

sunday pioneer

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Participative diplomacy can help solving conflicts: EAM



'India to be leader in MARITIME sector soon'



A mascot and LIFE OF the party



QUOTE OF THE DAY
The pioneer

Mr Revanth Reddy, you have until Sankranti to fulfil your promises. The Congress Government has become a puppet in the hands of urban Naxals. Former Naxals are now part of the Cabinet. They are appointing people who have embraced the Naxalite ideology in the Education Commission. There is a conspiracy to turn Telangana's youth into Naxals

-Bandi Sanjay Kumar, Union MoS for Home

DON'T MISS...

CM open Udaya Samudram LI Project

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy inaugurated the Udaya Samudram Lift Irrigation Project at Brahmana Velamula in the Marketpally mandal of Nalgonda district on Saturday. The project aims to provide irrigation to one lakh acres across Nalgonda, Nakrekal, Munugode and Tungathurthi constituencies. During the ceremony, the Chief Minister conducted special prayers at the Brahmana Velamula Balancing Reservoir. The project, estimated to cost Rs 674.67 crore, has so far ...

-PAGE: 2

Ambulance thief caught after chase

Filmi-style police chase unfolded early Saturday morning on National Highway 65, between Vijayawada and Hyderabad, after a man stole a 108 ambulance from Hayathnagar. The theft sparked an immediate response from the Rachakonda and Suryapet police. The alleged thief was at last arrested at Tekumata in Suryapet district. The incident began when the ambulance driver parked the vehicle outside a private hospital in Hayathnagar. The thief took the wheel of ambulance ...

-PAGE: 4

Delhi's air quality slips back to 'poor'

After a brief respite of three days, Delhi's air quality dropped again to the 'poor' category on Saturday. The 24-hour average Air Quality Index (AQI) of the city was recorded at 233 at 4 pm on Saturday, marking a deterioration from Friday's reading of 197, which fell in the 'moderate' category. The primary pollutants on Saturday were PM2.5 and PM10, with PM2.5 levels recorded at 93.2 µg/m³ and PM10 levels at 185.4 µg/m³ at 2 pm. These fine particles pose

-NATION

Farmers seek cheaper credit

Farmer representatives and agricultural stakeholders urged the government to provide cheaper long-term credit, implement lower taxes, and double the PM-KISAN income support during a comprehensive pre-budget consultation with Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday. The two-hour meeting saw a detailed discussion of proposals, aimed at addressing multiple challenges in the agricultural sector, with key demands focusing on financial relief, market reforms, and strategic investments. Bharat Krishak Samaj Chairman Ajay Vir Jakhar emphasised the need for targeted interventions to boost agricultural productivity and farmer welfare. Primary demands included reducing interest ...

-MONEY

Revanth: Why is KCR shying away from public?

- Warns BRS will be wiped out in GHMC poll if it opposes Musi rejuvenation
- Dares Modi to prove if any BJP-ruled state provided 55,000 jobs in the first year of rule



PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy dared Prime Minister Modi to prove if any BJP-ruled states have provided 55,000 jobs in government service in the first year itself after assuming power and added that he would apologise in New Delhi if that is proved.

Addressing a rally in Nalgonda on Saturday, the CM criticised BRS chief K. Chandrasekhar Rao and asked why the opposition leader is not attending the Assembly defying the people's mandate.

"I am asking directly, Mr Modi. You were Chief Minister for 14 years in Gujarat and Prime Minister for 11 years. Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh,

"Show me the account if you have given. I would come to New Delhi and apologise in the heart of the city. Otherwise, I'll give you the account. You appreciate the Telangana Government," he said

Chhattisgarh or Rajasthan, whichever state the BJP is in power, have they provided 55,000 jobs in the first year itself?" he asked.

"Show me the account if you have given. I would come to New Delhi and apologise in the heart of the city. Otherwise, I'll give you the account. You appreciate the Telangana Government," he said.

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy emphasized the importance of December 7, 2024, equating its significance to Telangana's formation day, June 2, 2014, during the Praja Palana Vijayotsavulu in Nalgonda.

The CM also addressed urban development plans, including a proposal to establish a Fourth City on 50,000 acres and a plan to clean the Musi River. He pledged to divert Godavari waters into the Musi to reduce pollution and enhance the quality of life for Nalgonda's resi-

dents.

He criticized the BRS government for abandoning the Musi rejuvenation project, and called on people to hold them accountable.

"Whether they oppose or not, we will clean the Musi and bring Godavari waters. Those blocking this mission will face people's wrath. Nalgonda should think about Musi. There is one BRS MLA (Jagadish Reddy) here and if he opposes the Musi Project, drown him in the Musi. Musi rejuvenation will drive Nalgonda towards development. BRS will lose deposits if Nalgonda people decides so in LB Nagar, Maheshwaram, Ibrahimpatnam and Uppal constituencies. Those who oppose the

Continued on Page 5



People are angry with Cong govt, says KTR

Cites a survey report

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

BRS Working President KT Rama Rao emphasised that the BRS remains committed to fighting for the people of Telangana, irrespective of whether it is in power or is in opposition. He said that people are angry with the Congress Government and that it was revealed by a survey with a sample size of 68,000.

"A survey agency found that we were not performing well in 2023 and reached out to me through an MLA. He conducted a survey including those constituencies whose MLAs had defected. The sample size was 68,000. He said that people are angry with the Congress Government.

Normally, Telangana people are patient and give two to three years to decide on a government's performance. However, now in just one year there is a lot of anger," KTR said.

Speaking at an event at the Telangana Bhavan on Saturday,

where he released a short film and a song created by former MLA and Telangana Dhoom Dhaam founder Rasamayi Balakishan, he said the BRS's resolve to serve the public remains unchanged despite losing power. Criticising the Congress Government, KTR said, "Every section of society has been betrayed by the Congress. They gave six guarantees but failed to fulfil any of them. Telangana is now witnessing the consequences of believing baseless assurances given during elections."

KTR released a 22-minute short film titled 'Nammii Nanaposthe' (If You Believe and Regret), which he described as a mirror of the current state of Telangana. The film, directed by Rasamayi Balakishan, portrays the plight of Telangana's people who feel deceived by Congress' bogus promises. KTR appreciated the film for capturing the public's disillusionment with the Congress Government.

Revanth govt a captive of urban naxals: Sanjay

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Revanth Reddy Government is a captive in the hands of Urban Naxals, the Union Minister of State for Home Affairs, Bandi Sanjay Kumar said.



Union Minister Bandi Sanjay addressing party's public meeting at Saroor Nagar on Saturday

He criticised the attacks on Hindu temples in Bhagyanagar (Hyderabad), like in Bangladesh and warned that if the situation continues Bhagyanagar would become another Bangladesh.

He urged the people of Bhagyanagar to decide whether they want to follow the path of Swami Vivekananda, Babasaheb Ambedkar, Mahatma Jyotirao Phule, Komaram Bheem and Sewalal Maharaj or become Naxalites.

"Dear Revanth Reddy, you have until Sankranti. Without fulfilling the promises you made, no Congress leader should be allowed to visit villages. The responsibility to fulfil the promises made to farmers and others lies with you. You ask what funds

Continued on Page 5



BJP national president JP Nadda addressing the party meeting at Saroor Nagar Grounds on Saturday

Revanth must remember that Congress is a 'parasite'

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Declaring that the Congress came to power through lies, BJP President JP Nadda said that he is confident that the BJP will come to power in Telangana whenever Assembly

2

I don't know why Guv is not permitting KTR's arrest: Mahesh

Says Kaushik case different from that of KTR

Asserts he does't want to become a minister

KOLISHETTY VENKATESHWARLU
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■ HYDERABAD

The case of BRS's Huzurabad MLA, Padi Kaushik Reddy, is different from that of BRS's Sircilla MLA, KT Rama Rao, who is also the BRS Working President and so the police arrested Padi Kaushik Reddy and not KTR, TPCC chief B. Mahesh Kumar Goud said. Kaushik used unparliamentary lan-

guage, but KTR did not use such language, he added.

"However, KTR's arrest needs the Governor's nod. I don't know why the Governor is not giving the nod for KTR's arrest. BJP leaders must know the reasons," the TPCC chief said. Mahesh was speaking during an interaction with journalists on Saturday at the CLP Media Hall.

He said that BRS leaders looted people

Continued on Page 5



Mild earthquake hits Mahbubnagar

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

A mild earthquake of magnitude three on the Richter scale was recorded in the erstwhile Mahbubnagar district of Telangana on Saturday. The quake which occurred at a depth of 10 km, had its epicentre near Wanaparthy in the district's southeast.

This is the second earthquake in the region within a week, both occurring in seismic zone 2. The first tremor, recorded on December 4, had a significantly higher magnitude of 5.3 on the Richter scale. Despite its intensity, no aftershocks were reported after the first quake. Speaking about recent seismic activity, former

Continued on Page 5

CM dedicates YTPS's 800 MW Unit-2 to the nation

PNS ■ NALGONDA

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy dedicated the 800 MW Unit-2 of the Yadadri Thermal Power Station (YTPS) to the nation on Saturday.

The ceremony took place at Veerlapalem village in the Damaracherla Mandal of Nalgonda district where the Chief Minister unveiled a commemorative pylon in the presence of ministers, MPs, MLAs, MLCs and other public representatives.

The YTPS, established by the Telangana Power Generation Corporation Limited (TGGENCO), comprises five units of 800 MW each, with a total installed capacity of 4,000 MW.



Unit-2, synchronized with oil on September 12, 2024, has now

changed over to coal, marking a significant milestone in the project. The works on Unit-1 coal firing are underway and the unit is expected to commence service shortly.

The remaining three units are progressing well and are scheduled for commissioning by May 2025. The estimated cost of the project is Rs 36,131.99 crore.

The YTPS is powered entirely by indigenous coal supplied by SCCL, with the first coal rake flagged off on November 3, 2024. Advanced pollution control measures, such as high-efficiency electrostatic precipitators, Flue Gas De-Sulphurisation (FGD) units and Selective Catalytic Reactors (SCR), have been incorporated into

Continued on Page 5

Government invites KCR for Telangana Thalli statue unveiling

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

BC Welfare and Transport Minister Ponnamp Prabhakar extended a formal invitation to BRS chief and Leader of the Opposition, K. Chandrasekhar Rao, to attend the unveiling of the Telangana Thalli statue, scheduled for December 9.

The invitation was extended on behalf of the state government at KCR's residence in Erravalli.

Ponnamp Prabhakar was welcomed by former MP Joginapally Santosh Kumar, former MLA Jeevan Reddy and BRS leader Vamshidhar Rao. During the visit, KCR hosted the delegation for lunch and reminisced about the Telangana Movement and the struggles faced during its formation, particularly in New Delhi.

Speaking about the invitation, Ponnamp Prabhakar said, "On behalf

of the government, we extended invitations to all dignitaries, including Governor Jishnu Dev Varma and Union Minister Kishan Reddy. Today, I personally invited former Chief Minister KCR, along with Protocol Advisor Harkar Venugopal and Protocol

Continued on Page 5



OBTUSE ANGLE



IG-level officers can issue orders

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The government has notified new rules for phone interception and has authorised officers not below the rank of inspector general of police at the state-level to issue interception orders in cases of emergency.

However, if the competent authority does not confirm such interception order within seven working days from the day the order was issued in cases of emergency, the messages intercepted will not be allowed to be used for

any purpose and the copy of the messages will have to be destroyed within two working days, as per notification published on December 6 by the Department of Telecommunications. "Where it is not feasible for the competent authority... to issue an interception order in remote areas or for operational reasons, then the interception order may be issued by the head or the second senior-

most officer of the authorised agency at the central level, and head or the second senior most officer of the authorised agency not below the rank of inspector general of police at the state," the notification said.

The Union Home Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs in the case of the central government, or the secretary to the state government in-charge of the home department in the case of a state government will be competent authority as per the notification.

"...in unavoidable circumstances, such order may be made by an officer, not below the rank of a joint secretary to the central government,"

Continued on Page 5

The Union Home Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs in the case of the central government, or the secretary to the state government in-charge of the home department in the case of a state government will be competent authority as per the notification



Harish Rao's loyalists feel let down in party totem pole

Going by the buzz in Bharat Rashtira Samithi (BRS) circles, former minister Harish Rao's camp followers are of the settled opinion that their 'Anna' is not holding any harshin-chathagina position. A seasoned hand, known trouble shooter within the party as well as among parties, and a towering figure in Telangana's politics, Harish Rao has of late found himself holding only the title of MLA, while key posts like Legislative Party leader and Public Accounts Committee Chairman have eluded him. His followers vouch for the respect that Harish Rao commands, but feel that his contributions don't seem to translate into positions. Even when he was recently booked in a phone tapping case, BRS reacted very slowly. Had KCR, KTR or Kavitha been named in the same case, predictably the response would have been lightning fast. With KCR firmly at the helm as BRS president, and with KT Rama Rao at the steering wheel as working president, Harish's loyalists can't help but feel let down believing their leader is being sidelined. Adding to the intrigue, KTR's role as working president is credited for the party's robust performance in the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation area, leaving no room for doubts about his continued hold over the position. Since appointing two working presidents from the same community and that too from the same family could lead to criticism and resentment, Harish's followers are now left wondering whether the seasoned politician's efforts would be matched with a position worthy of his stature at all. It looks like his camp will continue to be in the shadows of BRS's familial power triangle, at least until his services are required again as a trouble-shooter.

Déjà vu for journalists: BRS then and Congress now

Journalists see through celebrations of political achievements, instead of being carried away by drumbeating and public festivities. Journalists in Telangana are presently experiencing a sense of déjà vu as the Congress government's extended celebrations of its first-year achievements closely resemble the Bharat Rashtira Samithi's 2023 Telangana Dashabdi Utsavalu. Both events, intended to showcase the respective administration's accomplishments through brouhaha at public events, instead of being strikingly dissimilar, had common elements that blurred the distinct role of the two dispensations. Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's public relations team has been in highlighting the state government's milestones just like BRS's PROs did during the decennial celebrations. No wonder, unbeknown to the public, the current festivities feature themes and presentations with only minor modifications to those lifted from the previous year's events schedule. Accentuating the irony of unintended repetition, a book compiling the achievements highlighted during Dashabdi Utsavalu, curated by KCR's PRO Ramesh Hazari, was dis-

grumbled. In striking contrast, CM Revanth Reddy, at a recent press meet, wanted media persons to own Praja Palana Vijayotsavalu, while appreciating their contributions. "Media, along with family, should join the celebrations. You are always working, breaking news, scrollings and staying in tension. Take a break—it's important for your health," he remarked. He recounted the role journalists had played during the Telangana statehood movement. "On the one hand, we're dismissed with gottalu talk, and on the other, we're celebrated as integral to history. The difference couldn't be more obvious," remarked another senior journalist.

Briefing scribes en masse vs extensive interviews

Normally media houses seek out netas and various personalities they want to interview. With the electronic media gaining ascendancy over print media in terms of immediate or even live impact and wider coverage, trends have changed. These days netas pick among channels and offer 'interviews' to put across their views. Such interviews are fine as long as there is no blatant discrimination against journalists from the print media.

On Saturday, Telangana Pradesh Congress Committee's media wing invited scribes for one-to-one short interviews with TPCC chief Mahesh Kumar Goud at CLP office between 9.30 am and 12.30 pm. However, as elsewhere, electronic media personnel got the 'first bite' and interactions with them went on till 1.30 pm. Many print media personnel, despite having come hours before, had to wait for their turn indefinitely. Finally, the TPCC chief chose to brief print media scribes en masse. He talked about the successful completion of the State government's one year Praja Palana and highlighted the achievements of the government; of course, while criticizing opposition parties. The slighted scribes noticed that the TPCC chief had got rid of them in 25 minutes flat. "It is literally a mind blanking interview instead of a mind blowing interview", a scribe commented.

Pawan seizes the moment with his 'seize the ship' remark

Film titles are prized for their impact on the box office collections as well as the scope they give for marketing tricks, gimmicks, or sale of merchandise. In Andhra Pradesh, Deputy Chief Minister Pawan Kalyan's sharp fiat "Seize the ship", while inspecting a vessel through which smuggled Public Distribution System rice was allegedly being exported from the Kakinada port, ignited social media frenzy. It gained such traction in a short period that the phrase has now been registered as the title of an upcoming Telugu movie by R Film Factory Productions.

(With inputs from Naveena Ghanate and K Venkateswarlu and Pradeep Kumar)

Revanth inaugurates Udaya Samudram Lift Irrigation Project

PNS ■ NALGONDA

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy inaugurated the Udaya Samudram Lift Irrigation Project at Brahmana Velamula in the Narketpally mandal of Nalgonda district on Saturday. The project aims to provide irrigation to one lakh acres across Nalgonda, Nakkrekal, Munugode and Tungaturthi constituencies.

During the ceremony, the Chief Minister conducted special prayers at the Brahmana Velamula Balancing Reservoir. The project, estimated to cost Rs 674.67 crore, has so far utilized Rs 469 crore. While most major works have been completed, balancing network works remain pending. The state government is



expediting works on a war footing to ensure that, in the first phase, irrigation water reaches 50,000 acres through Brahmana Velamula. The project will benefit farmers in Narketpally, Nalgonda,

Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy, Roads and Buildings Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, MPs Kunduru Jayaveer Reddy and Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy, MLAs Vemula Veeresham, Rajagopal Reddy, Balu Nayak, Beerla Ilaiah, Mandula Samuel and Neti Vidya Sagar attended the event.

The ceremony was also attended by Collector Ila Tripathi, SP Sharath Chandra Pawar and ENC for projects Ajay Kumar, other senior officials and dignitaries.

The Udaya Samudram Lift Irrigation Project will transform agricultural prospects in the region, bringing long-awaited relief to farmers by ensuring adequate water for their fields.

Chityala, Munugode, Ramannapet, Kattangur and Shaligouram mandals.

Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka, Legislative Council Chairman Gutta Sukhender Reddy,

Ex-Sarpanches ask KTR to raise issue of pending bills in Assembly

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Former sarpanches from Rajanna Sircilla district, who served between 2019 and 2024, met BRS Working President KT Rama Rao at the Telangana Bhavan to raise their unresolved issues with him. They requested KTR to raise their concern regarding the pending bills of development projects during the Assembly session.

During the meeting, the sarpanches detailed the successful execution of several development initiatives during their tenure, like Palle Pragathi, Rythu Vedita, Vaikunta Dhamam, dumping yards and Palle Prakriti Vanams. Despite their efforts, they said the bills for these projects are unpaid causing immense distress.

Speaking of their struggles, the former sarpanches explained that many had pledged family gold, sold land and took loans to fund these programmes. They expressed dismay over the lack of government response despite year-long efforts to secure the release of funds. Some even shared heartbreaking accounts of sarpanches facing severe distress and a few reportedly committing suicide due to debts.

"The government's failure to pay pending bills reflects its negligence. It has been a year since the Congress government assumed office, but there has been no resolution of our woes," one of the sarpanches said. They urged KTR to bring their plight to the government's notice and ensure that the pending bills are cleared.

Congress must fulfil promises made to disabled: Harish

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Representatives from the Differently-Able Rights Struggle Committee met senior BRS MLA Harish Rao at his residence in Hyderabad on Saturday and sought his support for their Mahadharna scheduled for December 26.

During the meeting, the delegation mentioned the unfulfilled promises made by the Congress Government, particularly its failure to increase pensions for differently-abled persons from Rs 4,000 to Rs 6,000, as promised during elections.

The representatives expressed their disappointment, accusing the Congress government of negligence and inaction despite being in power for a year. They pointed out that the

government's failure to address their demands has led to immense distress within the differently-abled community and demanded immediate action to fulfil their 11-point charter, which includes demands like pension enhancement, more employment opportunities, educational reservations and better facilities for the differently-abled.

Harish assured the delegation of full support and criticised the Congress Government for 'betraying' the trust of the differently-abled community.

He emphasised the BRS Government's commitment by recalling that Chief Minister K. Chandrababhan Rao was the only leader in the country to raise pensions for differently-abled persons from Rs 500 to Rs 4,000.

Harish to release BRS' charge sheet against Congress Govt

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Senior BRS MLA Harish Rao will release the party's charge sheet against the Congress Government at an event marking one year of Congress rule in Telangana.

