QUOTE OF THE DAY

the pioneer

- K. T. Rama Rao, BRS MLA

local body

elections.

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WITH HER COLLABS ALONG SELENA GOMEZ & NAOMI



he pioneer

Sudheer Babu to star in a pan-India supernatural mystery THRILLER

Modalities for new hostels at...

Telangana Health Minister Damodar Rajanarasimha on Monday said that the foundation stone for hostels at the Osmania General Hospital, Gandhi Hospital and Kakativa Medical College will be laid soon and the facility will be completed in two years Raianarasimha further said "Along with infrastructure HR is also important. Currently there is an imbalance in HR. It needs to be corrected. So it has been revealed that they will be purged. Addressing a gathering on the occasion of National Doctors Day, the Health Minister...

Implementation of new criminal...

The three new criminal laws. which replaced the British-era penal statutes on Monday, have evoked mixed reactions from legal luminaries with some hailing them as "significant step" towards modernising criminal justice system while others terming them as "draconian" and "cosmetic". The new laws -- Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) -- came into effect across the country from July 1 and replaced the Indian...

Patanjali Foods to sell home...

Baba Ramdev-led Pataniali Avurved has decided to sell its home and personal care business to listed group firm Patanjali Foods Ltd for Rs 1,100 crore. The acquisition will help edible oil firm FMCG company. In a regulator filing, Patanjali Foods informed that the board has approved the "acquisition of the entire non-food business undertaking i.e. hair care, skin care, dental care and home care carried out by Patanjali Ayurved, including but not limited to all movable..

-PAGE: 8

Six Indians in ICC Team of...

The International Cricket Council

has picked six Indians in its 'Team of the Tournament' for the justconcluded T20 World Cup but there was no place for star batter Virat Kohli, who played a matchwinning knock in the final against South Africa. In his new role as an opener. Kohli had an underwhelming World Cup before rising to the occasion in the big final where he was adjudged manof-the-match for his 59-ball 76. India pipped South Africa by seven runs in a sensational comeback in

IRONING OUT BIFURCATION ISSUES

Naidu to meet Revanth on July 6?

PNS VIJAYAWADA

Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu has written to Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy to discuss issues related to the Reorganisation Act and other matters. In his letter, CM Naidu emphasised that it has been 10 years since the bifurcation of the erstwhile Andhra Pradesh. He noted that there have been multiple discussions concerning issues arising from the Reorganisation Act, which have implications for the welfare and advancement of both states.

"It is imperative that we address these issues amicably with utmost diligence and resolve. In light of this, I propose that we meet at your place

on the afternoon of July 6, Saturday,"

CM Naidu also extended heartfelt congratulations to CM Revanth Reddy for the remarkable work undertaken in Telangana. He praised Reddy's dedication and leadership, which have significantly contributed to the progress and development of Telangana. Naidu stressed the importance of close collaboration between the Chief Ministers of the Teluguspeaking states to ensure sustained progress and prosperity for both Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. He highlighted the shared commitment to cooperative development as crucial to realizing mutual goals of growth and well-being.

"I firmly believe that a face-to-face meeting will provide us with the opportunity to engage comprehensively on these critical issues and collaborate effectively towards achieving mutually beneficial solutions for Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

I am confident that our deliberations will lead to productive outcomes," Naidu concluded.

Telangana Cabinet expansion on cards

Amid speculation CM meets Guv Radhakrishnan

PNS HYDERABAD

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy on Monday called on Governor CP Radhakrishnan amid buzz about an imminent Cabinet expansion.

The Chief Minister met Radhakrishnan at the Raj Bhavan from 12:45 pm to 2:55 pm.

The meeting assumed significance given the Cabinet expansion which is likely in the next few days.

The Chief Minister had visited New Delhi last week and had discussed Cabinet expansion with the Congress brass. The names of five to six ministers have been reportedly finalised. Many hopefuls of Cabinet berths have been waiting for the expansion since the last six months. Revanth and his 11 Cabinet colleagues had taken oath on December 7, 2023. The state can have a maximum of 18 Ministers including the Chief Minister.

The Chief Minister is also understood to have briefed the Governor on the Bills to be tabled in the Assembly in the upcoming Budget session. The issues of nominated MLCs also reportedly came for discussion.In March, the High Court had quashed the nomination of M.



The names of five to six ministers have been reportedly finalised. Many hopefuls of Cabinet berths have been waiting for the expansion since the last six months.

Kodandaram and Amer Ali Khan as Members of the Telangana State Legislative Council in the Governor's

Is Talasani joining Cong with five BRS MLAs?

Speculations are rife that the BRS MLA from Sanath Nagar Talasani Srinivas Yadav may join Congress party along with five BRS MLAs from City. Is Sanath Nagar BRS MLA Talasani Srinivas Yadav joining the Congress and becoming a Minister? Speculations are rife that Talasani is going to join

EXCISE 'SCAM'

Delhi HC rejects Kavitha's bail pleas



The Delhi High Court on Monday dismissed BRS leader K Kavitha's bail pleas in two cases of corruption and money laundering linked to the alleged excise policy scam.

Justice Swarana Kanta Sharma, who had reserved the order on the two bail pleas of Kavitha on May 28, rejected the petitions.

A detailed order is awaited. Kavitha had challenged the trial court's May 6 order by which her bail applications in the CBI's corruption case as well as the ED's money-laundering case were dis-

missed. Kavitha's lawyer submitted that of the 50 accused in the excise case, she is the lone woman and urged the court to consider granting bail as law keeps women on a different pedestal.

Setback to BRS chief KCR HC dismisses petition against Narasimha panel

The HC said the press conference by the Judge was held to update the PNS HYDERABAD

In a setback to former Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao, the Telangana High Court on Monday dismissed his writ petition seeking a direction to stay the proceedings of the Justice L. Narasimha Reddy Commission constituted by the Congress

Purchase Agreements signed by

Commission proceedings. "The allegation of bias cannot be inferred but has to be established," the HC pointed out. A division bench, comprising Chief Justice Alok Aradhe and Justice Anil Kumar Jukanti gave the orders Government to probe the Power on the petition filed by the BRS

'Top priority for Indiramma Scheme'

media about the status of

Revenue & Housing and Information & Public Relations Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy said the government will give top priority to constructing Indiramma houses in the budget and give Indiramma houses to all eligible per-

Monday at the Secretariat. Speaking tant as food.



a meeting with officials on Monday at Secretariat

Minister Ponguleti conducted a Reddy said that a house is very review meeting on housing on important for the poor and as impor-

The Minister said that the government is giving top priority to the Indiramma Housing Scheme keep-ing the poor in view. He recalled that Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy launched this scheme at Lord Rama in Bhadrachalam after two months after coming to power. However, the delay took place due to Lok Sabha he said informing that the government prepared an action plan to implement the scheme.

CM will mortgage govt lands to raise funds for loan waiver: Alleti

PNS HYDERABAD

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy is going to mortgage government lands to private banks to get Rs 31,000 crore to implement the agricultural loan waiver scheme, BJLP Leader Alleti Maheshwar Reddy said.

During a chit-chat with journalists on Monday at the BJLP office, Maheshwar said that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy had created a hungama by staging a protest when

the BRS government sold some lands in Kokapet. 'Why is Revanth now selling government lands? He tried to get

BJLP leader addressing media at BJLP office on Monday along with party MLA Ramarao Patil

asked banks to give Rs 31,000 crore as a loan. The Revanth government is going to sell government lands in Telangana to fund the farm loan waiver scheme. Revanth is going to loans from private banks. Revanth pay the loans to private banks by

selling government lands. The CM is also trying for debts after crossing the FRBM Limit," Maheshwar

He said that the Revanth

government is going to introduce two new laws in the next Assembly session. The proposed two laws will fill the pockets of government heads, he said and added that the two laws would harm future generations.

Maheshwar said that Revanth's agents collected Rs 120 crore from private firm in Mehdipatnam after threatening the builder by saying that the building had deviated from the original plan.

Dharani panel may submit report soon

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Dharani Committee is going to submit its report to Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy in a couple of days.It is learnt that the Dharani Committee is going to submit its report with around 100 suggestions to the government regarding Dharani Portal and other issues.

It is also learnt that the Dharani Committee's main suggestion is that the government should bring back the 1971 ROR Act. The Committee suggested in its report that all Acts belonging lands should be brought under one roof.

The Committee suggested in its report that powers should be transferred to MROs and RDOs like the Congress government, it is learnt.

'Make defectors resign and contest again'

BRS MLA KTR challenges CM Revanth

the party.

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

BRS Working president KTR challenged Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to ask the six BRS MLAs who joined the Congress to resign and seek the people's mandate

Addressing BRS's district party meeting in Jagtial, KTR said that Kavitha will soon come out of jail and that they both will campaign on the streets of Jagityal during local body elections.

He also spoke about the defection of Jagtial BRS MLA Sanjay and said that Sanjay was driven by personal gain rather than development concerns. He said that MLC Jeevan Reddy would not allow Sanjay to be given even an MPTC

KTR declared that BRS would emerge victorious in the upcoming elections and asked party workers to remain steadfast with

He accused the Congress of engineering defections and said that the practice of 'Aaya Ram, Gaya Ram' started during Indira Gandhi's time.

He said that in 2004, Congress allied with the BRS but later poached 10 out of its 26 MLAs. Despite this, under KCR's leadership, BRS managed to win Telangana in 2014. He reminded everyone of Revanth's futile attempt to topple the BRS government in 2014.

KTR said that amidst the instability two-thirds of the Congress MLAs joined the BRS constitutionally and that the party did not violate any Constitutional principles.



Land acquisition issues hit Microsoft Data Centres expansion

PNS HYDERABAD

the death overs ...

Land acquisition issues are delaying the expansion of Microsoft's data centres in Hyderabad.

IT and Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu addressed these concerns during a review meeting with Microsoft representatives at the Secretariat on Monday. The Minister instructed Ranga Ředdy District Collector K. Sashank to resolve issues reading the 22 acres acquired in Mekaguda by evening. Microsoft officials highlighted problems with the local panchayat regarding the intended use. acquired land. Minister Sridhar The Minist



representatives at the Secretariat on Monday

ing floodwater channels would be would position Hyderabad as a officials to expedite the conversion and cloud solutions. Microsoft purof the acquired lands for their

The Minister emphasized the Babu assured that necessary works importance of completing the like increasing the capacity of expansion of Microsoft's data cenpower substations and construct- tres by next year, stating that it centre works have been completed.

completed on time. He directed leader in advanced data security chased 22 acres in Mekaguda, 41 acres in Shadnagar and 52 acres in Chandanvalle for data centres. Company representatives informed the minister that 70% of the data

TG Police registers first FIR under new criminal law

PNS HYDERABAD

The Charminar police in Telangana was the first to register an FIR under the provisions of the Bharatiya Ñyaya Sanhita on Monday against two persons allegedly riding their vehicles without number plates. Provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act have also been invoked in the case.

Three new criminal laws came into effect on Monday, bringing far-reaching changes in India's criminal justice system.

The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) replaced the colonial-era Indian Penal Code,

Continued on Page 2

No power bill payment on UPI apps

TGSPDCL tells public to use official app/website

PNS HYDERABAD

Complying with RBI directions, many Third Party Application Providers (TPAPs) ended their bill payment services to TGSPDCL consumers on July 1, 2024.

As per RBI directions, the service providers, viz., PhonePe, Paytm, Amazon Pay, Google Pay and banks stopped accepting the electricity bills of TGSPDCL from 01/07/2024.

Consumers have been told to make their monthly electricity payments through the official TGSPD-CL website, www.tgsouthernpow-er.org, or the TGSPDCL Mobile App.However, the public said that this is because TGSPDCL didn't sign up for Bharat Bill Pay and

urged it to register it. The RBI issued a directive for all



entities to join the Bharat Bill they will no longer be able to Payment System (BBPS) by June 30,

Sumiran Komaraj, the in-charge said, "As the TGSPDCL has not complied by registering with BBPS,

accept payments through these payment apps from July 1, 2024. The Government of Telangana must

of Social Media BJP Telangana act immediately to reinstate UPI payments and prevent public incon-

Congress MLAs are ready to

join the BJP. Their identities

will be known in the coming

days. An MLA elected from

one party contesting to the LS

from another party has never

been seen. It is shocking that the Speaker is not taking

action against that MLA,

He recalled that before becoming the CM, Chief Minister Revanth had given a

call as the TPCC President to

beat drums before the hous-

es of MLAs who shifted their

loyalties to another party.
"However, Revanth is now

inducting MLAs into the

Congress. He should tell what

kind of drum should be beat-

No water supply in

city areas due to

repair works on July 5

Hyderabad Metropolitan

Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) will be

stopping the water supply in

some parts of the city, as the

officials of TGTRANSCO will

be carrying out repair work at 132 KV Peddapur and Kandi

sub-stations that supply elec-

tricity to Singuru 3 and 4 phases that supply drinking

water to Hyderabad. These

works will be carried out from

7 am on July 4 to 7 am on July

5. There will be no water sup-

ply in Shaikpet, and low pres-

sure water would be received at Bhojagutta Reservoir area

under Operation &

Management (O&M) divi-

sion-3.In the O&M Division 6

in the areas of Jubilee Hills,

Somajiguda, Borabanda, water

would not receive on that day

and at Banjara Hills and

Erragadda people would

receive low pressure.

PNS HYDERABAD

en now," Maheshwar said.

Maheshwar said.

BJLP files disqualification

Earlier, speaking to the media at the BJLP office,

BJLP leader Alleti Maheshwar

Reddy said that as per

Supreme Court orders, the

Speaker should take action

within 90 days against an MLA who had defected from

his party.

Meanwhile, Maheshwar challenged the Chief Minister-cum TPCC chief

Revanth Reddy to induct

MLAs only after making them resign from their MLA

posts.
"The MLAs joining the Congress should face elec-

tions again if they have the guts. The BJP will induct

Congress MLAs if they resign

from the Congress or if they

able energy manufacturing sector. The industry has witnessed

remarkable growth with sever-

al key projects propelling the

state to the forefront of the sec-

tor. The Special Chief Secretary,

Industries & ITE&C, Jayesh

Ranjan, reiterated the state's

commitment to sustainable

this award, which is a testa-

ment to our efforts to promote

innovation and sustainability.

Telangana will continue to

create an enabling ecosystem

for the energy storage and

renewable energy industry contributing to India's vision of

a clean and green energy

future," he said. The award

recognises Telangana's initia-

tives, including establishing

dedicated industrial parks, and

research and development cen-

tres, to strengthen the energy

storage and renewable energy

"We are honoured to receive

growth.

petition against Danam

BJLP leader Alleti Maheshwar

Reddy sent a petition to the Speaker on Monday seeking

the disqualification of BRS

MLA Danam Nagender who

had joined the Congress. The

petition was sent through

registered post as well as e-mail as the Speaker, G. Prasada Kumar, was not avail-

Maheshwar went to submit

the disqualification petition at the Speaker's office along with BJP MLA Ramarao Patil and former BJP MLC N.

Ramchander Rao. However,

the Speaker's office staff did

not accept the petition. The

Speaker's office staff asked

Maheshwar to give it to the

This award recognises the state's

contributions to the energy

storage and renewable energy

sector, highlighting its commit-

ment to promoting sustainable manufacturing. The award was

presented at the 10th Edition of

the India Energy Storage Week (IESW) 2024 – International

Conference & Expo, being held

at the Yashobhoomi - India

International Convention &

Expo Centre in New Delhi

which brought together indus-

try leaders, policymakers and

structure and investment-

friendly environment played a

crucial role in attracting invest-

ments and fostering growth in

Telangana's policies, infra-

global experts.

TG wins India Energy

able in his chamber.

Kaleshwaram faced unjustified criticism, Cong's sabotage: KTR

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

In a statement on X, BRS Working President KTR sharply criticised the Congress for spreading misinformation about

the Medigadda barrage. He pointed out that the Congress had claimed the barrage was beyond repair and had dismissed it as a waste of public funds. They also suggested that the structure could not withstand the monsoon floods, and said that the Annaram barrage was also at risk of collapse.

However, KTR noted that the repairs of Medigadda barrage have now been completed proving that the Congress allegations are baseless.

He asserted that the Congress's claims over the last eight months were political and intended to discredit the project.He emphasised that the Kaleshwaram project, spearheaded by Chief Minister KCR, faced unwarranted criticism



and sabotage from the Congress. He called for an apology from those who mocked the Chief Minister's water projects and accused them of conspiring against initiatives beneficial to Telangana.

He concluded by asserting that those who spread venomous lies about a life-giving project like Kaleshwaram should feel ashamed. He reiterated the significance of the Kaleshwaram project for Telangana, urging detractors to acknowledge their mistakes and respect the state's

Disaster management wing revamped, named HYDRA

Protection

The CM specified that a

DIG-rank officer would serve

as its director, and SP-rank offi-

cers as additional directors.

Special teams from the

GHMC, the HMDA, the Water

Board, the City Traffic, and

other departments will be

sized that the disaster manage-

ment division should be

restructured to provide contin-

uous services to city residents

The Chief Minister empha-

appointed to this division.

Monitoring

(HYDRA).

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has decided to entrust critical responsibilities within Greater Hyderabad limits to the disaster management division. He directed officials to make institutional changes and distribute responsibilities accordingly. The Chief Minister reviewed

the functioning of the Municipal Administration, HMDA and the Musi Development Project at the Scorntariat on Monday. Secretariat on Monday.

Considering the expansion of Hyderabad's geographical limits, the CM ordered the extension of the disaster management division's jurisdiction up to Outer Ring Road. He suggested making

changes so that this division can serve the GHMC, the surrounding 27 municipalities, corporations and 33 gram pan-

In future, this division will be named Hyderabad Disaster and not just during floods Response and Assets

He directed that HYDRA should actively address all issues faced by the residents of Hyderabad. HYDRA will take up the job of protecting tanks and ponds within the 2,000-sq. km GHMC area, safeguarding the city's drains and govern-ment properties from encroachment and control-ling hoardings and flex ban-

The division will also manage drinking water pipelines, electricity supply lines, drainage, flood management

and traffic control.

The CM asked Chief Secretary Shanti Kumari to draft a plan for the division's reorganization, staffing, duties, funding and responsibilities. The Chief Minister also ordered the speedy completion of the Musi River Development Project. He asked officials to align with the government's goal of transforming the project into a sig-nificant city landmark.

Storage Alliance award PNS ■ HYDERABAD HC to hear Telangana has won the 2024 India Energy Storage Alliance Kejriwal's plea (IESA) State Leadership Award in the manufacturing category.

against arrest today PNS NEW DELHI

The Delhi High Court will hear on Tuesday Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal's plea challenging his arrest by the CBI in a corruption case related to the alleged excise policy scam.

The petition, which was filed on Monday, has been listed for hearing before Justice Neena Bansal Krishna.

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) national convenor has also challenged a June 26 order of the trial court by which he was remanded in the Central Bureau of Investigation's (CBI) custody for three days.

On June 29, Kejriwal was sent to judicial custody till July 12 in the corruption case by the trial court, which said his name has surfaced as one of the main conspirators and as the investigation is still in progress, his further custodial interrogation may be required.

Delhi HC...

Continued from page 1

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and Enforcement Directorate (ED) opposed Kavitha's bail pleas, saying she is powerful enough to influence witnesses.Kavitha is in judicial custody in the two cases. The "scam" pertains to alleged corruption and money laundering in the formulation and implementation of the Delhi government's excise policy for 2021-22 that was later scrapped.

The ED arrested Kavitha (46) from her Banjara Hills residence in Hyderabad on March 15. The CBI arrested her in the Tihar jail.

Setback to BRS...

Code of Criminal Procedure and the Indian Evidence Act, respectively.

"Telangana Police has registered the First FIR with Digital Signature under the Bharathiya Nyaya Sanhitha. I am happy to inform that the First FIR from Telangana under B N S has been issued today from Charminar Police Station of Hyderabad Police Commissionerate," state

According to Charminar police, the two two-wheelers were found moving without number plates during vehicle checking from 11 pm of June 30 to 1 am of July 1. The FIR was registered under Section 281 of BNS and also relevant sec-

the energy storage and renew-

Seethakka likely to become Home Minister: Rajanarsimha

Says Raj Gopal, Danam Nagender, an MLA from Nizamabad will get Cabinet berths

PNS HYDERABAD

Stating that the Cabinet would be expanded soon and that Ministers would be reshuffled, Health Minister Damodara Rajanarsimha said that there is a chance of Panchayat Raj and Rural Development Minister Seethakka getting the Home Ministry.

