

project in limbo.

needs to be notified.

Meanwhile, local body and

municipal elections are approaching and the percentage of reservations

Sources allege that a policy deci-

sion is still pending for the Rs 150 crore project, and there seems to be

a disconnect between the Ministries

of Panchayati Raj and BC Welfare.

tion is issued, it would take 10 days,

as the census will be based on the

erstwhile 10 districts. The census

could be completed in 20 days with one month for analysis and three

months to prepare the final report."

The BC Commission may not

Sources indicated, "If a notifica-

'443-km India-Bangla border...

The Border Security Force (BSF) on Monday said the 443-km India-Bangladesh border in Meghalaya is fully secure and denied claims of illegal entry by Bangladeshi nationals. The paramilitary force issued a statement after the media in the neighbouring country reported that Awami League leader Ishak Ali Khan Panna died of heart attack while climbing a hill in Meghalaya's Dawki in an attempt to flee his country. Dawki, in Meghalaya East Khasi Hills, is located close to Bangladesh. A BSF spokesperson...



Within two days after Health Minister Damodara Raja Narasimha provided an update on the dengue situation, Telangana has reported 913 new dengue cases as on August 25, bringing the total to 5,372 cases since January 1. The Health Minister's earlier release had indicated 4,459 cases up until August 23, but recent data from the Director of Health and Family Welfare reveals a significant increase. The State has tested 81,932 samples, with a positivity rate of 6.5%. The districts...

Vedanta readies Rs 30,000-cr...

Anil Agarwal-led Vedanta Ltd has prepared a war chest of Rs 30,000 crore with recent funds raised through a qualified institutional placement (QIP), offer for sale (OFS) and dividend to pursue eleveraging a sources said. Proceeds from the Rs 8.500-crore QIP of Vedanta Ltd. HZL's OFS of Rs 3.200 crore. and Rs 5.100 crore from the second interim dividend, coupled with existing cash reserves of Rs 13,000 crore, will lead to the creation of a Rs 30,000-crore war chest after the .. -PAGE: 8

Caste census in limbo

BC Commission tenure to end in couple of days

NAVEENA GHANATE naveena.ghanate@gmail.com HYDERABAD

one.

-PAGE: 2

-PAGE: 3

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's emphasis on 'caste census' appears to be stuck in Telangana, despite a resolution passed in the state Assembly.

The tenure of the Backward Classes (BC) Commission, headed by Dr Vakulabharanam, is ending on August 31, but the state government has not decided on extending the tenure of the commission appointed by the BRS, or constituting a new

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has reportedly remained non-committal on the issue, even though similar exercises are on in Karnataka and Bihar and Rahul Gandhi continues to call for a nationwide caste census.

While a Government Order (GO 26) was issued on March 15, 2024, to launch a comprehensive door-todoor household survey, progress has been minimal.

High-level sources indicated that ment and the tenure of the current

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi's emphasis on 'caste census' appears to be stuck in Telangana, despite a resolution passed in the state Assembly

the Terms of Reference (TOR) have receive an extension due to its assonot been provided by the governciation with BRS leaders.

PNS HYDERABAD BC Commission is nearing its end. A majority of BJP leaders includ-The current commission had prepared an action plan, drafted a methodology, and developed a quesing BJLP leader Alleti Maheshwar Reddy and Malkajgiri MP Eatala tionnaire with 63 questions, drawing from the census experiences of other states. However, the commission has not received clear directives from the government, leaving the

Rajender are extending conditional support to HYDRAA. However, Chevella MP Konda Vishweshwar Reddy extended unconditional support to HYDRAA. Ôn Monday, Konda

I am in BJP: Konda

Vishweshwar Reddy said that he is supporting HYDRAA as it is a good decision although he is in the BJP.

He said the Congress government took a great decision in the name of HYDRAA to demolish illegal buildings. He said that 78 per cent of respondents extended support and 22 per cent opposed HYDRAA in an online survey conducted by him. Vishweshwar said that there is no

vengeance behind HYDRAA demolitions. If that is right, then the CM would have demolished KTR's Janwada Farmhouse first. He said the demolitions are being conducted irrespective of political affiliations.

Demolish Owaisi's illegal buildings:BJP

□ Challenges CM Revanth govt



Challenging Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's Congress government to demolish illegal buildings in the Old City if he has the guts, the BJP demanded that the Congress government should take action against the illegal buildings built by

Asaduddin Owaisi. Speaking to the media on Monday, BJLP leader Alleti Maheshwar Reddy

'Don't demolish Fatima **Owaisi** College' Shoot me if you want:

Akbaruddin

I am ready to be shot if the government wants to shoot me, but d o n' demolish the Fatima

Owaisi College, AIMIM Floor Leader Akbaruddin Owaisi said.

He was responding to news reports on Monday that HYDRAA is going to demolish the Fatima Owaisi College located in Bandlaguda.

Everything Young India' in Telangana Revanth stops naming institutes after politicians

PNS HYDERABAD

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has been naming all his pet projects as 'Young India,' whether it is the Young India Skills University, the Young India Sports University or the latest Young India Integrated Model School.

He is breaking the convention of naming institutes after Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Indira Gandhi or Raiiv Gandhi a typi



Mala leaders ask CM to ensure justice

Concerts 20

PNS HYDERABAD

Mala community leaders requested the Chief Minister to ensure that no injustice is done to the Mala community during SC categorisation. They said that as per the court's direction both the Mala and Madiga communities should receive justice.

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy sured the d

HYDRAA DEMOLITIONS Congress steps up counter-attack

PNS HYDERABAD

Countering the criticism of the BRS, the BJP and the AIMIM regarding HYDRAA, the Congress intensified its counter-attack on the opposition.

Kisan Congress Vice-President M. Kodanda Reddy said that the BRS, the BJP and the AIMIM have been behaving in a surprising manner regarding HYDRAA.

He said the opposition is behaving irresponsibly and their criti- son, Gnana Sunder, said that no cism is intended to weaken the one can damage Chief Minister CM's decisive actions. Opposition Revanth Reddy's self-confidence. ible the parties are trying to tr

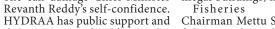


rule, officials listened to BRS leaders and so BRS leaders acquired fake title deeds, he said.

TPCC spokesperson Bhavani Reddy said that satellite surveys have proved that Palla Rajeshwar Reddy grabbed lake land. Palla constructed his Anurag University in Nadam Cheruvu with police protection, he said.

Former Minister Malla Reddy destroyed the Suraram Lake and now the lake is not even visible. The government will demolish all illegal buildings, he said.

Corporation Fisheries hairman Mett Sai K





India dasher Suryakumar Yadav will turn up for Mumbai in their Buchi Babu contest against TNCA XI, beginning here on Tuesday, with an aim to get his Test career back on track. Shreyas lyer, also part of Mumbai's squad, too will be looking to make a statement in the pre-season event, having last played a Test in February. The starstudded Mumbai side will be captained by Sarfaraz Khan, who too will be jostling find space in a full strength Test squad when the home season begins next month despite a promising .. -SPORTS

Congressman.

Sources close to the CM said that 'Young India' signifies that Telangana is a state of the future and that the youthfulness of the country is reflected in its name. 'The CM's mission and my slo-

gan for everything will be Young India moving forward. The name is to inspire Telangana. Telangana is pitched as a future state by the CM reinforcing the vibrancy of the young state and eventually, it looks like a torch. We want to make Telangana synonymous with 'Young India' across the world and not just in the country as the state is largely about youth and youthfulness,"

the sources said. Acknowledging the gap between the skills of the youth and what industry needs, the Congress government went ahead with establishing the Young India Skills University

Govt to establish Young India Skills University, **Young India Sports University & Young** India Integrated Model Schools

to address this mismatch. The establishment of the Young

India Sports University aims to improve India's performance in the Olympics. Focussing on nurturing talent, the

government is also setting up Young India Integrated Residential Schools on 20 to 25 acres in all constituencies to provide training and education for Telangana's youth.



mittee would be appointed

CM using HYDRAA, he added. the government should expand it fishermen depend on tanks and The TPCC's official spokesper- to the entire state. During BRS lakes.

BJP leaders complain to high command against Maheshwar

PNS HYDERABAD

Is the Telangana BJP unable to stomach the blistering pace of Bharatiya Janata Legislative Party (BJLP) leader Alleti Maheshwar Reddy? It is learnt that some Telangana BJP leaders have complained to the high command about the pace at which Alleti Maheshwar Reddy is functioning and have asked the high command to rein him in.

Maheshwar has been busying himself with some political programme every day after taking over as the BJLP leader. He has been troubling the Congress government by levelling allegations against it and claiming that he has proof to back it up. He started his crusade by alleging that the CM and some ministers were collecting 'taxes' like R Tax, B it is learnt that some Telangana BJP leaders are unable to digest his scorching pace. Maheshwar has been defending himself saying that he is working for the party's sake and not for himself

Tax, U Tax etc.

Later, he asked the government to explain why it is not taking action against the heads of the BRS government regarding the Kaleshwaram scam and power purchasing agreement scams. He said the Congress government is colluding with BRS leaders and so it is not

taking action against them. The BJLP leader also targeted Revenue Minister Ponguleti

Srinivas Reddy saying that he got half the contract of the Kodangal-Narayanapur Irrigation Project. Maheshwar said that he has been

getting information about the Congress admin's misdeeds from Revanth Reddy's Cabinet colleagues. He also visited the Sunkishala spot and asked the gov-ernment to hold MEIL responsible for it.

On Monday, Maheshwar said that there is a 'fake' Minister in the Telangana Cabinet as that Minister is using fake documents. He also challenged the CM to start demolitions from the Old City if he had guts. However, it is learnt that some Telangana BJP leaders are unable to digest his scorching pace.

Implement LRS free of cost in TG Harish urges CM

PNS HYDERABAD

BRS MLA Harish Rao strongly urged Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to implement the Land Regularisation Scheme (LRS) free of cost and honour the promise made during the 2023 Assembly election campaign. In an open letter addressed to

Revanth, Harish criticised the government's approach to collecting LRS fees, which he argues unfairly burdens the public, particularly farmers and middle-class families already grappling with rising costs and unfulfilled promises such as loan waivers and delayed Rythu Bandhu payments.

He expressed concern over the government's pressure on officials, 6

KTR has links with cinema actors, alleges Vivek

Says no connection between V6 Business Solutions & V6 Velugu Media

PNS HYDERABAD

Alleging that BRS Working President KT Rama Rao has links with cinema actors, the Congress MLA of Chennur, Gaddam Vivek, slammed KTR saying that he did not demolish illegal buildings in FTL areas as he had been colluding with film actors. He said that it was the Congress government which started the demolition.

He said that KTR had said that V6 Business Solutions belongs to Bengaluru and asked KTR to check

Google to know the facts. He made it clear that there is no connection between V6 Business Solutions and

V6 Velugu Media. Speaking to the media on Monday, Vivek said that KTR banned V6 and Velugu newspapers when the BRS was in power.

He said that KTR's social media team had resorted to a campaign of lies and that KTR's newspaper had published the false news that he has a farmhouse in the FTL area and

buffer zone.

Kokapet sees nearly 90% surge in property prices, says Anarock

PNS HYDERABAD

Hyderabad's Kokapet has emerged as a hotspot in the city's real estate market, witnessing a significant surge in property prices.

According to a report released by Anarock on Monday, Kokapet saw a price increase from ?4,750 per square foot in 2019 to ?9,000 per square foot in the first half of 2024, marking an 89 per cent appreciation. This rise accompanies the introduction of approximately 12,920 new residential units in the area during this period.

The report highlights that 52 percent of Kokapet's new supply was in the ultra-luxury segment, priced above ?2.5 crore, with 30 percent in to ?2.5 crore. Kokapet's growth is increased supply.



part of a broader trend of rising resthe mid and premium segments, and the remaining 19 per cent in the luxidential prices across major Indian ury bracket ranging from ?1.5 crore cities, driven by strong demand and

BRS confident of bail for Kavitha, hearing today

PNS HYDERABAD

The Supreme Court is set to hear the bail petition of BRS MLC Kavitha on Tuesday, following her arrest in connection with the Delhi

liquor scam. Kavitha has been in

15 and has recently faced medical problems leading to her being transed bail this time especially as Manish Sisodia got bail.

BRS Working President KTR and MLA Harish Rao left for New Delhi along with some BRS

MLAs and key leaders. Kavitha, who was jailed in March, first experienced medical problems on July 16, prompting her transfer to the Deen Dayal Upadhyay Hospital in Delhi

She was presented in court via video conference two days later, where she brought her medical problems to the attention of Judge Kaveri Baweja. **63**

Tihar Jail from March ferred to the Delhi AIIMS for for treatment.

treatment before being returned to the jail. Senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi will be arguing for her and the BRS leadership remains optimistic that she will be grant-



hyderabad 02

CM gives Rs 1 lakh to civil services Waqf Board opposes Amendment Bill candidates who cleared prelims 35,000 posts in TG Govt service to be filled shortly

PNS HYDERABAD

The Telangana State Waqf Board has become the first Waqf Board in the country to formally reject the Waqf Amendment Bill 2024, which was introduced by the Centre. The board met on Monday

to discuss the potential consequences of the proposed legislation. During the meeting, Islation. During the meeting, the board voiced significant concerns, arguing that the Waqf Amendment Bill, if enacted, could severely impair the autonomy and operations of Waqf institutions through-

out the state. The Bill, which has stirred controversy across the coun-try, is perceived by the Telangana State Waqf Board as 'unconstitutional' and harmful to the interests of Waqf properties and their beneficiaries. Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi, a prominent opponent of the Bill, expressed his appre-ciation for Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for supporting the Waqf Board's stand. He stressed the need to safeguard Waqf institutions

The Telangana Waq Board unanimously decided to reject the proposed Bill, viewing it as a backward step aimed at targeting the Muslim

from any legislation that might

threaten their independence. The Telangana Waqf Board unanimously decided to reject the proposed Bill, viewing it as a backward step aimed at tar-geting the Muslim community and undermining the Waqf institution. The board con-demned the Bill as part of a

'divisive' agenda. The board also resolved to seek the formation of a Joint Working Committee on the Waqf Amendment Bill 2024 to present documents and data from the Telangana Waqf Board. It also agreed to organise a conference with all the Chairpersons and CEOs of Waqf Boards in states where the BJP is not in power.

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy community and undermining the Waqf institution. The board condemned the Bill as part of a 'divisive' agenda has announced an assistance of Rs 1 lakh each for the 135 candidates from Telangana who qualified to appear for the

PNS HYDERABAD



fill 35,000 posts, including 5,000 crore. Group-1, Group-2, Group-3 and DSC have been issued to ment, the Chief Minister prove the government's comannounced the establishment

focused on the fish's eye durmitment to the unemployed. Revanth also criticised the BRS government's neglect of During his speech, Revanth highlighted the significant role TG's education sector and of unemployment in the pointed out the poor condi-Telangana movement, noting tions of hostels and the lack of that the Congress government, basic facilities for students. He said his government is

in just 90 days after coming to power, launched a recruitment building Integrated Residential Schools on 20 to 25 acres in He said that notifications to 100 places with an outlay of Rs

plans for a Young India Sports University based on a South Korean sports university. The goal is to ensure that Telangana youth achieve success in the Olympics. The Chief Minister said the government is committed to

supporting students and the education sector. He announced that within 15 days, Vice-Chancellors, Professors, Assistant Professors and Associate Professors would be appointed in all state universities.

He also encouraged TG candidates to aim for selection to the civil services noting that while Telangana is ahead in of the Young India Skill University with industrialists Anand Mahindra and development, it lags behind states like Bihar and Rajasthan when it comes to success in civil services selection.

Srinivasaraju as Chairman and Vice-Chairman, respectively. He promised another Rs 1 The university aims to lakh for those who qualify for address the skill gap by offerthe UPSC interview and ing courses that align with assured that the government market needs with the governis ready to address any chalment serving as a facilitator, he said. The CM also revealed lenges they may face along the way.



Running J-K from Delhi does not make any sense: Rahul

'Have outlasted

marriage pressure

for 20-30 years'

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi had to yet again

address that one big ques-

tion -- when will he get married? The place this

time was Srinagar and the

keen questioners were

Kashmiri women stu-

In his interaction,

shared on his YouTube channel on Monday,

Gandhi is seen asking

them about the pressure to

get married and they in

turn question him right back. "I have outlasted

back. "I have outlasted that pressure for 20-30 years," the 54-year-old leader responds smilingly. Gandhi, whose wed-ding plans or the lack thereof have been the sub-ject of endless speculation, was in Jammu and Kashmir last week

In the freewheeling

chat, the discussion veers

Kashmir last week.

towards marriage.

dents.

PNS 📕 NEW DELHI

PNS NEW DELHI

Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Monday said running Jammu and Kashmir from Delhi does not make any sense, and reiterated the demand for the restoration of its statehood.

His remarks came during an interaction with Kashmiri women during his visit to Jammu and Kashmir last week, a video of which was released by the party on Monday.

"My problem with the PM (Narendra Modi) is that he does not listen to anyone. I have a problem with someone who from the beginning believes that they are right. Even if he sees something that is showing him that he is wrong, he will not accept it. So then that type a person will always create some problem or the other," Gandhi tells the Kashmiri women students.

"It comes from insecurity, it does not come from strength. It comes from weakness," he adds. I n the video, Gandhi also talks about the upcoming elections in Jammu and Kashmir and tells the students that it is the first time in Indian history

Will junior docs who protested for a week be on paid leave or marked absent?

PNS HYDERABAD

The Supreme Court on August 22 has asked the doctors protesting the brutal rape and murder of their junior colleague at RG Kar Medical College to return to work. Chief Justice Chandrachud

has said that justice and medicine cannot go on strike as many poor suffer the cost of it and it is not legal to consider attendance of doctors as present when they are physically absent

On the questions of superiors taking action on the doctors protesting, the CJI said once all the doctors report to duties it will be assured that no adverse action will be taken against them.

In regard to this is the suspense in Telangana government hospitals whether junior doctors who went on strike for

more than a week will be considered as their paid leave or marked absent. However, the junior doctors have been submitting representations to their heads of the

department for marking direct attendance and not leave. One of the sources shared with The Pioneer, "We believe the salaries cannot be deducted to a few resident doctors who have served emergency duties in government hospi-

The participants in protests were post-graduates, senior residents, super- speciality residents and house surgeons. Though there are no postgraduates as government colleges are yet to be inaugurat-

Rajnath: Indian diaspora 'living

bridge' between US & India

ed in the districts. The salaries

of all the above candidates dif-

fer from each other. The doctors said, "We will be approaching the director of Medical Education also and there are chances to consider our strike period as paid leave

or directly mark present. Another doctor speaking with The Pioneer said, "Our demands were genuine. This time a brutal crime has let us voice for our needs but we doctor associations want to fight for long time impact and facil-ities for our future generations.'