The event is scheduled at the Telangana Bhavan on December 8 at 10 am, where

Harish will be joined by other senior BRS leaders.

The charge sheet, prepared by the BRS, is expected to outline the government's failures, unfulfilled promises and policy mistakes over the last one year. BRS sources indicated that the document will address key issues, including governance lapses, unfulfilled election guarantees

and the state's financial and development challenges under the Congress admin.

The Congress Government spent the last year making tall promises but failed to deliver tangible results. This charge sheet will expose ground realities and hold the ruling party accountable for its shortcomings, BRS sources said.

Mild...

Continued from page 1

NGRI scientist Dr Sri Nagesh said that such occurrences are part of the natural seismic cycle. "It is a cycle that has begun and will slowly die down. There is nothing to worry about," he said. Dr Nagesh emphasised that while the December 4 earthquake was more intense, its lack of aftershocks indicates a stable geological condition. He requested the public not to panic by pointing out that seismic zone 2 is considered a relatively low-risk area for earthquakes. The authorities, however, are alert and will continue to monitor the situation.

Revanth govt ...

Continued from page 1

Modi has given to Telangana. Does Modi come carrying sacks of money and distribute them? Isn't the Centre providing funds for every development project in Telangana? Doesn't the Modi government fund all development works in panchayats? Isn't the Centre funding municipal development works? Even for ration rice and paddy procurement, isn't the Modi Government providing money? Despite all this, Revanth is deceiving people by not showing the Prime Minister's photo and instead is using names like Indramma and Sonia. He promised houses for all the poor within a year. Has even a single house

been constructed? The Modi Government sanctioned lakhs of houses, but during BRS rule, those funds were diverted. Now, the Congress is deceiving people without constructing houses. Go door-to-door and tell the truth that the houses being built in the state are funded by the Modi Government. The Revanth Government has become a puppet in the hands of Urban Naxals. Former Naxals are now in the cabinet. They are appointing people following the Naxalite ideology in the education commission. In coming days, there is a conspiracy to turn Telangana's youth into Naxals. The people of Telangana should decide whether they want to follow the path of Swami Vivekananda, Ambedkar, Mahatma Jyotirao Phule and Komaram Bheem or want to become Naxals," he said.

IG-level ...

Continued from page 1

who has been duly authorised for this purpose by the competent authority," the notification said. Any interception order confirmed by the competent authority will have to be submitted to the relevant review committee at the central or state-level within seven working days from the date of issuance or confirmation. The review committee at the central level will be chaired by cabinet secretary and it will include law secretary and telecom secretary as its members. At the state level, the chief secretary will chair the review committee, which will comprise state law secretary and a secretary to the state government, along with the home secretary.

Government ... CM dedicates ...

Continued from page 1

Director Venkat Rao. Our government upholds the tradition of respecting everyone, regardless of political affiliations."

Clarifying the nature of the meeting, Ponnampati said that the visit was purely a formal invitation and no political discussions took place. "We invited him as the Leader of the Opposition and as a former Chief Minister. The unveiling of the Telangana Thalli statue is a significant event, and we believe in respecting all stakeholders," he said.

The lunch, which followed the invitation, was arranged as a gesture of hospitality by KCR. Ponnampati also dismissed speculations about discussions on the statue's installation, reiterating that the meeting was solely about the ceremony.

The event, which marks a milestone in Telangana's cultural representation, is expected to witness participation from leaders across political and social spectrums.

Continued from page 1

the project to minimise environmental impact. The plant adheres to a zero-liquid discharge policy to ensure optimal water usage and to reduce pollution.

The Chief Minister inspected Unit-2 operations in the Central Control Room and reviewed construction. He emphasized the significance of YTPS in meeting Telangana's growing power demand.

Revanth must ...

Continued from page 1

elections are held and that the results of the Lok Sabha elections prove it. He said that change is possible in Telangana only through the BJP.

He said that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy should remember that the Congress is a 'parasite'. The Congress cannot come to power if it loses power once and that will happen in Telangana too, Nadda said. He said that the Congress won elections in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh 30 years ago and that the Congress came to power in Karnataka, Himachal Pradesh

and Telangana through falsehood. The Congress's strength is the weaknesses of other parties, Nadda said.

"The Revanth Reddy Government has been deceiving people since a year. The Revanth Government is against everyone including farmers, youth and women. Revanth is enacting dramas like Mayala Fakir. Revanth is creating a record in taking loans and the same loans will deceive the Telangana people," Nadda said.

He said that Revanth has no faith in himself and then how can he infuse confidence in people.

Continued from page 1

indiscriminately when they were in power and so they are not likely to come to power again. "It is correct that Congress campaigned during Assembly elections that it will arrest guilty BRS leaders and take back looted money from them after coming to power. However, the law must take its course," he said.

He said that an enquiry is going on regarding the Kaleshwaram scam and the commission probing power purchase deals has submitted its report.

The government proved that KTR was involved in the Formula E-Car racing scam and so KTR has been saying again and again that he will go to jail. Action will be taken after the reports of inquiry commissions are out, he said. Mahesh said that BRS lead-

Revanth: Why is ...

inspired generations.

The Chief Minister took the opportunity to underline Congress's focus on development and welfare during its year-long governance.

"Nalgonda, once burdened by fluoride issues, is now seeing progress. SLBC and Udayasamudram projects, initiated during Congress rule, are aimed to transform this region," he said, reiterating his government's commitment to completing pending irrigation projects like Brahmanavellamla and SLBC tunnel to provide water to lakhs of acres.

Criticizing the BRS government, Revanth accused it of

neglecting Nalgonda.

"Under KCR's rule, this district faced apathy. In contrast, our government is ready to invest whatever it takes to make Nalgonda a model region," he declared.

Highlighting agricultural reforms, he announced a Rs 500 bonus for fine-grain rice farmers and assured uninterrupted financial support for agriculture. "We kept our word to farmers by waiving farm loans up to Rs 2 lakh, including Rs 2,400 crore in Nalgonda alone," he added, challenging his opponents to match them.

Concluding, the Chief Minister promised to deposit Rythu Bharosa funds into farmers' accounts after Sankranti.

I don't know ...

ers are not giving their caste details to caste census enumerators fearing that details about their assets will come out.

He said that Congress leaders had given details when KCR conducted his comprehensive family survey without giving any trouble to enumerators. He said that BRS leaders should cooperate and give their details to enumerators. He said that local body elections would be held as per the population of various castes and that population details would come out after the caste census.

Mahesh said that party candidates will be selected on a 'select and elect' basis during local body elections and there is no scope for recommendations. He said the Congress is aiming to win 80 per cent of

seats in local body elections.

He said the expansion of the cabinet is in the hands of the AICC and the Chief Minister and hoped that the cabinet would be expanded soon. He said that he would explain the need for expanding the cabinet if the high command asked him.

He said that he doesn't want a Minister post as he is happy with the TPCC chief's post and that party policy is one post for one leader. Mahesh said that many BRS MLAs are in touch with the Congress and that they will join the Congress at an appropriate time. Only KCR, KTR and Harish Rao will remain in the BRS, he said.

He said that there is no need for the BRS to make an issue of the Telangana Tali statue which is being installed on the Secretariat premises on December 9.

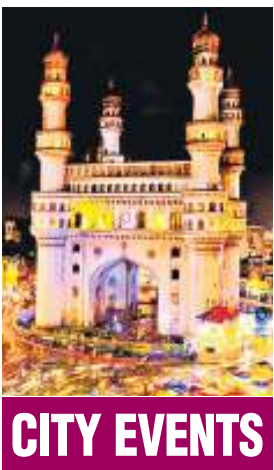
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03



CITY EVENTS

Texture art workshop

This workshop is suitable for artists of all levels, from beginners looking to explore new artistic horizons to seasoned artists seeking to enhance their skills and repertoire.

Venue

Multiple venues in Hyderabad till December 8

Elena Gabriele - OK!?

Venue

KLN Prasad Auditorium, December 13, 8 pm onwards

Weekend kids cooking camp

Master cooking and baking in 09 fun weekends

Venue

Culinary Guru Institute, Hyderabad. Till January 11, 2025.

STPs to be ready by January: Water Board MD

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) Managing Director Ashok Reddy directed construction firms to ensure that all pending Sewage Treatment Plants (STPs) are operational by January. During a review meeting on Saturday with senior officials from the STP division and representatives of construction firms, Ashok Reddy emphasized the need to expedite work on the STPs under construction.

Expressing dissatisfaction with delays due to inadequate workforce deployment, the MD warned construction firms of penalties if timelines are not adhered to. He instructed them to allocate sufficient labour and complete different stages of construction in parallel to meet deadlines. "All electro-mechanical equipment must be procured on time, and preparations should be made to facilitate two-shift work schedules. Safety measures at construction sites must be strictly followed, and workers must use safety equipment at all times," Ashok Reddy stated.

Out of the ongoing STP projects, 11 plants have already been inaugurated. Nine more are in the construction phase and are expected to be ready soon.

CM Revanth Reddy to unveil Telangana Thalli Statue tomorrow

Arrangements are made for public participation in several celebrations as part of Praja Palana Praja Vijayotsavalu

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Chief Secretary Shanti Kumari reviewed arrangements for the Air Show and Telangana Thalli Statue unveiling as part of the ongoing Praja Palana Vijayotsavalu celebrations. The review meeting, held at the Secretariat on Saturday, included top officials such as GAD Secretary Raghunandan Rao, Special Commissioner of Information Harish, Additional Commissioner of Police Vikranjeet Mann, Hyderabad Collector Anudeep, and Education Department Director Venkat Narasimha Reddy.

The Air Show by the Indian Air Force (IAF) will feature nine Surya Kiran aircraft performing extraordinary aerial stunts. Speaking about the event, Shanti Kumari emphasized, "This unique display, performed by only five teams globally, is a matter of pride for Telangana." The Air Show, set to begin at 4 pm at Necklace Road, is expected to

draw a massive crowd, including the Chief Minister, state ministers, senior IAF officers, and other VVIPs. Arrangements for food stalls, security, and public amenities have already been made. Following the Air Show, a musical concert by Rahul Simpli Ganj will also be held, requiring additional arrangements to accommodate the expected turnout.

The Praja Palana Vijayotsavalu will culminate on December 9 with the unveiling of the Telangana Thalli statue by Chief Minister at 6:05 pm on the Secretariat premises. The event is expected to see participation from approximately one lakh women and dignitaries, including 150 prominent personalities.

Shanti Kumari instructed officials to ensure meticulous arrangements, including seating, cultural programmes, and facilities for attendees. Invitations have been sent to public representatives and city dignitaries. Special arrangements have

been made for parking at Necklace Road, People's Plaza, Gosala Road, Nizam College, and Public Gardens. The Chief Secretary emphasised the need to minimise inconvenience for attendees, especially women, by allowing vehicles closer to the venue.

The municipal administration, represented by Special Secretary Dana Kishore, GHMC Commissioner Ilambarathi, and CDMA Sridevi, discussed logistics in coordination with district collectors of Hyderabad, Ranga Reddy, and Medchal through a teleconference. Measures are in place to ensure that all attendees reach the venue by 4:30 pm. Additional Commissioner of Police Vikranjeet Singh Mann said that all necessary parking and security arrangements have been finalised for the event.

The state government anticipates large public participation and is leaving no stone unturned to make the events memorable and orderly.



Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy with Telangana Thalli portrait



Critical role of technology in modern policing stressed

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Telangana Director General of Police (DGP) Jitendar addressed 323 pre-promotional trainees at the RBVRR Telangana State Police Academy (TGPA) on Saturday. These officers, currently serving as Assistant Sub-Inspectors (ASIs) and Head Constables (HCs), are undergoing rigorous training to qualify for promotion as Sub-Inspectors (SIs).

The diverse batch includes officers from various zones, with 145 trainees from Zone-6 Charminar and 90 from Zone-5 Yadadri, representing Multizone-1 and Multizone-2. Notably, the group comprises four women officers and 233 officers aged between 56-60 years, reflecting a wide range of experience.

Director of TGPA, Abhilasha Bisht emphasised the Academy's integrated approach, combining advanced infrastructure with health and leadership development modules. The training programme includes both theoretical and practical components, such as station house management, cybercrimes, leadership, yoga, drills, and field tactics, equipping the officers to excel in their roles. Addressing the trainees, Jitendar highlighted the importance of passion, commitment, and public trust in police service. Acknowledging the nearing retirement of many trainees, he advised them to focus on health and meaningful post-retirement goals while approaching their current roles with renewed enthusiasm.

The programme is set to conclude on January 13, 2025, marking a milestone in the career progression of these officers. On the same day, Jitendar inaugurated the cutting-edge Cyber Shield Lab at TGPA, a facility designed to equip police officers with advanced skills to combat cybercrime. The lab is equipped with state-of-the-art tools and technologies, aiming to address evolving digital threats.

Speaking at the inauguration, the DGP emphasised the critical role of technology in modern policing and urged officers to leverage this facility to enhance their capabilities. "The Cyber Shield Lab is a significant step forward in ensuring Telangana Police remain at the forefront of cybercrime prevention," he said.

PRAJA PALANA VIJAYOTSAVALU

100 food stalls set up showcasing variety of cuisines

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

As part of the Praja Palana Vijayotsavalu celebrations, over 100 food stalls showcasing a variety of cuisines have been set up along PV Narasimha Rao Marg, ensuring a delightful experience for visitors. The stalls, which will remain operational until December 9, feature Hyderabad's signature dishes, Telangana specialties, and other regional and continental delicacies. Prominent hotels like Paradise, Pista House, Shadab, and Bade Miyan Kebab have set up their branded stalls, offering iconic dishes such as Hyderabadi Dum Biryani, Zafrani Biryani, and Moghlai cuisine. Additionally, local favorites like Palamuru Grill, Telangana Vindu, and Ankapur Nattu Kudi are available to give visitors a taste of Telangana's rich culinary heritage.

For those with a sweet tooth, renowned bakeries like Niloufer Café and Brown Bear have set up stalls offering a range of baked goods, while



neers in the festivities. The preparations are being closely monitored by Special Commissioner for Information, Dr Harish, along with senior officials. The Praja Palana Vijayotsavalu celebrations promise to offer a blend of culinary delights and cultural experiences, attracting visitors from across the city to join the festivities.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Praja Palana Vijayotsavalu Grand Finale will be held at Secretariat, Tank Bund, Necklace Road, Hyderabad
December 8: Air Show by Indian Air Force (Tank Bund) featuring nine Surya Kiran aircraft showcasing world-class aerial stunts will be conducted Cultural Programmes at Necklace Road with performances by regional artists will be held between 5 pm and 9 pm and between 7 pm and 8:30: Musical Concert

by Rahul Sipligunj at HMDA Grounds near IMAX.
On December 9 at 5 pm: Telangana Thalli Statue Unveiling Ceremony by Chief Minister Revanth Reddy at the Secretariat premises. Public meeting featuring speeches by state leaders between 6 pm and 8 pm and Cultural performances and drone show between 7 pm and 8:30 pm.
Musical Concert by Thaman S at HMDA Grounds near IMAX at 8:30 pm and fireworks display

to mark the conclusion of the celebrations. Ongoing Activities Throughout the Event:
Food Stalls: Featuring over 100 varieties, including Hyderabad Dum Biryani, Telangana delicacies, ice creams, and continental options.
Exhibitions: Handicrafts, traditional artworks, and live demonstrations by artisans.
Cultural Programs: Folk dances, music, and theater performances reflecting Telangana's heritage.



Women officers leading the four crucial departments on SCR at a meeting in Hyderabad on Saturday

Women officers lead four crucial departments in SCR

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Women officers are leading four crucial departments on South Central Railway (SCR) for the first time. The departments these women officers handle are Commercial, Operations, Security, and Medical.

K Padmaja manages the Commercial and Operations departments. As Principal Chief Commercial Manager, she oversees ticketing, reservations, and revenue generation, achieving Rs. 3,817 crore in passenger revenue this year. Additionally, Padmaja also serves as a Principal Chief Operations Manager, she ensures smooth train operations, contributing to 89.76 million tonnes of freight loading and Rs. 8,776 crore in revenue.

Aroma Singh Thakur leads

the Security department as Inspector General-cum-Principal Chief Security Commissioner. She oversees passenger safety and crime prevention, with initiatives like Operation Yatri Suraksha and the award-winning RPF 'Shakti' team.

Meanwhile, Nirmala Narasimhan heads the Medical department, ensuring healthcare for employees and passengers. The zone has eight major hospitals and 40 health units across its divisions.

General Manager, Arun Kumar Jain appreciated the officers for their exemplary leadership, highlighting this achievement as a milestone in women's empowerment. He noted that their roles demonstrate skill, dedication, and an inspiring example for women in the workforce.

EHAC focuses on improving access to healthcare

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Highlighting that 55 per cent of women in rural areas sought eye care, the two-day 8th Equitable Healthcare Access Consortium (EHAC), which concluded on Saturday, discussed healthcare inequities. It was held at LVPEI's campus in the city on Saturday.

Organised by the LV Prasad Eye Institute (LVPEI) and Fernandez Foundation, the consortium discussed improving access to healthcare by tackling challenges like high costs, limited access, and stakeholder apathy.

The Executive Chair of LVPEI, Dr Prashant Garg highlighted their efforts over three decades, offering over 38 million services, with 50 per cent provided for free. He noted that LVPEI's Pyramidal Eye Care Delivery Model, supported by 308 centers in Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, and Odisha, serves diverse and remote populations.



Participants of the 8th Equitable Healthcare Access Consortium (EHAC) at the LVPEI's campus in Hyderabad on Saturday

Through EHAC, they mentor healthcare entrepreneurs to transform challenges into opportunities for equitable healthcare.

The Chairperson of Fernandez Foundation, Dr Evita Fernandez also emphasised their focus on respectful maternity care and empowering mothers to make informed decisions. Their subsidised services aim to ensure quality care for underserved families.

Meanwhile, Prof DVR Seshadri, Chairperson of

EHAC, described the consortium as a network of socially conscious healthcare providers dedicated to developing and promoting models for equitable healthcare access. He emphasised the need for stable societies where livelihood, education, and healthcare are accessible to all.

The event featured discussions on ethical practices, fellowships, collaborations, advocacy, and innovations to promote equitable healthcare solutions.

A POET WHO TAKES REFUGE IN MOTHER NATURE

For some, reciting poetry is as important as breathing. Focusing on the breath is a form of meditation. Vakkalanka Seetharama Rao, the poet, meditates on poetry and his meditation results in visions to which he gives a literal form with his pen name Vaseera. Starting out in 1989, he has brought out three volumes of poetry over three decades and now on December 8, Sunday, he will be bringing out his fourth volume titled *Enugamma Enugu*, which will be released at the Press Club, Somajiguda at 10.30 am.

Once poetry becomes a part of personality and life, it is not possible for

any poet to renounce it and lead a normal worldly life. One may step into deep depression and disillusionment with the way the world is. Another may have a burning desire to know what lies beyond this world. When the first gets stronger, the second starts as well.

Vaseera's second volume of poetry *'MaroDasa'* has globalization as its backdrop and his anger over social issues comes out in raptures and transforms into socio-political poetry, with a tinge of anti-imperialism, with an alarming voice and warning bells.



His first volume of poetry, *'Lohanadi'* is literally the flow of molten metal and the touch of the soft wind, which primarily deals with dehumanization and alienation. His anger over inhuman tendencies and at the same time his love for nature and beauty, flowers into beautiful poems.

His third volume of poetry *'Selfie'* is more like realizing one self, identifying with mother nature, universe and spirituality. It Mirrors the internal and external struggles of a poet. It is like completely withdrawing from 'self' and observing as other. Self-examination that does not require further involvement. Thus, two sharp

arrows come into the poet's quiver: focus and analysis.

The poet's present close 'observation' is prayer, worship and meditation. When the sight is sharp, the world around us brings out the good in the world, the beauty, the happiness and the sadness, all more clearly and brings it to the fore. That is why the poet's careful 'observation' is his prayer, worship and meditation in verses. The purpose and characteristic of a poet is to make his vision of truth beneficial to the world. In simple terms, Vaseera says, it's like standing under a neem tree with extended arms seeking alms and what he begets is poetry in myriad forms!