During a chit-chat with journalists on Monday at the Ministers' Quarters after celebrating Doctors' Day, Rajanarsimha said that Munugode MLA Komatireddy Raj Gopal Reddy and Khairatabad MLA Danam Nagender will get a chance to join the Cabinet.

He also said that an MLA from Nizamabad would also get a chance to join the



However, Rajanarsimha's comments made it clear that Raj Gopal may not get the Home Ministry although he wanted that. It may be recalled that Raj Gopal had said several times that he would get a Minister post and the Home Ministry.

Another issue is that Rajanarsimha contradicted the statement of Chief Minister Revanth Reddy who said that Minister posts would be given only to MLAs who won on a Congress B-form and that Danam Nagender who was elected on a BRS B-form would be made a Minister.

BJP slams Rahul Gandhi for his 'not Hindus' jibe at party

PNS NEW DELHI

The BJP on Monday protested inside and outside the Parliament after Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi said in Lok Sabha that ruling party members are "not Hindus" as they promote division and vio-

While Prime Minister Narendra Modi said it is a serious matter that Gandhi is "calling the entire Hindu society" violent, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and other ministers demanded an apology from the Congress leader.Rahul Gandhi took a swipe at the ruling BJP in the Lok Sabha, saying those who call themselves Hindus are engaged in "violence and hate" round

NEET a 'commercial' exam designed to suit rich students

Rahul Gandhi slams govt in Lok Sabha

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Medical entrance test NEET is not a professional exam but a "commercial" one that has been designed for the rich and not for meritorious people, Leader of Opposition Rahul Gandhi alleged in the Lok Sabha on Monday.

Hitting out at the government over alleged irregularities in the conduct of NEET this year, Gandhi claimed that there have been 70 paper leaks in seven years but the government was not allowing a discussion on this because it is not interested in the future of stu-

The Congress leader's remark came during a discus-



sion on the Motion of Thanks to the President's address to a

'NEET students spend years and years preparing for their exams. Their families support them financially and emotionally, and the truth is that NEET students today do not believe in the exam because they are convinced that the exam is designed for the rich and not for meritorious peo-

joint sitting of Parliament.

march towards Parl today The students, who have been

Students call for

been staging a sit-in at the Jantar Mantar here against the irregularities in NTA held examinations -- NEET UG, PG, and UGC NET, have called for a march towards the Parliament on Tuesday to press their demands.The indefinite sit-in strike of the protesting students entered the sixth day on Monday.

'Focus on Indiramma houses'



PNS HYDERABAD

TODAY

ALMANAC

Tithi: Ekadashi:

Dwadashi:

Krithika

Rahukalam:

Varivam:

Gulika:

Yamagandam

Temp: 32°°

Humidity: 64% Sunrise: 5:46 AM

Sunset: 6:55 PM

Month & Paksham

Given Hyderabad's rapid development, Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka Mallu directed the housing department to focus on constructing houses between the Outer and Regional Ring Roads.

The Deputy Chief Minister directed housing department officials to send teams to other states to study Indiramma housing construction and submit a report to the government. ment promotes green energy,

Krishna Paksha

Jul 01 10:26 AM

Jul 02 08:42 AM

Jul 02 05:27 AM

Jul 03 04:40 AM

to Jul 03 04:40 AM

to Jul 04 04:07 AM

3:35 PM to 5:13 PM

9:04 AM to 10:42 AM

08:18 PM to 09:52 PM

12:20 PM to 1:57 PM

02:20 AM to 03:53 AM

Abhijit Muhurtham: 11:54 AM to 12:46 PM

Updated: July 1, 2024 5:00 PM

HYDERABAD WEATHER

Forecast: Partly Cloudy

to Jul 02 08:42 AM

to Jul 03 07:10 AM

Deputy CM Bhatti directs officials

each constituency this year to provide homes for the poor.

This initiative is part of implementing the government's six guarantees including the construction of Indiramma houses.On Monday, a review meeting on budget proposals was held with Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy and officials from the housing, revenue and I&PR departments at the Deputy CM's office in the Secretariat.

Bhatti suggested conducting a detailed study of housing models and beneficiary selection methods of other states that are constructing homes for the poor.

He stated that as the govern-

'Make ...

Continued from page 1

He mocked Revanth

Reddy who had once

suggested to stone

MLAs who joined the

BRS and asked whether

he now intends to stone

those who defected to

his party recently.He

also pointed out the

contradiction between

Revanth's actions and

Rahul's statements

KTR assured BRS

workers that they have

nothing to fear as the

party has secured power

twice and is poised for

future victories.He crit-

icised the Congress for

failing to deliver on

promises like job cre-

ation and loan waivers

and accused it of duping

the public with empty

promises.

against party change.

He emphasized that the installing solar power is Congress government had mandatory for Indiramma to construct 3,500 houses in to ensure solar power installation during the construction of houses. He highlighted the responsibility of the housing department to fulfil middleclass people's dream of owning a home. He said that in areas like SR Nagar, Barkatpura, Kukatpally, and ECIL, the Housing Board's construction of LIG, MIG, and HIG houses has benefited many middleclass families.He advised acquiring land from the revenue department for constructing Housing Board houses between the Outer and Regional Ring Roads. Officials were instructed to identify suitable locations and send

proposals to the revenue department for the necessary

land for housing construction.

Continued from page 1

the Congress and take oath

as a Minister in the Cabinet

expansion on July 4.It is learnt

that Samajwadi Party chief

Akhilesh Yadav spoke to the

Continued from page 1

The High Court also

quashed the Governor's

order dated September 19,

2023, rejecting the nomina-

tion of BRS leaders Sravan

Satyanarayana. The then Governor Dr Tamilisai

Soundararajan had rejected

the nomination of Sravan

Dasoju and Satyanarayana.

Challenging

Dasoju

and

Is Talasani joining...

Telangana Cabinet...

Dharani panel... Continued from page 1 It is learnt that the

Committee also suggested to the government in its report recruit surveyors, who play a pivotal role in solving the land disputes, immediately. The Committee also suggested to the government in its report that the government should conduct surveys to know the condition of the land. The Committee also said in its report that the government should solve land issues of the people within 30 days after submitting their application, it is learnt.

According to sources, the government will prepare a Bill to bring back old acts in place of present acts which were introduced by the BRS government, to introduce it in the coming Assembly and to change the name of the Dharani Portal.

leader of the opposition in the

Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi to

get a Minister post for Talasani.It is learnt that

Talasani is going to join the

Congress along with five city

Governor's orders, the BRS

filed writ petitions in the

High Court. Following the

High Court's order, they

appealed to the Governor to

appoint them as MLCs.

MLAs on July 4.

TG Police...

Continued from page 1

DGP Ravi Gupta said in a post on 'X'.

tions of MV Act.

Continued from page 1

The court had reserved its orders on June 28.KCR, who had served as Chief Minister for two terms between 2014 and 2023, had argued in his petition that setting up the Commission was ultra vires the Commission of Inquiry Act-1952 and the Electricity Act-2003.

KCR had said that he had written a letter to the former HC Judge to recuse himself from heading Commission. The Commission is also investigating the Power Purchase Agreement with Chhattisgarh and the construction of the Bhadradri and Yadadri Thermal Power Plants during the BRS rule.

KCR had sought a stay on the GO issued on March 14 constituting the Commission as the commission chairman appeared to be biased and had pre-judged the issue before hearing the arguments of all

KCR's counsel Aditya Sondhi had argued that the order constituting the Enquiry Commission was without jurisdiction as the terms of reference were under adjudication by both the Telangana and Chhattisgarh State Electricity

Regulatory Commissions. He submitted to the court that the Commission of Inquiry, as constituted under the Act, lacks jurisdiction to make findings on matters already adjudicated by a quasijudicial authority.

The court was told that the

Commission had issued a notice to KCR seeking details of power purchase agreements and the construction of power

'Top priority...

Continued from page 1

Srinivas said the government is going to construct Indiramma Houses on a large scale and the budget to be allocated would be in tune with the proposals.

He said the Congress gov ernment aims to construct 22.50 lakh Indiramma Houses in the next five years. In the first phase, the government will construct 4,16,500 houses by constructing 3,500 houses in each constituency.

He said he had requested Finance Minister Bhatti Vikramarka to allocate Rs 25,500 crore and has decided to construct 33,500 houses in the reserved quota. The Minister directed officials to give full details of the double-bedroom houses constructed in the last 10 years by the BRS government.

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Modalities for new hostels at govt hospitals to be worked out

Telangana Health Minister Damodar Rajanarasimha on Monday said that the foundation stone for hostels at the Osmania General Hospital, Gandhi Hospital and Kakatiya Medical College will be laid soon and the facility will be completed in two years.

Rajanarasimha further said, "Along with infrastructure, HR is also important. Currently there is an imbalance in HR. It needs to be corrected. So it has been revealed that they will be purged."

Addressing a gathering on the occasion of National Doctors Day, the Health Minister said, "The implementation of the Food and Clinical Establishment Act is being expedited. Speaking of TIMS hospital, Rajanarasimha said, "There is provision to build 13 floors and the government is



committed to do it.

The Minister further said, Niloufer and Mehdi Nawaz Jung hospitals will have new departments for which HODs are being shortlisted. Seniority of doctors is being prioritised for the selection process and there will be no preferences."

The Minister said, "After the formation of Telangana, there were no HoD posts and incharges were appointed in their place." He took a dig at the Centre over the NEET

fforts are continuously being made to address the infrastructure issues in the hostels of Telangana University, according to Registrar Professor M Yadagiri. He stated that repair works are fiasco, and said, "Some states

undertaken annually for hostel buildings, and this year is no different as repairs are currently in progress. Following the Vice-Chancellor's directive and in response to student requests, coolers were installed in the library and books were made available during the summer for the Group 1 competitive exams. The library and hostels were kept open to facilitate the students' preparation.

Repairs taken up in

TG varsity hostels

PNS HYDERABAD



TG airports to undergo safety audits

PNS HYDERABAD

In light of the recent issues concerning passenger safety and security at various air-ports across the country, Roads, Buildings and Cinematography Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy has directed the Secretary of the department, Dasari Harichandana, to conduct safety audits at all airports in Telangana within a week.

These audits aim to ensure the protection and security of passengers. The Minister has issued instructions to complete the safety audit within a week and submit a report to

11 special teams to work on Operation Muskan-X The Cyberabad Police are

launching 'Operation Muskaan-X' from July 1 to 31 in the commissionerate limits. In all, 11 special teams have been formed for this purpose, each consisting of a sub-inspector, three male constables and a woman constable. These teams will identify and rescue/rehabilitate children trapped in trafficking. A meeting was held for Operation Muskaan-X on Monday at the Cyberabad CP's office in the Main Conference

uring the meeting, Cyberabad Women and Children Safety Wing (W&CSW) DCP K Srujana said that they would be using the facial recognition software application 'DARPAN' to identify missing and un-identified children who have been separated from their families due to various reasons.

DCP requested that all stake-



Cyberabad Women and Children Safety Wing (W&CSW) DCP K Srujana speaking at the Cyberabad CP office on Monday

holder departments cooperate and coordinate with the Operation Muskaan-X teams. All the stakeholder department officials assured their full cooperation for this operation.

Anti-Human Trafficking Unit (AHTU) Inspector of Police B James Babu said, "Operation Muskaan-X will continue until the end of July, with the support of the stakeholder departments."

The Police identified hotspots where children are found forced

into labour based on the data from previous cases. "Our teams, along with other stakeholder departments, will coordinate the rescue and rehabilitation work," mentioned James Babu. W&CSW ACP V Prasanna Kumar, Child Welfare Committee of Medchal and Sangareddy district AM Raja Reddy, Child Welfare Committee of Ranga Reddy district leader K Narender Reddy and other officials participated in the meeting.



PHONE-TAPPING

2 days escort bail granted to accused Radha Kishan Rao

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Nampally court has granted escort bail to one of the accused in phone-tapping case P Radha Kishan Rao from 8 am on July 2 to 7 am on July 3 sO that he can perform the monthly rituals of his deceased mother, which are scheduled to be performed at his native village at Pallagutta in Jangaon dis-

The court ordered the Superintendent Chanchalguda Central Prison to take Radha Kishan Rao on July 2 under police escort to Janagaon district. His mothdied (98) in Sagar Hospital at Karimnagar on June 2 while undergoing treatment.

The escorting police officials shall allow Radha Kishan Rao to meet his family members, relatives and they shall not disrupt the rituals in any manner. The escort police officials shall not cause inconvenience to the family members and other persons attending the rituals at the said place," the court said.

The case has been filed under Sections of 409, 427, 201, 120-B, 34 IPC, Section 3 of PDPP Act and Sections 65, 66 and 70 of IT Act in er Potlapalli Sarojini Devi Panjagutta police station.

UoH reaffirms to fostering inclusive edn environment

PNS HYDERABAD

The University of Hyderabad (UoH) reaffirmed its commitment to fostering an inclusive and supportive educational environment for all students by addressing the recent allegations made by a group of students, who claimed targeting of marginalised students under political pressure.

believe that Telangana could

conduct the test more efficient-

ly than the Centre, Should

NEET be cancelled. Should it

be administered by the Centre?

Should it be given to the states?" he asked.

former West Bengal chief min-

ister Dr BC Roy's contribution

Roys's birthday is celebrated as

to medical science.

National Doctors Day.

Rajanarasimha then recalled

It is to be noted that BC

The action of trespassing into the Vice-Chancellor's residence past midnight, laying siege to it for 12 hours on May 18 until noon the next day, curbing the democratic rights of its residents and raising slogans at high pitch during unearthly hours traumatised the Vice-Chancellor, his wife, and his 95plus-year-old sick mother. These actions do not align with the description of a 'democratic and peaceful' protest as claimed by the students.

The protest centred around a non-academic issue of holding an annual fest for which alternatives were offered, involving behaviour that is unbecoming of students at a premier higher edu-cational institution. The protest



that began on June 24 continued with the student union members demanding to revoke the suspension and a fine of Rs 10,000 on five students for trespassing on the Vice-Chancellor's residence on May 18.

The students' attempt to frame the disciplinary action taken against them as politically motivated is a diversion from their unjustified and indefensible conduct. However, the administration wants to clarify this situation and reaffirm its unwavering commitment to preserving inclusivity, diversity, academic integrity and will not succumb to external pressures from any

The students' claim that the penalties were imposed to sup-

press marginalised students and eopardise their academic futures is unsubstantiated. The fines collected will be deposited in the Gurubaksh Singh (first vice-chancellor of UoH) Students' Aid Fund, which benefits margin-alised and economically disadvantaged students.

Despite facing a severe intrusion into his and his family's democratic rights at unearthly hours, the Vice-Chancellor, at a meeting of the Executive Council, offered to withdraw the suspensions and convert them into monetary fines to preserve the academic futures of the penalised students. This decision was unanimously endorsed by

Prof. BJ Rao, Vice-Chancellor, stated, "The allegations of political bias are entirely unfounded and misrepresent the values and principles upon which the UoH stands. Our primary concern is the well-being and success of our students, and to this end, we have opted to revoke the suspensions and impose a monetary penalty instead, allowing the students to continue their education without interruption."



NIMS gets new Pediatric Epilepsy Centre, Crèche

PNS HYDERABAD

The Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences (NIMS) received a donation of Rs 2.1 crore for establishment of a crèche and a new Pediatric Epilepsy Centre. The donation was made by Premier Energies

The Rotary Club of Lake District Moinabad is dedicated to impactful service activities, supported by the Rotary Foundation and Rotary Clubs worldwide.

The club focuses on projects in areas such as safe water, literacy, education. healthcare, economic empowerment and environmental sustainability, particularly for remote communities lacking access to essential development opportunities.

Previously, the club launched a project with Rs 1.10 crore to recycle plastic waste in Vizag City and its beaches. Collaborating with Sai Sanjivini Hospital, the club funded paediatric heart surgeries for 90 underprivileged children, amounting to

Rs1.17 crore. Rotary Club also established a hospital for pediatric heart surgeries at Siddipet in Telangana with 100% free of cost surgeries. Other significant projects include distributing pushcarts, establishing kitchens for children and distributing bicycles.

Lawyers protest at TG HC over new criminal laws

PNS HYDERABAD

Telangana lawyers protested on Monday against the Central government's new three criminal acts at the State High Court in Hyderabad, on the day the new laws were launched.

High Court Advocates Association coordinator Prabhakar, Raghunath, Jagan, Srikanth, Venkatesh and other advocates participated with placards against the three newly framed criminal

These laws are not allowing bail to victims for 90 days, curtail freedom of speech and not allow the people to protest. The advocates demanded that the Central government withdraw these laws immediately.

The Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita (BNS), Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) and Bharatiya Saksha Adhiniyam (BSA), will replace IPC, CrPC and Evidence Act respectively.

L&TMRHL secures Golden Peacock Award for safety

PNS HYDERABAD

L&T Metro Rail Hyderabad Ltd (L&TMRHL) secured the coveted Golden Peacock Award in the transportation (Railways) category for excellence in occupational health and safety (GPOHSA) on Monday. The firm was recognised for its unwavering commitment to safety and healthy work environment. The award ceremony was

held at the Institute of Directors (IOD's) 25th International Conference on Environment Management and Climate Change in Bengaluru. The award was presented by prominent dignitaries - former Chief Justice of India Uday U Lalit and Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi, former Chief Justice of former Chief Justice of Karnataka High Court. The esteemed award jury was led by Justice MN Venkatachaliah, former Chief Justice of India, further adding to the significance of this recognition. L&TMRHL emerged victorious against a highly competitive



former Chief Justice of India. Uday U Lalit, in the presence of Sudhir Chiplunkar, COO, L&TMRHL

pool of 778 submissions, solidifying its position as a leader in implementing exceptional safety standards.

KVB Reddy, MD & CEO, L&TMRHL,said, "This award is a true reflection of our unwavering commitment to the safety and well-being of our employees. It serves as a beacon of inspiration, propelling us forward in our continuous pursuit

of safety excellence."

"We extend our gratitude to all our stakeholders for their active participation and unwavering support in fostering a safe work environment across our Hyderabad Metro Rail operations. This prestigious award serves as a powerful motivator as we continue our relentless pursuit of safety excellence," said KVB Reddy.

CM Revanth helps cancer-hit child

PNS HYDERABAD

Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy showed his generosity yet again. The CM extended help to cancer patient Mohammed Adil Ahmed, whom he could not meet during his visit to Warangal. The Chief Minister directed the CMO officials to provide immediate medical assistance

to the cancer patient.
On the CM's instructions, CM OSD Vemula Srinivasulu spoke to the boy's family over the phone. A LOC of Rs one

lakh was already granted for Adil Ahmed's treatment in BasavaTarakam Cancer Hospital a month ago. Srinivasulu enquired about Adil Ahmed's health condition and assured the poor family members that the required assistance will be provided under Chief Minister's Relief Fund (CMRF).

Earlier in the day, the picture went viral on Internet that the kid was waiting for hours to meet the CM. BRS MLA KTR offered to help.



SBI distributes five vehicles to old age homes as part of CSR

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

SBI Hyderabad Circle celebrated the 69th State Bank Day across branches in Telangana State with a lot of fervour and festivity. The bank took up several Corporate Social Responsibility activities including plantation of saplings and awarded the winners of the competition held on the occasion. Chief General Manager Rajesh Kumar complimented the staff for their unwavering commitment, tireless efforts and dedication which has been instrumental in the bank's suc-

A special cultural evening was organised and the bank also honoured retired senior executives in recognition of their contributions to the growth of the bank in the state. The SBI also celebrated Doctor's Day by felicitating the bank's doctors.