UPSC civil services mains

Speaking at an event held at the Secretariat on Monday,

where he handed over the

cheques, the CM emphasised

that getting selected to the civil services should be the sole

He told them not to get dis-

tracted by family, finances or

any other problems and told

them to focus like Arjuna

ing Draupadi's swayamvar.

drive to fill 30,000 posts.

focus of the candidates.

exam.

The Health Department has also begun its work on the requests of junior doctors such as security, drinking water, washrooms, CCTV and calculating the funds for immediate needs of the junior doctors in government hospitals.

Gandhi's 150th birth anniver-

sary in 2019. The museum has

KTR hails Medha Coach Factory's role in Vande Bharat trains

Focusing on skill develop-

plays a crucial part in the production of Vande Bharat coaches.

"Another amazing engineering story from nificant contribution to the state.

Modi briefs Biden on his visit to Ukraine



PNS HYDERABAD

that India was ready to play an "active role" to restore peace.

VH asks CM to attract youth towards sports

PNS HYDERABAD

Former Rajya Sabha Member V. Hanumantha Rao asked Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to attract youth towards sports so that they do not get addicted to harmful things and to provide sports facilities with necessary equipment. Expressing happiness over

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's statement that the



PNS HYDERABAD

BRS MLA KT Rama Rao expressed pride in the remarkable journey of the Medha Coach Factory of Kondakal in Telangana which now

Kondakal. Today, this unit has become a key part of Vande Bharat trains. Super proud of the Medha team Kashyap Reddy, Srinivas Reddy, and their entire squad," he said. He hailed the engineering excellence demon-

strated by the company and highlighted its sig-

Telangana is the Medha Coach Factory of

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh met with the Indian community in the US state of Tennessee, during which he called them a "living bridge" between the two countries, appreciating their contribution to society, science and the economy

Singh is in the US on a fourday official visit to further boost the comprehensive global strategic partnership between the US and India.

He interacted with the Indian community at the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis on Sunday -- the last day of his visit.

Singh described the Indian community as a "living bridge" between India and the US, fos-

TODAY

ALMANAC

Tithi: Navami:

Dashami

Rohini:

Nakshatram

Mrigashirsha:

Rahukalam

Variyam

Gulika

Yamagandam

Amritakalam

Temp: 30°

Humidity: 72% Sunrise: 6:01 AM

Sunset: 6:33 PM

HYDERABAD WEATHER

Forecast: Scattered Showers

Updated: August 26, 2024 5:00 PM

Month & Paksham:



tering close relations and Mahatma Gandhi and placing two honorary 'Gandhi Way goodwill, a press release by the Ministry of Defence said. street signals near the National Civil Rights Museum on

He underlined India's growth story in the last decade and the immense potential with a promising future.

a bust of Gandhi, acknowledg-He also acknowledged the ing his inspiration for non-vio-Indian community's efforts in lent struggle, the press release establishing an exhibit of said

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday briefed US President Joe Biden in a phone conversation on his visit to Ukraine and conveyed India's full support for the early return of peace to the region through dialogue and diplomacy. In a post on 'X', Modi said he and Biden also discussed the ongoing situation in Bangladesh and stressed the need for the early restoration of normalcy and ensuring the safety and security of minori-

ties, especially Hindus. The phone talks, initiated by Biden, came three days after Modi paid a high-profile visit to Kyiv during which he told Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy that President Ukraine and Russia should sit together to end the war and

@JoeBiden on phone today. We had a detailed exchange of views on various regional and global issues, including the situation in Ukraine. I reiterated India's full support for early return of peace and stability," Modi said.

"We also discussed the situation in Bangladesh and stressed on the need for early restoration of normalcy, and ensuring the safety and security of minorities, especially Hindus, in Bangladesh," he said.

Following the unfolding political developments in Bangladesh, India has been consistently pressing to ensure the safety and security of minorities, especially Hindus, in that country.

develop Hyderabad as a Sports City, VH said that playing grounds were destroyed due to the negligence of the BRS government. He said the Amberpet Municipal Grounds and Amberpet Swimming Pool are examples of the negligence

of the BRS government. He appealed to SATS chairman Shiv Sena Reddy to revive the destroyed swimming pool. Shiva Sena Reddy assured VH that the government will

provide sports equipment as part of Khelo India. He said the government will develop sports comprehensively and will announce its sports policy soon.

from across the border

would have informed us,

and we would relay the infor-

Another source at the bor-

'443-km India-Bangla border in Meghalaya is fully secure'

PNS SHILLONG

The Border Security Force (BSF) on Monday said the 443-km India-Bangladesh border in Meghalaya is fully secure and denied claims of illegal entry by Bangladeshi nationals.

The paramilitary force issued a statement after the media in the neighbouring country reported that Awami League leader Ishak Ali Khan Panna died of heart attack while climbing a hill in Meghalaya's Dawki in an attempt to flee his country. Dawki, in Meghalaya East Khasi Hills, is located close to Bangladesh.

A 1990s

movie actress, who

"In 2013, I was subjected to physical

and verbal abuse by these individuals

while working on a project. I tried to

cooperate and continue working.

A BSF spokesperson said, 'There is no illegal entry of Bangladesh nationals in the area of responsibility of the Meghalaya Frontier BSF along the Indo-Bangla border. The story of Panna's death being circulated is entirely fabricated. Any attempt at illegal infiltration or activities that compromise the security of our nation will be dealt with firmly.

The BSF increased vigil along the border following the August 5 violence in

Bangladesh, successfully enter India, our relatives thwarting several illegal entry attempts and arresting those involved

mation to the BSF and police. The BSF has contacted the assistant high commis-There is no such incident, and several attempts by sion of Bangladesh in Assam regarding the matter. "The assistant high commission of Bangladeshi nationals to cross the border have been thwarted." Bngladeshhas confirmed that they have not received any der claimed that Panna died official information concernaround 400 metres away ing Panna's death near the border area as of now," the from the international bor-

BSF spokesperson added. der, well within Bangladeshi Local sources in Dawki, territory. including villagers, have The source added that denied the claims of Panna's death while climbing a hill in

An elder from Dawki said,

"If a Bangladeshi tried to

Meghalaya.

Panna was travelling with few people he trusted and had come close to the Bangladesh border when he was attacked



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Kerala's political and cultural landscape. MLA M Mukesh, Jayasoorya, Maniyanpilla While actress Minu Muneer, who has Raju, and Idavela Babu, another well-known appeared in a handful of movies, levelled sexactress came forward with allegations of misual abuse allegations against actor-turned conduct by a noted filmmaker from years ago.

CITY EVENTS

Hunar Prayas

Mindspace Business Parks REIT & Nirmaan.Org present an event to showcase the transformative impact of skill development initiatives aimed at empowering marginalized talent and enhancing employability.

Shrawan Kumar Gone, COO - AP and Telangana K Raheja Corpand Mayur Patnala, Founder and CEO, Nirmaan

Venue

6th Floor, Office no. 608, Minerva Complex, SD Road, Kalasiguda, Secunderabad. Telangana, 500003 Date: Tuesday, August 27th, 2024. Time: 11:30 am onwards

HYSEA

Industry partner, Global Al Summit Chief Guest Minister for Information Technology, Electronics and Communication, Industry and Commerce Duddilla Sridhar Babu.

Venue

Hotel Marigold, August 27, 2.45 pm

Equal Oppurtunity Job Fair

40m prominent companies offering inclusive job opportunities across sectors. Shrawan Kumar Gone, COO, AP and Telangana, K Raheja Corp, A Rajendar, Assistant Director, DEPwDs, SC & TGP, will be present.

Venue

12th floor, Building No. 9, Mindspace, Madhapur, Hyderabad. August 28, 11 am to 12 noon.

The InnovAtion Gala Awards 2024

Hosted by MATH. This premier event celebrates the latest breakthroughs in AI and ML and sets the stage for the Global AI Innovation Summit 2024. The event will bring together over 100 Global Capability Centers (GCCs), including major names like NVIDIA, Bristol Myers Squibb, Advance Auto Parts, DBS Bank, and First American

Venue T-Hub, Hyderabad,

August 29, 2024

Monopoly Moves

City Pioneer

Organisation to speak.



Janmashtami celebrated by **ISKCON** in a grand scale offered.

The highlight of the day's

celebration at Hare Krishna

golden temple was the mes-

merising Visĥesha 108-Kalasha

Sandhya Maha Abhishekam

that commenced on Monday

evening. The rhythmic chant-

The Jhulan or Unjala Seva

CHERIYAL SCROLL PAINTINGS

and kirtans.

he pioneer

PNS HYDERABAD

The International Society for Krishna Consciousness (IŚCK-ON) celebrated Krishna Janmashtami on a grand scale on Monday. Lakhs of devotees across the city visited the various ISKCON temples.

ing of Vedic mantras inter-Temples were decorated with twined with soul-stirring flowers, lights, rangolis and Harinam sankirtan filled the air tableaux depicting different as Radhe Govinda were offered lilas of Krishna. Young children with devotion panchamrita dressed as Kanha and Radha (milk, curd, honey etc), panand devotees made a beeline to chagavya (five auspicious items temples including the ISKCON from cow), varieties of fruit juices, rare herbal powders, in Abids and Secunderabad. Devotees thronged the Hare chosen varieties of flowers, Krishna Golden Temple in special aushadhis and navarat-Banjara Hills to get a glimpse of Krishna in three different nas. forms including Radhe Govinda, Godha Krishna and for Makhan Krishna commenced simultaneously, grant-Ladu Gopal or Makhan Krishna. A series of rituals including Shodashopachara ing attendees the honour of participating in the sacred ritual. The offering of 56 metic-Seva and Shringara Arati in the ulously crafted food preparations known as Chappan Bhog morning and Maha captivated all hearts, followed Abhishekam and Kirtans were performed in the evening. At by a splendid Raja Bhoga Arati the stroke of midnight, a grand enhanced by resonant bhajans

Maha Mangala Arati was

Minister Damodara Raja Narasimha provided an update on the dengue situation, Telangana has reported 913 new dengue cases as on August 25, bringing the total to 5,372 cases since January 1. The Health Minister's earlier release had indicated 4,459 cases up until August 23, but recent data from the Director of Health and Family Welfare reveals a significant increase.

samples, with a positivity rate of 6.5%. The districts most affected by Dengue include Hyderabad (1,852 cases), Suryapet (471),Medchal\Malkajgiri (426), Khammam (375), Nalgonda (315), Nizamabad (286), Rangareddy (232), Jagitial (185), Sangareddy (160) and Warangal (110).

cases out of 2,673 samples tested, with a 5% positivity rate. The districts with the highest risk are Hyderabad (61 cases), Wanaparthy (17) and Mahabubnagar (19).

Malaria: Šince January 1, 2024, Telangana has reported 191 Malaria cases from 23,19,283 samples, with a positivity rate of 0.008%. Fever survey: The State has



More than 50 dengue cases every day in GHMC limits

The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) witnesses more than 50 dengue cases every day during health camps The GHMC organised health camps from August 5 to 15 and identified 108 wards, which are hot spot areas for mosquitoborne diseases in coordination with the Medical and Health department and all line departments. A total of 142 dengue cases have been

HYDERABAD TUESDAY | AUGUST 27, 2024

registered on August 5, 108 cases on August 6, 96 cases on August 7, 68 cases on August 8. 70 cases on August 9, 63 cases on August 10, 75 cases on August 12, 58 cases on August 13 and 51 dengue cases were reported on 14 August. In nine days in a span, 731 dengue cases were reported in the city. The GHMC officials said that compared to last year, this year cases have decreased. From January 1 to August 26, 2023, a

total of 1,825 dengue cases were reported. This year, from January 1 to August 26, 2024, a total of 1.143 cases were reported in the GHMC limits. "Every Saturday, awareness programme is being conducted on dengue, malaria and other vector-borne diseases in all schools and colleges. So far, 3,045 schools and 427 colleges have been covered. The GHMC conducted special drives in all hot spots, dengue positive case areas, focusing on

anti-larwa operations (ALO) and fogging. The GHMC deployed 2.751 volunteers from educational institutions and trained them to raise awareness and take action against dengue fever to be a part of a student-led awareness programme. The GHMC is conducting special entomological activities in Hostels, Educational institutions So far 554 Hostels covered and continuing the same as war footing measure.

Hotel owner arrested

for cheating women

The Gachibowli Police on Sunday arrested a

hotel owner on charges of sexually assaulting

identified as Prabhakar Reddy, who runs a tiffin

centre at Gachibowli. He was accused by two

different instances after promising to marry

them. Based on a complaint, the Gachibowli

Police arrested Prabhakar Reddy. Prabhakar

owns Varalakshmi Tiffins and he was earlier

indicated 4,459

cases up until

August 23, but

the Director of

recent data from

Health and Family

Welfare reveals a

significant increase

sive fever survey, initiated on

July 23, 2024. As on August 25,

2024, a total of 1,42,78,723

houses have been visited,

screening 4,40,06,799 individ-

uals, with 2,65,324 fever cases

identified.

arrested for allegedly smuggling drugs.

women that he had sexually assaulted them on

two women on the pretext of marriage and

cheating them. Arrested person has been

PNS HYDERABAD

seized

In a major breakthrough Hyderabad City Police conducted a joint operation along with Bowenpally Police and held a drug peddler along with his two associates crore from them. ng to the

19320

turing seven faces, seven snakes and 14 hands."

"The construction of the eco-friendly idol is expected to cost Rs 90 lakh, with over 100 artisans from Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Bihar, Telangana, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh working on the project. "We're art nainting works within 2-3 days, Raj said. "To make it more attractive, Sri Srinivasa Kalyanam idols and Sri Shiva Parvathula Kalyanam idols will be built besides the tallest Ganesh idol," Sandeep added. Khairatabad The Ganesh is also known for its jumbo-sized laddu, offered as prasadam. Till 2009, the Ganesh Utsav committee used to place a 50 kg laddu at the pandal. Starting from 2010 until 2015, the laddu was offered by PVVS

Three held, GI paintings require more contraband worth Rs 8.5 cr marketing skills, say artists

PNS HYDERABAD

and seized items worth Rs 8.5

HYDERABAD For the first time ever, the

popular 'Hyderabad ka Raja' and also known as Khairatabad Ganesh idol, will be 70 feet in height this year and will be made of clay and eco-friendly materi

B SRINIVAS REDDY

srinivasred84@gmail.com



'Hyderabad ka Raja' to be

70 feet high this year

TG records 913 new dengue cases The Health Minister's earlier release had

HYDERABAD TOPS RISK LIST AMONG DISTRICTS

PNS HYDERABAD

Within two days after Health

The State has tested 81,932

Chikungunya: Telangana has recorded 152 Chikungunya

also conducted a comprehen-

KING's latest album, on KING's Monopoly Moves Listening Party Tour.

Venue

Air live, Gachibowli, Hvderabad Date: Friday, August 30, 2024 Time: 7 pm onwards

Journey of Rhythms

Presented by Shivansh and Tatvaa Arts

Venu **Global Peace** Auditorium, Gachibowli, Hyderabad August 31, 6.30 pm

onwards

tainment in Telangana. These ancient paintings received a Geographical Indication (GI) tag from the State government

Unlike other traditional scroll

paintings which narrate

mythological stories, rural life

and nature, Cherival scroll

painting are one of the earliest

audio-visual enter-

PNS HYDERABAD

for its unique significance. Speaking to the Pioneer Correspondent, Dhanalakota Rakesh, GI authorised Chreiyal painting artist said, "Cheriyal scroll painting is one of the earliest forms of audio - visual entertainment and these paintings are prepared by only Nakashi caste people in Telangana. Hundreds of years ago, the story-telling communities used to travel through the villages of Telangana, singing and narrating stories using the

scroll as their visual aid. The scroll measures about 3 feet in width and can extend to over 60 feet. It contain about 40 to 50 panels, each depicting a part Once the scroll is ready, we



GI authorised artist Dhanalakota Ramesh with his paintings

of the story and would be displayed as the story unfolds. Currently only eight families of nearly 20 people practice this art form.

Speaking about the process of making these scroll paintings, he said that these paintings are drawn on hand-made khadi cloth or canvas specially processed with applying a paste of tamarind seed along with a tree gum and white clay. Three coats of the paste are applied, allowing a day in between for the paste to dry.

draw the outline, using a squirrel haired brush, in a phased manner. The striking red colour fills the background. The colour of the face and skin is decided by the nature of the character, like blue and yellow are for Gods and Goddesses, while pink and skin tones are for humans. In Cheriyal scrolls only natural colours are used," he added.

Subhajit Saha, GI agent said, "Cheriyal paintings are beautiful artforms representing village or rural life, mythological characters etc.

Monday, Hyderabad Commissioner of Police Kothakota Sreenivasa Reddy, said on credible information from the Hyderabad Narcotics Enforcement Wing team, the (HNEW) Bowenpally Police conducted joint operation along with HNEW team and apprehended three offenders and seized 8.5kgs of Amphetamine drug, Mahindra XYLO Vehicle (AP

28 DG 4545), along with three mobile phones from the arrested persons. Arrested drug peddler has been identified as Kunchala

Nagaraju (34), resident of Gummadidala. His two associates are Ashagouni Vinod Kumar Goud (32), of Gummadidala and Kunti Srishailam (42), of Dundigal.

To mark the 70th year of the Sri Ganesh Utsav Committee, Khairatabad (SGUC), this year the Ganesh idol will be 70 feet high. The installation of the first Ganesh idol here was in 1954.

Last year, the SGUC set a new record with a 63foot tall clay idol weighing 45 to 50 tonnes. This year, Ganesh Chaturthi falls on September 7.

Ahead of Ganesh Chaturthi celebrations, the iconic Khairatabad

clay Ganesh idol is set to 70-feet height Khairatabad Ganesh idol will be ready steal the show with its within a few days grandeur.

Speaking to The Pioneer, Sandeep Raj, Secretary of the Khairatabad Ganesh Utsav Committee, said, "This year's centerpiece will be Sri Saptamukha Maha Shakti Ganapathi, fea-

Mallikarjun Rao, from Tapeswaram, a village located in East Godavari district of Andhra Pradesh. But this time the committee members ordered a 25kg laddu from Tapeswaram.

