,160 crore. Of this, only investments worth Rs 160 crore by Celkon materi-

alised, TG government sources claimed.

The state witnessed a substantial inflow of investments, with agreements worth Rs 9,800 crore signed between February and July this year, followed by an additional Rs 36,000 crore during the CM's visits to the United States and South Korea.

Earlier, in January, Revanth Reddy's participation in the World Economic Forum's annual meeting in Davos laid the groundwork for investments worth Rs 40,232 crore.

Sources said that these efforts have now positioned Telangana as a prime investment destination attracting significant glob-

al interest.

In South Korea, the focus was on key sectors like automobiles, electronics, semiconductors, energy storage and textiles. Hyundai Motors, for example, is committed to establishing a mega automotive testing centre in Telangana and plans to set up its Research and Development Centre in Hyderabad, positioning it as a global hub.

Other companies like Youngone Corporation, involved in textile manufactur-

ing at the Warangal Mega Textile Park, announced plans for a Fashion City in Hyderabad.

Several South Korean firms like Dongbang Pharma, JI Tech, and Chaevi revealed their investment plans in areas ranging from API manufacturing to LED material production and EV charging infrastructure.

The Chief Minister's delegation also held talks with leaders of the LS Group, POSCO, LG, Samsung C&T, Samsung Healthcare, Krafton, U U Pharma and GS Caltex and asked them to consider Telangana for their future projects. These foreign tours have not only brought in significant investments but have also bolstered Telangana's reputation as a leading investment hub in India.

With investments worth Rs 81,564 crore secured within a short time, the state's strategic initiatives continue to draw global attention, promising rapid industrial growth.

Govt confers IPS on 8 officers in Telangana

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has approved the selection list for years 2022 and 2023, consisting of eight officers from the state police service of Telangana for filling up the Telangana cadre of the Indian Police Service (IPS). The list was prepared by the selection committee at its meeting held on July 23, 2024.

In the year 2022, the select-officers were Y. Saisekhar and Ch. Samay Jan Rao. According to the official gazette, they have been included in the list provisionally subject to clearance in the disciplinary proceeding pending against them and subject to the grant of integrity certificate by the state.

Ch. Samay Jan Rao has been included in the list provisionally subject to clearance in the criminal proceedings pending against him.

For 2023, B. Ram Reddy, Ch. Sridhar, S. Chaitanya Kumar, A. Bhaskar, K. Narasimha and K. Shilpavalli were selected by the selection committee.

Bhatti urges swift action to fix power generation issues

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu asked electricity department officials to enforce strong measures to prevent technical issues in power generation.

During a review of the electricity department at the Mahatma Jyothiba Pule Praja Bhavan on Wednesday, Bhatti stressed the importance of maintaining uninterrupted power supply and addressing problems swiftly.

He said that a three-member technical committee should



be constituted to address technical snags in Genco's power generation units. This committee will be responsible for conducting field inspections, identifying issues and recommending corrective actions.

He instructed the Genco CMD to act on the committee's

findings to prevent disruptions in power generation.

He highlighted discussions regarding the Bhadradi Thermal Power Station's Unit-1 where the committee is evaluating whether to repair the generator transformer or buy a new one.

He stressed the need to submit a report on the implementation of decisions taken by the BRS government before December 2023 and emphasised that CMDs should consult the Energy Secretary before proceeding with these decisions.

CM to visit Delhi on August 17

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy is likely to visit New Delhi on August 17. During his visit, he is expected to discuss several key issues with senior party leaders, including the appointment of a new PCC Chief, Cabinet expansion, filling of nominated posts and the induction of MLAs.

Senior party leaders have already advised Revanth to complete the appointment of the PCC chief and expand the Cabinet within the auspicious month of Shravana. Party sources indicate that discussions on these issues might conclude this meeting.

Thai PM removed from office by court order over an ethics violation

PNS ■ BANGKOK

A court in Thailand on Wednesday removed Prime Minister Srettha Thavisin from office over an ethical violation, further shaking up Thai politics after the court-ordered dissolution of the main opposition party a week ago.

The case for which the Constitutional Court judged Srettha involved his appointment of a Cabinet member who had been imprisoned over an alleged attempt to bribe a court official.

The court voted 5:4 against



Srettha.

The Cabinet will remain in place on a caretaker basis until Parliament approves a new prime minister. There is no time limit for Parliament to fill the position. Srettha had appointed Pichit Chuenban as a Minister of the Prime

Minister's Office in a Cabinet reshuffle in April. Pichit was jailed for six months in 2008 on contempt of court charges after he allegedly tried to bribe a judge with 2 million baht (USD 55,000) in cash in a grocery bag over a case involving former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra. Pichit resigned from the post weeks after being appointed when controversy over the incident was revived.

The court said that although Pichit has already served his jail term, it said that his behaviour, as ruled by the Supreme Court, was dishonest.

Stree Nidhi approves Rs 2,520 cr loan plan for 2024-25

Stree Nidhi announces ambitious financial goals at 11th General Body Meeting

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The 11th General Body Meeting of the Stree Nidhi Credit Cooperative Federation Limited was held on Wednesday at the Professor Jayashankar Agricultural University Auditorium, in Rajendranagar Hyderabad.

The meeting was graced by

Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Minister Danasari Anasuya Sitakka, who outlined the government's commitment to uplifting the financial status of women through the Indira Mahila Shakti policy. Addressing the gathering of presidents from various rural and urban federations

across the state, Anasuya emphasized the critical role of Stree Nidhi in providing financial services aimed at improving the economic and social status of its members.

"Members should not borrow from private individuals or microfinance institutions under any circumstances," she stressed, urging federations to

ensure loans are procured only through Stree Nidhi and banks. Anasuya also said that the government would allocate the required land for the construction of a new Stree Nidhi office. Her statement highlighted the government's efforts to bolster the financial institution's infrastructure to support its growing operations.

Boost or...

Continued from page 3

Pronouncing the verdict on behalf of the bench, CJI Chandrachud said by a 8:1 majority, this court had on July 25 answered the questions referred to it and held that legislative power to tax mineral rights vests with states.

He said after the pronouncement of the July 25 verdict, the assesses sought prospective effect of the decision and the matter was listed on July 31 to decide the effect of verdict.

The Centre has opposed the demand of states for refund of royalty levied on mines and minerals since 1989, saying it will impact the citizens and the PSUs will have to empty their coffers by Rs 70,000 crore according to initial estimates. "The submission that the Mineral Area Development Authority Act (MADA July 25 verdict) be given prospective effect is rejected," the bench said and laid down conditionalities for payment of dues by the Centre

and mining companies, including Public Sector Undertakings, to the states.

"While the states may levy or renew demands of tax, if any pertaining to Entries 49 and 50 of List II of seventh schedule of the Constitution, in terms of law laid down in the decision of MADA (July 25 verdict)."

The demand of tax shall not operate on transactions made prior to April 1, 2005," the bench said.

Entry 49 of List II deals with taxes on lands and buildings while Entry 50 deals with taxes on mineral rights subject to any limitations imposed by Parliament by law relating to mineral development.

The bench also comprising justices Hrishikesh Roy, Abhay Misra, Ujjal Bhuyan, Satish Chandra Sharma and Augustine George Masih, said "the time for payment of demand of tax (by states) shall be staggered in instalments over a period of 12 years commencing from April 1, 2026."

Arrears may be...

Continued from page 3

The Supreme Court on Wednesday upheld the power of states to levy tax on mineral rights and mineral-bearing land, and allowed them to seek refund of royalty from April 1, 2005 onwards. According to a senior mines ministry official, the verdict will have a very large financial impact on mining, steel, power and coal companies. "The

investment of the companies operating in mining, power and steel sectors will also be hit," the official said. According to Miners' body FIMI, the Indian mining sector is already saddled with the highest taxation in the world. The judgement of the Supreme Court of 25th July, 2024 has given unbridled powers to States for imposing various taxes and levies, said B K Bhatia, Additional Secretary General FIMI.

Nation reverberates with protests Doctors demand changes in laws

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Doctors took to the streets all over India on Wednesday to demand sweeping changes in laws regarding the protection of healthcare professionals, after a lady post-graduate medical student was raped and murdered last week at a government-run hospital in Kolkata.

The state-owned All India Radio, CBI's forensic experts and medical officers were expected to visit the RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, where authorities found the body of the 31-year-old resi-



dent doctor in a seminar hall on Friday.

Police said the woman's body showed signs of sexual abuse as well as many injuries, and that one suspect has been arrested.

A wave of anger broke in Kolkata last week as doctors, who have long complained

about working conditions in India's rundown, overcrowded government hospitals declared a strike bringing elective medical procedures to a standstill.

CBI TEAM BEGINS PROBE

■ KOLKATA

A 25-member special team of the CBI led by an additional director on Wednesday began its investigation into the alleged rape and murder of a doctor at a state-run hospital in West Bengal as the agency took custody of the key accused, officials said.

AIMIM objects to HYDRAA formation, questions its legality

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

In a strongly worded letter addressed to the GHMC Mayor, the All India Majlis-e-Mullehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) Standing Committee objected to the formation of the Hyderabad Disaster Response and Emergency Management Authority (HYDRAA). Meeting GHMC Mayor Gadwal Vijayalaxmi and Commissioner Amrapali Kata, members of the AIMIM Standing Committee insisted on calling an urgent special meeting of the GHMC Council to discuss the matter.

Govt suspends 4..

Continued from page 3

Chief General Manager (Engineering), B. Maria Raj, General Manager (Engineering), N. Prashant, Deputy General Manager (Engineering), and KVP Harish, Manager (Engineering), have been suspended. This decision was taken by Dana Kishore, the Principal Secretary of the Municipal Administration and

Urban Development Department, after an internal investigation that highlighted technical lapses and negligence.

In addition to these actions, show-cause notices have been issued to the construction company responsible for the project's execution. The notices demanded an explanation for the structural failure and warned that further legal and administrative actions may be

taken based on their response. The government expects a detailed reply from the company, justifying its role and addressing the technical issues that led to the incident. A show-cause notice has been issued to Megha Engineering Infrastructure, the contractor.

A high-level committee was constituted by the HMWSSB to investigate the circumstances leading to the collapse.

Three TG IPS officers...

Continued from page 3

He was named for the 'President's Medal for Gallantry' for showing rare gallantry in a robbery case on July 25, 2022.

The Cyberabad Police on July 26, 2022, apprehended Ishan Niranjana Neelamall and Rahul who were involved in chain snatching and arms dealing. However, they attacked Yadaiah with a knife and repeatedly stabbed him on various parts of his chest, left hand and stomach

which led to bleeding injuries. Despite severe injuries, he managed to catch and hold on to them, resulting in new fears. He had to be hospitalized for 17 days, said a statement from the Home Ministry. On the whole, 21 police medals were announced for the State police, which also includes seven Medals For Gallantry, two Presidents' Medal for Distinguished Service and 11 Medals for Meritorious Service.

Among the others who were given the Medal for Meritorious

Service (MSM) are Syed Jameel Basha, Commandant, P. Krishna Murthy, Additional Superintendent of Police, Komarabattini Ramu, sub-inspector, Abdul Rafeeq, sub-inspector, Ikram ab kham, sub-inspector, Shrinivasa Mishra, sub-inspector, Kunchala Balakrishnaiah, sub-inspector, A Lakshmaiah, Assistant Sub Inspector, Gunti Venkateshwarlu, assistant sub-inspector, Nuthalapati Gnana Sundari, Inspector.

TODAY

ALMANAC

Month & Paksham:	Sukla Paksha
Tithi: Dashami:	Aug 14 10:24 AM to Aug 15 10:27 AM
Ekadashi:	Aug 15 10:27 AM to Aug 16 09:39 AM
Nakshatram:	
Jyeshtha:	Aug 14 12:12 PM to Aug 15 12:52 PM
Moola:	Aug 15 12:52 PM to Aug 16 12:43 PM
Rahukalam:	1:54 PM to 3:29 PM
Yamagandam:	6:02 AM to 7:37 AM
Varjyam:	11:08 AM to 12:43 PM
Gulika:	9:11 AM to 10:46 AM
Amritakalam:	None
Ahijit Muhurtham:	11:55 AM to 12:45 PM

HYDERABAD WEATHER

Forecast: Scattered Showers
Temp: 32°
Humidity: 72%
Sunrise: 5:59 AM
Sunset: 6:42 AM
Updated: August 14, 2024 5:00 PM

'No competition...

Continued from page 3

"I am happy to share that every business leader and corporate executive we met during our tour expressed a positive outlook towards investing in Telangana, particularly in Hyderabad," he said.

The Chief Minister also introduced the concept of "Future State Telangana," outlining plans for the development of three key zones in the state: the core urban area of Hyderabad, a semi-urban manufacturing hub, and rural Telangana outside the Regional Ring Road.

"We will develop some of the best villages in Asia in this rural zone, equipped with all modern amenities," Revanth

CAS rejects...

Continued from page 3

Assuring full support to Cognizant's expansion plans, Revanth emphasised the importance of Hyderabad's growth as a global IT hub. "Cognizant holds a special place in Hyderabad, and I promise our full support to its growth," he said.

Reflecting on the city's IT journey, he credited former leaders like Rajiv Gandhi, Chandrababu Naidu and YS Rajasekhara Reddy for their contributions to the city's development.

Looking ahead, the Chief Minister announced plans for the development of a new "Future City" in Hyderabad, to be developed alongside Hyderabad, Secunderabad and Cyberabad.

A boon for TG...

Continued from page 3

Between 2016 and November 2023, Rs 7,436 crore were spent on the project with Rs. 5,472 crore sourced from bank loans and Rs 1,964 crore as the government's share.

Despite spending Rs 7,400 crore, the work was left incomplete, and the KCR government failed to provide irrigation even to a single acre, leaving the project underutilized. Less than 40 per cent of the work was completed under BRS rule. However, the Congress government, under the leadership of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy, revived the project within six months of coming to power.

The remaining works were completed on a war footing, with successful dry and wet run trials conducted on June 26 and 27, respectively. The new government took a forward-think-

Third phase of...

Continued from page 3

ing approach, focusing on maximizing the use of available water.

Discussions were held to prevent the investment in Seetharama from going to waste, and during a visit to Bhadrachalam, the Chief Minister proposed the Rajiv Gandhi Link Canal.

The government successfully connected the Seetharama Project water to the Nagarjuna Sagar canal through an 8.6 km link canal (Rajiv Canal) at a cost of just Rs 75 crore, completed within three months.

In the last nine months, the Congress government released Rs 482 crore for power supply, pumping stations and other unfinished work left by the BRS administration.

The Rajiv Link Canal, which is expected to provide irrigation to nearly 1.5 lakh acres, will be inaugurated by Chief Minister

Third phase of...

Continued from page 3

Revanth Reddy on August 15 at Wyra.

This development will address the water shortage for farmers in the Nagarjuna Sagar Left Canal area and provide irrigation water to the new ayacut.

BRS leaders, who had earlier left pump houses and half-dug canals unfinished, are now falsely claiming credit for the project's progress, despite their previous negligence.

The Chief Minister of Telangana, Revanth Reddy, is scheduled to visit Bhadrachalam and Khammam districts on Thursday that is, August 15, 2024.

According to the official itinerary, the Chief Minister will depart from Begumpet Airport at 11:45 am and is expected to arrive at the helipad at Pusugudem in Mulkalapally Mandal of Bhadrachalam district at 12:50 pm.

Third phase of...

Continued from page 3

where he is expected to officially declare the completion of loan waivers up to Rs 2 lakh for farmers.

The CM is expected to attend a farmers' meeting and waive loans taken by farmers with outstanding debts between Rs 1.5 lakh and Rs 2 lakh. On July 18, the government released Rs 6,034.97 crore to waive loans for 11.5 lakh farmers with debts up to Rs 1 lakh each. The second phase followed on July 30, with Rs 6,190.01 crore allocated to cover loans for 6.4 lakh farmers with debts up to Rs 1.5 lakh each. This initiative, which has been a key promise of the state government, is expected to benefit thousands of farmers in the district, alleviating their financial burden and supporting agricultural productivity.

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India, Russia focus on reducing non-tariff barriers: Commerce Secy

CREATING
ESSENCE OF 'ARTH' WITH ROOM FOR 'ART'



GV Prakash reveals spending 50 days re-recording music for **THANGALAN**



QUOTE OF THE DAY
The pioneer

"Our competition is not with Andhra Pradesh or Karnataka or Tamil Nadu. There is no city like Hyderabad in neighbouring states, and we have no competition with them. We have Hyderabad, ORR, RGI Airport and the environment. "I am happy to share that every business leader and corporate executive we met during our tour expressed a positive outlook towards investing in Telangana, particularly in Hyderabad."

- Revanth Reddy, Chief Minister

'No competition from neighbouring states'

CM says TG to be trillion-dollar economy in 10 yrs

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy declared that the state's focus is on becoming a trillion-dollar economy in the next decade, asserting that Telangana faces no competition from neighbouring states like Andhra Pradesh or Karnataka.

Speaking at the inauguration of Cognizant's new campus in Hyderabad, Revanth emphasised that Telangana's growth trajectory is aimed at competing on a global scale and not merely with other Indian states.

"Our competition is not with Andhra Pradesh or Karnataka or Tamil Nadu. There is no city like

Hyderabad in neighbouring states, and we have no competition with them. We have Hyderabad, ORR, RGI Airport and the environment," the Chief Minister said.

He reiterated that Telangana's economic ambitions are aligned with global standards, as the state continues to attract significant investments from international corporations.

Fresh from a 10-day tour of the United States and South Korea, Revanth highlighted the success of the trip which resulted in Rs 31,500 crore worth investments and over 30,750 new jobs for Telangana.

2

A boon for TG irrigation

CM Revanth set to roll out Sitarama Project today • Will benefit farmers of Khammam, Kothagudem, Mahabubabad dists

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Sitarama Lift Irrigation Project, constructed on the right bank of the Godavari River at Dummugudem in Aswapuram Mandal, Bhadradi Kothagudem district, is all set to benefit farmers across Khammam, Kothagudem and Mahabubabad districts. The project aims to provide irrigation water, drinking water, and industrial water to the region. The initiative also includes plans to integrate this water supply with the Nagarjuna Sagar ayacut, along with Wyra, Lanka Sagar, and Palair projects, ensuring stabilization of the ayacut in these areas.

