

DON'T MISS...

Lakhs of devotees take part...

Secunderabad's Uijain Mahankali Ammavari temple became abuzz with Lashkar Bonams. A spiritual atmosphere emanated in the vicinity of the temple with devotees flocking from early morning. Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy visited the Goddess and offered silk clothes. Khairathabad MLA Danam Nagender, MLC Balmoori Venkat, Rajya Sabha member Anil Kumar Yadav and several other leaders accompanied the CM.Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar offered the first Bonam to Ammavaru with...



to anyone in...

Responding to the ongoing violence in Bangladesh, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Sunday suggested that she would keep the doors of her state open for people in distress from the neighbouring country and offer them shelter. Banerjee referred to the United Nations Resolution on refugees as justification for her stand over the possible humanitarian crisis that may emerge on account of the severe law and order breakdown that has gripped Bangladesh in the past few days ..



Harnessing AI in a big way in public...

Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) Girish Chandra Murmu has said Artificial Intelligence (AI) has arrived and the Šupreme Audit Institution (SAI) is taking dvantage of new te in improving the quality of public expenditure. "As it develops, we will develop ourselves accordingly. Whatever challenges are there we will try and overcome. We will follow global experiences and practices related to this and share our own to ... -PAGE: 8

Medigadda in focus at **CM Revanth's Delhi review**

CM to invite top Cong leaders for farm loan waiver event

PNS HYDERABAD

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy reviewed issues connected to repairs, inspections and queries of the inquiry commission regarding the Medigadda Barrage. The review was held on Sunday at

the Chief Minister's official residence in New Delhi. The meeting was attended by Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy, Irrigation Department Secretary Rahul Bojja and Irrigation Department Advisor Adityanath Das.

Uttam and the officials brought to the Chief Minister's attention the matters discussed with the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) held on Saturday in New Delhi.

meeting. The Chief Minister gave his opinion on these issues and suggestions regarding the NDSA meeting scheduled in New Delhi on Monday in which TG officials and engineers

would be participating. The CM who is in New Delhi on two-day visit will invite top Congress leaders to the public meeting planned in Warangal focused on the waiver of agricultural loans. Sources said Revanth Reddy is

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy holding review at his official residence in New Delhi on Sunday slated to meet Congress President Mallikarjun Kharge and is also likely to seek an appointment with former Congress chief Rahul Gandhi to invite him to the Warangal public

There is a possibility that the Chief Minister would discuss the selection of the new TPCC chief and cabinet expansion with the Congress high command. He may also meet Union Ministers. The Chief Minister wants to

inform the Congress leadership that since the farm loan waiver was announced in Warangal during the Assembly poll campaign, it would be appropriate for the party to organ-

eyes on 10 BRS turncoat MLAs

senara

is frustrated as the people defeat-

ed his party in the Assembly elec-

tions.Similarly, Rahul Gandhi too

elections and took

oath as the Prime

Minister like his

great grandfather,

grandmother and

showed his rest-

Parliament as

Modi won elec-

Rahul

in

once

father.

tions

again.Kishan appealed to the peo-

ple to see the true colours of the

Congress from Monday onwards in

Parliament.

lessness

Revanth Reddy's New Delhi visit comes close on the heels of the launching of this flagship scheme, underscoring its importance on the Congress government's agenda. The waiving of farm loans was a major promise that helped the

ise a public meeting there to highlight its implementation, the sources added



loan waiver scheme on July 18 and Rs 6,098 crore was credited to farmers' bank accounts. This phase covers loans of up to

Rs 1 lakh. The scheme will be rolled out in three phases, with the second phase waiving loans of up to Rs 1.5 lakh by July-end and the final phase covering loans of up to Rs 2 lakh in August.

Revanth Reddy's New Delhi visit comes close on the heels of the launching of this flagship scheme, underscoring its importance on the Congress government's agenda. The waiving of farm loans was a major promise that helped the party to win

TG may get Rs 700 cr aluminium can unit



Oppn seeks SCS for AP, Bihar and Odisha

Ramesh takes dig at TDP

Ramesh said the JD(U)

and the YSRCP

demanded special

the southern state kept quiet on the

matter.In a post on X, the Congress

leader, who was present at the

meeting, said, "In today's all-party

meeting of floor leaders chaired by

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, the

JD(U) leader demanded special

category status for Bihar. The

the matter.'

YŚRCP leader demanded

special category status

for Andhra Pradesh.

Strangely, the TDP leader kept quiet on

platform, he said,

"How the political cli-

mate has changed! In

the all-party meeting of floor leaders, the

BJD leader reminded

the Defence Minister

and BJP president J P

Nadda that the BJP's

manifesto for the 2014

Assembly elections in

Odisha had promised

special category status

to the state.

In another post on the microblogging

PNS 📕 NEW DELHI

Ahead of the Budget session of Parliament, the JD(U), YSRCP and BJD on Sunday demanded special category status for Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and Odisha respectively, while the Congress's Jairam

Ramesh said "strangely, the TDP kept quiet on the matter".

The demand for special category status for Bihar during an all-party meeting came from the ruling NDA as well as the INDIA opposition bloc, with BJP allies --Sanjay Kumar Jha of the Janata Dal (United) and Union minister

category status for Bihar Chirag Paswan of the and Andhra Pradesh Lok Janshakti Party respectively but (Ram Vilas) -- also bat-"strangely", the ruling ting for it. The Telugu Desam Party Rashtriya Janata Dal (TDP) in the southern (RJD) also joined the state kept quiet on the matter.

Jha, however, said a special financial pack-

ing Telugu Desam Party (TDP) in

Minister at the Secretariat on

The minister said that at present

chorus.

Ramesh's posts on X came while the meeting was still age can also be an option if a special status is not possible.Ramesh underway.Biju Janata Dal (BJD) said the JD(U) and the YSRCP leader Sasmit Patra told reporters demanded special category status that his party demanded special catfor Bihar and Andhra Pradesh egory status for Odisha. respectively but "strangely", the rul-



Biden withdraws from Presidential race

PNS WASHINGTON

US President Joe Biden says he is not seeking reelection in a letter posted to X on his official account. Biden says speak to th

detail."It has been the greatest

honor of my life to serve as your

President," Biden wrote. "And while

it has been my intention to seek reelection, I believe it is in the best

interest of my party and the coun-

try for me to stand down and to

focus solely on fulfilling my duties

as President for the remainder of

Biden's departure capped off

weeks of concern about the 81-

year-old president's stamina and

mental capabilities and skepticism

of his ability to effectively campaign

against Trump and govern the

country for another four years.

Biden's decision is also likely to

raise questions about his ability to

fulfill the duties of the presidency

for the remainder of his term.

my term.'



The Telangana government launched the first phase of the farm Assembly meet from tomorrow; all

India triumph over UAE by 78 runs...

Contrasting fifties from skipper Harmanpreet Kaur and Richa Ghosh were complemented nicely by the bowlers as India notched up a massive 78-run win over UAE in their second match of the ongoing women's Asia Cup T20 tournament here on Sunday. Invited to bat. Kaur played the anchor's role to perfection with a 47-ball 66. while Ghosh produced late charge with an unbeaten 29ball-64 to power defending champions India to 201 for five their first-ever 200-plus score in T20Is. The bowlers.. -SPORTS

nev sit However, now all eyes are on the 10 BRS MLAs who joined the cation petitions against some of the Congress. Everyone is curious to turncoat MLAs.

K VENKATESHWARLU

The Telangana Assembly's

budget session will start on Tuesday that is on July

HYDERABAD

PNS HYDERABAD

Leader of the

O p p o s i t i o n (LoP) in the Lok

Sabha and BRS

W o r k i n g President KT

Rama Rao are

imagining them-

selves to be the

PM and the CM

respectively

Gandhi,

Telangana BJP President G. Kishan

He said that KTR imagines that

his BRS had won elections and is

busy thinking where to take oath

as the CM, whom to invite and

whom to give minister posts. KTR

the

know where the 10 BRS MLAs who However, there is no chance for

Rahul, KTR imagining they

Reddy said that both Rahul is imagining that he won the LS

won elections: Kishan

BRS party submitted disqualifi-Generally, the Speaker allots seats in alphabetical order after allotting seats to the Leader of the House,

have defected would sit in the the defected MLAs to sit on the

Assembly. Will they sit along treasury benches as the number of

with the treasury benches or BRS MLA who defected have not

on seats allocated to them by reached the 2/3rd mark, that is 26.

the Speaker in the past or will So the defecting MLAs have to sit

on seats allotte

Continued on Page 7

Tummala pulls up Irrigation officials for Peddavagu Dam breach

PNS HYDERABAD

Bhadradri

Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageshwara Rao reacted angrily against officials

regarding the breach in the Paddavagu Dam in the Aswaraopeta mandal of



Kothagudem district.Reviewing the Peddavagu Dam breach on Sunday at the Gummadavelli Government College, Tummala pulled up Irrigation officials and asked them to explain why they failed to open the dam's gates in time. **Continued on Page 2**

BAL Beverages Packaging Company India Head Ganesan explaining his company's expansion plan to Minister Sridhar Babu on Sunday at the Secretariat

PNS HYDERABAD

Sunday.Ganesan explained the IT and Industries Minister Duddilla expansion plan of his company to Sridhar Babu said that the 'Ball Sridhar and Sridhar assured him Beverage Packaging' company, that the state would provide land which supplies aluminium cans to and other infrastructure. the beer, soft drinks and perfume industry, has come forward to set up beer packed in cans sold in the state are being bottled in Maharashtra. It a production unit in the state with an outlay of Rs 700 crore. If this unit has been revealed that the use of tins starts, 500 people will get employto pack beer in Karnataka and ment, he said. Maĥarashtra is almost 25 percent.

Ganesan, the head of Corporate Affairs at Ball India, met the



KTR questions doubling of Musi River project's outlay

PNS HYDERABAD

BRS Working President KTR has raised concerns about the Musi River beautification project proposed by the state government, citing

the dramatic increase in project costs. Initially estimated at Rs50,000 crores, the project's cost was later revised to 70,000 crores, and now, a staggering Rs 1.5

lakh crores has been proposed. KTR said that the BRS government had already completed 100% sewerage treatment at a cost of Rs3,866

crore and planned the rejuvenation, beautification and development of the Musi River at an estimated cost of Rs16.634 crore.

This includes an expressway from ORR West (Manchirevula) to ORR East (Pratapa Singaram). He questioned the substantial increase in project costs, raising doubts about the Congress government's calculations and intentions. While the Congress criticized the Kaleshwaram Project,

KTR said that the BRS government had already completed 100% sewerage treatment at a cost of Rs3,866 crore and planned the rejuvenation, beautification and development of the Musi River at an estimated cost of

Rs16,634 crore. which transformed the fortunes of Telangana's farmers and was completed at a cost of Rs80,000 crore, the proposed expenditure for the Musi River peautification, amounting to Rs1.5 lakh crore, has sparked debates

and scepticism across the state. KTR posed some key questions that remain unanswered by the government: How many farmers will benefit from the Musi project? What is the storage capacity in TMCs? How many acres will come under irrigation? What will be the increase in crop yield? What industrial needs will be met? How many new large reservoirs will be constructed

Continued on Page 2

India's own 'madhya rekha' passed through Ujjain

Reference to the Harappan civilisation as 'Sindhu-Sarasvati' among NCERT tweaks in textbooks

PNS NEW DELHI

India had a prime meridian of its own much ahead of the Greenwich meridian and it was called "madhya rekha", which passed through the city of Ujjain in Madhya Pradesh, according to a new Class-6 NCERT textbook for social science.

No mention of caste-based discrimination, tweaks in references to B R Ambedkar's experience about the discrimination, referring to the Harappan civilisation as "Sindhu-Sarasvati" are also among the changes in the textbook developed according to a new curriculum.

The Greenwich Meridian is not the first prime meridian. There were others in the past. In fact, many centuries before Europe, astronomer, lived and worked there ical texts," the textbook reads.



own! It was called madhya rekha (or 'middle line') and passed through the city of Ujjayini (today Ujjain), which was a reputed centre for astronomy over many centuries. "Varahamihira, a famous

India had a prime meridian of its some 1,500 years ago. Indian astronomers were aware of the concepts of latitude and longitude, including the need for a zero or prime meridian. The Ujjayini meridian became a reference for calculations in all Indian astronom-

"The Greenwich Meridian is not the first prime meridian. There were others in the past. In fact, many centuries before Europe, India had a prime meridian of its own! It was called madhya rekha (or 'middle line') and passed through the city of Ujjayini (today Ujjain), which was a reputed centre for astronomy over many centuries.

> In a departure from the past, the textbook makes multiple references to the "Sarasvati" river in the chapter pertaining to the beginning of the Indian civilisation. In the new textbook, the river

finds a prominent place in a chapter on the "Beginnings of Indian

Civilisation", where the Harappan civilisation is referred to as the "Indus-Sarasvati" or "Sindhu-Sarasvati" civilisation. It says the "Sarasvati" basin included major cities of the civilisation --Rakhigarhi and Ganweriwala -along with smaller cities and towns. The river, according to the new

textbook, "today goes by the name of 'Ghaggar' in India and 'Hakra' in Pakistan (hence the name 'Ghaggar-Hakra River')" and is now seasonal.The textbook, titled "Exploring Society India and Beyond", has details on the Vedas without mentioning the caste system and that women and Shudras were not allowed to study these scriptures.





enlightenment and diversity

ed their own opinion which is

in favour or opposing the post thereby leading to a debate. Reacting to one of the neti-

zens' tweet, Smita said,

'Madam, I am fundamentally

aware of the need for a job. The

issue here is about the suitabil-

ity for a ground job. Also I firmly believe other Services

within the govt such as desk/think-tank nature is well

suited. Please don't jump to

conclusions. Legal framework

is for overall protection of the

rights of equality. No debate

there. If bureaucrats do not

speak on pertinent issues of

governance, then who will?

The talented differently-abled

can surely find great opportu-

Many of the netizens post-

are badly needed."

Monday Mirchi

he pioneer

TALENT SHINES BEYOND BORDERS: JAYESH TO ADVISE LOKESH

HYDERABAD | MONDAY | JULY 22, 2024

One of the most popular go-to persons under the previous Bharat Rashtra Samithi regime in Telangana, IT Secretary Jayesh Ranjan, is likely to go to Andhra Pradesh for replicating his magic there. The buzz in the corridors of power in TG is that he is going to seek voluntary retirement before moving to AP as Advisor to IT Minister Nara Lokesh. When yours truly contacted Jayesh with this 'techtonic' shift, he termed it as 'just a "rumour'. Well, evervone is aware of Jayesh's credentials in attracting investments to Telangana. He has incredible network within the industry. This move by Lokesh ups the game of AP in IT

A PEP TALK WHERE NONE IS TONGUE-TIED

Communication is a two-way process, unless one is talking about a monologue at which members of the audience are prohibited from interrupting the monologist. This came to the fore the other day when Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy held a marathon Collectors' Conference (from 10:00 am-7:00 pm to be precise) at the almost secretive seventh floor of the Secretariat. When yours truly sounded bureaucrats about their takeaways from the meeting, their responses were illuminating. One termed it as 'motivational talk'; while another felt it was 'too early to say anything'. Yet another, speaking also for his peers, said, "It was a bonding session". Predictably, CMO officials enthused: "Bureaucrats are very appreciative of the meeting". All told, one stark difference between the first CM and the second one stood out. To paraphrase officials, "Everyone got to talk, including Ministers". The whispers in the corridors of power are whether this is merely a reflection of 'initial josh' or are winds of change really blowing.

'FINISHING' TOUCH TO A DISTINCTION

Finance Secretary K Ramakrishna Rao has had the unique distinction of preparing nine Budgets for Telangana. With the Telangana government set to present a full budget next week, and with Ramakrishna Rao still in the loop, it would be the tenth budget shaped by him. All eyes are on the Budget as the state government is upset that revenue targets are not being met like in the past. For newbies, Ramakrishna Rao was appointed as the Finance Secretary on February 29, 2016. Recently Sandeep Sultania was appointed as the Principal Secretary-- Finance without disturbing Ramakrishna. The larger question for the media is whether the customary post-Budget briefing would take place at least this

time, since the government is not seeking a Vote-on-account.

HOMECOMING OF OLD HORSES

Following regime change, old horses are galloping to Andhra Pradesh. Senior Indian Revenue Service officer Ch Venkaiah Chowdary is now the Joint Executive Officer of TTD. During the previous TDP government's tenure, he served as the Vice Chairman and Managing Director of the Andhra Pradesh Mineral Development Corporation Limited. He had joined the state service in 2016 and continued for three years. However, following the change in government in 2019, Chowdary chose to return to his parent cadre. Ake Ravi Krishna (IPS: 2006: AP), Deputy Director, Intelligence Bureau, was repatriated to his cadre from Delhi. A V Rajamouli has been appointed as Secretary to the Chief Minister. Rajamouli is a 2003 batch IAS officer of the Uttar Pradesh cadre. The Union government has been quickly sending back officers on request of the state government, reflecting rare bonhomie between TDP and BJP.

IS THERE NOTHING ADHARM ABOUT DHARMA REDDY?

Is a clean record questionable? Strangely, the answer is in the affirmative under some circumstances. Former TTD EO Dharma Reddy seems to have an impeccable record. For, the ongoing vigilance enquiry launched against the former TTD EO has not yielded anything incriminating so far. Almost two weeks on, not a word or leak has come out of the inquiry. A little bird told us that there were no irregularities during his tenure, though the powers that be want something or the other to nail him. It would be interesting to watch how the situation pans out as the inquiry progresses.

HONOUR UNIFORM OR KOW-TOW **TO POLITICAL BOSSES**

If khaki-clad officers honour their uniform and stick to rules, they need not bow their heads in shame following regime change. Nor will they be denied audience with the new chief minister. They can hold their heads high, rain or shine. In Andhra Pradesh, recently some senior police officers chose to bow before a senior TDP leader apologetically. They felt sorry for their behavior during the previous YSR Congress government. They blamed it on 'pressure rom above'. Political circles exchanged knowing smiles as these officials know only how to please their present political masters, regardless of their service requirements and moral standards. --Yours truly **Smita Sabharwal questions** disability quota for IAS posts

PNS HYDERABAD

Following the recent investigation in the misdemeanor of Puja Manorama Dilip Khedkar, a provisionally rec-ommended candidate of the Civil Services Examination-2022 by the Union Public Service Commission, who has fraudulently availed attempts beyond the limits by faking her identity, Smita Sabharwal Secretary to Telangana Chief Minister, has raised questions on disability quota for IAS posts via Twitter on Sunday.

As per Twitter post by Smita stating, "As this debate is blowing up - with all due respect to the differently abled. Does an Airline hire a pilot with a disability? Or would you trust a surgeon with a disability. The nature of the #AIS (

Chilkur head priest warns against fake video

PNS HYDERABAD

With regards to Vivaha Prapti, a fake viral video ascribed to Chilkur Balaji Head Priest CS Rangarajan is being circulated on social media platforms for some time. The head priest urged devotees not to fall into the trap of fake news regarding the programme.