VENKOB R BALANTRAPU
Senior Journalist
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Ambulance thief caught after filmi-style chase on highway

PNS ■ SURYAPET

Filmi-style police chase unfolded early Saturday morning on National Highway 65, between Vijayawada and Hyderabad, after a man stole a 108 ambulance from Hayathnagar. The theft sparked an immediate response from the Rachakonda and Suryapet police. The alleged thief was at last arrest at Tekumatla in Suryapet district.

The incident began when the ambulance driver parked the vehicle outside a private hospital in Hayathnagar. The thief took the wheel of ambulance, activated the siren, and sped off towards Vijayawada. It was given a free passage as the motorists believed that the ambulance was transport-

ing someone who was seriously ill. Police attempted to intercept the vehicle near Chityal but were unsuccessful. During this attempt, Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) John Reddy was injured and was admitted to a hospital. The chase continued as authorities set up roadblocks by deploying lorries on the highway at the Korlaphad toll gate, but the thief managed to escape.

The pursuit ended when the stolen ambulance crashed into a road median and stopped in a nearby bush at Tekumatla village, where the thief was apprehended. He is now in police custody, and investigations into his criminal background are ongoing.

It is reported that the thief had committed several criminal activities in the past.

Plans underway to boost urban development: Tummalala

PNS ■ KHAMMAM

Agriculture Minister Tummalala Nageshwar Rao has announced that plans are underway for urban development. On Saturday, the Minister, accompanied by District Collector Muzammil Khan, Police Commissioner Sunil Datt, and City Mayor Pudukollu Neeraja, inaugurated the upgraded Saradhanagar-Mamillagudem railway underbridge. The project was completed with a municipal fund of Rs. 190 lakh.



Minister for Agriculture Tummalala Nageshwar Rao inaugurating the Saradhanagar - Mamillagudem railway underbridge in Khammam on Saturday

The Minister explained that the bridge was sanctioned during his tenure as an MLA after discussions with the railway authorities. Later, during his time in the government, he laid the foundation for the construction. The work commenced last year and in a year, the bridge was completed. The Minister emphasised that steps were being taken to turn the Velugumatla Park into a prominent tourist attraction for both city and district residents. A ropeway project has been sanctioned to develop Khammam Fort as a tourist destination. The aim is to set up a programme for daily visits from the fort to the town area. The Minister also stressed the importance of maintain-

ing cleanliness in the town for the health and well-being of citizens. He called on municipal authorities and staff to continue their efforts in keeping the town clean, to prevent any diseases, and to make Khammam a model for other towns. The Minister

acknowledged the ongoing urbanisation with more rural residents moving to cities in search of better living conditions and healthcare, leading to annual increases in urban population. He suggested that the Municipal Corporation draft a master plan for future urban development to avoid future challenges.

He further stated that Khammam, which was once plagued by waste, is now beginning to recover. He called for the cooperation of the public to support development and expressed sym-

pathy for those who had lost everything in recent floods. He urged authorities to assist those affected and ensure that infrastructure like roads and drainage are improved for the future.

Minister Nageshwar Rao emphasised the importance of police in maintaining law and order, specifically in controlling drugs and ganja. He advised higher officials to meet weekly to discuss district issues, plan development and welfare initiatives, and ensure that all communities in the district live harmoniously. District Collector Muzammil Khan mentioned that more than 50 per cent of the population now resides in urban areas. He confirmed that a survey had been completed, revealing a population of 27 lakh in the district with the city's population being around 6.5 to 7 lakh.

The Collector stressed the need for a master plan for urban development with a focus on roads, street vendors, facilities, and green spaces. Municipal Corporation Commissioner Abhishek Augustya, District Forest Officer Siddharth Vikram Singh and others were present.

Rare honour for Warangal chilli

PNS ■ WARANGAL

The Chapata chilli, grown in the undivided Warangal district, has received a rare distinction. The Indian Patent Office (IPO) has granted approval for its Geographical Indication (GI) tag.



These particular chilli peppers resemble tomatoes and contain a relatively low amount of spiciness. Notably, two years ago, this variety of chilli was sold for Rs1 lakh in the Warangal market, which is remarkable.

Education Commission to focus on strengthening education system

PNS ■ KUMRAM BHEEM ASIFABAD

The State Education Commission will focus on strengthening the education system in the State, said State Education Commission member Charakonda Venkatesh. A review meeting was held on Saturday at the Integrated District Collectorate building here. Education Department officials and the district authorities attended.

During the meeting, the State Education Commission member mentioned that the schools under various managements in the district had been inspected. He highlighted that the Commission would visit the educational institutions, inspect infrastructure, and other facilities in primary, upper primary, high schools, colleges, and universities, and submit reports to the government. He also noted that approximately 600 gurukula residential schools are operating in private buildings.

To strengthen the education system, recruitment of teachers through the District Selection Committee, promotions for teachers based on subject-wise teaching, and the provision of better facilities in government Gurukula and Ashram schools and hostels were discussed.

Leopard mauls cow to death

PNS ■ KUMRAM BHEEM ASIFABAD



A cow was mauled to death by a leopard in the Gantalagudem forest area under Asifabad mandal.

Banoth Ramulu from Babapur village had sent his leopard to graze in the forest when the leopard attacked and killed a cow. Upon being informed, the Forest Department officials, including Jodeghat Range Officer Gnaneshwar, Section Officers Mahender, Chandrakant, Beat Officers Sadik, Swapna, and Maruthi, arrived at the scene, examined the situation, and confirmed that it was a leopard attack.

The Forest Department Rs 5,000 ex gratia to the cattle owner. During the event, the Range Officer advised the public to report any informa-

tion regarding the movement of big cats. He assured the people that the Forest Department would keep the public informed about leopard movements and advised people not to believe in rumors circulating on social media platforms. The event was attended by the Animal Tracker, along with local villagers.

Five youngsters meet watery grave as car plunges into tank

The deceased belonged to Hayathnagar in Hyderabad

PNS ■ RANGAREDDY



In a tragic incident at Jalapur Cheruvu under Bhoodhan Pochampally mandal in Yadadri Bhongir district, five youngsters lost their lives when their car plunged into the tank in the early hours of Saturday. The incident took place at midnight and the young men perished in the crash. At the time of the accident, there were six people in the car, and one young man managed to survive.

The victims are Vamsi Goud, Dinesh, Harsha, Baloo, and Vinay. The identity of the sixth victim is still to be confirmed. The young men were residents of Hayathnagar in Hyderabad. While four occupants of the car tragically lost their lives, a young man, named Manikantha, escaped safely by breaking the window. They were in the age group of 20-25 years. The accident happened late at night and no one was around to hear their cries for help. A combination of factors, including speeding, led to the accident, the police said.

It is yet to be known whether the young man went on a joyride at midnight. The police suspected that the driver failed to

notice a hairpin curve on the road and drove straight. It led to the car veering off course, lost control, and plunged into the water.

The Pochampally police received an emergency call at 5:27 am via Dial 100. Despite a quick response from emergency teams, they were unable to save the other five men, whose bodies were recovered from the submerged vehicle. The police have registered a case and are investigating the accident's cause.

The families of the victims are devastated, as this tragic accident claimed the lives of five young people due to a combination of fog, high speed, and a dangerous turn. Police have registered a case and initiated an investigation.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA COLLECTOR OFFICE, HANUMAKONDA REVENUE (LA) DEPARTMENT										
FORM - VI NOTIFICATION										
(See Sub-rule (1) of rule -19 and section -11(1) of the Act-30/2013)					Date: 22-11-2024					
Coll. Rc.No.G/1341/2017-3					Date: 22-11-2024					
RDO-HNK, Rc.No.G2/770/2024					Date: 12-11-2024					
Gazette No.: 5/HNK/2024					Date: 22-11-2024					
Whereas it appears to the Government of Telangana/Collector, Hanumakonda that a total of (Ac 6.00 gts) Land is required in the Village namely Errabelli Village of Velair Mandal, Hanumakonda Division and District for Public purpose namely MINOR - 2R of MAJOR - 1R of Distributory-5 on Gouravelli Right Side Main Canal of Gouravelli Canal Project from 0.000 to 1-200km under RFCT LA & RR Act, 2013 (Telangana Amendment) Act., 2016 (Act. No.21 of 2017).										
The said land acquisition for the project is exempted from the Chapter - II and Chapter - III of the LA Act 2013 i.e. Social Impact Assessment (SIA) and Food Security as per Section 10(A) of Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement, 2013, (Telangana Amendment) Act -2016 (Act No. 21 of 2017).										
Therefore it is notified that for the above said project in the Villages namely Errabelli Village of Velair Mandal, Hanumakonda District land measuring more or less (Ac 6.00 gts) of standard measurement, whose detail description is as follows is proposed for acquisition										
SCHEDULE										
Village: Errabelli; Mandal: Velair; District: Hanumakonda										
Sl. No.	Type of Title	Area under Acquisition (In acres)	Name of the Pattadar	Name of the Enjoyer	Extent as per Enjoinment	Type of Structure with plinth area	Remarks	Value	Other	
5	181	Dry	Patla	0-11	Bhukya Bangari W/o Navoosha Kaleru Himavathi W/o Pappiah Alam Praveen S/o Rajiah Bhukya Rajkumar S/o Venkataiah	0-04	Pater Ramulu S/o Malliah Bukya Rajkumar S/o Venkataiah Thapatamula sadanandam Unknown	0-06	0-01	
6	183	Dry	Patla	0-01	Mareddy Raji Reddy S/o Raghava Reddy MD. Shabeer Ali S/o Umar Saab MD Aligar Ali S/o Umar Saab MD Safia Sulthan W/o Nawab Jani MD Parveen W/o Jahangir MD Shameem S/o Thaju Pateru Malliah S/o Veeriah Patel Kranthi Kiran S/o Mahamohammed Mohinoodin S/o Afzal Bhukya Sathish S/o Badru Mohammad Mohinoodin S/o Afzal Malothu Sambiah S/o Limba Mohammad Sarwar Mia. S/o Ankoos Mohammad Vaili Hyder S/o Sarwar Mia	0-01	Mareddy Rajreddy Thupathi S/o Raghava Reddy	0-01		
1	182	Dry	Patla	0-16	Rena Krishnamurthy S/o Rajiah Kaleru shantha W/o Mogliiah Akula Prabhakar S/o Rajiah Akula Ramesh S/o Rajiah	0-04 0-09 0-04	Gopaneswari Kanakiah s/o Ramaiah Gudikandula Thupathi S/o Venkataiah Gudikandula Thupathi Mallesham S/o Aaga Elliah Gudikantia Bhagya Laxmi W/o Venkataiah Gudikandula Thupathi S/o Venkataiah	0-01		
2	163	Dry	Patla	0-29	Bukya Bangari W/o Navusha Bukya Pujare S/o Jagya Bhukya Raju S/o Ramulu	0-04 0-06 0-13	Bukya Rajkumar S/o Venkataiah Bukya Seethara. S/o Bheemla Bukya Pujare S/o Jegra	0-24		
3	164	Dry	Patla	0-29	Bhukya Pujare S/o Jagya Bhukya Rajkumar S/o Venkataiah Malothu Saroja W/o Ramchander Bukya Pujare S/o Jagya Bhukya Seetharam S/o Bheema Malothu Saroja W/o Ramchander Bhukya Rajkumar S/o Venkataiah Kaleru Rajamma W/o Mogliiah	0-04 0-03 0-04 0-03 0-09 0-03	Bukya Seetharam S/o Bheemla Bukya Murali S/o Bangari Bukya Sammaiah S/o Sankeyya Bukya Raju S/o Sankeyya Bukya Pujare S/o Jegra Bukya Shankara S/o Sararama	0-04 0-03 0-04 0-03 0-09 0-03		
4	180	Dry	Patla	1-16	Thapatamula Sadanandam S/o Sathiah Nalgori Yadgiri S/o Sali Thapatamula Sadanandam S/o Sathiah Thapatamula Sadanandam S/o Sathiah Gurralla Damodar Reddy S/o Prathap Reddy Nalgori Madelu S/o Venkataiah Thapatamula Sadanandam S/o Sathiah Nalgori Madelu S/o Venkataiah Nalgori Madelu S/o Venkataiah Patel Venkataramarao S/o Malliah Charan S/o Venkataramarao Veeramudli Priya W/o Veeramudli Uday Kumar Nalgori Madelu S/o Venkataiah	0-01 0-01 0-01 0-01 0-03 0-02 0-03	Gurralla Prathapa Reddy S/o Laxma Reddy Thapatamula Sadanandam S/o Sathiah Thapatamula Sadanandam S/o Sathiah Thapatamula sadanandam	0-11 0-11	2.Neem Trees.	
9	184	Dry	Patla	0-22	Bukya Shankara S/o Sararama	0-01	Gurralla raghupathi reddy S/o prathap reddy	0-11		
18	196	Dry	Patla	1-16	Bukya Shankara S/o Sararama	0-01	Gurralla raghupathi reddy S/o prathap reddy	0-11		
19	197	Dry	Patla	1-16	Bukya Shankara S/o Sararama	0-01	Gurralla raghupathi reddy S/o prathap reddy	0-11		
20	198	Dry	Patla	1-16	Bukya Shankara S/o Sararama	0-01	Gurralla raghupathi reddy S/o prathap reddy	0-11		
21	199	Dry	Patla	1-16	Bukya Shankara S/o Sararama	0-01	Gurralla raghupathi reddy S/o prathap reddy	0-11		
22	200	Dry	Patla	1-16	Bukya Shankara S/o Sararama	0-01	Gurralla raghupathi reddy S/o prathap reddy	0-11		
TOTAL					Ac.6-00 gts	Ac.6-00 gts				

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA REVENUE DEPARTMENT OFFICE THE DISTRICT COLLECTOR HYDERABAD DISTRICT FORM VII (See Sub-rule (1) of rule-25 and Section-19 (1) of the Act-30/2013) DECLARATION														
Gazette Hyd.- HAML No. 44										Dated: 07-12-2024.				
No. C6/106/2024-RHS (176 to 200)										Dated: 07-12-2024.				
Whereas it appears to the Government of Telangana/Collector, Hyderabad District that a total of 935.38 Sq.Yards of land is required in Shar-E-Hyderabad Village, Bahadurpura Mandal, Hyderabad District, namely affected under Metro Rail Phase-II, MGBS to Chandrayangutta in Corridor-VI, stretch from Daroukh shifa.														
Therefore, Declaration is made that a piece of land measuring, more or less 935.38 Sq.Yards under acquisition for the above said project in the Shar-E-Hyderabad Village, Bahadurpura Mandal, Hyderabad District whose detailed description is as following:														
Sl. No.	Ske tch No.	Premi- ses No	Type of Title	Type of Land	Name & Address of person interested	Area under Acquisition (In Sq.Yards)	North	South	East	West	Trees	Structures	Verif y	Typ e
1	RHS 176	23-2-442	Owner	Patla	1.Syed Sabiha 2.Syed Wahed Hussain Razvi 3.Syed Duranda 4.Syed Amuliah Hussain Razvi 5.Syed Vlayat Hussain 6.Syed Shah Raza Hussain Razvi 7.Syed Shah Azhar Hussain Razvi 8.Syed Amzad Hussain 9.Syed Turab Hussain 10.Syed Latefat Hussain 11.Syed Ibrahim Hussain 12.Syed Shah Laghath Hussain	21.04	Lane	23-2-440	Road	Neighbors property	-	-	G+2	-
2	RHS 177	23-2-440	Owner	Patla	1.A.A. Aziz Farooqi S/o M.A. Wahab Farooqi 2.CEO, TG, Weq Board	27.92	23-2-442	Mosque	Road	Neighbors property	-	-	G+2	-
3	RHS 179	23-2-439	Owner	Patla	1.Salma Tabassum W/o Mohd. Sultan Shanef	28.81	Mosque	Mosque	Road	Neighbors property	-	-	G+3	-
4	RHS 181	23-2-442/1	Owner	Patla	1.Syed Amjad Hussain Razvi 2.Syed Turab Hussain Razvi 3.Syed Tujammul Hussain Razvi 4.Dipesh Kumar S/o Dinesh Kumar	13.44	Mosque	23-2-367	Road	Neighbors property	-	-	G+3	-
5	RHS 182	23-2-367	Owner	Patla	Syed Tujammul Hussain Razvi	1.88	23-2-442/1	Lane	Road	Neighbors property	-	-	G	-
6	RHS 183	23-2-443	Owner	Patla	1.Maher Al Javed 2.Nirash Rizwana 3.Nihal Sulana Iqbal 4.Narain Farzana 5.Hiter Al-Asad	14.11	Lane	Yousaf Chna Bazar	Road	Neighbors property	-	-	G+2	-
7	RHS 184	23-2-444	Owner	Patla	Mohammed Abdul Bari	8.46	M.A.M. Medical Store	23-2-454/4	Road	Neighbors property	-	-	G+2	-
8	RHS 185	23-2-445	Owner	Patla	1.Secretary, Zama Nazamia Shibli Gung 2.Nisar Ameena 3.Nisar Fatima 4.Nisar Haleema 5.Nisar Kholija	21.16	Yousaf Chna Bazar	23-2-361	Road	Neighbors property	-	-	G+2	-
9	RHS 186	23-2-446	Owner	Patla	Mirza Firath Ali Baig	11.79	23-2-454/4	Hardwar Sweets	Road	Neighbors property	-	-	G+1	-
10	RHS 187	23-2-446	Owner	Patla	Mohammed Burhan Jaber S/o Md. Jameel	25.08	23-2-361	Shama Steel Agency	Road	Neighbors property	-	-	G+2	-
11	RHS 188	23-2-447	Owner	Patla	Mohd. Abdul Mateen	51.47	23-2-446	Shama Cafe	Road	Neighbors property	-	-	G+1	-
12	RHS 189	23-2-447	Owner	Patla	Mohammed Abdul Muqadmir	81.69	Shama Steel Agency	Road	Neighbors property	-	-	G	-	
13	RHS 190	23-2-448	Owner	Patla	Mumtaz Ahmed Khan	283.18	Road	23-2-454	Road	Neighbors property	-	-	G+2	-
14	RHS 191	23-2-450	Owner	Patla	1.Mohd Hussain Hasbin 2.Syed Fagunnisa Hashmi 3.Syed Omer Hussain Hashmi	11.09	23-2-450	Bemiliah Naam	Road	Neighbors property	-	-	G+1	-
15	RHS 192	23-2-455,456	Owner	Patla	Sayeduddin	35.76	23-2-454	Lane	Road	Neighbors property	-	-	G+1	-
16	RHS 193	23-2-492	Owner	Patla	Noor Begum @ Nourani Begum Meertaj Alam	47.64	23-2-496	Road	Neighbors property	-	-	G+1	-	
17	RHS 194	23-2-496	Owner	Patla	Abdus Samad Siddiqui	59.08	23-2-494	Mosque	Road	Neighbors property	-	-	G+2	-
18	RHS 196	23-2-504	Owner	Patla	1.Sultan, 2.Ahmed Omer Bin Mahrizoz Alias Ahmed Ali Hadi BIN Omer	19.51	Neighbors property	Road	Neighbors property	-	-	G+1	-	
19	RHS 197	23-2-509/1 to 5	Owner	Patla	1.Mohd Mustafa, 2.Mohd Omar Khan 3.Mohd Omar Khan 4.CEO, TG, Weq Board	71.00	Road	A.K. Towers	Road	Neighbors property	-	-	G+2	-
20	RHS 198	23-2-513	Owner	Patla	1.Fareed Ahmed, 2.Sabera Begum	50.96	23-2-509/1	23-2-519/1	Road	Neighbors property	-	-	G+5+ Open	-
21	RHS 199	23-2-519/1	Owner	Patla	1.Mohd. Abdul Bin Mahrizoz Alias Ahmed Ali Hadi BIN Omer	12.11	23-2-519	23-2-519/2	Road	Neighbors property	-	-	G+1	-
22	RHS 200	23-2-525	Owner	Patla	Mubarak Bin Azzan	38.20	23-2-519/1	Neighbors property	Road	Neighbors property	-	-	G	-
Total					935.38									

This Declaration is made after hearing of objections of persons interested and due enquiry as provided U/Sec. 15 of the Act No-30/2013. The number of families likely to be resettled due to land acquisition is being enquired.