The overall target is to supply water to a total of 6.73 lakh acres,



combining 3.28 lakh acres of new ayacut and 3.45 lakh acres of existing ayacut. The BRS government had issued administrative approvals for the project with an estimated cost of Rs 18,286 crore.

2

Third phase of loan waiver today

In a significant move aimed at providing relief to farmers, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy will announce the completion of the much-awaited crop loan waiver scheme during his visit to Wyra town in Khammam district on Thursday, the 15th of August, 2024. The Chief Minister's visit, part of a broader development tour in the region, will culminate in a public meeting at Wyra.

Continued on Page 2

Three TG IPS officers get Police Medals



DGP Dr Jitender felicitating Head Constable Chaduvu Yadaiah who received President's Medal for Gallantry

Cyberabad Commissioner Mohanty with Head Constable Yadaiah

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Three Indian Police Service officers of Telangana were awarded police medals by the Union Home Ministry on Wednesday.

The officers are Sunil Dutt, IPS, SP rank officer who got Gallantry (GM) Medal, Sanjay Kumar Jain, Additional Director General President's Medal who got

Distinguished Service and Avinash Mohanty, IPS, the Commissioner of Cyberabad for the Medal who got Meritorious Service (MSM).

The highest honour went to Head Constable Chaduvu Yadaiah of the Telangana Police who was awarded the President's Medal for Gallantry (PMG).

2

Boost for mineral-rich states

SC allows them to seek tax dues on minerals

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In a major victory for mineral-rich states, the Supreme Court on Wednesday allowed them to seek dues from April 1, 2005 on royalty and tax on mineral rights and mineral-bearing land from the Centre in



a staggered period of 12 years.

A nine-judge Constitution bench headed by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud said the argument for prospective effect of July 25 is rejected.

Continued on Page 2

Arrears may be up to Rs 2 lakh cr

The Supreme Court verdict on mining royalty case will give a further jolt to the Indian mining industry and will have very large financial implications, as arrears may work out to the tune of more than Rs 1.5 lakh crore to Rs 2 lakh crore, industry players said on Wednesday.

Continued on Page 2

OLYMPIC DISQUALIFICATION

CAS rejects Vinesh's appeal



PNS ■ PARIS

Indian wrestler Vinesh Phogat's appeal against her disqualification from Olympic Games final has been rejected by the ad-hoc division of the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS), the IOA said on Wednesday and lashed out at "inhumane regulations" that fail to consider the "physiological and psychological stresses faced by athletes".

2

SUNKISHALA CRASH

Govt suspends 4 officials

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Responding to the recent collapse of the Sunkishala Intake Well, the Telangana government suspended some officials and has decided to order more investigations.

The incident, which occurred on August 2, 2024, has led to repercussions within the Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply &

Sewerage Board (HMWSSB).

Sudarshan, the Project Director, has been transferred to a non-focal post, marking the first in a series of actions taken against those deemed responsible for the incident.

Four senior officers directly involved in the project, that is, S. Kiran Kumar,

2

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CITY EVENTS

Kanakavalli Hyderabad The Vault Exhibit of Exquisite Silk Saris

Venue Plot No. 388-A, Road No.22, Jubilee Hills, Hyderabad, Time: 9 am onwards August 15

NCC HQ Secunderabad Har Ghar Tiranga celebration

Venue NCC Headquarters, Secunderabad Time: 6 am August 15

Sairam New Travel

Independence Day celebration

Venue Aromale cafe and creative community Times: 6am August 15

Marut Drone Academy signs MoU with UAMMCL

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Hyderabad-based Marut Drone Academy has signed an MoU with Unati Agri Allied and Marketing Multi-State Cooperative Society Limited (UAMMCL) to establish the first drone training academy in rural Punjab.

Located at MRPD Government College in Talwara, Hoshiarpur district, the Unati Marut Drone Academy is the region's first Remote Pilot Training Organization (RPTO).

The Academy will offer a range of courses, including a DGCA-certified Drone Training Course, Agriculture Drone Spraying, and Drone Repair and Maintenance. Aimed at promoting skill development in rural areas, it will train 200 individuals each year and help graduates find jobs.

Hospitals staff demand salary dues

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Staff of various services in hospitals coming under the Telangana Vaidya Vidhana Parishad (TVVP) called for an agitation as they are not being paid salaries and bills for the last six months. Telangana Medical Contract Employees and Workers Union have submitted a representation to the officials that they are not being paid the salaries which is causing problems to them.

Due to the pending dues the contractors are not paying the salaries to the workers.

City Pioneer



HYDERABAD THURSDAY | AUGUST 15, 2024

04

Medicos demand enhanced security

Lady doctors air their distressing experiences while on duty at Hyd Gandhi Hospital

DEEPIKA PASHAM deepikapasham2015@gmail.com ■ HYDERABAD

Hundreds of lady post-graduates, senior residents and super speciality resident doctors at the Gandhi Hospital joined the Telangana Junior Doctors Association (T-JUDA) protest and boycotted OPD and elective OT services on Wednesday in protest against the rape and murder of an on-duty lady doctor at the RG Kar Medical College, Kolkata.

Some shared their distressing experiences while on duty. They demanded increased security, resting rooms with CCTV surveillance and stricter entry controls for outsiders on the hospital premises.

Minister Seethakka took part in the protest and said that the demands must be met.

Dr Hima Bindu, a second-year postgraduate student at the Gandhi Hospital, told with 'The Pioneer' that she was followed by two unknown men while walking to her hostel at night after duty.

She described the unsafe conditions, including walking through areas with stray dogs and drunkards and the total lack of security. She recounted an incident when a drunken man locked a lady doctor inside a washroom a week ago.

Dr HariPriya, a Senior Resident, echoed similar concerns, noting the absence of even basic facilities. She said that during the Covid-19 pandemic, an



Postgraduates, senior residents and super speciality residents protesting at the Gandhi Hospital

outsider entered a female washroom and stole a doctor's mobile phone.

Despite these issues, nothing has improved and the hospital still doesn't have adequate resting

rooms, no proper CCTV coverage and no drinking water. Both doctors emphasised the need for better safety and facilities for female staff.

Other lady doctors said that undergraduates must be bold to question the mental and physical abuse which outsiders direct at lady doctors.

A senior doctor said how she had changed from

being modest to bold by the end of her internship.

'While pursuing internship at the Gandhi Hospital I was only a hostel-bound hospital girl, but by the end of it I had become bold. The reason is that we hear comments and threats of physical abuse.'

'When we are on the road walking towards or walking inside the campus, people who pass by pass comments against us. The attendants and outsourced employees must be taught how to behave,' she said.

Most of the protesting doctors including men said that if lady doctors are facing problems in the city's government hospitals then the conditions in government hospitals in rural areas will be more shocking.

Priority for visible policing: Rachakonda CP

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

After taking charge as the Police Commissioner of Rachakonda, Sudhir Babu is giving high priority to visible policing in the jurisdiction of the Commissionerate and is taking measures to maintain peace and security in a new way. As a part of this, the CP visited NTR Nagar area under LB Nagar division on Wednesday to inspire the staff who are performing duties at the field level.

He interacted with the local people in many streets and inquired about their problems. The police officers and personnel are working with commitment at all times for the maintenance of law and order in Rachakonda area and in case of any emergency one

can complain to the police through dialing 100 and 112 toll free numbers without fear. It is stated that teams of She teams will be on duty in all areas for the protection of women.

Officers and staff are being guided to make police services more accessible to the people and to increase public confidence in the police system.

Sudheer Babu stated that it is advised to talk to the staff on duty and work with the people and treat them in a friendly manner. Those who cause trouble to the common people have been ordered to be brought under control.

LB Nagar DCP Praveen Kumar IPS, Maheshwaram DCP Sunitha Reddy, DCP SOT Muralidhar, Traffic DCP Srinivas and other officers

Metro's move to trigger uproar

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The L&T Metro Rail Hyderabad announced that it would introduce parking charges at Nagole Metro Station starting from August 25 and at Miyapur Metro Station on September 1. On Wednesday, the metro authority conducted a trial run of parking fees at Nagole and it led to commuters staging a protest.

Commuters at the station protested, shouting slogans 'L&T Down Down' and 'We Want Justice.' Many argued that with the metro ticket already costing Rs. 40, adding parking fees would double their expenses, saying it is unfair.



Commuters staging a protest against L&T Metro levying parking fee at Nagole Metro station on Wednesday

The sudden introduction of parking charges led to heated arguments between commuters and parking attendants as well as with metro staff and managers. In

response, L&T released a statement expressing regret for the inconvenience caused.

The L&T Metro Rail Hyderabad explained that the parking fees are

intended to ensure organized parking, with separate areas for two-wheelers and four-wheelers. The charges would also fund improved amenities, including bio-toilets, 24/7 CCTV surveillance, on-ground security, and better lighting. The new parking fees for two-wheelers will be Rs 10 for up to two hours, Rs 25 for up to eight hours, and Rs 40 for up to 12 hours, with an additional Rs 5 for each extra hour. For four-wheelers, the fees will be Rs 30 for up to two hours, Rs 75 for up to eight hours, and Rs 120 for up to 12 hours, with an extra charge of Rs 15 for each additional hour.

Food Safety Commission flags cockroach infestation in hotels

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Telangana Food Safety Commission inspected several restaurants in Begumpet and found multiple violations.

The Task Force conducted inspection at the Manohar Hotel and discovered a live cockroach infestation in both the kitchen and storeroom. The officials also found expired food items, such as Tooty Fruity (expired



Expired food item in a hotel kitchen

(expired 04/2024), which were immediately discarded. The kitchen had water stagnation issues, and food was improperly labeled. Spoiled vegetables were also found and discarded. Bread was stored uncovered in the cold room. Additionally, medical fitness certificates for food handlers and water analysis reports were missing.

Later on, the task force inspected Bowl O China Restaurant, rat feces were

found in the storage area, and the FSSAI license was not displayed. The restaurant lacked pest control records, and food handlers did not have medical fitness certificates. Food was stored uncovered, and insect-proof screens were missing on windows and doors.

The task force also inspected New Urvasi Bar and Restaurant and found a cockroach infestation in the kitchen.

TGSRTC paying kilometre-based charge to electric vehicle

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Telangana State Road Transport Corporation (TGSRTC) said that the TGSRTC has been paying electric buses companies kilometre-based charges.

On Wednesday the TGSRTC released a press statement saying that electric buses cannot be plied on all routes. The

TGSRTC identified the routes based on the efficiency of the electric vehicles. Like the private hire buses, all the electric buses run under the TGSRTC. The ticket fare would be collected by the corporation. Then, the TGSRTC would pay to electric vehicle companies based on kilometers they traveled as per the agreement.

Osmania University celebrates National Space Day

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Osmania University in collaboration with Telangana State Academy of Skills and Training (TSAT), Department of Information Technology, Electronics and Communication (ITE&C) organised National Space Day 2024 on Tuesday. The theme for this year's celebration was 'Touching Lives While Touching the Moon: India's Space Saga.'

Prof P Chandrasekar, Principal, UCE, presided over the event as the President, while Prof. P. Naveen Kumar served as the Convener. The distinguished gathering included Dr P Sreelatha, Scientist/Engineer G Head, HRDD, MSA, VSSC, ISRO, P Pradeep Kumar, Deputy Head, ASCD, Digital Systems Group, Avionics Entity, VSSC, ISRO; Ashok, Retired IAS and former Collector of Adilabad, and E. Gattiah, President of Citizens Council, as guests of honour.

Prof P Naveen Kumar emphasised the significance of National Space Day and underscored Osmania University's collaborations with ISRO. He inspired students to explore the diverse activities undertaken by ISRO organizations across the country.

Prof P Chandrasekar congratulated Prof P Naveen Kumar for organising the event to mark the successful Chandrayaan-3 mission.



Dignitaries Dr P Sreelatha, Prof P Naveen Kumar, P Pradeep Kumar, E Gattiah, Prof P Chandrasekar and Ashok along with students at the National Space Day celebrations at Osmania University in Hyderabad

He highlighted the university's state-of-the-art infrastructure and facilities that support students in space research.

P Pradeep Kumar expressed his delight at being part of the celebrations and highlighted the pivotal role of Dr. Vikram Sarabhai in India's space technology development. He emphasised ISRO's global leadership in space research, citing achievements such as the discovery of water on the moon, the first landing on the moon's South Pole, and Mars missions. Encouraging stu-

dents to think critically, he presented a comprehensive overview of ISRO's past, present, and future endeavors.

Dr P Sreelatha also emphasised the importance of National Space Day and detailed the activities of various ISRO and research centers. She highlighted opportunities for students and researchers to collaborate with ISRO and encouraged early engagement through programs for students from Class 9 onwards.

E Gattiah extended his best wishes to ISRO and felicitated the dignitaries with the Dr Vikram Sarabhai Memorial Award for 2024.

Two SCR RPF personnel secure prestigious police medals

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Two Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel of South Central Railway have been bestowed with the prestigious Indian Police Medal on the occasion of 78th Independence Day for their outstanding and meritorious services. The awardees are J Sudhakar, Assistant Sub-Inspector, Kamareddy, RPF in Hyderabad Division and Nayeem Basha Shaik, Assistant Sub-Inspector, ADM Cell, RPF in Vijayawada Division. Arun Kumar Jain, General Manager, SCR, expressed happiness at the recognition received by the RPF personnel of the Zone.

He commended their excellence and dedication towards duty and exuded confidence that the RPF will continue to excel in its primary duty of providing security to rail users and property. He called up on the staff to emulate the achievers for earning recognition with excellence in service.

J Sudhakar is presently working as RPF Assistant Sub-Inspector In-charge of Kamareddy Outpost. He has been a prolific crime investigator for more than 33 years and



J Sudhakar



Shaik Nayeem Basha

resolved several crimes over railways. His innovative approach in the detection of crime yielded huge recovery of the stolen railway property, theft of passenger belongings and tout cases.

He played a major role in busting Haryana gang in the year 2018 in the high valued theft of passenger belongings (ToPB) cases. He was instrumental in recovery of cash of Rs.12, 00,000/- including 23.2 Tula gold and 06 Laptops all together in 14 ToPB offenses in the year 2019 & 2020. He was in the Special Investigation team to assist Inquiry officers of Agnipath of Secunderabad Division and was instrumental in arresting 393 miscreants

under various sections of Railway Act in the Agnipath scheme.

Shaik Nayeem Basha, Assistant Sub-Inspector, Analytical Data Management Cell, Vijayawada Division has put in 28 years of distinguished and meritorious service in Railway Protection Force. He joined the Force as Constable in the year 1995 and rose to the rank of ASI, RPF with sincerity and dedication.

He is tasked with dealing with the Railway Passengers (Manner of Untoward Incident) 2020. During his stint as many as 530 claim investigation cases were sent to the Claims Branch of SCR with DRM's approval.



Children celebrating Independence Day (AI generated image)

Giving AI twist to Independence Day fete

RASHMI BHUMIREDDY ■ HYDERABAD

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is transforming every aspect of life, including cultural activities, such as festivals and celebrations.

With Independence Day around the corner, AI enthusiasts shared their ideas with The Pioneer correspondent on how one can use AI to transform the way of celebrating Independence Day in a memorable way.

R a m e s h Loganathan, a faculty from IIIT Hyderabad said, 'With the help of AI, we can visualise ourselves in some of the independence struggle events. What if you will be the part of some historic battles during pre-Independence, Independence and post-Independence? We can also get an immersive view of those times. There are metaverse players where they are recreating Parliament House on August 15 and when the constitution was unveiled. This makes the celebrations more unique and memorable to us.'

Rohit Bondugula, AI Lab, School of Computer and

Information Sciences, University of Hyderabad said, 'AI and Wireless Smart Communication Networks can greatly enhance the patriotic fervor associated with India's Independence Day by introducing innovative and engaging experiences.'

For instance, AI-powered Virtual Reality (VR) or Augmented Reality (AR) can transform historic places into live museums via immersive tours or interactive public artworks. With social media campaigns featuring AI patriotism filters and content, people can be encouraged to take pride in their nation. Interactive learning about India's freedom struggle can be made possible through AI-enabled educational platforms while virtual Independence Day events such as live streams augmented by AI or parade simulations can connect people all over the country. Furthermore, AI preserves cultural heritage through digital archives and personalised storytelling whereas its use in community engagement may include challenges and games powered by it.

PHONE TAPPING

Bhujanga Rao applies for bail on medical grounds

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

One of the accused of the phone tapping case, Bhujanga Rao, appealed the Nampally court to grant bail on medical grounds as he has heart problems. On Wednesday, the counsel for the accused submitted his health reports and documents to the court.

A source said that he had heart surgery in September 2023 at that time doctors inserted a stent in his heart. After that he had a review in May 2024, But he did not go for review as he was in jail. A few days ago,

the police took him to Osmania General Hospital (OGH) after he fell ill at the Chanchalguda jail. The court heard arguments and received the medical report of accused Bhujanga Rao. The court reserved orders on August 17.

Meanwhile, the court asked the public prosecutor about the absconded accused. The prosecutor replied that the police are on their way to bring the accused back to India. The counsel for the accused said that he has not received certain documents from the police.

Balapur Police arrest murder accused

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Acting on Technical evidence and specific information, the sleuths of Balapur Police, Maheshwaram Zone, along with IT Cell and SOT Rachakonda Police Commissionerate, cracked the mystery behind murder case and arrested the accused in Wednesday.

The accused are Shaik Mohammed Hameed (56) (Absconding), Mohammed Saleem (32), Mohammad Sultan (36), Mohammad Ghouse (28), Mohammed Ismail (25), Ahmad alias Badshah (24), Syed Inayath Ullah (44), Taufeeq Khan (37), Shaik Hussain alias Mohammad Salman (25) and Fazil (Absconding).

As per the officials, on August 9, 12:10 am

a complaint from Khaja Sirajuddin stated that they are three sons and two daughters to his parents. He is the eldest son and his brother Khaja Riyajuddin runs a footwear business in Kanchanbagh. On August 8, his brother left home at 8 am and went to Kanchanbagh on his Pulsar bike bearing No. AP 11 AT 9910 to attend his business work. On the same day, the complainant went to LB Nagar at 8 pm on some work.