According to the video, the head priest explained that the temple had organised Vivaha Prapti for those who are experiencing difficulties in getting married on April 21. However, some Youtubers or media channels edited the word to April and circulated it through social media platforms. The head priest quickly responded to the fake video by giving a clarification that the temple would not conduct Vivaha Prapti. He said, "We conducted the Vivaha Prapti programme once on April 21, and we are not conducting a similar programme soon. Pease everyone take note of this. It was just over.

long taxing hours, listening first hand to people's grievances - which requires physical fitness. Why does this premier service need this Quota in the first place?" Reacting to her post, MP Priyanka Chaturvedi, said, "This

IAS/IPS/IFoS) is field-work,

is such a pathetic and exclusionary view to have. Interesting to see how bureaucrats are showing their limited thoughts and their privilege too." Sanju, a netizen said,

"Thanks to your understanding. Locomotor disability doesn't mean a person can't move without any support. I am myself a locomotor disabled and an amputee. I have travelled four countries alone, I have travelled all south states. I run a business, I drive, I swim, I walk with crutches. Most of modern day

IAS and IPS are not into service they are treating themselves as kings and queens, they are enjoying luxurious life forgetting they are civil servants."

Karuna Nundy, another netizen said, "Amazed that an IAS officer would be so fundamentally ignorant about disability. Most disabilities have no impact on stamina or intelligence. But this tweet shows



Reddy hailed Dasharathi Krishnamacharyulu for igniting the spirit of the Telangana armed struggle through his famous quote, 'Naa Telangana Koti Ratnala Veena."

Revnath hails

Krishnamacharyulu's

The Chief Minister remembered the yeoman services Krishnamacharyulu on the occasion of his 100th birth anniversary on July 22 (Monday). The CM said that Krishnamacharyulu, who was a scholar in Telugu, Urdu, Sanskrit and English, ignited revolutionary thoughts through his writings and had also written film songs. The CM hailed Dasharathi

Krishnamacharyulu for playing a vital role during the Telangana Movement and for inspiring its second phase.

concerned departments to

avoid loss of life and proper-

ty. He asked people to avoid

crossing rapidly flowing

Ponguleti puts Collectors on alert as rains lash TG

PNS HYDERABAD

Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy put Collectors on alert as heavy rains are lashing Telangana. The Minister reviewed the

situation on Sunday and asked the district administration to launch relief and rehabilitation measures. Officials were ordered to take precautions so

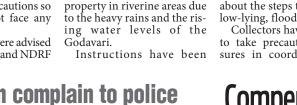
that people do not face any problems. The authorities were advised

to use rescue teams and NDRF

Children complain to police about street dog menace in Hyd

PNS HYDERABAD

A group of children and their parents on Sunday complained to the police at Petbasheerabad here about the menace of street dogs in their locality. Last week, an 18-month-old boy died, while another boy suffered injuries when street dogs attacked them in separate incidents in Telangana. The children held placards



that read 'Save Us from Street Dogs', 'Save Us from Rabies

and urged Telangana Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy, local MLA K P Vivekanand and others to take measures to protect them from street dogs. The children told reporters that the street dogs have been attacking their family members and other residents of the locality and that steps should be taken to protect them.

The Minister said control rooms should be set up in Collectorates and coordination meetings should be held with officers of the police and other departments.

streams.

He said that the government can be approached at any time for any kind of help and that there is a need to continuous-

Compensate Lagnapur open cast mine evacuees: Sridhar

PNS HYDERABAD

Industries Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu directed officials to negotiate with beneficiaries regarding the payment of compensation under the R&R package to 280 people who built houses on land acquired by SCCL for the Lagnapur Ópen Cast Mine.

Assembly meet from tomorrow...

In 2012, the SCCL acquired 103 acres for an open cast mine in Manthani in the Ramagiri Mandal of Lagnapur. Of this, 466 people were compensated and 721 people were paid at the rate of Rs 7.5 lakh per person as per the R&R package. The SCCL released Rs 145 crore for resettling people who lost their homes.

Uttam must not belittle Kaleshwaram Project: Harish PNS HYDERABAD be conducted by the first week

BRS MLA T. Harish Rao asked Irrigation Minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy to bring back the Kaleshwaram Project into use instead of engaging in CSMRS in the second

of July before the monsoon. It is noteworthy that the Telangana government decided to conduct technical tests with the help of Central organisations like the CWPRS

Continued from page 1

In order to bottle beer in Aluminium tins in the state, some changes have to be made in the excise system. Sridhar said that he will discuss this with Chief nister Revanth Red

Excise Minister Jupalli

Krishna Rao. He said that by

TG may get

Rs 700 cr...

Oppn seeks SCS...

Continued from page 1 floor of the Rajya Sabha. Even

Continued from page 1

Venkatrao, Pocharam Srinivas Kinjarapu Errannaidu and Kale Yadaiah, Bandla Krishna Mohan Reddy, Arikepudi Gandhi, Prakash Goud and Gudem Mahipal Reddy.Assembly sources said the defected BRS MLAs may sit on seats allotted by the Speaker.During 1989-1994, the

issued to higher authorities squads to prevent loss of life or about the steps to be taken in low-lying, flood-prone areas. Collectors have been asked

to take precautionary measures in coordination with ly monitor the Godavari River.

Criticising the statements of Uttam after the National Dam Safety Authority (NDSA) meeting held on Saturday in New Delhi regarding the

Kaleshwaram Project, Harish said that Uttam revealed his lack of understanding once again.

He said that Uttam on the one hand said that all measures have been taken to strengthen the foundation of the Medigadda Barrage, but on the other hand he said that soil tests were not possible at Medigadda.

He said that the NDSA which gave a report on May 5 said that technical tests should out.

TODAY ALMANAC Month & Paksham: Sukla Paksha Jul 21 03:47 PM Tithi: Pratipada: to Jul 22 01:11 PM Jul 22 01:11 PM Dwitiya to Jul 23 10:23 AM Nakshatram: Jul 22 12:14 AM Shravana: to Jul 22 10:21 PM Dhanishta Jul 22 10:21 PM to Jul 23 08:18 PM Rahukalam: 7:32 AM to 9:09 AM 10:46 AM to 12:22 PM Yamaqandam: 02:00 AM to 03:28 AM Varjyam: 1:59 PM to 3:35 PM Gulika: 12:46 PM to 02:14 PM Amritakalam: Abhijit Muhurtham: 11:56 AM to 12:48 PM

HYDERABAD WEATHER

Forecast: Showers **Temp:** 28° Humidity: 80% Sunrise: 5:52 AM Sunset: 6:53 PM

Updated: July 21, 2024 5:00 PM

week of June as per the

the directions of the NDSA, he said. Harish said that if the negligence of NDSA is responsible for the

failure, then the

state government should also be held responsible.

The NDSA's hastily prepared 'political' report published in October, 2023, has drawn heavy flak, he said. Coming to such conclu-

sions without geophysical tests and without discussing anything with the engineers of Telangana is not what a technical body working under the Centre should do, he pointed

packing 500 ml beer in aluminium cans, excise duty will be reduced and the government will get an additional income of Rs 285 crore annually.

Last time, during his visit to the US, when Sridhar Babu went to the head office of Coca Cola in Atlanta he said that the company expressed readiness to set up a new bottling unit in Peddapalli district. It was explained that 'Ball' will make aluminium cans for the coke bottling unit which will be set up at a cost of Rs 1000 crore. Sridhar asked Ganesan to submit a plan regarding investments.

tweaked in the COVID-19

rationalisation, which was

earlier termed temporary by

The new social science

textbook for Class 6 is a

heavily-truncated amalga-

mation of what were earli-

er three separate books for

history, geography and

civics published by the

National Council of

Educational Research and

"We have tried to keep

Training (NCERT).

the NCERT to reduce bur-

India's own...

den.

Continued from page 1 According to the new book, "Many professions are mentioned in the vedic

texts, such as agriculturist, weaver, potter, builder, carpenter, healer, dancer, barber, priest, etc."The previous textbook said, "Some priests divided people into four groups called varnas.... Shudras could not perform any rituals. Often women were grouped with Shudras. Both women and Shudras were not allowed to study

the text to a minimum by the Vedas. focusing on the 'big ideas'. "The priests also said that This has enabled us to comthese groups were decided bine in a single theme inputs based on birth. For example, from several disciplines -if one's father and mother whether history, geography, were Brahmins, one would political science or ecoautomatically become a nomics," NCERT Director Brahmin and so on...," the Dinesh Saklani writes in the old book said. introductory chapter of the The references were also new textbook.

"Odisha has been deprived of the special category status for more than two decades. The BJD has been demanding it for a long time. Parties from Bihar and Andhra Pradesh have also demanded it and the Centre must revisit the issue

with such demands coming from various states," he said. JD(U), a key constituent in the National Democratic Alliance (NDA), has recently passed a resolution demanding special category status or

a special package for Bihar. Though leaders from Andhra Pradesh had been demanding special category status for the southern state, the demand has again gained momentum after the Lok Sabha polls.Briefing reporters on the issues raised by the Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party (YSRCP) at the all-party meeting, its floor leader in the Rajya Sabha, Vijaisai Reddy, said eight issues were brought up by his party, with the first one being that of the special category status.

"It has been our demand right from the day it was promised by then prime minister Manmohan Singh on the

cial category status is the only solution. The TDP is completely ignoring the issue.... They are compromising on the interests of the people of the state," Reddy said.

Asked about the YSRCP's allegation that it is ignoring the special category status issue and compromising on people's interest, TDP MP Lavu Sri Krishna Devarayalu said after the meeting, "We are clear, we are not stuck with one or two issues, we have an entire gamut of issues. We will definitely use this opportunity of the coming Budget session to raise all the issues important for

Andhra Pradesh. "The Andhra Pradesh government is going to release a white paper on the status of the state's finances in a day or two. We want the people of India to have a look at it. It will definitely send shockwaves among the people," he said. "We want the members to

examine the financial status of Andhra Pradesh, which has been deteriorating day by day, so that whatever demands we are going to make, we want all parties to accept them," Devarayalu told reporters.

Rahul, KTR imagining...

Continued from page 1

He said that both the Congress and the BRS are weakening the anti-defection law by going against people's verdict. There is no change in the two parties, he said.

Addressing the BJP's Hyderabad Central District Executive meeting on Sunday, Kishan said that both the BRS and the Congress are continuing their friendship with the

AIMIM. He said that the understanding between the Congress and the AIMIM was the reason for the decrease in the BJP's majority. Kishan pointed out that Congress can-

said. He said that communal

forces tried to defeat the BJP by contesting in the name of the Congress. He said the candidate who contested from Secunderabad was from the Congress but the real contestant was the AIMIM. He said that it was a dangerous situation and appealed to BJP activists to think about it.

Kishan made it clear that terrorism will be contained as long as the BJP and the NDA is in power at the Centre.

won as Independents after NTR refused them tickets) and others as a special group as per their request. The then Speaker, D. Sripada Rao, who is the father of current Legislative Affairs Minister D. Sridhar Babu, (in 1991) declared them as a special group and allotted them special seats.

Tummala pulls up Irrigation...

Continued from page 1

stopped working in July when

been this much if irrigation

officials had lifted the dam's

gates on July 17, the Minister

said. "You knew how much

rainfall is being recorded.

The loss would have not

the dam breached.

Then why did you behave irresponsibly," he asked them. Pointing out that 72 hous-He also asked them why they had not checked the es were submerged in motors in June and July and Anantharam and Kothuru told them that he will enquire mandals, he asked officials to with the public if they gave provide food for 250 people every day, supply 10 kg rice and essentials to them. him false information. He reacted angrily at them for not checking the motors to con-He warned that dengue and other viral infections would firm whether they are workspread if officials do not work ing or not as 18 motors had

to ensure that no one suffers from diseases. He directed officials to coordinate and the police to inform the Collector if there was any problem.He directed agriculture officials to ensure that farmers who suffered due to the breach of the Peddavagu Dam should not be troubled. He directed electricity officials to work diligently and supply power.Tummala asked officials to make sure that there are no old worn out school and hostel buildings and to replace them with metal sheet-roofed sheds if neces-

more doctors and mobile vans

KTR questions...

sary.

Continued from page 1

properly and that the problem

is more in the mandals of

Velerupadu, Kukunoor and

Department staff to visit every

house and treat people and

that the Collector will send

Tummala asked Health

Ashwaraopet.

KTR questioned Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's preference for the Musi project over the Palamuru-Ranga Reddy project, which is in its final stages. He also raised concerns about the strategy behind transforming Musi into a river akin to London's Thames, leaving other irrigation projects that could be completed with lesser outlay.

He said the tripling of the Musi's estimated expenditure is evidence of financial mismanagement. He insisted that while the Musi project is necessary and should be completed promptly, the misuse of funds cannot be tolerated.He said that Telangana society remains vigilant monitoring developments on the Musi Riverfront initiative. Any attempts to embezzle funds will be countered strongly, he said.

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



didate in Nampally did not campaign but got a majority of 62,000 votes over the BJP. Similarly, the Congress got a majority in Jubilee Hills because of the AIMIM, he

the Opposition Leader, Ministers and Floor Leaders. The main reason for the curiosity is that the 'BRS MLAs who defected' may face embarrassment if they sit along with

The 10 BRS MLAs who Kadiam Srihari, Tellam

other BRS MLAs. defected are Danam Nagender, then Speaker declared five Independent MLAs including



hyderabad 03

CM REVANTH REDDY OFFERS PATTU VASTRAS Lakhs of devotees take part in vibrant Bonalu

PNS HYDERABAD

Secunderabad's Ujjain Mahankali Ammavari temple Secunderabad's became abuzz with Lashkar Bonams. A spiritual atmos-phere emanated in the viciniphere emanated in the vicini-ty of the temple with devotees flocking from early morning. Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy visited the Goddess and offered silk clothes. Khairathabad MLA Danam Nagender, MLC Balmoori Nagender, MLC Balmoori Venkat, Rajya Sabha member Anil Kumar Yadav and several other leaders accompanied the CM.

Transport Minister Ponnam Prabhakar offered the first Bonam to Ammavaru with his family in the early hours. Union Minister for Coal and Mines G Kishan Reddy, Rajya Sabha MP Laxman and others had a darshan of Ammavaru.

In the early morning Maha Harati, Kunkuma and Pushpa Archanas were performed to Goddess.

Minister Ponnam revealed that he prayed Goddesses that the farmers to become rich with good crops and dairy. He said that the Telangana State government recognises Mahankali bonams as a State festival and organises them with grandeur.

Women dressed in their best traditional attire carrying bonams (a pot carrying rice, turmeric powder, jaggery, curd and covered with neam leaves and a lamp placed on it) on their heads were seen standing in the queue line. Processions with 'potharaju' dancing to the beat of drums and towershaped structures made of paper and sticks filled the lane. Hyderabad Commissioner

of Police K Sreenivasa Reddy, said, "We have made elaborate



Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy offering pattu vastras to Secunderabad Ujjaini Ammavaru on Sundar

security arrangements to prevent untoward incidents. Around 1,500 police officials are been deployed along with volunteers (those who are from the various educational institutions and NGOS). Also, 100 surveillance cameras are installed from which footage is monitored from the control room in Mahankali police station. This year six dedicated queue lines along with special arrangements have been made for those carrying bonam offerings inside the temple.

According to temple author-ities, the two-day festivities at the temple would include 'Rangam' rendered by a maiden Mathangi Swarnalatha on Monday. In trance, she would answer questions of devotees on what is in store for the State in the year ahead and it will be followed by the Ghatam procession. This year, elephant Rupavathi from Karnataka would take part in the procession

DCA seizes banned medicine from medical store

PNS HYDERABAD

The Telangana Drug Control Administration (DCA) on Sunday seized banned medicine from a medical store at the Secunderabad railway station.

During the raid, the DCA team detected a banned drug, 'Ofloxacin & Ornidazole Suspension (50 mg/125 mg)', manufactured by Lok-Beta Pharmaceutical, Thane, Maharashtra.

In the year 2018, the Government of India banned the drug combination Ofloxacin and Ornidazole suspension in the larger public interest.

"The drug prohibition was enacted due to the potential risks posed to human health by this fixed-dose combination, which was found to lack therapeutic justification," said DCA officials. The Government of India

prohibited the manufacture for sale, sale, and distribution for human use of this drug combination in the country on September 7, 2018.

YELLOW ALERT UNTIL JULY 24 Rains continue to lash TG



PNS HYDERABAD

Telangana experienced heavy rains across Asifabad, Mancherial, Peddapalli, Karimnagar, Bhupalapally, Jagital, Sircila, Siddipet, Hanmakonda, Mulugu, Jangaon, and Yadadri on Sunday. The region also saw strong winds throughout the day.

According to Telangana weatherman, Hyderabad had heavy cool breeze from Saturday night until Sunday morning, with cloudy skies and light to moderate rain throughout the day. This led to reduced traffic on the city's roads on Sunday. Persistent moderate rain covered Hyderabad city and extended

to Sangareddy and Medak by Sunday evening. The IMD has issued a

Yellow Alert, forecasting heavy rain in isolated places in Adilabad, Komaram Bheem Asifabad, Mancherial, Jayashankar Bhupalapally, Mulugu, Bhadradri Asifabad, Kothagudem, Khammam, Nalgonda and Suryapet districts. Thunderstorms with lightning and gusty winds of 30-40 kmph are also expected in isolated locations across all

Telangana districts. The IMD forecast also predicts that rains will continue until July 24, with a Yellow Alert in place. Thunderstorms with lightning and gusty winds are likely to occur in isolated places

across several districts, including Adilabad, Komaram Bheem Asifabad, Mancherial, Nirmal, Nizamabad, Jagital, Rajanna Sircilla, Karimnagar, Peddapalli, Jayashankar Bhupalapally, Mulugu, Bhadradri Kothagudem, Khammam, Hanamkonda, Jangaon, Siddipet, Yadadri Bhongiri, Rangareddy, Hyderabad, Medchal Malkajgiri, Vikarabad, Sangareddy, Medak, and Kamareddy. Village lakes and ponds near

Mulugu towards Eturnagaram are at full flow. A first warning level has been issued for Godavari water at BCM, reaching 43.00 ft, with floodwaters flowing heavily at Eturnagaram and Mulugu.

AIG hospital chairman honoured with Johns Hopkins varsity's 'Captain's Chair'

PNS HYDERABAD

City-based AIG Hospitals' chairman Dr D Nageshwar Reddy was on Sunday hon-oured with Johns Hopkins University's 'Ćaptain's Ćĥair'.

The honour was presented by Prof Anne Marie Lennon, Director of the Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology, in recognition of Dr Reddy's ground-breaking contributions to the field of gastroenterology.

Prof Lennon said, "Dr Reddy's pioneering work in gastroenterology epitomises the spirit of innovation and

excellence that Johns Hopkins recognising their remarkable stands for. The presentation of the Captain's Chair is a testament to his enduring contributions to medical research and education."