Indians gaze both on sexual body parts and face, says IIITH study

PNS HYDERABAD

A study funded by the Department of Science and Technology (DST)'s Cognitive Science Research Initiative and presented at the Cognitive Science Society (CSS) conference 2024 in Rotterdam in July has shown how women experience objectification even in non-sexualised attire. The study titled, "Objectifying Gaze: An Empirical Study With Non-Sexualised Images, authored by Ayushi Agrawal, Srija Bhupathiraju under the guidance of Prof. Kavita Vemuri of the Cognitive Science Lab at IIITH, examines visual gaze with eye track-ing technology using the wellknown cognitive science theories.

As per the researchers, while revealing attire is often held accountable for sexual objectification (SO) and harassment, gaze objectification extends to women in gaze in a public or

any other space

Kavita,

for that matter,"

adding that

they started on

that premise

outfit

that

and wanted to

test it out. "It

could be any

reveals

added.

a lot of

skin such as

swim wear and

they found that the

gaze is on the sexual

body parts rather than

on the face," she

the other hand experi-

The IIITH team on

says

even non-sexualised attire. mented with images of men 'Regardless of attire, a woman and women dressed in a pair is subjected to a very intrusive of jeans and a shirt. "We did

latter," explains Ayushi. Participants who self-identified as male or female were toy with the shown a series of images of both men and women, and idea of using their visual gaze was tracked using heat maps. s a l



TG Guv to visit Bhupalapally, Mulugu, Yadadri-Bhongir

PNS HYDERABAD

Telangana Governor Jishnu Dev Varma will embark on a three-day visit to the districts of Mulugu, Jayashankar Bhupalpally, Warangal, Hanamkonda, Jangaon, and Yadadri-Bhongir from August 27 to 29.

During this tour, the Governor will interact with district officials and eminent personalities, in addition to visiting places of cultural interest in these districts.

The tour is primarily planned by him to acquaint with the geography, culture and lifestyle of the people and to complement the efforts of both the State and Central governments.

He will also engage with district officials to discuss the on-going development and welfare projects, including Centrally-sponsored schemes.

He will also meet with prominent writers, artists, and other eminent personalities, including recipients of national and State awards. The Governor will be accompanied by the Principal Secretary to the Governor, Burra Venkatesham, Joint Secretary to the Governor, J Bhavani Shankar and other Raj Bhavan officers.



He will also engage with district officials to discuss the on-going development and welfare projects, including **Centrally-sponsored** schemes. He will also meet with prominent writers, artists, and other eminent personalities, including recipients of national and State awards

Raghu Ram of KIMS gets Honorary Fellowship of ISS

PNS HYDERABAD

Raghu Ram Pillarisetti, Foun ding Director of KIMS-Ushalakshmi Centre for Breast Diseases Hyderabad, has been awarded the Honorary



Fellowship of International Society of Surgery (ISS) on Monday by Tuanku Muhriz, a distinguished member of the royal family and the chief ruler of Negri Sembilan, a State in Western Malaysia.

Dr Raghu Ram is the first and the only Surgeon from Indian subcontinent in the 122 years history of this prestigious organisation to have been be bestowed with this highest recognition during the opening ceremony at the 50th Golden Jubilee World Congress of Surgery being hosted by International Society of Surgery & College of Surgeons of Malaysia at Kuala Lumpur.

Over 1,500 Surgeons from 30 Countries will be participating in this four day scientific Extravaganza from 26 - 29 August.

lelangana he pioneer HYDERABAD | TUESDAY | AUGUST 27, 2024



Minister for Information Technology travelling in driverless car at IIT campus in Sangareddy district on Monday

IT minister hails driverless car invented by IIT students

PNS SANGAREDDY

IT Minister D Sridhar Babu on Monday travelled in a driverless vehicles manufactured by Hyderabad IIT campus students along with IIT director Murthy and former MLA Jagga Reddy.

Commenting on the invention of the IIT students, he described it as a wonder. In Silicon Valley, the minister said, he and CM A Revanth Reddy travelled in a driverless vehicle. The minister claimed to have derived a comparatively better experience while travelling by the invention of Hyderabad IIT students.

The innovation of Hyderabad students would become a matter of great pride for the whole nation, he said. Since the technology is in an experimental stage, he wished that it should become implemented soon.

The Minister said that the artificial intelligence services, which is under a boom now, will be extended to all spheres of activity, the Minister said.

Engineer from Karimnagar dies in Saudi Arabia

Family seeks return of body to India

PNS KARIMNAGAR

A man from Telangana has died in Saudi Arabia, and his family members, who are unaware of the cause of his death, on Monday sought the return of his body to India.

Fazal, an uncle of the deceased Shahzad Khan (27), said the only information they have is that he has passed away. Fazal, a resident of Karimnagar in Telangana, said they have sent an affidavit, after being asked by the company that Shahzad worked for, stating that they want a postmortem examination to be conducted.

They also sought the return of Shahzad's mortal remains to India, and also that an FIR, death certificate and other necessary documents be registered, he said.

Shahzad Khan, a survey engineer in the construction sector, had been working in Saudi for the past six years. He had come home last year, Fazal said.

Shahzad's phone had been switched off since August 19 and his body was found on August 21, he said.

Media reports claimed that after their GPS signal failed. Shahzad Khan, along with a It was not known where his Sudanese colleague, died due to body was found and how, he acute dehydration and exhaussaid, dismissing the media tion in a desert in Saudi Arabia, reports that he died due to

Teacher from Survapet drowns in community swimming pool in US

PNS SURYAPET

In a tragic incident, a 41-yearold Thapsi Praveen, native of Patharlaphad village under Atmakur S mandal in Survapet district of Telangana, died after accidentally falling into a community swimming pool in Atlanta in United States.

Praveen, who had been residing in the US for the past six years, was employed as a teacher at an educational institution. He lived in Atlanta with his wife, Shanthi.

The incident occurred over the weekend. His wife communicated the tragic news to Praveen's family on Sunday among the Indian communi-

of Praveen has devastated ning of this year, there have the family and friends. been at least 10 deaths involv-

The death sent shockwaves students in the US

Parents showing the photograph of Thapsi Praveen with his wife Shanti at their home at Patharlaphad village on Monday ty in the US. Since the beginevening. The sudden demise

ing Indian or Indian-origin

death of workers in coal mines

PNS PEDDAPALLI

Singareni Collieries Workers' Union, affiliated to AITUC, president VasireddySitaramaiah alleged that the SCCL management is not giving the importance, which it gives to produc-tion of coal, to the safety of the coal min-

Addressing the media at the Bhaskar Rao Bhavan in Godavarikhani town of the district on Monday, he expressed concern over coal miners meeting death while working in open cast mines and other mines for want of safety mea-

mines, replacing coal fillers, yet the deaths of coal workers are taking place in coal mines, he pointed out.

dehydration and exhaustion

wife and two children, live in

Shahzad's family, including

in the desert.

Karimnagar

The safety perspective of the management took a backseat, he said that blaming the management for giving excessive importance to coal production at the cost of safety. He blamed the SCCL management and lackadaisical attitude of the SCCL officers for the same.

He quoted the examples of how coal workers faced death in a series of accidents that had taken place in SCCL coal mines due to failure to take safety pre-

cautions. He app



Minister for Revenue Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy inaugurating Press Club at Paloncha on Monday

Ponguleti urges journalists to write fearlessly

PNS BHADRADRI KOTHAGUDEM

Revenue, Housing and Information Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy on Monday exhorted the journalists to give news without fear or favour.

He was inaugurating the newly constructed Press Club under the leadership of Shyamala Gopalan Foundation Chairman Suresh Reddy, along with Kothangaudem MLA Koonanneni Sambashi Varao on Monday. The land for the Press Club was allotted by Genco at Paloncha in Bhadradri Kothagudem district.

Speaking on the occasion, he said that cases were filed against journalists who reported against those in power when the BRS was in power. He told the journalists that they can write news freely

and without any fear. When YS Rajasekhara Reddy

was chief minister, as many 1,050 journalists were given house titles on 72 acres of land in Hyderabad, but the previous government did not distribute land to journalists despite court orders. He assured journalists of all help.

Paloncha Press Club President Vemula Kondalarao, KTPS Training Center Chief Engineer Srinivasa Babu, Mark Fed Director Kotwala Srinivasa Rao, APRO Asghar Hussain, CPI district secretary SK Sabir Pasha, press club founder Nalla Suresh Reddy, Bhadradri Kothagudem district TWJ union Presidents Kalloji Srinivas, Uday Kumar, BSP state secretary Erra Kamesh, district women leaders Devi Prasanna, Naga Sitaramulu and others participated.

Revenue Minister distributes safety kits among toddy tappers



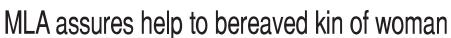
Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinvias Reddy distributing safety kits to toddy tappers in Khammam district on Monday

PNS KHAMMAM

Minister for Revenue Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy has said that the state government has been distributing the s made using modern techr to toddy tappers to prevent accidents like falling from trees. The IIT-Hyderabad devised the kits. He discials should take steps to plant palm saplings. The government pays an extributed the Katamaiah Raksha Kits gratia of Rs 5 lakh to the next of the to toddy tappers at his camp office at Kusumanchi on Monday. The state government would distribute these kits to toddy tappers with the help of the Backward Classes corporation and Excise Department and with the cooperation of the Telangana toddy tappers' cooperative finance corporation, Hyderabad.

Kavacham kits (special rope) devised with the help of the IIT. The govern-ment is ready to lend support to traditional crafts. The objective of it is the welfare of the weaker sections, he

During Vanamahotsavam, the offi-





Shadnagar MLA Veerlapalli Shankar visiting the bereaved family of woman and her dau

SCCL management blamed for

Shadnagar Government Hospital on Monday

PNS RANGAREDDY

Shadnagar MLA Veerlapalli Shankar has assured the family members of the victims involved in a tragic lorry accident that took the lives of a young mother and her daughter of support and justice.

The accident, which occurred on Sunday at the Cheguru main intersection under Kothur municipality, claimed the lives of Kavya

the officials to ensure that jus-(25) and her one-year-old tice is swiftly delivered to the daughter Ananya, residents of Patel Road in Shadnagar town. affected families.

In addition to seeking On Monday, Shankar, accompanied by local leaders, accountability from those visited the grieving family responsible for the accident, members at the Shadnagar Shankar emphasised the Government Hospital. During importance of taking strict action against the driver his visit, the MLÂ spoke with involved and the individuals Shamshabad ACP and Kothur Circle Inspector over the who employed him. As an phone, seeking details about immediate measure of support, the circumstances leading to the MLA provided Rs 15,000 the accident. He instructed to the family of the deceased.

The SCCL management has introment to act with responsibility to save duced SDL and LHD machines in coal the lives of the coal workers.

Garden for monkeys developed under NREGS

PNS WARANGAL

To check the monkey menace, the district authorities developed a small fruit garden on a government site of 2 acres on the outskirts of Garmillapalli village of Inavolumandal of Hanamkonda district as part of the NREGS. The horticultural garden was developed at a cost of Rs 2.85 lakh. The garden has mango, guava, custard apple, pomegranate and other fruit-bearing trees and neem and tamarind trees.

With the humans cutting down trees to meet their needs, monkeys have been moving in groups and attacking on villages and towns in search of food and water.

The state government is committed to the welfare of the toddy tappers and it got the Katamaiah Rakshana toddy tapper who dies due to fall from toddy trees. Additional Collector D Madhushudhan Naik, Khammam RDO G Ganesh, district BC welfare officer Jyoti, district assistant excise superintendent Venugopal Reddy, agriculture assistant director Sarita, R and B Superintending Engineer

Hemalata, irrigation EE Venkateswara Rao, Tahsildars and others were present.

Van illegally transporting cattle seized, two held PNS ASIFABAD

Rebbena police on Monday seized a vehicle illegally transporting 24 head of cattle from Rajnandgoan in Chhattisgarh to Kolar in Karnataka, according to Circle Inspector of Police Chittibabu. Of the 24 head of cattle, 21 were cows and nine oxen. However, 9 of the cows were found dead.

A Blue Colts constable noticed the van parked near the Takkallapalli bus stand and alerted the Rebbena sub insepctor Chandrasekhar who took steps to provide shelter to 15 head of cottle at the local cowshed. He shifted the carcasses of cows to veterinary hospital for post-mortem. The Van was seized and a case was registered against the driver Tamirasan and another individual.

Later, Sirpur MLA Palvai Harish Babu visited the spot near Takkallapalli railway gate where the van illegally transporting cattle was seized. He alleged that the government machinery remained complacent to the illegal transportation of cattle. He wanted the government to take stern action in this regard.

GRUHA JYOTI AND MAHALAKSHMI SCHEMES Glitches in computer programme deprive eligible of benefit

PNS SIDDIPET

Applicants seeking benefits under Gruha Jyoti and Mahalakshmi schemes have been forced to make several rounds of the government offices for several months altogether because of glitches that has delayed the processing of applications seeking benefit under these schemes

The Congress government has introduced the schemes for the benefit of weaker sections.

The computer software has no option to correct the mistakes. As a result the schemes are denied to many applicants, causing anger among applicants.

It may be recalled that the state government has invited applications from people across the state to implement its Abhaya Hastam programme under its Praja Palana. Based on the applications, the candidates will be chosen for implementation of Mahalakshmi. Rytu Bharosa, Gruha Jyoti, Indiramma Houses and Chevuta schemes.

However, while feeding the data into computers several mistakes crept in, leading to denial of benefits under vari-



It may be recalled that the state government has invited applications from people across the state to implement its Abhaya Hastam programme under its Praja Palana.

in the software meant for corous schemes to applicants. recting mistakes in the Gruha Many of the applicants were denied 200 units per month Jvoti scheme. Accordingly, it encouraged the applicants to apply for the Gruha Jyoti under Gruha Jyoti. Similarly, under Mahalakshmi scheme, the eligible persons are not able scheme again. to get LPG cylinders at Rs 500.

However, the state govern-This has triggered protests. ment did not give the option As a result, the state governto correct applications received under Mahalakshmi scheme. ment introduced a new option

Pedda Thanda to become municipality soon PNS KHAMMAM

The state government is going to constitute Pedda Thanda municipality merging it with 10 village panchayats in Khammam rural mandal. Municipal State

Administration Commissioner and Director Gautam released a circular in this regard to the officials. The village panchayats of

Pedda Thanda, Yedulapuram, Gurralapadu, Venkatagiri, Gudimalla, Polepalli, Maddulapalli, Barugudem, Gollagudem, Muttagudem would be constituted into a municipality. The total population of these villages as per 2011 census was 36,204. In all other Assembly constituencies of Khammam district, there is at least one municipality. However, the Palair constituency, which is close to Khammam, did not have a municipality so far.

However, in this area new real estate ventures mushroomed and several houses were constructed in them. Creation of basic amenities in them has become a big headache. Formation of a municipality will be able to resolve the problems in housing colonies, it is felt.

BJP holds membership registration workshop in RR Dist

PNS RANGAREDDY

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) held a workshop on membership registration for 2024 in Rangareddy district, drawing a large crowd of party leaders and activists. The event featured MP Raghunandan Rao and Chevella MP Konda Vishweshwar Reddy as chief guests, underscoring the significance of the initiative. The workshop, focused

on expanding the party's base in the district, saw enthusiastic participation of party activists from the district. Both MPs emphasised the importance of strength-

including

district.

ening the party's local pres-ence and encouraged attendees to actively engage in the membership drive. Key district leaders, Bokka

Narshimha Reddy and Srivardhan Reddy, were also present at the event. They, along with other party leaders, addressed the gathering, highlighting the BJP's goals and strategies for the upcoming elections. The workshop concluded with a strong commitment from participants to work diligently towards increasing the party's membership and influence in Rangareddy

CMRF cheques distributed PNS KHAMMAM CPM district secretary Nunna

Nageswara Rao on Monday distributed CM Relief Fund cheques to several beneficiaries. The CMRF cheques were sanctioned to them on the recommendation of the lagislator Alugubelli Narsireddy. The CPM district secretary dis-

tributed cheques among beneficiaries M Venkateswarlu, G Vani, R Kanakaiah, Madupalli Nagamalleswari, A Vamsi and others at the CPM district headquarters here.

Addressing the gathering on the occasion, Nunna Nageswara Rao said that the objective of the CPM would be stand by the poor, workers and farmers.

DMHO urges people to keep surroundings clean

PNS WARANGAI

District Medical and Health Officer Dr K Venkata Ramana has exhorted the people to keep their surroundings clean and get their health checked up in case of experiencing any health problems.

He said that the epidemic diseases have been spreading

due to changes in atmospheric conditions. Medical camps are being held in villages and tribal hamlets. District programme officers have been ensuring cleanliness in villages and monitoring the

health camps. He visited the Dengue patient in Pagidipalli village and provided him proper treat-

ment. He supervised the maintenance of sanitation in the vil-lage with the help of the municipal staff. He got the fever survey conducted and treated the people suffering from fever.

Deputy DMHO Dr Gopal Rao, Programme Officer Dr Mohan Singh and others took part in the event.



Nation 05

ACROSS THE STATES



Actress asked to furnish proof of being Hindu at temple

Actress Namitha on Monday complained that she was asked to furnish proof of being a Hindu during her visit to the renowned Sri Meenakshi Sundareshwar temple here, and expressed disappointment over the alleged rude behaviour of temple officials. The actress, who is a BJP state executive member, alleged that a temple official prevented her from having darshan and demanded proof of being a Hindu. "They asked for a certificate to prove that I am a Hindu and also my caste certificate. I never underwent such an ordeal in any temple that I visited in the country," she told reporters later. Namitha said it was a known fact that she was born a Hindu and that her marriage was solemnised in Tirupati and her son was named after Lord Krishna. "This being the case they spoke rudely and arrogantly and demanded a certificate to prove my caste and my faith," she said.