On this special day, CGM Rajesh Kumar administered the State Bank Day pledge "commit-



ting to make -SBI- the bank of first choice of everybody and make every interaction with customers and colleagues, a pleasant and enjoyable experience leading to customer

Hyderabad Circle continues to be at the forefront in digital banking domain with a steady stream of technology-driven innovations. The circle offers multi-channel delivery model, providing its customers a wide range of choices to carry out the transactions, at any time, any place. On the occasion of Bank

Day, Rajesh Kumar donated five vehicles amounting to around Rs 50 lakh to 5 NGOs-Sahrudaya Old Age Home, Heavens Home society, Vivekananda Seva Sangam, Satya Harishchandra Foundation and Cherish Foundation.

During the course of the day, Rajesh Kumar virtually inaugurated new branches at Gandipet, Indresham (Patancheru) and.also inaugurated renovated/new premises of ACB Narayanpet, ACB Sadashivpet and High Court branches.

PRAJA VANI

GHMC receives 97 applications from city people in six zones

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) head office on Monday received 53 complaints from the people in the Praja Vani programme. In all, 16 requests were received through the phone-in programme and sent to the authorities concerned for res-

Most of the grievances are related to town planning with 21 complaints, engineering

with 9 grievances, tax section with 9, chief medical officer of Health (CMOH) with 3, estate with 3, labour welfare section with 2, transport section one complaint, were filed during the Praja Vani programme.

A total of 97 applications

were received in six zones under the GHMC area. Charminar zone has received 5 appeals, Secunderabad zone 12, Kukatpally zone 37, Serilingampally zone 33, Khairatabad zone 8 and LB Nagar zone with 2 complaints.

Provide free medicines, govt hospitals told PNS HYDERABAD

The Forum for Good Governance (FGG) has raised serious concerns about the non-availability of free medicines in government hospitals cines in government hospitals across Telangana. In a letter addressed to the Chief Minister, the Forum highlighted the plight of patients who are forced to purchase medicines from private medical shops at exorbitant prices despite seeking treatment in government hospitals like Gandhi and Osmania.

Gandhi and Osmania. The letter cited Article 47 of the Constitution of India,

which mandates the govern-ment to improve public health medicines are often unavail-able in the government pharand provide free medical aid. macy. This forces patients, While the Telangana government has established numer-ment had not become has established numer-ment ha

ous hospitals and recently introduced a free health insurance scheme up to Rs 10 lakh

Governance

from private medical shops located within the hospital premises. The Forum criticised this prac-

able in the government phar-

under Rajeev
Arogya Sree, the ground reality appears starkly different.
According to the Forum,

According to the Forum,

expense of the poor. The letter pointed out that, unlike the patients visiting government ter pointed out that, unlike the hospitals receive free consul-State government hospitals, tations, but the prescribed the Central Government

vides prescribed medicines free of cost. In cases where medicines are not available, they are indented and supplied to patients without charge. The FGG has requested the Chief Minister to take immediate action to remove all private medical shops from gov-ernment hospital premises and ensure that medicines are supplied free of cost through the hospital pharmacies. This move, they argue, would align Telangana's healthcare system with the practices of the CGHS and relieve the financial burden on patients.

Health Scheme (CGHS) pro-

🍘 GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION 🗠

'E' PROCUREMENT NOTICE
NIT No. 07/EE/CIR-20/SLPZ/GHMC/1-3/2024-25 Da

Category of work: Bonalu Works, Estimate Amount: Rs. 2.70 Lakhs Start Date / Last Date & Time for Receipt of Bids: 02.07.2024 @ 1.30 PM 09.07.2024 @ 1.30 PM. Name & Address, Officer Cell No: EE, CIR-20, SLPZ, GHMC, 9849906745. Sd/- Executive Engineer R.O.No. 135T-PP/CL/MOVT/12924-25, Dt. 01.87.2924

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA IRRIGATION & CAD DEPARTMENT

TENDER NOTICE No.: 01/2024-25 (2nd Call) Name of the work: Operation and Maintenance of Pump house and Pressure main of Bhaktha Ramadasu Lift Irrigation Scheme at Erragadda thanda, (V) Kusumanchi (M), Khammam (D) for the period from 01.07.2024 to 28.02.2027. ECV: Rs:4,64,49,458/-; Date and time for down load of Tender Schedules Online: 02-07-2024 2.00 PM onwards to Dt.09-07-2024 3:00 PM. Note: For more information please visit https://tender.telangana.gov.in

Sd/- Superintending Engineer

Irrigation Circle, Khammam R.O.No: 1333-PP/CL/ADVT/1/2024-25, Dt. 01-07-2024

(iPSCs), which carried the same

patient-specific mutation in

the RPE65 gene. Further, they

delivered the enFnCas9-based

CRISPR tool and a mutation-

specific guide RNA into these

stem cells, to precisely locate,

edit and correct the disease-

causing mutation. Gene

sequencing of the edited cells

confirmed that the mutation

got corrected (TAG > TGG) in

both copies of the gene and led

to normal protein expression in

the iPSC-derived retinal cells.

results," said Dr. Mariappan,

Senior Scientist at the Centre

for Ocular Regeneration,

LVPEI. "In fact, two of the

clonally expanded stem cell

lines showed a 100% mutation

correction, with no detectable

bystander edits at the target site

and negligible off target alter-

ations of concern elsewhere in

"These are very encouraging

A new research study conduct-

ed by the Council of Scientific

and Industrial Research -

Institute of Genomics and

Integrative Biology (CSIR-IGIB), and the LV Prasad Eye Institute

have identified the enhanced

CRISPR-Cas9 based genome

editing system that is more pre-

cise and efficient than existing

technologies. The system has

high specificity, extended flexi-

bility for genome coverage and the LVPEI team has validated its

applicability for precision mutation editing and correction.

In the paper, the team at CSIR-IGIB, led by Dr. Debojyoti Chakraborty, demonstrated the greatly

improved editing efficiency of a Cas9 protein from a bacteri-

um called Francisella novicida

(FnCas9). Through an elaborate

genetic engineering process, the team enhanced the edit effi-

PNS RANGA REDDY

In a significant move aimed at

enhancing public transport, Shadnagar MLA Veerlapalli

Shankar flagged off nine new

RTC buses from Shadnagar town to various villages.

Emphasising the government's

commitment to improve public

transport for the convenience of people, Shankar highlighted

the government's initiative in

Shankar stated that the gov-

ernment was committed to improve the public transport as

it would help the people from

the poor and middle-class

families. The MLA also initi-

ated the installation of a water

plant at the local bus depot for

the convenience of passengers," Shankar said. "We are

introducing a total of 17 new

buses for the depots, with nine

already operational. The

remaining buses are delayed

due to staffing issues but will be available soon. We are also

restoring previously canceled

routes and introducing new

ones to improve connectivity."

BRS leader Manne Krishank,

Addressing safety concerns,

"The government's goal is

passenger convenience.

providing travel for women.

Komatireddy directs officials to demolish BRS office in Nalgonda

PNS NALGONDA

Minister for Roads and Buildings Komtireddy Venkat Reddy has directed officials to pull down the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) office. He said the party office was built on government land without necessary approvals.

It may be recalled that in the changing political landscape, the BRS is in for shock time and again.

Revanth Reddy government is getting tough with the



BRS. It may stir up a hornet's nest. The Minister issued the orders to the officials after laying foundation stone for electricity sub-station in Nalgonda.

He was taking part as the chief guest in the oath-taking ceremony of Kumbham Srinivas Reddy who was elect-

ed chairman of Nalgonda

While speaking at the meeting, he directed the officials to pull down the BRS party

The party office was alleged-

ly built on government land worth Rs 2 crore. The municipal commissioner said that two notices had been served on the BRS leadership in this

He declared that the state Reddy has already directed

government would at one go waive crop loans up to Rs 2 lakh by August 15. The quantum of total loan to be waived was Rs 32,000 crore.

Chief Minister A Revanth

the officials to take measures for waiving farm loans.

He said that the government has been saving every paisa to extend assistance to farmers. The Congress is committed to

'Nalgonda will be developed on par with Hyd'

Minister for Roads and Buildings Komatireddy Venkat Reddy has vowed to work for development of

Nalgonda district. On Monday, he laid the foundation stone for the construction of a 33/11 KV substation to be constructed at a cost of Rs 3 crore at Beet Market Colony in the heart of Nalgonda district.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister said that the substation would help overcome voltage problem being faced by 15,000 families and directed the contractor and engineers to complete the construction work of the sub-station within two months. Along with quality cable, fencing should be erected and a 24-hour security guard should be posted. Nalgonda district would be developed on a par with Hyderabad.

He recalled that In 2004

Minister for Roads and Buildings Komatireddy Venkat Reddy laying foundation stone for 33/11 KV sub-station Nalgonda on Monday underground drainage was of Rs 90 crore. If land is probuilt and cement roads were vided, another sub-station will

laid in Nalgonda. He said Rs 200 crore has been allocated for provision of drinking water to the newly merged villages of Nalgonda municipality and a Nilgiri Cultural Centre is being constructed in the town at a cost

vided, another sub-station will

be constructed in the city. Apart from the T-Hub, one more Skill Development Centre is under construction at the Collectorate. The officials of the Electricity Department have been directed to prepare proposals for three more electricity substations in the town in the coming days without any hassles.

Besides, Rs 30 crore has been sanctioned for the construction of a 10 MLD water tank and Rs 700 crore for the construction of an outer ring road to overcome the drinking water problem in Nalgonda town. A multipurpose hostel with all facilities would be built at SLBC Colony, he said. He directed the officials to protect the properties of the government.

He said that he will help in starting new courses in UG and PG and BTech in Mahatma Gandhi University

They demanded removal of all illegal constructions on government land.

He said that Nalgonda town would be made a model and all the substations would be completed within six months to solve the problem of low

ABVP stages protest against lack of facilities in govt schools

PNS NALGONDA

Akhil Bharatiya Vidyarthi Parishad (ABVP) Nalgonda unit at a protest at the District Education Office here on Monday to highlight that the government failed to provide basic facilities in government schools. There is a deficit of teachers in some schools, it said.

Speaking on the occasion, ABVP Nalgonda district unit convener Saavula said that it was unfortunate that even 20 days after opening of schools, basic facilities were not provided to students. Apart from it, shortage of teaches in some schools has been impacting students, he said.

He alleged that s

Former Minister and Siddipet

MLA T Harish Rao has praised

sarpanches and Mandal Praja

Parishad Territorial constituen-

cy membes for their contribu-

tion in bringing water

Kaleshwaram project to the

He elaborated by saying that

you have got the opportunity

to provide irrigation facility to

two crops through Kaleshwaram project during

their terms in office. He was

taking part as Chief Guest in the last general body meeting of the Chinnakodur Mandal

he said the credit for executing several historic works should

go to people's representatives.

Power is only temporary, but

the public service rendered

Addressing the general body,

Parishad here on Monday.

PNS SIDDIPET

constituency.



ABVP students staging a protest at District Education Office in Nalgonda on

Harish all praise for services rendered

by sarpanches, MPTCs in Siddipet

taking permission from the government. Private school managements are flying buses schools were opened without the vehicles were not granted structure in schools.

fitness certificate. The ABVP threatened to intensify agitation if the government failed to and provide infra-

Former minister T Harish Rao speaking at the general body meeting of Chinnakodur Mandal Parishad at Chinnakodu on Monday

the schools. Similarly, cement

roads were laid, open gyms

were laid, Village parks were

developed, electric crematoria

installed and many more works

have been accomplished dur-

ous process. No matter how

much development has been

Development is a continu-

ing your regime, he said.

"You all worked hard for five been undertaken to some of accomplished, there will be

'Red Hots' detection to enhance power supply in GHMC limits

PNS HYDERABAD

In a significant move to enhance power supply reliability within the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) limits, the Telangana Southern Distribution Company Limited (TGSPD-CL) has adopted the latest technologies to identify loose contacts and 'red hots' in live electrical equipment and power lines caused by weather and high load con-

TGSPDCL has procured 35 state-of-the-art thermovision cameras, which have been distributed to Assistant Engineers (AEs) in the GHMC. These advanced detect thermal anomalies, network.

commonly known as 'red hots,' which indicate loose contacts in overhead lines, lugs, breakers, transformers, and clamps. By identifying these issues early, TGSPDCL can schedule and perform necessary maintenance before any significant disruptions occur. Before the induction of this equipment, staff could only inspect the lines at night, as it would not be possible to identify such red-hots in daylight without equipment.

CMD Musharraf Faruqui, stated that this initiative will allow for timely intervention and maintenance, effectively reducing the risk of unexpected power outages and enhancing the overall reliability of the power distribution

students' protest

PNS HYDERABAD

Tension prevailed at the Gandhi Hospital on Monday as students tried to enter the premises to meet Motilal Nayak, who was protesting for enhancement of Group –II and III vacancies, and 1:100 selection for Group-I Main.

A group of unemployed youth thronged the hospital and the police forces deployed in the campus prevented them from gaining entry. The protesters demanded that the Telangana government immediately take measures to implement their election promises. They charged that the State government had betrayed them after making several promises including increasing Group -II and III posts during the State Assembly elections.

Tension prevails at Gandhi Hospital as

during a press meet at

Telangana Bhavan, criticised the Congress party and Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for taking credit to various claims and initiatives undertaken during BRS government. Krishank mocked the

PNS HYDERABAD

Telangana Congress party Chief by terming him as a "Pedha Credit Chor" (PCC) (Big credit thief). Krishank accused Revanth Reddy of being desperate for credit.

Krishank found it laughable that Revanth Reddy attributed Rahul Gandhi's election as the Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha to himself.

Krishank pointed out that it was BRS working president KT Rama Rao who brought Foxconn to Telangana, yet the Congress party is claiming this achievement as their own. He also highlighted that the BRS government successfully completed the Sitarama project but Congress is hog-



Study finds novel gene editing tool that is precise

tein (enFnCas9). This improved

tool is better than other popu-

lar Cas9 proteins (such as

SpCas9 from Streptococcus

pyogenes) and has the potential

to be developed into new diag-

Researchers from LVPEI, led

by Dr. Indumathi Mariappan,

then picked up the baton to explore the suitability of these enFnCas9 variants for therapeutic applications. The team isolated skin fibroblast cells of

a patient with a rare form of retinal dystrophy, called Leber's

congenital amaurosis, type 2 (LCA2). In LCA2, a single base

mutation in the RPE65 gene

(TGG > TAG), results in a pre-

mature stop codon and loss of

protein expression. Patients

with this congenital condition

The LVPEI researchers suc-

cessfully reprogrammed the skin fibroblast cells into

MLA flags off 17 new buses at Shadnagar

Shadanagar bus depot on Monday

Shankar urged passengers to

travel by RTC buses instead of

auto-rickshaws. Responding

to RTC staff's concerns, he

promised to arrange a chang-

ing room at the depot soon.

Additionally, he promised to

ensure that adequate shelters

for passengers would be pro-

MLA Shankar personally

traveled in on one of the new

buses to various villages, includ-

ing Lingareddygudem, Chandrayan Guda, Nandigama, Vijayalakshmi, Kothur,

Thigapur, Fatimapur, and Chegur, to assess the condition

of the RTC bus services and faced by them.

vided within two months.

Congress MLA V Shankar travelling by a bus after flagging of 17 news buses at

develop severe vision loss.

nostics and therapeutics.

Manne Krishank

ging the credit for it. He said that even for Smart Cities deadline extension, Revanth is dubiously taking the credit without any substance.

Regarding the central government's decision to merge the cantonment with GHMC, Krishank stated that the Congress party is falsely taking credit for this move. He clarified that the central government decided to merge all cantonment boards with state governments nationwide. He emphasized that KTR had

BRS terms Revanth as 'credit chor made several trips to Delhi to meet central ministers, urging them to merge the cantonment board with the state

gather feedback from women

passengers. He emphasized the

importance of economic

growth for women, citing Chief

Minister Revanth Reddy's focus

on women's empowerment as

he program saw the partic-

ipation of RTC depot manag-

er Usha, local leaders ZPTC

Venkatarami Reddy, MPTC

Bhargav Kumar Reddy,

Mubarak Ali Khan, and Ande

During his journey, MLA Shankar interacted with pas-

sengers, particularly women, to

understand the problems being

Mohan, among others.

crucial for societal progress.

government. Krishank Revanth Reddy for not attending a special meeting on cantonment land issues as the Malkajgiri MP. He also pointed out that Revanth Reddy, as PCC president, made numerous promises to the people. He questioned Rahul Gandhi's promise of providing two lakh jobs in the first year at Ashok Nagar and inquired about the status of the Congress job calendar

and the mega DSC. Krishank further questioned the Congress party's commitment to providing a 1:100 chance for Group 1 mains as promised and accused the Congress party of making empty guarantees while scams come forward. He held the Congress government responsible for the issue concerning Mothilal Naik, OU student who is on hunger

BRS alleges irregularities in Gurukula appointments

years to serve the public.

Sarpanches and MPTCs

worked hard in villages in

coordination," he said. He observed, "You are for-

tune to provide irrigation facil-

ity to the farmers during your

Badi programme, repairs had

Under Mana Vooru-Mana

regime of five years,"

PNS HYDERABAD

will remain forever.

In a pressmeet at Telangana Bhavan, former Divyangula Corporation Chairman K Vasudeva Reddy and BRS leader Manne Govardhan Reddy alleged that there were irregularities in appointments

in the Gurukula system. K. Vasudeva Reddy criticised the Congress government, stating that during the BRS tenure, a notification for 9,210 posts in Gurukulas was issued. He alleged that after Congress came to power, there was chaos and mismanagement in the recruitment process, particularly in the special categories. He pointed out that appointments under the

disabled quota were mishandled. Some appointees, upon reporting for duty, were rejected by the authorities. Reddy emphasised that prior verification of certificates should have been conducted for special and disabled category job candi-

However, he accused Revanth Reddy of hastily issuing appointment letters at LB Stadium without proper verification. Vasudeva Reddy demanded accountability, asking who is responsible for the current situation where appointees are being told there are no jobs available despite

having appointment orders. He accused the Congress

government of taking credit for jobs issued by the previous administration but failing to manage them correctly. He urged the immediate posting of candidates rejected under the disabled quota, warning that otherwise, special category candidates would approach the High Court for justice. Vasudeva also highlighted that the Congress promised 25,000 jobs in the mega DSC but issued notifications for only 11,000. He questioned the status of the Congress job calendar and criticised Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for frequently traveling to Delhi while the state faces unrest and security issues.

Engineering student dies in road mishap

some more left out to accom-

When occupying the posi-

tions of power, the works

executed for public good will

remain as a permanent

record. "Therefore, my sincere

wish is that you should get

many more good opportunities," he said.

plish, he said.

PNS HYDERABAD

In an accident reported from Malakpet on June 30 night, an engineering student identified as H Somanna (23) died while his motorcycle; was hit by a speeding vehicle.

The pillion rider identified

as Venkataramana, escaped with minor injuries. The incident happened as Somanna was on his way to Kacheguda railway station to drop Venkataramana. A case was registered by the police and the matter is under investigation.

Consumer court directed LIC to pay Rs 22 lakh to kin of deceased

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Nalgonda District Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, consisting of Mamidi Christopher, S Sandhya Rani, Katepally Venkateshwarlu ordered the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) to pay Rs 22 lakh to the mother Jatothu Sharada of the deceased Gopinath, who

was insured with the LIC. Gopinath died due to Covid-19 in Gandhi Hospital on August 17, 2020. His mother was the nominee of the deceased in the life assured pol-

icy. When she requested the LÍC for the insured amount, the corporation stated "death claim is repudiated", without any valid reasons. Jatothu Sharada filed a complaint against Secunderabad Divisional manager, and Suryapet branch manager of LIC.

During the arguments, the LIC filed a written version denying the averments of the complaint and stated that the deceased procured policy on December 30, 2019 for a sum assured of Rs 12,00,000

The corporation stated that the deceased died due to ter-

minal illness and was B Cell Lymphoma and was on Chemotherapy and also on orally reported Covid-19 without test reports. They also stated that during the course of enquiry, it was found that the deceased life assured was diagnosed for Grade-I Fatty Liver and Hep Colitis.

The LIC also stated that this health status was not disclosed in the proposal on December 30, 2019. Therefore, the claim was repudiated as the life assured intentionally and deliberately suppressed the material fact regarding his

existing serious illness. Nominee said that Gopinath

took treatment which the LIC said to the court. As per Medical Attendant?s Certificate, the cause of death of Covid-19 and leading to cardiac arrest, but not due to any pre-existing diseases.