The chair holds significant historic precedence, dating back to the time of Sir William Osler, the founding Professor of Johns Hopkins University in 1874. Sir Osler, known for his transformative contributions to medical education and practice, established the tradition of presenting the Captain's Chair to esteemed faculty and alumni. The gesture serves as a sym-

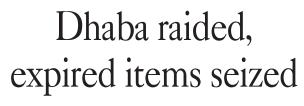
bol of honour and respect, CM to achieve drought-free TG, as per Dasaradhi's aspirations:

achievements and lasting impact on the institution and the medical community at large, according to a statement. The Johns Hopkins Captain's Chair, crafted entirely from solid maple hardwood, embodies a rich legacy

of academic excellence and tradition. Its multi-step finish and durable lacquer topcoat ensure timeless beauty and resilience. The chair features a satin black body, hand-painted gold beading and a steambent scrolled-top crown in cherry finish, showcasing meticulous craftsmanship.



AIG Hospitals' Chairperson Dr D Nageshwar Reddy honoured with Johns Hopkins University's 'Captain's Chair'





Buddhavanam celebrates Buddha's first sermon day

PNS HYDERABAD

Buddhavanam, a Buddhist heritage theme developed by the Telangana Tourism Telangana Development Corporation (TGTDC) at Nagarjuna Sagar organised Dharmachakra Pravartana Sutra day on Sunday. Chairman of TGTDC, Patel Ramesh Reddy w chief guest, stated that Buddha's teachings are the only solution to the social problems. Tracing back the history of Buddhism in Telangana, the Chairman said that it could be visualised and showcased in one of the segments to attract more tourists from our country and South East Asian countries and assured Buddha vanam would become the first of its kind in Asia.



PNS HYDFRARAD

against oppression by turning

Minister Surekha

PNS HYDERABAD

Nagarjuna Sagar MLA K Jayaveer Reddy, who was a special guest, shared his ideas on creating some more Buddhist attractions at Buddhavanam so that it could become a most sought

after destination not only for Buddhists but also for general visitors. He urged the participants to simply follow the four noble truths to lead a wholesome life. N Prakash Reddy, Managing Director, TGTDC, briefed the

audience on the significance of the Dharma Chakra Pravartana Day, which is organised as a calendar event regularly at Buddhavanam as part of preserving and promoting Buddhist heritage. He said that Telangana government is evinc-

ing lot of interest in developing a Buddhist tourist circuit in which Buddhavanam acts as a special attraction. Prof. Thakur S Powdyel, former Bhutan education minister and passionate believer in Bhutan's holistic development vision of gross national happiness, delivered a thoughtful speech and shared his reflections on the theme 'Gross National Happiness: A Unique Vision of Holistic Development from the Land of the Buddha to All Lands, fol-

OUR CORPORATE SPITIST

lowed by a Dhammaraga concert of Sitar by US-based eminent musician and composer Dr Madhu Saradhi Nanduri.

Buddhist monks from Sera Mey Monastery, Mysore and Mahabodhi Buddha Vihara, Secunderabad, offered chanting of Buddhavandana at the Buddhapada and Acharya Nagarjuna statue in typical Buddhist tradition. Prakash Reddy presented Buddha vanam mementos to the invitees at the end of the event.

Commemorating the centenary of Telangana literary hero Dasaradhi Krishnama charya on July 22 (Monday), Minister of Forests and Endowments Konda Surekha stated that Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy is working with dedication to achieve a Telangana free from drought, orphans and underprivileged as per Dasaradhi's aspirations. She also commemorated his services to the field of literature. Minister Surekha referred to Dasaradhi as Akshara Yodha

in Telangana literature. She said that Dasaradhi's fight

sharp letters into weapons inspired the whole of

The Commissioner of Food Telangana towards the Safety on July 20 raided a achievement of Telangana dhaba in Vanasthalipuram State. Dasaradhi had sacrificed a lot for freedom and swaraj. including button mush-Minister Surekha congraturooms, tutti-fruti and lated Jukanti Jagannatham, preserved karonda.

who was selected for the Officials also Dasaradhi Literary Award. found that the raw food articles and Furthermore, the Minister said that with the spirit of semi-prepared food Dasaradhi, people from all were stored in unhywalks of life mobilised for gienic conditions in a Telangana and realised the rusty refrigerator. dream of the Statehood. She said

that Dasaradhi is a role model for generations who fought relentlessly on social issues.

apps. "During the course of inspection, it was found that the food delivery app and the FBO are also taking orders online using an expired and found expired items FSSAI licence with a similar premises' name," a post

on X shared by the department on Sunday stated.

Moreover, while food handlers were found wearing hairnets, there were no aprons, medical fit-

ness certificates or pest The food business operator control records. Although (FBO) was also found to be the dustbins were inside the operating as a multi-brand kitchen through food delivery kitchen, no insect infestation was found.

Founder's Lab celebrates first anniversary at T-Hub

PNS HYDERABAD

Founded with the aim of bringing out creativity in students, turning their ideas into reality and turning them into aspiring entrepreneurs and managers of start-up companies, Founder's Lab celebrated its first anniversary at T-Hub on Sunday.

Principal Secretary for the Information, Technology, Electronics and Communications, Jayesh Ranjan released the first annual report.

Jayesh Ranjan said that he was happy to start startups by the Founders Lab by educating the students about entrepreneurship right from the stage of engineering college. The Telangana government has also launched many organisations like T-Hub to promote start-ups and to avoid the ups and downs they face after the establishment of start-ups. The programmes run by the organisation are very useful for the students.

Shakuntala Kasaragadda, the CEO of the organisation and senior vice-president of



rience will benefit the stu-We-Hub, an organisation established by the government dents, youth and aspiring entrepreneurs.

for women to provide services in the startup sector, T-Hub CEO Srinivasa Rao said that services have been said that Founder's Lab programmes are commendable provided to many women for creating awareness among across the State. The organisation has achieved unprecestudents about entrepreneurship and creating an awareness among them. Through the dented progress in no time due to the partnership of engineer-Founders Lab MoU with the Ting colleges and the trust they Hub organisation, the start-ups have placed in them. The organisation is working with established by the students will get more support in all leading engineering colleges across the State. It has been kinds of ways, and this agreesuccessful in making comment will be very beneficial to plete prototypes for the ideas increase their market and of 150 students. Her vast expedevelop the companies.

Cong leaders' hand in illegal sand transportation questioned

PNS HYDFRABAD

Former minister and Balkonda MLA Vemula Prashanth Reddy has strongly criticised Congress leaders for their involvement in illegal sand transportation and for allegedly attempting to murder a BRS worker in Bejjora, Bheengal mandal. In a statement on Sunday, he condemned these actions and a c c u s e d Congress leaders of criminal behavior.

Reddy stated that attacking people for ques-tioning sand smug-gling, especially in front of a responsible citizen, is shameful. He questioned whether Congress leaders intend to kill those who oppose them and highlighted the increasing number of crimes committed by Congress members. He also criticised the ongoing illegal sand mining, which he

ment of revenue while Congress leaders get rich themselves.

leaders of attempting to murunacceptable. He also

alleged that revenue and police officials are involved in the sand mafia, only seeing as ruling party leaders attempt to protect the accused.

the immediate arrest

accused and warned of mass protests if action is not taken. Reddy promised to hold Congress leaders accountable for corruption, irregularities and anarchy and also assured that his party would respond strongly if their workers are attacked.

45% males in India suffer from infertility, say docs

MOHAMMED BALEEGH HYDERABAD

Ahead of the World IVF Day, city-based doctors have said that 45% males in India suffer from infertility.

Sedentary lifestyle and increased screen-time are among the major causes of

infertility. Speaking of infertility and the IVF procedure, Dr Jyoti C Budi, Medical Director at Ferty9 said, "Compared to earlier the male infertility has increased from 20 $\dot{\%}$ to 45 %. I attribute this to a sedentary lifestyle due to the availability of gadgets. Nowadays sitting is like smoking if people sit at a place for 7-8 hours somewhere it will lead to obesity and decrease in sperm count.

She further said, "Many a times the rea-

sons for low sperm count may be alcohol and smoking. If they stop smoking there could be a reversal, the process of spermatogenesis takes 84 days for sperms to form and in a couple of months the sperm count

would increase. In case of infertility due to ovulation infections, there is specific course of tablets.

Speaking of the success rate of the IVF procedure and reasons for infertility in women, Dr Parinaz Parhar, Regional Medical Head of Oasis Fertility

said, "The average success rate



of the IVF procedure is around 50-60 % it is also dependent on the age of the female and the type of treatment they are opting for. The causes for infertility in women are varied, some women may suffer from

which means they have issues releasing eggs every month and this is most commonly due to a hormonal imbalance or Polycystic Ovarian Disease (PCOD)

Shedding light on the side effects of IVF, the doctor said,

'As per the Assistive Reproductive Technology (ART) Act in India, the legal age for going through ART is 50 years for women and 55 years for men. It was drafted considering the health of the future child, since the couple should be in a position to take care of the child. There are different types of IVF, in the first case the couple would use their own egg and sperm. In case the quality of egg or the sperm is poor they opt for donor egg or sperm. In other cases,

both the egg and the sperm are of a third party hence it is an adopted embryo. If the female wants to use her own egg, she should be less than 40 years, the embryos must be screened before transfer.

He also called for and prosecution of the

claimed will rob the govern-Reddy accused Congress

der opposition party members who are trying to prevent smuggling and said that if the common people are suffering due to sand shortages, it is



Telangana

Revanth sanctions Rs 2,200 cr for SLBC works: Komatireddy

PNS NALGONDA

Minister for Rods and Buildings Komatireddy Venkat Reddy said that Chief Minister A Revanth sanctioned Rs 2,200 crore for the completion of the Srisailam Left Bank Canal (SLBC). It has been remained incomplete for the last 16 years. The Chief Minister, he said, had given sanction for the funds to complete the SLBC project immediately when he

asked for it. Speaking at a meeting in Narketpally on Sunday, occa-sion, he said that the Brahmana Vellaimula project would be completed by next March. He said that after talking to the Chief Minister for the completion of the SLBC tunnel work. There were no hurdles for release of funds. He said that the work is progressing at a brisk pace.

He said that the government released Rs 6,000 for farm loan waiver scheme. The first



Minister for Roads and Buildings Komatireddy Venakat Reddy speaking to the media in Nalgonda on Sunday

phase of farm loan waiver scheme was completed in a single day, he said. The government has been waiving farm loan amounting to Rs 32,000 crore. He said the District Selection Committee (DSC) exams were in the process. The Minister said that he would soon talk to the Chief Minister to arrange all the necessary facilities for the devotees at the Varijala Sri Venugopala Swamy

Temple by spending Rs 2 crore. Nalgonda Municipal Chairman Burri Srinivas Reddy, Sri Varijala Venugopala Swamy Temple Chairman Komatireddy Mohan Reddy, Endowments Department Assistant Commissioner Mahendra Kumar, local Tahsildar Venkateswara Rao, DSP Shivaram Reddy and other officials attended the programme.



First flood warning for Godavari issued at Bhadrachalam

PNS 📕 BHADRADRI KOTHAGUDEM

The first flood warning for Godavari was issued at Bhadrachalam as the water level in the River Godavari at the temple town touched 43 feet mark at 7 pm on Sunday, improving from 34 feet on Saturday. The water level in River Godavari is increasing gradually.

Sabari river, which is the tributary of River Godavari, is in spate and hence the outflow of flood water from River Godavari to the downstream is rather slow. The flood level to the River Godavari at Bhadrachalam was measured at 9 lakh

cusecs. The Union Water Resources Department sources indicate that the flood level in the river at Bhadrachalam will increase further because of the inflows into Godavari from the upper reaches of the river. Fishermen have been warned against venturing into the river.

Several steps of the bathing ghat at Bhadrachalam have gone under the water with the increase in the water level. Road communication facilities to four villages have been disrupted with Eeta Vaagu in spate in Charla mandal.

FUNDS SOUGHT FOR BACKWARD DISTRICTS Centre should grant 'national' status to irrigation projects: ex-MP Vinod

PNS HYDERABAD

Former MP Vinod Kumar Boianapalli urged the Centre on Sunday to grant national status to irrigation projects and allocate funds to backward districts. He also called for the establishment of Kazipet Railway Coach Factory and the Bayyaram Steel Plant. Additionally, he urged the Central government to set up Navodaya Vidyalayas in every district.

Vinod emphasised that the upcoming budget will shape the Modi government's agenda for the next five years, noting that the government has relied on opposition support this time. He criticised the Central government for failing to address the issues outlined in the Telangana and Andhra Pradesh State Bifurcation Act over the past decade.

funds to the State from the He pointed out that Modi Centre. formed the government with



the help of TDP allies, and reports indicate that a Rs 60,000 crore petrochemical

project has been approved for Andhra Pradesh. Vinod also

mentioned, being allies, Andhra Pradesh Chief

Minister N Chandrababu

Naidu might seek some

seats, Congress won 8, and AIMIM won 1. Vinod noted that during his time as a BRS MP, he raised several issues in Parliament and secured benefits for the State. He criticised the BJP and Congress for not submitting any memorandum to the Centre in the past 15 days.

With only one day left before the Budget Session of Parliament, Vinod urged Union Ministers Kishan Union Ministers Kisman Reddy, Bandi Sanjay, MPs Etela Rajender and DK Aruna to pressure the Central government to grant national status to irrigation projects in Telangana, establish the Kazipet Railway Coach Factory and Bayyaram Steel Plant, allocate funds for backward districts, and set up Navodaya Vidyalayas in every

Telangana district. He concluded by calling on the 8 Congress MPs to also push the Centre for funds and

In Telangana, the BJP won 8 projects for Telangana.

Guru Purnima celebrations held in Rangareddy District

PNS RANGAREDDY

The devotees of Shadnagar town in Rangareddy district on Sunday celebrated Guru Purnima. The event, which honours spiritual and academic teachers, saw enthusiastic participation from prominent figures and the local community.

The celebrations at the Saibaba Temple were spear-headed by the temple's presi-dent, Vijay Kumar, along with Lion Club member Kammadan Sudhakar.

Among the notable attendees were MLA Veerlapalli Shankar, former councilor Lata Srisailam Goud, senior Congress leaders Chendi Tirupati Reddy, Bhagwan Das, and Manikyam. Their presence added a significant touch of importance and reverence to the occasion.

In addition to the grand festivities in Shadnagar, Guru



Devotees at Saibaba Temple thronging Saibaba Temple at Shadnagar in Rangareddy District on Sunday

Purnima celebrations were variety of rituals, prayers, and widespread across the Rangareddy district. Devotees community gatherings, emphasizing the significance of in Maheswaram, Rajendra the Guru in guiding and nagar, Shamshabad, Chevella, enriching the lives of the devotees. The united spirit of the devotees across Rangareddy Serilingampalli, and Ibrahim patnam also participated in the event, showcasing the districtdistrict highlighted the deeprooted cultural and spiritual wide reverence for this traditional festival. values cherished by the com-

The celebrations included a munity.

Telangana health official who walked 16 km to reach remote hamlet hailed

PNS HYDERABAD

A health official in Mulugu district of Telangana has come in for praise from Haryana Governor Bandaru Dattatreya and others for his dedication to duty as he visited a remote hamlet, climbing three hillocks and crossing a stream, to serve the inhabitants.

A Appaiah, District Medical and Health Officer (DMHO) visited the hamlet, Penugolu, a few days ago to understand the difficulties of the health department staff reaching the place (to serve them) and also to request the inhabitants to shift to the plains.

The hamlet is 16 kms away from Wajedu in the district and now 11 families with a population of 39 people reside there, he told PTI. Earlier, 150 families used to live there. It is an arduous journey as it takes four and half hours to reach the place and involves climbing three hillocks and crossing a stream, he said. Whenever the health staff

visit the village, they have to pay money to those who guide them, as the officials are



A Appaiah

not familiar with the area. The health department's health assistant must have visited the hamlet 40-50 times during the last four years, spending about Rs 40,000, he claimed.

The inhabitants are getting the benefit of Telangana gov

ernment's 'Rythu Bharosa investment support scheme

Appaiah said he provided medical treatment to the medical treatment to the inhabitants of the hamlet and mosquito nets. He also gave them groceries for a month from his pocket. When he told them to shift to the plains in view of the threat of health problems they are vulnerable to the

they are vulnerable to, the inhabitants sought at least an acre of land to cultivate and a house to live (per family). The request has been communicated to the senior offi-

Haryana Governor staff said.

Dattatreya spoke to

Doctors sound alarm as seasonal diseases surge in Rangareddy dist

PNS RANGAREDDY

There is a spike in in seasonal viral fevers in Rangareddy district with heavy rains lash-ing the district. There is ncrease in cases of flu, typhoid, malaria, and other illnesses. Health authorities are reporting a surge in patient numbers

at local hospitals and clinics. The changing weather con-ditions created an environment conducive for the spread of these diseases. Residents are falling ill at an alarming rate, prompting health officials to

issue advisories to the public. "With the current weather patterns, we are seeing a spike in various seasonal illnesses," said a doctor from Shadnagar. "It's crucial for everyone to take necessary precautions to stay healthy." Doctors are urging people to prioritise their health by eating nutritious food and maintaining clean surround-

key," "People should avoid storing water, use mosquito repellents, and ensure their living spaces are clean to reduce the risk of disease." Public health campaigns are

to preventing complications

the guidelines provided by from these seasonal ailments.

BRS leadership to seek legal opinion on changing name to TRS | Police crack mystery behind

tions using the name TRS.

But sources said that it is not

easy to go back to the name

SNCN ACHARYULU

after changing the party's Chandrasekhar Rao. Sources said that KCR has C

influence on the Election struggling for its existence as its Commission. Senior BRS MLAs are defecting as they

cials, he said.

Dattatreya appreciated Appaiah's dedication after coming to know about his visit to the hamlet through media reports, the former's

Appaiah over the phone and praised him for his dedication to work.

ings. "Preventive measures are

being launched to educate people on the importance of hygiene and proper nutrition. The district administration has geared up the machinery to keep the situation under control. As the district grapples with this health challenge, medical professionals continue to stress the importance of seeking timely medical attention if symptoms arise. Early diagnosis and treatment are essential

and ensuring a speedy recovery. Residents are advised to remain vigilant and follow health authorities to safeguard themselves and their families

for farmers.



The BRS is trying to regain its identity by reverting to its original name of Telangana Rashtra Samiti (TRS). For this, the BRS leadership has decided to take legal advice and also gather information from the Election commission of India.

BRS leaders strongly feel that their party has lost its identity after changing its name to BRS. They also think that their leadership is facing trouble

In fact, senior leaders did not accept the move to change the name of the TRS as BRS. But they were silent at that time as the party leadership had already taken the decision to change the name.

After the defeat in the Assembly and Lok Sabha elections party leaders have started to tell their opinion openly on this issue. Some senior leaders told their opinion to

BRS

BRS leaders suspect that the BJP-led NDA government may create hurdles by using its Κ.

the name TRS.

TRS.

also realised that his party has leader B. Vinod Kumar told 'The Pioneer' that they have to lost its identity by changing its take legal opinion over changname. Now, the party leadering the name of BRS to TRS. ship has decided to go back to He also said that they have to The BRS leadership wants know the position of the ECI to fight the local body elec-

on this. KCR changed the name of the TRS to BRS hoping to play a key role in national politics. But after changing the party's name it lost its identity not only in national politics but also in state politics. Now the BRS is

have lost confidence in the

BRS leaders have started wearing the TRS scarf instead of the BRS scarf in public. BRS troubleshooter T. Harish Rao surprised everyone by wearing the TRS scarf instead of the BRS scarf.