Refused money for alcohol, man kills mother

man allegedly killed his 70-year-old mother here for refusing to give him money to purchase liquor, Apolice said on Monday. The accused was identified as Ravinder (35), a native of Noorpur village, they said. Ravinder's sister, Kabool told the police that her brother is an alcoholic and handicapped. He was undergoing treatment at a de-addiction centre and recently returned home, an officer said. After killing his mother, Roshni Devi, with a sharp-edged weapon, Ravinder called Kabool and informed her about the incident. "He told me that my mother refused to give him money to buy liquor", Kabool told the police. The complainant further told police that she, along with her son, returned from her in-laws and found her mother dead in the courtyard, an officer said



HYDERABAD | TUESDAY | AUGUST 27, 2024



India, Singapore commit to further enhance co-operation

PNS SINGAPORE

India and Singapore on Monday pledged to further enhance co-operation in the emerging and futuristic areas. The Indian delegation led by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman deliberated upon six pillars identified under India-Singapore Ministerial Roundtable (ISMR). Deputy Prime Minister Gan Kim Yong led the delegation of Singapore

during the second ISMR. "During the meeting, the

leaders emphasised on ways of further enhancing co-operation between India and Singapore in emerging and futuristic areas. Both sides deliberated upon six pillars identified under ISMR, which include Digitalisation, Skill Development, Sustainability, Healthcare & Medicine, and Advanced Manufacturing and Connectivity," the finance min-

istry said in post on X.

The leaders also discussed plans for commemorating the 60th Anniversary of diplomatic relations between India and Singapore, alongside regional and global coopera-tion, including ASEAN & G20 developments, it said.

The leaders noted that the discussions in the first round of ISMR have resulted in the successful conclusion of MoUs on healthcare, education &

skill development, digital cooperation and semiconductor ecosystem cooperation, it said. Along with Sitharaman, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal and Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw were present for the meeting. ISMR is a unique mechanism established to set a new agenda for India-Singapore bilateral relations



35-foot statue of Shivaji Maharaj collapses in Sindhudurg

> Oppn slams govt for poor quality of work

PNS MUMBAI

A statue of Maratha King Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj, unveiled by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at a fort in Maharashtra's Sindhudurg district, col-lapsed on Monday, an official said.

Following the incident, the opposition parties have slammed the state government, alleging it had paid little attention to the quality of work.

A 35-foot statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj collapsed around l pm at Rajkot Fort in Malvan, the official said.

Experts will ascertain the exact cause of the collapse, but the district has witnessed heavy rains and gusty winds in the last two



Senior officials of the police and district administration reached the site to take stock of the situation, and the damage is being examined, he said.

PM Modi unveiled the statue on December 4 last vear on the occasion of Navv Day. He also participated in the celebrations at the fort.

PM Modi to lead BJP's election campaign in poll-bound J-K

PNS JAMMU

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lead the BJP's campaign in the upcoming assembly elections in Jammu and

Kashmir, the first such democratic exercise after the erstwhile state was downgraded to Union Territory in

August 2019. Ŭnion Minister Amit Shah, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, BJP

Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi

are other prominent faces who will visit Jammu and Kashmir during the campaigning.

The three-phased assembly elections in Jammu and Kashmir are scheduled for September 18, 25 and October 1. The counting of votes will be taken up on October

> In a letter addressed the Election to Commission, BJP national general secre-tary and in-charge headquarters Arun Singh said the list of

the 40 star campaigners of the party may be treated as valid for the remaining phases forward

Truck runs over pavement dwellers in northeast Delhi, three dead

PNS NEW DELHI

Three died after a canter truck ran over five men sleeping on a footpath in the Shastri Park area of northeast Delhi in the early hours of Monday, police said. They said the incident occurred at the Tarbuz market near the Shastri Park metro station around 4:30 am, and added that the victims were homeless.

An officer said the medium goods vehicle was approaching the Iron Bridge from Seelampur when it climbed the central verge and ran over the five men sleeping on the footpath. The trucker abandoned the vehicle and fled the spot after the incident. The victims were taken to the Jag Pravesh Chandra



identified as Mohammad Jakir (35) of Bihar's Katihar who worked here as a labourer. He sleep on the same

The two injured -- Mushtag (35) and Kamlesh (36) -- were taken to the GTB Hospital, the officer ad Ided Polic

Home national president J P Nadda and Uttar

Anurag Thakur and Smriti Irani and Gen (Retd.) V K Singh besides Rajasthan Chief Adityanath were also included in the list of 40 star campaignmitted by the party to ster Bhaian Lal the Election Commission for and former Himachal Pradesh the first phase of assembly elecchief minister Jai Ram Thakur

tions in Jammu and Kashmir. Union ministers Nitin Gadkari, Manohar Lal Khattar, G Kishan Reddy, Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Jitendra Singh and former union ministers

Indian Navy's frontline warship 'Mumbai' docks in Sri Lanka

ndian Navy's frontline warship INS 'Mumbai' on Monday docked at the port of Colombo, on a day when three Chinese Navy vessels berthed at the same harbour in Sri Lanka. Indian Naval Ship 'Mumbai' is on a three-day visit to the island nation, the Sri Lanka Navy said in a press release. The 163-metre-long Destroyer, which is manned by a crew of 410 members, was welcomed by the Sri Lanka Navy in compliance with naval traditions. This is the ship's first visit to any port in Sri Lanka and will be the eighth port call by Indian ships this year, the Indian High Commission said in a press release on Sunday.

BRS confident of bail for ...

Continued from page 1

The judge subsequently granted her permission to undergo medical tests at AIIMS Delhi. However, despite treatment, she has not fully recovered, and jail doctors have been providing med-

ical care. On August 22, Kavitha's condition deteriorated once again, resulting in her transfer to AIIMS where medical tests were conducted in the

presence of her husband, Anil. She was brought back to the jail on the same day at around 2 pm. Kavitha

ed list" within the prescribed time limit.

Hospital, where three were

footpath, according to the local

were rickshaw pullers and labourers among the victims.

Caste census...

Continued from page 1

new commission.

pers about senior Congress Although Revanth Reddy members G. Niranjan and V. conducted a review meeting Hanumanth Rao being conon conducting a caste census, sidered for the commission. no approval was given. Despite However, Congress ministers this, public funds have already seem divided over holding been spent as commission local body polls due to the members have travelled extenalleged negativity among sively. Sources hinted that if a farmers due to the Rythu new commission is constitut-Bandhu scheme and crop loan ed there is the possibility of waivers court cases being filed ques-

Meanwhile, Rahul once tioning the veracity of the again advocated a caste census on Saturday at the Samvidhan Karnataka's approach, Samman Sammelan in where Siddharamaiah contin-Prayagraj by asserting that ued with a BJP report without "caste census is my life's misreleasing it, could be an option sion" and that "I am ready to

Meanwhile, there are whis-

for Telangana to follow. pay a political price for it." However, experts say that con-But there is unease in the Congress in both Telangana stituting a new commission would mean starting from and Karnataka. While in scratch, including revisiting Telangana the project has not places and redoing the work. been launched, in Karnataka, Sources said that an extenthe Siddaramaiah governsion of six months to a year for ment's inaction in releasing the findings could put a questhe current commission could provide clarity on the caste tion mark on the credibility of Rahul's claim.

Demolish...

Continued from page 1

said the Congress government introduced HYDRAA as it had failed to implement its election assurances.

"Does the Congress government have the guts to demolish Asaduddin's buildings in Salkam Cheruvu? I will show the buildings if the Commissioner cannot find them. Should I send details of the illegal buildings in the Old City's Gurram Cheruvu and Jalpally Cheruvu? In the Old City lakes and hills are being grabbed frequently. The government should start demolishing illegal build-

ings from the Old City if the CM has guts. The government should reveal when it will demolish the illegal buildings of Asaduddin Owaisi," Maheshwar said.

The BJLP leader asked whether the Congress government had taken any action against the officials who permitted the construction of illegal buildings. The BRS government enacted high drama regarding

Ayyappa Society, he said and added the Congress government too is following the footsteps of the BRS government.

He asked the government to reveal how many tanks are there in the state and how many are being grabbed. Does the government have the guts to take action against endowment lands, he asked.

Maheshwar demanded that the government should release a white paper on lakes that are being grabbed.

What action did the government take against Khairatabad MLA Danam Nagender who had levelled allegations against HYDRAA Commissioner AV Ranganath, he asked.

Implement LRS free ...

Continued from page 1

including Collectors and Panchayat Secretaries, to collect LRS fees.

He condemned the harassment of citizens through repeated calls and threats to cancel layouts if the fees were not paid.

Harish highlighted the government's target to raise Rs 15,000 crore through LRS fees, describing it as an exploitative measure against the public.

In his letter, Harish reminded the CM of the opposition the Congress had earlier voiced against the LRS, recalling statements from several current ministers who had promised free LRS during their Assembly election campaign. Harish accused the Chief

Minister of changing his stance after coming to power, turning LRS into a revenue-generating scheme

Quoting Congress leaders, including Uttam Kumar Reddy, Bhatti Vikramarka, Seethakka and Revanth Reddy himself, he underscored the contrast between their pre-election promises and current actions. He criticised the govern-

despite earlier claims of

opposition to such fees.

ment's perceived duplicity, citing how ministers who once filed Public Interest Litigations (PILs) against LRS now support its fee collection.

Harish called on the people of Telangana to resist paying LRS fees, reaffirming the BRS's commitment to pressuring the Congress government into implementing LRS without any charges.

He emphasised the need for the government to stay true to its promises and reduce the financial burden on the public.

KTR has links ...

Vivek said that he had purchased the land in 2006 and had constructed a farmhouse but his farmhouse is not in the FTL area or the buffer zone. He said the BJP and the BRS had made the ED raid him and that they

Mala leaders...

Continued from page 1

to address the issue and based on its report justice would be ensured for all.

Representatives of the Mala community, including MP

had seized Rs 8 crore through Vijayan Security Services.

However, the ED returned the money after ascertaining facts, Vivek said. He asked KTR to speak only after checking facts, and that he is ready to face anything if KTR proves his allega-tions against him.

Gaddam Vamsi, MLAs Vivek

Venkataswamy, Matta Ragamayee, Vamsikrishna, Nagaraju and leaders of the Mala Mahanadu like Chennayya met the Chief Minister at the Secretariat on Monday.

Continued from page 1 He said that he had constructed the Fatima Owaisi College with 12 buildings keeping the future of poor students in

census.

mind and that some people are wilfully spreading the lie that the college buildings are illegal. "I have been shot at in the past. If you want to rain bullets at me again, do it, but don't demolish the Fatima Owaisi College," he said. However, the BJP posted on X regarding the Fatima Owaisi College on Monday saying, "From agricultural land in 2012 to Fatima Owaisi Women's College in 2024. Fun fact: Fatima Owaisi is the daughter of AIMIM MLA Akbaruddin Owaisi. Will HYDRA or the Revanth Government dare to take any action?'

'Don't demolish

The BJP also posted the satellite maps of Salkam Ćheruvu taken in 2012 and in 2024.

Everything 'Young...

Continued from page 1

Some seasoned Congressmen attributed this to Rajiv Gandhi's idea. A Čongress leader said, "Rajiv Gandhi once said that India is an old country but a young nation. I too ave a dream. I dream of an India which is strong, independent, self-reliant and occupying the front rank among nations. Telangana has a rich history but is a young state. We want to make it a front-runner in the world."

Mahatma Gandhi used Young India to disseminate his ideas regarding non-violence and to urge readers to consider, organise, and plan for India's independence from the British. Meanwhile, critics pointed to the Young Indian Private Ltd company owned by the Gandhis. The ED has been investigating Sonia Gandhi and her family regarding the ownership of Young Indian Private Limited (YIL) by the Gandhi family and its shareholding pattern in the Associated Journals Limited (AJL), the company that runs the 'National Herald' newspaper.

I support HYDRAA although ...

Continued from page 1

HYDRAA demolished the illegal building of a senior Congress

However, Vishweshwar suggested that the government should punish the builders of illegal buildings and collect money from them for demolitions. HYDRAA should also provide a solution to its poor and middle-class victims, he said. The government should take action against the officials who gave permissions and HYDRAA should act regarding endowment lands, he said. He said that HYDRAA is protecting the environment by demolishing the illegal buildings of the rich and the poor. He said that not only him,

but BJP leaders like Eatala Rajender, M. Raghunandan Rao and Katipally Venkataramana Reddy also supported HYDRAA. He said that the Janwada Farmhouse is not in the FTL area and buffer zone but is located in GO No: 111 limits. The Janwada Farmhouse was constructed by closing a water channel and so there is a chance that HYDRAA might demolish it. People know that the Janwada Farmhouse belonged to KTR or his proxy, he added. However, Vishweshwar suggested that the government should punish the builders of illegal buildings and collect money from them for demolitions. HYDRAA should also provide a solution to its poor and middle-

class victims, he said. The government should take action against the officials who gave permissions and HYDRAA should act regarding endowment lands, he said.

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leader too, he said.

declared dead. One of them was residents HYDERABAD | TUESDAY | AUGUST 27, 2024

he pioneer

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Give peace a chance

The Cairo talks represent a glimmer of hope for war ravaged Gaza in an otherwise bleak situation

s fighting continues unabated in Gaza, negotiators gathered in Cairo this weekend for crucial discussions aimed at securing a ceasefire. The talks come at a pivotal moment, with the conflict between Hamas and Israel now in its tenth month. Despite the ongoing hostilities, there is hope that a breakthrough might be within reach, though significant hurdles remain. The war has left Gaza in ruins and triggered a humanitarian crisis of immense proportions. The conflict has displaced nearly all of Gaza's population at least once, and efforts to broker a ceasefire have so far failed to bring lasting peace. The international community, led by the United States, Egypt, and Qatar, has been engaged in persistent but ultimately inconclusive negotiations to end the violence. The Cairo talks, held under the shadow of ongoing violence, are seen as a critical step towards ending the conflict. However, the talks are complicated by the fact that Hamas, while sending a delegation to Cairo, has stated that it will not participate directly in the nego-



tiations. Instead, the Hamas delegation is expected to meet with senior Egyptian officials to receive updates on the progress of the talks. Hamas continues to insist on a complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from Gaza, including from the Philadelphi Corridor along the Gaza-Egypt border, a key sticking point in the discussions. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has his own reservations and is unwilling to withdraw troops from border,

The framework for the current talks is based on a plan outlined by U.S. President Joe Biden on May 31, which has been endorsed by the United Nations Security Council. The plan envisions a three-phase process,

beginning with a full and complete ceasefire, during which hostages would be exchanged for Palestinian prisoners in Israeli jails. Despite initial agreement on the plan by Hamas leadership, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has expressed reservations, particularly regarding the continued presence of Israeli troops along the Gaza-Egypt border, which he argues is necessary to prevent Hamas from rearming. The United States is exploring new proposals to bridge the gap between Israel and Hamas. The success of talks likely hinging on whether the U.S. can pressure Netanyahu into accepting a compromise. Meanwhile the war rages on in Gaza. Israeli airstrikes and artillery fire have devastated the territory, with reports of dozens of civilian casualties in recent days. The United Nations has reported large-scale evacuations from areas such as Deir el-Balah and Khan Yunis, as Israeli military operations intensify. The humanitarian situation in Gaza remains dire, with displaced families forced to flee daily in search of safety. Both Israelis and Gazans are increasingly desperate for an end to the bloodshed. Protests have erupted across Israel, with thousands calling for a deal to secure the release of the remaining hostages. The path to peace remains fraught with challenges, and the coming days will be crucial in determining whether a lasting ceasefire can be achieved.



Gender reform in 19th-century Bengal



pinion 06

In the 19th century, a complex interplay of reformist and colonial influences emerged, particularly concerning the status of women

n the 19th century, as British colonialism reshaped the Indian socio-cultural landscape, intel-lectuals like Captain N. Augustus Willard and Indian reformers grappled with the status of women in India. Willard, like many British officials, viewed Indian women with a mixture of pity and a sense of moral duty, perceiving them as victims of ignorance, reflected in their preference for songs that were considered passionate and sensual. At the same time, English-educated Bengali elites, inspired by both Western ideas and traditional Hindu values, sought to reform women's education while retaining patriarchal norms. It is pertinent to mention the role played by the renowned social reformer Ishwar Chandra Vidyasagar, a key figure among the Bengali bhadralok, who championed the cause of widow remarriage and women's education.

Influenced by Western education, et deeply rooted in his cultural heritage, Vidyasagar sought to balance these dual influences. He established numerous schools for girls, believing that education vas essential for their empowerment and societal upliftment. Another key figure in India's renaissance movement, Bankim Chatterjee Chandra (Chattopadhyay), a luminary in Indian literature, is celebrated for his seminal contributions to both educational reforms and the Indian freedom struggle.

His multifaceted legacy extends beyond his literary genius, encapsulating his role as an intellectual force in the socio-political landscape of 19th-century India. Bankim Chandra was a pioneering figure in the sphere of educational reforms in India. His vision for education was grounded in the belief that a modern, enlightened society could only emerge through an educated populace. Chatterjee advocated for the modernization of the education

system, emphasizing the need to

integrate Western scientific

knowledge with traditional Indian

Bankim Chandra Chatterjee's

engagement with educational

reforms is evident in his writings

learning.



and his role as a Deputy Magistrate - the first in-charge (Sub-divisional magistrate) of the Arambag subdivision in West Bengal. He used his position to influence educational policies and advocate for the establishment of institutions that could impart contemporary education. Author of India's National Song Vande Mataram became a clarion call during India's Independence movement, Bankim Chandra's novels, often interwoven with themes of social and educational upliftment, served as a medium to propagate his ideas to a broader audience. Chandra

Bankim Chattopadhyay's novels often depicted strong, complex female characters, who played crucial roles in the narrative, challenging the traditional views of women in society. "Vande Mataram," depicted Bankim Chandra in Chatterjee's novel "Anandamath," serves as the manifesto of the Sanyasi group, celebrating a land abundant with rice, lush greenery, vibrant flowers, and sparkling

characters like Mohendra, Kalyani, and Sukumari, intertwines with India's traditional and cultural contexts. The Santan of the Math, led by guru Satyananda and his disciples, embody qualities of truth, knowledge, emotion, patience, and being. "Vande Mataram" transcends patrio-tism, embodying philosophi-cal, renderinge of aviatortial cal renderings of existential and metaphysical human **BANKIM CHANDRA** CHATTOPADHYAY'S attributes, with women depicted as equals, exemplified by NOVELS OFTEN Shanti's bravery and sacrifice.Bankim Chandra's DEPICTED STRONG, portrayal of women was signif-COMPLEX FEMALE icant as it challenged the prevailing societal norms and CHARACTERS, WHO provided a progressive vision of women's roles in society. In PLAYED CRUCIAL 'Devi Chaudhurani," (1884) ROLES IN THE the protagonist Prafulla transforms from a submissive girl NARRATIVE, into the powerful Devi Chaudhurani, a leader of a CHALLENGING THE band of rebels. Her character TRADITIONAL VIEWS embodies the potential for women's empowerment and the possibility of their active OF WOMEN IN participation in societal

sions. The narrative, through

change. Bv denicti ng women as strong capable, and essential to the nation's progress, his novels contributed to the broader discourse on women's rights and empowerment in preindependent India, which, however, is debatable.