After hearing the arguments over the case, the court ordered that the complainant is entitled for the sum assured of Rs 12,00,000 under the policy along with 9 per cent interest, Rs 30,000 and Rs 10,000 for mental agony and costs, respectively.

Assam flood: Over 43 pc of forest camps in Kaziranga submerged

ith worsening flood condition in Assam, rising water levels have impacted more than 43 per cent of the 233 forest camps at Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve, an official report said on Monday. As a significant portion of wildlife habitat is now official report said on Monday. As a significant portion of wildlife habitat is now submerged, scores of animals have started crossing the National Highway 715 in search of higher ground towards the southern direction in East Karbi Anglong district. However, no

death of animals has been reported as of now due to floods or accidents while crossing the highway. Floodwaters have submerged a total of 101 forest camps, of which six have been vacated, across Kaziranga National Park and Tiger Reserve, according to a flood report. It said 35 camps in Agoratoli range, 21 in Kaziranga, 10 in Bagori, five in Burhapahar range and nine in Bokakhat are submerged. Besides, 21 forest camps in Biswanath Wildlife Division of the national park have been inundated, the report added.



Lt Gen NS Raja Subramani assumes charge as Vice Chief of Army Staff

t Gen NS Raja Subramani on Monday assumed charge as the new Vice Chief of the Army Staff. The officer, who was helming the Army's Central Command, succeeded Gen Upendra Dwivedi. Gen Dwivedi took charge as the Army Chief on Sunday. Lt Gen Subramani has an insightful knowledge and deep understanding of operational dynamics on both the Western and Northern borders, the Army said. Lt Gen Subramani

was commissioned into the Garhwal Rifles in 1985. He has a distinguished and illustrious military career spanning more than 37 years. An alumnus of the National Defence Academy and the Indian Military Academy, the officer also attended the Joint Services Command Staff College, Bracknell (the UK) and the National Defence College, New Delhi. He holds a Master of Arts Degree from King's College, London and an M Phil in Defence Studies from the Madras University.



Two Indians in Asian Prize for Fiction shortlist

ooks by two Indian authors and one writer of Indian origin have made it to the Besture a River Breeze" by Mrinalini Harchandrai and "Woman Who Climbed Trees" by Nepali-Indian writer Smriti Ravindra, the other three shortlisted

books are Nigerian writer Ayobami Adebayo's "Spell of Good Things", "The Idle Stance of the Tippler Pigeon" by Safinah Danish Elahi of Pakistan and Sri Lankan-American author V V Ganeshananthan's "Brotherless Nights". Each narrative offers nuanced portrayal of life, weaving together an intricate tapestry of human experiences from different corners of the world, the organisers said. Following an extensive process spanning seven months, 13 group discussions were conducted by five book



Army fully capable to face all future challenges: Gen Dwivedi

PNS NEW DELHI

Army Chief Gen Upendra Dwivedi on Monday said the Army is ready and capable to face all "current and future" security challenges facing India and that he would focus on continuing to equip the force with the latest weapons and technology.

A day after he assumed charge of the 1.3 millionstrong force, Gen Dwivedi said the Army is facing "unique operational challenges" and that the geo-political landscape is changing rapidly with technology evolving at a "very fast pace"

The Army chief's remarks came amid India's dragging border conflict with China in eastern Ladakh and the challenge of cross-border terrorism from Pakistan.

"I am fully conscious of the responsibility assigned to me and I assure the country and fellow citizens that the Indian Army is fully capable and ready to face all current and



future challenges," he told reporters after inspecting a guard of honour at the South Block in the Raisina hills.

The newly-appointed Army chief, with extensive operational expertise, also said that he will encourage induction of indigenously-built military hardware into the force to boost self-reliance in defence.

'The geo-political landscape is changing rapidly and technology is evolving at a very fast pace," he said.

"The Indian Army faces unique operational challenges

ly defended him despite the

TMC's condemnation of the

incident. A new video has also

emerged, showing Tajmul beat-

ing up another couple a few

had strained relations with the

state government over various

issues, expressed shock at the

incident and described it as

"barbarous," according to a Raj Bhavan official.

and has requested an immedi-

ate report from CM Banerjee,"

Bengal staged a protest on Monday on the Assembly

premises over the assault on the

couple and alleged atrocities

against women in various parts

of the state. "The appearement

politics of the TMC govern-

ment has turned the state into

a den of anti-social activities. It

seems the ruling TMC and its

goons have unleashed Taliban

rule in the state," BJP MLA

Agnimitra Paul said.

the official said.

"He condemned the incident

BJP women MLAs in West

Governor Bose, who has

days ago.

and to remain prepared for such threats and distinctive requirements, it is crucial that we continuously equip our soldiers with state-of-the-art weapons and technology and continue to evolve our warfighting strategies," he

Gen Dwivedi, who assumed charge as the 30th Chief of the Indian Army on Sunday, said he would focus on ensuring that the Army is ready to operate in the "full spectrum of conflict". "It will be my endeavour to ensure that the Indian

'BJP paid heavy

PNS NEW DELHI

price for throttling voice of one MP'

ate in the full spectrum of conflict, maintaining complete synergy with the Indian Navy, Indian Air Force and other

stakeholders," he said. "This will ensure that India's interests are secured and we become a major pillar of nation building to achieve the vision of 'Viksit Bharat-2047'," Gen Dwivedi said.

The defence ministry is in the process of implementing the much-awaited theaterisation model under which it seeks to integrate the capabilities of the Army, Air Force and the Navy and optimally utilise their resources for wars and operations.

Gen Dwivedi said the Indian Army is on the "path to transformation" and it aspires to be 'Atmanirbhar' (self-reliant) in

"To achieve this, we will encourage indigenous initiatives and induct maximum war systems and equipment that are manufactured in our country," he said.

Rahul accuses Modi govt of pushing Manipur into 'civil war'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi accused the BJP-led government on Monday of pushing Manipur into a "civil war" due to its policies and politics.

The Congress leader also criticised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for not visiting the the state since ethnic violence broke out there.

Initiating the debate on behalf of the opposition in the Lok Sabha on the Motion of Thanks for the president's address, Gandhi alleged that the government is behaving as if nothing has happened in Manipur.

"You have immersed Manipur into a civil war. Manipur has been burnt by you, your policies and your politics," he said.

The Congress leader said it seems as if Manipur is not an Indian state. "For the prime minister, there is no state of Manipur. We urged the prime minister to give a message, to

HOPE FOR REDUCTION OF CRIME: AMIT SHAH

Justice within three years of registering FIR under new laws

Union Home Minister Amit Shah said on Monday that justice would be delivered up to the level of the Supreme Court in all cases within three years of the registration of an FIR under the new criminal

Addressing a press conference after the new criminal laws were implemented, Shah expressed hope of a reduction of crime in future as 90 per cent conviction was expected under the new laws.

The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) came into effect on Monday. The new laws replaced the British-era Indian Penal Code, Code of Criminal Procedure and the Indian Evidence Act, respectively.

Justice can be received up to the level of the Supreme Court within three years of the registration of the FÍR," he said. The home minister said that Madhva Pradesh's Gwalior at

with the implementation of the three criminal laws, India would have the most modern criminal justice system in the world.

"The new laws brought in a modern justice system, incorporating provisions such as Zero FIR, online registration of police complaints, summonses through electronic modes such as SMS and mandatory videography of crime scenes for all heinous crimes," he said. Shah said the first case under the new laws was about a motorcycle theft registered in 10 minutes past midnight.

He also said the police dismissed the case filed against a street vendor for selling water and tobacco products from a cart that allegedly obstructed a public way in central Delhi's Kamala Market after an inves-

The new laws would give priority to providing justice, unlike the colonial-era laws that gave primacy to penal action, and made reporting of crimes even easier by recognising e-FIR, Zero FIR and elec-



Public flogging: Bengal governor seeks report BJP slams TMC's 'Taliban rule'

The public flogging of a couple in West Bengal's Uttar outrage, with Governor CV

PNS KOLKATA

Dinajpur district has sparked Ananda Bose seeking a report from Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, while the BJP accused the ruling TMC of "unleashing Taliban rule" in the state. The man seen in a viral

video beating up the couple with a bamboo stick was identified as Tajmul alias 'JCB', purportedly a TMC leader of Chopra area. He was arrested last night.

When produced before a local court, Tajmul was remanded to five days of police

Police registered a case on Sunday after a video clip of the incident, which occurred on Friday, went viral on social media. PTI could not independently verify the video.

The BJP alleged that Tajmul had ties to Chopra MLA Hamidul Islam, who reportedto loss of 63 BJP MPs.

Speaking during a discussion on the Motion of Thanks to the President's address to a joint sitting of Parliament, she said the BJP will not be able to treat the opposition the way they treated them during the last session.

"Last time I stood, I was not allowed to speak. The ruling party paid a very heavy price for throttling the voice to her suspension in the last session.

"In their attempt to silence me, the public silenced them,

Moitra condemned the installation of the Sengol in Parliament, calling it a symbol of monarchy with no place in a democracy.

DEFAMATION CASE

Delhi court sentences Medha

PNS NEW DELHI TMC MP Mahua Moitra hit

out at the ruling party for suspending her in the last Lok A court here on Monday Sabha session, saying they paid a very heavy price for months simple

The court sentenced Patkar

of one MP," she said, referring

causing them to lose 63 MPs... mujhko bithane ke chakkar méin janta ne aapko bitha diya, aapke 63 MPs loss kar diya," Moitra began, setting a defiant tone.



Patkar to 5 months in jail

sentenced activist Medha Patkar to five 23-year-old defamation case lodged against her by Delhi Lieutenant Governor V K Saxena when he

headed an NGO in Gujarat. Metropolitan Magistrate Raghav Sharma also imposed a fine of Rs 10 lakh on Patkar. after considering the evidence before it and the fact that the case went on for over two decades.

However, the court suspended the sentence or one month to enable Patkar to file an appeal against the order.

Rejecting Patkar's prayer to release her on the condition of probation, the judge said, "Considering the facts...damages, age and ailment (of the accused), I am not inclined to give excessive punishment."

Remove access restriction on media for Parl coverage

Editors Guild asks Birla, Dhankhar

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Editors Guild of India on Monday urged Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla and Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar to remove access restrictions on the media for covering proceedings of Parliament.

The Guild, in a letter to Birla, said the practice of restricting the number of media persons, including those holding per- under the guidance of the presforce when Covid19 protocols were in place. "The country has fought the scourge and moved on and we hope limiting access is also done away with," it said in a letter to Birla.

The Guild also expressed concern over the non-reconstitution of the Press Advisory Committee that was first founded in 1929

manent accreditation, came into ident of the Central Legislative

The Guild urged Dhankhar to restore complete access to all media accredited media persons to the House without the need for them to secure additional access passes, which only adds to the bureaucratic work at a time when the effort is to reduce the

LEADERSHIP CHANGE

Will abide by Cong High Command's decision, says CM Siddaramaiah

Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Monday said he would abide by the decision of the Congress high-command on the issue of leadership change, amid a political tussle within the ruling Congress.

A Vokkaliga seer last week publicly requested Siddaramaiah to step down and to make way for his deputy D K Shivakumar.

"It is not a matter to be discussed in public. Whatever



decision the High Command takes, we will go by it," Siddaramaiah told reporters when asked about the Vishwa

Vokkaligara Mahasamsthana Mutt seer Chandrashekhara Swami's appeal.

"I don't want to comment on what Swamiji says. Ours is a national party. There is a high command," the Chief Minister

Meanwhile, Shivakumar warned leaders not to issue public statements on the matter of leadership change and creation of multiple posts of Deputy Chief Minister.

"If anyone crosses the limit, the party will take a decision,"

above-normal rainfall in July: IMD

India could experience

India could experience abovenormal rainfall in July, except for parts of the northeastern region, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said on Monday.

Addressing a virtual press conference, IMD chief Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said July rainfall averaged over the country as a whole is most likely to be above normal -more than 106 per cent of the long-period average of 28.04

cm.
"Normal to above-normal rainfall is most likely over most parts of the country except many parts of north-east India and some parts of northwest, east, and southeast peninsular India," he said.

The Met office said maximum temperatures are likely to be normal to below normal over many parts of northwest India and south peninsular India, except the west coast. "Above-normal maximum temperatures are likely over

many parts of central India, east and northeast India, and along the west coast," it said. The minimum temperatures are most likely to be above normal over many parts of the country except some parts of northwest and

the adjoining areas of central

India, and some pockets of

southeastern peninsular India, he said. We are expecting good monsoon rains in July. Cloudy conditions generally result in higher minimum temperatures, Mohapatra

Northwest India recorded its warmest June last month since 1901, with a mean temperature of 31.73 degrees Celsius, the IMD said on



Implementation of new criminal laws evoke mixed reactions

PNS NEW DELHI

The three new criminal laws, which replaced the British-era penal statutes on Monday, have evoked mixed reactions from legal luminaries with some hailing them as "significant step" towards modernising criminal justice system while others terming them as "draconian" and "cosmetic".

The new laws -- Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS) and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam (BSA) -- came into effect across the country from July 1 and replaced the Indian Penal Code, the Code of Criminal

Evidence Act respectively.

Senior advocate Abhishek Singhvi said an opportunity to make genuine reforms has been wasted and "cosmetic changes" have been brought about in new laws, disregarding the crucial aspect of huge pendency of cases in courts,

especially in trial courts. However, senior advocate and former Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA) president Adish C Aggarwala termed the new criminal laws as significant step towards modernising the criminal justice delivery system and deliv-

ery of time bound justice. This view was echoed by



senior advocates Mahesh Jethmalani, also a BJP MP, and Vikas Pahwa.

Advocate and Congress MP Manish Tewari termed the new laws "pernicious in nature, draconian in their implementation". Activist lawver Kamini Jaiswal concurred with Tewari and termed them as "disaster". Significantly, the apex lawyers' body, the Bar Council

of India (BCI), came in sup-

port of the laws and recently

across the country to refrain from any immediate agitation or protest against the implementation of the new criminal

"One of the important changes brought in by the new laws is the introduction of specific timelines for conducting trials and delivering verdicts," former SCBA president Aggarwala said and hailed Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Union Home Minister Amit Shah for decolonising British-era crim-

inal laws. He said after hearing arguments, the judges will have to render judgment within 30

tion of arguments, which may be extended to a period of 45 days for reasons to be recorded in writing.

Jethmalani said the opposition parties do not understand that these laws are for everyone, for prosecution, for victims and for criminals.

"I don't understand which provision is the problem. They are just saying anything and have not analysed the provisions," he said. Pahwa said, "I think there are a lot of positive points if we read them as a whole. Of course there's also a flip side. The biggest positive point would be the implementation of technology.

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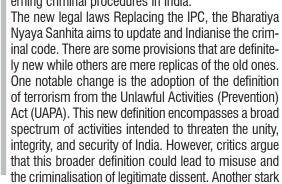
-PAPER WITH PASSION-

Cosmetic makeover

The new criminal laws have retained old laws with minor changes while others could impact civil liberties harshly

ndia has finally shed its colonial legacy in jurisprudence, embracing a new era with indigenous criminal laws. The big question being asked is whether it has truly moved beyond nomenclature or if it's merely a name change. The archaic Indian Penal Code (IPC), the Indian Evidence Act, and the Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC) have been replaced by the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, and Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, respectively. This historic change, taking effect from July 1, 2024, has stirred considerable debate among legal experts, practitioners, and the broader public. While some provisions break from the past, others are just old wine in new bottles, adding a layer of confusion in the legal system. The IPC, established in 1860, and the Evidence Act, enacted in 1872, have long been the cornerstones of India's criminal justice system. Both were products of the British colonial administration and have been criticized for their outdated and colonial-era perspectives. The CrPC of 1973 also

formed a significant part of the legal framework governing criminal procedures in India.



departure is Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam which replaces the Indian Evidence Act and seeks to modernise the rules of evidence in line with contemporary technological advancements. A significant change is the new stance on electronic evidence. Last but not the least, the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, replacing the CrPC, introduces several changes aimed at streamlining criminal procedures. The new law redefines the use of handcuffs and expands the scope of police custody beyond the initial 15 days, a change that has sparked considerable concern regarding potential misuse and the risk of increased custodial violence. So far, the legal fraternity has been rather jittery about the new laws. Prominent legal luminaries, State Bar Councils, and Bar Associations have expressed apprehensions about the potential implications of these changes. Chief Justice of India DY Chandrachud has commented that the new laws could create a positive impact only if there are concurrent investments in infrastructure development and capacity building for forensic experts and investigating officers. The expanded powers of the police and the handling of electronic evidence are areas of particular concern, highlighting the need for careful implementation and oversight to ensure that the new laws do not lead to increased misuse of power or injustice.



Pilgrims wait in a queue to get themselves registered for the annual Amarnath Yatra, in Jammu

A new dawn in Tibetan diplomacy



A seven-member American delegation led by US House Representatives met with the Dalai Lama, indicating a shift in the US stance on Tibet

American delegation led by Michael McCaul, and Nancy ■Pelosi, both leading lights of the US House of Representatives, recently met the Dalai Lama at Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh; this is a particularly significant event. They delivered a clear message that the USA no longer accepts Tibet as a part of China; and the US Congress will be soon passing an Act to be made into a law, called the "Resolve Tibet-China Act". The delegation told the Tibetan spiritual leader that "things have changed now". This American message has unmistakably resisted in Chinese ears. This ÚS delegation first called on His Holiness at Dharmashala, indicating they were calling on the Tibetan government-in-exile, calling on Prime Minister Narendra Modi only thereafter. The Government of India has not hesitated to welcome the delegation. Xi Jinping may have forgotten that Mao Zedong's regime had first claimed 'suzerainty' over Tibet.

Before long, it asserted that Tibet was a Chinese province, before attempting to erase Tibet's culture, heritage and language. These events have their roots in what happened towards the end of World War II. By allowing Stalin's Red Army to enter Berlin first and occupy it, the US made the Russians believe that they were the prime victors of WWII. In 1949, the Soviet Communist regime, by hook or crook, acquired the atom bomb. This made them believe even more they were now a superpower. Eco-militarily though, the Soviet Union was no 'super' but only a Eurasian power, as it

had historically been. Similarly, the US overestimated the Communist Chinese as well. Compared to Chiang Kai Shek and his Kuomintang (KMT) on he mainland, the Maoists were much more committed. That, however, was no reason to dump the KMT as well as Formosa, now Taiwan from the UN as an official member. In fact, India should have been the correct replacement, but the Nehru gov-



ernment was insistent on giving the right of way to Red China, believe it or not.

The USA, or at least its State Department continued to believe for years that the Soviets and the Chinese were a single communist bloc. The extent of the animosity between the two was fully realized only after the Sino-Soviet clash along the Ussuri River in 1969.

It was only thereafter that President Nixon decided to call on Chinese Premier Mao Zedong in 1972, which brought a great deal of prestige to Dr. Henry Kissinger. The ultimate beneficiary of this resumption of relations was China, when Deng Xiao Ping introduced economic reforms, emphasizing manufacturing and exports. The surplus of trillions of dollars accumulated by China came largely through exports to America. The course of these events explains why the State Department of the USA until now ignored the treatment of the hapless Tibetans by successive Chinese regimes over the last seven decades, beginning in 1959. The question is: is this because of repeated CULTURE, HERITAGE provocations over Taiwan, or could there be some larger reason unknown to us? The intentions should become clearer with the unfolding of time.India's stand has also

XI JINPING MAY

HAVE FORGOTTEN THAT MAO ZEDONG'S REGIME HAD FIRST CLAIMED 'SUZERAINTY' OVER TIBET. BEFORE LONG. IT **ASSERTED THAT** TIBET WAS A CHINESE PROVINCE, BEFORE ATTEMPTING TO ERASE TIBET'S

AND LANGUAGE

Unfortunately, the Leftists and communists in the country had clamoured for the (then) newly formed Red Chinese regime, which had requested its recognition within a few days of its winning the civil war. Deputy Prime Minister Sardar Patel, on the other hand, was of the clear view that there was no hurry to recognize the new Chinese regime. In November 1949, Patel invited the American charge d'affairs Donovan to verify if there was an urgency in the recognition of Red China.