The party leadership thinks that if the BRS changes its name to TRS it will give confidence to its cadres and also regain its original identity.

murder of old woman

PNS PEDDAPALLI

A 60-year-old woman, who has been living alone in her residence, was strangled to death. A couple were charged with the grisly of murder of old woman. An accomplice was also arrested.

The relatives of Perukula Rajeswari lodged complaint with the police that she went missing since July 5. During

the investigation, the police ed the old woman, Rajeswari, to stumbled on the evidence that couple, named Lavanya and Ravi, along with an accomplice, had strangled the old woman to death. The couple hatched conspirty to murder the old woman because she had been demanding repay-ment of Rs 1,50 lakh loan Lavanya borrowed from her.

Lavanya on the pretext of

returning the loan amount invit-

her hosue and there she and her husband, along with an accomplice, murdered here. Later, they put the body in a gunny bag and threw it into agriculture well, the police said.

The grisly murder came to light when a farmer informed the police about the presence of a body in a gunny in agriculture well. The body was identified as that of the old women,

SP asks people to remain alert in view of heavy rains

President

PNS MEDAK

District Superintendent of Police D Uday Kumar Reddy has called upon the people in general and farmers in particular to take precautions and asked them to remain alert in view of the rain threat to the district during the 48 hours.

The district received rains for the past two days and the rains are likely to continue for the next two days during the current monsoon season.

Holding a meeting with police officers on Sunday, the SP said that the police officials would immediately swing into action in case of any problem surfaced anywhere in the district. He asked the police officials and other police depart-ment personnel the precau-

tions to be taken to rule out any problems to the people due to rains. He called upon peo-

ple to call up the police control room on No. 100 or call up dialling 87126 57888 to get police assistance.

He asked the farmers to be careful while switching on and switching off the motors. He asked them not to touch the electric poles or electric wires when it rains. He asked the people living in Manjira river catchment areas to remain

alert and asked them not to go near the rivers, tanks, irrigation projects, streams and water bodies since they would be in Especially children spate. should not go anywhere near these water bodies. Further, he advised the fishermen against venturing into these water

bodies for fishing. He asked people not to live under trees, damaged buildings and advised them against touching electric poles and power transformers with bare hands.

The police department in association with local revenue, irrigation, panchayat, R and B and Medical and Health officials will erect barricades and install flexi banners warning people to go away whenever the flood water causes damage to roads. \

The police personnel and constables should get themselves updated on the status of the water bodies under the police station limits and take necessary precautions. The people should remain alert as there is every possibility of the tanks and ponds breaching their bunds

Ramgundam residents protest felling of trees by civic officials

PNS PEDDAPALLI

Strange are the ways of the Ramagundam Municipal Corporation (RMC) which is felling the trees planted on road dividers. The residents of the city have been crying hoarse against the action of the city municipal corporation.

The state government is implementing Vana Mahotsav in the state by spending huge money, but the civic officials in Ramagundam have been cutting the trees. The decision can be termed as a blow to enhance the greenery in the city.

The civic authorities took a decision to cut down the trees

icance of brian health on the occasion of World Brain Day, the

Neurologist said, "As a neurol-

ogist, I often see the effects of

stress on my patients. The brain

is incredibly sensitive to stress

hormones, such as cortisol,

which can disrupt the normal

planted on the road divider citing them to be a hindrance to the street lights. They contend that the commuters are not able to see properly at night

because of the obstruction caused by the tree branches. Further, the officials have come forward with the idea of

replacing the existing tree cover on the road dividers with fencing model of trees. The city dwellers have been

finding fault with the civic authorities for cutting down the trees which are grown up. Why should the authorities take so much pains to get the saplings planted, watering them nursing carefully. Is it for cutting them

down once they were grown up? They call it as a criminal waste of lakhs of rupees of the tax-payer's money

It is clearly perceptible that the decision of the government officials have been rendering the public money waste. They should have applied their brain and take well balanced decision prior to planting the saplings. They apparently jumped to conclusions causing loss to the state exchequer. The bottom line is to love the trees till they shed their leaves fully. It does not matter if one doesn't love the trees, but under no circumstances the trees should be cut down.

2 workers stranded in Dubai rescued, thanks to Swatantra TV

PNS VIJAYAWADA

India. So far, eight victims from WG and EG districts have reached their homes. Two persons who were sent to Dubai under the false promise of lucrative employment have returned to their native villages, thanks to Swatantra TV, which brought their plight to light. A few days ago, Swatantra TV

aired the ordeal of ten individuals stranded in Gulf countries. These individuals were sent by an agent, Jhansi, from West Godavari and East Godavari districts, with the promise

of lucrative jobs on tourist visas. Upon arriving in Dubai and other locations, they found no suitable jobs and endured severe hardships, including starvation for 60 days. The agent who sent them did not respond to their pleas for help. The stranded individuals sent video messages to their relatives and friends detailing their dire situation. Swatantra Telugu News Channel broadcasted a series of stories on their ordeal, including these video messages. This prompted the relevant authorities to take necessary steps to bring the stranded individuals back to Andhra Pradesh.

Among the returnees, Gantasala Venkata Raju and Jayaramu from Tokalapalli village in Nidamarru mandal expressed their gratitude to Swatantra News Channel. Speaking to the channel, Venkata Raju shared how the telecast of their plight gave them

hope and confidence to return to India. He mentioned that his parents sold his bike to send money for his return from Dubai.

"After 48 days, the house owner in Dubai forced us to vacate as we couldn't pay the rent. We slept on the terrace of a food factory. The management confined six of us in a room, but the agent did not

help us," he recalled. Venkata Raju thanked Swatantra TV for highlighting their ordeals in the Gulf. He advised all youths to thoroughly verify the guarantee of employment and salary and to use authorized agents before seeking jobs in the Gulf. He also demanded that the government take action against Jhansi for Indian Embassy officials in deceiving them with false Dubai responded and made promises of lucrative employarrangements for their return to ment.

Woman dies after being hit by PNS HYDERABAD City -based Neurologist, Dr M 'ex-BRS MLA's car' in T'gana Jayasree says chronic brain stress leads to decline in cognitive decline. Stressing on the signif-

PNS HANAMKONDA

A woman died after allegedly being hit by ex-BRS MLA T Rajaiah's car in Hanumakonda district of Telangana, police said on Sunday. The incident occurred when the woman

was crossing the four-lane road at Madikonda in the dis-

trict Saturday night, they said. The car was being driven by a driver. Rajaiah, who was in the car, got the car stopped after some distance as his presence may lead to any untoward

situation.

He sent the car involved in the accident to the police station and left in another car, police said. The woman's husband complained to police about the incident and a case of accident was registered.

functioning of brain cells and even lead to cell death in some cases. This can result in a range of symptoms, from memory

cial to highlight the importance of managing stress for our overall brain health. There are many ways to reduce stress and protect our brains, such as practicing mindfulness, engaging in regular physical activity, maintaining a healthy diet, and getting enough

sleep. These lifestyle changes can have a significant impact on our brain health and help to preserve cognitive function as we age. It is essential to pay atten-tion to our mental health. Mental health disorders, such as depression and anxiety, can have a profound impact on brain function and well-being. Seeking help from a mental health professional is crucial for proper diagnosis and treatment of these conditions.

Chronic brain stress leads to cognitive decline: Doc

problems to mood disorders." On World Brain Day, it is cru-



nation 05

Heavy rain lashes Odisha, over 7,000 affected in Malkangiri

Several districts of Odisha have been affected by heavy rain over the past three days due to the impact of a depression over the Bay of Bengal, an official statement said on OSunday. More than 7,300 people of Malkangiri district have been most affected by heavy rainfall during that period, it said. Under the impact of the depression over the Bay of Bengal, the districts of Nabaranghpur, Koraput, Khurda, Nayagarh, and Malkangiri

received heavy rainfall on July 19. Similarly, on July 20, Malkangiri, Koraput, Rayagada, Gajapati, and Nabarangpur districts received heavy rain, while Nuapada, Sonepur, Boudh, Malkangiri, Bolangir and Angul received heavy rain on July 21. Due to the heavy rain, several roads and bridges in Malkangiri district were submerged, the office of the Special Relief Commissioner (SRC) said in its statement. The SRC office said 1,045 villages under 111 panchayats in the district were also affected and the local administration has so far evacuated 121 people from the low-lying areas to safe shelter homes



Tripura: Woman, her partner arrested for murdering husband

woman and her partner were arrested in Tripura's Khowai district for allegedly murdering her husband, police said. The body of Kinkar Debnath (47) was found in Athe Karailong area, about 1.5 km away from his home, on July 19, they said. During the course of the investigation, police summoned his wife Purnima Debnath and her partner Amit Ghosh for interrogation. "During interrogation, Purnima confessed that she and her partner who is a real estate

developer, murdered him on the night of July 18," the officer-in-charge of Teliamura police station Rajib Debnath said. Purnima first sedated her husband, and then along with her partner, she allegedly strangulated him to death, the officer said. "Amit then disposed of the body nearby. They have been arrested on murder charges," he said. Purnima told the police that she fell in love with Amit after he was engaged by her husband to reconstruct their house, he said



14 Indian nationals trapped in Cambodia rescued

t least 14 Indian citizens trapped in a cybercrime scam in Cambodia were rescued, Athe Indian Embassy said in a statement on Saturday and informed that they are working for their expeditious return home. The Indian Embassy in Cambodia in collaboration with the authorities got the 14 Indian citizens released and they are being looked after by the Cambodian side, the embassy said in a post on X. In an official press

release, the embassy in Cambodia's capital here said it has facilitated the rescue and repatriation of over 650 Indian citizens who had fallen victim to fraudulent job offers that lure them into cybercrime operations. It said the embassy provided specific leads to the Cambodian police leading to their rescue. The rescued individuals are currently being cared for by an NGO working in collaboration with Cambodia's Ministry of Social Affairs, Veterans and Youth Rehabilitation



WB CM SLAMS NDA ALLIES FOR SACRIFICING MINISTERIAL BERTHS

Mamata and Akhilesh say **Central govt won't last long**

PNS KOLKATA

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Sunday asserted that the BJP-led government at the Centre would not "last long and would col-lapse soon", claiming it was formed through "intimidation and threats"

Addressing the mega 'Martyrs' Day' rally of the TMC, Banerjee, without naming anyone, also criticised the BJP's allies in the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) government at the Centre for "sacrificing" ministerial posi-tions allegedly for financial gain.

The TMC leader praised Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav, who was present at the event, for his party's performance in the Lok Sabha elections in Uttar Pradesh. "The government at the Centre won't last long. This is not a stable government and will collapse soon," she said

Describing the NDA allies as "cowards and greedy individu-



als who yielded to financial inducements," Banerjee questioned, "Has anyone ever heard of money being offered instead of ministries? They are cowards, shameless, and greedy. They sacrificed their own identities." commending While Akhilesh Yadav, Banerjee

remarked, "The 'Khel' (game) you played in UP should have forced the BJP government (in UP) to resign, but the shameless government continues in power by misusing agencies and other means. You cannot intimidate us by misusing agencies...

" The TMC supremo claimed that only Bengal can preserve the existence of India and there can be no India without Bengal. Echoing Yadav's claim that the BJP-led NDA government would not endure, Banerjee predicted it would soon "collapse"

BSF 'on high alert' to deal with any situation that may arise due to Bangladesh unrest

PNS AGARTALA

The Border Security Force (BSF) is on high alert to deal with any situation that may arise due to the prevailing unrest in neighbouring Bangladesh, a top official said on Sunday.

Anti-quota agitations in the neighbouring country have left more than 100 dead, prompting the government to enforce a curfew to tackle the volatile situa tion.

"The prevailing law and order situation in Bangladesh is a security concern for the BSF too as we are entrusted with guarding the international border. We are fully seized of the situation and have beefed up security so that criminal elements from



advantage of the current situation," BSF Tripura Frontier operational preparedness. Inspector General Patel Piyush Purushottam Das said at a press conference.

He said a large number of deal with any exigency," he said. troops and all senior comman-

safe return of Indian students studying in Bangladesh.

The number of Indian students in Bangladesh is believed to be close to 8,000 and most of them are enrolled in medical colleges. Most of the students are studying in medical colleges in Comilla, Brahmanbaria and Dhaka and many have chosen to enter India through Tripura," he said.

Altogether 314 students, including 66 Nepalese studying in Bangladesh, returned to India through the northeastern state's border on Sunday, while "The BSF is fully committed 379 students entered from the to securing the borders of our neighbouring country on July country and is fully prepared to 19 and 20. A total of 693 students have so far been evacuatfrom violence-hit ed Bangladesh.

his guru on

PNS LUCKNOW

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath on Sunday sought blessings of his 'guru' on the occasion of Guru Purnima and performed a special puja at Gorakhpur's Gorakhnath temple for the happiness and prosperity of the people of the state.



itself.

toms.

risk category.



Centre to deploy team to support Kerala in probing Nipah virus case

PNS NEW DELHI

their samples will be out today

The minister said the child

went to school on May 11 and

till now there are not many

cases of patients with symp-

'Communal forces at the Centre' are hatching conspiracies

PNS KOLKATA

Samajwadi Party (SP) chief Akhilesh Yadav said on Sunday that the BJP-led NDA govern-Centre 3 not last long, asserting that "communal forces" may experience temporary success but would ultimately be defeated. While addressing the mega Martyrs' Day rally of the TMC, Yadav said, "Those who have come to power are guests for just a few days.' This government at the Centre won't last long and will fall soon. Such communal forces want to be in power at House of Parliament.

any cost, but those designs won't succeed," he said, without naming the BJP or the

NDA. The Samajwadi Party leader sserted forces at the Centre" are "hatching conspiracies and trying to destabilise the country". "The forces which want to divide the nation on communal lines may taste temporary success, but they will be defeated in the end," he added.

PNS SRINAGAR

unit of the Janata Dal (United) on Sunday as

JD(U)'s J-K unit asks Nitish to reconsider alliance with BJP

Vivek Bali said here.

He said the JD(U) was The Jammu and Kashmir trying to bring the islamic scholars in Kashmir back to the mainstream the BJP was allegedly crethe party's national presiating obstacles in these dent Nitish Kumar to reconsider the alliance with efforts. the BJP at the Centre. "We are trying to bring "The actions of the BJP these Islamic scholars back in Jammu and Kashmir into the system so that has forced us to appeal to they can contribute to our national leader Nitish nation building. We cannot Kumar to reconsider our leave them out. participation in the However, the BJP finds National Democratic ways and means to create Alliance (NDA)," JD(U) obstacles in this," Bali state general secretary added.

across the border do not take **Yogi worships**

Guru Purnima

The chief minister worshipped his 'guru' Mahant Avedyanath Ji Maharaj in Gorakhpur, before which he also performed Guru Purnima rituals for Mahayogi Guru Forakhnath accordi official statement issued here. Adityanath performed a special puja and Rudrabhishek at the Shaktipeeth of Gorakhnath temple and prayed for the happiness and prosperity of the people of the state, the release said.

Das said that one of the ders have been sent to the borprime concerns at present is the Boy infected with Nipah in Kerala dead, says Health Minister Veena George

The Samajwadi Party had won 37 Lok Sabha seats from Uttar Pradesh, which sends eighty MPs to the Lower

He also met children on the occasion, it added.

Adityanath is also the Peethadheeshwar of the famous Gorakshapeeth.

'Will offer shelter to anyone in distress at our door'

PNS KOLKATA

Responding to the ongoing violence in Bangladesh, West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee on Sunday suggested that she would keep the doors of her state open for people in distress from the neighbouring country and offer them shelter.

Banerjee referred to the United Nations Resolution on refugees as justification for come knocking on the doors her stand over the possible of Bengal, we will surely pro-

humanitarian crisis that may emerge on account of the severe law and order breakdown that has gripped Bangladesh in the past few

days. "I should not be speaking regions adjacent to those under turmoil," the Bengal on the affairs of Bangladesh since that is a sovereign nation CM added while drawing an example from Assamese peoand whatever needs to be said on the issue is a subject ple who were allowed to live matter of the Centre. But I can in the Alipurduars area of tell you this, if helpless people north Bengal for a considerable period during the Bodo strife in the northeastern state.

Assuring all cooperation to Bengal residents whose vide them shelter," Banerjee said at the 'Martyrs Day' rally of the TMC in Kolkata. relatives may have remained stuck on account of the esca-That's because there is a United Nations Resolution to accommodate refugees in

lating violence on the eastern side of the international border, she also extended assistance to Bangladeshis who came to Bengal but were fac-ing difficulty in returning home.

Banerjee also appealed to the people of West Bengal to not get provoked over matters concerning the current situation in Bangladesh. "We should exercise restraint and not walk into any provocation or excitement on the issue," she stated.

with the people who have remained at the receiving end of the ongoing violence in the

getting spilt and my heart goes out to those students who were killed," she said.

The Trinamool supremo also expressed her solidarity

neighbouring country. "We are sad to see blood

The 14-year-old boy from Kerala's Malappuram, who was under treatment here for Nipah infection, died on Sunday, state Health Minister Veena George said.

George said the boy from Pandikkad suffered a massive cardiac arrest at 10.50 am on Sunday and efforts to revive him failed.

"He was on a ventilator and was not conscious. The urine output had reduced this morning. After the massive cardiac arrest, the revival efforts failed and he passed away at 11.30 am," George said.

The Minister said the funeral will be held following international protocols.

"Further matters on funeral will be decided only after the district Collector holds discussion with the parents and the family," George said.

The Minister said currently there are three people under iso-lation at Kozhikode medical college where the deceased boy was undergoing treatment.

"At Manjeri Medical college, Animal Husbandry," the four high-risk category people Minister said.

person is in ICU," the minister

The government will deploy a said, adding that the results of multi-member joint outbreak response team to support Kerala in investigating a Nipah virus case detected in its Mallapuram district, identifying epidemiological linkages and providing technical assistance.

In a statement on Sunday, the Earlier in the day, the Union health ministry said a 14-Minister had informed that there are a total of 246 people year-old boy from the district in the contact list of the boy out exhibited the acute encephaliof which 63 were under hightis syndrome and was admitted to a healthcare facility in "We will be testing all under Perinthalmanna before being the high-risk category but initransferred to a higher health centre in Kozhikode.

tially those with symptoms will be tested. We have labs in the He succumbed to the disease and samples were sent to the state and a mobile lab from the Pune NIV is arriving in the Pune-based National Institute of Virology, which confirmed state," George said. The Health department has Nipah virus infection, it said.

also decided to conduct fever Fruit bats are the usual resersurveillance in two panchayats voir of the virus, and humans including the epicentre Pandikkad and a total of around can become infected by accidentally consuming bat-conta-33,000 houses will be covered minated fruits. under it. "The survey will be

Outbreaks of the Nipah Virus Disease (NiVD) have been conducted jointly by the officials of the Health department, the reported in Kerala in the past, LSGD and the Directorate of with the last occurring in 2023 in Kozhikode district, the statement said.