Novels like "Kapalkundala," "Debi Chaudhurani," and "Durgeshnandini" feature characters such as Kapalkundala, Prafulla, and Ayesha, who exhibit depth complexity. and "Brishabriksha" (The Poison Tree) and "Krishnakanter Uil" addresses social issues like widow remarriage and polygamy through the stories Suryamukhi,

Kundanandini, and Rohini. In "Sitaram," the tragic effects of polygamy are highlighted, while "Anandmath" contrasts the nation's depiction as Mother, while the exclusion of women from the fight for its cause is also depicted. It can be said that Bankim Chandra Chattopadhyay's depiction of strong, independent female characters - despite their complexities - challenged existing gender norms and inspired a rethinking of women's potential and place in society. By showcasing women as central figures in the fight against oppression and as leaders in their own right, Bankim Chandra's works resonated with the growing movements for social and political reform. (The writer is Programme Executive, Gandhi Smriti and Darshan Samiti; views are personal)

A farmer harvests grapes, at Repora Lar area in Ganderbal, Kashmir

Life's dilemmas: Lessons from everyday conflicts



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

V e face conflicts and dilemmas many times in our lives. We resolve a few of those, avoiding others to avoid confrontation.

We went through some fascinating times recently. We cast our votes to elect the next central government. The excitement of the crowd at the polling booth was palpable even early in the morning. There was another major event, which was at our society level. We also had elections for the governing body of our residents' welfare association. I realised that the two elections mirrored each other. New alliances were formed. and old ones were discarded. Sworn foes smiled at each other with a warmth not unlike the hot Delhi summers. There were many heartbreaks too if friends vied for the same position. Two of the prospective candidates for a position went about venting their frustration when told by wellmeaning friends about the intent of the other. I suggested a mutual tete-a-tete. The conflict was resolved.



adolescent half a century back. One afternoon, I had an argument with a friend, which went a little overboard, and I punched him. cally, and culturally. He was taller than me and life the importance of plain did not take kindly to my aggression. He punched me speaking, however unpalatback. It did not erupt into able it might be. It may a full-blown fist fight only cause initial bitterness, but because I had already ratiothe relationship would be stronger eventually. The nalised his punch a little before it had connected self-realisation still did not with my soft abdomen. give me the courage to After all, I had started the upbraid a junior colleague battle; he was entitled to for his tardiness. I chose to walk away from confrontaretaliate. Many of us hesitate to ask tion by not allocating him

for personal favour, apprehensive of facing rejection. It is also a dilemma, albeit in our minds. I had no say ter pill. It softens the blow, I faced a dilemma as an in the allotment of the zonal yet hits the person equally

any responsibilities.

I envy those who have mas-

tered sugar-coating the bit-

railways after the comple- hard. But it might even tion of our railway proba-tion training. I did get an convey a wrong meaning. During a recent conversaopportunity to express my tion, my wife and her friend contemplated conveying a heart's desire, when my senior asked me if I had any rather difficult sentiment to another friend through a preference for the place of posting. I was diffident and message. A small phrase gave a convoluted reply, was added to be polite. I felt Anywhere, though my that this changed the intent preference would be to something entirely dif-Mughalsarai." This was a ferent. They did not agree small town in my native and chose not to send the state. He took the first part message. Yet, the friend of my statement at face had not hesitated to upbraid value. I was posted at another friend a few days Sealdah, the other end, and earlier over a trivial issue. I a long way from my homesaw conflict in the two sittown - physically, linguistiuations, she did not.

Conflicts have been a part I understood much later in of our lives since ages. I would not like to be the Arjun who faced the biggest challenge of his life. I am a mere mortal. I have my follies. It is not for me to preach to be perfect. I would look at the words of author Jo Coudert to give me strength, "Every life is a dilemma that must be solved by the person living

> (The author is an electrical engineer with the Indian Railways and conducts classes in creative writing; views are personal)

rivers. The song idolizes the country

as a goddess incarnate. While historically and politically significant, "Anandamath" unfolds through semiotic, discursive, and aesthetic dimen-

LETTERS ㅋ

SOCIETY

SANCTITY OF OATH

Madam — We all expect aspirants who desire to make a career in public service must be clean in their thoughts and acts. All MPs, MLAs take oath and swear on this but the reality is different. For those of whom read this information don't be confused and conclude yourself that this is the tally of medals in the recently concluded Paris Olympics 2024. Anybody would have been shocked and put their head in shame to feel pity for the people who have voted for the respective candidates from their constituency by the fond hope that they will deliver well for them. The update is that there are as many as 151 sitting MPs and MLAs declared cases related to crimes against women in their election affidavits, with West Bengal having the highest number of lawmakers facing such cases, according to a recent report by a poll rights body.

West Bengal tops the list with 25 sitting MPs and MLAs facing charges related to crimes against women, followed by Andhra Pradesh with 21 and Odisha with 17, according to the report that comes under the ongoing nationwide protests. BJP tops the list with 54 MPs and MLAs facing charges of crime against women, and Congress follows with 23. It would be more appropriate if the law takes its course to prove or clear those of charges by putting them before the fast track so that people's trust on them can be delivered on its own merits.

A P Thiruvadi | Chennai

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT

Madam—Today, we are facing a serious threat in the form of youth unemployment, which is hindering India's longterm development and growth. It stresses the need to tackle this problem for sustainable economic development. A few announcements have been made in the recent budget to address the issue puja programs properly. Strict measures of the job crisis in India. The key factors responsible for the employment cri- encroachment.



his relates to your edit "Surging Ahead" (Aug.24). Words, they say, are the dress of thoughts. And it is by their words that Americans are today judging Kamala Harris and Donald Trump. Trump's utterances are akin to Modi's in the last lap of the 2024 elections when he neither had issues nor proper words to bash the Opposition with. He spoke like one cornered and defeated, rather than one who was optimistic of winning the election. In the end, his "mutton,

sis are outdated labor laws acting as disincentives for large-scale employment. The government's past efforts to enhance private investment have mainlv been focused on increasing production activities rather than creating jobs. According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), the share of unemployed youth in the total unemployed population was 82.9% in 2022.

The government of India should consider increasing industrialization and investment in agriculture, as it can create more job opportunities and boost the productivity of the overall nation. Neha Tomar | Ujjain

PROTECT TEMPLE LANDS

Madam - In the state of Andhra Pradesh, many temple lands have been illegally occupied and used for unnecessary constructions. Due to this, the temples are not able to conduct their should be taken to prevent land

Chalk vs cheese!

mughal and mangalsutra" rants did not resonate even with those aligned with the BJP. In the fight for the US' presidency, Trump is not coming out trumps with his all too palpable lies, slanderous remarks at Kamala and his fist-pumping which is not helping him or his party to take the battle into the 'enemy' lines. Poor leadership is on full display, with Trump seemingly tilting at the windmills. In contrast, Kamala has shown much grace, sense and sensibility as she speaks about issues rather than engaging with Trump in a shouting match. Trump already has the baggage of making the USA a laughing stock of the world with his open calls for violence and questioning institutions that constitute America's bedrock of democracy. As the hour of reckoning approaches, it is becoming increasingly clear that it's going to be chalk Vs cheese, and that there are no fencesitters this time

Avinash Godboley | Dewas

There should be important laws and regulations for the protection of lands. Such laws need to be framed and strictly enforced. Special ordinances should also be framed to protect temple lands. People's cooperation is very important for the protection of temple lands. Conservation of lands is possible if temples, their administrators and local people work together.

All necessary measures regarding protection of lands can be taken by deputing specially trained personnel to protect temple lands. By recording land status and other details in digital form, illegal encroachments can be detected quickly. It is good for conservation of lands.

Protection of temple lands means protection of spiritual, cultural and social rights. Hence, it is imperative that the overnment, local institutions, and people work together.

Appanna Gonapa | Visakhapatnam

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com



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FIRSTCOLUMN ALL WORK AND NO SPORTS MAKES YOU DULL

Sports are essential for achieving physical and mental balance to have wholesome life



SAKSHI SETHI

he guestion of whether India is overly focused on work and less on sports is a valid concern, especially in a country where academic and professional success is often prioritized over physical activities. In many Indian families, there is a strong emphasis on academics and securing stable, well-paying jobs. However, this focus often overshadows the importance of sports, which sometimes are viewed as extracurricular activities rather than potential career paths. Despite living in the 21st century, the competitive nature of academic exams, such as the IIT-JEE, NEET, IIFT and various public service exams, place enormous pressure on students to excel in academics and as a result, sports often end up taking a backseat during the crucial educational years.

There is no denying the fact that sports teach valuable life skills such as teamwork, leadership, discipline and resilience, which are beneficial in both personal as well as professional life. Today, if we look back, India's journey in the Olympics has been marked by significant achievements, challenges and a growing presence in various sports disciplines be it archery, weightlifting, badminton, athletics and the list goes on and on. Increasing media coverage of a diverse range of sports beyond cricket has helped in promoting other sports. Moreover, sports have proved to be a powerful tool for promoting peaceful and inclusive societies. They bridge divides, foster understanding, and create opportunities for personal and collective growth as can be seen in the 2024 Olympics being held in Paris. Enhancing sports in India



requires a multi-faceted approach that involves government support, private-sector investment, grassroots development and public engagement.

By addressing these areas, India can unlock its vast potential in sports, leading to greater national pride, improved public health and economic benefits which even include initiatives to encourage female particpation thereby providing equal opportunities, safety assurance and challenging societal norms that restrict women's involvement in sports. Moreover, sports can be adapted for individuals of all abilities thereby promoting inclusivity for people with disabilities. This will help not only in breaking down barriers but ensuring that everyone has the opportunity to participate. Sports can be a tool for conflict resolution, providing a neutral ground where individuals or groups in conflict can engage constructively. It even teaches important life skills such as leadership, resilience and teamwork. These skills are transferable to other areas of life, contributing to personal development and societal harmony. Programs that use sports for peacebuilding have been successful in areas of conflict around the world. International sports events such as the Olympics often serve as platforms for diplomacy and dialogue between nations, helping to ease tensions and promote global peace. While there has traditionally been a strong focus on academics and work in India, there is a growing recognition of the importance of sports.

How feasible is the goal of \$5trillion economy by 2025



analysis 07

Can India truly sustain such high growth rates, or do these figures oversimplify the complex realities of its socio-political landscape?



n any discussion involving econothere will be seven views." This adage humorously reflects the diversity of opinions that often arises in economic discourse. While economists are inclined to project growth through metrics like GDP, inflation, and depreciation rates, these projections sometimes oversimplify the complexities of real-world politics and societal dynamics. Indeed, even the most well-reasoned economic forecasts can falter when confronted with the unpredictable nature of political realities and the broader socio-economic context. Economists from the Reserve Bank of India, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, other big financial institutions, and even our governmentserving prominent experts arrive at different projections of India's growth story. Going by the latest two projec-tions, Krishnamurthy Venkata Subramanian, the former Chief Economic Adviser to the Narendra Modi government and current Executive Director for India at the International Monetary Fund (IMF) says India will be reaching a \$55 trillion economy by 2047. Subramanian's projection of a \$55 trillion economy appears optimistic, especially when juxtaposed with Ernst & Young's prediction of \$26 trillion by 2047. At this point, it is difficult to say whose projection is realistic given the very dynamic nature of the Indian economy where several socio-economic and political forces are at work simultaneously. Subramanian has made a bold claim in his new book, India @100: Envisioning Tomorrow's Economic Powerhouse. Released recently by Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal at a Special Session organized by ASSOCHAM in New Delhi, the book envisions India reaching a \$55 trillion economy by 2047. Subramanian's proposition, while ambitious, is grounded in a comprehensive analysis of India's economic trajectory and the policies required to sustain high growth rates. It is not difficult to find the economic rationale behind such an ambitious projection, considering India's historical inflation rates, currency depreciation, and recent economic policies. He rightly emphasizes that achieving this target hinges on maintaining a real growth rate of 8% and an inflation rate of around 5%.

Historically, the depreciation of the Indian rupee against the dol-lar has averaged between 3% and 3.5%, primarily due to India's higher inflation rates. Subramanian notes that before the adoption of inflation target-ing in 2016, India's inflation averaged above 7%, necessitating higher depreciation rates. However, with inflation targeting and subsequent economic stability, India's inflation rate has moderated to around 5%, even amid

SINCE 2014, NEW Government of the Ukraine war. The rule of 72—a simple formula to estimate of the Ukraine formula to estine formula to estimate of the Ukrai formula to estimate the doubling INDIA HAS time of an investment—to project India's economic growth may SURGED, have some limitations. sustaining bold economic reforms Subramanian posits that if India's ESTABLISHING THE COUNTRY AS growth rate in rupee terms would be 12%. Accounting for a histor-THE THIRD-LARGEST ical depreciation rate of 3%, the dollar-denominated growth rate would be around 9%, doubling ENTREPRENEURIAL the economy every eight years. **ECOSYSTEM** This would place India's GDP at \$26 trillion by 2047. However, GLOBALLY. ENTRE-Subramanian argues that with PRENEURSHIP improved inflation targeting, resulting in lower inflation and NOT ONLY DRIVES depreciation rates, India could achieve a nominal growth rate of PRODUCTIVITY IN 13% in rupee terms and 12% in **NEW FIRMS BUT** dollar terms. This would lead to the economy doubling every six ALSO COMPELS years, reaching the \$55 trillion INCUMBENT To mark by 2047. To many economists and experts, FIRMS TO these projections seem unreasonable as it is very difficult to pre-INNOVATE dict 20 years of macroeconomic environment and political realities. Political stability would be a growth driver certainly but if India's current stable coalition

entire economic journey would face a difficult path. Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal may disagree as while releasing the book launch, he also emphasized that the tar-get appears realistic due to the current political stability in India. He noted that even in a coalition government, the ability to make government, the ability to make bold decisions has been a key factor in driving economic reforms. Goyal highlighted that political stability, particularly with the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) maintaining a dominant position, provides a conducive environment for long-term economic planning. He pointed out that most seats the BJP lost in the last general elections were by margins of less than 30,000 votes, suggesting a strong underlying support base. This political backdrop, according to Goyal, is essential for over the next two decades and beyond.It is widely admitted that achieving these ambitious targets requires sound economic policies, particularly those that promote formalization, innovation, and entrepreneurship. India's informal sector, which constitutes a significant portion of the economy, is far less productive than the formal sector. Enhancing formalization through digital infrastructure and regulatory reforms could substantially boost productivity. Additionally, the importance of entrepreneurship and innova-tion. Since 2014, new firm creation in India has surged, establishing the country as the thirdlargest entrepreneurial ecosystem globally. Entrepreneurship not only drives productivity in new firms but also compels incumbent firms to innovate, leading to overall economic growth. A key pillar of Subramanian's vision is ethical wealth creation, which he believes

government loses its strength the

is essential for fostering a large, prosperous middle class. He refutes the notion that wealth creation and employment are opposing forces, citing examples from his personal experiences and the broader economy. Wealth cre-ators, he argues, generate signif-icant employment and pay higher wages, contributing to overall economic welfare. Emphasis on ethical wealth creation stems from past instances of crony capitalism, which stifled economic growth and led to systemic inefficiencies. By promoting a transparent and fair business environment, India can ensure that wealth creation benefits a broader spectrum of society, thereby enhancing social and economic inclusion. The claim of a \$55 trillion economy may be viewed by some economists as hypothetical, given the complexities of global and domestic economic landscapes.

Nevertheless. India's inherent economic strengths and resilience could indeed support the realization of the India@100 vision. Despite the slowing pace of globalization, geo-political tensions, and other unseen negative forces could pose signifi-cant threats to India's growth trajectory Nonetheless, with the right policies, particularly those that encourage domestic investment and exports, India can navigate these challenges and sustain high growth rates, controlled inflation, prudent currency management, and robust economic policies that foster innovation, formalization, and ethical wealth creation. As India stands on the cusp of a new economic era, these pillars will be crucial in shaping its journey toward becoming a global economic powerhouse. (The author is a senior journalist. Views expressed are personal)

However, for sports to gain equal footing, there needs to be a cultural shift, increased investment and better integration of sports into daily life. By promoting a balanced approach that values both work and sports, India can and will foster a healthier, more active and well-rounded society. Achieving this balance involves effective time management, prioritization and a shift in mindset that values both mental and physical well-being.

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

Building the foundation for the future: The struggles of adolescent girls in slums

Despite government initiatives, the young girls are often deprived of education facilities as they have to work and shoulder domestic responsibilities

n Narrow lanes of Baba Ramdev Nagar, a slum in Jaipur, 12-year-old Pooia (name changed) cradles her three-year-old brother while her mother Sharda cooks nearby. Pooja obediently runs back and forth fetching water and other necessities as her mother instructs.

In contrast, her 8-year-old brother plays undisturbed. The scene takes a poignant turn when a friend of Pooja's, returning from school, stops by. Pooja's eyes light up as they discuss school, revealing her longing for education. But when asked why Pooja isn't attending school, Sharda interjects, "If she goes to school, who will look after the seem to slip further from her grasp.



NEELKANTH ZALKE

Sharda and her husband, daily wage labourers, are among the many families in Baba Řamdev Nagar, a slum of over 500 people. Predominantly inhabited by Scheduled Castes and Tribes, including Lohars (blacksmiths), Jogis, Kalbeliyas, and daily labourers, these families have migrated from remote children?" Pooja's dreams rural areas of Rajasthan, driven by the hope of better

the city. While some families have settled permanently, others migrate seasonally, depending on the availability of work However, the migration process and the economic

hardships it brings take the greatest toll on the education of children, particularly girls.

The struggle to make ends meet often forces families to prioritize immediate survival

over long-term investments like education In these situations, girls bear the brunt of the burden. The economic strain on the household disproportionately affects girls compared to boys, stunting not only their education but also their physical and mental development. Another story echoes Pooja's employment opportunities in in this slum-14-year-old

Asha (name changed), the eldest of four siblings. With her parents working as scrap dealers, Asha is left to care for her siblings and manage the household. On days when her mother cannot work, Asha steps in. Despite her strong desire to learn, Asha hasn't seen the inside of a classroom since fifth grade.