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

A plan of the land may be inspected in the office of the District Collector, Hyderabad District and Special Deputy Collector (Land Acquisition), Hyderabad Airport Metro Rail, Rasoolpura, Begumpet, Hyderabad on any working day.

Place: Hyderabad, Date: 07-12-2024.

Sd/- Spt. Dy. Collector (LA), HAML, Hyderabad.

Sd/- Addl. Collector, Hyderabad District.

Sd/- Collector, Hyderabad District.

DIPR No. 453/LA/PP-Advt/Agency/2024-25

ACROSS THE STATES



Assam CM expands cabinet, 4 new ministers take oath

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Saturday expanded his cabinet with four ministers taking oath. Assam Governor Lakshman Prasad Acharya administered the oath of office to the four new ministers - Prasanna Phookan, Kaushik Rai, Krishendu Paul, and Rupesh Goala. All of them are BJP legislators. The chief minister and members of his cabinet were present on the occasion. Phukan is a four-time MLA from Dibrugarh, Paul a two-time MLA from Patharkandi while Rai and Goala are first-time MLAs from Lakhimpur and Doom Dooma respectively. Phukan and Goala represent the Upper Assam tea districts of Dibrugarh and Tinsukia respectively while Paul and Rai are from the two Barak Valley districts of Sribhumi (formerly Karimganj) and Cachar.



Participative diplomacy can help solving conflicts: EAM

PNS ■ DOHA (QATAR)

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Saturday called for "more innovative and participative diplomacy" and said the needle is moving towards the reality of negotiations rather than the continuation of the war between Russia and Ukraine. Jaishankar highlighted the increasing cost of oil, fertilisers and shipping etc. for several countries, including India, due to conflicts in the Gulf and the Mediterranean region.

He is visiting Doha to participate in the Doha Forum at the invitation of Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of State of Qatar Mohammed bin Abdulrahman. He was addressing a panel along with the Qatari prime minister and Norway's Foreign Minister Espen Barth Eide.

Jaishankar said that diplomats have to tell themselves, it's a messy world. "It's terrible. There are conflicts, but therefore there's all the more reason for diplomats of the world to step forward," he said.

Jaishankar said that diplomats have to tell themselves, it's a messy world. "It's terrible. There are conflicts, but therefore there's all the more reason for diplomats of the world to step forward," he said

conflicts is "behind us," adding that all countries need to step forward. "I think this, there is a greater case for more vigorous diplomacy, for more innovative diplomacy, for



mat turned minister said. When the anchor asked about India's role in the Russia-Ukraine conflict, Jaishankar said, "The needle is moving more towards the reality of negotiation than the continuation of the war."

Describing how India is walking the talk, by going to Moscow, talking to President Vladimir Putin, going to Kyiv, engaging, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, transparently carrying messages to each other, Jaishankar said India is trying to find "common threads" which can be picked up at some time.

He also said that India is articulating the sentiments and the interest of the Global South comprising 125 other countries who have found their fuel cost, their food cost, their inflation, their fertiliser costs impacted by this war.

Govt hiking tax rates for common man, says Rahul Accuses it of giving concessions to billionaires

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi on Saturday said while the Narendra Modi government is hiking the rates of the income tax and other taxes for the common man, it is giving concessions to billionaires, and claimed that it is set to introduce another slab of the GST to burden people.

Gandhi said the Congress will continue to oppose this "injustice" of

imposing higher tax rates on things of daily use and giving concessions to big billionaires. "See another example of concessions to capitalists and looting common people. "On one hand, the income tax is increasing constantly in comparison to the corporate tax. On the other hand, the Modi government is preparing to collect more money through Gabbar Singh Tax," he said in a post in Hindi on X.



US denies BJP's allegations of backing anti-India agenda

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The US on Saturday rejected the BJP's allegations that organisations funded by the US State Department and elements in the American "deep state" were behind attempts to destabilise India through targeted attacks on Prime Minister Narendra Modi and business tycoon Gautam Adani.

A spokesperson at the US embassy described the allegations as "disappointing" and asserted that the US government has been a champion of media freedom around the

world. The BJP alleged on Saturday that the US deep state colluded with the media portal OCCRP (Organised Crime and Corruption Reporting Project) and Congress leader Rahul Gandhi to "damage" India's image.

The BJP had cited Gandhi's use of reports by OCCRP to attack the Adani Group and to accuse it of having closeness with the government.

"It's disappointing that the ruling party in India would make these kinds of accusations," the US embassy spokesperson said.

Modi govt in no mood for talks: Pandher Farmers to march towards Delhi today

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Punjab farmer leader Sarwan Singh Pandher said on Saturday that they have not received any message from the Centre for talks to address their issues and said a group of 101 farmers will again begin their march to Delhi on December 8.

On Friday, protesting farmers suspended their foot march to the national capital for the day after some of them suffered injuries due to tear gas shells

fired by security personnel, who stopped them at the Punjab-Haryana border. The farmers have been pressing for various demands, including a legal guarantee for Minimum Support Price (MSP).

Addressing the media at Shambhu on the Punjab-Haryana border on Saturday, Pandher said 16 farmers suffered injuries and one of them lost hearing ability because of the tear gas shelling by Haryana security personnel.



No joy among people after Mahayuti's massive victory: Pawar

PNS ■ KOLHAPUR

NCP (SP) chief Sharad Pawar on Saturday claimed that no enthusiasm or overt joy was visible among the people of Maharashtra after the BJP-led Mahayuti coalition's landslide victory in the November 20 assembly elections.

Speaking at a press conference at Kolhapur in western Maharashtra, Pawar said

the Opposition need not worry, but it should go back to the people after the setback.

The Opposition's Maha Vikas Aghadi alliance will work to ensure that the government kept all its pre-poll promises including increasing the financial assistance for women under the Ladki Bahin scheme to Rs 2,100 from Rs 1,500, he said.

Delhi's air quality slips back to 'poor'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

After a brief respite of three days, Delhi's air quality dropped again to the 'poor' category on Saturday. The 24-hour average Air Quality Index (AQI) of the city was recorded at 233 at 4 pm on Saturday, marking a deterioration from Friday's reading of 197, which fell in the 'moderate' category.

The primary pollutants on Saturday were PM2.5 and PM10, with PM2.5 levels recorded at 93.2 µg/m³ and PM10 levels at 185.4 µg/m³ at 2 pm. These fine particles pose significant health risks as they can penetrate deep into the lungs and enter the bloodstream.

Of the 38 air quality monitoring stations in the city, two reported air quality in the 'very poor' category on Saturday, 30 were in the 'poor' category, and the rest recorded 'moderate' air quality, according to the Sameer app.

According to the Air Quality Early Warning System for



Delhi, air quality in the city will likely remain in the 'poor' category on Sunday and Monday, while it is expected to deteriorate to 'very poor' on Tuesday. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) classifies AQI between 0 and 50 as 'good', between 51 and 100 as 'satisfactory', between 101 and 200 as 'moderate', between 201 and 300 as 'poor', between 301 and 400 as 'very poor', and

above 400 as 'severe'. Meanwhile, the Decision Support System (DSS), the primary tool used to assess and estimate the sources of pollution in Delhi, has not been updated since November 29. A Commission for Air Quality Management official stated that the DSS is still in the development phase and has not been fully commissioned yet. "An evaluation committee

reviewed the system and found that its data and accuracy were not in line with the terms of reference set for the model. It was also observed that some of the data or the emissions inventory being used was outdated," the official said on the condition of anonymity.

The DSS will resume sharing data once the necessary changes are implemented, the official added.

No political witch hunting on Covid 'scam': Shivakumar

PNS ■ BENGALURU

Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Saturday said there won't be any political 'witch hunting', while taking action on the recommendations of the Justice Michael D' Cunha Commission, which investigated alleged irregularities in the purchase of equipment and medicines during the Covid-19, when the BJP was in power.

Officials have been asked to take action "based on facts". A separate committee will be formed at the official level, also involving some retired officials, to look into the report, "for guiding and for follow up action", he said.

The cabinet subcommittee headed by Shivakumar constituted to take further action based on the report, met here today to review it.

"Today, we held a second cabinet sub-committee meeting...we have

only reviewed. We have asked the officials to take action, as per law, based on the recommendations and findings of the Justice Michael D' Cunha Commission report," Shivakumar told reporters after the meeting.

Departmental inquiries on officials will be done as per procedures. "Justice Cunha has also recommended criminal inquiry on some, that will also happen separately...legally whatever has to be done like -- booking FIR or disciplinary action or anything else, will be done in accordance with law," he said.

The sub-committee will once again meet in Belagavi and will review the progress. "The cabinet sub-committee will not be directly involved. Whatever the procedure is, the officials will do it themselves... we (govt) will not indulge in witch hunting, but we can't hush up or close what is there in the report...we have told officials to take action based on facts," Shivakumar said.



'Will provide school edn to all sections'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said his government has taken another big decision to make school education as accessible as possible with the Cabinet approving the opening of 85 new Kendriya Vidyalayas. He asserted that while the step will benefit a large number of students, many new employment opportunities will also be created.

"Our government has taken another big decision to make school education as accessible as possible. Under this, 85 new Kendriya Vidyalayas will be opened across the country. While this step will benefit a large number of students, many new employment opportunities will also be created," Modi said in a post in Hindi on X.

The prime minister said the government is committed to providing school education to every section of the society in accordance with the National Education Policy. "As part of that, our government has approved 28 new Navodaya Vidyalayas across the country. This will expand residential and quality school education to a larger extent," Modi said in another post in Hindi.



GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA COLLECTOR OFFICE, HANUMAKONDA REVENUE (LA) DEPARTMENT FORM - VI NOTIFICATION

(See Sub-rule (1) of rule -19 and section -11(1) of the Act-38(2013) Coll.No. 01/1341/2017-6 Date: 22-11-2024 RDO-HMK, No. 02/642/2024 Date: 11-11-2024 Gazette No.: B/HNK/2024 Date: 22-11-2024

Whereas it appears to the Government of Telangana Collector, Hanumakonda that a total of (Ac.2-23 gts) Land is required in the Village namely **Golla Narsingapuram** Village of Bheemadavapally Mandal, Hanumakonda Division and District for Public Purpose namely **MINOR - 5 R of Distributory -5 on Gouravally Right Side Main Canal of Gouravally Canal Project from 0.080 to 0.540 km under RFCT LA & RR Act, 2013 (Telangana Amendment) Act, 2016** (Act No. 21 of 2017).

The said land acquisition for the project is exempted from the Chapter - II and Chapter - III of the LA Act 2013 i.e. Social Impact Assessment (SIA) and Food Security as per Section 10(A) of Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement, 2013, (Telangana Amendment) Act -2016 (Act No. 21 of 2017).

Therefore it is notified that for the above said project in the Villages namely **Erabelli** Village of Veluri Mandal, Hanumakonda District land measuring more or less (Ac.2-23gts) of standard measurement, whose detail description is as follows is proposed for acquisition.

SCHEDULE

Village: Golla Narsingapuram; Mandal: Bheemadavapally District: Hanumakonda

Sl. No.	Type of Land	Area under Acquisition (in ares)	Name of the Pattadar	Name of the Enjoyer	Extent as per Enjoinment Ac.Gts	Type of Structure with plan
1	348	1-22	Vennampally Lingiah S/o Rosewally Meruga sheba W/o Rajesh Vennampally Bhaskar S/o Rajwahi Meruga Shewan S/o Rajash	Maddala Kurar & Maddala Rajesh Meruga Rajash S/o Cheralu	0-16	
				Yagrevelli Rajesh S/o Venkatesh Yagrevelli Ravinder S/o Malliah	0-09	
			Vennampally Thirupathi S/o Venkatesh Meruga shevan S/o Rajash Polani Rama W/o Rajashara rao Maddala Kurmaswamy S/o Rajash Berothu Gopal S/o Lingiah Nagarambina Anthe W/o Nagaraju Parja Gattalish S/o Lingiah Parja Srinivas S/o Rajalash Parja Gattalish S/o Lingiah Erta Thirumala W/o Swamy Jakkula Ajay Kumar S/o Muthayaku Madham Korakalash S/o Yellash Meruga Rajash S/o Cheralu Madham Sominash S/o Gattalish Vennampally Lingiah S/o Lingiah Vennampally Bhaskar S/o Rajash Vennampally Thirupathi S/o Venkatesh	Yagrevelli Thirupathi	0-09.5	
2	347	Dry Pats 0-10	Parja Gattalish S/o Lingiah Parja Srinivas S/o Rajalash Parja Gattalish S/o Lingiah Erta Thirumala W/o Swamy Jakkula Ajay Kumar S/o Muthayaku Madham Korakalash S/o Yellash Meruga Rajash S/o Cheralu Madham Sominash S/o Gattalish Vennampally Lingiah S/o Lingiah Vennampally Bhaskar S/o Rajash Vennampally Thirupathi S/o Venkatesh	Meruga Rajash S/o Cheralu	0-10	
3	331	Dry Pats 0-11	Meruga Rajamma W/o Cheralu Meruga Rajash S/o Cheralu	Meruga Rajash S/o Cheralu	0-31	Well, Pipe line
TOTAL Area 3-33					3-33	

This notification is made under the provisions of the section-11(1) of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (Act No. 38(2013), to all whom it may concern.

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

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

Objections to the acquisition if any, and claims from all the persons interested affected by the acquisition of the lands, may be filed by the person interested in the land within 60 (sixty days) from the date of publication of this notification as provided under section 15 of the Act before District Collector/Authorised Officer.

Sd/- Land Acquisition Officer Sd/- Add. Collector Sd/- Dist. Collector & Revenue Divisional Officer Hanumakonda Dist. Hanumakonda Dist. Hanumakonda

Hanumakonda DIPR No.:442/LA/P-Pu/2024-25

Nestled gracefully in the foothills of the Kumaon region in Uttarakhand, Mukteshwar is a serene and unspoiled retreat that has yet to gain the limelight it truly deserves. Perched at an elevation of 2,171 meters, this picturesque hill station is located approximately 51 kilometers from the bustling town of Nainital. Mukteshwar offers you an idyllic escape for those seeking solace amidst nature's bounty and a peaceful respite from the chaos of urban life.

The Journey to Mukteshwar

The journey to Mukteshwar is as scenic as the destination itself. Once you cross the town of Nainital and continue your ascent, the winding roads begin to carve through the hills, offering a thrilling experience of hairpin bends and steep curves. The air grows crisper, and the lush greenery surrounding you seems to come alive, offering a visual treat to your senses. The long stretches of forested hills and cascading valleys make the drive a captivating experience, setting the stage for the calm that awaits you.

A Gateway to Himalayan Grandeur

Formerly known as Muktesar, Mukteshwar serves as a gateway to the majestic Himalayas, providing breathtaking views of snow-clad peaks. The Himalayan panorama here includes the towering Nanda Devi, the second-highest peak in India, standing tall as a symbol of nature's grandeur. The pristine mountain air and serene ambiance work like a balm, calming your soul and rejuvenating your spirit. Mukteshwar's unspoiled beauty makes it an ideal destination for mindful activities such as meditation, yoga, or simply soaking in the peace of the surroundings.

**Mukteshwar Dham:
A Spiritual Treat**

The town derives its name from the revered Mukteshwar Dham, an ancient temple dedicated to Lord Shiva. Believed to be over



5,350 years old, this temple is not only a place of worship but also a testament to the spiritual and historical richness of the region. Located 21 kilometres from the town centre, the temple is perched atop a hill, offering mesmerizing views of the valley below. To reach the temple, visitors must embark on a short yet rewarding trek of about 15 minutes. There are two paths leading to the temple: one with well-paved stairs and another with a steep incline, allowing visitors to choose based on their preference and stamina.

**Zero Point:
A Viewpoint like No Other**

Just a short walk from the Mukteshwar Dham lies Zero Point, a spot that offers unparalleled views of the Himalayan range. The 10 to 15-minute walk to this viewpoint is well worth the effort, as the vistas that greet you are nothing short of magical. A small entry fee of Rs. 60 is required, but the sight of the towering peaks bathed in golden sunlight or shrouded in misty clouds is a reward far greater than the cost. Zero Point allows visitors to fully immerse themselves in the raw beauty of the mountains, leaving an indelible mark on their hearts.

Why Mukteshwar?

Mukteshwar is more than just a destination, it is an experience that soothes the mind, body, and soul. Whether you are looking to relax in silence, embrace the beauty of nature, or embark on a spiritual journey, this quaint hill station has something for everyone. With its charming landscapes, rich history, and spiritual essence, Mukteshwar stands as a testament to the timeless beauty of Uttarakhand's Kumaon Hills. The place is a must visit if you want to detox yourself.

**THE SCENIC AND
SIMPLE MUKTESHWAR**



Mukteshwar is a quite destination that will help you discover your calmer self, writes **ABHI SINGHAL**



WAY TO MUKTESHWAR

Mukteshwar promises not just a tranquil retreat but also a journey filled with stunning views. Whether you prefer flying, riding a train, or driving through scenic routes, the travel itself becomes part of the adventure. From picturesque landscapes to steep turns on the mountain roads, each mode of transport offers a unique charm. Comfortable travel options ensure that reaching this beautiful destination is as delightful as staying there.

Mukteshwar by Road

Mukteshwar is well-connected by road, lying 353 km from Delhi, 51 km from Nainital, and 42 km from Haldwani. State-run buses link Mukteshwar with nearby Uttarakhand cities, including Kathgodam. Luxury buses are also available on the Delhi-Kathgodam route, with buses departing from Delhi's ISBT. The journey from Delhi to Kathgodam takes about 8 hours. For those driving from Delhi, follow NH 24 to Rampur, then NH 87 to Ranibagh. From Ranibagh, take the state highway to Bhowali, and finally another state highway via Ramgarh to Mukteshwar.

Mukteshwar by Train

Kathgodam Railway Station is the closest railroad to Mukteshwar, offering connections to major cities like Delhi, Lucknow, and Kolkata. From Kathgodam, travelers can hire taxis or take buses to reach Mukteshwar conveniently.

Mukteshwar by Air

The nearest airport to Mukteshwar is Pantnagar Airport, located 111 km away. Another option is the Jolly Grant Airport in Dehradun. From both airports, travelers can hire taxis to reach Mukteshwar comfortably.



As someone who lives for the thrill of discovering untouched destinations, my recent journey to Jihar Village was a revelation. Nestled in the Almora district of Uttarakhand, this unspoiled hamlet, perched at 5,400 feet, offers a serene escape from the chaos of modern life. It lies about 45 km beyond the ever-popular Jim Corbett National Park, yet few venture this far—a detail that adds to its charm. What awaited me was a perfect blend of natural beauty, cultural heritage, and heartwarming simplicity. The drive to Jihar was nothing short of mesmerising. The winding road was flanked by pine forests and occasional streams that glistened under the sunlight. Accompanied by lovely music in the car, I was lost in the serenity of the place. Two jackals darted across the path at one point, a reminder of the region's rich wildlife. As I drew closer, the snow-capped peaks of the Himalayas greeted me, reaffirming that I had made the right choice to explore this lesser-known gem. For accommodation, I opted for Nivriti Summit View, a boutique property near Basot village. Travelling with my family, I needed a place that catered to both comfort and scenic beauty, and this property delivered on all fronts. The first thing that struck me upon arrival was the sheer grandeur of the views. On one side, the majestic Himalayan ranges seemed close enough to touch, while on the other, the



endless valley stretched into a picturesque horizon. The sight of the Ramganga River winding its way below added to the allure. The property, with its six thoughtfully designed rooms, was a sanctuary in itself. Each room had large windows that framed the surrounding beauty like a painting. What made the stay even more special was the personal touch of the owner, Randhir Brar, whose love for travel and nature was evident in every corner. From curated books to artistic décor, every detail told a story. My mornings began with the golden glow of Nanda Devi, and my evenings ended with a cup of tea as Trisul's snowy peaks reflected the last light of the day. The highlight for my children was the sprawling garden—a perfect space to play and unwind. For me, it was the property's glasshouse rooms, which allowed me to gaze at the stars from the comfort of my bed. The culinary experience was equally memorable. While I enjoyed

Escape to Peaceful Jihar

From stunning Himalayan vistas and hidden waterfalls to the charm of Nivriti Summit View, my journey to Jihar was a perfect blend of adventure, tranquillity, and warm hospitality, writes **DIVYA BHATIA**



their continental offerings, the Kumaoni dishes—prepared with fresh, local ingredients—stole the show. Don't miss the chance to savour dishes like Bhatt ki Churdhani and Aloo ke

Gutke, prepared with expertise. After a full day of relaxation, we set out the following morning to explore Jihar. Our first stop was the Bona Devi Temple, a revered shrine



nestled deep within the forests. Located about 14 km from Kalason Basot, the temple is more than 250 years old and steeped in local legend. It houses a Shivaling, a pillar of Kaal Bhairavnath, and the sacred hearth of Harju Devta. The moment we stepped into the temple premises, a serene calmness enveloped us, as though the place radiated an abundance of positive energy. However, it

arranged a picnic lunch for us there, and it was nothing short of magical. Surrounded by the sounds of rustling leaves and flowing water, the experience felt like stepping into another world. The locals mentioned occasional sightings of leopards, though they assured us these majestic creatures had never harmed anyone—a testament to the harmonious coexistence of humans and wildlife here. Evenings back at the property were spent stargazing. The clear skies above Jihar unveiled the Milky Way in all its glory, a humbling reminder of the universe's vastness. It's rare to find a place where time slows down, where each moment invites introspection and wonder. Jihar, with its unpretentious beauty, offers precisely that. In today's fast-paced world, places like Jihar remind us of the beauty of simplicity. It's not just a destination; it's an experience—a chance to slow down, breathe, and reconnect with what truly matters. Whether you're a nature lover, an adventure seeker, or simply someone looking to escape the crowds, Jihar promises memories you'll treasure for a lifetime.