Knowing the Sardar through his long correspondence with Jawaharlal Nehru on the subject of China, uppermost in his mind must have been the concern that the Sino-Indian border should be mutually recognized. But Jawaharlal Nehru was in a hurry and without consulting the Sardar, informed the Chinese of India's decision to recognize their regime in the December

of that year itself. While expressing its delight at that China was eyeing Nepal, Nehru's message, China also laid down a few precondi- India's first prime minister, a tions. India would pass on to votary of international peace the new regime all properties and brotherhood was obliviand assets of China. Secondly, India would not recognize any members of the KMT. Thirdly, India should support the expulsion of Nationalist China from the UNO, as well as its replacement by the

communist regime. China's perfidious intentions can be gauged from the fact that its communist announced the 'liberation' of Tibet as the People's Liberation Army's (PLA) task just one day before the founding of the People's Republic of China. The Tibetans had expelled the Chinese Amban, although he had been a Kuomintang government appointee.

The Chinese blamed India for it, abusing Nehru as "a lackey of British imperialism" and complicit in the British humiliation of China, which Mao sought to reverse. The People's Daily of China in an editorial denounced the concept of suzerainty as feudal and oppressive—the very thing China demanded over Tibet. It even called on the UNO to examine India's relationship with Bhutan. The reality, which the Nehru government chose to ignore despite even Ambassador K.M. Pannikar's warnings was Sikkim and Bhutan too. But ous to this. The sufferers were

from Tibet and India. (The writer is a well-known columnist, an author and a former member of the Raiva Sabha. The views expressed are personal)

Unveiling the deception: Decoding food labels for healthier choices



It's vital to scrutinise food labels beyond their claims. Decoding the fine print ensures that what we eat aligns with our health goals

ecoding Food LabelsAs a dietician, I strive to provide the best possible tailored meal plans to my clients, so why would I not stop and flip food packages to scrutinize labels to ensure what goes on my plate and my family's? Albeit, every time I do that I stop to think about the actual intent of documenting the ingredients on the package and I feel deceived. The idea behind all this 'extra work' was to keep the consumer informed and help them make intelligent choices for themselves. But

I see a granola bar labelled "whole grain" and "healthy snack," only to find sugar listed as the first ingredient! Has the food industry turned food labels into a game of hide-and-seek with our health? Food manufacturers have become masters of a deceptive language game. Over time, they've developed tactics to maximize sales and keep their customers hooked, often at the expense of health. Buzzwords like "natural" and "low-fat" create an illusion of health, while hidden sugars and cleverly disguised serving sizes make it difficult to deci-



pher the truth. These tactics paint a picture of a healthy snack, obscuring the reality which can be quite different.So, does this mean we're doomed to fall victim to marketing tactics? Absolutely not! With a little knowledge, we can become empowered to decode food labels, making informed choices about what

purchases we make. Here are a few key areas to focus on during your next grocery run and fill your shopping cart with what is right for you:As I said earlier, don't allow the food companies to trick you into buying their products just because they claim to be "natural", "low-fat" or "multigrain". Low fat doesn't alone mean that literally. The term also implies added sugars and the use of unhealthy fillers. For the longest brown are specified per serving and

but this does not mean that brown rice syrup is any good and a healthy replacement for sugar! High fructose corn syrup, agave nectar, palm, etc are scattered through the list of ingredients keeping even the most discerning customer, from grasping the true sugar content. When you see "sugar-free" on the label, know that other forms like sugar alcohol or artificial sweeteners might be in play. The latest in line is, "natural sweeteners" or "fruit extract"

which again is sugar; no less, The biggest gamble lurks in the Serving Sizes. As a standardized directive laid down by the FDA, it is ideally meant to help consumers compare the same products from different brands, that can demystify tricky empowering them to make the best choice for themselves. But, most manufacturers shrink the serving size per package, compared to what an average consumer would typically eat. Consider finishing a whole bag of munchies in one go while the manufacturer suggests two servings per container. All ingredients

rice has wooed Indian buvers. vou ended up twice what vou thought was good for you! Ensure you keep a tab of serving size and calculate your portion and calorie/sugar intake accordingly."Rich in protein", "Fiber-rich" etc are another set of crowd pullers that mostly tend to divert customer's attention from other not-so-healthy ingredients. Bearing these points in mind, your next trip to the supermarket will be a game-changer for your household. Don't get carried away by big claims made on the face of the package, TURN IT AROUND & be sure to read the numbers. Whether it is calories, saturated and trans fats, sodium or added sugars, learn the limits and decide for yourself what suits you best. Employ help from label-reading apps labels and provide additional information about ingredients. See-through those marketing gimmicks and bring to the table what is healthier and more wholesome for you and your family.

(The author is a dietician and Clinical Nutritionist Ambassador of FIT INDIA Movement of GOI; views are

REFORMING JUSTICE

Madam — India is poised to undergo a transformative shift in its criminal justice system with the implementation of three groundbreaking laws starting July 1st, 2024. However, the primary concern lies in the readiness of our institutions to handle these changes, necessitating a nationwide audit. There has been no thorough assessment of the preparedness across various criminal justice institutions in different states.

Additionally, the transition from old laws to new ones is likely to create significant confusion. It would be prudent to postpone the implementation of these laws until a comprehensive and independent audit of institutional readiness is conducted. Alternatively, a phased implementation to test the waters would be a more sensible approach.

Noopur Baruah | Tezpur

A DEMOCRACY IN DISARRAY Madam — The signs were clear for all to see. We eagerly awaited the end of the elections and patiently anticipated the results. Yet, once Parliament convened, it quickly became apparent that walkouts and paralysis were the order of the day. The drama of democracy played out in full view, with heightened agitation across the country. On the anniversary of the Emergency, Parliament was divided, and the opposition was relentless in disrupting proceedings at every turn, reflecting the turbulence within our socalled democratic framework. Opposition leaders harshly criticized President Droupadi Murmu's address, dismissing it as a government-scripted speech riddled with falsehoods. They accused the government of imposing an undeclared emergency and challenged its claims of economic growth and

Leaders highlighted issues facing farmers, unemployed youth, and recent junior and senior Indian cricket teams. national events. The true nature of our As his era of strategic brilliance and parliamentarians has been laid bare, mentorship draws to a close, we bid

India's T20 World Cup victory



Africa in the T20 World Cup 2024 final, marking a glorious return to World Cup triumph after a 13-year hiatus since their last ICC trophy win in 2011. Under the astute leadership of Rohit Sharma, the team showcased exceptional prowess

and resilience, dominating the tournament with consecutive victories. This win was particularly poignant as it marked a grand farewell for two Indian cricket stalwarts, Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli, along with head coach Rahul Dravid, who had not previously won a World Cup trophy. Both Rohit and Virat announced their retirement from T20 internationals, making this victory an emotional and proud moment for all Indians. Rohit's tactical brilliance and Virat's consistent performances have been instrumental in India's cricketing success over the years. Their departure signifies the end of an era. The Indian cricket team displayed outstanding skill and determination, ensuring that they lifted the ICC trophy and gave their beloved captain and star player a memorable send-off. This victory will be cherished as one of the most emotional and proud moments in Indian cricket history.Bishal Kumar Saha, Murshidabad Bishal Kumar Saha | Murshidabad

with their election appearing to serve only as a means to create chaos, disrupt parliamentary decorum, and hinder

smooth functioning. The disarray within Parliament serves as a stark reminder of the urgent need for a recommitment to democratic principles and decorum. The behavior of our elected representatives, which seems aimed more at creating chaos than fostering progress, threatens the very foundation of our democratic institutions. It is imperative that we, as citizens, demand accountability and a return to a more respectful and effective form of governance.

Jayanty Subramaniam | Mumbai

FAREWELL TO A LEGEND

Madam — India's head coach, Rahul Dravid, is not one to seek the spotlight. Yet, it inevitably finds him, whether during his illustrious playing career or his post-retirement role as a coach for both

farewell to a coach whose wisdom has guided Team India to new heights. Dravid's tenure has been marked by unforgettable victories and moments of cricketing genius, from nurturing young talent to instilling a culture of discipline

His legacy will continue to inspire future generations of cricketers, embodying the values that define our beloved sport. A World Cup win would be the perfect capstone to Rahul Dravid's remarkable journey. As we celebrate Rahul Dravid's contributions to Indian cricket, we also honor a figure whose integrity, dedication, and humility have left an indelible mark on the game. His departure marks the end of an era, but his legacy will continue to inspire and shape the future of Indian cricket for years to come. What a distinguished man and an outstanding

Jayanthi S Maniam | Chennai

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FIRST COLUMN

THE EVOLVING PATH TO **SUCCESS WITH UPSKILLING**

Success is more than just good intentions. It's a journey paved with education and skill



RACHNA LAKHPATI

The saying "Where there's a will, there's a way" offers a reassuring belief that sheer determination can overcome any obstacle. However, navigating the complexities of real-world success involves more than just good intentions. It requires a foundation built on education, experience, and often, a blend of both. The path to achievement is multifaceted, demanding a strategic combination of willpower, continuous learning, and specialization. Enter the upskilling advocate. These individuals champion the importance of lifelong learning, asserting that the pursuit of new knowledge can unlock doors that even traditional qualifications cannot. The argument holds weight, especially in an era where technology evolves at breakneck speed. The ability to adapt to these changes is crucial. However, the journey of upskilling can sometimes feel like an endless treadmill—each completed course leads to another, creating a perpetual cycle of learning without a clear endpoint. On the other hand, we have the specialist.

Specialists possess targeted expertise, backed by rigorous education in a specific field. Their qualifications often serve as a shortcut past initial professional hurdles, providing a clear and direct path to success. Yet, this path can be fraught with its own challenges. As industries transform and new technologies emerge, specialization that once seemed advantageous may become obsolete. The clear road that once led to career success can abruptly end, leaving the specialist in need of new directions. So, who holds the advantage in this dynamic landscape? The truth, as with many aspects of life, is that the ideal path is a balanced



one. The most successful individuals often embody a blend of both approaches. They possess a solid foundation in a core discipline but are equally committed to continuous learning and adaptation. For instance, someone with a degree in marketing might pursue courses in digital analytics to stay relevant in an increasingly data-driven world. This duality-rooted in depth of knowledge but flexible in acquiring new skillsis what makes them particularly valuable. Employers who recognize the importance of this balance are making the smartest investments. They seek out candidates who not only have the expertise to excel in

their current roles but also the agility to navigate the shifting landscape

These employers understand that a blend of foundational knowledge and a willingness to upskill can create a workforce capable of responding to change with confidence and competence. The key takeaway? While willpower is essential, it must be channeled effectively. Start by building a strong educational foundation in a chosen field, then continually seek opportunities for growth and learning. This approach fosters a mindset of perpetual improvement, positioning individuals to thrive amid the uncertainties of the modern workplace. Yet, the journey doesn't end with acquiring new skills. The future of work demands the ability to unlearn outdated practices and embrace new paradigms. The most successful professionals will be those who approach each challenge with a growth mindset, eager to expand their knowledge and reshape their skills.

They understand that change is the only constant and that adaptability is the ultimate competitive advantage. Rather than seeing your career as a ladder to climb, envision it as traversing a vast, ever-shifting landscape. The willingness to learn and grow continuously is key to unlocking a fulfilling and successful career in an ever-evolving world. So, abandon the notion of being a finished product and embrace the journey of lifelong learning. It's a marathon, not a sprint. With the right mindset, you'll be well-equipped not just to survive but to thrive in the ever-changing world of work. Are you ready for the adventure?

(The writer is an author and has penned three books; views are personal

Focus shifts to prudent public wealth management-



The new Govt is overhauling India's disinvestment policy. It is supporting non-profit enterprises, and maintaining a strong presence of State-run firms in strategic sectors

he new National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi is reviewing the existing disinvestment policy to shift its focus from selling central public sector undertakings (CPSUs) to prudent public wealth management (PWM), supporting not-for-profit enterprises, and ensuring strong presence of state-run firms in strategic sectors'.

A CPSU is an undertaking in which the Union government has majority share holding meaning it holds more than 50 percent of its shares. Disinvestment is fancy nomenclature for sale of these shares to private investors. When, disinvestment results in reduction of the government's shareholding in the CPSU to below 50 percent and concomitant transfer of ownership and management control to private entity, this is termed as 'strategic' disinvestment or privatiza-

The extant policy on disinvestment was announced by the Union Finance Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman in her Budget speech for FY 2021-22.

Under it, CPSUs were classified into two broad categories i.e. strategic and non-strategic. The strategic group covers atomic energy, space and defense; transport and telecommunications; power, petroleum, coal and other minerals; and banking, insurance and financial services. The non-strategic category includes all other sectors viz. industrial and consumer goods, hotel and tourist services, trading, and marketing and so on. The government's intent was to sell all undertakings in the strategic sector with the caveat that at least one (and a maximum of four) will be retained in the public sec-

As for undertakings in non-strategic sectors, it wanted to reduce its shareholding to below 50 percent in 'all' of them. Put simply, they would all be privatized. All loss-making undertakings in this category would be closed.

Also tagged to this policy was government's intent to use the proceeds from disinvestment for meeting its fiscal deficit (excess of total revenue over total expenditure) or FD target. This part was a continuation from the past when the Modi - government started selling its shares in CPSUs in 2015-16 with particular focus on 'strategic' disinvestment. In the backdrop of devastation caused by Covid-19 pandemic and debilitating effect on its finances during 2020-21 (in that year, FD had scaled to 9.2 percent of GDP), in the budget for 2021-22, Sitharaman had put even greater reliance on proceeds of disinvestment by setting an ambitious target of Rs 175,000 crore. During that year, the government had planned big ticket disinvestments such as Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL), IDBI Bank, NMDC Steel and Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) and

But, the process has remained stuck in the slow lane even as the targets of proceeds from sales were missed year-afteryear. Only during two years viz. 2017-18 and 2018-19, it achieved the target. That was primarily because, in those years, it had conducted two big-ticket sales of its shares from one CPSU to

During 2017-18, the government sold



IN CASES WHERE THE STRATEGIC SALE IS MOOTED, THE GOVT FACES A BIGGER CHALLENGE AS APART FROM A FAVOURABLE | Market, It NEEDS BIDDERS WITH DEEP

POCKETS

in Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) to the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) yielding Rs 37,000 crore. In the following year, it undertook the sale of its 52.63 percent stake in the Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) to the Power Finance Corporation (PFC) yielding Rs 13,000 crore. But, those sales can't be termed as strategic as the purchaser being another CPSU namely ONGC/PFC, the Government continues to have effective ownership over the divested entity viz. HPCL/REC.

The results during 2021-22 and 2022-23 were particularly disconcerting. During 2021-22, against a target of Rs 175,000 crore, the ctual proceeds from disinvestment were a meager Rs 15,440 crore. During 2022-23, against a target of Rs 65,000 crore, the actual was nearly half at Rs 31,059 crore. For 2023-24, the FM had lowered the target to Rs 51,000 crore which during the course of the year was further revised downwards to Rs 30,000 crore. Even against this, the actual proceeds were a meager Rs 14,564

What does the interim Budget for

In a briefing following the presentation of the Budget by Sitharaman on February 1, 2024, Somanathan had stated that the "government no longer views disinvestment from the perspective of balancing the budget". Can it be taken to mean that it has shed its age-old stance of using proceeds from share sale for reducing FD. The answer is 'No' as it has set a target of Rs 50,000 crore for 2024-25 under the head "miscellaneous capital receipts" which includes disinvestment proceeds besides receipts from asset monetization.

The very idea of garnering resources from the sale of government shares in CPSUs is inherently flawed. This is because unlike tax revenue, which can be projected with a degree of certainty based on the existing tax rate and a reasonable assessment of the growth in nominal GDP, the same cannot be said about proceeds from disinvestment. In this case, a lot depends on the market scenario and, in particular, the perception of investors about the company in which share-sale is company in which share-sale is contemplated.

In cases where the strategic sale From the emphasis on public is mooted, the Government faces wealth management (PWM), a bigger challenge as apart from a favorable market, it needs bidders with deep pockets. The lengthy and cumbersome process of approval and bureaucratic red tape further undermines the chances of its kicking the ball rolling just around the time when the strategic investors are ready to put in their bets. The Niti Aayog identifies compa-

nies for disinvestment which are then considered by the Core Group of Secretaries on Divestment (CGD), a long-drawn process by itself, which takes it to the Alternative Mechanism (AM) a group of ministers, including finance, road transport & highways, administrative reforms, etc., - for approval. After AM's approval, the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) moves a proposal for in-principal approval of the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA).

In view of above, the government

shouldn't put any number to

preparing the budget as the end of the year, slippage is inevitable. Even so, the government's tax revenue is buoyant (for three years in a row since 2021-22, these have exceeded the target) and it is get-ting higher dividends from CPSUs as also higher dividends from the Reserve Bank of India (for its FY 2023-24, the RBI has made a huge dividend transfer of Rs 210,000 crore to the Centre for latter's use during 2024-25) and public sector banks (PSBs). These positive trends should be good enough for

What happens to strategic sale? strong presence of state-run firms in strategic sectors, one gets sense that the government has completely abandoned the path of privatizing CPSUs in these sectors. As it is, under the 2021-22 policy, it had intended to retain at least one (and a maximum of four) undertakings in the strategic sector. Now, it seems it won't privatize even one. The government's decision to drop its plan for sale of BPCL which was on its agenda since 2019-20 is an indication of things to come.

Changing horses midstream won't be in the best interest of the country. Fundamentally, the State shouldn't be in the business of running enterprises. There always remains a risk of political interference and bureaucratic red tape which can seriously hamper the working of CPSUs. The government should continue the process of share sale and focus on debureaucratizing it.

(The writer is a policy analyst;

Surviving the scorch: Strategies for managing heat waves in India

The summer of 2024 has seen record-breaking temperatures. It is imperative for policymakers to understand the underlying causes and implement effective measures

he country is in the midst of intense heat waves causing severe hardship in the entire North, Central and Western India for more than a month. India may have recorded the hottestever temperature in 2024. On 29th May 2024 Delhi recorded 52.3 Degrees Celsius temperature at a weather station in Mungeshpur a suburb of Delhi though later on it was proved that it was slightly on the higher side. Even cooler places like Dehradun have noticed the highest temperature of the last 53 years this year. More than 30 crore people in India are prone to high risk due to lack of means to escape heat waves. The people are feeling severe shortages of power and water and many grids are col-



ing to prolonged outages. Several people have died due to heat waves across the country. According to official sources, 150 people have died due to heat waves and around 30,000 people suffered heat stroke from March to mid-June 2024. The people from Delhi and other adjoining areas are rushing to hill stations of Uttarakhand, Himachal Pradesh and other lapsing due to overload lead- hills to escape the heat torture ters will be ruining the stabil-

and in the process causing heavy traffic jams and throwing in disarray the civic amenities in several towns and cities. The River width of Ganga in Varanasi has reduced by 35 % and similar reports are forthcoming of the narrowing of other streams and rivers.

The experts have been warning the government and the society at large about the changing weather trends of the country. Now the question for the policymakers, professionals and administrators is to assess the causes of such an unprecedented rise in temperature and how to mop up resources to deal with it. If the mandarins in power in the centre and state do not change the way to deal with it efficiently and effectively many disasity and cohesiveness in the

One thing all must learn is the fact that high temperatures are the results of the combined effects of global warming, increasing urbanisation/concretization leading to changing weather patterns. As far as Delhi and nearby areas are concerned the dry and warm westerly winds from Rajasthan and Haryana are the causes of the heat wave. Now these winds continue during the night and do not allow the night temperature to fall and this is further accentuated when these westerly winds lead to cloud formation in the sky which prevents cooling the temperature. To find the solution our planners and civic administrators in cities must meet the challenges of the 'urban heat island effect'. In nature trees and other vegetation in the landscape along with green roofs help in reducing the urban heat island effects by releasing moisture through transpiration, and by shading reflecting the sun radiation back into the atmosphere. Therefore, the massive dense urbanisation, buildings, roads and pavements absorb and retain the heat and hence the urban heat island effect with disastrous consequences. On the other hand, the effects of heat waves in rural areas are different; there is less or minimal heat island effect but the heat effects mostly relate to health issues like severe dehydration, heat stroke, heat exhaustion and gastro-intestinal diseases exacerbated by the long power cuts and water

India is not the only country affected by heat waves. Europe is also suffering from heat waves since April 2024. The temperature is above 30 degrees Celsius in south Europe, particularly in Spain. This year in Europe the highest temperature was noticed in Zeneca and Bosnia at 33.3 degree Celsius on 14th April 2024. The European country's architecture is such that they cannot cope up well with continuous heat waves. The objective of this article is to stress that in India the Central and State governments should jointly devise a policy to effectively deal with summer weather.