Her education, like that of many girls in the slum, halted as she took on responsibilities at home. An elderly resident, Kanti, questions, "If the girl goes to school, who will take care of the house and the younger siblings?" Yet, she remains silent on why these responsibilities aren't placed on the boys. Akhilesh Mishra, a social worker who has been active in the slum for eight years, points out, "There is ents to prioritize income over tain from school prevents



children into child labor."

still a lack of awareness about educating girls in urban slums like Baba Ramdev Nagar. Economic challenges and a lack of social consciousness about the importance of education lead par-

them from benefiting. IndiaSpend's report highlights a concerning trend: while primary school dropout rates for girls in 2021-22 were 1.35%, this figure jumped to 12.25% at the sec-ondary level. The report underscores the urgent need for not just policy implementation but also grassroots awareness. Societal awareness is critical to ensuring girls' education is valued as highly as boys'. The struggle for education is most pronounced for adolescent schooling, often dragging girls, particularly in urban poverty-stricken areas like He adds that although the Baba Ramdev Nagar. Though government has launched some urban areas are beginning to reduce barriers to programs to promote girls' education, the distance girls education, the girls in this slum continue to fight for in Baba Ramdev Nagar main-

their right to learn.

In Baba Ramdev Nagar, the pursuit of education for girls like Pooja and Asha faces formidable obstacles. Economic hardships and entrenched societal norms prioritize immediate survival over long-term education, leaving many girls out of school. Despite government initiatives, the gap in educational attainment remains wide due to factors such as child labor and domestic responsibilities disproportionately shouldered by girls. Addressing these challenges is crucial for breaking the cycle of poverty and securing a brighter future for these young girls.

The writer is a grassroots worker from Jodhpur, Rajasthan.Charkha Features





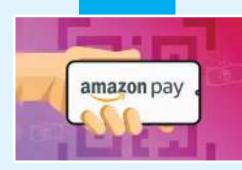
Money 08

IN BRIEF



Alembic Pharma gets USFDA nod for generic drug

lembic Pharmaceuticals on Monday said it has received Aapproval from the US health regulator to market a generic medication used to treat moderate-to-severe psoriasis of the scalp. The company has received final approval from the US Food & Drug Administration (USFDA) for its abbreviated new drug application (ANDA) for Betamethasone Valerate Foam, the drug firm said in a statement. The approved ANDA is therapeutically equivalent to the reference listed drug product Luxiq Foam (0.12 per cent), of Norvium Bioscience, LLC (Norvium). Betamethasone valerate foam is a topical corticosteroid indicated for relief of the inflammatory and pruritic manifestations of corticosteroid-responsive dermatoses of the scalp. Shares of Alembic Pharmaceuticals on Monday ended 0.97 per cent down at Rs 1,089.90 apiece on the BSE.



Amazon Pay's UPI offering crosses 100-mn mark

mazon Pay on Monday said its UPI offering is witnessing widespread adoption across the country with Aover 100 million customers using the service. Launched in 2019, Amazon Pay UPI has witnessed strong user preference from across big states of Maharashtra, UP, Bihar, West Bengal, Karnataka, the company said in a statement. The 18-24-year age bracket led the adoption of Amazon Pay UPI, it added. "We are humbled and proud that 100M customers have chosen Amazon Pay UPI as their preferred choice of online payment experience. We are excited to continue to innovate and expand our offerings to simplify lives and fulfil aspirations for millions across India," Amazon Pay India CEO Vikas Bansal said. Mobile recharges, utility bill payments and e-commerce transactions were among the top use cases of Amazon Pay UPI, the statement added



Taxpayers without valid bank a/c to be barred from filing GSTR-1

PNS NEW DELHI

GST taxpayers who do not furnish bank account details to GST authorities will be barred from filing outward supply return GSTR-1 from September 1, GST Network (GSTN) has said in an advisory.

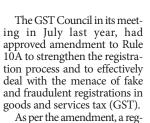
As per GST Rule 10A, a taxpayer is required to furnish details of a _____



GSTR-1/IFF (invoice furnishing of outward supplies of goods or facility), whichever is earlier. services or both in Form GSTR-In the advisory, the GSTN 1or using Invoice Furnishing Facility (IFF), whichever is earasked all the taxpayers who have

not yet furnished the details of "From 1st September, 2024 a valid bank accounts to add their bank account information this rule is being enforced. Therefore, for the tax period in their registration details by August-2024 onwards, the taxvisiting the GST portal. "...in absence of a valid bank

payer will not be able furnish GSTR-01/IFF as the case may be, account details in GST registrawithout furnishing the details of tion, you will not be able to file a valid bank account in their reg-istration details on GST portal," GSTR-1 or IFF as the case may, be from August 2024 return GSTN said in an advisory dated period," the GSTN advisory added



istered taxpayer was required to furnish the details of bank account having

ply in Form

his name and PAN within 30 days of grant of registration or before filing of two states. statement of outwards sup-

form) the Unified Lending Interface (ULI). This platform facilitates seamless and consent-based flow of digital information, including even land records of various states, from multiple data service providers to lenders," said RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das at the RBI@90 Global Conference on 'Digital Public Infrastructure and Emerging Technologies' here.

trinity' of JAM-UPI-ULI will be a revolutionary step forward in India's digital infrastructure

RBI to launch ULI for flow of credit to small, rural borrowers

PNS BENGALURU

HYDERABAD | TUESDAY | AUGUST 27, 2024

Buoyed by the success of digitalisation of financial services, the Reserve Bank will be launching Unified Lending Interface (ULI), a platform to ensure frictionless flow of credit, especially for smaller and rural

borrowers. Last year, the Reserve Bank had launched a pilot of a technology plat-form which enables frictionless credit in

"From now on, we propose to call it (plator UPI, a real-time payment system launched in India in April

Corporation of India (NPCI), He emphasised that the 'new has played a significant role in the growth of retail digital payments in India. NPCI was promoted by

7

S

jour-

banks under the guidance of the Reserve Bank. While initial participants on the UPI platform were

time taken for credit appraisal especially for smaller and rural borrowers. The ULI architecture has common and standardised APIs, designed for a 'plug and play' approach to ensure digital access to information from diverse sources.

This reduces the complexity of multiple technical integrations and enables borrowers to get the ben-efit of seamless delivery of credit, quicker turnaround time without requiring extensive documentation, he said. Das said

said Unified Payments Interface banks, non-bank third party app providers and use of QR codes have all combined in popularising UPI. It has since emerged as a robust, cost-effective and portable retail payment system and is attracting active interest across the globe, Das said.

digitising access to the cus-tomer's financial and nonfinancial data that otherwise resided in disparate silos, ULI is expected to cater to large unmet demand for credit across various sectors, particularly for agricultural and MSME borrowers.

He said the ULI will cut the

India offers a "huge opportuni-ty" for Infosys, CEO Salil Parekh

said, noting that the country's

"fantastic" economic trajectory

has set it apart from the rest of

The Bengaluru-headquar-

"strong

tered IT company has

growth" in its India

business in the first

quarter of this fis-

cal year, although

revenue from the

market is relatively

"India is a huge

opportunity... The growth

that we are seeing for different

types of work across Indian

environment is massive, and we

are very much part of making

PNS NEW DELHI

the world.

clocked

small.

SENSEX RALLIES 600 PTS Markets extend winning momentum on rate cut hopes

PNS MUMBAI

August 23.

lier.

Stock market benchmark indices Sensex and Nifty surged nearly 1 per cent on Monday, propelled by intense buying in metal, IT and consumer durable stocks amid hopes that the US Federal Reserve will start cutting interest rates soon.

Renewed Foreign fund inflows and buying in frontline stocks HDFC Bank and Reliance Industries further bolstered investor sentiment, traders said.

Rising for the fifth straight day, the 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 611.90 points or 0.75 per cent to settle at 81,698.11. During the day, it surged 738.06 points or 0.91 per cent to 81,824.27.

A total of 2,189 stocks advanced, while 1,860 declined and 148 remained unchanged on the BSE The NSE Nifty soared Unilever were among the lag-



187.45 points or 0.76 per cent to 25,010.60, registering gains for the eighth session in a row.

Among the 30 Sensex firms, HCL Technologies, NTPC, Bajaj Finserv, Tech Mahindra, JSW Steel, Titan, Mahindra & Mahindra, Tata Steel, Larsen & Toubro and Tata Consultancy Services were the biggest gain-

gards. In the broader market, the BSE midcap gauge jumped 0.66 per cent and the smallcap index soared 0.20 per cent.

"US Fed has signalled a rate cut in September, reflecting in the decline in US treasury yields and the dollar index, which has led to a rally in global markets despite there being On the other hand, Kotak no indication of the size of cuts. Mahindra Bank, IndusInd Indian markets hit a new high Bank, Maruti and Hindustan led by a change in FII stance to positive from negative, along with continued strong DII

BANK

In the inaugural speech, Das

2016 by the National Payments

inflows "Although the overall trend was positive, large caps outperform on account of healthy earnings and relatively fair valuation compared to broad-er markets. IT, Realty, FMCG and Consumption gained on account of improved outlook," Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services, said.

Among the indices, metal surged 2.03 per cent, realty (1.69 per cent), consumer durables (1.43 per cent), IT (1.37 per cent), teck (1.11 per cent) and commodities (0.91 per cent).

Telecommunication and services were the laggards.

In Asian markets, Shanghai and Hong Kong settled in the positive territory while Seoul and Tokyo ended lower. European markets were trading mostly lower. The US

sure that we engage both with private sector companies and with government agencies where markets ended with significant we can support, for example, the gains on Friday. government's vision on digital

India's economic trajectory fantastic: Infosys CEO

India.. "So, we are helping build some of the building blocks for that digital India going ahead," Parekh said.

Stating that the company had been deeply engaged with government projects, he said, "Some of the work we have done on

income tax system (tax filing portal developed for Income Tax Department) is extremely well received.'

Infosys beat expectations with its Q1 report card this

time as it reported 7 per cent rise in consolidated net profit at Rs 6,368 crore and raised its growth outlook for the full financial year. In the year-ago period, the company had clocked a profit of Rs 5,945 crore. For the current fiscal year, the company raised revenue growth guidance to 3-4 per cent from 1-3 per cent projected earlier.

Aurobindo, Glenmark, FDC recall products in US market

rug makers Aurobindo Pharma, Glenmark and FDC are recalling products in the US due to manufacturing issues, as per the US Food and Drug Administration (USFDA). Aurobindo Pharma USA Inc -- a unit of Hyderabadbased drug major -- is recalling 240 bottles of pain-relieving medication Healthy Living Acetaminophen, Aspirin (NSAID) and caffeine tablets. As per the latest enforcement report of USFDA, the company is recalling the affected lot due to "Missing Label". Some bottles are missing the manufacturer's label that includes the drug facts information, the US health regulator said. The New Jersey-based Aurobindo Pharma USA Inc initiated the Class 1 recall on Julv 11, it said. As per the US health regulator, a Class I recall pertains to defective products that can cause serious health problems.

Capitalmind gets Sebi's nod to launch mutual fund

PNS NEW DELHI

Investment management company Capitalmind Financial Services on Monday said it has received in-principle approval from market regulator Sebi to launch a mutual fund business.

As a portfolio manager, Capitalmind currently manages over Rs 2,200 crore in assets under management (AUM) for more than 1,150 clients, boasting a strong annual client retention rate of 98 per cent. Since its inception, the

Bengaluru-based company has doubled its AUM every financial year, driven by robust portfolio performance and steady inflows. This growth has resulted in wealth creation exceeding Rs

1,000 crore for clients in less than seven years.

'Receiving Sebi's in-principle approval for a mutual fund is both an honour and a privilege. We are grateful for this opportunity and remain committed to building long-term wealth while maintaining the highest standards of regulatory compliance," Deepak Shenoy, CEO of Capitalmind, said. "We look forward to establishing Capitalmind Asset Management Company to meet Sebi's final approval require-

ments," he added. As of March 31, 2024, India has 74.6 crore PAN card holders, while unique mutual fund investors number just 4.5 crore, indicating significant untapped poten-

Tata Group to employ 4,000 women from Uttarakhand

PNS DEHRADUN

Tata Group will give jobs to 4,000 women from Uttarakhand at its plants in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka. Its Chief Human Resource Officer Ranjan

letter to this effect to the state planning department, an official release said here on Monday.

The recruitment process will begin soon, it said. Tata Electronics Pvt Ltd will appoint 4,000 women

at its plants in Hosur in Tamil Nadu and Kolar in Karnataka under the NPS and NATS programmes, the release said

GDP growth to decline to 7.1 pc for June qtr: SBI economists

PNS MUMBAI

Economists at the country's largest lender SBI on Monday joined other watchers forecasting a slip in the economic growth and estimated India's real GDP growth to come at 7.1 per cent for the June quarter.

The econ-

growth in gross value added (GVA) will fall below 7 per cent to 6.7-6.8 per cent for the April-June period quarter, mainly driven by

this fiscal when compared to the "As per our 'Nowcasting Model', the forecasted GDP growth for Q1 FY25 would be 7.0-7.1 per cent, and GVA is at 6.7-6.8 per cent with a downward bias," the economists said.

It can be noted that the real GDP growth had come at 7.8 per cent in the June quarter last year and the preceding March quarter. A slew of analysts have been pointing to a moderation in economic activity in the

softer manufacturing

al elections.

and lower government

spending due to the gener-

The report also said that

June

ing inflation, there is a space for monetary policy easing.

The SBI economists said its growth estimates are based on 41 lead indicators, and pointed to a moderation in sales growth and an inching up in staffing costs for manufacturing compa-

nies. 'Against this backdrop, profit margins have declined, and this will pull down manufacturing growth," it added. If one were to exclude the banking, finance and insurance companies, corporates reported only 5 per cent revenue growth and a degrowth of 1 per cent in operating profits in Q1 FY25, it said. SBI economists have, however, retained their 7.5 per cent growth estimate for the fiscal year 2024-25, which is higher than the

given the uncertain global growth outlook and the soften-7.2 per cent made by the RBI.

Call, messaging apps must comply with rules: COAI

PNS NEW DELHI

Telecom operators expect internet calling and messaging apps like WhatsApp, Google Meet, and Telegram to comply with rules in the same manner as all service providers do, industry body COAI said on Monday.

The Cellular Operators Association of India (COAI) -- whose members include Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel and Vodafone Idea, among others -- said it is mis leading to demand to exclude vice providers, including nication apps from the

2023 as they are subject to country as done by the other regulations because various non-sectoral rules apply on telecom operators as

well. "COAI would

like to state that the 'Security of the Country' is of utmost importance and in this regard, all communication ser-

over-the-top (OTT) commu- OTT-based communication services, should adhere to Telecommunications Act the requisite directives of the

Telecom Service Providers," COAI Director

General SP Kochhar Kot said. He sant that telecom operators invest ... He said that telecom o p e r a t o r s have invest-ed heavily in setting

setting up the infrastructure for lawful interception and monitoring. However, despite these investments, the unregulated application-based com-

munications services completely bypass this apparatus, which is a big security threat to the nation," Kochhar said.

TO BOOST DELEVERAGING, GROWTH Vedanta readies Rs 30,000-cr war chest

PNS NEW DELHI

Anil Agarwal-led Vedanta Ltd has prepared a war chest of Rs 30,000 crore with recent funds raised through a qualified institutional placement (QIP), offer for sale (OFS) and dividend to pursue further deleveraging and growth, sources said.

Proceeds from the Rs 8,500-crore QIP of Vedanta Ltd, HZL's OFS of Rs 3,200 crore, and Rs 5,100 crore from the second interim dividend, coupled with existing cash reserves of Rs 13,000 crore, will lead to the creation of a Rs 30,000-crore war chest

after the company receives all the funds, sources said.

Vedanta may deploy this war chest for accelerated deleveraging of its balance sheet, improving capital struc-ture, development of its transformational projects paving the way for its near-term USD 10-billion dollar EBITDA target and pursuing inorganic opportunities, an analyst said. Vedanta continued to deliv-

er strong quarterly numbers. For the first quarter, profit after tax grew 54 per cent year-on-year (YoY) and more than doubled on a quarter-onquarter basis to Rs 5,095 crore



The company recorded by 20 per cent YoY due to highest-ever alumina producstructural changes and other tion at Lanjigarh and mined initiatives. The mining major's metal product at the Zinc debt stood at Rs 6,130 crore as India unit. It brought down of June 30. The proceeds generated the overall cost of production

from the private placement of non-convertible debentures as well as promoter stake sale between February and June (cumulatively 4.4 per cent) will also contribute to the debt reduction at the group-level in the near-term.

A combination of strategic stake sale, debt reduction and optimizing operational effi-ciencies indicates Vedanta's move towards deleveraging and generating free cash flows is on track, sources added.

Two major events -- the proposed demerger and a series of transformational projects -- is expected to help the company continue this trend.

omists said the

candidates from Uttarakhand

Bandopadhyay has written a

year-ago period.

the pioneer Lyderabad

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Tuesday August 27, 2024

HARMON OUS BLEND OF LOVE AND LOYALTY WITH HEY KANHA HEY GOPALA

TEJAL SINHA

t is the season when Hindu devotees immerse themselves in devotion to the divine deities once more! On Monday, we all observed Krishna Janmashtami and to add to the festivities, the famous singer and Padma Shri awardee Kailash Kher launched his new devotional song *Hey* Kanha Hey Gopala. However, don't expect it to be a typical release; this one is filled with spirituality, innovation and a hint of Kailash's distinct charm.