HOW TO GET TO JIHAR

Reaching Jihar is part of the adventure. The nearest airport is Pantnagar, about 140 km away, while Kathgodam railway station is 100 km from the village. From these points, the scenic drive to Jihar is best enjoyed in a private cab or local bus.

The Art of Authentic Kashmiri Dining

Kashmirana serves authentic Kashmiri food with a cosy setting, bringing the flavours of Kashmir to Gurugram

FOODFREAK



Pawan Soni
Food critic and founder of the Big F Awards

My friends have been dedicated patrons of Kashmirana, a Kashmiri restaurant nestled in Rodeo Drive that's gained a steady following in its five years. They've shared their experiences numerous times, so I was eager to see what the buzz was about on my first visit. Kashmirana has a cosy vibe with a mix of comfortable table seating and a few low tables for those looking to linger. My wife aptly described the interiors as reminiscent of a houseboat's warmth and charm. We found ourselves indulging in a variety of dishes, given her vegetarian preference. In the non-vegetarian starters, the Tabakmaaz and mutton seekh kebabs were both outstanding. The Tabakmaaz had that perfect crispiness, yielding to the fatty richness inside, while the mutton seekh had a delicate, hollow centre that retained a satisfying bite - some of the juiciest I've had in Gurgaon. My wife, on the other hand, enjoyed the lotus root fritters (nadrū chips), cut into long, crispy strips and coated with a flavourful, addictive spice blend. In the mains, the rista and goshtaba were delightful, with the same signature spongy meatballs but distinct gravies that made each dish memorable. I prefer bigger balls but these tasted as good. On the vegetarian side, the haaq, rajma, and nadru yakhani shone brightly, leaving us no choice but to pack up the leftovers - vegetarian for us and non-vegetarian for my friends. And if I say we loved the non-veg, it's only fair to note the vegetarian options were no less satisfying. Traditional brassware enhanced the authenticity of the experience, and the kehwa added an extra layer of warmth, perfect for the season. Though the phirni was good, I've had more refined versions. However, the dry fruit-laden shufta, cooked in desi ghee, was a decadent finale. Kashmirana's portions are ample, the pricing fair, and the food impressive, especially as the restaurant filled with fellow Kashmiris as we dined, a clear testament to its authenticity and popularity among those who truly know this cuisine.

RATINGS (Out of 5):
FOOD: 4.0 | AMBIENCE: 3.75 | SERVICE: 4.0 | OVERALL: 4.0



ADDRESS: KASHMIRANA, 1ST FLOOR, RODEO DRIVE, SECTOR 49, GURUGRAM | PHONE: 85953 99049



The Heart of Odisha's Cuisine

Chor Bizarre's Odia pop-up brings an authentic, unique taste of Odisha, writes TEAM AGENDA



Left to right - Culinary Collaborator Mona Lisa Bal, Chef Srinivasulu. A and Actor & Filmmaker Nandita Das

When one thinks of India's diverse culinary landscape, it's easy to be drawn to the well-known dishes of the north or the spicy delights of the south. But what about the understated flavours of Odisha? Often overshadowed by its more famous counterparts, Odisha's cuisine is a hidden gem, rich in taste and steeped in tradition. The recent *Odia pop-up* at Chor Bizarre, the iconic Asaf Ali Road, New Delhi restaurant, offered a rare opportunity to experience the unique vegetarian dishes of Odisha, expertly curated by actor-filmmaker Nandita Das and her culinary collaborator Mona Lisa Bal. The event was an exciting foray into the lesser-known corners of Indian cuisine, offering an authentic glimpse into the simple yet bold flavours of Odisha. With the restaurant's long-standing reputation for bringing regional Indian cuisines to the forefront, this pop-up felt like a welcome celebration of the state's rich culinary heritage, especially for those in New Delhi who may not have had the chance to explore it. The carefully crafted vegetarian menu showcased the simplicity and brilliance of Odia cuisine. The meal began with "Ghole Dahi" (Odia Chhās), a traditional yogurt-based drink that was both refreshing and tangy, setting the tone for the meal ahead. It was the perfect introduction to a menu that relied on fresh, local ingredients and a delicate balance of spices. The starters were a real treat, with dishes like "Biri Boda with Dhaniya Chutney" (Lentil Fritters with Coriander) and "Besara Chhatu Potra Poda" (Mushrooms with Mustard in Banana Leaf) capturing the essence of Odisha's cooking style. The lentil fritters were crispy on the outside, soft on the inside, and paired beautifully with a fresh coriander chutney that added a burst of flavour. The mushrooms, cooked with mustard and wrapped in banana leaves, offered a smoky, earthy flavour that exemplified the depth of Odia culinary techniques. When it came to the main courses, the dishes truly shone. "Dahi Baingan" (Shallow Fried Eggplant with Tempered Yogurt) was a standout, with its crisp, golden eggplant and creamy, tangy yogurt creating a delicious contrast in texture and taste. "Dalma," a hearty lentil and vegetable stew with coconut, was a comforting dish, light yet full of flavour. The



addition of "Kusala Saaga" (Amaranth Leaves with Garlic) and "Santula" (Sautéed Vegetables with Five Spices) further exemplified the region's love for vegetables, bringing out the freshness and natural taste of the ingredients in every bite.

The accompaniments were the perfect complements to the main dishes. "Chakuli Pita," a soft, chewy flatbread made with lentils and rice, was ideal for scooping up curries, while the steamed "Bhaata" (rice) acted as a neutral base to balance the complex spices. No meal would be complete without dessert, and Chor Bizarre didn't disappoint. "Kheer Sagar" (Chhena Balls in Thickened Milk) offered a rich and creamy end to the meal, while "Chhena Podo," a baked chhena dessert, had a beautiful caramelised flavour that left a lasting impression. The vegetarian menu was, without a doubt, the star of the pop-up. However, it's worth noting that the non-vegetarian thali also garnered rave reviews, with guests praising its perfect blend of spices and execution. Chor Bizarre's ability to balance both vegetarian and non-vegetarian offerings with such precision only further cements its reputation as a destination for authentic regional cuisine. The *Odia pop-up* at Chor Bizarre was an enlightening and flavoursome journey into the heart of Odisha's culinary culture. For those who have yet to explore the delights of Odia cuisine, this pop-up provided a rare and memorable experience, showcasing the region's unique approach to vegetarian dishes that are as healthy as they are flavourful. With its emphasis on fresh ingredients, simple yet creative preparations, and a deep respect for tradition, this pop-up was a celebration of the incredible variety India's regional cuisines have to offer.



When it comes to coffee culture, *First Coffee* has always been a name synonymous with quality, creativity and bold flavours. Co-founded by the dynamic trio of Sohrab Sitaram, Shiv Dhawan and Chandini D Purnesh, this café has been a favourite haunt for caffeine enthusiasts and foodies alike. Their latest revamped menu is here to take your coffee and snack experience to the next level. Packed with innovative offerings, trendy beverages and classic delights, the menu is designed to cater to every palate. Whether you're a matcha enthusiast, a fan of indulgent pastries or someone who loves a good sandwich or wrap, *First Coffee* has you covered.



Co-Founders - Sohrab Sitaram and Shiv Dhawan

flavour, matcha has become a favourite among those looking for a trendy yet healthy alternative. While it might take some getting used to for first-timers, it's a sip worth acquiring. *First Coffee's* version offers a creamy, balanced taste that pairs beautifully with savoury bites like the paneer tikka sandwich or the chickpea Veggie wrap. **NEVER GO OUT OF STYLE:** As much as *First Coffee* excels in innovation, they also understand the value of keeping things classic. Their Classic Iced Coffee remains a cornerstone of the menu, offering a refreshing pick-me-up that's as dependable as it is delicious. Perfectly brewed and served chilled, it's a reminder of why *First Coffee* became a beloved name in the first place. **SWEET DREAMS IN EVERY BITE:** Sweet tooth? You're in for a treat. The new menu introduces the incredible range of pastries. First up is the freshly baked Choco-Berry Dream Doughnut, a decadent creation that combines the richness of chocolate and custard with a fresh twist of blueberry jam and shaved chocolate on top. If you're a fan of chocolate, the Choco Truffle Eclairs are not to be missed. They combine deep, indulgent chocolate flavours with just the right amount

MORE THAN JUST A COFFEE!

First Coffee's revamped menu combines innovative flavours, trendy beverages and classic favourites, creating the perfect coffee and snack experience, writes TEAM AGENDA



of berry sweetness, making them the perfect treat for anyone with a sweet tooth. For something a bit more adventurous, the Blueberry Passion Eclairs and the Nutella Cinnamon Roll are a must-try. The cinnamon roll, in particular, is topped with marshmallows and toasted seeds, adding extra texture and sweetness to every bite. **SAVOURY DELIGHTS:** The savoury offerings on the menu are just as impressive. The Truffle Mushroom Sandwich is a symphony of flavours, combining truffled mushrooms, caramelised onions and gooey cheese. It's rich, satisfying, and indulgent. For a spicier kick, the Chipotle Veggie Sandwich features Mexican-inspired vegetables and melted cheese layered on hearty Italian bread. Wrap lovers will adore the Chickpea Veggie Wrap, a flavour-packed burrito-style wrap filled with spicy chickpeas, and tangy pickled onions. Pair it with a side of their crispy Classic Fries for a meal that's as comforting as it is filling. **SWEET AND SAVOURY PAIRINGS:** The new menu is designed with pairings in mind, offering a curated experience that complements every dish. Enjoy their signature Crunchy Hazelnut Smash for a heavenly mix of chocolate sweetness and nutty richness. Or, pair the bold Flaky Chicken Seekh Wrap with a soothing Ginger Tea and Masala tea for a balance of spice and warmth.

If you're in the mood to experiment, the Cascara Thunder, a refreshing mix of cascara syrup over ice and lemonade, offers a zesty complement to the bold flavours of wraps. Each pairing has been thoughtfully created to elevate your dining experience. **DESSERTS AND SIDES THAT DELIGHT:** *First Coffee* has also introduced indulgent sides and desserts that are worth savouring. The Korean BBQ Potato and Chicken Poppers are perfect companions to their wraps and sandwiches, while the Brookie, a fusion of brownie and cookie, is a dessert dream come true. **WHY YOU'LL LOVE IT:** *First Coffee's* new menu blends trendy offerings like the Matcha Latte with timeless classics like the Iced Coffee, creating a menu that caters to every taste and preference. Add in the cosy, welcoming ambience and you have a café that's more than just a place to grab a coffee, it's a destination.

FACT SHEET
LOCATIONS:
Cyberhub, Gurugram
Pacific Mall, Jasola
Pacific Mall, NSP

IN BRIEF



TVS Motor rolls out 2025 TVS Ronin

Two and three-wheeler major TVS Motor Company has unveiled the 2025 edition of its popular 225 cc motorcycle TVS Ronin, during the ongoing TVS MotoSoul 4.0 event in Goa, the company said. The company, in a statement on Saturday, said the TVS Ronin mid-variant would be equipped with a Dual-Channel ABS towards enhancing the safety and stability of its riders. "This upgrade creates a more consistent differentiation across all three variants of the TVS Ronin, providing clear distinctions not only in colour and graphics but also in functionality," the company said. Two new colours, "Glacier Silver" and "Charcoal Ember", have been introduced, replacing the existing "Delta Blue and Stargaze Black" in the Ronin models. The city-headquartered TVS Motor Company on the occasion also announced its collaboration with GIVI, a global leader in motorcycle luggage systems.



MSME stakeholders seek tech upgrade

Stakeholders from the micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) sought a reduction in GST, technology upgrade, and production-linked incentive scheme benefits for various segments in a pre-Budget meeting with Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday. The meeting aimed to seek inputs and suggestions for the Budget for 2025-26, expected to be presented on February 1. Members from the Association of Women Entrepreneurs of Karnataka (AWAKE); Karnataka SC and ST Entrepreneurs' Association; Plant-Based Food Industry Association (PBFA); Ambala Scientific Instruments Manufacturers' Association (ASIMA); Rajasthan Footwear Manufacturers' Association were among the participants at the meeting. The All-India Plastics Manufacturers' Association; All India Manufacturers' Association; Gujarat Chamber of Small Industries Association; Federation of Associations of Cottage and Small Industries (based in West Bengal); Federation of Andhra Pradesh Small and Medium Association; and Laghu Udyog Bharati were also present during the interaction.



Rs 2k cr being invested in Narmadapuram: MP CM

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Mohan Yadav on Saturday said Rs 2000 crore is being invested in the state's Narmadapuram region for developing it into a hub of renewable energy. The industrial area of Mohasa-Babai will become the centre of development for the entire Narmadapuram region, Yadav said while addressing the Regional Industrial Conclave (RIC) here. "Land for the Mohasa-Babai Solar Energy Park has expanded from 227 acres to 884 acres. Land allotment letters have been distributed for the establishment of 20 industrial units in the RIC. Youth from Sohagpur, Itarsi, Seoni Malwa, Pipariya and Pachmarhi will benefit due to employment opportunities. Migration for jobs from these areas will stop," he asserted. Narmadapuram, with its rich forest resources, land and good road and rail connectivity, is highly suitable for industrial growth, he said.

'India to be leader in maritime sector soon'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India will soon emerge as the world leader in the maritime sector as it is multiplying its cargo-handling capacity in ports and building a robust shipping building and repairs ecosystem, Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal said on Saturday.



Speaking at the silver jubilee celebrations of the Kamarajar Port trust in Chennai, Sonowal said by 2047 India will be among the top-ten maritime nations in the world.

He said the port marked a significant step in decongesting Chennai Port by fostering efficient coal handling with possibilities of future expansion.

The minister said construction of IOCL Jetty of 3 MTPA will further enhance its capacity.

He said the setting up of 1 MLD seawater desalination plant at the port at a cost of Rs 32 crore will serve to meet not only the port's need but also those of the coastal community for drinking and other domestic purposes.

Timely implementation of infrastructure projects taken up by the shipping ministry

has led to faster completion of flagship programmes, Sonowal said, adding that quality has also been a focus area when development projects are rolled out.

The minister laid the foundation stone for establishing capital dredging, integrated command and control centre at the Kamarajar port at Rs 545 crore.

UPI enabled expansion of credit among underserved borrowers: Study

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Unified Payments Interface (UPI) has brought in a significant expansion of consumer credit among the underserved borrowers who had no credit history, a study said.

Since its launch in 2016, the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) has transformed financial access in India, enabling 300 million individuals and 50 million merchants to perform seamless digital transactions.

By October 2023, 75 per cent of all retail digital payments in India were through UPI, according to a study titled Open Banking and Digital Payments: Implications for Credit Access.

UPI is a payment system built as an interoperable protocol that allows third-party vendors to build apps to provide payments as a service to all customers of participating banks.

It has enabled underserved groups to access formal credit for the first time as transaction data was available before the lenders which enabled them to make credit decisions, it said.

INSOLVENCY PROCESS
RBI pitches for enforceable code of conduct for CoC

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Reserve Bank Deputy Governor M Rajeshwar Rao on Saturday pitched for an enforceable code of conduct for the Committee of Creditors (CoC) under the insolvency resolution process.

While emphasising that the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC), which was introduced in 2016, has gained significant traction as a recovery and resolution mechanism, Rao also said significant improvements are needed with respect to the area of CoC.

CoC has a key role in implementing the corporate insolvency resolution process under the IBC.

At a conference in the national capital, Rao said there have been instances where the CoC's performance has been found lacking in several aspects.

"This includes disproportionate prioritisation of individual creditors' interests over the collective interests of the group, disagreements among the CoC



members on approving the resolution plan due to concerns about undervaluation and perceived lack of viability, disagreement over the distribution of the proceeds," he said.

Even when the resolution plan is agreed upon, Rao said there have been instances of non-participation in the CoC meetings and a lack of effective engagement, coordination or information exchange among the members.

According to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Deputy

M&M to strongly contest for 'BE 6e' trademark

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Mahindra & Mahindra on Saturday said it has decided to rename its new electric vehicle brand as 'BE 6e' but noted that it will continue to contest strongly in court with InterGlobe Aviation for the trademark 'BE 6e'. InterGlobe Aviation, which owns IndiGo airlines, has taken the automaker to court over the usage of 6E in its new EV brand. "Our priority and focus is on ensuring an excellent experience for our customers as we take our product to the market. We would not like to get distracted from our vision of popularising electric transport in India," M&M said in a statement. It further said, "We also find it unseemly that two large, Indian multinationals should engage in a distracting and unnecessary conflict when in fact we should be championing each other's growth and expansion."

India, Norway to discuss ways to increase bilateral trade

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India and Norway will on Monday discuss ways to enhance trade and investments between the two countries, an official statement said on Saturday.

The talks will be held between Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal and Norwegian industry delegation led by May-Elin Stener, Ambassador of Norway to India.

The India-Norway Business

Roundtable will be held in Mumbai.

"Minister Goyal is expected to hold discussions on key opportunities and trends for further Norwegian investments in India, and potential areas of collaboration," the commerce and industry ministry said.

A significant focus of the discussion will be on the recent Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between India and the EFTA countries, which holds immense potential for both nations, it said.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA
REVENUE DEPARTMENT
OFFICE OF THE COLLECTOR, HYDERABAD DISTRICT

FORM VI
(SEE SUB-RULE (1) OF RULE-25 AND SECTION-19 (1) OF THE ACT-30/2013)
DECLARATION
GAZETTE HYD.-HAML NO. 39 DATED:07-12-2024
NO. C0111/2024-LHS (151 TO 175) DATED:07-12-2024

Whereas it appears to the Government of Telangana/Collector, Hyderabad District that a total of 1594.19 Sq.Yards of land is required in Shari-E-Hyderabad Village, Bahadurpura Mandal, Hyderabad District namely allotted under Metro Rail Phase-II, MGSS to Chandrayangutta in Conkor-VI, stretch from Danushahalla.