After finishing his work at 9:45 pm, while he was on his way to his home in Sharifnagar by Car bearing No. TS 04 ET 9910, when he reached near Indane Gas Godown on RC1 - Mallapur road at about 10:20 pm, he noticed a gathering of some people on the road.



IMD predicts rains till August 16

PNS ■ RANGAREDDY

The city experienced heavy rainfall for almost an hour on Wednesday evening at Bachupally, Kukatapally, Miyapur, Lingampally, Nizampet, Qutbullapur, and Kondapur, according to Telangana Weatherman. The weather department forecasts a generally cloudy sky with rain or thunderstorms until August 16. The IMD has issued a Yellow Alert for thunderstorms with lightning and gusty winds of 30-40 km/h, which are likely in isolated areas of Adilabad, Komaram Bheem Asifabad, Mancheri, Karimnagar, Peddapalli, Siddipet, Sangareddy, Medak, and across all districts in Telangana.

MP allays fears over RRR alignment

PNS ■ SIDDIPET

The alignment of the proposed green field Regional Ring Road (RRR), which passes through 35 Assembly constituencies spreading over 10 districts in the State, has been uploaded into Google maps and hence the people need not entertain any doubts over its alignment, according to Medak Lok Sabha M Raghunandan Rao.

He was reviewing the implementation of the RRR with the National Highways Authority of India officials here on Wednesday.

The MP said that the Centre gave its green signal to the RRR in 2019-20, but its implementation had been delayed due to the soft-peddling on the issue by the State government. Modi attached top priority to the RRR and also allocated funds for the project.

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari wanted the RRR to be executed as a green field highway. The north phase of the RRR is classified as Phase-1 and the south phase as the Phase-2 for the purpose of



Medak Lok Sabha M Raghunandan Rao speaking at a meeting in Medak on Wednesday

execution of works.

People have misconception that with the change of government the alignment of the RRR also changes, he said exhorting the people not to give credence to such doubts.

The NHA has allotted the task of the alignment of the RRR to a private consultancy, which gave three options to the government. The government exercised the low cost of execution, high utility option.

According to it, the first phase of the RRR commences from the outskirts of Peddapur and Girmapur in Kondapur mandal of Sangareddy district.

The government sanctioned Rs 15,2239 crore. It would require acquisition of 1,933 hectares of agricultural land and 72 hectares of forest land. To acquire the lands, the Centre proposed Rs 5,000 crore.

Speaking on the occasion, there was no meaning to intelligentsia keeping mum over the attacks being carried out on minorities in the trouble-torn Bangladesh. He was participating in the Har Ghar Tiranga rally organised in Gajwel on Wednesday.

On the pretext of secularism, the intelligentsia view even the minor problems that takes place in the state from magnifying glass. Surprisingly, they kept mum over the attacks taking place on Hindus and other minorities in Bangladesh. The society has been keenly observing their gestures, he cautioned.

3-day Pavitrotsavam of Yadadri deity from Aug 16

PNS ■ YADADRI

The annual Pavitrotsavam of Lord Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy of Yadadri temple will commence from August 16.

It has been practice of the temple authorities to conduct the Pavitrotsavam for three days annually to atone for the omissions and commissions that have crept into various rituals to the deity whether knowingly or unknowingly.

All arrangements have been made to conduct the three-day ritual at the temple, according to the temple Executive Officer

Bhaskara Rao. As part of the ritual, Vishavaksena Puja, SwastiVachakam, Raksha Bandhanam, Mantra Pushpa Neerajanam, MurthiHomam will be performed, according to the temple priests.

The rituals will also be conducted at the Patagutta Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy temple. As part of these celebrations, the temple has suspended performing Arjiteva of Nitya SudarsanaHomam and Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy Kalyanam to be performed on Thursdays and Fridays.

Yadadri temple pond thrown open for public

PNS ■ YADAGIRIGUTTA

After a long-gap of 10 years, the Yadadri temple authorities introduced the bathing facility atop the Yadagirigutta hill temple in the temple pond. However, the facility comes with a fee. The temple charges Rs 500 from each devotee to have them a holy dip in the pond. The ticket offers a package of services like special darshan of the deity and a free laddu, besides allowing the ticketholder to have a dip in the temple pond. Others who did not have the ticket are allowed to sprinkle a few drops of lake water on their head.

Government whip

Beerla Ailaiah commenced the bathing in the temple pond in the deity's birth star of Swati on the first Sunday in the holy month of Sravana. He lighted a ceremonial lamp marking the commencement of bathing in the temple pond.

When the Yadadri temple was under construction, bathing in the temple pond was prohibited. Since then the devotees used to take a dip in the pond at the bottom of the hill. As the devotees are facing problems to go to the top of the hill with damp clothes to have darshan of the deity, the temple authorities have decided to allow devotees take a holy dip in the temple pond.

Collector speaks to patients upon recovery from dengue



Kamareddy Collector Ashish Sangwan visiting Lakshmiravulapalle village in Kamareddy district on Wednesday

PNS ■ KAMAREDDY

Collector Ashish Sangwan on Wednesday visited Lakshmiravulapalle village under Machareddy mandal in Kamareddy district and gathered information from the people who recently tested positive for dengue. All patients recovered.

He inspected the soundings of the houses. He advised the villagers not to store water in the drums in front of their houses for long. He asked the village Panchayat Secretary to

ity health care to the patients. He paid a surprise visit to the PHC on Wednesday. He went through the attendance register. He enquired from the PHC medical officer Adarsh the services being rendered to patients. He replied to the collector that the hospital currently has patients suffering from fever and dehydration. He inspected the medical diagnosis room, inpatient ward, pharmacy and operation theatre.

He interacted with patients enquiring them about the services being rendered to

He inspected the soundings of the houses. He advised the villagers not to store water in the drums in front of their houses for long. He asked the village Panchayat Secretary to keep the drainages clean and got the fogging done daily.

He asked the Secretary Vijaya to create awareness among the villagers on keeping the surroundings hygienic. Further, he asked her to observe dry day on Fridays in the village.

He asked the medical officers at the PHC at Machareddy to extend qual-

them. Later, he planted saplings on the premises of the hospital in connection with Vana Mahotsavam. He asked the hospital employees to each plant at least two or three saplings. DMHO Dr Chandrasekar, SC corporation ED Dayanand, DPO Srinivasa Rao and others were present.

Spurious drugs hit Adilabad dist market

PNS ■ ADILABAD

Spurious medicines have been finding their way into the markets of undivided Adilabad district from various other states. The business of spurious medicines is going on at a brisk pace in the market.

Some of the unscrupulous traders are allegedly hand-in-glove with the producers of the spurious drugs in other states and playing havoc with the health of the people.

Some of the shops have been buy-

ing these spurious medicines from agencies, which are brokers to the producers of spurious drugs, and selling them to patients.

The medicines appear in the market containing the names of sham companies, which are exist only on paper. Some of the agencies have been procuring the medicines from Korean companies and selling them through medical agencies.

These drugs are meant for treating BP, cholesterol. Some spurious anti-biotic medicines are also being

sold. These medicines are being sold by increasing the prices of these drugs by at least 50%.

These drugs have been compounding the health condition of the patients, let alone treating them.

The concerned officials have been conducting raids on medical shops now and then and wash off their hands.

It was high-time, the drug inspectors checked the sale of spurious drugs to safeguard the people's health.

Protest over dismissal of tribal workers

PNS ■ RANGAREDDY

In a significant protest, tribal workers and local villagers have gathered in front of MSN Industry, staging a protest to express their outrage over what they alleged the unjust dismissal of local tribal employees. The protest has garnered substantial attention, with former sarpanches extending their solidarity with the protesters and thus strengthening their fight.

The allegations centre on the dismissal of tribal workers at MSN Industry, an issue that has ignited widespread indignation among the local communities. Protesters accused the company's management of looking down upon the tribals, treating them with disregard, and failing to recognize their contributions.

As the sit-in continues, the protesters have vowed not to leave until justice is served. They demand that the dismissed workers be reinstated and that the company adopts a more respectful and inclusive approach towards the tribal population. The former Sarpanches, representing the collective voice of the villagers, have



Tribal workers staging protest in Rangareddy district on Wednesday

warned that the protest will not cease until the tribals' grievances are adequately addressed.

The management of MSN Industry has yet to release a statement regarding the allegations and the ongoing protest. The situation remains tense, with the possibility of the protest escalating if the demands are not met. The local authorities are monitoring the situation closely, but as of now, no intervention has been reported.

Communists accused of 'conspiring' to destroy Hinduism

PNS ■ RANGAREDDY

In a strong condemnation, Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP) Kshetra Pramukh for Telangana and Andhra Pradesh Bandaru Ramesh accused Communists of conspiring to destroy Hinduism in India while acting as proxies for China and Russia. These remarks were made during a significant rally organized by the VHP in Shadnagar town, Rangareddy district, to protest against the alleged persecution of Hindus in Bangladesh.

The rally, which saw the participation of leaders from Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), Hindu Vahini, Bajrang Dal, Akhila Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP), and various other organizations, began at the local railway station and proceeded to the Tehsildar's office, where a memorandum was submitted to the government. The participants expressed their outrage over the recent attacks on Hindus in Bangladesh and demanded immediate action to protect Hindu communities both in India and abroad.

Addressing the media after the rally, Bandaru Ramesh stated that communists, who are insignificant in the 52 minority countries worldwide,



Vishwa Hindu Parishad leaders, along with members of Bharatiya Janata Party, Hindu Vahini, speaking to the media at Shadnagar on Wednesday

are conspiring within India to undermine Hinduism. He alleged that certain countries are providing financial support to these efforts, specifically targeting Hindu Dharma. Ramesh emphasized that communism has no presence in minority-dominated countries, and its influence in India is being used

to suppress Hinduism. He called upon Hindus to unite and protect their religion from these perceived threats, warning of dire consequences if Hindu Dharma is not defended.

Nelli Srivardhan Reddy, a member of the BJP's state executive, issued a stern warning to what he termed

"Islamic extremists," stating that their actions would no longer be tolerated. He condemned the attacks on Hindus in Bangladesh and Pakistan, asserting that Muslims in India, who constitute 20 percent of the population, should also denounce these atrocities. He questioned why Hindus, who respect other religions, are being targeted abroad, and urged a global response to the situation in Bangladesh.

Echoing these sentiments, BJP state executive member Ande Babaiah labeled the attacks on Hindus in Bangladesh as "evil deeds." He stressed the urgency for the global Hindu community to unite against these atrocities, particularly in light of the violence being inflicted upon women and children. He warned that if such attacks continue unchecked, similar incidents could occur in India, and called for widespread condemnation.

The rally in Shadnagar was marked by a strong sense of solidarity among the participants, with leaders such as Chitela Venkatesh, Malchala Murali, Vamsi Bhushan, Math Rishikesh, and Putnala Sai joining the call for justice and protection of Hindu communities.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
OFFICE OF THE S.P.D.Y. COLLECTOR (LA),
RLISP-II, PEBBAIR
WANAPARTHY DISTRICT
FORM - VI (NOTIFICATION)
PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION
(SEE SUB RULE (1) OF RULE - 19 AND SECTION - 11(1) OF THE ACT - 30(2013))
Collector Proceedings No. G8982/2024, Dated: 05-06-2024
Special Deputy Collector Lr. No. B2296/2016, Dated: 11.07.2024
Gazette No. 18 (2024), Dated: 05.08.2024

Whereas it appears to the Government of Telangana / Collector, Wanaparthi that a total Ac.1-34 Gts is required in the Village namely Ammapally village in Chinambavi Mandal Wanaparthi District and Division for public purpose of Shankara Samudram Balancing Reservoir of Minor 4R from 7L KM 3.950 under Mahatma Gandhi LRT Irrigation Scheme Project.

The said Land Acquisition for the project is exempted from the Chapter - II and Chapter - III of the LA Act 2013 i.e., Social Impact Assessment (SIA) and Food Security as per Section 10 (A) of Right to Fair Compensation and Resettlement Act 2013.

Therefore, it is notified that for the above said project the village namely Ammapally Village of Chinambavi Mandal Wanaparthi District and Division land measuring more less Ac.1-34 gts of standard measurement, whose detail description is as follows is proposed for acquisition.

SCHEDULE													
Sl. No.	Sy. No.	Patta/PP or Govt.	Extant in Wet/Dry	To be acquired	Name of the pottadar	North	South	East	West				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10				
1	26	Patta	Dry	0.10	Kumari Chilakamma W/o Narayana A. Chivamma W/o Nagreddy Pulasa S/o Chinnu Buchalaiah B. Venkatalah S/o Narayana G. Shankarash S/o Yellash Laxmalah S/o Chinnu Buchanna Ramudu S/o Chinnu Buchanna Middle Ushannamma W/o Narsaiah B. Sunderalah S/o Sunanna B. Laxmi W/o Ramudu Balaramudu S/o Pedda Yellash B. Venkatalah S/o Narayana	25	22	27	25				
2	31	Patta	Dry	1.26	Pedda Pulalah S/o Jammaiah H. Chinnu Pulalah S/o Jammaiah H. Laxmalah S/o Jammaiah	28	32	35	30				
Total:					1.34								

This notification is made under provisions of the Section - 11(1) of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act 2013 (Act No. 30(2013)), to all whom it may concern.

A plan of the land may be inspected in the office of the District Collector & Land Acquisition Officer & Special Deputy Collector (LA), RLISP - II, Pebbair Hq at I.D.O.C Building Wanaparthi on any working day during the working hours.

The Government of Telangana / Collector - Cum - Appropriate Government is pleased to authorize Officer Land Acquisition & Special Deputy Collector (LA), RLISP - II, Pebbair Hq at I.D.O.C Building Wanaparthi and his staff to enter upon and survey land, take levels of any land, dig or bore into the sub-soil & do all other acts required for the proper execution of their work as provided and specified in section 12 of the said Act.

Under Section 11(4) of the Act, no person shall make any transaction or cause any transaction of land i.e., sale/purchase, etc., or create any encumbrances on such land from the date of publication of such notification without prior approval of the District Collector.

Objections to the acquisition if any, and claims from all the persons interested / affected for settlement of their lands, may be filed by the person interested in the land within 60 (Sixty Days) from the date of publication of this notification as provided under Section 15 of the Act before District/Authorized Officer.

Sd/- Special Deputy Sd/- Addl. Collector, Sd/- Dist. Collector, Collector (LA), Wanaparthi
RLISP - II, Pebbair
DIPR No.192LA/PP-Pub/2024-25

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
REVENUE (LA) DEPARTMENT
FORM - VI
(See Sub-rule (1) of Rule-19 and Section-11(1) of the Act-30(2013))
AND
(Act. No. 21 of 2017 of Telangana Govt. Gazette No. 22 dt. 17.05.2017)
or
Collector/Joint Collector/Special Collector (LA)
Revenue Divisional Officer
PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION
G12987/2022 Date: 31.07.2024
Lr. No. F941/2022 Date: 22.07.2024

Whereas it appears to the Government of Telangana/Collector that a total of Ac.19.15 gts. Govland is required in the Venkappally Village of, Marriguda Mandal Nalgonda District for public purpose, namely, Shivanragudem Balancing Reservoir of DLIS. Hence, below mentioned lands are notified under Section 11(1) of the Act, 2013 Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013.

The Government of Telangana has issued G.O.Ms.No. 39 Irrigation & CAD (LA.R & RA2) Department dated: 30.06.2017 exempting the Provisions of Chapter-II & III under Sec-10(A) Act No. 21/2017 under RFCT in LA and R&R Act-2013 to this project.

Therefore, it is notified that for the above said purpose the land at Venkappally village of Marriguda Mandal, Nalgonda District a piece of land measuring more or less Ac.19.15 gts. of standard measurement, whose detailed description is as mentioned below, is under acquisition.

Mandal: Marriguda		Village: Venkappally			
Sy. No.	Classification, Description of land i.e. patta/ Inam/ Govt.	Extent	Name of the Pottadar	Father/Husband Name	Other Particulars such as structures wells etc.
1	Dry/Assigned Ac. 3.15 gts	0.30	Bhemanapally Yallamma	Narasimha	1 Pipeline underground 200m Cement 16 rings well, Bore-1, Teak tree-6, Wango tree-1, Nasun tree-1, Toddy tree-1, Coconut tree-2
		0.30	Vanguti Lingaiah	Balchaitah	Toddy tree -4
		1.20	Perumala Chandrasah	Venkaiah	Toddy tree-24, Teak tree -15, Jama tree -15
		0.15	Gantala Venkatesh	Rajash	-
82	Dry/Assigned Ac. 16.00 gts	1.00	Bodige Venkatesh	Nagathusharanam	Toddy tree -51
		0.27	Bodige Krishnaiah	Chandrasah	Cement ring well, Wango tree-2, Toddy trees -17
		0.27	Bodige Jangaiah	Chandrasah	Toddy tree -17
		0.27	Bodige Yadagani	Chandrasah	Toddy tree -17
		1.20	Chappala Janganna	Narasimha	-
		1.00	Tummalala Venkatesh	Somesiah	-
		1.00	Tummalala Murali Goud	Papeiah	-
		1.00	Gunaganthi Janganna	Narsiah	Coconut trees-3, Toddy trees-6
		1.00	Tavili Anjanima	Marsiah	-
		0.15	Gunaganthi Sanyasirayana	Satyasanyasirayana	Toddy trees-3
		2.00	Yerrakala Yadaiah	Shagannata	Toddy trees-22
		2.00	Pisem Indamma	Dhanodard Reddy	Teak tree -9
		1.18	Jaravathi Ranji	Pudya	Pipelo: 100m, Bore-1, Toddy tree-6, Nasun tree -2
		1.00	Venkuppala Buggaiah	Ramaiah	-
		0.15	Jaravathi Sartha	Chandru	Toddy tree -10
		0.11	Jaravathi Sartha	Bhikshya	Pipeline 200m, Bore-1
Total		19.15			

This notification is made under the provision of Section-11 (1) of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (Act No. 30(2013)), to all whom it may concern.