The first thing to be done is to declare the temperature beyond a certain limit as a nat-

ural disaster/climate emergency and put in place standard operating procedures to deal with it for the different cities and rural areas. In rural areas, the government must ensure a supply of potable water and electricity as well as a mobile dispensary to provide quick health care services. In each village lakes and ponds should be created compulsorily so that people including farmers and cattle get water. It needs short-term planning risk assessment and early warning systems based on the Meteorological India Department forecast.

One of the fundamental requirements is the need to remould the district administration by creating an integrated and holistic approach so that climate-resilient develop-

ment is ensured and preparations are made in advance to deal with any emergent situa-

However, real change in the entire civic administration is essential in urban areas. The town and country planning needs complete overhauling as also revisit the power-centric civic bodies. The drainages are in shamble and must be protected so that the next emergency in rainy weather does not derail the life and proper-Development Ministry set up a task national force to recom-

mend action? (The author is the former Director-General of the Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education and Chancellor of FRI University; views are personal)

Tata Motors domestic sales dip 8% in June

ta Motors on Monday reported an 8 per cent decline in total domestic wholesales to 74,147 units in June. The company's domestic wholesales stood at 80,383 units a year ago. Sales of passenger vehicles, including electric vehicles, in the domestic market, were lower by 8 per cent at 43,624 units in June as compared with 47,359 units in the year-ago month, it added. "Going forward, we foresee recovery of demand, as

enquiries have remained strong despite low retails in the past two months. This strong enquiry pipeline, in addition to the onset of festive season from August, augurs well for the industry," Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles Managing Director Shailesh Chandra said in a statement. The automaker is fully geared up to leverage this growth opportunity on the back of strong demand for SUV portfolio, especially Punch and Nexon, as well as new launches in the coming months, he added. In the April-June guarter,



Gold flat at Rs 72,350 per 10g, silver rises by Rs 200

old prices traded flat at Rs 72,350 per 10 grams while silver gained Rs 200 per kg in Gthe local market on Monday, according to HDFC Securities. Silver prices rose by Rs 200 to Rs 90,300 per kg from the previous close of Rs 90,100 per kg. "In Delhi markets, spot gold prices (24 carats) are trading flat at Rs 72,350 per 10 grams unchanged from the previous close," Saumil Gandhi, Research Analyst at HDFC

Securities, said. In the overseas markets, spot gold at Comex was trading at US\$ 2,327 per ounce, slightly up US\$ 1 from the previous close. Gold struggled to find direction on Monday and moved in a narrow range above the US\$ 2,320 level during the European trading session, Gandhi said. "...traders appear cautious about making aggressive directional bets given uncertainties about the US Federal Reserve's interest ratecutting plan, resulting in sluggish range bound price activity," he added.



Brainbees Solutions gets Sebi's go ahead to float IPO

rainbees Solutions Ltd, the parent firm of online e-commerce platform FirstCry, Phas received Sebi's approval to raise funds through an initial public offering (IPO), an update with the markets regulator showed on Monday. Apart from this, three more companies -- SaaS platform Unicommerce eSolutions, Maharashtra-based Gala Precision Engineering and Interarch Building Products -- obtained the regulator's nod to float the initial share sale. These companies -- who filed their preliminary IPO papers with Sebi between January and May 2024 -- obtained the regulator's observations

during June 25-28, according to the update. In Sebi's parlance, obtaining its observations means its approval to float the public issue. According to the fresh draft red herring prospectus (DRHP), Pune-based Brainbees Solutions' proposed IPO is a combination of a fresh issue of equity shares, aggregating up to Rs 1.816 crore and an offer for sale (OFS) of up to 5.44 crore equity shares by existing shareholders





RBI, ASEAN to create platform for fast cross-border retail payments

The Reserve Bank of India and ASEAN countries have decided to create a platform to facilitate instant cross-border retail payments. The platform is expected to go live by 2026.

In a statement, RBI said it has joined the Project Nexus, a multilateral international initiative to enable instant crossborder retail payments by interlinking domestic fast payments systems (FPSs).

Nexus, conceptualised by the Innovation Hub of the Bank for The Reserve Bank has been collaborating bilaterally with various countries to link India's FPS – Unified Payments Interface (UPI), with their respective FPSs for cross-border Person to Person (P2P) and Person to Merchant (P2M) payments

International Settlements (BIS), aims to connect FPSs of four ASEAN countries (Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand); and India, who would be the founding members and first mover countries of this platform.

An agreement to this effect was signed by BIS and central banks of the founding countries -- Bank Negara Malaysia (BNM), Bank of Thailand (BOT), Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP), Monetary Authority of Singapore (MAS) -- and RBI on

Sunday in Basel, Switzerland. Indonesia, which has been involved from the early stages, continues to be involved as a

special observer. "The platform can be extended to more countries, going forward," RBI said. Once functional, Nexus will

play an important role in making retail cross-border payments efficient, faster, and more cost effective. The Reserve Bank has been

collaborating bilaterally with various countries to link India's FPS - Unified Payments Interface (UPI), with their respective FPSs for cross-border Person to Person (P2P) and Person to Merchant (P2M)

India, Australia look at increasing cooperation in minerals, processing

PNS NEW DELHI

India and Australia are looking at ways to increase cooperation in critical minerals and their processing, besides battery production, Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal said on Monday.

Both countries have signed an interim free trade agreement and are in negotiations to expand that into a comprehensive pact, he said.

"We are looking at how we can integrate our (India and Australia) economies in terms of battery production, in terms of mineral production, in terms of mineral processing, in terms of vehicle production," the secretary said here at a conference on the roadmap for vehicle electrification organised by India Energy Storage Alliance (IESA).

IESA is a leading industry alliance focused on the development of advanced energy storage, e-mobility, green hydrogen, and emerging technologies in India.

Founded in 2012 by Customized Energy Solutions



"We are looking at how we can integrate our (India and Australia) economies in terms of battery production, in terms of mineral production, in terms of mineral processing, in terms of vehicle production," the secretary said here at a conference on the roadmap for vehicle electrification organised by India Energy Storage Alliance (IESA)

RS 2000 NOTES

97.87% RETURNED

still with public

The Reserve Bank of India

(RBI) on Monday said 97.87

ination banknotes have

returned to the banking system,

and only Rs 7,581 crore worth

of the withdrawn notes are still

with the public. On May 19,

2023, the RBI announced the

withdrawal of Rs 2000 denom-

ination banknotes from circu-

lation. The total value of Rs

2000 banknotes in circula-

tion, which was Rs 3.56 lakh

crore at the close of business on

May 19, 2023, has declined to

Rs 7,581 cr

worth notes

PNS MUMBAI

(CES), IESA's vision is to make India a global hub for R&D, manufacturing, and adoption of advanced energy storage, emobility, and green hydrogen technologies.

Barthwal also said that the government has taken a series of steps to promote domestic manufacturing of electric vehicles (EVs) and strengthened the ecosystem around that, such as boosting charging infrastructure.

Speaking at the event, Australian Commissioner to India Philip Green OAM said they have huge mineral and energy resources that can support 'make in India'

RBI appoints Arnab Kumar Chowdhury as new ED

PNS MUMBAI

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed Arnab Kumar Chowdhury as executive director with effect from Wednesday.

Chowdhury will look after three departments, including DICGC.

Prior to being promoted as executive director, Chowdhury was serving as Chief General Manager-in-Charge in the Department of Supervision.

As executive director, he will look after Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC), foreign exchange department, and international department, the RBI said in a statement. Chowdhury is a chartered accountant and holds a master's degree in economics. He is also a certified associate of IIBF.

He has experience of over three decades in the Reserve Bank of India.

PNS NEW DELHI

Union Minister of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal held a pre-Budget meeting with various stakeholders on Monday, an official statement said.

During the meeting, Sonowal highlighted the government's commitment to fostering a collaborative environment, encouraging stakeholders to share their suggestions and ideas for nation building. The Ministry of

Shipping, and Waterways is committed to developing sus-

Sonowal holds pre-Budget meeting with stakeholders



tainable, world-class maritime and inland waterways infrastructure to enhance EXIM trade and support economic growth," he added. According to Sonowal, the government's focus is on building a robust ports economic growth and environmental sustainability.

'With projects like the Vadhavan Mega Trans shipment Port and the Cruise India Mission, MoPSW is poised to make India a global maritime hub," he added. More than 150 stakeholders from major ports, shipping sector, Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI), Directorate General of Shipping (DG Shipping) and representatives from FICCI, CII, National Union of Seafarers of India, Assocham, Shipyard Association of India, Maersk, DP World IM Baxi TCI Seaways MSC, etc, took part in the meeting, the statement added.

lifetime high of Rs 443 L cr

The market capitalisation of BSE-listed firms hit a lifetime high of Rs 4,43,05,344.36 crore on Monday, driven by a rebound in equities, where the benchmark Sensex ended at a new all-time peak.

The 30-share BSE Sensex jumped 443.46 points or 0.56 per cent to settle at a new closing peak of 79,476.19. During the day, it climbed 528.27 points or 0.66 per cent to 79,561.

The market capitalisation of BSE-listed firms hit a new record high of Rs 4,43,05,344.36 crore (US\$ 5.31 trillion) amid an optimistic trend in equities.

"The domestic market sustained its upward momentum, with a reduction in the US PCE inflation raising hopes

PNS NEW DELHI

September. This optimism contributed to the strong performance of IT stocks," Vinod Nair, Head of Research at

Mcap of BSE-listed firms hit



Geojit Financial Services, said.

Tech Mahindra, Bajaj Finance, UltraTech Cement, Tata Consultancy Services, Infosys, JSW Steel, HDFC Bank, Tata Motors, Hindustan Unilever and ICICI Bank were the

biggest gainers. NTPČ, State Bank of India, Larsen & Toubro, IndusInd among the laggards.

In the broader market, the

BSE smallcap gauge jumped 1.58 per cent and the midcap index climbed 1.11 per cent. Both the smallcap and midcap indices hit their lifetime highs.

Among the indices, IT soared 1.84 per cent, teck jumped 1.46 per cent, commodities (1.21 per cent), telecommunication 1.03 per cent, industrials (0.95 per cent) and metal (0.73 per cent). Utilities, power and realty were

the laggards.
A total of 2,656 stocks advanced while 1,346 declined and 144 remained unchanged on the BSE.

Last week, the BSE benchmark jumped 1,822.83 points or 2.36 per cent, and the Nifty climbed 509.5 points or 2.16

Patanjali Foods to sell home, personal care biz

to group firm Patanjali Foods for Rs 1,100 cr

ATF price hiked 1.2%, commercial LPG cut by Rs 30

Jet fuel or ATF price on Monday was hiked by 1.2 per cent while that of commercial LPG used by hotels and restaurants cut by Rs

30 per 19-kg cylinder in line with internation-

al oil price trends.
Aviation turbine fuel (ATF) price was hiked by Rs 1,179.37 per kilolitre, or 1.2 per cent, to

Rs 96,148.38 per kl in the national capital, according to a price notification of stateowned fuel retailers. The increase followed a steep 6.5 per cent (Rs 6,673.87 per kl)

Prices differ from state to state depending on the incidence of local taxes. Alongside, oil

The ATF rate in Mumbai was

increased to Rs 89,908.30 per

kl from Rs 88,834.27.

firms cut the price of commercial LPG by Rs 30 to Rs 1,646 per 19-kg cylinder. This is the

fourth straight monthly reduction in rates. The price was last cut by Rs 69 per cylinder on June 1. Prior to that, rates were on May 1 reduced by Rs 19 per cylinder, and by Rs 30.5 on April 1.

Rs 7,581 crore at the close of business on June 28, 2024. Thus, 97.87 per cent of the Rs 2000 banknotes in circulation as on May 19, 2023, has since been returned," the central bank said in a statement.

15%, help expand operating profits for telcos PNS MUMBAI

Tariff hikes to raise ARPU by

Tariff hikes by the top three telcos will help increase the average revenue per user by 15 per cent, and expand the operating profit by over 20 per cent agency said on Monday. The 20 per cent hikes by the telcos after a two and half year hiatus can expand telcos' prof-

it before interest lease depreciation and tax (PBILDT) by 20-22 per cent in FY25, Care Ratings said in a report. It termed the same as a 'structural positive" for the telecom sector struggling on

the Return on Capital Employed (ROCE) front because of the huge investments in 5G rollout, including spectrum purchases, it said.

An analysis by the rating agency revealed that the hikes will improve the telcos' blended average revenue per user

(ARPU) by about 15 per cent to Rs 220 in FY25 from around Rs 191 in FY24.

Every Re 1 increase in ARPU will add about Rs 1,000 crore to the industry's PBILDT. it added. The 15 per cent quently on profits will aid the telcos to deleverage the capital, technology upgrades and in network expansion, it said.

Its associate director Prasanna Krishnan said the sector's debt levels will moderate in FY25, and are expected to decline going forward with the expected moderation in capex intensity coupled with muted participation in recently concluded June 2024 spectrum auction.

leverage ratio (debt/PBILDT) of the telcos is to improve from 4.35x in FY24 to 3.8x in FY25 with the expansion in PBILDT and some moderation in debt level," he added

Sensex, Nifty close at fresh record highs on gains in IT, banking shares

PNS MUMBAI

Benchmark Sensex rose by 443 points to close at a new record high while Nifty settled above the 24,100 mark on Monday on buying in banking and IT shares in line with gains in Asian and European markets.

The 30-share BSE Sensex rebounded by 443.46 points or 0.56 per cent to close at an all-time high of 79,476.19. During the day, the barometer soared 528.27 points or 0.66 per cent to 79,561. As many as 20 Sensex shares closed higher while 10 stocks declined. The broader Nifty rose by 131.35 points or 0.55 per cent to close at a fresh lifetime high of 24,141.95. Intra-day, the index hit a high of 24,164, just 10 points short of its lifetime high of

24,174 hit on Friday. Sensex and Nifty had hit intra-day record high levels on Friday but closed lower due to profit-taking in blue-

Âmong Sensex shares, Tech Mahindra, UltraTech

Cement, Bajaj Finance, Hindustan Únilever, Tata Consultancy Services, JSW Steel, Infosys, HDFC Bank, Tata Motors and ICICI Bank were the biggest gainers.

NTPC, State Bank of India, Larsen & Toubro, Sun Pharma, IndusInd Bank and Axis Bank were among the laggards.

The domestic market sustained its upward momentum, with a reduction in US PCE inflation raising hopes for a rate cut by the US Fed in September. This optimism contributed to the strong performance of IT stocks," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research, Geojit Financial Services.

India's manufacturing sec-

tor output increased at a sharp pace in June as new business continued to flow in amid favourable demand conditions and resulted in record upturn in employment, an HSBC PMI survey showed.



29.06.2024 and from the eligible registers contractors for 04 works in Khammam Distri-sanctioned under MRR grant with an estimat continued under week grant win an estimate cost Rs. 274,00 Lakhs.

Description of items ECV, EMD availability of tender documents, important dates, tender conditions, eligibility of bender and all other details are available from 03.07.2024

wards on https://tender.telangana.gov.ir SUPERINTENDING ENGINEER, P.R. JOHAMMAM R.O. No.: \$3-0PICL-AGENCY/ADVTHI2024-25, Date: 01.07.2024

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA TRIBAL WELFARE ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

NIT.NO.SE/TW/HYD/232 to 485 (20 works)/2023-24, Name of the work: Certain B.T.Road works 20 Nos for Rs.3439.00 Lakhs, Bid

DIPR R.O. No.: 55-DP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2024-25

Foods informed that the board has approved the "acquisition of the entire non-food business undertaking i.e. hair care, skin care, dental care and home care

Baba Ramdev-led Patanjali

Ayurved has decided to sell its

home and personal care busi-

ness to listed group firm Patanjali Foods Ltd for Rs

1,100 crore. The acquisition will help edible oil firm

Patanjali Foods to become an

FMCG company.
In a regulator filing, Patanjali



limited to all movable assets, records, employees and certain

carried out by Patanjali immovable properties, con-Ayurved, including but not tracts, licenses, books and

assumed liabilities of PAL through a slump sale arrangement on a going concern basis". This is subject to the approval

of shareholders, lenders and other necessary approvals. The deal will accelerate the company's transition into a leading FMCG company, Patanjali Foods said. The home and personal care business of Patanjali Ayurved currently has strong brand equity in India's FMCG space and enjoys a loyal consumer base, the filing said.

Presently, it caters to four key segments - dental care, skin

to use the trademarks and associated intellectual property rights, owned by the latter.
"The transfer of the home and personal care business has been mutually negotiated between the company and Patanjali Ayurved (basis valuation exercises conducted by

independent valuers) for a

1,100 crore only".

care, home care, and hair care.

Ayurved have also agreed to

enter into a licensing agree-

ment, permitting the company

Patanjali Foods and Patanjali

lump sum consideration of Rs

The pioneer Contraction of the pioneer Contracti the pioneer

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Tuesday July 2, 2024

ROAD TO GLOBAL RECOGNITION

Natania creating waves globally with her collabs along Selena Gomez & Naomi

SHIKHA DUGGAL

Making a niche in the music industry for herself, Natania Lalwani has captivated audience yet again with her tracks Gulzar and Thank You God. In an exclusive chat with The Pioneer, she discusses anything and everything around her music and inspirations.

oining *Desi Trill* and receiving guidance from Jay Z's Roc Nation, Natania has carved out a successful career for herself by contributing to high-caliber productions like 4 More Shots Please, Ruby Gillman, Teenage Kraken, Joy Ride, Wedding Season, Industry Promo and Only Murders in the Building, which starred Selena Gomez.

A special interview with Natania Lalwani, currently one of the most in-demand and endearing singers. Her singing style, voice and genuine demeanour captivates the audience at numerous musical venues. Her latest track Gulzar is currently trending and meanwhile, her composed Thank You God had went viral.

She starts off with gusto, saying, "When I was growing up, my mom used to listen to music a lot. I've always liked music, thanks to artists like Bob Dylan, Cat Stevens, Whitney Houston, Simon & Garfunkel and others. I believe that my passion for Bollywood Shiamak dancing, together with other factors, ultimately shaped my style."

Her most recent body of work includes songwriting credits on *Do It Like That* for *The* Fall Guy, starring Ryan Gosling and Emily Blunt and her debut worldwide single Gulzar, a brand anthem for Naomi Osaka. "I think I had a level of delusion (which I still have, haha), and I didn't really overthink it. I just knew I wanted to go pursue music," the singer-songwriter adds in additional information. "Convincing my parents that sending me across the world was what I really wanted to accomplish was the difficult part at the time. In the end, I took advantage of

every musical opportunity available at the time, including joining a choir to prove to them how serious I was!

She presently juggles numerous balls, so anyone looking for an answer to issues about abundance of talent should turn to her. The pop singer has been relentlessly pushing her boundaries by accepting new tasks, all while utilising her skills in the entertainment industry. "I constantly create based on feeling and emotion in both realms, trying not to overthink things. I enjoy writing pop music and adding Indian portions to help convey the narrative and heighten the emotion," a

Sindhi native adds. Mumbai Magic, a new song by Desi Trill, takes the city by storm and wraps itself around millions of stories. The song is a joyous celebration of bustle, tradition and hope. The three musicians on the label, Shalmali Kholgade, Subhi and Natania Lalwani, envision a Mumbai in which timehonoured customs coexist with the energy of a contemporary city. The song pays tribute to how the city can inspire and energise people, serving as both a home and a muse. from the colonial gateway of India to the Bandra-Worli Sea Link, Conversely, we hear Natania, who was a member of The Stop Gaps Choral Ensemble, regarded as one of India's most esteemed choirs, go on to say, "I wrote the Gulzar song in response to a conversation I had with someone in which I chose to be extremely vulnerable and express my feelings. He had asked for my patience as he talked about his feelings, so that evening I went into the studio and stated, 'He said I have to be patient!' Gulzar was then born. She wants to remind people to go boldly and show their hearts

they really are. That produces only lovely things and life is too short to do anything else. Gulzar originated from a deeply intimate event and was a highly personal song. Furthermore, every song that she is releasing as an artist is inspired by a true event or circumstance. Sharing her music with the public and using it as a

vehicle for self-

expression feels

really freeing.

by showing them who

She participated in the Boston Summer Program at the Berklee School of Music in 2010. After that, she relocated to Los Angeles and enrolled at Hollywood, California's Musician's Institute. "There is no set recipe for collaborations; they all happen so differently. I'm lucky to have a fantastic support system around me that helps me get into situations that result in amazing partnerships like these. It constantly serves as a reminder that teamwork is essential to success in all endeavours and I genuinely like assisting other artists in sharing their tales."