Therefore, Declaration is made that a piece of land measuring more or less 1594.19 Sq.Yards under acquisition for the above said project in the Shari-E-Hyderabad Village, Bahadurpura Mandal, Hyderabad District whose detailed description is as following:

Sl. No.	Sheet No.	Plot No.	Type of Land	Name & Address of person interested	Area Under the Land (Sq. Yards)	Boundaries				Tress	Structure	
						N	S	E	W			
1	151	23-1-1	Owner	Mohamed Khan	65	Neighbour property	Road	23-1-323	23-1-323	869/4	-	G
2	152	23-1-1	Owner	Mohammed Dutebuddin Sa	23	Neighbour Property	Road	Neighbour property	Road	-	-	G
3	153	23-1-1	Owner	Shahidunnisa Begum	15	23-1-869/4	23-1-1	Neighbour property	Road	-	-	G-1
4	154	23-1-1	owner	Musadunnisa Begum	46	23-1-491	Road	Neighbour property	Road	-	-	G-1
5	155	23-1-1	owner	K Lakshya	12	Neighbour property	Road	Neighbour property	23-1-491	-	-	G
6	156	23-1-1	owner	1. Hakeem 2. Mohd. Raheem Ali Shah	131	Road	23-1-493	Lane	Road	-	-	C+ G-2
7	157	23-1-1	owner	1. Sardar Begum 2. Mohd Akbar Jawed	28	Road	23-1-498/1	Neighbour property	Road	-	-	G
8	158	23-1-1	owner	1. Abdulla Ghaffar 2. Ghaffar Begum 3. Ghaffar Begum 4. Ghaffar Begum 5. Ghaffar Begum 6. Ghaffar Begum 7. Ghaffar Begum 8. Ghaffar Begum 9. Ghaffar Begum 10. Ghaffar Begum 11. Ghaffar Begum 12. Ghaffar Begum	0.30	23-1-313	23-1-311	Property	Road	-	-	G
9	159	23-1-1	owner	1. Syed Rasool 2. Shaik Inam 3. Shaik Inam 4. Shaik Inam 5. Shaik Inam 6. Shaik Inam 7. Shaik Inam 8. Shaik Inam 9. Shaik Inam 10. Shaik Inam 11. Shaik Inam 12. Shaik Inam	115	23-1-485	23-1-381	Lane	Road	-	-	C+ G-2
10	160	23-1-1	owner	Shah Bahar Ali Shaik Wazir Ali	35	23-1-312	23-1-382/4	Neighbour Property	Road	-	-	G-1
11	161	23-1-1	owner	Md Adil	45	Neighbour property	23-1-481/4	Neighbour property	Road	-	-	C+ G-1 + 12
12	162	23-1-1	owner	Md Khan Syed Shaik Ali Nasroon Sultana	25	23-1-311	Plan shop	Neighbour property	Lane	-	-	G
13	163	23-1-1	owner	1. Mohammed Abdul Aziz Ahmed 2. Ahsan Ullah Begum 3. Mansoor Ullah Begum 4. Taj Ullah 5. Qasim Ullah 6. Haseeb Ullah Begum	21	23-1-381	Road	Neighbour Property	Road	-	-	C+ G-2
14	164	23-1-1	owner	Mohammed Alif Ahmed Late Liyaqat Ali	57	65	231-1-382/4	Neighbour Property	Lane	-	-	G
15	165	23-1-1	owner	Mohammed Yaseen Khan, 2. Zabunnissa Begum	28	07	Lane	Road	Neighbour Property	-	-	12
16	166	23-1-1	owner	1. Mohammed Al Saheb President, Madanawee-Anwar-E-Madina 2. Mir Wasir Ali Khan 3. Sayeed Bin Ahmed Bin Mahfuz 4. Mohammed Al Hussain 5. Mohammed Yousof Hassan 6. CEO, TIG World Boss	23	00	Road	18-7-212/285	Neighbour Property	-	-	G-1
17	167	18-7-212/285	owner	Mahboob Khan (Victoria Hotel) Nabeen Nizam (Dh. Lab. Narmadapuram)	121	44	Food Court	Bike Repair	Neighbour Property	-	-	C+ G-2
18	168	18-7-212/285	owner	Mahboob Khan (Victoria Hotel) Nabeen Nizam (Dh. Lab. Narmadapuram)	50	53	18-7-212/285	Neighbour Property	-	-	G	
19	169	18-7-212/285	owner	1. Mohd. Ali Hussain, 2. Mohd. Yousof Hussain 3. Ghulam Mustafa	132	18-7-212/215	Neighbour Property	-	-	-	-	G-1
20	170	18-7-212/285	owner	1. Mir. Ismail, 2. Mir. Ibrahim, 3. Mir. Hessa, 4. Mir. Isa, 5. Mir. Younus, 6. Mir. Yusuf	255	20	18-7-212/285	Neighbour Property	Road	-	-	G-2
21	171	18-7-212/285	owner	1. Tareeq Begum 2. Mir. Sarwar, 3. Mir. Anwar, 4. Mir. Saad, 5. Mir. Ahsan, 6. Mir. Ahsan, 7. Mir. Nasser, 8. Mir. Nasser	54	55	18-7-212/285	Neighbour Property	Road	-	-	G-3
22	172	18-7-212/285	owner	A. Ramulu (Swagat Hotel)	102	49	Aqua Kar shama	Shari Bahji Property	Road	-	-	G-2
23	173	18-7-212/285	owner	1. M.A. Razaq, 2. M.A. Razaq, 3. M.A. Razaq, 4. M.A. Razaq, 5. M.A. Razaq, 6. M.A. Razaq, 7. M.A. Razaq, 8. M.A. Razaq, 9. M.A. Razaq, 10. M.A. Razaq, 11. M.A. Razaq, 12. M.A. Razaq	112	05	Swagat Hotel	Neighbour Property	-	-	-	G-2
24	174	18-7-212/285	owner	Shabana Begum	65	72	18-7-212/285	Road	18-7-212/285	-	-	G-2
Total						1594	19					

This Declaration is made after hearing of objections of persons interested and due enquiry as provided in the Act No-30/2013. The number of families likely to be resettled due to land acquisition is being enquired shortly.

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

A plan of the land may be inspected in the office of the District Collector, Hyderabad District and Special Deputy Collector (Land Acquisition), Hyderabad Airport Metro Rail, Rasoolpura, Begumpet, Hyderabad on any working day.

Place: Hyderabad Date: 07-12-2024.

Spl. Dy. Collector (LA), HAML, Hyderabad. Sd/- Addl. Collector, Hyderabad District. Sd/- Collector, Hyderabad District. Sd/- Sd/- Collector, Hyderabad District. DIPR RO NO. 448/LA/PP-Advt/Agency/2024-25

UltraTech receives CCI notice over India Cements acquisition

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Leading cement maker UltraTech Cement has received a notice from the fair trade regulator CCI over its proposed acquisition of the South-based India Cements Ltd.



UltraTech Cement, in a regulatory filing, said it has received notice from the Competition Commission of India (CCI), and the Aditya Birla group flagship firm said.

Under the CCI Act, where the fair trade regulator is of the opinion that a combination is 'likely to cause, or has caused an appreciable adverse effect on competition within the relevant market in India', it shall issue a notice to show cause to the parties to combination calling upon them to respond within 15 days.

After the receipt of the response of the parties to the combination, CCI may also call for a report from its probe unit -- Director General of Investigations.

fragmented, with the presence of over 35 grey cement manufacturers.

"We are confident of the merits of our case," the Aditya Birla Group firm said.

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After the receipt of the response of the parties to the combination, CCI may also call for a report from its probe unit -- Director General of Investigations.

Finmin asks banks to use MuleHunterAI to check digital fraud

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Finance Ministry asked banks and financial institutions to use artificial intelligence tools including MuleHunterAI developed by the Reserve Bank to rein in growing financial frauds.

In a meeting by Financial Services Secretary M Nagaraju, banks were asked to adopt best practices, leverage cutting edge tools, and foster inter-bank collaboration to address mule accounts effectively.

He emphasised that proactive measures are required to be taken to protect citizens' hard-earned money.

"Protecting citizens' wealth is our shared responsibility," the Department of Financial Services (DFS) said in a series of posts on X.

Banks are directed to adopt advanced technologies including artificial intelligence and machine learning solutions for real-time detection of mule accounts, it said.

"Banks were also encouraged to explore and implement http://MuleHunter.AI, an AI/ML-driven model developed by RBI, to strengthen the detection and monitoring of mule accounts," he told representatives of IAC, RBI, NABARD and banks.



PRE-BUDGET MEET WITH FM

Farmers seek cheaper credit, lower taxes



GST exemptions on agricultural machinery, fertilisers, seeds, and medicines. PHD Chambers of Commerce and Industry requested a reduction of pesticide GST from 18 per cent to 5 per cent. Jakhar proposed a targeted

investment strategy of Rs 1,000 crore annually for eight years, focusing on specific crops like chickpeas, soybean, and mustard to enhance national agricultural productivity.

This approach aims to strategically enhance crop yields, reduce import dependence, and improve national nutritional security, he told PTI after the meeting.

Bhartiya Kisan Union (BKU) Speaker Dharmendra Malik demanded a comprehensive review of the Minimum Support Price (MSP) mechanism, seeking calculations that include land rent, farm wages, and post-harvest expenses.

He also demanded the display of agricultural machinery prices on company websites, improvement in mandi infrastructure, widening MSP coverage beyond 23 commodities, disallowing imports below MSP levels and fixing minimum export prices only in emergencies.

PHD Chambers of Commerce and Industry Chairman (Agriculture committee) RG Agarwal called for a reduction in GST on pesticides from 18 per cent to five per cent, while highlighting the need to curb the sale of smuggled and fake pesticides while ensuring data protection for new molecular developments.

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Farmer representatives and agricultural stakeholders urged the government to provide cheaper long-term credit, implement lower taxes, and double the PM-KISAN income support during a comprehensive pre-budget consultation with Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Saturday.

The two-hour meeting saw a detailed discussion of proposals, aimed at addressing multiple challenges in the agricultural sector, with key demands focusing on financial relief, market reforms, and strategic investments.

Bharat Krishak Samaj Chairman Ajay Vir Jakhar emphasised the need for targeted interventions to boost agricultural productivity and farmer welfare.

Primary demands included reducing interest rates on agricultural loans to as low as 1 per cent and increasing the annual PM-KISAN instalment from Rs 6,000 to Rs 12,000. Farmers' bodies also strongly advocated for zero-premium crop insurance for small farmers under the Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana.

Taxation reforms were a critical component of the proposals, with stakeholders calling for

the pioneer agenda

"It is in literature that the concrete outlook of humanity receives its expression"
— Alfred North Whitehead



It is a paradox of sorts: while people's reading habits are at an all-time low, there is a flood of writers producing content on virtually every subject. From fiction and non-fiction to cookbooks and travelogues, the book market is booming like never before. The Indian publishing industry was valued at approximately INR 500 billion in 2019, with projections indicating growth to INR 800 billion by 2024. This sector significantly contributes to India's economic development, fostering learning, education, and employment for over 1.2 million people.

Recent reports suggest that the industry is expanding at a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of around 19.4%, with some estimates as high as 25%. This growth is particularly notable in the printbook market, which is anticipated to see substantial increases in value. Educational books dominate the sector, while the increasing adoption of eBooks and digital content is transforming the industry. Despite a decline in print publishing revenues due to shifting consumer preferences towards online books, magazines, and newspapers, the combined revenue from print and digital publishing continues to grow, illustrating that publishing as a whole is not in decline.

India has approximately 19,000 publishers. The publishing industry in India is vibrant but scattered, with no single association having more than 1,000 members. Evaluating publishers can be challenging, as it involves considering factors such as market size, reputation, genres covered, and influence on the literary landscape. Among the prominent names in Indian publishing, Penguin Random House India stands out as a major player, recognised for its diverse portfolio, literary excellence, and global reach. It publishes celebrated authors such as Arundhati Roy and Salman Rushdie, establishing itself as a giant in the industry.

HarperCollins India, established in 1992, is another notable publisher with a strong presence across genres, including fiction, self-help, and business books. It is home to renowned authors like Amitav Ghosh, Chetan Bhagat, and Paulo Coelho. Rupa Publications, one of India's oldest and most respected publishers, specialises in Indian fiction, biographies, and academic works, with imprints such as Rupa, Oak, and Fingerprint.

Bloomsbury India launched in 2002, has also made a mark in the industry with its high-quality literary fiction, non-fiction, children's books, and academic texts. Together, these publishers play a vital role in shaping India's literary landscape and catering to the evolving preferences of readers. But when it comes to writers it is another story. Given the size of the country, even a small percentage of people trying their hand in writing becomes large in absolute terms. However, not all are equally talented or taught. Of course, creativity cannot be taught in school, but style and form can be. With very few institutions that hone the craft of writing suffers and only a handful of writers stand out in the ocean of mediocrity.

Of course, books cannot be strictly categorised as good or bad; they are simply those you cherish and those you don't. Some books resonate deeply, while others leave you wondering who they were written for. Even so, labelling a book as 'bad' feels unfair; what one dislikes might be perfect for someone with different tastes or standards. But having said that it is also true some books leave a bad taste in the mouth for almost all.

Though the number of writers is swelling, which is indeed a good thing that cannot be said about the quality of books written by them. There is a

Where are the bold, thoughtful voices that once defined Indian literature? As commercial pressures dominate, the true art of writing seems increasingly overshadowed, writes
GYANESHWAR DAYAL

The write thing!

As they say, it is easy to write a book but difficult to make a person read it. To make it readable it needs to be worth the time and effort of the reader – give him or her some insights, information or perspective he didn't have or make him laugh or cry if that is intended. Translating thoughts into words is an art that deserves to be approached with seriousness. To do so, one must often seclude themselves, almost in a spiritual sense, and dedicate their focus to the act of writing. Writing retreats are an excellent opportunity to refine your skills, learn the ropes, and gain insight into the publishing industry. Mentors, often editors from the industry, along with established writers, offer valuable tips and guidance.

In a world increasingly characterised by distractions, writing retreats have emerged as sanctuaries where budding writers can focus, grow, and thrive. These retreats offer a unique blend of solitude, community, and professional guidance, making them appealing to anyone passionate about honing their craft.

Writing retreats often take place in idyllic settings, mountains, beaches, countryside estates, away from the hustle of daily life. This change of scenery not only inspires creativity but also provides the peace needed to concentrate on storytelling. Many retreats combine workshops, one-on-one mentoring, and group discussions, creating a collaborative yet personal environment. Fortunately, we have many literary retreats to choose from, some good, others very good! TheWriteScene's Landour Writers' Retreat recently unfolded as a vibrant tapestry of inspiration and creativity. Founded by award-winning author Deeba Salim Irfan, this retreat was not just a gathering of minds but a sanctuary for writers from across India, offering them the opportunity to refine their craft in the tranquil surroundings that once inspired the renowned author Ruskin Bond. "I founded the Landour Writing Retreat to provide aspiring writers with the support they need to thrive. Drawing from my own experience as a published and award-winning author, I understand the challenges and rewards of the writing journey. The serene setting of Landour inspires creativity and focus. Beyond Landour, I organise retreats in picturesque locations like Kangra Valley, India, Slovenia and Lapland (Northern Lights) fostering a global community of writers. I also

The Allure of Writing Retreats

Writing retreats emerge as havens for writing enthusiasts, offering serene surroundings to inspire creativity and refine their craft



curate the English and Filipino sessions of the Tabbib Literary Festival in Dubai, a platform for diverse voices and literary exchange," Deeba says with a smile and a sense of satisfaction. The sense of community is another powerful draw. Writing can be a solitary endeavour, and retreats allow participants to connect with like-minded individuals. "Writing is a solitary profession. You sit alone with memory and imagination, both equal parts dangerous and exciting. Writing retreats are a warm hand extended in time, nudging you on, picking

you up and sometimes, putting you back on track" says author and lawyer Sonia Chauhan. The Landour Writing Retreat is one such retreat. From the hosts to the sessions to the participants, it was a motivating journey. Sharing ideas, receiving feedback, and networking with peers and mentors can be incredibly motivating and lead to lifelong creative partnerships. What participants feel is indeed writ large on their faces, "the Landour Writing Retreat was more than a getaway, it was a turning point in my writing journey. I discovered the art of truly listening to my inner voice. The retreat's emphasis on discipline balanced with creativity taught me to treat writing as both a craft and a calling. Sessions by seasoned experts from the publishing industry added technical depth, knowledge, and insights into demystifying the process of writing and publishing in India," says Bijetri Roy, an upcoming writer in her own right. Additionally, retreats often invite established authors, editors, and publishers to guide participants. This access to industry professionals offers budding writers' invaluable insights into the craft of writing and the business of getting published.

growing trend among new Indian authors to just write and have a book under their name. This is perhaps more true of writers writing in English than in other Indian languages. Many recent books feel amateurish and hastily written. It's frustrating to see many careless writings being passed off as literature, leaving readers feeling duped.

Many books are being churned out with similar themes as if other streams have dried up — ala Bollywood which tends to produce similar films after a blockbuster, hoping to cash in on the success. Others who experiment often end up with juvenile themes and shallow characters. It seems the trend began with the overwhelming success of Chetan Bhagat. While Bhagat's book was light and entertaining, its success led many aspiring writers to believe they could replicate his formula without effort—by simply injecting Bollywood-like clichés into their stories. Many times writers succumb to commercial temptations, trying to publish which would get them a filmmaker like Slumdog Millionaire after the film adaptation's Oscar triumph. Thus, we have a trend: literature crafted to satisfy a superficial public demand, rather than to challenge or inspire.

No doubt publishing is a business like any other and must make a profit. It also has to compete with the reader's attention span of human goldfish- the GenZ. But that often comes with a big price tag. Where are the bold, thoughtful voices of Indian literature? Where are the Salman Rushdies, Amitav Ghoshes, R.K. Narayan, and Anita Desais of today? Literature thrives on diversity, but the current scene of Indian writing in English seems weighed down by opportunists chasing fame over craft. And make no mistake this trend is here to stay. It is all over -- visible in the literature festivals even in the reputed ones.

For many budding talents, the challenge isn't just about writing—it's about finding the time and discipline to do so consistently. Writing retreats provide structured schedules that balance writing time with relaxation, fostering a productive rhythm. They also encourage writers to step out of their comfort zones, experiment with new styles, and confront creative blocks.

"The Landour Retreat was a perfect combination of creativity-sparking processes, sufficient unstructured time to allow writing whenever one entered a flow, and quality discussion time with a bunch of like-minded people who write because they love to, and who felt like long-known friends even though we had all just met. The insights shared by publishing industry professionals at the Retreat were invaluable eye-openers for me, says gratified Nilanjana, an avid reader and a writer.

In recent years, writing retreats have gained immense popularity, driven partly by the rise of remote work and digital nomadism. People now seek fulfilling, creative experiences that go beyond their day-to-day routines. As more people explore writing as a career or serious hobby, the demand for such retreats has surged. This trend reflects a cultural shift toward valuing personal storytelling and self-expression. Networking at retreats is also a valuable opportunity to build connections that could open doors to literary agents, publishers, and collaborative opportunities. "India's literary scene is a dynamic blend of tradition and modernity, marked by its linguistic diversity and exploration of contemporary themes like gender, mental health, and identity. Regional narratives and translations are gaining prominence, while digital platforms and self-publishing empower emerging voices. Young writers experiment with genres like fantasy and speculative fiction, and women authors tackle issues of patriarchy and empowerment. International accolades, such as Geetanjali Shree's Booker Prize win, highlight India's global literary impact," says Rajul, who is a well-known mentor and editor.

Writing retreats are more than just creative getaways; they are transformative experiences that equip writers with the tools, confidence, and connections needed to succeed. Whether you're an aspiring novelist, a poet, or a memoirist, a writing retreat could be the spark that ignites your literary journey.

FOOD REVIEW

NIGHT OF COCKTAILS & DISCOVERY



Morning Breakfast (Roku Gin, matcha, champagne acid and yogurt wash) gave us a boozy breakfast vibe without the judgment.

Kin Ru took us on a flavour-packed adventure with a menu that had us Googling ingredients mid-sip. The To The BeeT combined bourbon with blood turnip (yes, turnip) and mint cordial for a drink that tasted way better than it sounds. The Yuzumiru was a citrusy delight featuring yuzu and sage, while the aptly named Mezcal Mayhem brought smoky drama with coffee and agave. But the real showstopper? The Kin-Furi, a sesame oil-infused mezcal-tequila cocktail with genmaicha syrup and vegan foam—truly a drink for the bold and adventurous.

This bar crawl was exemplary of Hyderabad's growing clout in the cocktail universe. The creativity, craftsmanship and sheer chutzpah of the bartenders left us floored (in more ways than one). Whether you're a seasoned mixology connoisseur or just someone who loves a good drink, the initiative is raising the bar—pun intended—for what's possible in Indian nightlife.

Now, excuse us while we nurse our hangovers with a very unglamorous coconut water. Cheers to the next round!