A plan of the land may be inspected in the office of the District Collector, Nalgonda and Revenue Divisional Officer, Devarakonda on any working day during the working hours. The District Collector, Nalgonda is pleased to authorize the Revenue Divisional Officer, Devarakonda and his staff to enter upon and survey the land, take levels of any land, dig or bore into the sub-soil & do all other acts required for the proper execution of their work as provided and specified in section-12 of the said Act.

Under section 11(4) of the Act, no person shall make any transaction or cause any transaction of land i.e. sale/purchase, etc., or create any encumbrances on such land from the date of publication of such notification without prior approval of the Collector.

Objections to the acquisition, if any, may be filed by the person interested within 60 (sixty days) from the date of publication of this notification as provided under section 15 of the Act before District Collector, Nalgonda/ Revenue Divisional Officer, Devarakonda, Nalgonda District.

Sd/- Revenue Divisional Officer I, Collector, Nalgonda.
Land Acquisition Officer, Nalgonda.
Devarakonda. DIPR No.191LA/PP-Pub/2024-25



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PAPER WITH PASSION

Happy Independence Day

As the proud nation celebrates the 78th Independence day it is time to ponder over the journey so far

As we celebrate 78th Independence Day, the air is filled with pride, nostalgia, and hope. This day is not just a commemoration of freedom from colonial rule but a reflection on the journey that has shaped the country. The path to where we stand today, has been nothing short of a roller coaster-marked by triumphs and challenges. As the nation looks back on its accomplishments, it must also cast its eyes forward, contemplating the road that lies ahead. India's post-independence journey has been a remarkable tale of resilience and growth. From the ashes of partition and the burden of colonial exploitation, the nation emerged with a spirit of unity and determination. The early years were fraught with challenges – economic instability, social unrest, and the monumental task of nation-building. Yet, India persisted. The Green Revolution transformed India from a food-deficient country to a self-sufficient one, while the White Revolution made the country the largest producer of milk. It made great strides in space exploration and reached the moon. The nation also saw the rise of a strong industrial base. However, the road was never smooth. India saw wars, political turmoil, and economic crises. The Emergency period in the mid-1970s was a dark chapter, testing the resilience of its democracy. The 1991 economic liberalisation marked a turning point, propelling India onto the global stage, but it also brought new challenges in the form of inequality and social disparities.



The turn of the millennium saw India making strides in various fields. The IT revolution positioned the country as a global technology hub, while advancements in space exploration and nuclear technology showcased India's scientific prowess. Social progress was evident in the growing emphasis on education, healthcare, and women's empowerment. Landmark legislation such as the Right to Education Act and the decriminalisation of Section 377 reflected the country's commitment to social justice. Yet, there was no dearth of challenges. The rise of communal tensions, growing environmental concerns, and the struggle for inclusivity have reminded the nation that the journey is far from over. The COVID-19 pandemic, the most recent challenge, exposed vulnerabilities but also highlighted India's resilience, as the country emerged as a global leader in vaccine production and distribution. The nation today stands at a crossroads. The country must tackle environmental degradation, and ensure that economic growth is inclusive and sustainable. India's youth, now the largest demographic group, will play a crucial role. We must continue to uphold the democratic values and secular fabric. As the tricolor flutters in the wind this Independence Day, it is a reminder that this was achieved with many sacrifices and efforts on the part of millions of people who make it what it is. The road ahead may be challenging, but it is also filled with possibilities. No country is perfect; it's always a work in progress. But if the people of India commit to making it a shining example for the world, it will become one. Jai Hind!

India's scientific prowess. Social progress was evident in the growing emphasis on education, healthcare, and women's empowerment. Landmark legislation such as the Right to Education Act and the decriminalisation of Section 377 reflected the country's commitment to social justice. Yet, there was no dearth of challenges. The rise of communal tensions, growing environmental concerns, and the struggle for inclusivity have reminded the nation that the journey is far from over. The COVID-19 pandemic, the most recent challenge, exposed vulnerabilities but also highlighted India's resilience, as the country emerged as a global leader in vaccine production and distribution. The nation today stands at a crossroads. The country must tackle environmental degradation, and ensure that economic growth is inclusive and sustainable. India's youth, now the largest demographic group, will play a crucial role. We must continue to uphold the democratic values and secular fabric. As the tricolor flutters in the wind this Independence Day, it is a reminder that this was achieved with many sacrifices and efforts on the part of millions of people who make it what it is. The road ahead may be challenging, but it is also filled with possibilities. No country is perfect; it's always a work in progress. But if the people of India commit to making it a shining example for the world, it will become one. Jai Hind!

PICTALK



Young students participate in a programme on the eve of Independence Day at a school, in Moradabad, PTI

Nano technology revolutionises car care

This cutting-edge technology is changing the car detailing process by enhancing protection, durability, and aesthetic appeal of cars

The automotive industry is progressing rapidly, with nanotechnology emerging as a transformative force in redefining car care. This cutting-edge technology is revolutionising the car detailing process and offering unmatched protection, durability, and aesthetic appeal, ushering in an exciting new era for car owners and enthusiasts.



and chemical protection. Nanotechnology offers a revolutionary approach to car detailing, providing superior protection and easier maintenance than traditional methods. There are several benefits of nanotechnology in car detailing, such as:

Enhanced protection: Nanoparticles form a microscopic barrier that shields the car's paint and glass and protects it from UV rays and environmental problems, such as bird droppings, during weather conditions. This results in a long-lasting shine and reduced risk of fading or wear and tear.

Deeper cleaning and glossier finishing: Nano-formulated polishes and cleaners can penetrate deeper into the car's surface due to the particles' tiny size. It removes dirt and grime more effectively,

revealing a glossier finish to the car after detailing. **Durability & longevity:** Nanotechnology car care products typically offer extended protection compared to traditional waxes and sealants. It translates to fewer detailing sessions and keeps the car looking its best for longer.

Easier maintenance: The hydrophobic coatings created by nanoparticles make future washes a breeze. Dirt and grime slide off, requiring less scrubbing and reducing the risk of introducing swirl marks.

While the benefits of nanotechnology in car care are undeniable, it is important to approach its implementation with a clear eye. Not all nano-coated products are created equal, and selecting reputable brands that adhere to stringent quality standards is crucial. Moreover, proper application and maintenance are always vital to maximising the performance and longevity of these treatments.

As nanotechnology evolves in this exciting world, there are expected to be even more groundbreaking advances

ments in the car care industry. The future holds immense potential, from self-healing paintwork to intelligent coatings that adapt to environmental conditions. By embracing this technology, the automotive industry can be poised to deliver cars that look stunning and offer unparalleled protection and convenience. From the car owner's perspective, there will be several benefits, such as enhanced car ownership experiences characterised by less time spent on maintenance and greater pride in the cars' appearance, instilling a sense of hope for the future of car care. In conclusion, nanotechnology is ushering in a new era in the car maintenance industry by improving aesthetics, protection, and durability & longevity. By understanding the principles and applications of this technology, car owners can make informed decisions to optimise the care of their cars and enjoy the full benefits of this exciting development, empowering them as informed consumers in the automotive industry.

(The writer is an expert on car care; views are personal)



KUNAL SETHI

The former Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina, abruptly left her country a week ago, causing immediate concern in her country and the region. According to the BBC, Hasina's family, not security officials, convinced her to leave due to safety concerns. Her son stated, "We begged her to leave as soon as the violent mob arrived." Crowds entered her residence shortly after her escape. Political, social, and economic issues, external involvement, and unhappy political opposition caused the downfall.

India's Foreign Minister, S. Jaishankar, has informed Parliament about her visit to India and the potential impact on India's relationship with Bangladesh. The unrest that led to her departure resulted in around 560 deaths and could strain the relationship between the two countries, potentially impacting regional security and foreign relations. Initially, in her long reign of 15 years, Hasina was perceived as a democratic and secular leader of Bangladesh, overseeing an economic turnaround. However, she later became intolerant and authoritarian, cracking down on media critics and imprisoning opponents. She maintained cordial relationships with Indian leaders, which sparked anti-India protests.

Prime Minister Modi mentioned that he had met her ten times last year. The friendship has been mutual, as Begum Hasina also reciprocated by driving out the terrorists who targeted India and allowed concessions for transit facilities. She was the first state guest during the Modi government's third term. India has had a special relationship with Bangladesh since it was born in 1971. After her father, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the founder of Bangladesh, was assassinated in 1975, Hasina spent six years in India. After that, she shifted to Dhaka to lead the Awami League. The current student protests, which started on July 5 against the 30% reservation for descendants of freedom fighters

The Bangladesh cauldron is boiling

With New Delhi intensifying border controls, the evolving political landscape of Bangladesh is set to influence regional security and diplomacy



KALYANI SHANKAR



and the 56% quota for government positions, have impacted the political situation in Bangladesh. The Hasina government's proposal to expand this quota led to widespread protests and 200 deaths. Bangladesh opposition parties organized a 'long march' to express growing discontent with the government's policies. At the international level, tensions rose between Hasina and the U.S. when her American visa was revoked after she fled the country. The U.S. State Department emphasized the importance of the interim government in establishing long-term peace and political stability in Bangladesh. The U.K. and other countries also took the same stand. The international community is working to support the interim government led by Yunus, who is responsible for restoring normalcy. New Delhi has set up a monitoring committee and increased border control to address the situation. Madam Khaleda Zia and other opposition leaders were released after Hasina's departure. During Khaleda's two terms, Bangladesh-India relations weakened. Her visit to Delhi was also a disaster. Khaleda's release may enable her to lead her party, and she stressed the

THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY IS WORKING TO SUPPORT THE INTERIM GOVERNMENT LED BY YUNUS, WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR RESTORING NORMALCY. NEW DELHI HAS SET UP A MONITORING COMMITTEE AND INCREASED BORDER CONTROL TO ADDRESS THE SITUATION

need for a democratic Bangladesh and emphasized peace and unity. Hasina and Khaleda's sons are ready to take over their respective parties. The potential returns of these two and the other Opposition leaders could bring significant changes to the political landscape of Bangladesh. According to Hasina's son, she is ready to face any inquiry but has yet to decide on the party's leadership. Meanwhile, Hasina blames the U.S. for her ouster. Her son claims she had no time to resign and is still the Prime Minister. Bangladeshis have protested in front of the White House and the U.K. New Delhi closely monitors the situation, especially concerning border and regional security, as well as the security of Hindu minorities in Bangladesh. The Modi government is apprehensive about the safety of the Hindu minority in Bangladesh. Prime Minister Modi has called for the protection of Hindus in Bangladesh after violent incidents targeted them. The Hindu minority also protested on the streets. Bangladesh's economy, which was looking up, is declining due to Hasina's intolerance, violence, unemployment, and inflation. The country relies on India for essential commodities and

infrastructure. India needs to reconsider its Bangladesh policy after the leader's departure. The third issue concerns the porous border between India and Bangladesh, with allegations of Bangladeshi infiltrators and refugees entering India. A friendly Hasina government helped check this problem while Khaleda was in denial mode. New Delhi's decision to adopt a wait-and-watch policy is a positive step. The situation depends on the elections' timing and the two Begums' potential return. If new leadership emerges, New Delhi will need to take a stand. To maintain regional peace, India's role in assisting Bangladesh in returning to normalcy is crucial and urgent. A peaceful, stable, and prosperous Bangladesh is in India's best interests. India should do everything to ensure it. The situation is still evolving, and the uncertainty of the future political landscape of Bangladesh is palpable. We will know more once the elections are announced and the plans of the two begums are revealed. The potential return of the dynastic rule adds an element of intrigue to the situation.

(The writer is a popular columnist; views are personal)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LHAMO'S NEVER SAY DIE SPIRIT

Madam — Kinzang Lhamo of Bhutan may have crossed the finish line last in the women's marathon at the Paris Olympics, but she captured the admiration of many with her remarkable tenacity and unwavering determination. Despite battling adverse conditions, Lhamo completed the grueling 26.2-mile course in 3 hours, 52 minutes, and 59 seconds, choosing to persevere rather than quit. Lhamo, embodying the spirit of the "last woman running," sends a powerful message: regardless of the final outcome, we must maximize our capabilities and approach our tasks with a positive, persistent mindset. There is no shame in finishing last if the effort was sincere and wholehearted.

Bhutan has already gifted the world with its unique concept of Gross National Happiness, which measures progress through health, education, and environmental parameters rather than traditional economic metrics. The country has also demonstrated the essence of democracy by having its Royals voluntarily relinquish power to allow for a citizen-led government through free and fair elections. Now, Kinzang Lhamo emerges as Bhutan's latest treasure. At just 26 years old, she has a promising future ahead. With more experience and exposure, Lhamo is poised to elevate Bhutan's presence on the international stage.

Kajal Chatterjee | Kolkata

PARIS OLYMPICS COME TO A CLOSE

Madam — The 2024 Paris Olympics have concluded, with India securing a total of six medals: five bronze and one silver. Despite its status as the world's most populous nation, with a staggering 1,450,935,791 people, India's medal haul, though commendable, highlights a larger issue. The United States led the medal tally with 126 medals, including 40 gold, while China followed with 91 medals and Japan with 45. These countries, despite their smaller populations compared to India, have achieved greater success by investing uniformly in a wide range of sports. In

Har ghar tiranga!



The 'Har Ghar Tiranga' initiative has sparked a nationwide movement, awakening the spirit of patriotism across the country. This campaign has united people from every corner of India, creating an atmosphere

of pride and respect for the national flag. It fosters a deep sense of unity and encourages active participation, bringing neighbors and fellow citizens together. By embracing this movement, people are enhancing their understanding of the significance and values embodied by the Indian flag.

The campaign has revolutionized the nation's ideology, symbolizing our independence, pride, and commitment to a developed India (Viksit Bharat). It underscores India's rise as a global power, moving swiftly from a nation once seen as economically challenged to one poised to become the third-largest superpower in the world. As citizens, we are reminded of our duty to uphold the guiding principles enshrined in the Directive Principles of State Policy, the Preamble, and the Constitution of India.

Kirti Wadhawan | Kanpur

India, cricket is often considered a religion, overshadowing other sports. This narrow focus, compounded by political shortsightedness, has hindered the growth and encouragement of athletic talent across other disciplines.

A P Thiruvadi | Chennai

WAYANAD TRAGEDY COULD BE AVERTED

Madam — The picturesque Wayanad, a hilly district located in the Western Ghats Mountain range in Kerala, is prone to landslides during heavy rains. In Kerala's history, the landslide that occurred recently there and claimed over 400 lives was the deadliest.

According to the Geological Survey of India half of Kerala's land area is vulnerable to landslides. Wayanad region has had many tea and coffee plantations. The first landslide occurred in an uninhabited forest area with no access road. The torrent of water carrying mud and boulders swept away or buried the villages of Panchirimattam, Mundakkai and Chooralmala, and wreaked havoc in Meppadi, Attamala and Kunhome.

Mundakkai is a village located more than a kilometre down from the hill that slid first. Chooralmala caved in under the pressure of gushing water from the first landslide and heavy downpour. Irunjipuzha river split into two raging streams and wreaked havoc along its path. When it comes to discussing the early warning of rainfall, the less said, the better.

On July 24, the Agricultural Meteorological Division of the Indian Meteorological Department issued a forecast for Wayanad that predicted only 15 mm rainfall, the day when landslides occurred. Mundakkai, where the landslide hit Wayanad first, got 572 mm of rainfall within 48 hours. However, it shouldn't be overlooked that the Hume Centre for Ecology and Wildlife Biology, an NGO specializing in weather patterns of Wayanad with a network of more than 200 weather monitoring units, had warned of possible landslides two days before the landslide happened.

Haridasan Rajan | Kozhikode

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com



FIRST COLUMN

THE DIVINE PARENTAL ROLE

Unlike parents, whose guidance can be flawed, God encompasses all wisdom, power and impartiality



AJIT KUMAR BISHNOI

The following verse will shed light on this, which is, "You alone are my mother; You alone are my father; You alone are my relative and You alone are my friend; You alone are my knowledge and You alone are my wealth; O Lord of all Lords, You alone are my everything." In verse #7.19 of the Bhagavad-Geeta, Lord Krishna states, "After efforts of many births, a yogi in the end becomes wise, and he takes My shelter. A great soul, who considers Lord Vasudeva thus as everything is very rare." The answer, therefore, is: that God is very much more than a mother or father can ever be. These entities, i.e., a mother or a father have severe limitations. Their knowledge is very limited. They don't know the Big Picture.

Far from it, they may guide their children wrongly. On the other hand, God is omniscient. He knows past, present and future also. Lord Krishna informs us what He can do. "By being specially kind, I, situated within, destroy the darkness, born of ignorance, by the shining lamp of knowledge." (10.11) Then, a parent has limited resources that he or she can give to his or her children, whereas God has all the opulence in full. Sanjaya of the Mahabharata fame informs, "Where there is yogeshwara Shri Krishna, and where there is a soul linked to Him, there will be opulences ('soubhagya'), victory (success), wealth, and morality." (18.78) A parent can help only in a limited way. Suppose his or her child is unwell. What can he or she do besides arranging medical facilities and taking care of the best way possible?



A good parent prays additionally for the rapid cure of the child. Because Only God has the power to help us get out of the trouble we get into quickly (18.53); only God has the power to forgive. Parents can be whimsical in their decision-making. They can be partial in dealing with their children; it is natural, but God is always impartial. Lord Krishna states, "I am similarly inclined towards all beings, no one is hateful for Me, and no one is dear; that is God has no preconceived and prejudiced notion towards anyone." (9.29) Many parents are poor role models. They lie but expect their children to be truthful.

What has God instructed us to do? "Whatever a superior person does, other people follow that only. Whatever standard he establishes a common man tries to emulate that." (3.21) What does God do? He always goes by dharma. God is so strict about dharma that He incarnates to reestablish it if it becomes weak. (4.7) Additionally, God is always engaged in doing duties, Lord Krishna says, "I am always carefully engaged in action, because men follow My lead in all respects." (3.34) For parents, only their children are their own, but for God, all souls are His parts. (15.7) He has to consider all of them in all His actions. God is very compassionate towards all of them. Lord Krishna confirms, "I am a well-wisher of all living entities."