'Still time to roll back Kanwar eatery order', says RLD leader Jayant

PNS MUZAFFARNAGAR (UP)

BJP ally Rashtriya Lok Dal chief Jayant Chaudhary on Sunday demanded the Uttar Pradesh government roll back its order that eateries along the Kanwar route must display the names of their owners, saying the pilgrimage does not belong to any one religion or caste.

He said kanwariyas ask noone their religion when they seek any service from them, neither should the matter (the pilgrimage) be linked to any religion.

Days after the Muzaffarnagar Police asked all eateries along the Kanwar Yatra route to display their owners' names, the Uttar Pradesh government on Friday extended the controversial order across the state. The order has been slammed by opposition



parties and members of the ruling alliance, who say it targets Muslim traders. "It seems that the order was taken without much thought and the government is adamant on it because the decision has been taken," Sabha member Rajya Chaudhary told reporters here. "There is still time. It (roll back) should happen or the government should not put much emphasis on (implementing) it," he said

Delhi Police issues traffic advisory ahead of Kanwar Yatra from today



PNS NEW DELHI

The Delhi Police on Sunday issued a traffic advisory regarding the elaborate arrangements for the upcoming Kanwar Yatra and cautioned that congestion is expected at several places.

The Kanwar Yatra will commence on the first day of Sawan (Shravan) on Monday and will culminate on August 2 as holy Ganga water will be offered to Lord Shiva. A large number of Kanwariyas will reach Delhi, while some of them will go to Haryana and Rajasthan via Delhi borders. This year, the expected number of people is about 15-20

lakh, the advisory said.

The advisory said that during the period of the Kanwarias movement, traffic violations will be checked by on-the-spot prosecution and by photography or videography of violations The devotees carrying

Kanwars will pass through several routes, including Apsara Border, Shahdara Flyover, Seelampur 'T' Point, ISBT Flyover Boulevard Road, Rani Jhansi Road, Faiz Road, Upper Ridge Road, Dhaula Kuan, NH-8 and exit from Rajokri Border for Haryana, the advisory said.

To ensure a smooth yatra for the Kanwarias, heavy transport

Mohan Nagar towards NH-24, and no such traffic will be allowed towards Wazirabad Road via Bhopura and towards GT Road via Apsra Border, the advisory read. The HTVs, except city buses, will not be allowed on GT Road towards Shahdra and Wazirabad Road. The heavy commercial transport vehicles, except city buses coming from GT Karnal Road at Outer Ring Road, will be diverted straight towards NH-24 and will not be allowed to move on Wazirabad Road and GT Road towards Shahadra, it said

vehicles (HTV) will be diverted

by the Uttar Pradesh Police from

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Trouble in Bangladesh

Students rampage in Bangladesh protesting job quota for veterans' families: India calls it an 'internal matter'

angladesh is going through the worst phase in years as students have taken to the streets protesting the Government's 30 per cent quota for relatives of the veterans who fought its war of independence in 1971. A national curfew has been imposed and the army has been deployed after 105 people including two journalists died in the bloodiest protests for a decade. A 'shoot-on-sight' order is also in place giving security forces the authority to fire on mobs, showing the gravity of the situation. Slowly but surely the student protest is turning into an all-out protest against the government as student protesters stormed a prison and freed inmates. The students maintain that job reservation for families of veterans mostly benefits supporters of Hasina, whose Awami League party led the independence movement. Students are struggling in a country where around 32 million young people are neither employed nor in education. Although job opportunities have



increased in certain areas of the private sector, many individuals prefer government jobs due to their perceived stability and better pay. The Government's crackdown on the protesting students has had little effect in controlling the violence. The protests, which began earlier this month, have led to widespread unrest and disruption across the country, leaving many foreign students in precarious situations.

About 15,000 Indians live in Bangladesh, of whom around 8,500 are students. Around 4,000 students are still awaiting their turn to be evacuated. The MEA spokesperson Arindam Bagchi has

confirmed that 1000 Indian students have been safely brought back home. The families are anxiously waiting for the return of stranded students. The Indian High Commission in Dhaka has set up a dedicated helpline to assist students and provide real-time updates on the repatriation process. Students have been advised to stay in touch with the mission and follow its guidance closely. A communication blackout has been in place since Thursday, including the suspension of mobile data and text message services. Besides, the Government's high-handedness in dealing with the protests has only escalated the tension and put the Hasina Government in a bad light. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's government is facing one of the most severe challenges of her 15-year tenure. Indeed, it is one of the biggest challenges Sheikh Hasina has faced in years. The student protests are turning into general protests against the government. Sheikh Hasina has appealed to students to wait for the court verdict on the issue but to no avail. India meanwhile has termed the unrest in the neighbourhood as an 'internal matter of Bangladesh' but must be concerned as Sheikh Hasina's Government maintains good relations with India and any disruption may impact Indo-Bangladesh relations.



The evolution of cricket and umpiring



06

RATHORE

Cricket has undergone significant transformations. The journey includes not only victories but also bloopers and game changing umpiring mistakes

he elusive cup reached home amidst thunderous applause and the rapturous welcome of the men in blue. As the euphoria settles and the cricketers (a lot richer) and fans (a lot happier) go home, it is time to look back and think about the evolution of the game and its future direction. As ardent followers of the game, it made us think how far we have come from the age of Maharaja Ranjitsinh ji to Kerry Packer to the glam world of the IPL. The history of cricket can only be complete with the history of bloopers, misjudgements and game-changing (quite literally) umpiring mistakes. The lovehate relationship between the Indian cricket team and umpire Steve Bucknor is well known, particularly in the famous monkey-gate test match. We still remember vividly the anger we felt when Sachin Tendulkar was given out LBW in a controversial decision by Bucknor when India toured down under in 2003. However, we have come a long way since then, thanks to the ever-increasing use of tech-nology. The gentleman's game has a rich history of evolution in its rules and regulations, particularly in umpiring. Initially, cricket matches featured just one umpire, but as the game grew in complexity and intensity, it came the system of having two umpires. The second umpire, positioned at square leg, was introduced to assist with decisions that the main umpire at the bowler's end might miss, such as run-outs and stumping, thereby enhancing the accuracy and fairness of on-field deci-sions. In the 1990s, the third umpire system, enabled by technology, changed cricket umpir-ing. What the field umpires considered unjudgeable, they could now refer to the third umpire, who in turn can watch an equal likelihood of the theoretically unlimited replays of home and away teams winwhat transpired before giving a ning a reversal by the 3rd verdict... The Decision Review



technological aids like ball-tracking and ultra-edge detection. This system has given more power to players and increased the accuracy of decisions. Statistics highlight that out of the 1,201 umpire decisions made during test matches between 2009 and 2014 that were challenged, 310 (25.81%) were overturned by a third umpire. Research that accounted for various match and team factors conducted logistic regressions to demonstrate the following: (1) Leg before wick-et (LBW) and caught decisions that are initially deemed "out" by the on-field umpire are more prone to being overturned compared to deci-sions ruled "not out"; (2) When it comes to both LBW and caught decisions, there is

for maintaining the flow and fairness of the game. While technology, such as the Video Assistant Referee (VAR), supports these decisions, the subjective nature of many calls-like tackles or handballs-requires the immediate and nuanced judgment of on-field referees. This dynamic is quite similar to cricket, where the on-field umpires' interpretation of situations, like appealing for a catch or judging a no-ball, often involves subjective judgment that technology alone cannot fully replicate.Despite the evident alone utility of on-field umpires, modern technology has permeated the game so much that the need for having onquestionable.

by managing player interac-tions and upholding decorum. However, the current system of having two on-field umpires now brings an element of redundancy.

One on-field umpire renamed as a referee, supported by comprehensive technological systems and a vigilant remote umpire, could suffice. While the remote umpire can pass decisions aided by technology, the referee could help smooth the conduct of the game and ensure that all the rules and spirit of the game are upheld. This would streamline the officiating process and speed up the game.

This hybrid model that combines the strengths of human wisdom with technological aids could offer the best solufield umpires is becoming tion, ensuring the game's efficiency and integrity are upheld. After all, cricket is a gentlemen's game. It should remain a gentlemen's game. (Rahul Pachori is Director, GOI, and Divya Singh Rathore is Senior Policy Specialist, GoI. Views *expressed are personal)*



nion

THE ADVANCEMENT OF TECHNOLOGY IN **CRICKET UMPIRING** HAS UNDENIABLY ENHANCED THE ACCURACY OF DECISIONS AND THE INTEGRITY OF THE GAME. HOWEVER,

> TECHNOLOGY CANNOT REPLACE UMPIRES' HUMAN

Devotees wait in queues to offer prayers at Vindhyavasini Temple on the occasion of Guru Purnima, in Mirzapur

Bihar's business boom: A new era of development



As Bihar strengthens its infrastructure and undertakes reforms, it is poised to become a hub of economic activity and innovation

Year ago, when the Adani Group decided to invest Rs. 8,700 crore in Bihar, it attracted the attention of investors from all over the country. The bureaucracy of Bihar, supporting the Nitish government, has made development and investment its campaign. Why can't entrepreneurs come here? The credit goes to the officers who returned from central deputation in Delhi. Additionally, Nitish Kumar, the head of the current NDA government in Bihar, strengthened his political connections. In Delhi, many JDU MPs became influential in the power corridors, such as Lallan Singh and Sanjay Jha, whose responsibilities increased. Bihar has successfully convinced the Center, resulting in several policy changes in energy and indus-try. As a result, Bihar is becoming self-sufficient in energy, a development appre-ciated in other BJP-ruled states.

Similarly, the process of identifying and allocating land for industry has begun, and naturally, investors have started project reconnaissance. This mango, guava, banana, als regarding textile, leather, seems to be a turning point.In makhana, potato, and toma- and food processing that need project reconnaissance. This



tourism, officials started working tirelessly to provide important information, and selfie points began to be established at tourist locations. Consequently, groups like Mayfair Hotel opened Bihar's first five-star hotel in Purnia. This new initiative led to proposals worth about Rs.10,000 crores in the field of food processing at the Bihar Investors Meet. However, Bihar's misfortune has been that although proposals came in, investors did not follow through in proportion.

But now, the situation is changing. A cursory glance shows that Bihar is an agriculture-based state. The state's agriculture roadmap discusses processing units for various crops like fruits, vegetables, grains, and makhana. Especially, products of litchi,

to have been the main focus. to be brought to Bihar. Many investors showed interest, but most left projects incomplete. Currently, according to the Chamber, 15 expressed a desire to invest about Rs10,304 crores. Companies like Godrej,

Anmol Foods, and Bangladesh's Pride Food are also showing interest.

Prime Minister Modi has appointed Bihar's young minister Chirag Paswan and experienced minister Giriraj Singh in these ministries with great expectations. Bhagalpuri silk has now entered the international market for the textile industry in Bihar. Additionally, many units related to handloom and khadi clothes are working on a very small scale in Bihar. Until now, investors were unaware of Bihar's cottage industry potential. The responsibility for expanding this sector lies with senior

leader and MSME Minister Jitan Ram Manjhi. The climate here is also suitable for the textile industry. The government has 44 old propos-

In the past, many reasons hindered industrial growth in Bihar. Law and order problems were discouraging, but companies are interested in food processing and have roads are attracting everyone. Today, India is the thirdlargest domestic civil aviation market in the world after China and America. Some states like Bihar lagged in aviation due to political differences, but the Bihar government is now gearing up for aviation infrastructure. In the proposed aviation plan for Bihar, apart from the Greenfield Airport in Bhagalpur and Rajgir, a Flying Training Academy in Begusarai, small cities of Bihar are also included. Existing airstrips in Saharsa, Munger, Birpur, Valmiki Nagar, Chhapra, Madhubani, Kishanganj, and Dalmianagar will be renovated and upgraded. In the Kosi area, many highway constructions are underway. The day is not far when, Bihar transforms into a developed state but it depends on preferential treatment the state gets in Union Budget.

> (The writer is senior journalist; views are personal)

LETT RS I (O

he recent global disaster caused by

Microsoft's server outage highlights the

need for preparedness against such fail-

Srinivas Madhav | *Hyderabad*

against women and 445 crimes against

Madam — This is regarding the news

the private sector job quota bill (July 19).

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's decision

to delay the Job Reservation Bill for

Kannadigas, amidst political opposition,

der innovation and competitiveness

ing skill development programs and

educational environments to address

Yugal Kishore Sharma | Faridabad ADDRESSING WEAVER SUICIDE

local unemployment effectively.

urgently needed.

NARCOTIC HELPLINE LAUNCHED

umpire.Compared to cricket,

sports like football demon-

strate a compelling need for

on-field officials due to the

game's fast-paced nature.

Football referees make instan-

taneous decisions on fouls,

Home Minister inaugurated the National Narcotics Helpline, 'MANAS' (Madak Padarth Nishedh Asuchna Kendra). The helpline, accessible through the toll-free number 1933, a web portal, and a mobile app, allows citizens to anonymously report drug trafficking activities. Although 'MANAS' collects personal information, it guarantees that the identity of the informant will be kept confidential.

This anonymous reporting system could be expanded to cover other types of crimes. 'Crime Stoppers', a collaborative effort between police and civil society, enables citizens to anonymously provide information about crimes or suspects via phone calls, online forms, or mobile apps.Many individuals, despite having critical information about crimes, are hesitant to speak directly with the police due to fears of testifying or concerns for their safety. Crime Stoppers ensures the anonymity of those reporting suspected criminal activities.Crime children per day. The establishment of Stoppers helplines do not display caller an Indian Crime Stoppers initiative is numbers or trace calls.

Upon receiving a call or a completed anonymous online form, they compile **KARNATAKA'S JOB RESERVATION BILL** a report that excludes any information that could identify the caller. This report is then forwarded to the relevant that Karnataka CM is slowing down on authority, such as the police, customs, or the NCB, for further investigation. Founded in the US in 1976 (1-800-222-TIPS), Crime Stoppers has since been adopted in the UK (0800 555 111), is a step in right direction. The indus-Australia (1800 333 000), and South try's concerns that such a bill could hin-Africa (08600 10111). Since its inception in the UK in 1995, Crime Stoppers are valid. The government's lack of consultation with the Federation of has received over 2.2 million actionable calls, leading to the arrest and charging Karnataka Chambers of Commerce and Industry suggests ulterior motives. of more than 151,000 individuals and the seizure of illegal drugs worth over Instead, the focus should be on improv-£367 million.

According to the recent National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) Report 2022, released in December 2023, 5,824,946 cognizable crimes were registered in

Learning from the Microsoft server outage

ures and cyber-attacks. A glitch in the system can plays havoc across the world.

The outage disrupted air traffic, banking, TV broadcasting, government and non-government operations, and even emergency services in America. It's ironic that this happened alongside the implementation of new cybersecurity measures, which themselves can jeopardize security. While technology is integral to modern life, the dominance of a few large tech companies poses risks.

These firms often impose arbitrary conditions on users and create different rules for different countries. To counteract this, governments must collaborate to curb the monopolies of private digital businesses. Whether major nations can unite against these internet giants is uncertain, but India could take steps in this direction

Abhijit Roy | Jamshedpur

2022. This includes over 1,200 crimes Madam - The frequent suicides of weavers due to financial problems and lack of buyers for expensive woven cloth are distressing. A practical solution would be to employ weavers in textile industries, as traditional weaving is becoming more of a hobby for the rich in the age of mechanized, inexpensive cloth. The high price of handwoven clothes cannot compete with industrial cloth.

The frequent suicides of weavers due to financial struggles and lack of buyers for expensive handwoven cloth are alarming. Employing weavers in textile industries could be a practical solution, as traditional weaving is becoming a luxury hobby

Handwoven clothes can't compete with cheaper industrial cloth, and high electricity costs make mechanized weaving xpensive

PV Madhu Nivriti | Secunderabad

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

he advancement of to ogy in cricket umpiring has TOUCH undeniably enhanced the accuracy of decisions and the integrity of the game. However, technology cannot replace umpires' human touch throughout the game

fully

yellow and red cards, and off-

side calls, which are critical

System (DRS), introduced more

recently, further revolutionised

the game. It allows players to

challenge on-field umpire deci-

sions, with the third umpire

reviewing the play using various

Madam - On 18th July, the Union

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FIRSTCOLUMN THE IMPORTANCE OF WORKPLACE ETIQUETTE

It enhances individual career opportunities and builds a professional image



SAKSHI SETHI

anners are essential in the workplace for several reasons, as they contribute significantly towards the overall functioning and atmosphere of the work environment. The transition from being a student to a working professional comes with its own set of challenges, including the need to adapt to workplace etiquette.

Much talked about, the term 'Workplace etiquette' is simply the anticipated behaviour and actions of a person in a workplace and society which includes being respectful to others and always keeping a well-mannered behaviour thereby creating a comfortable environment for everyone. It is a guide for actions in different situations and how to deal with those situations while being courteous to the employer and co-workers. It varies from one workplace to the other and serves as a map to every organization.

It is often said that first impressions are everlasting and in a professional setting, they can significantly influence perceptions and opportunities. Being punctual, wearing appropriate dress and polite greetings help create a positive first impression. When the employees exhibit these behaviours, they demonstrate respect for their colleagues and the organization thereby setting a tone of professionalism from the outset. This event fosters a cooperative environment where employees feel valued and are more likely to work together productively. For a few, this can even open doors to new opportunities, promotions and career advancements. Employers value individuals who contribute positively to the work environment and represent the company well. There is no denying the fact that respect and trust are the foundations of any successful professional relationship.

Adhering to workplace etiquette such as active listening, avoiding interrupting others and acknowledging contributions, fosters an environment of mutual respect. This respectful behavior builds trust among colleagues, facilitating smoother collaboration, and harmonious and efficient teamwork. An organisation that promotes and



Harnessing ancient wisdom for economic prosperity



analys \$ 07

ВК ЈНА

The time is ripe for Bharat to make use of its historical wisdom, embrace global opportunities, and drive towards a prosperous and inclusive future

s Bharat aspires to become the third largest economy in the world, it must not only achieve this goal but also focus on sharing surplus to create a vibrant and inclusive society. The author of 'Arthashastra', Acharya Chanakya, says 'Dharmasya Moolam Arthah' (Economy is the Strength). Hence, the land of Chanakya needs a clear vision—Making Society Prosperous with a mission of creating and sharing surplus wealth. The ancient wisdom of the Vedas, "Sat Hasta Samahara, Sahastra Hasta Sankira," translates to "Create wealth with 100 hands and share it with 1,000 hands." Hindus contributed significantly to the world economy from the lst to the 15th century CE, reflecting their understanding of wealth creation and distribution.Hindu civilization's prosperity is evident in the magnificent monuments of past and present such as Harappa and Mohenjo-Daro, Lothal, Nalanda and Takshila University, Ayutthaya in Thailand, Angkor Wat in Cambodia, Prambanan and Borobudur in Indonesia, and the temples of Rameshwaram, Brihadeshwara, and Meenakshi in Bharat. However, this prosperity was lost during periods of Islamic invasion, colonial rule, and the Industrial Revolution.