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Hyderabad's nightlife just got a lot more spirited, quite literally, as the 30 Best Bars India bar crawl rolled into town, bringing with it a cocktail-fuelled journey that's equal parts glamorous, tipsy and downright delicious. This initiative aimed to shake (and stir) the Hyderabad bar scene, spotlighting the city's best bars and bartenders. The cherry (or citrus peel?) on top? The rankings are based on a poll of over 250 bar enthusiasts, beverage influencers and industry experts.

The crawl was a tasting tour de force, with pit stops at some of Hyderabad's hottest watering holes, each offering unique concoctions guaranteed to tickle your taste buds and, occasionally, test your spice tolerance. From innovative cocktails to inventive bar bites, the night was one long, boozy love letter to the city's mixology maestros. Here's a tipsy tale of our escapades:

Hodds was a masterclass in balancing bold Indian flavours with classic cocktail finesse. Their Nizami Spiced Nectar mixed dark rum with curry leaf, tamarind and Guntur chili—a drink that said, "Hyderabad, but make it a party." Vitamin C, a tequila-based concoction with kiwi and coriander, brought just the right amount of citrus zing—it's basically a multivitamin, right?

At Noho, the drinks were as elegant as they were edgy. The Noho Picante, a spicy twist on the classic picante, combined reposado tequila with mango blossom cordial and a punch of jalapeño. It was basically a summer holiday in a glass, complete with a hibiscus-lime salt rim that had us licking our lips for more. Meanwhile, the Ca Chua Gimlet took things up a notch with clarified tomato water and peach vinegar—yes, you read that right. Even their zero-proof Orange Blossom Delight was a masterpiece, mixing hibiscus tea and kaffir lime leaves for a guilt-free sip of sunshine.

After the rounds of cocktails, Aidu stepped in to save us from going bottoms up on an empty stomach. Their bar bites were the MVPs of the night—from crispy Lotus Stem Chips to hummus served with marinated olives, everything screamed "elevated snacking." The drinks, though, refused to be outshined. The Gongura brought tangy drama to tequila with its pickled gongura juice, while the Monday



How menstruation 'timed' muhurats

Shubh muhurat, a guide for auspicious beginnings, likely originated from tracking a woman's menstrual cycle to align marriages with fertility, maximising chance of conception.

The custom of following the shubh muhurat—an auspicious time to commence any event or activity—is widely observed by people adhering to Hinduism, primarily in India. It is believed that if an event or activity is started at a specific time, it will yield fruitful results. People consult pandits and astrologers to determine auspicious times for a variety of activities, ranging from marriages and pujas to housewarmings, shop openings and even stock trading. These pandits and astrologers, in turn, refer to almanacs and provide what might seem to be arbitrary times for such events. We will explore this in detail, but you'll have to bear with a somewhat lengthy discussion.

If we follow the logic of evolutionary theory, the idea of shubh muhurat may be developed alongside the idea of marriage—a supposedly lifelong union between a man and a woman. But before delving into this, we need to understand the origins of marriage itself. Sex, being one of the basic natural instincts of all sexually reproducing things, allows any male to mate with one or more females of the same species, and vice versa. Humans were no different. As their numbers grew and they realised they were physically weaker compared to other species and predators, they began living in groups. Thus, humans became social animals.

Thousands of years ago, these groups would constantly move from place to place, as agriculture had not yet begun and they had to hunt and forage for food. Men could mate with multiple women and, naturally, have children with them. However, the growing population within these groups led to food shortages. When food was scarce, people fought among themselves, with children and women—the weakest members—being the first to be killed. Men, being physically stronger, survived. But without women, men could not continue to perpetuate the species. Someone recognised this and decided that each man should mate with only one woman. There are various iterations of this rule, depending on how much the man could provide for the woman and their children, but that is a topic for another day. The essence is that this rule was created to control the growing population within groups.

One of the key points of evolution-

ary biology is natural selection, which involves survival and reproduction. Organisms with traits better suited to their environment are more likely to survive and reproduce. The natural instinct of sex aids individuals to pass on their genes to the next generation through reproduction, and the more copies of your genes, the better (Dawkins, 2016). However, with the rule of only one mating partner, certain restrictions arose on multiplying your genes. If men wanted more copies of their genes but had only one mating partner, they had to develop strategies to maximise the number of their offspring. Thus, the primary strategy was to mate with a woman as soon as she is biologically fertile to give birth, which occurs at the onset of menstruation.

Such restrictions created two major problems for men: a) how to identify and convince a fertile woman to mate with you and b) how to tell other men that this woman was now going to be their biological mate. Thus, the concept of marriage emerged. Marriage is defined as "the state of being united as

spouses in a consensual and contractual relationship recognized by law" (Merriam-Webster, n.d.). Essentially, marriage is a socially, culturally, and generally legally accepted union of (traditionally) a man and a woman.

So, where does muhurat come into all this? When two people marry, there is a custom of honeymoon in all cultures, under various names, but the underlying idea is the same—socially accepted intercourse between the newly married couple. When a woman is ovulating, her body releases a mature egg from one of her ovaries into the fallopian tube. If a sperm successfully reaches and penetrates the egg, fertilisation occurs. The fertilised egg, now called a zygote, starts developing, reaches the uterus, and implants into the thickened uterine lining (endometrium), where it continues to grow and develop into an embryo. Successful implantation leads to pregnancy, with the embryo developing into a fetus over the subsequent months. This ovulation period typically occurs around the middle of her menstrual cycle, roughly 14 days before the start of her next menstrual cycle. However, if intercourse occurs during menstruation, sperm cannot reach and fertilise the egg, as the endometrium sheds along with the unfertilised egg, thereby reducing the chances of conception.

Therefore, logically, if a woman is ovulating around the day of her wedding and/or honeymoon, this presents the earliest opportunity for a man to engage in socially accepted intercourse with the hope of progeny. Thus, the concept of muhurat came into being, which essentially tracks a woman's menstrual cycle to ensure her honeymoon preferably coincides with her most fertile days or at least avoids her menstrual cycle. This increased the probability of her conceiving a child at the earliest opportunity, thereby maximising a man's chances of having offspring and passing on his genes to the next generation.

The human mind is capable of forming associations between different phenomena. Sometimes, these associations may not make much sense. Cultures, traditions and associations are passed down from one generation to the next through cultural transmission, known as a meme (Dawkins, 2016). Thus, over time, like other superstitions, cultures, and traditions, the custom of performing activities at an 'auspicious time' or a muhurat became associated with everything, from starting a new business or trading to moving into a new house, conducting a puja, and many other events and activities.

(The author, Madhura Gondhalekar is a Teaching Assistant, at SPIIMR.)



BURGUNDY - THE COLOUR OF THE SEASON

As we move into the fall/winter 2024 season, one bold trend that is making a significant impact is Burgundy. It is making a statement this season with its rich, deep hue and we have several pieces from different brands that align perfectly with this colour trend.



SAAKSHA & KINNI

A structured, contemporary bustier in a deep burgundy hue, perfect for layering or wearing solo for a statement look. The intricate design and rich color add elegance to any winter ensemble.



WESTSIDE

A statement piece combining rich burgundy faux leather with embossed text detailing, adding a modern edge to winter outfits.

STATEMENT BURGUNDY ACCENTS

Luna Blu burgundy cut out detailed slingback shoes: These elegant slingback shoes feature intricate cut-out detailing in a burgundy hue, adding sophistication to any outfit.



SUMMER SOMEWHERE

A flirty mini dress in burgundy with a fitted silhouette and subtle detailing, perfect for casual outings or cozy dinner dates.

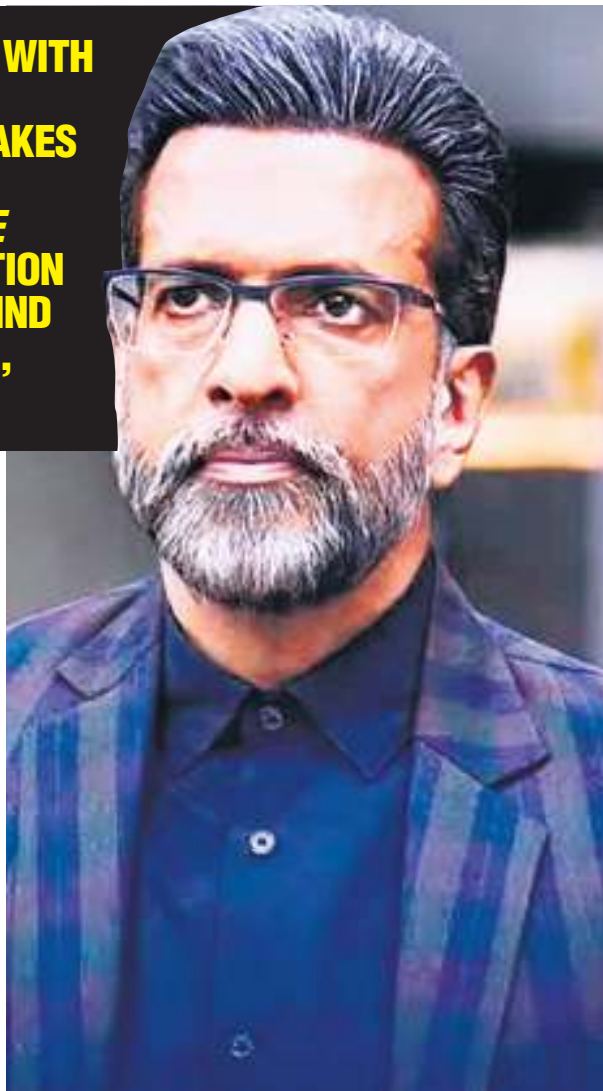


A versatile burgundy shoulder bag with seam detailing, offering both style and functionality for daily use.

CHAT-O-CINO

Javed Jaffrey speaks on the 'rewarding challenge' of exploring contrasting emotions

IN AN EXCLUSIVE CONVERSATION WITH THE PIONEER, VERSATILE ENTERTAINER, JAVED JAFFREY TAKES US THROUGH HIS ILLUSTRIOUS CAREER, HIS LATEST ROLE IN THE MAGIC OF SHIRI AND HIS EVOLUTION FROM THE COMEDIC GENIUS BEHIND TAKESHI'S CASTLE TO AN ACTOR, DANCER AND VOICE ARTISTE



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Javed Jaffrey is more than just the comedic genius behind Takeshi's Castle—he's a versatile entertainer whose talents stretch far beyond game shows. From hilariously narrating contestants' epic failures to turning every move into a punchline, he's the man who made "falling face-first into mud" a comedic art form. A man of many talents, Jaffrey is also a renowned actor, dancer and voice artist. His dance moves in Bollywood films, especially in the iconic song *Aja Meri Gaadi Mein* from *Taal*, showcased his unmatched flair and rhythm. Whether playing quirky roles in films like *Masti* and *Boom*, or lending his voice to animated characters, he has consistently amazed audiences with his charm and energy. With a knack for effortlessly blending humour with drama, Javed is not just a television icon, but a true all-round performer who has kept the audience hooked with his every move.

Set in the transformative era of 1996, *The Magic of Shiri* delves into a time of cultural and economic change in India, with Salim, a seasoned magician, as one of its central characters. Reflecting on his portrayal of Salim, the actor shared, "It's the first time I'm stepping into the shoes of a magician. The preparation was an exciting challenge, learning sleight-of-hand tricks and understanding the mechanics behind illusions required a lot of focus. Collaborating with a professional magician really opened up a new world for me."

What added to the novelty was the opportunity to play a character much older than himself. "Salim is about 60, which actually matches my real age. But I've never played someone this age before, so it was fascinating to navigate the nuances of his persona. His journey is layered—he's a once-successful magician, now grappling with setbacks in life. Without giving too much away, his past and his connection with the other protagonist create a poignant narrative of mutual healing and empowerment." The story also explores a dynamic and unusual bond, one that borders on a father-daughter relationship. "Salim and the protagonist uplift each other in remarkable ways. It's not just about him teaching her tricks; it's about emotional and personal growth for both characters."

What makes his latest project even more compelling is its focus on a middle-class homemaker who dares to dream big. "Her journey is extraordinary—she's a wife and mother leading a typical domestic life until circumstances force her to rediscover herself. Pursuing magic in a male-dominated field is no small feat and that's what makes this story so unique. We rarely see female magicians, even in real life. This narrative breaks that mold beautifully."

With its rich themes and a strong, relatable protagonist, *The Magic of Shiri* offers more than a tale of magic—it's a story of resilience and rediscovery. "It's a refreshing take, something we haven't seen before."

When asked about balancing comedy with the dramatic depth required to portray Salim, the actor humbly acknowledged his range. "Well, yes, comedy is something I'm known for and I've often been recognised for my timing in that regard. But portraying Salim is dif-

ferent. There's a lot of emotional depth to him, with themes of resilience and hardship woven into his story."

He also teased an additional layer to Salim's character that would be revealed later on. "There's a self-discovery aspect to Salim's journey, which plays a crucial role in the narrative. It's about understanding who he is and what shaped him, uncovering the backstory that explains why he is the way he is today."

Reflecting on his career trajectory, the actor acknowledged the shift in his recognition over the past decade. "Yes, for a long time, I've been associated with comedy. But there's more to me and I've worked on different projects that have allowed me to explore darker, more complex roles. A while ago, I did a film with Ram Kapoor, which didn't quite land as we had hoped. It's always about what resonates with the audience," he noted.

He also spoke of his recent venture with Bhuvan Bam in the second season of *Taarak Mehta Ka Ooltah Chashma*, where he played a much darker, morally ambiguous character. "It was refreshing to step back into a gray area after a long time, playing a character who wasn't quite good or bad but somewhere in between. The response has been encouraging, and people have appreciated seeing this different side of me."

The actor reflected on his recent transition from playing darker, more intense characters to stepping into a role filled with emotional depth and vulnerability. "It's a fascinating experience to go from portraying a dark, almost monstrous figure to suddenly playing a sympathetic, older man. The audience has witnessed me in a completely different light and then, out of nowhere, I'm this emotionally complex character. For an actor, it's a rewarding challenge

to explore such contrasts within a short time frame. People will look at you and say, 'We just saw him in a completely different role, and now he's playing something entirely different.' That's the beauty of being an actor — being able to navigate these varied roles and showcase different facets of your craft," he explained with enthusiasm.

Turning to his collaboration with Divyanka Tripathi, the actor shared insights into their creative process on set. "In our work, both of us bring our own unique approaches to the roles. I never try to interfere with how she prepares for her character, just as I focus on my own process. When we meet on set, it's about letting the characters take center stage. The chemistry between us evolves naturally as we delve deeper into our roles. It's not just about our individual performances but about how the characters interact and grow together." The actor particularly remembered an emotionally charged scene, one that highlighted the profound connection between their characters. "That scene was intense. We both broke down emotionally, and it felt like a pivotal moment, not just for our characters but for our own connection on set. Moments like that define the relationship on screen." Regarding Divyanka's professionalism, the actor spoke highly of her dedication. "Despite her immense popularity in television, Divyanka approached this project with a deep sense of respect and professionalism. She understood the nuances of the character and as a senior, I appreciated how much respect she showed for the process. I wasn't very familiar with her work before, but when we started working together, I was truly impressed. She has this natural dedication to her craft, and that's something I really admire. When you have someone so committed to the role, it makes everything flow seamlessly, and it was a joy to collaborate with her."

On the topic of responsibility as an actor, he shared a more introspective perspective: "As an actor, I don't see my roles as making a social statement or carrying a heavy responsibility in the sense that people often perceive it. I'm part of a larger picture, a narrative that is meant to entertain and move people. However, I do understand that cinema, especially in a country like India, holds significant power. It influences people's perceptions and in a way, it's a mirror of society. We, as actors, need to be conscious of that power and the impact our roles might have on the audience. Cinema has a massive responsibility, particularly when it comes to giving voice to issues and telling stories that resonate with people who might not have other avenues for expression. For many, films become their teachers, their source of inspiration, and in that way, cinema becomes more than just entertainment — it becomes an integral part of their lives."

He continued, "It's crucial to understand that in a country like India, where many people face challenges accessing education or resources, cinema becomes their gateway to the world. It shapes how they see themselves, society, and the world at large. As an actor, you have to be aware of this responsibility, not in a burdensome way, but with a sense of reverence for the role you play in someone's life. It's an immense privilege to be able to contribute in any small way to shaping narratives that matter."

The actor then reflected on a profound lesson passed down to him from his father. "My father had the privilege of working with some of the greatest talents in the industry, like Vinod Warisan and Madok Khan's father. These figures, who became father figures to him after he lost his own father at a young age, played an integral role in shaping his understanding of cinema. He absorbed their wisdom and passed it down to us, teaching us about the true essence of cinema. One sentence my father often said that stuck with me was, 'Cinema is life.' It's simple yet so powerful, capturing the very essence of what we do as actors — we bring life to stories, and in turn, the stories become a reflection of life itself."

He paused for a moment, recalling the depth of those words. "I always believed in that philosophy. Cinema isn't just about entertainment; it's about connecting with people's emotions, telling their stories and giving them something to hold on to. It's a powerful medium that transcends time and age."

On a thoughtful note, he added, "I feel like the responsibility I carry, both as an actor and as someone who has been influenced by these great mentors, is to continue that legacy. Cinema is a reflection of hope, a belief that passion and dedication can drive us forward, regardless of age or circumstances. It spreads hope, makes us dream and tells us that no matter what stage of life we're in, we can keep our passions alive."

TRENDING

PERSON

TAYLOR SWIFT



Spotify, unveiled *Wrapped*, its yearly retrospective that provides a customised look at users' musical journeys, on Wednesday. For the second consecutive year, Taylor Swift is the most streamed artist worldwide, dominating the Spotify list once again.

STAMPEDE AT PUSHPA 2: THE RULE



VIDEO

At the release of Allu Arjun's eagerly anticipated movie *Pushpa 2: The Rule* on Wednesday night, a 39-year-old woman was killed and a small boy was seriously hurt in a stampede outside the Sandhya Theatre at RTC Crossroads.

MOVIE

PUSHPA 2: THE RULE



Superstar Allu Arjun's eagerly awaited action film *Pushpa 2: The Rule* broke all previous records on its first day of release, setting new standards in Indian cinema.

SONG

PEELINGS



The dance in the movie's song *Peelings* drew a lot of criticism. Videos of fans dancing to the song in theaters, however, are becoming very popular on social media.

NAGA CHAITANYA TIED KNOT WITH HIS LADY LOVE, SHOBITA DHULIPALA



PICTURE

In a lavish yet private ceremony in Hyderabad tonight, Naga Chaitanya and his lady love, Shobita Dhulipala, were married, formally becoming Mr. and Mrs.

Agni is perfect 'fiery ode' to firefighters

TEJAL SINHA
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Seven years after directing Shah Rukh Khan in *Raees*, Rahul Dholakia is back with a never-before-told story about firefighters in Hindi cinema—*Agni*, a cinematic salute to the fearless spirit, honour and sacrifices of firefighters. The film is currently streaming on Prime Video and has been produced by Excel Entertainment

PLOT

Agni centers on Vitthal Rao (played by Pratik Gandhi), the leader of the Parel Fire Station. Without delay, Rahul plunges into an incident, a dangerous blaze within a well-known restaurant, detailing how Vitthal and his crew spring into action to quench the fierce flames.

But this time, they detected something different. Unlike the yellow and orange flames, this time the fire has a blue tint to it. As Avni Purohit (played by Saiyami Kher) leads the investigation, another big fire breaks out at a textile factory. Vitthal and Avni suspect arson since the flame here is also suspiciously blue. While Vitthal is a well-respected firefighter who inspires many in his profession, he is tired of having to prove himself to his kid, who is enamored with Samit (played by Divyendu), his maternal uncle, the 'super cop'. Unlike the righteous Vitthal, Samit is unafraid to break the rules if it benefits him.

Vitthal's wife, Rukmini (played by Sai Tamhankar) lives life on the edge. She is frequently anxious about her husband's whereabouts and practices rituals to remove nazar (evil eye), even as she attempts to prevent Vitthal from clashing with her corrupt, borderline evil brother, Samit. In a heartbreaking scenario, we see Ganpath, a police officer, die from burns. Devi, who used to be unable to sleep without her father, can no longer look at him due to his scorched skin. Firefighters not only do a thankless job, but they frequently work in dangerous environments with minimal protection in the form of government medical insurance.