Buzz was generated when Natania's single Mess Me Up was released on Lowly Palace and Chill Nation. After that, she dropped the single Yellow Lights, which became the first cover of the official Spotify playlist No Borders and was included on other Spotify and Saavn playlists. More than 1.5 million streams have been received. It made its debut on Rolling Stone and was played on Radio One throughout India. Natania has collaborated with Not Famous on Kissing Mouths, Deep Chills on Feelings and Muscle Memory since their

releases. Additionally, from this, we also learned that, "Normally, I just compose music without considering a particular brand or brief. I'm much more creative when it comes to the lyrical content of those studio sessions. so I always try to think outside the box and attempt something new. It's similar to letting go and seeing what emerges when you step into the creative

Thankfully, thus far, brands have appeared to relate to those records of mine.

Her music is entirely focused on her personal experiences, but when she creates for other musicians, she almost acts as a best friend or therapist, helping them go deeply into their tales. It's really a privilege for her to be able to do that! She genuinely thinks that India is about to have its moment. "It's time to go worldwide because India has incredible talent! There seems to have been a change in the way that people want to hear new sounds and this is the ideal moment and place for Indian music to gain popularity," Four More Shots fame shared.

"I remember when I didn't have a team at all and I was sending hundreds of emails a day to try and collaborate with artists and I was so disappointed that no one was responding to me," she says, describing a particularly difficult period in her career. "It taught me to try the window if the door won't open and to accept rejections with a grain of salt! As an artist, I believe that persistence is a crucial attribute, as is having a strong enough self-belief to keep continuing."

In this interview, the *Thug Ranjha* fame looks ahead and declares, "I want to do anything and everything! As an artist, my main objective is to express my narrative from the bottom of my heart through music and establish a connection with listeners. I also want to discover methods to work with India to create music that contributes to global cultural moments. Oh and I'd like to receive a Grammy. Working with Naomi Osaka was undoubtedly an eye-opening experience! Beats absolutely adored the record we previously owned and this song was incredibly inspiring. Shuffle the deck, I'm the queen of the pack is the opening line and it truly reflects an icon like Naomi, so I'm glad it suited and we got to work together to create a time for her to shine."

To be honest, "Only Murders in the Building with Selena Gomez was a really fun project to work on. They liked a song I already had and they thought it was a perfect fit for the scene when Selena Gomez was in an art gallery. I was thrilled that it worked so perfectly there! I was particularly excited about working on Four More Shots because Mikey Mccleary had asked me to co-write the theme song, something I had been yearning to do for a long time. After that, I worked with him to compose the music for the entire production and we had to immerse ourselves in the characters' lives and minds. After seeing the episodes, we would modify the songs to reflect the experiences of the characters. It was a lot of joy for me to select a few of the vocalists to perform the songs.

EMBODYING THE ESSENCE OF PRANIC HEALING

PNS HYDERABAD

nspired by the soul's journey toward self-realisation, Niki Hingad, the founder of Thetapegaasi, embraced both art and pranic healing. This intertwining of creativity and healing is a harmonious pursuit of spiritual growth and understanding of oneself.

An internationally acclaimed artist and a pranic healer recognised by the Art Society of India, her work has been showcased in prestigious exhibitions at venues such as Jehangir Art Gallery, as well as in London and Frisco, and has been featured in prominent New York art magazines. Her artistic approach delves into metaphysical themes, particularly the concept of "Shunya," or zero, exploring the depths of existence.

Sharing more in detail on the concept of Shunya or zero influence on her artistic creations, she shares, "I was fortunate to explore the concept of Shunya, delving into its essence of nothingness. I discovered that it forms the foundation of everything, encompassing various levels of truth. For instance, Jainism asserts that shunyata never existed, while Hinduism offers a different perspective. In science, multiplying anything by zero results in zero, and dividing by zero leads to infinity. This profound realm captivated my

exploration." Several pivotal experiences have shaped her dedication to pranic healing essential over the past 15 years. The intrinsic drive to know herself led Niki to integrate healing with her art. She enthuses, "Understanding and exploring the inner journey is crucial and Pranic Healing has facilitated this for me since I embarked on this path 15 years ago. Witnessing the limitations of conventional medicine in addressing chronic conditions and emotional distress motivated me to seek alternative healing methods. Pranic healing provided a holistic approach that addressed not just the symptoms but also the underlying energetic imbalances, offering profound and lasting relief."

Over the years, working with diverse patients facing critical health issues,

ment to pranic healing. The transformative results that she observed, including significant improvements in health and well-being, reinforced her belief in the effectiveness of this practice. Each success story further fueled her passion and dedication, driving her to deepen her

knowledge and refine her techniques. The COVID-19 pandemic was another pivotal moment that underscored the importance of holistic healing. The widespread impact of the virus on both physical and mental health highlighted the need for effective, natural remedies. Her work during this time, particularly with patients suffering from post-COVID symptoms like anxiety and insomnia, reaffirmed the critical role of pranic healing in providing comprehensive



such as cancer, dengue and severe was inspired to create a brand that could been a significant part of my healing depression, further solidified her commit-provide natural and effective remedies to practice, providing immediate and address these issues.

She thus aims to harness the essential oils to promote natural healing and wellness. Each product is meticulously crafted with care, enhanced with the energy of crystals to amplify its impact, and sourced globally with ethical precision to

ensure the highest quality.

The connection between art and healing practices is straightforward: she can infuse more creativity and thoughtfulness into the process, producing the most impactful outcomes.

And so further, she shares, "Essential oils have always

an exclusive chat with *The Pioneer*, internationally acclaimed artist Niki Hingad. discusses embracing art and pranic healing with the goodness of essential oils. also serves as a director

al, and energetic—aligns perfectly with my holistic wellness approach. In pranic healing, we understand that true health encompasses not just the physical body but also the mind and spirit." Additionally, her commitment to social responsibility led her to establish an art foundation, introducing art education to children

nationwide in col-

laboration with the

JJ School of Arts. She

practice, providing immediate and effective relief for a wide range of health

issues. What inspired me to focus

specifically on pure essential oils was

witnessing their profound impact on both physical and emotional well-

being. Essential oils are incredibly ver-

satile; a single drop can uplift a person's

mood, ease stress, and promote healing at a cellular level. Their ability to work

on multiple levels-physical, emotion-

at the Council for Fair Business Practices. Art and healing intersect profoundly, contributing to social responsibility and community well-being. Art serves as a powerful medium for expression, addressing social issues and fostering empathy through creative exploration. "Art therapy enhances emotional healing by providing a non-verbal outlet for individuals to process experiences and connect with others. Together, art and healing create spaces for connection and dialogue, nurturing inclusive communities and promoting mental well-being while advocating for social change."

Also, as a director at the Council for Fair Business Practices, she aims to promote fair business practices within society. As the director of this institute, she strives to incorporate the voice of holistic practices and wellness into our community.

Managing hormonal imbalances with Keto

ormonal imbalances can significantly affect one's health and well-being, leading to issues such as weight gain, fatigue, mood swings, and reproductive challenges. The ketogenic diet, commonly known as keto, has gained attention for its potential benefits in managing these imbalances. Below we are discussing how keto can play a role in hormone health and how his specially designed Ketorets Method can help.

• Understanding the ketogenic diet The ketogenic diet is a high-fat, low-carbohydrate

eating plan that shifts the body's metabolism from relying on glucose for energy to utilising ketones, which are produced from fat. This metabolic state, known as ketosis, can influence several hormonal pathways in the body

• Insulin and glucagon balance

conversations.

One of the most significant effects of the keto diet is its impact on insulin levels. Insulin is a hormone that regulates blood sugar levels, and its overproduction can lead to insulin resistance, a common precursor to type 2 diabetes and polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS). By drastically

reducing carbohydrate intake, keto helps lower insulin levels, improving insulin sensitivity and aiding in the management of conditions like PCOS. which is often characterised by insulin resistance and hormonal imbalances.

• Impact on ghrelin and leptin

Ghrelin and leptin are hormones that regulate hunger and satiety. A ketogenic diet can help stabilise these hormones, reducing hunger and aiding in weight management. This is particularly beneficial for individuals struggling with hormonal weight gain, as it promotes a more balanced appetite and can support long-term weight loss efforts.

• Estrogen and progesterone

For women, the balance of estrogen and progesterone is crucial for reproductive health and overall well-being. Keto's ability to influence insulin and reduce inflammation can have a positive effect on these hormones. Lowering insulin levels helps manage

symptoms like weight gain, bloating, and mood swings. Additionally, the anti-inflammatory properties of a ketogenic diet can support hormonal balance and reduce symptoms associated with menstrual cycles

• The ketorets method

Rahul Kamra has designed the Ketorets Method, a structured approach that has helped many individuals improve their hormonal health. This method integrates Intermittent Fat Fasting, Circadian Rhythm Hacking, and Caloric Deficit to create a comprehensive plan that addresses hormonal imbalances. The Ketorets Method emphasizes the importance of nutrient-dense foods and personalised adjustments to maintain hormonal

Considerations and personalisation

While keto can offer significant benefits for managing hormonal imbalances. Kamra emphasises the importance of personalisation and caution. Each individual's hormonal



landscape is unique, and what works for one person may not work for another Women, in particular, should pay close attention to their bodies and consult with healthcare providers to ensure their nutritional needs are met. For those with specific

conditions like thyroid disorders, It is advised that a well-formulated ketogenic diet that includes a variety of nutrient-dense foods is essential. Ensuring adequate intake of vitamins, minerals, and fiber is crucial to avoid potential

The ketogenic diet holds promise as a tool for managing hormonal imbalances, thanks to its effects on insulin, appetite-regulating hormones, and inflammation.

deficiencies and support overall health.

However, it's not a one-size-fits-all solution. Personalised approaches, guided by professional advice, can help individuals harness the benefits of keto while maintaining hormonal health and overall

(The author, Rahul Kamra is the Founder of Ketorets.)

what's brewing?



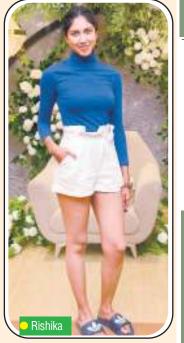




























Oasis Fertility marked the second anniversary of its Uppal fertility center. The occasion was celebrated by honouring the couples who achieved parenthood through fertility treatments. With an impressive success rate of 69% in IV treatments, surpassing the global average of 52%, they have been dedicated to supporting couples in their challenging journey to





Continental Hospitals hosted a National Gastrointestinal (GI) Conference 2024 in collaboration with experts from Mayo Clinic and the University of Oxford. The conference, themed "From Bench to Bedside," aimed to bridge the gap between research and practical application in GI care. The three-day event was held at the Sheraton Hotel in Hyderabad.

ARCHIE

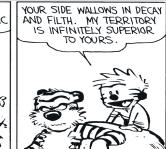






CALVIN AND HOBBES









GARFIELD







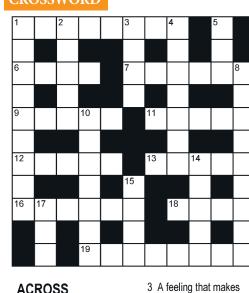


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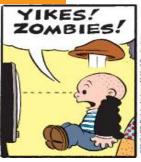
SPEED BUMP



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NANCY



GINGER MEGGS







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ACROSS

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- 9 A pale purple colour
- 11 A crown-wearing woman
- 15 The largest continent 12 A female relation 17 Adult males 13 Workers sit at these in
 - offices
- 16 Hot coals left after a fire 18 A list of restaurant meals
- 19 People who work in classrooms

1 An emergency vehicle

DOWN

2 Normal

you want to scratch

4 Check the length of

8 Large extinct animals

14 A person from Sweden

5 A female sheep









tollywood

'WE STYLED JR NTR'S OSCAR OUTFIT SPIRED BY HIS ICONIC ROAR IN RRR'

Tollywood's style icon Ashwin Mawle, who has been the stylist for the stars of Telugu cinema, speaks over an exclusive telephonic interaction with *The Pioneer* sharing his journey transitioning from international model, being recognised by Allu Arjun and styling stars representing Telugu cinema on global platform.



one are the days when we didn't need the advice of a stylist for our big days. Today, celebrities have their own personal stylists, making them glam bam every time on stage. Well, today we have with us one such stylist, Ashwin Mewale, onboard for our Tollywood segment. You name a celeb and he has worked with them. Ever since being noticed by *Pushpa* star Allu Arjun, he has very well won the title of being Tollywood's BFF stylist. Most recently, he has become the very first stylist from the South to style celebrities for their global awards, including styling Allu Arjun for the National Award and the Berlin Film Festival. But would you believe, if we say, that becoming a stylist happened pretty accidentally in his journey? Initially, at the age of 16, he got an international modelling offer from Switzerland. The Hyderabadibased stylist, via a telephonic call with *The Pioneer*,

recalls, "It was a tough decision to make if I had to pursue my studies or to take up this coincidental offer that took me to Switzerland. I was anyways weak at studies; my parents and I had to push me to study, which I failed miserable at. It was a very young decision to make for something that had come to me very coincidentally. I never thought that I could be a model because I was all freckled, pimpled and longhaired, like that teen who was growing into adolescence. But if something was coming my way, I could see that I'd never been abroad by then, and so I thought, if nothing, I'd get a free trip abroad." "I had nothing in my mind; I didn't know what a stylist was," he humorously shares. "I did not know the spelling or anything like a stylist that exists. (we

laugh). Like I told you, I was ambitionless. I took up

my modelling career by fluke! The only thing in my head was that I'd get to see foreigners (he laughs out loud). I did not see the struggles or anything related to modelling too until I was trained. My agency just told me that you are photogenic and that you can do really well. That was like a learning experience there, but I had no idea what I wanted to do. In my life, many things have been coincidental and very impromptu." Having never been to a fashion school, becoming a stylist too came up very extemporely. During his break time in his modelling work, he made sure to visit Hyderabad, or even twice a year. It was during this time that he and actor Allu Arjun became good friends, and it was him who spotted his hidden talent and asked him to style the actor for Arya 2. "He told me that I was not supposed to do anything much but just shop for him. He liked the way I used to dress and called me the 'best dressed guy in the city'. I love the way you spare things up and style yourself. I want something like that for me in this movie." he gleefully recalls. He, along with the star, travelled to Dubai for his shopping and it was he who also helped Ashwin out about how to pair certain things for a scene. During this, a buzz happened that Allu Arjun had hired a stylist, and the concept of a stylist was pretty new for South Indian cinema back then. He further recalls, "The buzz also claimed that the stylist was from abroad, though I was from Hyderabad. The curiosity of media and people was x100. When the pre-release stills from the film came out, everybody was like, this (Arya 2) has become the most-stylist film of South

After that, he was poured in with a lot of offers. One of which was styling Kajal Aggarwal with 70 costumes in *Darling*. By the time he could realise, months had passed in Hyderabad and he had taken up many

India back then."

offers and signed a lot of films. He suddenly became the stylist of South Cinema. He realised this was his calling and passion, which were hidden. "Kajal has been a sweetheart and she has been my first best friend in the industry," shares the stylist, who has also styled Jr NTR for the Golden Globe Award and styled megastar Chiranjeevi for the Padmavibhushan Award, as we discuss him styling the Darling star for the film. "Though I was a beginner and I didn't know what costume designing for a film was like, she's always been there and taught me. She was the first actress I styled. Styling a male actor was very easy because it was like I was styling myself. However, on the other hand, styling an actress involves a lot of things. Kajal was so helpful and understanding and sometimes she'd simply let my

mistakes just go away." The industry, he says, has taught him a lot throughout his career. While there was his initial calling by Allu Ariun. Jr NTR has always been a big supporter in the industry to teach him a lot of things. Then there's director Sukumar, who, to him, was like his school teacher. It was the support he has received from the stars that, he says, has made his journey flow so smoothly. "Jr NTR and I go back almost eight years or even more. I have been styling him in all his films. appearances, projects and advertisements. When it came to the Oscars, it was a surreal moment for all of us. The only thing I knew, even before he told me, was that I had to make something special for him. We had to make sure to create something that made the world turn around and look at him. We sat down and I presented a few of them and he zeroed in like two or three and we locked in Gaurav Gupta to design. We came up with the concept of the most iconic scene in RRR, where Jr NTR roars like a tiger. We took that as

inspiration and incorporated it into his black velvet sherwani. This was done in no time by Gaurav Gupta. All thanks to him and his team for creating it in 2 days. And that's how his outfit was the most talked about on the red carpet at the Oscars."

Styling for 100% Love with Naga Chaitanya and Tamannaah was one of his most challenging projects, with the transitions that Tamannaah's character brings into the film. He further credits both actors for making it easier for him to work. Then the next challenging one was Temper, since the film demanded a new look for Jr. NTR. He also adds that Nannaku Prematho was more challenging than Temper because it had Jr. NTR in a look never seen before. "I took up that challenge to make this look because it was an entire game-changer look for NTR. The pre-planning was certainly challenging, but the outcome was worth it. He gave me the freedom to try out different looks." You go by his portfolio, and just like we mentioned, he has worked with many celebrities. Well, the cutie couple Varun Tej and Lavanya Tripathi, one could just not stop to adore their wedding pictures. And guess what? The couple was styled by none other than Ashwin! "When they called me and my partner, they were like, There's something we wanted to share with you. We, of course, knew what was coming. It took us a couple of months to go to the locations, and we came up with colour palettes and the theme. I gave them a presentation and they just loved it. They just left it to us. It was just not both of them, but we had styled the entire guest list, right from Allu Arjun to the brothers and cousins of the couple. We did almost 90 wedding looks for all of them in just one month." Well, for him, it would be a dream come true to work with Deepika Padukone, Privanka Chopra and Varun





omma Barusu Productions has released a teaser for The Birthday Boy, directed by debut NRI team The Birthday Boy, directed by debut NRI team Whisky and partner. Tollywood director Mehar Ramesh unveiled the teaser, appreciating the filmmakers' creative approach. The film will be released on July 19. The teaser features a classic TV broadcast and a joyful

birthday party that takes a dark turn when the police arrive. The movie follows five friends as they navigate life in the United States, combining humour, drama and real-world situations.

The makers have employed the sync sound (live

recording) technique to ensure authenticity and a realistic mood. Whisky and his producing partner have invested all their savings into this high-quality, technically superior film. To enhance the film's visual appeal, a Hollywood technician from Turkey has also been brought on board for a unique type of colour grading. *The Birthday Boy* promises to be a captivating blend of humour, drama and real-life experiences, brought to life by a passionate team of newcomers.

Sudheer Babu to star in a pan-India supernatural mystery thriller

Sudheer Babu, the celebrated Telugu star also known as Nawa Dhalapati, will be leading an upcoming supernatural thriller film. This pan-Indian film is set to break new ground with its unparalleled visual effects and a storyline that promises to be larger than life.