Our children are forever competing against children of other parents, but for God, all children are His parts and must be dealt with fairly. That is the reason our selfish prayers are not answered. Many parents do not consult their children about their future and try to impose their desires on them. God has forbidden this, when He stated, "Svadharmā (duty) of all souls are according to what their natures are." "The four divisions of the human society, based on qualities and activities, have been created by Me." (4.21)

One can excel in whatever suits one's nature because it comes naturally. What is the message? God is a parent alright but not in a conventional way. He only takes charge of those souls, who take His shelter. Parents should also try to be self-supporting to the end by taking active shelter from God; He will take care. Is God not responsible for keeping the Creation going? Is it not our responsibility as parents to do ours? I take mine towards my descendants very seriously.

(The writer is a spiritual guide; views are personal)

Water crisis and the battle for resources



B K SINGH

As the world grapples with the escalating effects of climate change, the urgent need to rethink our approach to water management becomes ever more pressing

Whenever we face drought and heat waves we are reminded to take a relook at efficiency of water management. More than one-fourth of the global population, nearly 2.2 billion people do not have proper access to clean drinking water. United Nations (UN)'s goal in this regard is to provide clean drinking water and sanitation for all by 2030. UN's coordination mechanism on water and sanitation (UN-Water) sets the theme every year. This year's theme was "Leveraging Water for Peace". Air and water are important to sustain life on Earth. The conflicts between the countries, between the states and within society arise when we have to share water for crop irrigation, household purposes, industrial uses and power generation.

The conflict gets often aggravated especially when the availability of water becomes scarce during the pinch period. Treaties between the countries have resolved the disputes. Different forums are also available for the resolution of conflicts at international and national levels. India has 25 major river basins with most rivers flowing across the states. There is the Interstate Water Dispute Act, of 1956 for resolving disputes in the use, control and distribution of river and river valleys. The disputes are continuing challenges to federal water governance in the country. To resolve the disputes, there are water dispute tribunals in India namely the Ravi and Beas Water Tribunal, Vansadhara water dispute tribunal, Mahadayi Water Dispute Tribunal, Mahanadi water dispute tribunal, Krishna water dispute tribunal and Cauvery dispute tribunal etc.

The sharing of water of the Cauvery River has been the source of serious conflict between Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. In 2018, the tribunal awarded Karnataka to annually release 192 tmc of water in ten equal monthly instalments to Tamil Nadu. 2023-24 was El Nino (Spanish word meaning little boy) year and there has been a deficit in rainfall in the catchment of the river from July 2023 onwards. As a result, the reservoirs were half empty and it became difficult for Karnataka to follow the orders of the tribunal.

Two states started a blame game till early July 2024 when there were good rains in the Cauvery catchment in the latter part of July. As nature was kind, the dispute was resolved and the blame game stopped. The prolonged dispute between the states for sharing water is always traced back to destruction as well as poor maintenance of the catchment of the river and unfavourable weather conditions like El Nino. World Meteorological Organization (WMO) announced that El Nino, a climate pattern associated with the warming of the ocean surface in the central and eastern tropical Pacific Ocean has impacted the monsoon causing below-normal rainfall last year, has gradually weakened.

This has been one of the five strongest El Nino on record but remained weaker than 1997-98 and 2015-16. "El Nino typically has the greatest impact on global climate in the second year of its development - in this instance 2024," WMO said. This impact has led to above normal temperature in India till June 2024. WMO further added that there is a chance of La Nina (Spanish word meaning little girl) developing later in the year. La Nina is a climate pattern associated with periodic cooling off the ocean sur-



face temperature and brings normal rains in the region. Western World, Canada and the US are experiencing heat wave conditions even in August this year. The underground water table receded during summer. There has been a public hue and cry in many places in central and peninsular India to access potable water for household needs. The Government and Civic agencies are facing the challenge. Karnataka is one such state where there was an acute drinking water problem in the summer.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah directed the district administration to establish a helpline and control room to enable the public to register grievances and supply water in tankers to all affected areas. He also directed to tender the work of digging more bore wells to tap underground water for public emergencies. Bengaluru too faced a water shortage. Water supply to the city comes through the pipeline from the Cauvery River located 100 km away. The water has also to be pumped up at many intermediate locations to achieve an altitude of 1 km, where the city is. The arrangements have been made to supply water in tankers from adjoining towns.

Water supply to high-rise apartments was also reduced. Residents used disposable cutlery and wet wipes to ration their water consumption. It will generate more waste and agencies may have to step up the disposal. They have also banned vehicle washing and swimming pool activities. Deepening of the bore wells is another environmental challenge. Every time the groundwater level recedes, we go for the deepening. Is it environmentally sustainable? Recharging the ground through rain harvesting structures has to be adhered to by each Government continuously.

Rivers originating from the Himalayas are snow-fed and satisfy the water needs of the people, especially in the northern belt of the

country from west to east. Rivers in the central Indian landscape and peninsular India originate from forests.

Often big rivers originate from the same place and flow in different directions. Johila, Narvada and Son originate from Amarkantak and flow in different directions. Five rivers namely Koyana, Krishna, Venna, Savitri and Gayatri originate from the Western Ghats. Apart from providing drinking water to several villages and towns, there are numerous irrigation and power projects located on these rivers.

Life is fully dependent on these rivers and except the Himalayan Rivers all others originate from forests. Let us be clear that water is not produced by forests, yet the rivers originate there. Forests are the mothers of rivers and are systems to conserve rainwater in the subsoil and the roots of the trees.

The river source provides a small volume of water trickling from the roots of each of the millions of trees on undulating hills around. As it forms the stream and the flow of water proceeds under gravity, many more such streams join to increase the volume of water. Sometimes bigger streams or even rivers also join to increase the volume of flowing water in the river. The water in the streams is nothing but rainwater. During the monsoon substantial quantity of water is absorbed by the earth charging the underground aquifers and some portion of it is retained in the subsoil and roots of the trees.

The roots hold the water like a sponge and continuously release it during warm weather, making the streams perennial. While traversing in the forests we come across several perennial streams even in summer months when there is no rainfall. Every stream has a catchment and if it is a forested catchment, the

stream would be perennial in the non-rainy season, or else it would be a seasonal stream flowing on rainy days. Forests play a significant role in conserving water and making the streams perennial. Further, the streams flowing out of forested catchment would always carry cleaner water without even soil particles in it.

On the contrary, streams flowing through areas dominated by human activities would be muddy and mixed with chemicals and sewage. Further, the rainwater carries a lot of soil and the reservoirs get silted up losing their water holding capacity.

Reservoirs located closer to forested areas have a longer life. Maintenance engineers have a difficult time in de-silting reservoirs receiving water from human areas. The rainfall pattern and distribution not only depends upon weather conditions and the direction of wind but also depends upon the density and distribution of forests on land. The pledge we must take is to preserve and conserve natural forests. Forests also play a vital role in the maintenance of the water cycle. More than two years ago, on the sidelines of COP 26 at Glasgow, leaders holding 90% of forests on the planet had pledged to end deforestation by 2030.

Of course, India did not sign this pledge. Two more COP meetings have taken place since then, but the issue has not been reviewed by those who pledged. On the contrary, there are reports suggesting that natural forests are being lost at an alarming rate unprecedented warming has also taken its toll and forest fires have remained uncontrolled for months in the US, Canada, European countries, Russia, China, Brazil, and Australia. If we don't save our forests, the perennial water streams will become seasonal.

(The writer is retired principal chief conservator of forests, Karnataka; views are personal)



FORESTS PLAY A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN CONSERVING WATER AND MAKING THE STREAMS PERENNIAL. FURTHER, THE STREAMS FLOWING OUT OF FORESTED CATCHMENT WOULD ALWAYS CARRY CLEANER WATER

The perils of blind faith and the rise of India's fraudulent godmen

While India has a rich tradition of genuine spiritual leaders, the influence of these charlatans has surged, fueled by politics and societal insecurities

The Mundaka Upanishad warns of the dangers posed by those who, though ignorant, present themselves as wise. The verse (1.2.8) loosely translates to, "Living in the midst of ignorance and considering themselves wise, fools think of themselves as learned. They wander around, bewildered, like blind men led by the blind." This verse serves as a caution against self-proclaimed spiritual gurus who mislead others. India has long been a land of genuine spiritual gurus who have guided millions, providing a path for the masses to follow. However, times have changed. Today, genuine spiritual leaders are often overshadowed by flashy godmen, or "babas," who frequently



PRABHA GUPTA

deceive people for personal gain. This trend has become particularly dangerous when combined with the politics of numbers, creating a powerful politico-religious phenomenon. These so-called babas often become demigods with political leaders as their disciples, wielding immense power and wealth, even though they claim to have renounced it. A recent incident in Hathras

highlights the tragic consequences of such influence. Over 150 people, mostly women from poor Dalit families, were killed in a stampede during a satsang by Bhole Baba, also known as Narayan Sakar Hari. Baba, a former policeman who retired 28 years ago amid rape allegations, had attracted around 150,000 people to the event, despite only 80,000 being allowed. The stampede occurred when the crowd rushed to collect soil believed to have healing powers after Baba's departure. His popularity and wealth have only grown, despite such tragedies. While some of his followers were arrested, Bhole Baba himself was not named in the FIR, and his ashrams remain untouched by authorities.

And he is not alone. Many others are doing just that. A couple of years back a proclaimed baba gave unique recipe for people's woes: keep 500 rupees in your wallet for prosperity, keep your spouse photo for better relationship and so on. Gurmeet Ram Rahim Insan ran schools for girls in which they had to eat rose petals as prasadam on which he walked. Figures like Asaram Babu and Gurmeet Ram Rahim Insan are serving prison sentences for serious crimes. The number and influence of such godmen have grown, partly due to the rise of religious politics. This trend is mirrored globally, though it is particularly pronounced in India. The following of these god-



men often stems from the insecurity and faith of their followers, who may feel abandoned by both God and the system. This combination distances them from rational thinking. In countries with less economic and social insecurity, the influence of religion tends to wane, but not entirely. In the United States, faith

healers or Televangelists wield significant influence over their followers, claiming to cure people in the name of Jesus Christ. While the number of those cured remains questionable, these healers amass enormous wealth, owning Caribbean islands and flying in private jets. Addressing the influence of these Babas is a significant challenge. The Indian Constitution's Article 51A emphasises the duty of citizens to develop a scientific temper and humanism, which these fake godmen often ignore. While organizations like the Andhashradha Nirmulan Samiti in Maharashtra work to expose fraudulent practices, activists like Dr. Narendra Dabholkar have paid the ultimate price,

allegedly at the hands of conservative groups like Sanatan Sanstha. Similar forces were responsible for the deaths of Govind Pansare, Gauri Lankesh, and Professor Kalburgi. Following Dr Dabholkar's murder, the Maharashtra Assembly passed a law against superstition and miracle cures. To curb the influence of fake godmen, a combination of education, awareness, and strong legal frameworks is essential. Promoting critical thinking and spiritual education can empower individuals to discern genuine spiritual guidance from deception. Educational institutions, community programs, and media can play a crucial role in spreading awareness about

the characteristics of false gurus and the dangers of blind faith. Encouraging open discussions about spirituality and ethics can help people recognise the difference between authentic spiritual leaders and charlatans. Additionally, it is crucial to strengthen laws and regulations to hold fraudulent godmen accountable. Publicising such cases can also serve as a warning to potential victims. Ultimately, by encouraging critical inquiry, supporting victims, and ensuring justice, society can reduce the influence of fake godmen and safeguard the integrity of spiritual practices.

(The writer is a freelance writer, social activist and business coach; views expressed are personal)

IN BRIEF



SpiceJet Q1 profit falls 27 pc to Rs 150 crore

SpiceJet, which is looking to raise funds, on Wednesday posted a 27 per cent decline in standalone profit at Rs 149.96 crore in the three months ended June compared to the year-ago period. The budget carrier had a standalone profit of Rs 204.56 crore in the June 2023 quarter. The profit is higher compared to three months ended March this year when the amount stood at Rs 118.99 crore. According to a regulatory filing, SpiceJet's total income declined to Rs 2,067.21 crore in the first quarter of the current financial year as against Rs 2,268.06 crore recorded in the same period a year ago. In the latest June quarter, the carrier's total expenses fell to Rs 1,917.25 crore compared to Rs 2,063.49 crore in the year-ago period. As per a release, the operating profit in the first quarter of this fiscal rose 27 per cent to Rs 393 crore as against Rs 310 crore reported in the 2024 March quarter.



Gold rises Rs 300 per 10 g; silver declines Rs 300

Gold prices rose Rs 300 to Rs 73,150 per 10 grams in the national capital on Wednesday amid a jump in precious metal rates in the international markets. The yellow metal of 99.9 per cent purity had ended at Rs 72,850 per 10 grams in the previous session on Tuesday. However, silver prices declined by Rs 300 to Rs 83,200 per kilogram from Rs 83,500 per kg in the previous close, according to the All India Sarata Association. Extending gains for the third straight session, gold of 99.9 per cent and 99.5 per cent purity climbed by Rs 300 each to Rs 73,150 and Rs 72,800 per 10 grams, respectively. Traders said gold prices saw an uptrend due to a rise in domestic demand as well as global influences. Globally, Comex gold is trading at USD 2,512.30 per ounce, up by USD 4.50 per ounce. Comex gold consolidated near record highs, closing higher for the fifth consecutive session, buoyed by a weaker dollar



FinMin exempts UIDAI from payment of income tax

The finance ministry has exempted the income of Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) from payment of income tax for five years till fiscal 2027-28. Accordingly, grants/subsidies received from the central government; fees/subscriptions, including RTI fee, tender fee, sale of scrap, PVC card; authentication, enrolment and updation service charges received; term/linked deposits; and interest on bank deposits earned by UIDAI would be exempt from income tax. A notification to this effect was issued by the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) under the Ministry of Finance. This notification shall be applicable for assessment year 2024-2025, 2025-2026, 2026-2027, 2027-2028 and 2028-2029, it added. UIDAI is a statutory authority established under the provisions of the Aadhaar Act, 2016, to ensure compliance with Aadhaar Act, and make regulations & rules consistent with the Act.

India, Russia focus on reducing non-tariff barriers: Commerce Secy

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India and Russia are discussing holding trade in local currencies and reducing non-tariff barriers by Moscow to boost the bilateral trade, Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal said on Wednesday. The secretary raised these issues during his meetings with Russian Minister for Economic Development Maxim Reshetnikov; Russia's Deputy Minister of Industry and Trade Alexey Gruzdev; Head of FSVPS (Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Supervision) Sergei Dankvert of the Russian Federation last month.



He added that Russia has started working to cut the barriers. Indian export sectors such as meat and pharma face issues in Russia.

India, Barthwal said, also discussed diversification of trade beyond petroleum prod-

ucts. "We are expecting that even in non-petroleum trade, there will be a good improvement in volumes," he said.

Further, the secretary said that balancing bilateral trade is key at present as there is a trade

imbalance. "The rupee-rouble trade will also be affected only when there is more balance of trade," he said adding that over 53 vostro accounts have been opened.

The meetings with Russia hold significance as both countries look to increase the bilateral trade to USD 100 billion by 2030.

India is focussing on various sectors like electronics, besides taking up issues of non-trade barriers in areas like shrimp and pharma, to boost exports to sanction-hit Russia and move towards achieving this target.

At present, the bilateral trade stands at about USD 67 billion.

India's exports to Russia stood at USD 4.3 billion in 2023-24 while imports were USD 61.4 billion, driven by crude oil. Trade deficit was USD 57.1 billion. The share of crude oil and petroleum products in imports was 88 per cent.

IndiGo inducts 77 female pilots to mark I-Day

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

IndiGo on Wednesday inducted 77 female pilots for its Airbus and ATR planes to celebrate 77 years of the country's independence.

With the latest induction, the carrier has more than 800 female pilots.

The induction of 72 female pilots for the Airbus fleet and 5 for the ATR fleet to celebrate 77 years of the country's independence marks a milestone, the airline said in a release.

The airline has around 14 per cent women pilots compared to a global average of 7-9 per cent women pilots in the workforce, it added.

Captain Ashim Mitra, Senior Vice President of Flight Operations at IndiGo, said the airline has always promoted a workplace that thrives on diversity and inclusivity.

Sensex rises 150 pts on rebound in IT shares

PNS ■ MUMBAI

Snapping its two-day losing streak, benchmark BSE Sensex closed higher by 150 points on Wednesday following a rally in IT stocks amid a surge in the US markets on renewed hopes of a rate cut by the Fed in September.

The 30-share BSE Sensex rose by 149.85 points or 0.19 per cent to settle at 79,105.88 with half of its constituents ending higher. During the day, it gained 272.91 points or 0.34 per cent to hit a high of 79,228.94.

The NSE Nifty closed marginally up by 4.75 points or 0.02 per cent at 24,143.75. As many 26 Nifty shares closed lower while 24 advanced.



"The domestic market traded within a narrow range; even as global markets saw a positive turnaround. The IT index edged up, reflecting optimism for improved US CPI data expected later today, which could increase the scope of a loose monetary policy from the Fed," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services.

Among Sensex firms, Tata Consultancy Services rose the most by 2.3 per cent. HCL Technologies, Tech Mahindra, Infosys, Mahindra & Mahindra and Tata Motors were the biggest gainers.

On the other hand, UltraTech Cement, JSW Steel, Tata Steel, Adani Ports, Power Grid and Bajaj Finserv were among the laggards.

Mining shares declined after the Supreme Court rejected the Centre's plea for prospective effect of its July 25 verdict, which upheld the power of states to levy tax on mineral rights and mineral-bearing land, and allowed them to seek a refund of royalty from April 1, 2005 onwards.

'Cloud adoption outpacing AI adoption; investments on rise'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Cloud adoption in India is surpassing artificial intelligence adoption as more than half of the organisations surveyed plan to increase investment in cloud, IT major Wipro said in a report.

The Pulse of Cloud: Quarterly Report July 2024 by Wipro FullStride Cloud drew insights from over 500 senior executives and decision-makers at medium large-scale enterprises across North America, the UK, Germany, France and Switzerland between May and June 2024.

"A majority of organisations (55 per cent) report that their cloud adoption is ahead of their AI adoption, while 35 per cent say they are moving at the same pace with both technologies.