"Hey Kanha Hey Gopala was composed during our trip to Mathura and Vrindavan, during which our band Kailasa travelled for

a concert,"begins the *Teri Deewani* singer. During their visit to the temples and ashrams, a huge crowd eagerly anticipated meeting the crew. *Hey Kanha Hey Gopala* is a deep musical tribute that transports listeners into

> the peaceful and holy worlds of worship. The

> > soothing

and spirituall uplifting soundscape created by Kailash Kher's emotive vocals, combined with a delicate mix of keys, flute and synthesiser, creates a complex auditory experience. The piece elegantly builds up to a grand

climax, capturing the profound journey of love and dedication, and ultimately leaves the audience feeling spiritually fulfilled. "The emotions we experienced back then are reflected in this song. How can we humanise the splendor of God? How can we humanise his wondrous shape? And then, how can we humanise the meadow, the trail, the immaculate physique—everything that has been inscribed within us? Just as the lyrics read, Jamuna teere sameer, Thodi mand mand chale, Brij ki raj mein bhi sugandh, Mere govind ki mile. Overwhelmed during his visit to meet Kanha, the *Chand Sifarish* singer further recalls, "We were surrounded by a large crowd as we had gone to worship Kanha! was so overwhelmed. I was all smiles. I felt God's presence in the form of my fans.' He believes that, be it at Janmashtami or any other festival, people generally sing for the divine with a wish to be fulfilled. "Bhai maangte hi rahoge kya?' (Will you just keep asking?) he asserts. Hey Kanha Hey Gopala, he says, is a gratitude song. "We need to not always plead to God but rather thank God that we live a beautiful life. You are alive on earth; that is a great blessing. Your life is the biggest blessing. So we always compose songs for gratitude, for God and to describe their beauty An ardent devotional Kailash goes on to explain that just as the divine plants a thought in our hearts, he also provides us with a melody for that thought. Throughout the procedure, we also educate ourselves on sound

I listen to any music. I simply focus on my music and strive to get better. I enjoy listening to classical and folk music. Listening repeatedly has made us grow up and that's why the music is shaped so perfectly. It's not about the music sounding like others, but keeping its distinctiveness. As the chat nears its conclusion, he signs off with great enthusiasm, stating, "Every time I feel inspired to create a song, either for God or any other topic, it is God who provides them

waves. "I don't have formal training, nor do with the inner inspiration and the words. This is how all singers and composers aim to incorporate new elements into their songs.

As Krishna Janmashtami dawns, let Hey Kanha Hey Gopala by Kailash Kher become the song that uplifts your spiritual path, connecting you to the eternal love and devotion of Lord Krishna.

Making Janmashtami even more devotional, Padma Shri Kailash Kher has released his devotional track *Hey* Kanha Hey Gopala. The Pioneer got an opportunity to speak to the ardent devotee as he took us on a devotional ride

Of beauty, purpose and power of representation



AARTI SREENATH

profound self-discovery and purpose. As a child, she was captivated by the world of beauty, but it was only as she grew older that she rshi Ghosh, the dazzling Miss Transqueen India 2023, repre-recognised the deeper significance of pageantry. "As a child, it was all about beau-



the Miss International Queen 2024 pageant, representing India, speaks to The Pioneer about her humble beginnings, representing India globally and more around it

sented India at the Miss International Queen 2024 pageant. Held annually in Pattaya, Thailand, this prestigious event is the world's largest and most esteemed pageant for transgender women, offering a global platform for beauty, talent, and advocacy.

For Arshi, this opportunity was not just a dream fulfilled but a testament to her unwavering determination and the resilience that has defined her journey. Her ascent to this pinnacle began ear-lier this year in New Delhi, where she secured the coveted Miss Transqueen India title. Reflecting on her victory, she describes it as "the world to me," cap-turing the magnitude of what it means to represent her country on such a prominent stage. The national pageant, powered by the Pride Plaza group of hotels, was a fierce compe-tition, with contestants from across India vying for the crown. Ella Dev Verma and Victoria Taying, who secured the first and second runner-up posi-tions, respectively, were also standout con-tenders and the event was judged by a panel of seven dis-t i n g u i s h e d

experts. Arshi's journev to this moment has been one of pageantry. As a child, it was all about beau-ty. But as I grew up, I realised there's a lot more to it," she recalls. This realisation spurred her to follow pageant stories even before her transition, finding inspiration and motivation to stay focused on becoming the best version of herself. Her path to Miss International Queen 2024

has not been without its obstacles. She speaks has not been without its obstacles, one spears candidly about the financial challenges she has faced in pursuing her pageantry dreams. "People don't realise that pageantry is expen-sive," she explains, shedding light on the difficulties of arranging funds for both nation-al and international competitions. Despite these challenges, she remains deeply grateful to the generous individuals who have supportto the generous individuals who have support-ed her, enabling her to chase her dreams and represent her country on a global platform. For her, participating in Miss International Queen 2024 was about more than just person-al achievement—it's about breaking barriers and challenging stereotypes. "Just by stand-ing on this platform Linguis and give wings ing on this platform, I inspire and give wings to thousands of dreams," she says, recognis-ing the powerful impact of her presence. Her mission is clear: to bring the transgender community into the mainstream through education. She is committed to empowering her community while also sensitising society to be more understanding and accepting. As she stepped onto the international stage, she felt a profound sense of fulfillment. The

pressure of representing her country initial-ly weighed heavily on her, but after arriving in Thailand and beginning the rounds, she feels like she is "living the dream life." This experience is not just about her—it's about paving the way for thousands of other trans girls in India and around the world who see in her the possibility of their own dreams

Navigating the stress of such a high-stakes competition is no small feat, but she maintains her mental well-being by focusing on the joy of each moment. "There will be many rounds and you might not be good at some," she acknowledges. However, she believes it's essential to move on and embrace each experience fully. Her approach to the competition is not just

about winning—it's about enjoying the journey and growing through it. She is also keenly aware of society's often flawed perceptions of beauty. Reflecting on her own experiences, she notes how dramatically perceptions can shift—from being labelled an "ugly" boy to being celebrated as a "beautiful queen." Yet, for her, true beauty transcends physical appearance. "Beauty isn't only about how you look," she asserts. "It's the light you bring to the world, the love that you share and how you make others feel."

lear skin and luscious hair is the ultimate beauty dream but the onset of monsoon literally pours water down those dreams. Although all age groups, whether it's millennials or Gen Zs, are actively putting in an increased amount of thought into their personal grooming needs, the high ambient humidity and excessive sweat brought on by monsoon presents new skin and hair care problems. With the skin and hair becoming more oily, peo-ple become vulnerable to hyperpigmentation, increased acne, excessive

hair loss and frizz-riddled hair, among

the other ones. That said, there are innumerable treatments and products available in the market that are specially formulated to target all these concerns. But the problem is, individuals actively experiment with different products without even understanding the seasonal changes and the associated concerns it preand the associated concerns it pre-sents. Against this backdrop, Clinikally conducted a survey to uncover the top skin and hair problems faced by Gen Zs and millennials dur-**Despite the** ing monsoon.

Talking about the sur-vey, Dr. Anindita Sarkar, advancements in skincare products, chief medical officer acne breakouts plague (Clinikally and AAYNA Clinics) said, "With the influx of beauty proda lot of people, primarily because ucts, individuals continmajority of the ue to use 'one-size-fitsproducts fail to take all' products, often forgetting about the into account its root uniqueness of their skin and hair."

Oily skin, pigmenta-tion, and acne are some of the common

skincare challenges in monsoon

cause.

The onset of monsoon brings forth a sense of relief from scorching summer heat but the surging humidity in the atmosphere makes the skin more oily, making it even more challenging for individuals with oily, acne-prone skin to maintain skin health.

Out of 10,500 total responses collected, 30.18% users reported witnessing an increase in pigmentation issues. This is primarily because people often neglect the importance of SPF during the monsoon, but the reality is the sun rays may hide behind the clouds but its effect on your skin is still potent. At the same time, pigmentation also leads to high frustration levels due to the unavailability of right products. The solution is simple, consult dermatologists who can recommend the right product, preferably

something that is infused with vitamin C, or niacinamide.

Acne breakouts and scars continue to remain a common concern amidst the heavy rains. This is indicated by 12.97% votes. Despite the advancements in skincare products, acne breakouts plague a lot of people, primarily because major-ity of the products fail to take into account its root cause, ranging from hormonal imbalance, diet, stress, to environmental triggers. As a result, it becomes imperative to understand these triggers before jumping onto the solution.

Damaged and sensitive skin is another prevalent issue, with 10.63% individuals reporting their skin to be irritated and itchy. These common complaints of redness and irritation are typically associated with sensitivity issues as individuals are often prone to severe reactions either because of the wet weather or certain products. In tandem, there is an urgent demand for hypoallergenic

and gentle formulations that minimise the damaged skin barrier by rejuvenating the skin altogether. Monsoon means

higher sebum production and oily scalp which translates into dandruff and hair loss.

If you consider your hair as the epitome of your beauty, it is safe to assume that hair concerns significantly affect vou. You're not alone in this journey, as 12.39% individuals have noted a drastic increase in hair fall and loss, especially as we

move towards the wetter months. Whether caused by increased humidity, genetics, pollutants, or other factors, hair loss is a common challenge and can be addressed by using the right products recommended by expert dermatolo-

Apart from hair loss, 6.41% individuals have also complained about itchy and irritated scalp and 4.63% about dan-druff respectively. The humid weather conditions worsen issues associated with dandruff and itchiness, as the scalp becomes riddled with excessive buildup of product, dirt, and oil. It is best to adopt a balanced approach to target both these symptoms and effects. In addition, 2.44% respondents also highlighted their discomfort over damaged and frizzy hair, underlying the need to curb the usage of heat styling tools and chemical treatments.



what's brewing?



ARCHIE



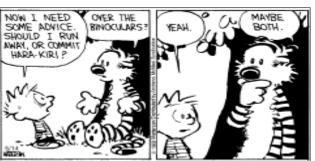




CALVIN AND HOBBES

FUN





GARFIELD











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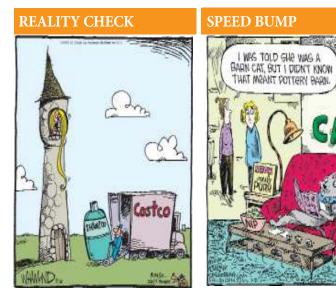
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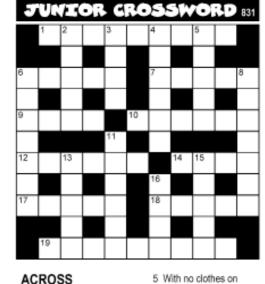
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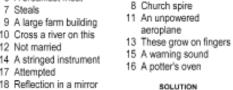
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- 19 Scientific study of the



6 Look after someone

else's children





tollywood

I'D LOVE TO WORK WITH PRABHAS **AGAIN: SRIDEVI VIJAYKUMAR**

ridevi Vijaykumar made her Telugu debut with *Rukmini* and played the female lead opposite Prabhas in his debut film Eeswar. However, after that, she did quite a few Telugu and Tamil films and almost quit after her marriage. Her last Telugu film was released more than a decade ago, but now she is com-ing back as a lead actress with the film *Sundarakanda* opposite Nara Rohit. "I feel happy that I am com-ing back with a feel-good film," says Sridevi at the promotional event for her Telugu film. She further went on to share, "I should thank the director of this film, Venkatesh, as he designed my character so well. The title is a good one and gives so much positivity. It's a fresh film and a family entertainer and I am

ing this film. I am happy to come back again after a long gap as the lead actress?

"I was excited when I heard this story, and I am sure that my role is portrayed very well. Though I told my director that I would take some more time, he insisted on me and gave me confidence, so I agreed to do it. Though I missed the big screen, I never missed cameras," she said. For the unaware, Sridevi had earlier appeared on the small screen for a few television shows.

"I was keen to do this film and I feel this one is new for me. The entire credit goes to the director, because he has come up with a different story. He doesn't look like he is a debut director, as he worked

sure that the audience will definitely enjoy watch- as an experienced one and handled everyone very well. The way he presented me in this film, I am confident that everyone will like it," says Sridevi. Coincidentally, her film *Eeswar* is re-releasing on October 23 on the occasion of Prabhas' birthday. When asked about that film and Prabhas, she says, "Prabhas is a darling and everyone calls him like that from his debut film. How he was at the time of *Eeswar*, he is the same person to date. Definitely, I would love to work with Prabhas. I am very excited because *Eeswar* is releasing on Prabhas' birthday. I am looking forward to it," says Sridevi.

She is now keen to continue working in Telugu cinema and play different roles in the near future. "I want to do good films and portray different roles," she says.

Sridevi Vijaykumar is all set to make her comeback in Telugu after more than a decade. She spoke about her comeback and also about Prabhas, where she acted as the female lead in his debut film *Eeswar*



Nara Rohit is all set to make his comeback with the film *Sundarakanda*. Venkatesh is the director and the film started its first promo-tional event on Monday in Hyderabad. Though his film *Prathinidhi 2* released a few months ahead of the elections, it didn't do well. "Actually I wanted to come back with Sundarakanda, but I did Prathinidhi 2. The film didn't fare well at the boxoffice," Nara Rohit tells about his film.

Rohit took nearly six years to come back and he took a long break. "There are quite a few reasons for my break. Before Covid I did a couple of films, which





I don't like. If I do the typical commercial films, I feel that they may work out at the box office, but they didn't do well. So I decided to take a break initially, but because of some family issues, the delay prolonged for some more years," said Nara Rohit about his comeback. He said that it's just a co-incident that he is doing films when his uncle (pedananna) Nara Chandrababu Naidu became the Chief Minister. He added that he is not worrying about his existence because he is doing a film after a long time. "Even if you are continuously doing films, the actor's fate is decided by every Friday. So, I am not worrying about the break, there

are so many Fridays and I am looking forward to my film's release," he said. About his entry into politics in the near future, he said he is presently concentrating on films. "I don't know, but if everything permits I may enter in 2029, let's see how things are going on, there is a lot of time for that," he said.

These days' audiences come to theaters to watch only star films, the small films they prefer to see in OTT. "I don't think it is right. The best example is Hindi film *Stree 2* which is doing very well in theaters. You name any biggest Bollywood Star, but this film is doing better than those star films. If the con-

tent is good, definitely audiences come to theaters," said a confident Rohit. He added that the impact of OTT is not there. "Yes, after three weeks the film is streaming on OTT, but audiences wanted to see it first in the theater," he said. Talking about *Sundarakanda* he says that he has been travelling with director Venky from the last five years. "He wrote a peculiar love story and I loved it. This role is perfectly suited for me now, he savs. "When I was 24 I did my debut film Banam, I played a role which was above my age. Now, I am playing a role in this *Sundarakanda* that suits me per-fectly," he added.



Tejus pinning hopes on Uruku Patela

oung actor Tejus Kancherla will next be seen in Young actor lejus Kancherla will next be seen in Uruku Patela. His last good film was Husharu released in 2018 followed by RDX Love in 2019. After a hiatus, he is now pinning hopes on this upcom-ing film Uruku Patela. The film is directed by Vivek Reddy and produced by Kancharla Bala Bhanu. The film's promotional videos including songs have

already garnered interest on social media and the internet. The trailer was released on Monday and it creates interest about this film. In this trailer, the story reveals that the protagonist, who is disheartened by his inability to find a bride despite being of marriageable age. Although he has not pursued education, he dreams of marrving an educated woman

Introducing Avram Baktha Manchu as 'Thinnadu' in Kannappa



he Manchu family's third generation is now into films. On the occasion of Janmashtami, the makers of Kannappa released the look of young Kannappa played by Manchu Avram Baktha, son of Manchu Vishnu. After Mohan Babu, it was Lakshmi, Vishnu and Manoj taking his legacy and now his grandson Avram is also making his debut on the big screen.

Continuing their promotional strategy of unveiling first-look posters of key racters from Kannappa, the maker introduced Avram Baktha Manchu as 'Thinnadu'. It is Mohan Babu who launched the first look of his grandson Avram and says "Here is my Avram. Happy Janmashtami" (sic) on his social media account. Avram Baktha Manchu makes a striking impression as Thinnadu, a character representing the childhood version of Vishnu Manchu's role. His portrayal exudes a fierce intensity, capturing the essence of the character with remarkable authenticity. From the intricacy of his costumes to his commanding posture, every detail contributes to a compelling depiction. The poster sees Kaali Maa statue in the background. Manchu Vishnu is proud to see his son on the big screen. "Happy Janmashtami! Proud to launch my Avram's look in *Kannappa*. Excited beyond words for the world to see him as an actor" (sic) wrote Vishnu Manchu who shared another poster of Avram. Kannappa is more than just a cinematic venture. It represents the convergence of three generations of the Manchu family's cinematic journey, featuring Mohan Babu, Vishnu Manchu and Avram Manchu. Avram impresses big time with his appearance in the first look poster. *Kannappa* is scheduled for a Pan India release in December.

Balayya@50 is going to be a big extravaganza

before and the Telugu Film Industry is planning a very big memorable event on September 1 at at Hitex Novotel, Hyderabad. On this occasion some of the industry people met Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu and invited for this event. The Chief Minister responded positively and is likely to attend.

According to a source, the event is going to be a three-hour long duration with loads of entertainment programmes. Also many political, business and film personalities from all other industries may attend in

n the occasion of N a n d a m u r i Balakrishna's 50 years of entering the film industry is going to be celebrated like never invited Mega Star Chiranjeevi and he too agreed to come to this event.

the source. Tamil film industry actors

like Vijay Sethupathi, Karthi may attend and the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, MK Stalin may not attend as he is going to the USA for some work. "So, his son Udayanidhi Stalin, actor and Minister in Tamil Nadu Government, may attend this Balayya event," says a source. Some of the bigwigs from the Malayalam industry will also be present for this event.

From the Kannada film

industry Dr Shiva Rajkumar and few other actors are going to attend, added the source. Many film personalities are likely to attend. The TFI is also planning to invite some of the Bollywood personalities, added

Apart from these people, there are some entertaining programmes that include dances from Balayya film songs and also a few skits from many actors. "This event is going to be a memorable one for Balakrishna," added the source. Apart from this event, there may be another event in Amaravathi on September 15. "It's going to be organized by Balakrishna's fans and Pawan Kalyan and Nara Lokesh may attend for that event," says a source.

According to the makers, the story gets interesting when a beautiful girl falls for him, raising questions about why she would choose someone who is overlooked by many educated girls. Here comes the twist as they reveal the other side of this beautiful girl and from here the film turns into another interesting narration and the makers hope that audiences like it. The film is releasing on September 7. Khushbhoo Chowdary is playing the female lead opposite Tejus.



Shefali Shah expresses desire to work in Telugu cinema

C hefali Shah, one of the most versatile Sactresses in Bollywood, has consistently left a distinct mark on the screen with her compelling performances. Always eager to explore more in her craft, she is open to exploring opportunities in Telugu cinema. Recently Shefali was part of a moderated

chat with Arundhati Bhattacharya, the CEO of Salesforce, in Hyderabad. The event was attended by over 400 women in person and more than 3,000 online.