The 21st-century economy is driven by knowledge and youth, and with a signif-icant portion of the Hindu population being young, there is an inherent potential waiting to be unlocked. The current economic boom, coupled with the recession of major economies, has created turmoil worldwide. Traditional responses, such as cost-cutting and protectionism, are insufficient. What is needed is a new and creative approach to generating sur-plus wealth and rescuing the global econ-omy from its current crisis. Today, while some economies face turbulence, emerging economies offer great opportunities. The challenge is how to leverage the global situation for collective growth. Hindus should cooperate and collaborate globally to facilitate market access across geographic zones and countries, from Auckland to Alaska and Oslo to Johannesburg, Similarly, there should be cooperation in capital availability and technological innovation, matching technically savvy Hindus with those who can turn innovation into business opportunities. The fundamental problems of hunger, poverty, and illiteracy cannot be solved merely through donations and charity. A growing population has growing needs, which can be addressed only by creating surplus wealth and empowering the masses, especially those at the bottom of the pyramid. This approach aligns with the philoso-phy of creating "That, which sustains," and aims to eradicate hunger, poverty, and illiteracy. Historical evidence shows that the British plundered Bharat extensively. Economic historian, Utsa Patnaik's research suggests the British colonial regime looted almost USD 45 trillion from India from 1765 to 1938.



economic strength through cooperation and dedication. For instance, the Jews rebuilt themselves after the Holocaust through networking, community support, and self-organization. Similarly, Japan and Germany emerged as economic superpowers after World War II, and China has become the second-largest econ-omy since 1950. The GDP of Bharat in 2015 was USD 2.07 Trillion. Now it is slightly over USD 3 trillion. In the next three years, the nation aims to achieve USD 5 trillion

ECONOMIC The concept of linking Hinduism Economic Forum (WHEF) who empowerment and social devel-GROWTH FIRST with economic growth first created a global forum with a opment. By fostering and mentoremerged in February 1973, when mission to 'Making Society

explored the theme of the Hindu rate of growth.

The smooth legitimization of this phrase, despite its contemp-tuous undertones towards Hinduism in a predominantly Hindu country, highlights the tolerance and acceptance of those who practice this faith. Equating slow GDP growth with Hinduism and attributing economic stagnation to religion is being seen as a challenge now.

ing and sustainable economic strategies. 'Viksit Bharat,' (Developed India), Industry 4.0, Skill Development, E-Commerce, Capital Market, and Regional Opportunities are expected to be in focus. Hindus now aim to gain at least 16% of the world's GDP in proportion to their population share.

By fostering cooperation and collaboration globally, facilitating market access, supporting finan-Credits go to an IIT alumnus Swami Vigyananand, the Founder, of the World Hindu ing enterprise and entrepreneurship, the community can collectively drive economic growth and secure a prosperous future.Communities and nations regain their economic strength when they work with a spirit of cooperation and single-minded dedication. This collaborative approach can lead to significant contributions to the world GDP. visibility, acceptability, and respectability for the Hindu community.As Bharat marches towards becoming the third-largest economy, the focus needs to be on creating and sharing surplus wealth. By leveraging historical wisdom, fostering global cooperation, and embracing forward-thinking and future-ready strategies, the community can drive economic empowerment and social development, ultimately contributing to a prosperous and inclusive society.

expects proper etiquette is seen as more professional and reputable. This can attract top talent, clients as well as business partners who want to be associated with a respectful and well-mannered organization. It is often said that trust, once established, enhances communication and encourages open sharing of ideas, thereby leading to innovative solutions and better decision-making. Utilizing etiquette in the workplace can ensure that everyone feels comfortable while being productive.

Maintaining workplace etiquette goes a long way in ensuring that one commands the respect of co-workers and superiors and that the individual's professional image remains unblemished. Remember, an employee will be a much more valuable staff member if they stay alert, tune into conversations around them and contribute to the general discourse. Undoubtedly, in any workplace, conflicts are inevitable, but proper etiquette can help resolve them.

Approaching conflicts with a calm and respectful demeanour, listening to all perspectives and seeking mutually beneficial solutions prevent escalation and help in maintaining a positive work environment. Escalation should be the last resort but one shouldn't shy away if needed.

(The writer is an educator; views are personal)

This astronomical sum is fifteen times the annual GDP of the UK today. This wealth funded the Industrial Revolution in England, highlighting the significant economic contribution of Bharat. Nations and communities regain their

EMERGED IN BPR Vithal, writing under the FEBRUARY 1973, pseudonym Najin Yanupi, referred to the rate of growth of WHEN India's per capita income, sug-

THE CONCEPT OF

HINDUISM WITH

LINKING

BPR VITHAL, WRITING UNDER

growth," was later popularized by economist Raj Krishna. Former THE PSEUDONYM Chief Economic Advisor Kaushik Basu defended this term in a 2007 NAJIN YANUPI, paper, noting, "Hindu rate of REFERRED TO growth' is the tongue-in-cheek expression coined by the Indian THE RATE OF economist, the late Raj Krishna, to capture the frustrations India's GROWTH OF planners faced with growth. INDIA'S PER No matter what they did, growth seemed, invariably, to revert back CAPITA INCOME, to 3.5%, almost as if this magic figure was written in the land's scriptures." Since then, many economists, including former SUGGESTING A RANGE OF Deputy Chairman of the 1% TO 3%

Planning Commission Montek Singh Ahluwalia (1995) and former Chief Economic Advisors Shankar Acharya (2002) and Arvind Virmani (2006), have

Prosperous.' The journey of economic resurgence for the Hindu community began in 2012 in Hong Kong and has since tragesting a range of 1% to 3%. This versed global locations such as notion, termed the "Hindu rate of Bangkok, New Delhi, London, Los Angeles, Chicago, and Mumbai. Despite the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the movement has continued to expand through digital business networks and local chap-

Rooted in the philosophy of the Bhagwad Gita, the focus remains on forward-thinking and sustainability to generate surplus wealth and enhance societal wellbeing. This socio-economic nongovernmental organization is set to host its highly anticipated event- WHEF 2024 in Mumbai. The mega business conference and exhibition will be organized from December 13th to 15th, 2024. With the theme "Think in Future, for the Future," this forum aims to cultivate forward-think-

(The author is a senior journalist and the views expressed are personal)

India's bold climate leadership amidst global heatwave concerns

India stands out as a beacon of hope, demonstrating unwavering commitment through innovative climate initiatives and sustainable practices

his year's record spell of an intense heatwave in Delhi, during which temperatures touched 50°C, highlighted concerns over the adverse effects of climate change globally. India remains a beacon of hope through its actions as part of the global efforts to stem climate change. Through myriad initiatives, the country has demonstrated its unwavering commitment to environmental sustainability. India's journey toward climate action began in 2009 when the country voluntarily pledged to reduce the emissions intensitv of its GDP by 20-25% by 2020 compared to 2005 levels. Impressively, India achieved a 24% reduction within the stipulated timeframe. In align-Agreement, India submitted its Afforestation



MOHAPATRA

Nationally Contributions (NDCs) to the UNFCCC in 2015, setting forth eight ambitious targets for 2021-2030, further reinforcing its commitment to combating climate change.

Tree plantation and forest conment with the Paris India and the Compensatory



SOURYABRATA

Determined

servation are at the heart of India's environmental efforts. Through programs like the National Mission for Green Fund

encourages the use of barren land for tree plantations. The country ranks third globally in net forest area gain, with 21.71% of its geographical area covered by forests. Initiatives like the Green Credit Program further incentivize tree plantation and forest restoration. India's commitment to wetland conservation is equally impressive, with 80 designated Ramsar sites. The Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Incomes (MISHTI) aims to promote and conserve mangroves, which are vital for carbon storage and marine biodiversity.

The country has implemented the Plastic Waste Management Amendment Rules, 2021, ban-

plastics. Renewable energy is another area in which India excels. The National Green Hydrogen Mission, launched in January 2023, aims to position India as a leader in green hydrogen technology. The country ranks fourth globally in renewable energy capacity. India's environmental initiatives extend beyond its borders. The country plays a pivotal role in global platforms such as the Global Alliance for Circular Economy and Resource Efficiency. India has made notable strides in addressing climate change, earning a commendable 7th place in this year's Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI), up one spot from last year, making it one of the highest performers globally.



India's high ranking in the GHG Emissions and Energy Use categories underscores the country's efforts to manage its environmental impact despite its large population. Notably, India's per capita emissions remain relatively low, aligning with global benchmarks aimed at limiting temperature rise to well below 2°C above the pre-industrial average

However, the path forward is complex, and critical areas still require focused attention and accelerated action. India continues to rely heavily on coal, oil, and gas to meet its growing energy demands. This dependence is a major contributor to GHG emissions and severe air pollution, especially in urban areas. While there is a slight positive trend in the adoption of renewable energy, the pace of this transition is too slow to meet urgent climate goals.

Despite high marks in emissions and energy use, India receives a medium rating in Climate Policy and Renewable Energy. The country has clear long-term policies focusing on renewable energy, including the domestic manufacturing of renewable energy com-

ponents. Yet, the implementation of these policies needs to be more effective.

The COP26 announcement by Prime Minister Modi, setting a net-zero emissions target for 2070, has been criticized by experts for lacking ambition. The call for a faster phase-out of coal, reduced reliance on gas, and a significant expansion of renewable energy is strong. India's heavy reliance on coal

presents a significant challenge. Despite high taxes on petrol and diesel, consumption has not decreased. Some experts view these taxes as effective, while others highlight the government's dependence on the revenue they generate. The rephrasing from 'phaseout' to 'phase-down' for fossil fuels, championed by India

and China at the last COP, was a setback for global climate commitments. Large-scale renewable energy projects in India have also faced criticism for negatively affecting local communities through land grabs and unequal resource distribution. Policies have been largely mitigative rather than transformative, often overlooking adaptation and disaster risk management. There is a growing call for policies that incorporate ecosystem-based solutions and prioritize equity, ensuring that climate actions benefit all segments of society. India needs a more bottom-up approach to policy implementation, incorporating the needs and demands of tribal and rural communities. (The writer is a NCAER fac-

ulty; views are personal)





Money 08

Jindal Stainless seeks zero customs duty on ferro nickel, molybdenum

indal Stainless has urged the government to remove the customs duty on ferro nickel and molybdenum in the upcoming Budget to ensure the industry's access to these critical raw materials at competitive prices. The present customs duty on ferro nickel is 2.5 per cent, while in the case of ferro molybdenum, it is 5 per cent. "We propose a long-term waiver of basic customs duty on ferro nickel and ferro molybdenum to ensure the industry's access to

these essential raw materials at competitive prices," Jindal Stainless Ltd (JSL) Managing Director Abhyuday Jindal said. Jindal, on behalf of the stainless steel industry, urged the government to continue its support towards making the "Make in India" initiative competitive with incentives for innovation and sustainable practices. Reducing import duties on raw materials and offering tax benefits for research and development would greatly benefit the sector, he said. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will table the full budget for FY25 in Parliament on Tuesday.



Huge potential for Indian garment players to export products to Japan: APEC

ndian garment players have huge potential to export their products to Japan and the domestic industry should take greater advantage of the free trade agreement (FTA) between the two countries, AEPC said on Sunday. The Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC) said to tap the growing potential, they are leading a delegation to participate in the India Tex Trend Fair (ITTF) in Tokyo. The three-day fair will begin from July 23 and over 200 exhibitors are participating. Some of the renowned Japanese

brands, including Sumitomo Corporation, MUJI, Toyoshima, Marubeni, Mitsubishi, Koyo trading, United Arrows, MYK Fashion will be there to source their requirements, it said. "Indian exhibitors from across the country will be displaying a diverse range of Indian RMG across various categories, including summer and winter collection," it said. Chairman AEPC Sudhir Sekhri said Japan is the fourth largest garment importer in the world



Coal India ventures into non-coal mineral mining with graphite project

raphite is the first mineral Coal India Limited (CIL) will diversify its operations Geoposite license for prospecting and mining. This license pertains to the Khattali beyond coal, following an order from the Ministry of Mines granting the company a Chhoti Graphite Block in Alirajpur, Madhya Pradesh. "This is the first mineral other than coal for us," Debasish Nanda, Director of Business Development at Coal India, said. CIL is required to pay a mining premium of 150.05 per cent of the value of minerals dispatched

to the state government. Coal India said the timeline is one year for the grant of the composite license and three years for the execution of the mining lease deed, the miner informed bourses. Currently, the project is in a very preliminary phase, necessitating furth exploration. In alignment with the government's Atmanirbharta vision, Coal India has formed a special team to focus on other critical minerals both globally and within India.



Airbus shortlists 8 Indian sites for H125 helicopter final assembly line

PNS MARIGNANE (FRANCE)

European major Airbus has shortlisted eight sites in India for setting up its final assembly line for H125 helicopters and the ground-breaking ceremony for the facility is expected later this year.

The facility, which will be the fourth Final Assembly Line (FAL) for the single engine H125, will initially produce up to 10 helicopters annually and the capacity will be ramped up depending on the market demand, Airbus officials said.

"India is the market of the future for helicopters... at present, the market is extremely embryonic, it is very small compared to what the potencould be," Olivier tial Michalon, Executive Vice President Global Business of Airbus Helicopters, said.

The ground breaking cere-



mony for the FAL is expected in October or November this year and the facility will be operational in 2026 and the delivery is anticipated to start towards the end of 2026.

"We have identified eight sites which we are currently assessing. We are still in the final assessment stage. We should be in a position to announce it shortly.

and in an ecosystem that is best suited for industrial activities, logistics, employees and of course, regulations," Michalon said at a briefing at Marignane earlier this week. Marignane is the headquar-

ters of Airbus Helicopters. For Airbus, H125 is the

most-sold helicopter in India as well as the South Asia

"We want to be attractive

Airbus has projected the demand for H125 helicopters in India and neighbouring countries at 500 over the next 20 years.

"We are targeting 10 heli-copters per year and as the demand picks up we can ramp up," Head of Airbus Helicopters in India and South Asia Sunny Guglani said at the briefing. Michalon stressed that 10 might not sound like a lot and it could be 20, 30, or 50 in some years, depending on the market demand.

"We manufacture, sell and support helicopters. Also, we manufacture, sell and support solutions. This is what we can provide. Make In India solutions," he said.

Highlighting the success story of its narrow-body A320 aircraft, Michalon said, "H125 is our A320"

Govt has no plans to import milk powder, opposition making false claims: Shah PNS PUNE

Union minister Amit Shah on Sunday said the Centre has no plans to import milk powder and accused the opposition Maha Vikas Aghadi of spreading false information.

Speaking at the BJP's Maharashtra convention in Pune, Shah, who holds the home and cooperation port-folios, said an old, undated notification was doing the rounds and MVA had cited it to claim that the government was planning to import

milk powder. "Even I got confused and called up Piyush Goyal (com-

merce minister), who told me that this was not our decision but that of Sharad Pawar. Don't be confused. The circular was made by them," said the senior BJP leader.

ASSOCHAM ON BUDGET Affordable housing, infra growth, boost to mfg likely to be in focus PNS NEW DELHI

Greater focus on green mobility, affordable housing, holistic infrastructure development and a big push to manufacturing, along with boosting consumption demand, are expected to

find prominence in the forthcoming Union Budget, said an Assocham-Primus paper. Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman will present the

Union Budget on Tuesday in Parliament.

Highlighting that the first Budget of the Narendra Modi 3.0 government will also include a long-term blueprint for making India a developed nation by 2047, the paper listed areas that would require the government's greater attention and priorities for realising the national goals. "While the Budget would attend to the immediate requirements of



boosting consumption, investment and augmenting the supply side of the economy, it is also expected to lay a roadmap for the bigger goal of scaling up national income to a level of developed nations," said Assocham President

Sanjay Nayar. He further said the government has the fiscal space to spend on capex but recycling the funds from monetisable operating assets would be strategically a better strategy to

manage it even better.

The Assocham-Primus paper said the wheels of the Indian economy will increas-ingly run on green fuel. The

directional shift is gathering pace across different levels. It expects the launch of PMAY 2.0, incorporating com-ponents like Affordable Housing in Partnership (AHP) and in Partnership (AHP) and Beneficiary Led Construction (BLC) to tailor housing solutions to financial capabilities of large sections of the population.

GCPL invests over Rs 1,000 cr on advertising in FY24

PNS NEW DELHI

FMCG major Godrej Consumer's advertising investment shot up by 47 per cent to Rs 1,011 crore in FY24 in the domestic market, even as it has reduced SKUs by around 30 per cent through a rationalisa-

GCPL's spending on 'Advertising and Publicity' was Rs 1,011 crore for the financial year ended March 2024. This was 47 per cent higher than Rs 687.34 crore a year before.

"In India, we are now spending over Rs 1,000 crore in advertising, from Rs 350-

Land deals drop 57% to 325 acres in Apr-Jun on high prices PNS NEW DELHI for around 325 acres. developments covering more

Land acquisitions remained muted during April-June, and only 25 deals covering 325 acres were closed during this period, mainly due to high prices and general elections, according to Anarock. In contrast, there were 29

land deals closed in the yearago period, comprising 721 quarter of 2024. acres. Real estate consultant

Anarock pointed out that the came down to 25 transactions

general elections and the heatseparate deals for approxi-mately 114 acres closed in Q2 ed land prices seem to have dented the appetite for land acquisition for developers and 2024," he added. Gurugram other entities in the second saw the closure of as many as 7 deals for over 77.5 acres.

The number of land deals Of the total land deals closed in April-June, over 17 have closed in Q2 (April-June) 2024 been proposed for residential

than 163 acres. Agriculture, mixed-use development, data centres, logistics parks, industrial, and retail saw one deal each.

As per the April-June data, Mumbai witnessed 2 land deals, involving 4.52 acres, Hyderabad 1 deal comprising 48 acres, Pune 2 deals (27.5 acres), Chennai 1 deal for 27 acres, Thane 2 deals involving 24.95 acres and Ahmedabad 1 deal for just 1.37 acre.

AMD leverages AI to shape next-gen computing experience; eyes emerging mkts

PNS LOS ANGELES

Intelligence (AI) technology at its Tech Day event here. Chip maker AMD is looking AMD, which competes with to position itself as a key playheavyweights like Intel, Apple, er in AI-enhanced personal computers (AIPCs) through and Qualcomm, is trying to establish itself as a key player in the growing field of AIstrategic innovations on the hardware side to cater to powenhanced personal computers (AIPCs) for laptops and deskerful new-age applications, a top company official said.

tops. "The promise of AI gener-It is taking a holistic approach by integrating tech-

Prashant Thakur, Regional Director & Head - Research & Advisory, Anarock Group, said Bengaluru topped in the number of land deals. "The city (Bengaluru) saw 9

Godrej Consumer Products Ltd (GCPL), which aims for double-digit volume growth, is spending more on brands, automation

and SKU rationalisation with a "keen focus on simplification", according to the latest annual report of the company. "In line with our strategy of

23.

category development, we have made significant investments in advertising. We were the fifth largest advertiser in India in 2023, from being number 17 in 2021. We are adding to this with investments in distribution," GCPL Managing Director and CEO Sudhir Sitapati said.



were being run differently across the world, advertising agencies were dif-

ferent, production was being done differently," he said. The company owns popular brands like Cinthol, Godrej

No 1, HITS and Good Knight. "From multiple agencies, we moved to a single agency, which is our in-house agency, the LightBox," Sitapati said, adding that "from multiple executions, we are moving to a single execution, shooting differently in the same location with different models for different countries".