"54 per cent of organisations plan to increase hybrid cloud investment and 56 per cent plan to increase investment in



public cloud," the report said. Only 10 per cent of the respondents surveyed reported that their AI adoption is outpacing the cloud.

"At Wipro, we see cloud economics as an intelligent management strategy that can better manage costs as Generative AI inevitably pushes spending higher," said Jo Debecker, Managing Partner and Global Head, Wipro FullStride Cloud.

AI/GenAI applications (54 per cent) were the top reported drivers of cloud invest-

ment, followed by extended cloud infrastructure (47 per cent), and increasing data demands (43 per cent).

"The emergence of AI/GenAI as the top driver reflects the growing importance of these technologies across industries. AI requires significant cloud computing resources and data, so organisations with established cloud infrastructure are better positioned to rapidly adopt and implement AI solutions," the report said.

'Spectre of retrospective taxation hangs again'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM) member Shamika Ravi on Wednesday said the "spectre of retrospective taxation" is once again hanging on India, with the Supreme Court permitting states to collect royalty and tax dues on mining undertaken from April 2005.

The Supreme Court has allowed states to recover royalty and tax dues on mineral rights and mineral-bearing lands worth thousands of crore of rupees since April 1, 2005, from the Centre and mining companies.

"The spectre of #RetrospectiveTaxation hangs once again on India, as the #SupremeCourt allows States to collect past dues in the form of royalty and tax on mining from April 2005 (!).

Laws must protect

against expropriation of property by individuals as well as by the state," Ravi said on X.

In a majority 8:1 verdict on

July 25, the top court ruled that the legislative power to tax mineral rights vests in states and not Parliament.

TRADE DEFICIT WIDENS

India's exports enter negative zone



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

After remaining in the positive zone for three months, India's exports contracted 1.2 per cent to USD 33.98 billion in July, while the trade deficit widened to USD 23.5 billion.

According to government data, imports rose by about 7.45 per cent to USD 57.48 billion in July due to a jump in the inbound shipments of crude oil, silver and electronic goods.

Crude oil imports rose 17.44 per cent to USD 13.87 billion, while silver imports jumped 439 per cent to USD 165.74 million dur-

sumption have led to a dip in the exports of petroleum products in July.

The other export sectors, which have recorded negative growth during the month, include rice, cashew, oil seeds, marine products, gems and jewellery, chemicals, and cotton yarn/fabrics.

Gold imports dipped by 10.65 per cent to USD 3.13 billion in July.

However, electronic goods, pharma and engineering exports rose 37.31 per cent, 8.36 per cent and 3.66 per cent, respectively, in July.

India's merchandise exports increased 2.56 per cent to USD 20.98 billion. Exports during April-July this fiscal surged 4.15 per cent to USD 144.12 billion, and imports grew 7.57 per cent to USD 229.7 billion.

The merchandise trade deficit during the first four months of this fiscal has widened to USD 85.58 billion compared to USD 75.15 billion during April-July 2023.

The estimated value of service exports during April-July 2024 stood at USD 117.35 billion compared to USD 106.79 billion in April-July 2023. In the same period, the imports were projected at USD 62.95 billion.

Barthwal said the ministry is taking measures to push the exports to different geographies like Africa, which is being served by the US, Europe and China.

ASEAN-India Agri fellowship; 50 slots up for grabs

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In a move to boost agricultural ties with Southeast Asian nations, the government on Wednesday unveiled the ASEAN-India fellowship programme for higher education in agriculture and allied sciences.

Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced that 50 fellowships will be awarded to students from ASEAN countries over the five years, starting 2024-25.

Ten fellowships per year will be awarded for the next five years. It will cover master's degree programmes in agriculture and allied sectors, and August 27 is the deadline for the first batch.

The initiative, funded by

the ASEAN-India Fund, will cover admission fees, living expenses and incidentals for selected students.

Chouhan emphasised the "immense possibilities" for agricultural cooperation, citing similar agro-climatic zones between India and ASEAN nations.

He noted the programme would address the current lack of opportunities for young researchers to tackle common agricultural challenges.

"This will promote the development of a pool of expert human resources in ASEAN for the growth of agriculture and allied sciences," Chouhan said.

The minister highlighted India's globally recognised agricultural research facilities,



which already attract international students. The new fellowship aims to expose ASEAN students to cutting-edge research at top Indian agricultural universities.

India's existing international

programmes include the Netaji Subhas Fellowship and India-Africa Fellowship. Currently, about 135 foreign students are pursuing degrees at Indian agricultural institutions.

The launch event saw partic-

Ten fellowships per year will be awarded for the next five years. It will cover master's degree programmes in agriculture and allied sectors, and August 27 is the deadline for the first batch

Foxconn Chairman meets PM, discusses India investment plan

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The chairman of iPhone contract manufacturer Foxconn, Young Liu, called on Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday and discussed the company's investment plan in India.

"Wonderful to meet Mr. Young Liu, the Chairman of Hon Hai Technology Group (Foxconn). I highlighted the wonderful opportunities India offers in futuristic sectors. We also had excellent discussions on their investment plans in India in states like Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh," Modi said in a post on social media platform X.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA FOREST DEPARTMENT
E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
RC No. 444/2015/SPS Date: 07-08-2024
Number of the works: 18, Name of the works: Collection of long bamboo poles in Dammagapeta, Aswaracapeta and Mulakalappalli ranges of the Palancha Division in 2024-25 and transportation. Total estimated cost of work: Rs. 2,44,75,038/-, Submission of bids: From 1.00 pm on 12-08-2024 to 3.00 pm on 28-08-2024, Date of opening of the bids: 3.10 pm on 28-08-2024. For further details: contact e-procurement market place www.e-procurement.gov.in or contact phone 9440810995. Sd/- Forest Divisional Officer
R.O.No: 285-PP/CLADVT/12024-25, Dt: 14-08-2024 Palancha

GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
E-PROCUREMENT SHORT TENDER NOTICE
NIT No. 16/EE-Div-29/SBZ/GHMC/2024-25 Date: 14-08-2024
Name of the Work: Repair of Storm Water Drains in Motuguda Ward-144 and in Boudhanagar Ward-146, Div-29, Sec-bad, SBZ, GHMC. Estimate Amount / ECW: Rs. 8.30 lakhs. Start date / Last date & Time for receipts of Bids: From 17-08-2024 @ 2.00 PM to 24-08-2024 @ 2.00 PM. Name & Address office Cell. No.: Executive Engineer, Div-29, GHMC, Secbad, Cell No.: 9993550657. Further details can be seen at e-Procurement @ https://www.tender.e-procurement.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer, Div-29, Secbad, GHMC.
R.O.No: 2874-PP/CLADVT/12024-25, Dt: 14-08-2024

OFFICE OF THE NARSINGI MUNICIPALITY RANGAREDDY DISTRICT
E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
Notice No. ET/155/2024 Date: 13-08-2024
The Commissioner of Municipality of Narsingi has been inviting online tenders on the e-procurement platform for execution of 21 works worth Rs 593.00 lakh. The prospective tenders can download the tender schedule from e-market place i.e. www.tender.telangana.gov.in and can obtain further details. The last date for submission of tenders is up to 11.00 am on 24-08-2024.
R.O.No: 286-PP/CLADVT/12024-25, Dt: 14-08-2024 Sd/- Commissioner

GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
NIT No. 06/EE-(H)/GHMC/2024-25/Recall Date: 12-08-2024
Name of the Work: Reconditioning and replacement of damaged parts of Lifts. Estimated amount: Rs. 12.53 Lakhs. Start date: 14-08-2024 @ 04:00 PM, Last Date & Time for Receipt of Bids: 23-08-2024 @ 03:30 PM. Name & Address Officer Cell No.: O/o Executive Engineer-1 (Housing), GHMC, 3rd Floor, Municipal Building, Hari Hara Kalia Bhavan, Secunderabad - 500003. For any queries, contact Sri. G. Sandhya Rani, AEE (H)/HD, GHMC Cell No. 7331189771, e-mail id: ee1housinghd@gmail.com. Further details can be seen at e-procurement @ www.tender.telangana.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer-1 (Housing), GHMC.
R.O.No: 2898-PP/CLADVT/12024-25, Dt: 14-08-2024

GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
NOTICE INVITING SEALED QUOTATIONS
No. 04/EE-(H)/GHMC/2024-25 Date: 14-08-2024
Scope of Work: Invitation of sealed quotations for certain water supply and sanitary items etc., for repairs to 2BHK projects of GHMC. Release of Notification: 16/08/2024 @ 10.30AM. Last date for Submission of Quotations: 20/08/2024 @ 3.00 PM. Opening of sealed cover Quotations: 20/08/2024 @ 3.30 PM, Name & Address Office Ph. No.: Further details can be had from GHMC Website http://www.ghmc.gov.in and from Sri. P.V. Ravinder, EE (H-3), GHMC, O/o Executive Engineer - II (Housing), GHMC, 2nd Floor, Municipal Building, Hari Hara Kalia Bhavan, Secunderabad - 500003. Mobile No. 7995083328, e-mail id: ee3housingghmc@gmail.com. Further details can be seen at http://www.ghmc.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer (Housing-3) GHMC
R.O.No: 2896-PP/CLADVT/12024-25, Dt: 14-08-2024

ARTHSHILA HAS BEEN ON A MISSION TO TRANSFORM THE CONVENTIONAL GALLERY EXPERIENCE. THE PIONEER BRINGS TO YOU A CREATIVE PIECE AROUND THIS NGO AS WE CONNECT WITH THE SPOKESPERSON FOR OUR SPECIAL SEGMENT, COMMUNITY WISE



Creating essence of 'Arth' with room for 'Art'

SHIKHA DUGGAL

Arthshila, an immersive platform devoted to the arts led by Setika Singh, has transformed the conventional gallery experience through the careful creation of multi-art venues. Arthshila provides a broad range of genres through exhibitions, book readings, talks, film screenings, workshops and more, all while placing a strong emphasis on diversity in curating. With a focus on literature, film, visual arts, performing arts, architecture and design, Arthshila presents both traditional and contemporary artworks to a wide range of viewers. However, it is an affiliate organisation of the non-profit Takshila Educational Society (TES), which works in the fields of education, rural development and the arts and culture. Combining the two fascinating aspects, this week's community read is worthwhile!

In an exclusive conversation with its founder, we find out that Arthshila was founded with a larger aim centered on social reform and cultural enrichment. When Takshila was established in 1997, its goals were to advance cultural growth and education in Indian society. Acknowledging the transforming potential of art, Takshila actively sponsored several artistic endeavours, among them the 2006-started *Takshila Utsav*. This festival

promoted a thriving cultural scene by enabling a multitude of music, dance and theatre performances throughout the city. Takshila discovered a gap in the communication between the arts and people through its participation in these programs. The development of Arthshila depended heavily on this realisation.

"Even though the actual campus is still being developed, Arthshila started operations as soon as the foundation stone was laid in April 2016 in several locations. Since I was very young, the arts have been a part of my life. I had my Kathak training from Pandit Birju Maharaj and Saswati Sen. I'm also schooled in classical Indian music. There was an artistic atmosphere at home all the time. Since I was very little, my parents and I have attended plays and concerts together," shared Setika Singh, also the executive director of Takshila Foundation. She now firmly believes that the arts are essential to any civilisation. Therefore, Arthshila is not a traditional gallery but rather a multi-art environment. They are more than simply a gallery; they are a place where people come together for talks, performances, exhibitions, film screenings, book discussions and much more.

She goes on, "By incorporating a wide range of artistic mediums and subjects, we guarantee diversity and depth in our selections. We really believe in working with distinguished artists, academics



and specialists in every discipline, as well as art and cultural institutions. This enables us to carefully plan and carry out our projects while continuously delivering work of the highest caliber. Gothe Institute, British Council, Museum of GOA, Film South Asia, Khoj, FICA, NID. Additionally, we are dedicated to spotting and developing emerging and local talent through our programs, camps, seminars, residencies and Takshila Fine Arts Scholarships."

Through its establishment of several centers in different localities, including smaller towns and cities, it is fostering a fundamental connection between the arts and the public. Arthshila hopes to encourage conversation, spark innovation and ignite a passion for the arts within various communities by placing these

centers in distinctive cultural contexts. The goal of these initiatives is to establish welcoming environments where people of various backgrounds can interact, gain knowledge and be moved by the transformational potential of art. The locations of Arthshila include large book and movie collections, as well as frequent public cinema screenings, exhibitions and concerts that don't require tickets!

Conversely, "Arthshila Art Studios was established in 2016 with the intention of using art to promote creativity. The studio, which comprises a graphic art studio, a pottery studio, a sculpture and painting studio and an art library, is located in Takshila's rural development initiative, *Parivartan*. Its main goal at the time of its founding was to create an area where practitioners from various creative communities could congregate, work together and discover new creative frontiers. The *Arthshila All India Art Students Camp* is held at Arthshila Studios and is the result of the collaboration of Takshila's two verticals, Arthshila and Parivartan. This course is led by professionals in the area and focuses on print-making and ceramics. We hosted forty-five students from twenty-two art colleges around the nation in 2023 and 2024."

Additionally, they have collaborated with *Khoj* to offer young artists residencies that offer chances for both solo, research-based practice and group pro-

jects while on location. Since these residencies are entirely supported, artists are free to explore. They have so far worked with *Khoj* to arrange two residencies that have helped about fourteen artists.

Finally, the founder updates us on the next initiatives that are now under development. For example, "We have also conceptualised a maker space and research center for Himalayan material culture, known as Palay House, with Achi Association India. Through partnerships with individuals, institutions and organisations, this centre seeks to support research and practice while encouraging sustainable entrepreneurship and critical thinking within the delicate Himalayan ecology. On the other side, I developed a thorough understanding of the internal workings of a people-centric organisation while serving as the CEO's executive assistant at *Magic Bus*. In addition, I have been the Executive Director of our *Parivartan Rural Development* initiative. I've been able to fully participate in every facet of another community-focused project thanks to this position. Being in charge of *Parivartan* has opened my eyes because it has forced me to deal with the difficulties of rural development and collaborate directly with a variety of people."

Particularly in Santiniketan, their centers have become well-liked hangouts for students and young artists. These kinds of programs, together with art residencies and student camps, have allowed them to successfully develop artistic talent!

'I CHOSE TO LEAVE REALITY SHOWS TO FOCUS ON FILMS AND SERIES'

Being in talk with his portrayal of an Army cadet has certainly made Varun Sood's fans more ecstatic watching him on-screen play Yuvraj Singh Chauhan in *Naam Namak Nishan*. In an exclusive talk with *The Pioneer*, the lead actor discusses his nostalgic emotions with the project, his father's learnings, his rigorous training and also speaks about *Call Me Bae*

TEJAL SINHA

Life has certainly come to a full circle for Varun Sood! Well, a dream he hoped for has come true with his new project, *Naam Namak Nishan*, where he portrays Army Cadet Yuvraj Singh Chauhan. The series, currently streaming on Amazon miniTV, is now available for a watch and revolves around the two cadets at the Officers Training Academy. Entering the entertainment industry, which he thoroughly enjoyed, was far from easy. Nevertheless, he is happy that the time it took provided him with valuable lessons.

"*Naam Namak Nishan* is a nostalgic project," begins the Jug Jugg Jeeyo fame in this exclusive chat with *The Pioneer*. "It took me back to the time when I wanted to join the Army. Both for me and my dad, it's a very special project because my grandfather and he were both from the Army."

So as soon as he got the call for the project, it was beyond any doubt that he was all pumped up to work on a project around the Indian Army. Hoping to bag the project and finally getting it was no less than an overwhelming feeling he had. "My main inclination towards the project was the character that I was playing. It's different than any of the shows I have done. This character is something that is not like me. I feel in *Karmma Calling* and *Call Me Bae*; I have a certain reflection of Varun in the character, but this one poles apart. I wanted to explore what has been challenging and I wanted to take up the challenge," shares Varun.

To grasp the psyche of a cadet, he discussed with his father his experiences as cadets. In the past, during his time as a

cadet, attending the academy and undergoing daily training took a toll on both his mental and physical well-being. The *Ragini MMS: Returns* actor further recalls, "He shared multiple stories from his past where individuals faced challenges due to various reasons. I believe I have developed my character there and the sensation of wearing the uniform, training with actual cadets and feeling like a part of the institution was indescribable."

Isn't it overwhelming to put on the uniform of an Army cadet for the first time? Nevertheless, it did present its own set of difficulties. "Anyone watching will recognise that I have a military upbringing. If I don't perform well, all the blame falls on me and my skills. In order to excel in the role of a cadet, I had to put in a convincing performance," says the actor from *Karmma Calling*, who adds that the next challenge was comprehending Yuvraj's character, his background and the reasons behind his behaviour.

Before *Naam Namak Nishan*, he was shooting for *Call Me Bae*, which required him to be in a certain shape and be very muscular. "I had to lose all of that and start looking like a cadet." Moving forward, he remembers how he was expected to join the Army and the moments when his father would return home during holidays, always advising Varun on how to prepare for it. Thanks to his father, his life has been different because "he taught me to be highly concentrated and consistently enforced a strict routine. That transition eventually benefited me in the acting world as well. I always arrive on time for filming. The life advice from my father and grandfather about living and leading has been extremely beneficial to me."

Yuvraj's character had his own battles that he was fighting within him. "To understand his intention and why the way he is taking a while, you also have to really like your character and believe in it. You can just not have any negativity about it. I am empathised by his back story and I feel maybe he is like this because something has happened in his past, maybe because he did not have his mother. You need to manage a lot of emotions yourself. I understood that aspect of Yuvraj and played accordingly."

With his character, Yuvraj, he knew he had to be a lot more agile. Not just this, as a part of his training, he contacted Sanjeev, a renowned coach from Delhi who is also a junior NBA coach, who trained him for 12 months. And then with the Army drills,

running around and all of it, his character had become more believable. Going ahead, *Splitsvilla* fame recalls the training sessions he had, which included, "Training with the cadets to match up to their physical abilities was certainly not easy. There were times when the cadets were all motivating us because it was all in their minds. These young cadets were motivating us and there were times Danish and I were shooting in the sun. We were doing the drills for hours and every time we felt that we wouldn't be able to do them, we just told ourselves that this was the least we could do to be a part of the institution and give back to the youngsters. The bigger motive was clear and that's how we passed the shoot."