Who will emerge as the true hero between Vitthal

and Samit? Will they get along? Will Vitthal be able to earn his son's respect? How do firefighters handle their thankless job?

THE HIGHLIGHTS

Agni is a gripping and emotionally charged film that pays tribute to the bravery and selflessness of firefighters. Inspired by real-life events, the movie boasts a gripping storyline that explores themes of courage, sacrifice and the human spirit. The cast delivers strong and nuanced performances, bringing depth and complexity to their characters. The film's action sequences are impressively realistic, with heart-stopping firefighting scenes that showcase the skill and bravery of these everyday heroes. With its intense and emotional moments, the film is a thrilling ride that will keep you on the edge of your seat, while also providing a poignant and thought-provoking exploration of what it means to be a hero.

THE DRAWBACKS

The remark on the inadequate city infrastructure and lack of government assistance may seem too 'on-the-nose', but when it comes to serious issues like civic safety and a lack of support for firemen, nothing can be too obvious. In fact, there may be a need to shout it from the rooftops. *Agni* could be one of the most important pictures



released this year. At one point, the narrator states, "Jo jwala mein jalte hain, woh amar ho jaate hain." It may lack the raw depth and sadness of *Parzania*, but Rahul comes back strong with this one. *Agni* also gives us a glimpse into the lives of firefighters, who are sadly not regarded as the cream of societal saviors.

PERFORMANCES

The performances in *Agni* are a major strength of the film. Pratik Gandhi delivers a standout performance as the lead, bringing a sense of quiet intensity and nuance to his character. He effectively conveys the emotional depth and complexity of his role, making his character relatable and rootable. Divyendu, on the other hand, is excellent as the main antagonist, exuding menace and unpredictability without overplaying his hand. He brings a sense of depth and dimension to his character, making him a compelling and formidable opponent. One notable weakness in the film's character development is the portrayal of Avni. Her storyline feels somewhat undercooked, particularly in her response to her boyfriend's death in a fire. The film doesn't provide sufficient context or backstory to explain her seemingly indifferent and detached reaction to the tragedy. As a result, her character comes across as somewhat one-dimensional and lacking in emotional depth.

TECHNICAL ASPECTS

The film's technical aspects are noteworthy, particularly the cinematography, which skillfully captures the gritty, unglamorised side of Mumbai's middle-class neighborhoods. The camerawork, combined with the actors' performances and Vijay Maurya's dialogues, lends an air of authenticity to the narrative. The special effects team also deserves praise for their realistic depiction of raging fires. Director Rahul Dholakia successfully crafts a believable world, piece by piece, culminating in a suspenseful climax that keeps viewers on the edge of their seats. The film's casting is another notable strength. By opting for non-mainstream actors, the makers allow the story to take center stage, unencumbered by the baggage of big-name stars. This bold choice pays off, as the cast delivers nuanced, vanity-free performances that bring depth and realism to the narrative.

VERDICT

Agni is a film that merits attention for its straightforward and uncomplicated storytelling approach. By eschewing high-concept narratives and instead focusing on a simple, relatable story, the film proves that sometimes, less is more. While it may not possess the same level of emotional depth and tragic intensity as *Parzania*, *Agni* marks a successful return to form for director Rahul Dholakia. The film also deserves credit for shedding light on the often-overlooked lives of firefighters, who put their lives on the line every day to save others. However, it's Pratik Gandhi's outstanding performance that truly elevates the film, showcasing his remarkable talent and cementing his status as a leading actor in solemn, middle-class dramas.

DIRECTED BY: Rahul Dholakia
PRODUCED BY: Excel Entertainment
CAST: Pratik Gandhi, Divyendu, Saiyami Kher, Sai Tamhankar, Jitendra Joshi, Udit Arora and Kabir Shah
STREAMING ON: Prime Video
RATING: 3.5/5



A mascot and life of the party



CHILDHOOD AND EDUCATION

My father worked as a deputy tahsildar in West Godavari district. Because of his job transfers my schooling took place at various places. I studied mostly in Godavari areas like Kovvur, Polavaram, Tanuku, but from 5th standard I studied in Eluru, St Xaviers School. I was a good student, scoring good marks and always calm. I am the youngest in our family; I have one elder brother and four sisters. My brother lives in Addanki Vari Lanka and sisters are settled in Godavari district.

DIEHARD FAN OF KRISHNA

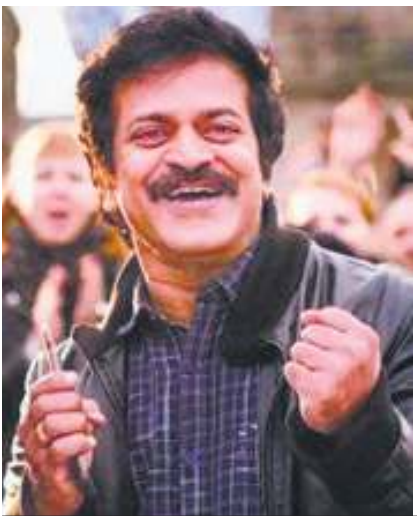
When I was studying in college, I was a big fan of Superstar Krishna. I used to watch all his movies and I was the president of the Eluru Krishna Fans Association.

In the 1980s, many of the stars had associations and they actively participated in activities like printing pamphlets about their stars. I read in a magazine about Krishna's 12-point record about his films. I took that and printed a pamphlet and mentioned my name, Brahmaji, president, Krishna Fans Association, Eluru. Usually they print the names of the secretary, vice-president, members also, but I wanted to show my individuality; so, I printed only my name.

In 1980, Krishna came to Mandapeta village for his film shooting and I met him for the first time there. He is a very handsome actor. At that time his *Chittalunnaru Jagratha* film shooting happened and they were shooting a song from the film *Apana tana mana*. The song turned out to be a super hit. As my father was a tahsildar, he could meet Krishna garu at that shooting. I gave Krishna garu the pamphlet I had printed. He read all those points patiently and appreciated me. Nearly 10 minutes he spoke to me alone.

SOBHAN BABU'S FANS GOT ANGRY

Actor Sobhan Babu's fans were also active at that time and a big competition ensued in printing these pamphlets. Fan wars were also big at that time. I don't remember the film name, but Sobhan Babu and actress Sujatha film was released, but before that she acted with Super Star Krishna. So, I printed a pamphlet saying, "Best wishes to Sujatha who acted in our film as heroine and now she is acting in this film as heroine." I put that printed pamphlet in all the seats of the theater before the morning show screened. Sobhan Babu fans got angry and they wanted to beat me and searched for me for two days. But by then I had escaped. I watched all of Krishna's films on the first day first show, whether they were good or bad. I watched *Srimalle Navvindi* nearly five times.

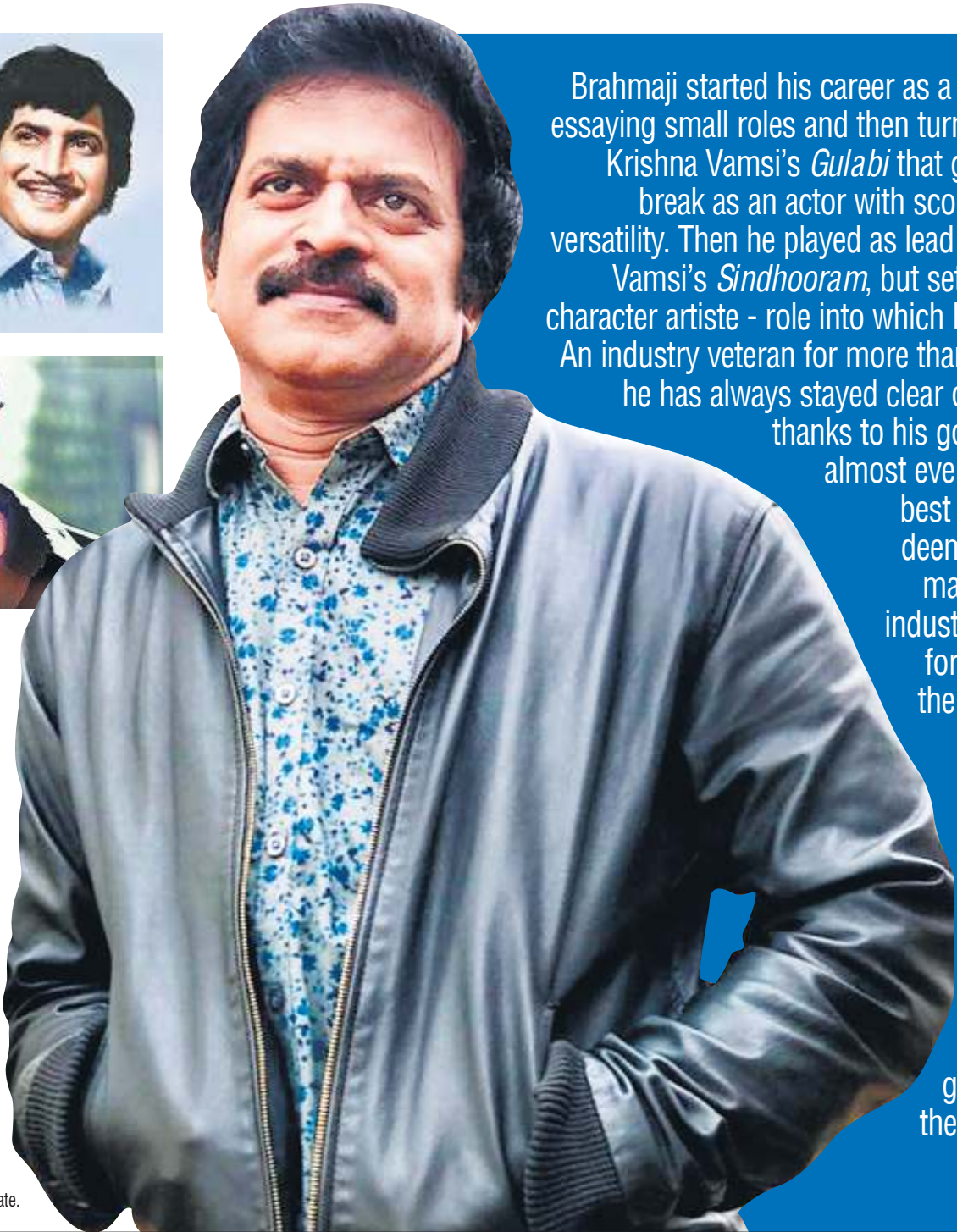


PLAYED TENNIS

St Xavier's School, where I studied, was popular for sports too. There was a big tennis court at the Collector's office and my father joined me there to play tennis. I played tennis at that time which was a big thing. I was a calm-going person in college too. My best friends were Venu and then Rambabu, Gupta and another Brahmaji, Raja from Vizag. We talk even now over phone regularly.

INTEREST IN CINEMA

When I was in college, K Viswanath's *Sankarabharanam* was released and it was a big hit. JV Somayajulu played the lead actor and he was a deputy collector in real life. The Revenue Department felicitated him in Eluru after that film and because my father was a tahsildar, I got to see Somayajulu at close quarters. Many people greeted him and some of them touched his feet. The first thought that came to my mind after seeing that incident was that actors are very popular and I wanted to become an actor at that time. I was in 9th or 10th class at that time. After completing my Intermediate, I went to Chennai to do AMI for a two-year course. I had gone to Chennai mainly to get into films. At that time the Telugu film industry was in Chennai. I was an MPC student in Intermediate.



Brahmaji started his career as a character artiste essaying small roles and then turned a villain with Krishna Vamsi's *Gulabi* that gave him a good break as an actor with scope to display his versatility. Then he played as lead actor in Krishna Vamsi's *Sindhooram*, but settled mostly as a character artiste - role into which he was typecast. An industry veteran for more than three decades, he has always stayed clear of controversies, thanks to his good rapport with almost every top actor. The best part is that he is deemed a mascot by many people in the industry and is known for being the life of the party always. In a conversation with *The Pioneer's Suresh Kavirayani*, he shares the odds he had to battle while struggling to gain a foothold in the film industry as a youth.

FRIENDS, FILM INSTITUTES AT CHENNAI

I took a room at the famous Malakpudi Mansion in Chennai. There were nearly hundred rooms in that Mansion and most of them were students - some trying to go to the USA, others trying their luck in cinemas, engineering, upcoming technicians, film artistes, mostly strugglers used to stay there in that Mansion. I used to be friends with those upcoming technicians to get cinema news and also to get a chance to see the directors. Pandy Bazar is very near to that Mansion and I used to go there since people there talk mostly about film news. Then I decided to become an actor and went back to Tadepalligudem, where my parents had settled. I told them about my idea. My father told me that without any film background or known persons in the film industry it would be very difficult to make it big. So, I decided to join the famous Madhu Film Institute, Hyderabad in an acting course. From Chennai, I came to Hyderabad and attended the test. At that time, there were only two batches a year and limited seats. I failed the first time and went back home. Second time, I decided to get a few days of training from a local theater artiste and prepared. Second time I was successful and joined there. Devadas Kanakala garu, his wife Lakshmi garu, were teaching at the Madhu Film Institute. When I was in Chennai, I casually tried in the famous Adayar Film Institute, but didn't get there. After completing my course in Madhu Film Institute, I went back to Chennai. I used to meet the directors and give my photos hoping for a chance. Director Krishna Vamsi became my friend as he used to stay in the same Mansion. I got money from my father every month for room rent and food. I used to travel in buses which I felt were difficult; so, my father bought a bike.



FIRST BIG BREAK

My friend Krishna Vamsi worked as assistant director for *Shiva* and later he turned as director with *Gulabi*. He offered me a big role in *Gulabi* where I played a villain. My role was that of a friend of the protagonist and later I backstabbed him. At that time, *Gulabi* was a huge hit and it was my first good break. This film is always special for me as it showcased my performance as an actor. Later Krishna Vamsi offered another good role in his film *Ninne Pelladutha* that starred Nagarjuna and Tabu. This film was a huge blockbuster at that time. Then Krishna Vamsi made me a lead actor with *Sindhooram*. Ravi Teja played as another lead actor in it. This film actually brought me huge respect in the industry.



GRATEFULNESS AND KRISHNA VAMSI

Krishna Vamsi gave me a lot of opportunities in his films. Actually I told you I know Krishna Vamsi from Chennai days. When we were in Chennai, I got money from my father and I paid for room rent and also for mess charges. I took coupons for my lunch and dinner at a mess near Pandy Bazaar. At that time Krishna Vamsi didn't get any opportunity and he wanted to go back to his home place. Before leaving, we met casually and at around 8.30 it was dinner time and I asked Vamsi to come with me for dinner. We both went to the mess and had dinner. I did not know that Krishna Vamsi had not had a meal for two days. So, when I offered a meal to him, he felt it was a great thing. So, at that time he decided that if he ever became a director, he would make a film with me as the lead actor. Just for a single meal, he remembered it and showed his gratitude towards me and offered me these roles. *Sindhooram* was not a commercial success, but he offered me another full-length role in his *Chandralekha*. Nagarjuna was the lead actor and I played his friend. Ramya Krishna was also there in the film.

HOW HE MET RGV

Director Kodi Ramakrishna gave me a chance for the first time in his film *Mannemo Monagadu*. He has given chance to many newcomers. There were only two scenes in my debut film and he then gave two more chances in his two other films. Krishna Vamsi, also came to Tadepalligudem, but I met him only in Chennai. He became friendly and told me that Annapurna Studios was making a film with newcomers and asked me to come. Siva Nageswara Rao was co-director for that new film and he had asked Krishna Vamsi to join him as assistant director. So, with Krishna Vamsi, I too came to Hyderabad. We went to Annapurna office and there were two people, Siva Nageswara Rao and another one with spectacles and a lean person walking towards us. Then they told me he is Ram Gopal Varma, the director. That's how I met RGV for the first time. I gave my photos to him and he said: "What do I do with these photos? You better show your acting skills". At that time, some film shooting was going on in that studio, and I got a loose shirt from a customer. I wore it and came to RGV and told him that I could pronounce his name in delectably differing voice modulations and showcased my talent, saying "Ramu" in varying styles. He was impressed and promised me a role in his film *Shiva*. From then onwards RGV has been close to me.

LOVE MARRIAGE

When I just got busy with films, I met Shashwathi, who used to stay opposite my house. She was an interior designer in Chennai and she had divorced her husband. She had two kids and after I met her, I decided to marry her. It was a registered marriage, because I did not know whether my parents would accept it. Many of my industry friends attended; actually they took the entire responsibility and stood behind us. The marriage happened when I was doing *Chandralekha* film. Director and my good friend Krishna Vamsi, Ramya Krishna attended along with Gunnam Gangaraju, Urmila acted as parents from my side, producer Ram Prasad and his wife as Shashwathi's parents. Uttej, Ravi Teja, Praveen, Giri, Nandini Reddy (she worked as assistant director to Krishna Vamsi) and many others attended our marriage. I shifted from Chennai to Hyderabad completely later. Subsequently, I took her to my parents place and they were very happy.

PARTIES AT HOME

In Tollywood, I started the party culture at home. Many of the Tollywood stars hang out at my place, definitely at weekends. My wife is very good at cooking. Many know that and I invite them to my house. When I worked for a film, the lead pair and the other actors became close to me, they too came to my house for dinner. Festivals like Diwali, Holi and for birthday parties, many of my friends come to my house.



WITH CHIRANJEEVI, THE BIG THING HAPPENED

When we were in Chennai, we met all the directors and production houses. Before Chiranjeevi, most of the filmmakers didn't give respect as they looked at us very cheaply and even did not offer a seat or coffee. But once Chiranjeevi entered and was booming with this kind of style and films, we got respect from filmmakers. Chiranjeevi was not flamboyant, not handsome like Sobhan Babu, but he was on top with his own talent and hard work. From then onwards, filmmakers' attitude changed towards newcomers. One day anyone can become a top hero or heroine, so they started giving respect. Through my brother's contact I met producer Allu Aravind, brother-in-law of Chiranjeevi and his Geetha Arts production house was big. I used to go and meet him during my struggling days and he didn't show any interest in me. One day he took me and introduced me to Chiranjeevi. It was the first time. I met Chiranjeevi he asked about me and that's it. Later, after my *Gulabi* was released, I met him at Dr Venkateswara Rao's (Chiranjeevi's co-brother) daughter's marriage. Chiranjeevi saw me and he told me, "Brahmaji, you have done it. Very nice, keep it up". That's the best compliment for me. Later he watched my *Sindhooram* at a special screening and after the film he hugged me and spoke very well. That was another best compliment from Chiranjeevi which I still felt was a big one.

SPEND LOT OF MONEY ON HOLIDAYS

Generally many actors put their money on lands, villas or business. But I want to spend my money on holidays. After my marriage, I decided that part of my remuneration, I want to spend on holiday and for the last 30 years I have been doing this. Whenever I get a break, I go on a holiday, abroad or in India. I like hill places and beaches. When summer comes I go to Coonoor, where I have a house. I want to explore the world more. I have not gone to Russia and Japan. Will make it next time, these two countries are in my bucket list.



RAVI TEJA BEST FRIEND

Ravi Teja also entered the industry; he did small roles at that time. We met in Chennai, but our bond became thick when he shifted to Hyderabad. After doing a few small roles, he vexed and decided to become an assistant director to Krishna Vamsi for the *Ninne Pelladutha* film. He was a great mimic and also imitated many Hindi actors. He grew up in north India, so he was fluent in Hindi. While shooting this film, he walks like Anil Kapoor and also talks like him. Lead actress of that film Tabu enjoys a lot of Ravi Teja's imitations. Director Krishna Vamsi saw his potential and offered him a good role in *Sindhooram* along with me. His character was lively and he did it well. Later he got many good offers and director Puri Jagan gave him lead actor and he never looked back. From then onwards, we became good friends and I am very happy for Ravi Teja.



PUSHPA 2 IS DEFINITELY A GOOD ONE

I appeared briefly in the first part of *Pushpa*, but in the second part I was there throughout along with Fahadh Faasil, who played the cop role. The scenes between me and Fahadh provide some fun moments and the audience is definitely entertained. It's not a comedy one, I played Koppuraju, assistant to Fahadh and he used to ask me everything about the situation in this film. This is one of my favourite films that I have done till now.