Directed by debutant Venkat Kalyan, this film will offer an extraordinary cinematic experience. Sudheer Babu, fresh off the success of his latest theatrical release, *Harom Hara*, which premiered on June 14, 2024, has been widely praised for its intense action

sequences and engaging narrative. This ambitious film will be presented by Prerna Arora. The makers are on the verge of announcing a major heroine from Bollywood who will join this stellar cast. The film will be released around Shivratri in March 2025. This project is set to be the biggest pan-India release, marking a significant milestone in Indian cinema. It will depict an epic battle

between good and evil energies, adding depth and intrigue to the story! Sudheer adds, "I've been travelling this path for a year now, delving into this script and genre and I can't wait to share this journey with our audience. Prerna Arora, our dedicated team and I are pouring our hearts into delivering a world-class cinematic experience. We're excited to bring a story that truly resonates and we hope it leaves a lasting impact on everyone who

Demi-Leigh Tebow in Calendar Song captivates all



Shine Screens' much-anticipated 8th film, directed by Koushik Pegallapati of Chaavu Kaburu Challaga fame, was officially launched on Monday with a grand pooja ceremony at Annapurna Studios. Set in a distinctive world with a captivating premise, this horrormystery film has already created a buzz with its intriguing first look. The film stars the action hulk Bellamkonda Sai Sreenivas and the evercharming Anupama Parmeswaran in lead roles, promising a gripping narrative that will keep audiences on the edge of their seats. Adding to the buzz around the project, both stars are slated to portray parts they have never played before in their lives. Regular filming is

Sriram's Kodi

with a grand

Sannidhanam temple.

Burra launched

pooja ceremony

Hero Sriram, who has impressed the Telugu audience with films like Okariki Okaru, Rojapulu, Snehithulu and Raagala 24 Gantallo, has officially launched his new movie Kodi Burra on Monday at the Hyderabad Film Nagar Daiva

This film is produced by Kancharla Satyanarayana Reddy,

Gattu Vijay Goud, Chinni Chandu, Vattam Raghavendra and Samudrala Mahesh Goud under the V4 Creations banner.

Aarushi play the heroines. Mahaveer also plays an important

role. MLA MalReddy Rangareddy, who was a guest at the *Kodi Burra* movie launching ceremony, turned on the camera.

Producer Bekkem Venugopal applauded, while director Bharat Kamma handed over the script afterwards.

Director Chandrasekhar Kanuri stated, "We are excited to

begin filming Kodi Burra. Sriram, the hero, will be portrayed

differently in this film. So far, he has appeared in films about love and romance. Sriram will appear as a police officer in

this film! Shruti Menon, the heroine, is playing a doctor."

According to hero Sriram, the *Kodi Burra* movie will have a crime thriller narrative. "When you hear the title of our film, you will have a better sense of what it is about. I

fourth film. The Kodi Burra movie is being made with an

interesting narration to appeal to everyone. Shruti Menon

has made films in both Tamil and Malayalam. Now, with

am delighted to be working on this film with V4

Creations. This is our director Chandrasekhar's

this film, she is being introduced to

Telugu. I'm happy to be a part of an

interesting film."

Chandrasekhar Kanuri serves as the director. Shruti Menon and

scheduled to begin on July 11 and will proceed at full speed. With a talented cast and crew and an innovative storyline, this film is sure to capture the attention of cinemagoers and leave

a significant impact on



the anticipation for *Bharateeyudu 2 (Indian 2)*, the highly anticipated vigilante-thriller starring the Universal Star Kamal Haasan, is reaching a fever pitch. The film, directed by the S Shankar, sees Haasan reprise his iconic role as Senapathy, the aged freedom fighter.

The excitement surrounding the film reached a new peak with the release of the catchy new single, *Calendar Song*. The song, a vibrant blend of energy and style, is sure to appeal to the masses, featuring a special appearance by Miss Universe 2017, Demi-Leigh Tebow. The visuals, reminiscent of Shankar's visual style, promise

a treat for the senses. Calendar Song, composed by the musical maestro Anirudh Ravichander, is a mesmerising track featuring enchanting vocals by Sravana Bharagavi. The lyrics, penned by Chandra Bose, add anoth-

er layer of depth to the song.

Produced by Subhaskaran's Red Giant Movies and Lyca Productions, Bharateeyudu 2 promises a grand cinematic spectacle, blending high-octane action with a powerful message of social justice.



APSARA RANI TO FRIGHTEN IN RACHARIKAM

A psara Rani, Vijay Shankar and Varun Sandesh starrer's upcoming film *Racharikam* is a firstof-its-kind blood-curdling thriller. This movie is being produced by Eswar under the banner of Chill Bros. Entertainments. This movie is directed by Suresh Lankalapalli, who also provided the story and screenplay. The post-production work for this movie, which has already completed its shooting, is in full swing. The makers are making the movie without compromising anywhere and are set to give a never-before experience to the viewers. Recently, a special poster from the movie featuring heroine Apsara Rani was released, and there was a huge response from the audience. The poster showed Apsara Rani in an aggressive avatar like Kaali Maa, with blood all over the body. As the poster suggests, the movie will have great significance for Apsara Rani. This movie is being made with a thrilling concept, different content and

scenes that will hook the average viewer. The postproduction activities of this film are going on at a fast pace in Saradhi Studios. Expectations have been created among the audience about this movie, which is in the final stages. Hyper Aadi, Rangasthalam Mahesh, Vijay Ramaraju, Srikanth Iyengar, Mahboob Basha, Rupesh Marrapu, Prachi Thaker, Latha, Ishwar and others are playing important roles in this film. Varun Sandesh's role in the film will please the mass audience. While Vengi provided the music for this movie, Arya Sai Krishna worked as the cameraman. Ram Prasad provided the dialogue. Chanakya is the executive producer and JP is the

The release date of this movie will be announced

SIX INDIANS IN ICC TEAM OF TOURNAMENT



he International Cricket Council has picked six Indians in its Team of the Tournament' for the justconcluded T20 World Cup but there was no place for star batter Virat Kohli, who played a match-winning knock in the final against South Africa.

In his new role as an opener, Kohli had an underwhelming World Cup before rising to the occasion in the big final where he was adjudged man-of-the-

match for his 59-ball 76. India pipped South Africa by seven runs in a sensational comeback in the death overs to win their second T20 World Cup title after 17 years.

The ICC XI featured Indian skipper Rohit Sharma, Suryakumar Yadav, Hardik Pandya, Axar Patel and two pacers in Jasprit Bumrah and Arshdeep Singh.
Rohit led from the front with

257 runs at a splendid strikerate of 156.7 to his name. He was the second most leading

run-getter after Afghanistan's Rahmanullah Gurbaz.

The Player of the Tournament and India's trump card in their title win, Bumrah returned with 15 wickets.

But more than his wickets, his impact in restricting the scoring rate of teams made India's Bumrah most important player right through the tournament.

His economy rate of 4.17 was the best ever by any bowler in a single edition of the men's T20

Following their historic semifinal finish, Afghanistan found three players in the ICC team, including left-arm quick Fazalhaq Farooqi, who topped the wicket-takers chart jointly with Arshdeep (17 wickets each).

Wicketkeeper-batter Rahmanullah Gurbaz, who topped the runs scorers' list with 281 runs as an opener for Afghanistan, also found a place alongside skipper Rashid

crafty leg-spinner

brilliantly led Afghanistan in their historic run and returned with 14 wickets with a tidy economy of 6.17. Marcus Stoinis of Australia

and Nicholas Pooran of the tournament co-hosts West Indies completed the XI. Runners-up South Africa did not find a player in the XI and pacer Anrich Nortje was named the 12th man.

Nortje began the tournament with a brilliant 4/7 against Sri Lanka and took at least one wicket in all but one match.

In the final, he was the pick of South Africa's bowlers with figures of 2/26 from his four

ICC TEAM OF TOURNAMENT: Sharma, Suryakumar Yadav, Hardik Pandya, Axar Patel, Jasprit Bumrah, Arshdeep Singh (all Indians); Rahmanullah Gurbaz, Rashid Khan, Fazalhaq Farooqi (Afghanistan); Marcus Stoinis (Australia) and Nicholas Pooran (West Indies); 12th man: Anrich Nortje.

be decided by selectors: Shah Rohit

Talking to select media here, Shah lauded the contribution of senior players in the side's T20 World Cup triumph at the end of which skipper Rohit, senior batting star Virat Kohli and all-rounder Ravindra Jadeja announced their retirement from the shortest format's international

Transition has already happened with three greats retiring," Shah said when asked about his thoughts on the team's next phase following the retirement of the seasoned trio. "The way this team is progressing, our target is to win the World Test Championship final and Champions Trophy. There will be a similar squad playing there. The seniors will be there," he added. This means that fitness

Seniors will be there in CT and WTC; next T20 captain to

BCCI Secretary Jay Shah on Monday asserted that "seniors will be there" in next year's Champions Trophy and the World Test Championship final if India qualifies for it, while a decision on whether Hardik Pandya succeeds Rohit Sharma as the next T20 captain will be taken solely by the selectors.

assignments.

permitting, senior players are likely to be available for the

nine ODI matches that India will play before the Champions Trophy scheduled in February-March in Pakistan.

India's ODI assignments before that include three games each against Sri Lanka (away), New Zealand (home) and England (home).

On Hardik Pandya's all-round performance in the World Cup and chances of him taking over captaincy from Rohit in the T20 format, Shah said: 'Captaincy will be decided by the selectors and we will announce it after discussing with them.

You asked about Hardik, there were lot of questions over his form but we and selectors showed faith in him and he proved himself."

Pandya served as Rohit's deputy in the format.

India broke the shackles of a tormenting 11-year run during which the side failed to win a single ICC title.

After losing two ICC finals over the last 12 months, the trophy drought finally ended here and Shah hoped the winning run will continue.

"I would want India to win all the titles. We have the biggest bench strength, only three players from this team are going to Zimbabwe. We can field three teams if the need



All three white ticked off; one red to go, tick it: Dravid to Kohli

PTI ■ BRIDGETOWN

Staying true to his no-nonsense taskmaster image, outgoing India head coach Rahul Dravid had an assignment for star batter Virat Kohli even on his last day at work and within hours of India winning the T20 World Cup. "All three white ticked off, one red to go. Tick it," Dravid told Kohli in a video of the Indian

By three white he meant the limited-overs global trophies -the T20 World Cup, the ODI World Cup and the Champions Trophy -- all of which Kohli has collected as a player. What's left now is winning the World Test Championship Final.

India have lost the WTC Final twice (against New Zealand in 2021 and Australia in 2023).

The 35-year-old Kohli, who retired from Internationals after the World Cup triumph here on Saturday, merely smiled at Dravid as he repeated himself to assert his point, albeit with a warm smile on his face.

"Go tick it." The 51-year-old Dravid, who was appointed India coach in 2021, ended his tenure with this event.

India defeated South Africa by seven runs in the humdinger to claim their second overall T20 world crown, having won the of about 70 members.

title in its inaugural edition in South Africa back in 2007 under Mahendra Singh Dhoni. In the ODI format, India won the 1983 and 2011 World Cups before snaring the 2013 Champions Trophy.

The congratulatory video also featured Suryakumar Yadav, whose blinder of a catch to dismiss David Miller proved crucial in the final here.

The Mumbaikar said it would dressing room celebrations shared by the ICC on its fully grasp the enormity of the

> "No feelings right now, I don't know what to say," he said. Pacer Arshdeep Singh flaunted a couple of polaroid shots of his, one taken on the morning of the final and the other with

> the winner's medal around his neck and the trophy in his hands in the afternoon. "This is what belief can do," he

said. The Indian team is currently stranded here as Barbados has been shut down due to hurricane Beryl, originating in the Atlantic. The category 4 hurricane has intensified with maximum sustained winds of 210 kmph.

The Indian team was supposed to take an Emirates flight from New York via Dubai. A source told PTI that the plan now is to take the team back to India on a charter flight.

Indian contingent, including support staff, families, and officials, consists

inevitable.

India to tour Australia for multi-format Women A series in August Charli Knott will be in charge Courtney Sippel, Tayla Vlaeminck, Tahlia Wilson.

PTI ■ SYDNEY

India and Australia will lock horns in a multi-format women's A series in Queensland next month, in what is seen as a preparation for the upcoming T20 World Cup in Bangladesh in less than four months' time. The tour will comprise of

three T20Is in Brisbane, three ODIs in Mackay and a four-day match at Gold Coast. Cricket Australia on Monday confirmed the schedule and named three Australia A squads for the series.

Australia vice-captain Tahlia McGrath will lead the 20-over and 50-over sides, while of the four-day game.

"I'm really looking forward to being a part of this series and for the challenge that India A will pose," McGrath said in cricket.Com.Au. "It presents those of us not

playing in The Hundred with the chance to prepare for a huge summer against a strong opposition," she added. Fellow Australia quicks Megan Schutt, Kim Garth and

Tayla Vlaeminck will also feature in the white-ball matches, which will be their first hit-out since April's tour of Bangladesh as they begin preparations for the T20 World Cup scheduled in

First T20I: August 7: Second T20: August 9; Third T20: August 11 (at Allan Border Field).

First one-dayer: August 14; Second one-dayer: August 16; Third one-dayer: August 18 (at Great Barrier Reef Arena, Mackay).

Four-day match: August 22-25, Gold Coast District Cricket Club.

AUSTRALIA A SQUADS
T20 squad: Maddy Darke,
Sophie Day, Nicole Faltum
(wk), Tess Flintoff, Kim Garth, Charli Knott (vc), Katie Mack, Tahlia McGrath (c), Grace Parsons, Megan Schutt,

One-day squad: Maitlan Brown (2nd and 3rd matches only), Maddy Darke, Sophie Day, Nicole Faltum (wk), Tess Flintoff, Kim Garth, Charli Knott (vc), Katie Mack, Tahlia Knott (vc), Katie Mack, Tahlia McGrath (c), Grace Parsons, Megan Schutt (1st match only), Courtney Sippel, Tayla Vlaeminck, Tahlia Wilson.

Four-day squad: Maitlan Brown, Maddy Darke (wk), Sophie Day, Emma de Broughe, Nicole Faltum (vc), Tess Flintoff Charli Knott (c) Tess Flintoff, Charli Knott (c), Katie Mack, Lilly Mills, Grace Parsons, Kate Peterson, Courtney Sippel, Georgia

appoint Karthik as batting coach, mentor

PTI BENGALURU

Former India wicketkeeperbatter Dinesh Karthik, who announced his retirement from forms of cricket last month on Monday was appointed as batting coach and mentor by Royal Challengers Bengaluru.
"Welcome our keeper in every sense, Dinesh Karthik back into RCB in an all new avatar. DK will be the batting coach and mentor of RCB Men's team," RCB posted on 'X', formerly twitter.

You can take the man out of cricket but not cricket out of the man! Shower him with all the love, 12th Man Army," the post added.

Terming this an exciting opportunity, Karthik stated: "Coaching at a professional level is incredibly exciting for me and is something I'm truly passionate about as a new chapter in my life. Hopefully, the breadth of my experiences as a player can contribute to the development of the group and bring added value.

"I believe that cricket success hinges not only on technical proficiency but also on match



intelligence and composure. I am eager to coach and mentor our batting group, helping them to not only refine their method but also to develop the keen match awareness needed to excel under pressure.

"It's also great that I can continue my association with RCB as the franchise continues to move from strength to strength," he stated in a release issued by RCB.

The cricketer, who is also into commentary, had a spectacular last season for RCB where he played the role of a finisher and scored 326 runs at an average of

36.22 with a massive strike-rate of 187.36.

He was given an emotional farewell after RCB lost the Eliminator to Rajasthan Royals. Overall, the wicketkeeperbatter played 257 matches in IPL representing five franchises Kolkata Knight Riders, Mumbai Indians, Delhi Daredevils, Kings XI Punjab and RCB. He had amassed

4,842 runs at an average of

26.32. Playing for India, Karthik scored 1,752 runs and struck nine half-centuries in 94 ODI matches. In 26 Tests, Karthik has 1,025 runs to his name, which includes a century against Bangladesh. In 60 T20Is, he has scored 686 runs at an average of

26.38 with a 142-plus strike-Speaking about Karthik's appointment, RCB Director of Cricket Mo Bobat said he will be just as impactful as a coach. "His longevity and track record as a player speaks volumes about his skill and dedication. I know he will bring that same quality and commitment to this new professional chapter,"

Stay in moment, keep flexible mindset: Bindra's advice to Paris-bound Indian athletes

PTI ■ CHANDIGARH

s India's first individual As India's first individual Olympic gold-medallist, Abhinav Bindra knows a thing or two about handling bigstage pressure and he simple piece of advice for those aiming for the podium in the upcoming Paris Games -- stay in the moment and have a flexible mind.

Bindra, who won the yellow metal in men's 10m air rifle event in the 2008 Beijing Olympics, wants Indian athletes to enjoy their time at the world's greatest sporting extravaganza.

'I want to wish all the athletes the very best of luck. They've done us all proud already by giving it their all and doing consistently well over so many competitions. And now it's their moment to shine on the world stage," Bindra said during a meet and greet programme organised by the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) here on Monday.
"The Olympics is the greatest

platform to sport in the world, and the whole world is waiting to welcome them. The whole country is waiting for our



athletes to do their best and make us all proud.

'I would just want them to give their best to stay in the moment, to remain flexible in mindset and just back the work that they had put in. You know, true confidence comes from the effort that has been put in over a consistent period of time, which I'm sure they have," the 41-year-old added. Two-time Asian Games goldmedallist and Asian champion shot putter Tajinderpal Singh Toor, who is bound for Paris, said star javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra's gold-medal winning feat in Tokyo has inspired

other track-and-field athletes. "Our athletes are performing well and they will win medals in the Olympics. Since Neeraj Chopra won the gold medal in the Tokyo Olympics, other athletes also want to win medals for their country," he said. Asian Games silver medallist

javelin thrower Kishore Kumar Jena, who will also be participating in the Paris Olympics along side Chopra, hopes India will clinch its bestever medal haul in athletics in Paris. "We take pride in representing

our country. It is a matter of happiness that many have qualified for the Olympics from India, and we hope to win the highest number of medals," he said. "The journey has not been

easy, it has involved a lot of hard work, staying away from home, and practising day and night. Jena said he is satisfied with his

preparation for the Paris Games.

"Preparations are going well, and we are determined to perform at our best and give 100 per cent.

India overcome resilient South Africa to win one-off Test by 10 wickets

PTI ■ CHENNAI

Tndia were made to wait a tad longer for the winning moment by centurion Laura Wolvaardt, but they eventually went past the line convincingly by 10 wickets on the fourth and final day of the one-off Test women's Test against South Africa here on Monday.

India were required to chase a modest 37 after bowling out South Africa for 373 in their second innings and the hosts accomplished the task in 9.2 overs without losing a wicket. India had declared their first innings closed at 603 for six.

The opening duo of Shubha Satheesh (13 not out) and Shafali Verma (24 not out) steered their side home comfortably. This is India's second 10-wicket triumph in Tests after a scoring a

similar win over the Proteas at Paarl in 2002. After getting bundled out 266 in their first innings, South Africa fought well through hundred-makers Wolvaardt (122, 314b, 16x4)

and Sune Luus (109, 203b, 18x4) in

the second innings.

slipped to 266 for four. With still work to be done for the South Africans to take the lead, Wolvaardt tried to anchor the

> But the Proteas marched on and went past the 300-run mark, their highest team total in Tests against the Indians. The previous best was the 266 that made in their opening innings here.

visitors 281 for five.

and T20I ton in the same year.

South Africa needed less than 50 runs to take the lead at this stage. Nadine de Klerk and Sinalo Jafta



stuck together until the lunch break and SA were 302 for five then.

However, in the post-lunch session, the visitors sent Anne Dercksen to Jafta retired hurt due to cramps, as join De Klerk.

falling to Pooja Vastrakar with SA

But Dercksen departed for five,

Test cricket, going past the 315 they made against England at Shenley in Although South Africans closed in

trailing by 27 runs. Meanwhile, the tourists went past

316 to register their highest score in

on a lead they struggled to get the partnerships going.
The next stand was worth 14 runs

between De Klerk and Tumi Sekhukhune before the latter was run out for six. Jafta returned to bat, but she could add just nine more runs and

departed for 15 and they went to tea

at 336 for eight. The hosts eventually conceded the lead in the final session. This was the third instance of India giving away the lead after enforcing a follow-on and the fifth overall.

The partnership between De Klerk and Masabata Klaas produced 23 runs before the latter fell to Shafali, who cleaned her up.
De Klerk, who was dropped on fifty

by Renuka Singh and Vastrakar during a mix-up, brought up her half-century soon but Rajeshwari Gayakwad knocked her out for 61.