Then there's *Call Me Bae* in his kitty, alongside Ananya Pandey and we are going to see him in a much-fun character. Shooting for this project was a lot more fun for him because "I could experiment with it. My character in *Naam Namak Nishan* had a few restrictions, my character in *Ahaan* had a few restrictions, but in *CALL ME BAE*, I could just have fun. I could do whatever I felt like doing and me and Collin were experimenting with so many different things. I feel it's a very fun and indulging character and I had a lot of fun." Ananya, during the shoot, was the perfect team leader, he recalls, who brought the entire cast together and made sure they had the best of their time.

In *Call Me Bae*, he shares that there was a pinch of comedy, which he was keen to experiment with. "I was always inclined towards it and the fact that there was so much to play around. The graph of my character was so versatile that I knew I was certainly going to learn from it," shares Varun, who will also be seen hosting a reality show worldwide on a big platform this September. Heading towards the end of this fun chat, the *Roadies* fame signs off, saying, "I just want to do good quality work and continue working as an actor. Two years ago, I decided I did not want to be a contestant on reality shows and do quality films and series. I just want to keep working."



TRAINING WITH THE CADETS WAS NOT EASY. THERE WERE TIMES WHEN THE CADETS WERE ALL MOTIVATING US BECAUSE IT WAS ALL IN THEIR MINDS. IT'S DIFFICULT IN THE INITIAL DAYS, BUT ONCE YOU MAKE UP YOUR MIND, IT'S GOING TO MAKE YOU STRONGER



Celebrating balance of beauty and bliss in 'you'

PNs|HYDERABAD

The YFLO Hyderabad Chapter carried out a one-of-a-kind event, *Balance & Bliss* at the Park Hotel, Somajiguda, integrating beauty and wellness. The session embraced three speakers: Mira Kapoor, co-founder of 'Akind' Beauty; Vasudha Rai, a beauty & wellness author, podcaster and columnist; and Dr. Pooja Talera, an aesthetic physician and director at KOSA Wellbeing.

To begin with, in her opening statement, Ridhi Jain, Chairperson of YFLO, emphasised that beauty is mainly centered on outward appearance and aesthetics. It includes improving physical attributes by using techniques like applying makeup, styling hair and taking care of the skin. Contrarily, wellness is a more inclusive concept that covers physical, mental and emotional well-being. Balancing one's well-being in today's fast-paced world can be difficult. Our goal is to offer ideas and motivation for incorporating beauty and wellness into everyday life, leading to a more harmonious and satisfying existence.

Meanwhile, Mira Rajput Kapoor, who was one of the speakers, emphasised the importance of preserving the enchantment of life through perseverance. Maintaining equilibrium requires ongoing effort. "We possess abundant knowledge passed down from our ancestors; by utilising some of it, we can improve ourselves. Skincare is individualised," adds

Mira, also further emphasising the importance of being consistent.

Going ahead, Vasudha Rai, who has been writing about beauty and wellness for more than twenty years and is also known for her top-selling book, *Glow: Indian Foods, Recipes, and Rituals for Beauty, Inside and Out*, has brought back the practice of using traditional ingredients in daily life. She holds a certification as a yoga instructor. She commented that skin colour is not important, but rather to celebrate whatever you possess. Dr. Pooja Shah Talera, on the other hand, holds a degree in medicine and a diploma in practical dermatology. She possesses more than 13 years of expertise in the beauty and wellness industry. Speaking at the event, she said, "Our grandparents lacked the modern conveniences that we now have for beauty and wellness treatments and products. They would create their traditional formulas."

Today, we are fortunate to have access to those items. However, she mentioned that we cannot spare time for those formulations."





The Phankar group sponsored an event to commemorate the 78th Independence Day, which was hosted by socialites Sushila Bokadia and Namita Kankariya. Sudha Jain was the speaker guest at the event!

PARTY Photos by - SV Charly

CREAM CHEESE MOUSE - 10 PORTION

PISTACHIO SPONGE INGREDIENTS

- Egg - 6 No
- Sugar - 200 gm
- Flour - 120 gm
- Baking Powder - 7 gm
- Melted Butter - 100 gm
- pistachio powder - 100 gm

METHOD

1. In a large bowl, crack the eggs and add sugar, using electric mixer to beat the egg and sugar together
2. Gently fold flour, baking powder and pistachio powder into the egg mixture
3. Add melted butter and milk, gently fold this into whole mixture
4. Preheat the oven 180 degree celcius
5. Pour the batter in baking pan, smooth the top with a spatula, bake for 20 to 25 min
6. Once baked, remove the cake from the oven and allow to cool

VANILA CREAM INGREDIENTS

- Mascarpone cheese - 300 gm
- Fresh Cream - 100 gm
- Whipped Cream - 200 gm
- White Chocolate - 200 gm

METHOD

1. Break the chocolate into small pieces in a heatproof bowl and melt in a microwave
2. Whipped the cream in until it forms soft peaks
3. In a large mixing bowl, add mascarpone cheese beat with hand whisker until soft
4. Combine all the items together

RASBERRY CREAM INGREDIENTS

- Egg Yolk - 7 No
- Sugar - 100 gm
- Mascarpone Cheese - 400 gm
- Rasbery Puree - 100 gm
- Whipped Cream - 100 gm

METHOD

1. In a heatproof bowl, add egg yolks and sugar, whisk continuously over the simmerin
2. incorporate the cheese into the egg mixture, whisking continuously until smooth an
3. add rasberry puree into the mixture
4. in a seprate bowl whip the cream and add in to the mixture by using spatula

FINAL METHOD: LAYER THE DESSERT

1. Using a square or round ring mold, start by placing a layer of pistachio sponge at the
2. Spread an even layer of vanilla cream over the sponge using a spatula
3. Pour raspberry puree over the top to even layer.
4. Place the assembled dessert in the deep freezer for at least 2 hours to set completely
5. once fully set cut into portion sized pieces
6. The dessert is now ready to serve

KADDU KI KHEER (10 PORTION)

INGREDIENT:

- Kaddu - 0.5 gm
- Milk - 1 Litter
- Sugar - 0.3 gm
- Green Cardamom - 0.02 gm

METHOD:

1. Grate pumpkin finely
2. Take a heavy bottom pan heat milk and bring it to a boil
3. Add grated pumpkin and cooked until soft
4. Add sugar into the mixer after cooked remove from the pan
5. Keep fridge for cooling

KADU KI KHEER BASE INGREDIENTS:

- Green Cardamom - 0.02 gm
- Kaddu - 1 Kg
- Sugar - 0.4 gm
- Desi Ghee - 0.1 MI
- Milk - 1 Litter
- Saffron & Pistachio

METHOD:

1. Grate pumpkin finely
2. Take a heavy bottom pan heat milk and bring it to a boil
3. add grated pumpkin and sugar, cooked until soft
4. after 50 percent cook divide into 2 part
5. one cooked with saffron flavour
6. and second cooked with pistachio flavour

FINAL METHOD FOR KHADDU KI KHEER:

1. Take a small plate and put in the base kaddu ki rabri
2. Then use a small ring mould to adda layer of pistachio and saffron infused kaddu
3. Garnish with fried cashewnuts

Along with Sanjiv Puri, MD of the Himanshu Group, Bollywood power couple Riteish Deshmukh and Genelia opened the new Himanshu Entertainment Pvt Ltd. Situated in HITEC city, the new office will function as the company's main hub for a range of activities, such as productions linked to big-budget movies, director and other label-related tasks, as well as shoots for advertisements.



Children participated in a fancy dress ceremony as part of the 78th Independence Day celebrations at Sri Sairam High School, NBT Nagar in Banjara Hills. The children were costumed as various independence leaders.



FUN

ARCHIE



CALVIN AND HOBBS



GARFIELD



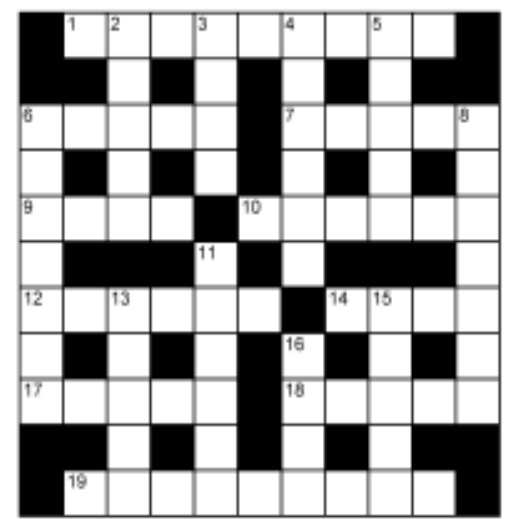
REALITY CHECK



SPEED BUMP



CROSSWORD



NANCY



SUDOKU

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

Yesterday's solution

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

Rules

- Each row and column can contain each number (1 to 9) exactly once.
- The sum of all numbers in any row or column must equal 45.

ACROSS

- 1 Little by little
- 6 Court case
- 7 Country of the Spanish
- 9 Second-hand
- 10 A citrus fruit
- 14 A health professional
- 15 Grow plants in this
- 17 A horse rider's straps
- 18 Unlocks
- 19 Joy
- 6 This comes after lightning
- 8 Use these when knitting
- 11 Talk a lot about other people's business
- 13 Porcelain things
- 15 Follows orders
- 16 Connect together

DOWN

- 2 Lift up
- 3 A toy person for playing with
- 4 Soak up
- 5 Memorise



GINGER MEGGS



GV Prakash reveals spending 50 days re-recording music for *Thangalaan*



K. RAMYA SREE

Actor-composer GV Prakash, known for his musical talents, has once again showcased his skill with the music in *Thangalaan*. The multifaceted star talks to *The Pioneer* in a one-on-one interview, discussing his methods, reflecting on his journey in creating the music for this movie, and more

was clear that the music needed to reflect the grandeur and historical context of the film. Given that the story is set in pre-independence times against a tribal backdrop, I was intrigued by the music of tribal communities. To inform my composition, I studied the traditional music of Australian and African tribes. Rather than opting for modern sounds, we created an original score that authentically fits the story's setting. My team was incredibly supportive throughout the process, and together, we achieved something truly special."

The extensive effort involved in creating the film's music is evident in Kumar's recount of his experience. He shared, "I spent 50 days re-recording the music for *Thangalaan*. There were moments when I had to adjust my schedule by two or three days to keep up with the tight deadlines. The challenge of working within a limited time frame was significant, but the result was incredibly rewarding. Director Pa Ranjith's vision for the film was clear, and I made sure the music aligned perfectly with his expectations. Working on *Thangalaan* was a deeply satisfying experience."

We asked him if he watched the film before its release and what he thought about the final product output. He shared his thoughts: "Vikram's transformation for this film is nothing short of impressive. The physical demands on the actors are substantial, and Vikram's dedication is evident in his performance. The female leads, Parvathy Thiruvothu and Malavika Mohanan, deliver outstanding performances that add depth to the film. *Thangalaan* will immerse audiences in a new world, and I am excited for everyone to experience it on the big screen. I am confident that viewers will feel the thrill and excitement of the film."

The musical elements of *Thangalaan* have already garnered attention, with the title song and the track *Manaki Manaki* receiving positive feedback. Kumar notes, "The background music (BGM) plays a crucial role in conveying the film's range of emotions—love, conspiracy, conflict, and anger. I aimed to create a BGM that would enhance these emotions and connect more deeply with the audience. I hope that the music adds to the overall experience of *Thangalaan* and resonates with viewers as much as it did with me during its creation."

Looking ahead, the actor-composer has several projects in the pipeline that he is excited about. "I am currently working on several exciting projects, including *Lucky Baskhar*, starring Dulquer Salmaan in Telugu and *Robin Hood* featuring Nithiin. Additionally, I have collaborations with Dil Raju under Vijayanthi banners and a Tamil film directed by Dhanush. I am also involved in films with Sivakartheeyan's *Amaran*. Balancing my roles as both an actor and music director, I have carefully planned my schedule to ensure smooth progress across all my projects."

"THANGALAAAN IS INDEED A MASSIVE PROJECT, AKIN TO THE SCALE OF INDIANA JONES. WHEN I FIRST HEARD THE SCRIPT, IT WAS CLEAR THAT THE MUSIC NEEDED TO REFLECT THE GRANDEUR AND HISTORICAL CONTEXT OF THE FILM"



Vedaa packs a punch against caste and convention!

AARTI SREENATH

PLOT: In the dusty, sun-baked village of Barmer, where tradition and caste lines run deep, a young girl named Veda (played by Sharvari Wagh) emerges as an unexpected force of nature. Armed with nothing but her iron will and a pair of boxing gloves, Veda's journey is one of passion, resilience and a fierce determination to rise above the caste shackles that bind her. But in a world where the lower castes are seen as little more than shadows, Veda and her family find themselves at the mercy of the local upper-caste goons—until fate brings Major Abhimanyu Kanwar (played by John Abraham) into their lives.

HIGHLIGHTS: For those who revel in the adrenaline rush of action coupled with the intrigue of mystery, *Vedaa* is an absolute treat. The film's action sequences are nothing short of electrifying, with the opening shots setting the stage for a visual spectacle. John Abraham, the ever-youthful warrior, dominates the screen, his presence as commanding as his punches. His portrayal of Major Abhimanyu Kanwar is one of grit and gravitas, particularly in a scene where, wounded and cornered, he handles a gun with one hand, an image that sears itself into memory. Sharvari Wagh, stepping into the shoes of Veda, delivers a performance brimming with raw energy and vulnerability. Her fight scenes are not just battles; they are a cathartic release, an eruption of years of pent-up rage and defiance. And in the quieter moments, her emotive depth resonates powerfully, leaving a lasting impact. Her unfiltered, makeup-less visage on screen adds an authentic charm that draws you deeper into her world.

Abhishek Banerjee's chilling portrayal of the antagonist is nothing short of brilliant. His sinister demeanour, coupled with a calculating mind, makes him the perfect nemesis. He doesn't just play the villain; he embodies it, creating a palpable tension that keeps you on the edge of your seat. The depiction of caste atrocities in *Vedaa* is stark and unflinching. The film seamlessly blends crime thriller elements with a profound commentary on societal stereotypes, laying bare the harsh realities of discrimination in India. Every scene pulses with energy, ensuring that the narrative never loses its grip on the audience.

Although Tamannaah Bhatia's role is limited, her presence adds a subtle layer to the

narrative. The sound design, particularly during the fight scenes, is a symphony of tension, with each punch and gunshot reverberating with purpose. It's in these moments that *Vedaa* truly shines as an action spectacle.

DRAWBACKS: There are moments where the film stretches the bounds of believability, flirting with the fantastic. But this is Bollywood, where the heart often trumps logic and in the world of *Vedaa*, the occasional leap of faith is forgivable. The soundtrack, while serviceable, doesn't quite match the intensity of the film and fades into the background, overshadowed by the story's raw power.

TECHNICAL ASPECTS: Cinematographer Malay Prakash's work is nothing short of masterful. The gritty realism he captures on screen feels almost tactile, as though the dust of Barmer could be brushed off the screen. His use of manual techniques adds a layer of authenticity, while the lighting and colour palettes shift with the narrative's mood, subtly guiding the audience's emotions. The wide-angle shots, especially in the action sequences, are breathtaking, with a particularly memorable drone shot during a blast scene that stands out as a visual marvel. The sound design is meticulously crafted, with even the smallest details—like the whizzing of a bullet—captured with precision. The visual storytelling, particularly in the film's opening and closing sequences, heightens the suspense and adds emotional depth. The editing is sharp and keeps the pacing tight, making *Vedaa* a thrilling ride for those who enjoy high-octane drama and aren't squeamish about a bit of blood on screen.

VERDICT: *Vedaa* is more than just a movie; it's a statement, a fierce, unyielding cry against the injustices that plague society. It captures the brutal reality of caste discrimination while portraying women as powerful forces of change, capable of challenging the status quo with sheer willpower.

Directed by: Nikkhil Advani

Produced by: John Abraham, Monisha Advani, Umesh Bansal, Madhu Bhojwani and Minnakshi Das

Cinematography by: Malay Prakash

Cast: John Abraham, Sharvari Wagh, Abhishek Banerjee, Tamannaah Bhatia and Kshitij Chauhan

Rating: 3.5/5

DEAR UMA IN POST-PRODUCTION PHASE, SUMAYA REDDY SHINES IN I-DAY SPECIAL STILL

Balancing dual roles as an actress and producer on the same film is a remarkable achievement, and Sumaya Reddy, a talented Telugu actress from Anantapur, is ready to showcase her skills in Tollywood. With her debut film, *Dear Uma*, Sumaya is making her mark as both a producer and actress, while also contributing as a scriptwriter. Directed by Sai Rajesh Mahadev, the film has already garnered attention with its captivating posters, teasers, and songs. The buzz surrounding *Dear Uma* has been building, promising an engaging and heartwarming love story. Sumaya Reddy's role as a scriptwriter highlights her creative talents, further adding to the film's allure. In celebration of Independence Day, the makers have released a special poster featuring Sumaya Reddy. The poster shows her walking against an icy backdrop, holding the Indian flag and dressed in an elegant white outfit that represents peace and unity. Currently, the film is in post-production, with the team working diligently to prepare for its upcoming release. Despite being Sumaya Reddy's first project as a producer, *Dear Uma* is being mounted with considerable grandeur. Prithvi Amber plays the lead role and the film's music is composed by Radhan.

Venkatesh joins sets of Anil Ravipudi's film in Pollachi



video captures the camaraderie between Venkatesh and director Anil Ravipudi, offering a glimpse into their enjoyable moments on set. During this month-long schedule, the focus will be on filming both dialogue scenes and musical numbers. The film promises to be a compelling triangular crime drama, delving into the intricate relationships between three central characters: the protagonist, his former lover and his exceptional wife.

Meenakshi Chaudhary and Aishwarya Rajesh star as the leading ladies opposite Venkatesh. The film benefits from a talented team working behind the scenes: Bheems Ceciroleo is composing the music, Sameer Reddy is handling cinematography, A.S. Prakash is overseeing production design and Tammiraju is managing the editing. The screenplay is a collaborative effort between S. Krishna and G. Adhinarayana, while V. Venkat is choreographing the action sequences.