Hero MotoCorp plans to roll out affordable EVs this fiscal

PNS NEW DELH

Eyeing leadership in the electric two-wheeler segment, Hero MotoCorp is looking to roll out affordable models in the current fiscal, according to CEO Niranjan Gupta.

The country's largest twowheeler maker is also hopeful of the debut of its electric range in the international markets.

Addressing shareholders in we will be creating a very the company's Annual Report for 2023-24, Gupta said the powerful EV product portfolio, augmenting the VIDA V1 Pro two-wheeler major has a that we have today," he noted. The company will be launching products in the midroadmap to scale its electric vehicle business rapidly.



"We want to build leadership and affordable segments this in EV, and in order to do that, fiscal, Gupta said.

Hero MotoCorp's VIDA electric scooter range is priced between Rs 1-1.5 lakh, including state subsidies. Hero MotoCorp Executive

Chairman Pawan Munjal said

together with Ather Energy, VIDA has established India's largest public-charging infrastructure for two-wheeler EVs.

Additionally, the partnership with Zero Motorcycle will facilitate the development of new EV motorcycles targeted at a distinct customer segment, thereby expanding the overall market size, he added.

"I am particularly pleased to witness VIDA V1's rise as one of the leading electric scooters in India, and I anticipate its future launch in global markets, where it is poised to become a significant player as well," Munjal noted.

nology across CPUs, GPUs, and NPUs, creating a strong ecosystem that supports the development of powerful ΑI

This broad approach allows AMD to serve various markets, from high-performance gaming systems to lightweight laptops, all enhanced with AI capabilities, said John Anguiano, Senior Director, Product Marketing at AMD. The California-based com-

pany has unveiled its latest lineup of Ryzen Series of mobile and desktop processors, strengthening its play in computing and Artificial

sors for AI, AMD is not only "AMD is integrating tech-

cally, is bigger than

just a technology

story. It is about

improving how we

live and work, mak-

ing us more pro-

nology across CPUs, GPUs, and NPUs, creating a strong ecosystem that supports the development of powerful AI applications.

Demand for AI/ML engineers, BPO surges since 2022

PNS MUMBAI

Demand for artificial intelligence and machine learning (AI/ML) engineers has seen a significant increase since 2022, a report has said.

The demand for such roles surged 433 per cent, reflecting the growing reliance on artificial intelligence and machine

learning technologies across various sectors, it said.

This is closely followed by Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) executives, which saw a 314 per cent increase in demand, underscoring the

continued expansion of the outsourcing and customer service industries, the Indeed report stated.

These two roles, though vastly different in skill requirements, are driving significant employment growth at both ends of the skill spectrum, said the report.

This report is based on demand data on various professions and industries on job platform Indeed from January 2022 to June 2024.

Indo-Bangla trade comes to standstill as students' protests intensify

PNS KOLKATA

Trade between India and Bangladesh via land ports came to a standstill on Sunday as there was no movement of cargo trucks to and fro due to the ongoing student protests in the neighbouring country, officials said. The Bangladeshi side of the

Petrapole landport remained non-functional, they said. Nearly one-third of land-based trade

between India and Bangladesh takes place through Petrapole. "Trade from other land

ports to Bangladesh, including Petrapole, Gojadanga, Fulbari, and Mahadipur, has also stalled.

Noida: Industry status, GST main Budget concerns for realty

both corporations and individ-

uals, simplify tax legislation,

offer targeted incentives,

expand the SWAMIH stress

fund, and lower the GST rates

on building materials will boost the building industry

'The combined effect of

PNS NOIDA

Real estate developers in Noida and Greater Noida in western Uttar Pradesh expect the first Budget of the Modi 3.0 government to accord 'industry status' to their sector for easier access to funds, and address woes related to GST, including the 28 per cent taxation on cement

Hoping for "nuanced approach" to real estate woes, the developers seek the government's support beyond fiscal incentives, with the upcoming Budget focussing on enhancing transparency and efficiency through a robust regulatory framework, stream-

Gupta said boosting the real estate sector with tax incentives, improved tax structures, and a single-window clearance policy will encourage further investment from both domestic and foreign sources.

growth," Gupta said. "Furthermore, tax reforms that lower income taxes for

estate sector's contribution in GDP is much lower when compared to Europe or China and batted for taking it up to 30 per cent by 2047.

"I believed there should be 100 per cent relief on GST for low and mid-income housing and the GST rebate should be in a way that developers should at least get input credit, which can be passed on to buyers," he said.

Avneesh Sood, Director of Eros Group, said while industry status for real estate and revived incentives for affordable housing remain key expectations, a nuanced approach is crucial.

Harnessing AI in a big way in public auditing space: CAG Murmu

PNS NEW DELHI

Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) Girish Chandra Murmu has said Artificial Intelligence (AI) has arrived and the Supreme Audit Institution (SAI) is taking advantage of new technologies in improving the quality of public expenditure. "As it develops, we will

develop ourselves accordingly. Whatever challenges are there we will try and overcome. We will follow global experiences and practices related to this and share our own to them," Murmu said. Recently, he said, "We have



signed a Memorandum of ing AI and other emerging Understanding (MoU) with technologies for the advancethe Indian Institute of ment of audit practices. Technology, Delhi for leverag-

ment of AI, machine learning, and data analytics, traditional methodologies are being rede-With the rapid advancefined, offering unprecedented opportunities for innovation and efficiency, he said.

for change in the field of audit, offering a plethora of opportunities to enhance efficiency, effectiveness, and insight, he said.

By harnessing AI-driven algorithms and predictive analytics, auditors can analyse vast volumes of data with unparalleled speed and precision, enabling them to uncover patterns, anomalies, and potential risks with greater accuracy, he added. Besides, he said, capacity

building is another area that the organisation constantly put great emphasis on.

AI has emerged as a catalyst

lined approvals process. Industry body CREDAI's western UP Secretary Dinesh and improve the situation for real estate players," he said. these reforms will raise the amount of money accessible to taxpayers, enabling them to buy real estate more enthusiastically and ultimately speed up the nation's economic

Bhutani Group CEO Ashish Bhutani said the country's real



applications.

ductive and helping their Anguiano.

everyone focus on strengths," said By optimising these proces-

enhancing performance but also ensuring that its devices can handle future technological demands, he added.

the pioneer Vderabad Follow us on @TheDailyPioneer facebook.com/ dailypioneer Monday July 22, 2024 **PARUL'S NOSTALGIC REFLECTIONS** FROM #BLUETICK (VERIFIED) SET!

SHIKHA DUGGAL

btaining a blue tick on social media is, of course, the newest thing. In an exclusive conversation, actress and entrepreneur Parul Gulati discusses it and helps us understand the "powers" and "curses" of the blue tick. To keep the long story short, Parul Gulati and Zee5 have announced that #Bluetick (Verified) will be available for streaming on their add-on platform, Epic-On. The movie's lead actress calls us during

Hyderabad's torrential downpour and says, "My character was just following her dream of being an influencer. The character's only complexity was having to battle to sift through an unfamiliar industry. Social media is, after all, a public platform." We realised mid-conversation that what the Girls Hostel fame was trying to communicate also resonated on a personal level. She said, "I had experienced something similar when I was attempting to become a success-ful actor in this idyllic city of Mumbai. I therefore had to deal with some feelings that were making me nostalgic for my own time and made me a little teary on the sets of #Bluetick (Verified). Additionally, the plan-ning was quite linear, which is extremely unusual for a web series."

So the gripping tale of a young influencer from a middle-class upbringing who fer-vently seeks popularity is told in *#Bluetick (Verified).* She will do everything it takes to keep her status, obfuscating the distinction between real and reel life, which ultimate-ly brings her to ruin. "Sometimes, social media can be detrimental to us. Anything in excess is not always a good idea! These days, I manage my own nationwide busi-ness in addition to being an actress and

In an exclusive interview with The Pioneer, Parul Gulati, who is a part of Zee5's Epic on #Bluetick (Verified), talks about the project and offers some unique anecdotes of her own experiences with the social media frenzy.

social media has become my third priority," adds Silence 2 fame.

Yes, she did remember to share with us another special anecdote. "I remember when I was getting started on social media—social media was on fire for mak-ing easy money from it," she said. "It was something I was eager to attempt. I wasn't picked up by brands, but my other industry pals were. Not that it was difficult for me, but even though we both had the same amount of followers, it helped me recognise that I needed to improve my content in order to receive a blue tick. This "blue tick" will either be a problem that changes lives or a turning point in some people's lives." In response to a question about her first day on the sets, Gulati said, "I remember I was travelling. I arrived at this movie set straight out of another country. I had a crucial sequence to shoot on the first day and I was worried about how I looked because I had a bloated face." The Zorawar fame continues, sharing some more intriguing stories and saying, "I just want influencers to not give kids false hope. This social media validation sneaks into us without our awareness. We don't have many pals; we just have those in the industry. A random comment on social media provides us with a dopamine high because sometimes our industry buddies are also racing to finish their own work." In a lighthearted manner, she replied,

"Everyone enjoys social media if it succeeds. We get needless hate the moment it flips off. Nobody likes rude remarks or negativity!" As our discussion was nearing an end, Parul told us how social media had enabled her to make a significant difference as well. "When I founded Nish Hair seven years ago, I was able to shift people's perceptions about a product that they had previously considered taboo. I made hair extensions and wigs commonplace! Without social media, Nish Hair's success would not have been as great."





DISPELLING MYTHS AROUND IVF

this possibility. Fertility doctors now

prioritize single embryo transfers

(SET) wherever possible, lowering

the risk of twins or higher-order mul-

tiples. The objective is to have a healthy singleton pregnancy.

women with blocked

used to treat a variety of infertility conditions. It may be a treatment for

male infertility, unexplained infertil-

ity, endometriosis, and other disor-

ders affecting both men and women. IVF has evolved into a versatile

technique in the field of reproductive

While age is important in fertili-

fallopian tubes

medicine.

n vitro fertilization (IVF) has transformed the field of reproduc-Live health, giving hope to many couples battling with infertility. Despite its proven success, numerous myths and misconceptions may discourage people from getting this useful treat-ment. Here, we clarify some prevalent IVF myths and give suggestions on when to see a fertility specialist.

Myth 1: IVF always works on first try

One of the most common myths is that IVF ensures pregnancy on the first try. While IVF considerably enhances the odds of conceiving, success rates vary depending on age, cause of infertility, and general health.

Myth 2: IVF leads to multiple births

Myth 4: IVF is only for While it is true that IVF can result in multiple births, advances in younger women reproductive science have reduced

When to visit a fertility specialist?

Understanding when to seek the assistance of a fertility specialist is critical for couples experiencing infer-tility. If you are under 35 and have been trying to conceive for a year with no success, it is time to see a professional. For people over 35, the duration is reduced to six months. Furthermore, if you have known reproductive issues, such as irregular menstrual cycles, endometriosis, or a history of pelvic inflammatory disease, you should seek early treatment.

In conclusion, despite widespread misunderstand-

ty, women in their late 30s and 40s can benefit from IVF. In certain conditions, older women may need to consider using donor eggs to improve their chances of success. Consulting with a fertility specialist m to determine the best method based on the patient.

Myth 3: IVF is only for Myth 5: Babies born through IVF are not biological children IVF was originally intended to assist women with blocked or dam-aged fallopian tubes, but it is now

A prevalent misperception is that IVF babies are not the parents' biological children. In reality, if a couple uses their own eggs and sperm, their child will be theirs. The IVF procedure simply pro-motes fertilisation outside of the body, following which the embryo is put in the mother's womb and grows normally. In conditions when donor eggs or sperm are used, the kid may have a different genetic link, but this is a personal decision that the parents are fully aware of.

ings and misconceptions regarding IVF, it remains a highly successful treatment for many people suffering from infertility. Couples who contact a fertility expert

can obtain precise information and specialised care, increasing their chances of having a successful preg-nancy. Don't let wrong information get in the way of your desire for parenthood—seek advice from profes-sionals and explore the options that modern reproductive treatments provide.

(The author, Dr Saroja Koppala, is a Fertility Specialist at Nova IVF Fertility Chanda Nagar, Ĥyderabad.)

Beyond eye health, Dr. Prabhakar

FINDING CLARITY OFFLINE

AARTI SREENATH

o you ever find yourself endlessly scrolling on your smart phone, losing track of time? If so, you're not alone. This constant connection can negatively impact your quality of life and overwhelm your senses. Enter the concept of a digital detox!

In our increasingly digital world, where smartphones, laptops and social media are ubiquitous, the concept of a digital detox is gaining prominence. Seema Seth, a psychotherapist specialising in counselling psychology in Hyderabad, emphasises the importance of stepping away from our devices and the profound impact it can have on our well-being.

"We've integrated smartphones, laptops, smartwatches and digital media deeply into our lives, they enhance convenience but also breed dependency. This dependency not only affects our psychological well-being but also our physical health, as recent studies indicate," she confirms. According to Seema, digital detox involves disconnecting from gadgets and digital platforms, reclaiming time for introspection and real-world connections. "It's about stepping out of the virtual bubble, where we're bombarded with information. It allows us to focus on ourselves, improve our decision-making and foster healthier relationships. Moreover, it encourages environmental consciousness and engagement with real-world issues." Seema identifies common signs indicating a need for digital detox: "Constantly checking our phones, feeling anxious without notifications, or experiencing FOMO (fear of missing out) are red flags. Excessive social media use, leading to negative emotions and stress, also signals dependency." She advises on practical strategies such as gradually reducing screen time, setting boundaries on gadget use and practicing mindfulness to stay present. Structuring our day without digital distractions promotes discipline and enhances overall wellbeing.

Dr. Navodita Kumar, a clinical psychologist, echoes concerns about excessive screen time. "It contributes to anxiety, depression and loneliness, fuelled by comparisons on social media. Sedentary behaviour and disrupted

sleep patterns further compound health issues like obesity and poor mental health." "A digital detox can significantly improve mental and physical health," notes Dr. Kumar. Dr. Prabhakar G V, an opthamologist consultant-cataract at Cornea Lasik Sankara Eye Hospital, Hyderabad, highlights the impact of screens on eye health. "Digital eye strain, dry eyes and disrupted sleep cycles are common issues. Implementing the 20-20-20 ruletaking breaks every 20 minutes to look at something 20 feet away-can relieve eye strain and improve overall comfort." Popular YouTuber, singer and content creator Sejal Kumar and Satwika Jampa, an actor, share personal insights on balancing digital presence with personal life. Satwika emphasises the importance of maintaining hobbies and passions outside of the digital realm, while Sejal highlights the value of periodic breaks to prevent burnout. Satwika reflects on her experience: "I don't know if it's because I don't find it so exhausting or if I'm just too much of a Gen Z to realise that it's exhausting me. I'm usually humbled by my passion for performing arts, which I also dedicate my time to. Like classical dance, music, gym, etc. I always urge people to stay rooted in their hobbies and passions in life to balance out the effects of social media." Sejal adds, "A typical day in my life involves meetings with my team, ideating our next week's worth of content, catching up on brand deals and other projects. Since I'm also a singer and actor, we also look at my upcoming songs and projects. Screen time would be around 5 hours. I'm pretty good with my screen time, using it as much as my work requires for research and references for content. We log out at 8 p.m. encouraging everyone to live their life and enjoy it, which is what I want to do since this is my long-term career."

On managing the pressure of content creation, Sejal admits, "Yes, it does get a lot, and it feels like you're on a never-ending hamster wheel. Earlier, I had a lot of short-term goals, like wanting a certain number of followers or subscribers by a specific time. Now, it's more long-term. I have goals and bucket list items, but I don't put a timeline on myself because it's a career, not a short-term project. Having a team definitely helps."

Seial has taken multiple digital detoxes throughout her career. "I took my first break after three or four years on YouTube, which was a month long, and I felt extremely guilty. After that. I realised people do get it and understand. Now. I take breaks often-four or five days here and there-living my life like my other corporate friends who have breaks and holidays. I didn't give myself that permission before, but now I manage the workload between all the team members. To avoid burnout, Sejal follows specific strategies. "I started doing a lot of self-work, began therapy a few years ago and worked with a life coach. Reading up on spirituality and doing one hour of meditation daily for the past year and a half has also helped. Not comparing myself and not setting high standards of perfection have helped me enjoy this. In the middle, I wasn't enjoying it at all because I had such high expectations for myself. But now, I'm enjoying working with other people too, and things are happening without killing myself. That's amazing!" Sejal emphasises the importance of taking breaks from digital media. 'Anytime I get overboard, I feel low and then go back to my routine. I read a lot, so you'll mostly find me reading more than scrolling on reels. Taking breaks from digital media, even short ones, is great. Anytime I've done a workshop or gone on a trip, I noticed so much clarity and wasn't anxious. It obviously helps." "Digital eye strain," explains Dr.

Prabhakar, "is when a person experiences eye ache, brow pain, headache, burning sensations in the eyes and neck and shoulder pain due to prolonged screen time on phones, laptops, or tablets. This strain is often caused by poor lighting, glare from screens, poor sitting posture, uncorrected visual acuity, and improper viewing angles. Regular digital detoxes can help mitigate these effects if practiced consistently.' Dr. Prabhakar also emphasises that prolonged screen time can affect the eves in two primary ways: digital eye strain and dryness. "Often, the letters on digital screens are not as precise or sharply defined as those on paper. The reduced contrast, along with screen glare and reflections, makes viewing difficult. This requires more effort to read on a screen compared to print, especially for those with uncorrected refractive errors. Poor posture and improperly designed glasses for screen viewing can also lead to muscle spasms

or pain in the

neck, shoulder,

or back.'

highlights the overall mental and physical benefits of a digital detox. "Prolonged screen time can trigger stress responses, disturb sleep cycles due to disrupted circadian rhythms, accelerate aging and contribute to depression and anxiety. Simple detox practices can prevent these conditions in the long run. Social media scrolling often leads to instant gratification and constant content seeking, which increases anxiety." "Blue light from screens can disrupt our body's circadian rhythms," Dr. Prabhakar explains. "Our eyes play a crucial role in initiating the physiological responses that regulate the body's internal clock. Constant exposure to screen light can disrupt sleep cycles. Using blue light filters or anti-glare tints on glasses can help control this exposure." Seema also highlighted the potential drawbacks of digital detox, especially for those in digital media. She stated, "While digital detox might sound appealing, it isn't always sustainable for individuals who need constant interaction with digital tools for their work. It can also be counterproductive, leading to feelings of isolation and loneliness instead of relieving stress. Instead, it's better to develop a healthier, more balanced relationship with the digital world. However. practicing digital detox strategies can be a good starting point for this journey. Incorporating these practices into daily routines can lead to significant improvements in overall well-being, making digital detox an essential part of a healthy lifestyle.



what's brewing?