During the conversation, Shefali expressed her admiration for Telugu cinema, saying, "I truly admire Telugu cinema. I think they perfectly blend grandeur with the art of storytelling. Look at their films, whether it's the Baahubali franchise, RRR, Kalki or Sita Ramam—they are truly magical. I would love to work with them if given a chance."

KALINGA TO HIT **SCREENS ON SEP 13**

hruva Vaayu, who got recognition with *Kerosene*, is now coming up with anoth-er film *Kalinga*. He took two responsi-bilities for this film which he played as lead actor and also director of the film. Deepthi Kondaveeti and Pruthvi Yadav are the producers. At an event on Monday, the makers announced that they are planning to release the film on September 13. The teaser of my film gets curiosity among both the industry and also the audience. With that the film's business done in all areas since the

content has been well-received," says Dhruva Vaayu. He added that this film is not a regular one. "The film has all ingredients such as emotions, love, comedy, horror and thriller," says Dhruva. The actor and director are very confident that the content of the film and screenplay are going to be highlights of the film.

Producer Deepthi Kondaveeti is also confident about the film. *Kalinga* is Dhruva Vaayu's idea and we just supported him, she said. Pragya Nayan is playing the female lead in this film.



NDALONE

Megastar Chiranjeevi once again demonstrated the deep bond he shares with his fans. This year, he was particularly moved by the dedication of Eshwarayya, a long-time admirer who undertook a pilgrimage from Tirupati to Tirumala hill to pay homage to the legendary actor. Deeply touched by this act of devotion, Chiranjeevi invited Eshwarayya and his family to his home in Hyderabad for a memorable and emotional meeting. The megastar warmly welcomed the family, honoring them with gifts of pattu clothing and offering his unwavering support, further showcasing his well-known generosity and humility.

sports 12



Focus on Suryakumar, Shreyas and Sarfaraz in Buchi Babu meet

PTI COIMBATORE

ndia dasher Suryakumar Yadav will turn up for Mumbai in their Buchi Babu contest against TNCA XI, beginning here on Tuesday, with an aim to get his Test career back on track.

Shreyas Iyer, also part of Mumbai's squad, too will be looking to make a statement in the pre-season event, having last played a Test in February. The star-studded Mumbai side will be captained by Sarfaraz Khan, who too will be jostling find space in a full strength Test squad when the home season begins next month despite a promising beginning against England earlier this

year. The likes of Virat Kohli, K L Rahul and Rishabh Pant, who were not available for different reasons over course of the five games against England, are expected to be available for the moment, the 33-year-old two Test series against beginning Bangladesh

September 19 in Chennai. The centre of attention in the round three of the Buchi Babu match undoubtedly will be Suryakumar, who recently led India to victory in his first series as T20 skipper. Not in the team's ODI plans for the

set to begin Monday. Even the players

themselves aren't sure what to expect.

reason why someone maybe does well," said Jessica Pegula, a six-time

major quarterfinalist. "Sometimes it doesn't make any sense."

There is the usual uncertainty that

comes in New York, thanks to the vagaries of injuries and the grind of a

long season. One additional factor

this time could be all of the surface-

switching: Tennis at the Summer

Olympics was played on courts at

Roland Garros, also the French Open

site. So players went from clay in

AP NEW YORK

remains determined to play in all three formats. His sole Test

appearance came against Australia in February 2023. Since then, he has continued to flourish in white-ball cricket before taking up the T20 International captaincy duties for the Men in Blue. Effectively, the Buchi Babu

outing will be a mere warm-up for Suryakumar and others in the mix, given they all will be part of the Duleep Trophy beginning September 5. Suryakumar's last competitive

outing in First-Class cricket came during the Duleep Trophy last year. Playing for West Zone,

Suryakumar managed only 71

runs in four innings at an average of just 17.75, with a top score of 52, while his side, led by Priyank Panchal, lost the final to South Zone by 75 runs. Besides Surya, Sarfaraz and Shreyas will also be among the attractions in the Mumbai squad.

Sarfaraz, who made his Test debut earlier this year against

England, has been promising with the bat, managing 200 runs in five innings at an average of 50.00, including three half-centuries. As for Iyer, he is yet to leave a

mark in the longest format after 14 Tests, while since January 2023, he has only managed 187 runs in 12 innings at an average of only

> Sabalenka, a two-time champion at the Australian Open and runner-up to Gauff at last year's U.S. Open, "but at the end of the day, it's all about how hard are you ready to fight for it -especially on those days when you don't feel your best."

Another player not at the Olympics, Frances Tiafoe, reached the Cincinnati Open title match before losing to No. 1 Jannik Sinner, whose two positive steroids tests in March came to light less than a week ago. Tiafoe, a 26-year-old from Maryland, finds the home crowds and high attention of the U.S. Open bring out his best, so he wanted to concentrate Flegler said. on getting ready for the site of his first Grand Slam semifinal in 2022.

ns open for a lot of guys this year, for sure. ... It's always different in a Slam. The lights are a little brighter," he said. "We'll see what ends up happening. Personally, I just like where I'm at."

Flegler added. Left-arm spinner Sophie Molineux and Grace Harris medal at the Paris Games but didn't play a single hard-court tuneup have also recovered from their event, or Carlos Alcaraz, the silver injuries. Molineux was forced to pull medalist whose only recent match on a hard court was a loss in Cincinnati. out of The Hundred having

17.00, with a top score of only

35. Therefore, while there is no headache for Sarfaraz heading into this Buchi Babu meet, the upcoming domestic season holds more significance for Iver, who will will be leading Team D in the Duleep Trophy. Mumabi's opponents TNCA XI will be led by R Sai Kishore, who was the leading wicket-taker in Ranji Trophy last season.

TEAMS (FROM)

TNCA XI: R Sai Kishore (c), Pradosh Ranjan Paul (vc), Mokit RS Hariharan, G Ajitesh, Indrajith Baba, Boopathi Vaishna Kumar, S Lokeshwar (wk), SR Athish (wk), R Sonu Yadav, P Vidyuth, S Lakshya Jain, S Ajith Ram, G Govinth, CV Achyuth, H Trilok Nag V and

Yudheeswaran. MUMBAI: Sarfaraz Khan (c),

Suryakumar Yadav, Shreyas Iyer, Akhil Herwadkar, Divyansh Saxena, Musheer Vedant Murkar, Khan, Addhatrao, Siddhanth Suryansh Shedge, Mulani, Tanush Shams Kotian, Himanshu Singh, Atharva Ankolekar, Roystan Dias, Mohit Avasthi, Sylvester Dsouza and Junaid Khan.



Australia name fit again Darcie Brown in T20 World Cup squad, Jonassen misses out

PTI SYDNEY

October 3.

after being struck by a ball Pacer Darcie Brown, who has recovered from her foot while batting in the off season while Harris also missed the injury, was on Monday named English franchise league due to a calf injury. However, left-arm spinner Jonassen has been left out of in Australia's 15-member squad for the T20 World Cup even as the defending champions left out the squad again despite being experienced spinner Jess the joint highest wicket-taker for Delhi Capitals in the Ionassen.

Brown, who pulled out of the tour of Bangladesh in March due to a foot injury, is now fully fit and will be joined by fellow pacer Tayla Vlaeminck.

"This is the first time in a long

"Jess Jonassen is again unlucky The pace duo of Tayla and to miss out but we've been Darcie is one we've been wanting to unleash for a while impressed with the way she's bounced back and we'll and is a real point of difference continue to monitor her form ahead of the home summer," for us," selection chief Shawn Flegler said. Flegler said. The team, which will be vying for a fourth consecutive T20

She will miss a T20 World Cup for the first time since her title, will be led by Alyssa Healy while Tahlia McGrath will be debut in 2012, having featured in five tournament wins since her deputy in the tournament beginning in the UAE on then.

Rising star Phoebe Litchfield will play in her first World Cup and Flegler said she will be "a real x-factor" within an experienced squad.

suffered an acute rib fracture

Women's Premier League and

the third-highest wicket-taker

in The Hundred earlier this

month.

time we've had our entire contract list available for selection ahead of a World Cup Australia will play three T20Is against New Zealand next and it's resulted in a really stable and balanced squad," month in the run up to the T20 World Cup. All-rounder Heather Graham,

"It's the first time Alyssa will have the reins at a World Cup who won't travel to the UAE, and we've already seen what her and Tahlia bring from a will be the only addition to the squad for the series against leadership perspective, so it's exciting for them to have this opportunity to lead their country on the biggest stage," New Zealand. SQUAD:

Alyssa Healy (c), Tahlia McGrath (vc), Darcie Brown, Ashleigh Gardner, Kim Garth, Grace Harris, Alana King, Phoebe Litchfield, Sophie Molineux, Beth Mooney, Ellyse Perry, Megan Schutt, Annabel Sutherland, Georgia Wareham, Tayla Vlaeminck.

home crowd. None qualified. Conners was at No. 7, followed by Cam Davis and Min Woo Lee of Australia, Christiaan Bezuidenhout, and three Canadians - Taylor Pendrith, Nick Taylor and Adam Hadwin. been in good form for most of Pendrith played in the last the summer. And then there is Presidents Cup. He held it together on the back nine to Justin Thomas, who has played assure a spot at the Tour Championship next week. for every U.S. Team since 2017. He is at No. 19, following a year in which he was the lowest-"I want to be at East Lake. I ranked player in the Ryder Cup want to be on the Presidents Cup badly. But I've had a great standings when he was picked. Thomas at least made it to the season, and if I didn't play great Tour Championship - the 30th and final spot - giving him a these last two weeks. I'd be OK with it," he said. "It would sting week to perform. "I feel like I played well in some a little bit for sure, but to come out here and do it and perform big tournaments this year. I under the pressure, it feels incredible. I can't wait to keep iust did it earlier in the season,"

US Open 2024: Even players aren't sure who will be at their best on New York's hard courts Paris to grass at Wimbledon, then back to clay, before shifting to hard courts before the U.S. Open. $T_{\rm has}^{\rm ennis}$ fans unable to decide who has the best shot at doing well at "It's a strange year," British player Dan Evans said. "That's for sure." the U.S. Open have company as the year's last Grand Slam tournament is

Pegula, for one, handled that last transition just fine, going from the Olympics to a title at Toronto and a "We've seen people, all the time, surprise us every single week, every single tournament, every Slam. Sometimes there's no rhyme or runner-up showing at Cincinnati. Her doubles partner in Paris, 2023 U.S. Open champion Coco Gauff, played in three Olympics events, exiting early in each, then lost her second match in Toronto and her first in Cincinnati.

"Changing surfaces, it's tough, not just on your body, but mentally. ... But it's part of the job, and we'll adjust," said Tommy Paul, who won a bronze medal in doubles with Taylor Fritz for the U.S. In Paris and had a 1-2 record in Montreal and Cincinnati. "Maybe there's one player or two players that are burned out from the (Ólympic) experience. But other than that, for



the most part, everyone is pretty adjusted by now." The woman who defeated Pegula in the Cincinnati final, No. 2 Aryna

Sabalenka, skipped the trip back to France for the 2024 Games but said she isn't all that convinced that

having - or not having - normal preparation necessarily will dictate results the next two weeks.

"Everyone who came here, they think they are ready to win. I think it's not about who is ready. You can be ready better' than the rest of the group," said

"It's open for a lot of guys this year, for

Then there are those such as defending U.S. Open champion Novak Djokovic, who won a gold



Lydia Ko completes Cinderella-like story by winning British Open

die.

AP ST ANDREWS (SCOTLAND)

ultimately made bogey to shoot 73 and drop to 5 under along-Lydia Ko covered her face with her hands and cried tears of side Korda (72), Shin (74) and also Ruoning Yin (70) in a fourwept in the embrace of her cad-

An Olympic gold medal. Entry into the Hall of Fame. And now another major championship title - at the home of golf, no less. Summers don't come much better than that.

Ko completed what she described as a "Cinderella-like story" by breaking free from a logjam of world-class talent to win the Women's British Open by two strokes at St. Andrews on Sunday, securing a third major title - and a first in eight years. Just two weeks ago, the 27-yearold New Zealander took gold at the Olympic Games in Paris.

"This is almost too good to be true," Ko said. She rolled in a left-to-right

birdie putt at the storied 18th hole on the Old Course to shoot 3-under 69 - for 7 under overall - and then had to wait to finish ahead of top-ranked Nelly Korda, defending champion Lilia Vu and two-time champion Jiyai Shin. That quartet of past or present No. 1s shared the lead at one point down the stretch of an engrossing final round played mostly in cold, blustery and wet conditions

before ending in sunshine. Ko was waiting on the practice putting green not far from the 18th green, doing stretches while wearing ear muffs, when Vu lined up a 20-foot putt for birdie that needed to go in to force a playoff. It came up short, and Vu A dam Scott is playing in the Presidents Cup for the 11th straight time, the most of any player from the International team. That wasn't much of a surprise.

AP CASTLE ROCK (US)

Neither were the six players for the American team.

The BMW Championship was the final tournament for six automatic qualifiers for the U.S. And International teams who will compete Sept. 27-30 at Royal Montreal. The leading six players remained unchanged. Scottie Scheffler, Xander Schauffele, Wyndham Clark,

Collin Morikawa, Patrick Cantlay and newcomer Sahith Theegala qualified for the Americans. Sam Burns could have grabbed the sixth spot

only if he had won. He finished one shot behind Keegan The six qualifiers for the International team were

Ko qualified for the Hall of Fame Hideki Matsuyama, Tom Kim, by winning the gold medal in Paris on Aug. 10 and now has Sungjae Im, Jason Day, Scott

AP 📕 MILAN

Bradley.

what many believe to be the ultimate prize in the sport - a major championship title at the home of golf.

way tie for second place. Ko

Ko was asked what feels better: an Olympic gold medal, her first two majors, or winning a third at St. Andrews.

"It's kind of like saying, Do you like your mother better or your father better?" she said, eliciting laughter from the crowd around the 18th green. "They are all special in their own way."

Her last major came at the Chevron Championship in 2016. A year earlier, she won the Evian Championship as an 18year-old prodigy.

Now, she's like a veteran - and still winning trophies.

Korda, seeking a second major title of a dominant 2024 containing six victories for the American, started the final round two shots back from Shin, the champion from 2008 and '12 and the overnight leader on 7 under. By her 10th hole, Korda was in the outright lead after three birdies in a four-hole

stretch around the turn and before long she was two strokes clear as Shin and Vu toiled at the start of the back nine in miserable weather.

qualifiers with half teams still to be picked and Byeong Hun An. Corey Conners of Canada had

a chance with a big finish at Castle Pines, but he closed with a 73 and tied for 22nd. The International team is based on the world ranking. Jim Furyk and Mike Weir of

Canada will announce their six captain's picks after the Tour Championship, and that's where the intrigue lies. "I hope I didn't throw a huge

wrench in everybody's plans," Bradley said, whose victory moved him to No. 10 in the

U.S. Standings. Bradley, 38, already is the youngest Ryder Cup captain since Arnold Palmer (34) was a playing captain in 1963. He also has PGA Tour titles in each of the last three years, and his win at the BMW



Championship moved him to No. 11 in the world ranking. Harman and Max Homa. Henley has never played in the Burns moved to No. 7, Ryder Cup or Presidents Cup followed by Tony Finau, team. Russell Henley, Bradley, Brian Harman and Homa have not

Presidents Cup teams get six automatic

going." Scott has played on every Presidents Cup team since 2003 - one year after Tom Kim Thomas said. "I know I'm playing well enough, but that's up to Jim and the rest of the was born - but has never been on a winning team. The 2003 matches ended in a tie in South Africa, and the Americans

captains and the guys on the team. My hope is that I get to Atlanta and I prove that I belong." Weir would like to have Canadians on his side for the have won nine in a row.

Kvaratskhelia inspires Napoli to 1st win of Conte era with 3-0 victory over Bologna

Antonio Conte has Khvicha Kvaratskhelia back to his brilliant best and Napoli back to winning

ways. Kvaratskhelia set up one goal and scored the second as Napoli beat Bologna 3-0 on Sunday for the first Serie A win of the Conte era - and

the team's first league victory since April 7. Conte became Napoli's fifth coach in little more than a year when he was hired in June but his new team crumbled 3-0 at Hellas Verona in his first match

back in Serie A. "The punch in the face we got in Verona made us immediately understand that if we want to forget the past we have to stay in the center

of the ring, you give punches and you get them, but you have to keep standing," Conte said.

"I have a lot of faith in this group ... it was a tough week but we united even more, you won't get anywhere individually. These are my

Napoli also lost Kvaratskhelia to a minor head injury in Verona but the Georgia winger was back on Sunday - despite also having recently returned from his home country after his wife gave birth to their first child this week.

Giacomo Raspadori almost scored in the opening



minute. Kvaratskhelia

hit the crossbar shortly before halftime with a looping header from the tightest of angles but Napoli didn't have to wait much longer for the first goal under Conte.

Giovanni Di Lorenzo started the move in first-half

stoppages, cutting inside from the right before passing to Kvaratskhelia, who played him a superb ball back, dinking it over the Bologna defense for Di Lorenzo to sweep into the far side of the net. And Kvaratskhelia got on the scoresheet himself in the 75th, racing downfield

from just inside the Bologna Summer signing Mateo half and firing into the Retegui headed Atalanta into bottom left corner from the edge of the area, with the help of a slight deflection. Kvaratskhelia celebrated by sucking his thumb in an apparent dedication to his newborn son.

Kvaratskhelia also had a hand in the third, in stoppage time. As he threaded the ball through to new signing David Neres, who rolled it across for Giovanni Simeone to slot past Lukasz Skorupski. SURPRISE **DEFEATS**: Atalanta and Roma both fell

to shock defeats. Atalanta, which was one of only four sides to win on the opening weekend, had a penalty saved and hit the woodwork twice in a 2-1 loss at Torino.

the lead in the 26th minute but Che Adams set up Ivan Ilic for the equalizer five minutes later and scored himself at the start of the second half.

Retegui and Charles De Ketelaere saw efforts come off the bar and Atalanta had an even better chance to level in stoppage time when it was awarded a penalty for a foul by Valentino Lazaro on Átalanta teenager Federico Cassa. Mario Pasalic stepped up but saw his spot kick saved by Torino goalkeeper

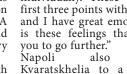
Vanja Milinkovic-Šavic Roma lost 2-1 at home to

Empoli. Fiorentina was jeered off the field after a drab 0-0 draw at

home to newly promoted Venezia.







first three points with Napoli and I have great emotion. It is these feelings that push

It was a different team right from the start in Naples and