Victory Venkatesh, the blockbuster maestro Anil Ravipudi and Sri Venkateswara Creations are joining forces once again with their upcoming venture, *Production No. 58*, in a bid to secure a hat-trick of hits. Set to compete in the Sankranti season, this film is currently being shot in Pollachi.

Victory Venkatesh has officially joined the production, and to mark the occasion, the team released a special video showcasing Venkatesh in the role of an ex-cop. The



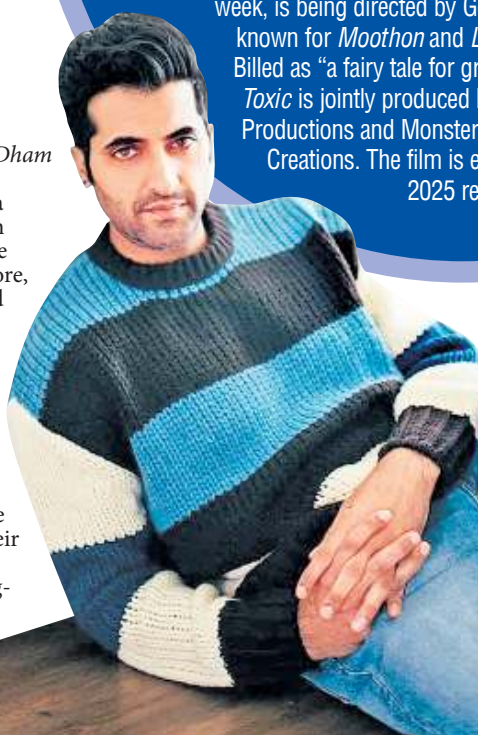
AKSHAY OBEROI MAKES HIS SOUTH DEBUT WITH TOXIC

Actor Akshay Oberoi has joined the cast of the upcoming Kannada movie *Toxic*, headlined by KGF franchise star Yash. The *Fighter* star shared the news on Wednesday on his Instagram Stories, where he posted a photo of the welcome hamper that he received from the film's team. "Dear Akshay, Welcome to the team. We're thrilled to have your talent and energy on board for this project. We look forward to creating something amazing together. Team *Toxic*," read the message on the hamper. The upcoming Kannada movie, which began filming in Bengaluru last week, is being directed by Geetu Mohandas, known for *Moothon* and *Liar's Dice*. Billed as "a fairy tale for grown-ups", *Toxic* is jointly produced by KVN Productions and Monster Mind Creations. The film is eyeing a 2025 release.

Srinu Vaitla's personal connection with *Dhoom Dham*

The teaser for the highly anticipated film *Dhoom Dham* was unveiled recently by actor Gopichand and acclaimed director Sreenu Vaitla. Scheduled for a grand release on September 13, the movie stars Chetan Krishna and Hebah Patel in the lead roles, with notable supporting performances by Sai Kumar, Vennela Kishore, Prithviraj and Goparaju Ramana. The film is produced by MS Ram Kumar under the Friday Frame Works banner, directed by Sai Kishore Macha, and features a story and screenplay by Gopi Mohan.

That being said, director Sreenu Vaitla, who watched the teaser, praised its vibrant and colourful presentation. He shared his personal connections to the film, noting his close relationship with Gopi Mohan, a writer he has collaborated with on several successful projects. Vaitla also commended Sai Kishore Macha for his dedication and enthusiasm, recalling their work together from *Dubai Sheenu* to *Baadshah*. He expressed admiration for producer Ram Kumar, a long-time friend and passionate film enthusiast known for his work on *First Rank Raju*. Vaitla conveyed his strong belief that *Dhoom Dham* will achieve significant success, benefiting both Ram Kumar and lead actor Chetan Krishna.



STANDALONE

Renowned Telugu film director Sukumar has made a generous donation of 5 lakh rupees to the Telugu Film Directors' Association. This substantial contribution is intended to improve the health insurance facilities available to the association's members.



Allu Arjun had 24 costume changes in the song *Eyy Bidda Ye Mera Adda!*



Allu Arjun's star power shines brightly in *Pushpa: The Rise*, particularly through the electrifying track *Eyy Bidda Ye Mera Adda*. The song, composed by Devi Sri Prasad and performed by Nakash Aziz, is one of the film's standout moments and allows Arjun to flaunt his charisma and dynamic presence throughout the music video.

What sets this track apart is not just its catchy beat, but also the impressive wardrobe changes that Allu Arjun underwent during the shoot. To bring the song's vibrant energy to life, Allu Arjun sported an astounding wardrobe with 24 different outfits. Each costume was carefully selected to reflect the song's high-octane spirit and to keep the visuals fresh and entertaining.

Pushpa: The Rise went on to become a major success and Allu Arjun's magnetic aura in the *Eyy Bidda Ye Mera Adda* music video played a significant role in that achievement. His dynamic performance and the vibrant visuals of the song contributed to the film's widespread appeal, reinforcing its status as a blockbuster hit. Fans will be eagerly anticipating Allu Arjun's continued brilliance on screen, especially with the upcoming global release of *Pushpa 2: The Rule* later this year. Directed by Sukumar and also starring Rashmika Mandanna and Fahadh Faasil, the film is set to hit cinemas on December 6.

INDIA CAN DO A HAT-TRICK OF TEST SERIES TRIUMPHS IN AUSTRALIA: RAVI



Tejal, Raghvi 50s go in vain as Australia A win opening one-dayer

PTI ■ MACKAY (AUSTRALIA)

Fine half-centuries by middle-order batters Raghvi Bist and Tejal Hasabnis went in vain as India A Women lost their opening one-day match against Australia A by four wickets, with Katie Mack scoring a century for the winners here on Wednesday. This is the fourth successive defeat for India A on their tour of Australia following their 0-3 whitewash in the T20 series in Brisbane. India, after setting a modest victory target of 250, thanks mainly to Tejal's 53 (67 balls, 7x4) and Raghvi's 82 (102 balls, 6x4), were thwarted by Aussie opener Katie's 129 (126 balls, 11x4). Katie enjoyed fruitful half-century partnerships with fellow opener Maddy Darke (27) and Charli Knott (26) and a century stand with skipper Tahliha McGrath (56) as Australia easily won the opening game of the three-

match one-day series. India's pace bowling stalwart Meghna Singh (2/43) and spinner Minnu Mani (2/53) took two wickets each. With only a handful of senior India players in the side, India had an inauspicious start, losing openers Shweta Sehrawat (1) and Priya Punia (6) cheaply. At 56/3, India A were in dire straits but Tejal and Raghvi, both making their one-day debut for the country, stitched a 55-run partnership to take the visitors past the century mark. Raghvi also shared half-century stands with skipper Mani and Shipra Giri (25 not out) as she gave the visitors a respectable total to defend.

BRIEF SCORES:

India A 249 for 9 in 50 overs (Tejal Hasabnis 53, Raghvi Bist 82; Nicola Hancock 2/40, Maitlan Brown 4/23, Grace Parsons 2/40). Australia A 250 for 6 in 47 overs (Katie Mack 129, Tahliha McGrath 56; Meghna Singh 2/43, Minnu Mani 2/53).

PTI ■ DUBAI

India is capable of a hat-trick of Test series triumphs in Australia given the quality of its bowlers and the strong batting lineup that has the likes of Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli, feels former head coach Ravi Shastri. India have won the last two Test series in Australia and have held onto the prestigious Border-Gavaskar Trophy since the Kangaroos claimed a 2-0 series victory on home soil at the beginning of 2015. "With (Jasprit) Bumrah fit, (Mohammed) Shami fit, you've got

Mohammed Siraj there. You've got the likes of (Ravinchandran) Ashwin and (Ravindra) Jadeja and some very good bench strength as well... One can't wait for that series to start and (I think) India can do the hat-trick (of series victories in Australia)," Shastri told ICC. Australia legend Ricky Ponting had recently predicted a 3-1 series win for his country but Shastri said that Indian bowlers can get the job done provided their batters are up to the challenge. "It is going to be one heck of a series and India have every chance of making it a hat-trick because they've got their bowlers fit and if they can

bat well, they can tickle (beat) Australia once again," said Shastri. India will play a five-match series Down Under beginning with the Test at Perth in November this year. The Pat Cummins-led Australia are upbeat after they exacted sweet revenge over Rohit Sharma's side during the World Test Championship final at The Oval last year, and Shastri feels that a hurting home side would be more than keen to re-claim the Border-Gavaskar Trophy. "The Border-Gavaskar Trophy in Australia over five Test matches is going to be a humdinger. Remember, India have beaten

Australia twice on the last two tours and Australia have not had a hand on the Border-Gavaskar Trophy in almost a decade and that's the reason why everyone will be waiting for these two heavyweights of Test match cricket over the last five to eight years to go head-to-head," added Shastri. With Australia too boasting a strong bowling line-up, Shastri feels that revenge will be on the home team's mind because of successive series losses they have suffered in the last two editions. "We know what Australia will be wanting (revenge). They will be thirsty, they'd be looking to go at the

throats of the Indians because they've been beaten there (in Australia) twice. "The attack is pretty much the same. One of the greatest fast bowling attacks — (one of the greatest) all-round attacks when you add Nathan Lyon there — in a long, long time. And one of the best in the history of the game. They'll be looking for those 20 wickets, game after game to help Australia win the series. "It's going to be India's batting against the Australian fast bowlers. And of course, the Indian bowling attack is going to be something everyone will be waiting to see," he added.



Yuzvendra to play for Northamptonshire in One-Day Cup and County matches

PTI ■ LONDON

India leg-spinner Yuzvendra Chahal has joined Northamptonshire for their last fixture in the One-Day Cup and remaining five matches in the County Championship Division Two, the club announced on Wednesday. The 34-year-old Chahal has so far played 72 ODIs and 80 T20Is for India with 217 wickets across both formats to show for his efforts. Northamptonshire said on their website that the 34-year-old Indian spinner, who was a part of the country's victorious campaign in the T20 World

Cup, will link up with the squad on Wednesday ahead of their trip to Canterbury to play against Kent. "Northamptonshire County Cricket Club are delighted that Indian international Yuzvendra Chahal will join the club for the final One-Day Cup match at Kent and the remaining five County Championship fixtures," Northamptonshire said in a statement. "Also previously an India youth international in the sport of chess, Chahal spent time at Kent in the 2023 season, taking nine wickets in two of their three Division One matches of the campaign," it added.

"Yuzvendra is another high-profile overseas player who brings with him a wealth of experience and some incredible skills. His record speaks for itself and his wicket-taking ability will add strength to our attack," said Northamptonshire head coach John Sadler. Northamptonshire are currently placed seventh in the eight-team County Division Two points table with seven draws and two defeats in nine matches, whereas in the One-Day Cup also the club has had a tough season so far with one win and six defeats keeping them at the eighth position in Group A.

Dodda appointed Kenyan cricket team's head

PTI ■ NAIROBI

Former Indian all-rounder Dodda Ganesh has been appointed head coach of Kenya's men's cricket team ahead of the Africa Qualifiers for the 2026 T20 World Cup. Ganesh, 51, who played four Tests and an ODI without much success but did alright in first-class cricket scoring over 2000 runs and taking 365 wickets for Karnataka, will have the unenviable task of bringing back the glory days of Kenyan cricket when it competed in five World Cups

between 1996 and 2011. The best-ever finish of the Associate Member was in 2003 when it reached the semifinals in South Africa with an Indian head coach in Sandeep Patil. Kenya have qualified for just one edition of the T20 World Cup, which was back in 2007. Since then, Kenyan cricket has gone into a downward spiral. They will face Papua New Guinea, Qatar, Denmark and Jersey in the ICC Division 2 Challenge League in September and T20 World Cup



Africa Qualifiers in October. The men's 2026 T20 World Cup will be co-hosted by India and Sri Lanka. Ganesh said he is looking forward to the new role. "Privileged to be named the head coach of the Kenya cricket team," the former India cricketer posted on 'X'. In a video shared by the media here, Ganesh can be seen interacting with senior Kenya cricket officials. Ganesh will be assisted by former Kenyan internationals Lameck Onyango and Joseph Angara, who will be his deputies.

Hockey India retires Sreejesh's number 16 jersey at senior level, names him junior coach

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Hockey India on Wednesday decided to retire the jersey number of goalkeeping stalwart P R Sreejesh at the senior level after he bid adieu to the game following his starring role in the country's second consecutive Olympic bronze at the just-concluded Paris Games. Hockey India secretary general Bholu Nath Singh said going forward no senior team player will be given the number 16 jersey although it will remain in circulation at the junior level. While lauding the veteran's contribution to the game, Hockey India President Dilip Tirkey said Sreejesh has earned

the right to be considered the "God of Modern Indian Hockey". Singh also formally announced that the affable 36-year-old, who competed for nearly two decades, will take up the role of the junior national coach. "Sreejesh is now going to be the junior team coach and we are retiring the No. 16 jersey for the senior team. We are not retiring No. 16 for the junior team," said Singh at a felicitation function for the veteran and other members of the team. "Sreejesh dusra Sreejesh ko paida karega in junior team (Sreejesh will groom another Sreejesh in the junior team who will wear the No.16 jersey)," he added. The players, who were present



at the ceremony, wore identical red jerseys with Sreejesh's name on the back as a mark of respect for the Kerala man. Also in attendance was pistol shooter Manu Bhaker, who became the first Indian athlete post independence to win two Olympic medals with her bronze medals in 10m air pistol and 10m air pistol mixed

team (partnering Sarabjot Singh). "It's difficult to put into words how grateful and honoured I feel about this gesture from Hockey India," he said. "Eighteen years is a long journey. I've experienced all the highs and lows, but it has shaped me into the person I am today. I've enjoyed every

minute of my time as an international player, and will deeply miss my teammates, who have become a second family to me," he added. Indian captain Harmanpreet Singh said the team is proud to have given Sreejesh a "fairytale farewell." "Sreejesh has become a crucial part of our lives. He has always guided us like an elder brother on and off the pitch," he said. Tirkey thanked Sreejesh for his service to the game. "This is not a farewell, but a celebration of everything PR Sreejesh has achieved and contributed to Indian Hockey over the 18 years. For what Sreejesh has given to Indian hockey, he should surely be called the 'God of Modern Indian Hockey'," he said.

Olympics with short field delivers stars on podium and compelling golf

AP ■ PARIS

Take a small field and eliminate about half of them for not having a realistic chance of winning and it sounds like it could be a LIV Golf event. But this is the Olympics, with 60 players from more than 30 countries, some of whom rarely experience a big stage, none getting paid. Singapore had its first player (Shannon Tan) in the women's competition. Switzerland had its first (Joel Girrbach) in the men's event. That might explain why golf in the Olympics continues to deliver the biggest stars on the podium, along with compelling stories. Paris was no exception. Scottie Scheffler set the tone for the fortnight at Le Golf National with a Sunday charge that was as amazing as the collapse of Jon Rahm. Scheffler was four shots behind going into the last round, and the world's No. 1 player still trailed by six shots as he played the 12th hole. He shot 29 on the back nine, closed with a 9-under 62 and added Olympic gold to an already astonishing year. Xander Schauffele, the gold

medalist from the Tokyo Games, also is having a monster year with major titles at the PGA Championship and British Open. He shared the 54-hole lead with Rahm and said afterward that "cherry on top would not do it justice" if he had won another gold. "Scottie is going to have about 14 cherries on top of his cake," Schauffele said. It's been that kind of year. The best year in women's golf belongs to Nelly Korda, with five straight wins (including a major) and six titles in seven starts. The Olympics, however, were all about Lydia Ko of New Zealand. Ko had said at the start of the week she hasn't seen her silver medal from Rio de Janeiro or her bronze from Tokyo since winning them. Her father had the silver. Her sister had taken the bronze back to their parents' native South Korea to share with family. Ko said if she won the gold, she would have to take back the other medals. Ko's road back to her Florida home probably will include a detour to South Korea. "I think I need to find a good place to put them all together," she said



Tuesday. Her game was as good as it has been all year, and the timing could not have been better. Ko, who got married at the end of 2023, has

been contemplating retirement and concluded this would be her last Olympics. She needed one more victory to get into the LPGA Hall of Fame.

Just like the men's competition, there was a combination of clutch play (Ko) and collapses (Korda, Morgane Metraux, Miyu Yamashita, Rose Zhang). Ko made

a 45-foot birdie putt on the seventh hole, built a five-shot lead and then had to hang on to win by two. She headed to Scotland and didn't get her first good sleep until Sunday night. "I woke up like, Was that a dream? Did that just really happen? Super exciting," she said at the Women's Scottish Open. "Just very grateful for literally this once-in-a-lifetime opportunity." Indeed, it was a quite a show. But that's how it was the previous two Olympics for golf. Korda won the gold in Tokyo as the newly minted No. 1 player in women's golf who was coming off her first major. Schauffele won gold with a 5-foot par putt on the last hole, a tribute to both parents. His mother was raised in Japan - his grandparents are still there - and his father had Olympic aspirations of his own until getting struck by a drunk driver on his way to a German training site. He lost an eye among numerous injuries. Storybook stuff. In Rio de Janeiro, former U.S. Open champion Justin Rose won a duel with British Open champion Henrik Stenson. The more compelling outcome

was Inbee Park. She has been injured in 2016 and barely played while she tried to recover, and there was a push behind the scenes by the South Korean squad to replace her with someone who would have had a better shot at gold. Park ignored the noise, and then took down Ko - the No. 1 player at the time - to win. Golf already has produced gold medalists destined for the Hall of Fame if they aren't there already, such as Park and Ko. Scheffler is virtually assured of being No. 1 for the longest stretch since Tiger Woods. Rose is a former No. 1. Schauffele is a double major winner who finally is getting due as one of the elite. By now there should be little debate whether golf belongs in the Olympics, even though it doesn't look like other sports in the program. There is no getting around the fact most Olympic athletes wait four years for their prize and golf has four of them (five on the LPGA Tour) a year in the form of majors. Scheffler's year would not have been incomplete without a gold medal. He has a green jacket. Ko's career was made complete with gold.