Project Rashmi (Landmark Worldwide) organised the "Moms Unplugged" program in partnership with Nayidisha, Total Solutions Rehabilitation Society, NGO Marham Resonating Resilience and Talk and Learn Therapy Center. This innovative program recognises the critical role moms play in their families and works to improve their mental health and wellness despite a range of obstacles, including overload, despair, anxiety and other psychological issues.

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SV

Photos

Chennai Fertility Centre, South India's biggest IVF centre is now opened in Hyderabad, with the legacy of 65,000+ IVF/ICSI babies successfully delivered worldwide. Arekapudi Gandhi MLA, Serilingampally Constituency, along with T. Subbarami Reddy, former MP Rajyasabha and Dr V.M Thomas Chairman and Managing Director of CFC, inaugurated the new centre.





Presented in their Somajiguda location, Malabar Gold & Diamonds has launched their special Diamond Show. A wide variety of exotic collections in bridal, solitaire, everyday, celebration, men's and platinun jewellery are available for viewing and purchase at the Diamond Jewellery Exhibition and Sale. The exhibition closes on August 4.



At all of its malls-the Phoenix Mills Limited, is hosting the country's largest shopping festival, The Phoenix Shopping Festival. A distinctive fusion of shopping, entertainment and community involvement is found at the Phoenix Shopping Festival When they spend Rs. 10,000 or more, shoppers may get amazing discounts on premium Indian and international brands in a variety of categories, including apparel, accessories and cosmetics.





Sunny Kaushal, a motorcyclist was able to attend Royal Enfield's Guerrilla 450 debut in Barcelona, Spain.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed by the internationally renowned professional accountancy association ACCA (the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants) and the K J Somaiya Institute of Management, to improve educational possibilities in the accounting area. Prabhanshu Mittal, Head of Educational Partner Relations at ACCA and Dr. Raman Ramachandran, Director & Dean of the K J Somaiya Institute of Management at Somaiya Vidyavihar University, performed the signing ceremonies.







ARCHIE







CALVIN AND HOBBES

FUN





GARFIELD







NANCY

CATCH ANYTHING,







GINGER MEGGS







REALITY CHECK



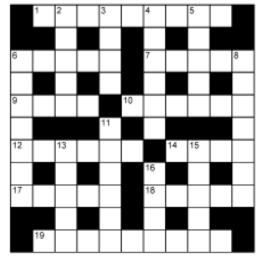
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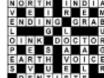
CROSSWORD



- 10 An extinct animal or plant
- that has turned to rock
- 12 Film stars
- 14 A sound bouncing back
- to you 17 A cloth for drying yourself
- 18 People who make meals
- 19 The leader of the USA

DOWN

- 2 Large wild cats
- 3 A writer of verse
- 4 A ship's heavy metal hook





- 5 Large plants in a forest 6 A housemaid or butler 8 Headrests on beds
 - 11 Tools for making holes 13 A tall, narrow building 15 A circus funny person
- 16 This liquid chemical will burn your skin
- SOLUTION EASPOON
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Hyderabad | Monday July 22, 2024

Pakistani actress Sajal Aly to star in Prabhas' Raja Saab

enowned actor Prabhas is Renjoying immense success following the release of his most recent movie Kalki 2898 AD, which was directed by Nag Ashwin. Next, Maruthi's horror comedy, The Raja Saab, starring Prabhas, is scheduled to release. Sajal Aly, a Pakistani actress. is

rumoured

opposite

to be paired

Prabhas in the next romantic action drama. Sajal Aly is wellknown for her part in the late actress Sridevi's movie Mom.

Even though the casting announcement is pending confirmation, it has already created a lot of With a planned premiere date of shortly, this

project is being

substantially invested

in by Mythri Movie

Makers, For this film.

composer Vishal

Chandrasekhar, who

worked well with

Hanu Raghavapudi

will collaborate

once more.

on Sita Ramam,

SAIEE MANJREKAR: GIRL-NEXT-DOOR ROLES SUIT ME AT THE N

tollywood

t just 22, Saiee Manjrekar is already carving out a niche in the film industry and she's Comfortable with her current girl-next-door image. The talented actor, who first captured attention with Salman Khan's Dabangg 3, is keen to explore diverse roles as her career progresses, acknowledging that her youthful and relatable persona works well for now. Following her debut, Saiee expanded her portfolio with notable performances in films like the Telugu drama Ghani, the gripping Major and the action-packed Skanda. Her upcoming project, Auron Mein Kahan Dum Tha, is set to offer a fresh perspective, featuring her in the role of a younger version of Tabu's character. The film also stars Ajay Devgn and Shantanu Maheshwari, adding to its anticipated appeal. In a recent conversation, Saiee shared her thoughts on her current image. "The girl-next-

door roles suit me at the moment, as they reflect my youthful and somewhat naive appearance. As I gain more experience and evolve, I believe my roles will diversify naturally. Until then, I'm happy to embrace these roles. When the right time comes, I'm eager to break free from this image and explore different characters," she said. Saiee, the daughter of celebrated actor and filmmaker Mahesh Manjrekar, is aware of the industry's unpredictability. "The journey of every actor is unique," she noted. "There are always obstacles, but I see it as a race. Everyone is striving towards the same goal, but the path varies—some face uphill challenges while others coast downhill. It's important to navigate your journey and embrace the experiences along the way.

Auron Mein Kahan Dum Tha, directed by Neeraj

Pandey, tells the poignant story of a couple played by Ajay Devgn and Tabu—who are separated when the former is imprisoned for murder. Their lives intersect once more. 20 years later, when he is released from jail. Reflecting on her experience working with Tabu Saiee praised her co-star's effortless presence. "Tabu ma'am's natural ease on set is incredibly inspiring. Her ability to be so genuine and effortless in front of the camera is something I deeply admire," Saiee remarked. The film, which also features Jimmy Shergill, is scheduled for release on August 2. Produced by Narendra Hirawat, Kumar Mangat Pathak (Panorama Studios). Sangeeta Ahir. and Shital Bhatia and presented by NH Studioz and Friday Filmworks, Auron Mein Kahan Dum Tha promises to be a noteworthy addition to Saiee's growing filmography



Ravi Teja's Mr Bachchan releasing on August 15

he highly anticipated film *Mr Bachchan*, starring the dynamic Mass Maharaja Ravi Teja and directed by the acclaimed Mass Director Harish Shankar, is gearing up to deliver unparalleled entertainment. Set to hit theatres on Independence Day, August 15, the film will take full advantage of the extended five-day weekend, thanks to the Raksha Bandhan holiday on August 19 (Monday). The premiere is scheduled for August 14, with Ravi Teja's striking and intense look featured prominently in the release date poster.

With the shoot complete and post-production in progress, the film's team is actively preparing for a series of updates. The first single, *Sitar*, has already made waves, topping music charts with its classical and soothing composition, picturesque settings and the sizzling chemistry between Ravi Teja and Bhagyashree Borse. Composer Mickey J Mever reunites with Harish Shankar for this film, following their successful collaborations on Subramanyam For Sale and Gaddalakonda Ganesh.

Mr Bachchan also features notable performances by Jagapathi Babu and Sachin Khedekar. Produced lavishly by TG Vishwa Prasad under the People Media Factory banner, with Vivek Kuchibhotla as co-producer, the film boasts the tagline "Naam Tho Suna Hoga." The project benefits from the expertise of cinematographer Ayanka Bose, art director Brahma Kadali and editor Ujwal Kulkarni.

Rakesh Varre celebrates *Peka Medalu* success, plans star-studded promotions

n a triumphant gathering to celebrate the success of *Peka Medalu*, producer Rakesh Varre and director Nilgiri Mamilla shared their excitement and gratitude with fans and media alike. Held recently, the success meet was a testament to the film's impact and a nod to the robust support it has received since its release.

Peka Medalu, a film that shines a light on women's empowerment, has been widely praised for its compelling content and heartfelt narrative. Directed by Nilgiri Mamilla and produced under the banner of Crazy Ants Productions,

the film stars Vinod Kishan and Anusha Krishna. The movie has resonated strongly with audiences, particularly due to its accessible ticket pricing of Rs.100, making it easier for a broader audience to enjoy the film.

At the success meet, Rakesh Varre spoke passionately about the journey of the film. "Whether it's a small or a big



Brinda trailer showcases artistic

prowess of Trisha Krishnan

movie, the key to audience engagement is strong concontinue creating impactful films." tent. If the film has substance, Producer Rakesh Varre also

hinted at exciting promotion-al plans, including special appearances by stars Prabhas aters," Varre said. Reflecting expressed his emotions and and Bunny. This star-studded future ambitions, "We worked initiative aims to further celtirelessly on this project for ebrate and promote Peka Medalu. cess has bolstered my confi-dence and motivated me to

Director Nilgiri Mamilla conveyed heartfelt thanks to

the media and audience for their support. "The positive response, especially from women, has been overwhelming. I have received more than 50 calls praising the film. I am deeply grateful to our producer, Rakesh Varre and everyone involved in this journey," Mamilla noted.

The film's distributor, Dheeraj Mogilineni, played a crucial role in its Telugu release, ensuring it reached a wide audience.

As the film continues to enjoy success, Rakesh Varre emphasised the Telugu audience's unwavering support for quality cinema, stating, "The Telugu audience has once again proven that good movies will be successful. I am truly

and impressive reception, Peka Medalu is poised to make waves both in theatres and bevond.

thankful to everyone for their support and for making this film a success." With its powerful message

big screens on August 9 ega daughter Niharika Konidela is making headlines with her latest movie's themes and talented cast will resonate with viewers of all ages Director Yadhu Vamsi discussed

Committee Kurrollu to hit

venture, Committee Kurrollu, a film that promises to captivate audiences with its vibrant storytelling and fresh talent. Scheduled for release on August 9, 2024, the film coincides with the start of Friendship Day week, making it a fitting tribute to the themes of camaraderie and

affection. The film has already generated buzz with its engaging promotional content, including enchanting songs and intriguing teasers. Niharika, through her production company, Pink Elephant Pictures, is spotlighting emerging talent in Tollywood, bringing together a promising ensemble cast that includes Sandeep Saroj, Yashwant Pendyala, and others. Under the direction of debutant Yadhu Vamsi, Committee Kurrollu is set to offer a refreshing cinematic experience. The film features witty dialogues by Venkata Subhash Cheerla and Kondal Rao Addagalla, with Raju Edurolu's cinematography and Anwar Ali's editing enhancing its appeal. The cast's dynamic

the film's focus on the

love, set against a village

an enjoyable and heartfelt

Dav.

cinematic experience, perfectly

timed for celebrating Friendship

Phani and Jayalakshmi of Sriradha

Damodar Studios also praised the

film's strong narrative and their

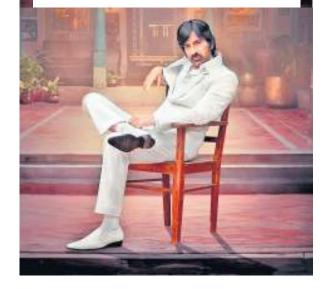
fruitful partnership with Pink

complexities of friendship and

backdrop. He anticipates that Committee Kurrollu will provide

Elephant Pictures. They are confident that Committee Kurrollu will be a hit, offering a compelling and entertaining story to audiences With its August 9 release date Committee Kurrollu is poised to offer a memorable celebration of

friendship and new talent, eagerly anticipated by movie enthusiasts looking forward to an engaging and heartfelt film experience.



ony LIV has dropped the trailer for its highly anticipat- Brinda showcases the artistic prowess of Trisha Krishnan, Sed crime-thriller series, *Brinda*, set to release on August 2. The series promises an ______ The series promises and provide the series provide the s

people will come to the the-

on the film's success, he

nearly two years. Today's suc-

engaging story of triumph and justice, featuring South cinema icon Trisha Krishnan in her OTT debut.

In a time when all hope seemed lost, Brinda emerges as a beacon of light, portraying a tale where good ultimately prevails. The series will be available for streaming on Sony LIV in Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam, Marathi, Bengali and Hindi. Written and directed by Surya

Manoj Vangala and produced by Adding Advertising LLP, The screenplay, crafted by Surya Manoj Vangala and Padmavathi Malladi, is complemented by a melodious score from music director Shakthikanth Karthik. The production design is handled by Avinash Kolla, with

Dinesh K Babu overseeing cinematography and Anwar Ali serving as the editor. The series features a stellar ensemble cast, including Indrajith Sukumaran, Java Prakash, Aamani, Ravindra Vijay, Anand Sami, Rakendu Mouli, among others. With its blend of drama, crime, and mystery, Brinda promises to

deliver a grip-ping and captivating viewing experience.

he collaboration between Pink Elephant Pictures and Sriradha Damodar Studios marks a significant milestone, with the film showcasing a mix of seasoned and new talent. Niharika Konidela expressed her excitement about

performances are complemented

by a soundtrack that has already

garnered acclaim.

launching her production banner with this film and highlighted the collaborative effort with Sriradha Damodar Studios. She believes the

Shraddha Srinath joins Vishwak Sen's Mechanic Rocky

ctor Vishwak Sen is ready to light up the Diwali season A with his upcoming film Mechanic Rocky, which is set to release on October 31. This mass action-comedy entertainer is directed by debutant Ravi Teja Mullapudi and produced by the well-known Ram Talluri under SRT Entertainments.

The film features Meenakshi Chaudhary and Shraddha Srinath in lead roles, with a captivating triangular love story at its core. The makers have recently unveiled the first look poster of Meenakshi Chaudhary, showcasing her in a chic slit maxi dress and a radiant smile.

Mechanic Rocky is crafted on a grand scale with a substantial budget and involves a team of distinguished technicians. The music is composed by Jakes Bejoy, while Manojh Katasani handles the cinematography. Anwar Ali is the editor, Kranthi Priyam serves as the production designer and Satyam Rajesh and Vidya Sagar J are the executive producers.

Celebrity Cricket Carnival: Season 2 set for November

Relation of the triumph of the best of the triumph of the best season in February, the muchanticipated Season 2 of the Celebrity Cricket Carnival is scheduled for November. The event, known for its star-studded lineup, saw participation from prominent Telugu film celebrities including founder Sai Krishna, actors Srikanth, Tarun, Ashwin Babu, Sushant, Aadi Sai Kumar, Samrat, music director Thaman, artist Bhupal and Omkar.

Hero Srikanth praised founder Sai Krishna for his dedication to organizing the event for charity, acknowledging the challenge of hosting two seasons in one year. He commended the success of Season 1 and expressed optimism for the upcoming November 15 and 16 events. extending congratulations to



described cricket as a stress

reliever and noted the enthu-

Melbourne.

Sai Krishna for his grand their support for The Royal Children's Hospital in efforts.

Hero Tarun lauded Sai Krishna for his charitable initiative and expressed confidence that they would also win Season 2 and continue siastic reception they

received in Australia during Season 1. He further wished Sai Krishna success for the Music Director Thaman upcoming season.

Hero Ashwin Babu appreciated the TCA for integrating charity into their cricket

matches, underscoring the importance of playing for a good cause. He looked forward to a successful curtainraiser event in September.

Hero Aadi Sai Kumar expressed his excitement for Season 2 and thanked Tarun and Srikanth for including him in the charity cricket match. He hoped for a successful continuation of the event.

Hero Samrat shared his enthusiasm for playing cricket, particularly for charity, and hoped that Season 2 would surpass the success of the first.

Founder Sai Krishna expressed gratitude to Srikanth and Tarun for their support since the beginning. Reflecting on the success of Season 1, he thanked everyone involved in making it a grand success and supporting the charitable cause.

sport 12



INDIA TRIUMPH OVER UAE BY 78 RUNS HARMANPREET, RICHA GHOSH GUIDE IND WOMEN

PTI DAMBULLA

ontrasting fifties from skipper Harmanpreet Kaur and Richa Ghosh were complemented nicely by the bowlers as India notched up a massive 78-run win over UAE in their second match of the ongoing women's Asia Cup T20 tournament here on Sunday. Invited to bat, Kaur played the anchor's role to perfection with a 47-ball 66, while Ghosh produced late charge with an unbeaten 29-ball-64 to power defending champions India to 201 for five, their first-ever 200-plus score in T20Is.

The bowlers, led by Deepti Sharma (2/23), then produced a clinical show to limit UAE to 123 for 7 as India put one foot in the comifinale semifinals.

With two wins in as many games, India occupy the top spot in group A with four points and have a Net Run

points and nave a Net Kun Rate of +3.298. India will play their third and final group game against Nepal on Tuesday. Chasing the daunting total, opener Esha Rohit Oza

scored a 36-ball 38 (5x4, 1x6) but UAE never were in the chase as they kept losing wickets at regular intervals.



Pace duo of Renuka Singh (1/30) and Pooja Vastrakar (1/27) dismissed Theertha

Satish (4) and Rinitha Raiith (7) as UAE slipped to 24 for 2 in 5.2 overs.

Deepti then struck in her and Kavisha Egodage (40 not 20 runs in next three overs. third ball, removing Samaira out) played some However, Tanuja Kanwar Dharnidharka (5) but Oza entertaining shots to score (1/14), who had replaced an

throwers have performed exceptionally well this season

and Bartonietz suggested that the competition could be wide open in the Olympics. As usual, he would not even

usual, ne would not even predict Chopra's chances. "Olympics is a high-stakes and high-pressure situation and anything can happen. Guessing a medal on the basis of statistics is different.

"All the top throwers are training their best, they want to give their best in Paris and win a medal. Just like them,

we can also claim that Neeraj

can win. These claims (of

medal chances) can be biased and can bungle up also," he

of statistics is difficult.

injured Shreyanka Patil in the playing XI, had Oza stumped, while Radha Yadav (1/29) got rid of Khushi Sharma (10) as UAE fell to 95 for five in the 16th over. Heena Hotchandani then became Deepti's second victim

and Rithika was run out in the last ball as UAE finished far away from India's total. Earlier, while the 35-year-old Harmanpreet blasted seven fours and a six during her innings, Ghosh slammed as many as 12 boundaries and a

many as 12 boundaries and a maximum, including five consecutive hits to the fence in the final over of the innings bowled by Hotchandani. Kaur stitched two crucial

Kaur stitched two crucial partnerships, adding 54 off 39 balls with Jemimah Rodrigues and 75 off 45 balls with Ghosh to put India in a commanding position. Opener Smriti Mandhana

(13) blasted a six and a four to give India a good start but an overambitious shot saw her being holed out at midoff off spinner Egodage in the third over. Shafali Verma then produced some sensational shots,

carting the bowlers for five fours and a six en route an 18-ball 37. But she committed the mistake of runs.

edging a short and wide ball from seamer Dharnidharka as the keeper did the rest. Hotchandani then cleaned up Dayalan Hemalatha (2) in the first delivery of the next over as India slipped to 52 for 3 inside the powerplay.

Harmanpreet and Rodrigues (14) then joined hands and kept the scoreboard ticking with the former doing the heavy lifting in the 39-ball 54-run stand, which put India across the 100-mark in the 11th over.

Once Rodrigues was dismissed by Egodage in the 12th over, Ghosh displayed boundary-hitting her prowess, using her cover drive to perfection to rack up 18 runs off Oza's over with four boundaries.

Harmanpreet reached her fifty in the 18th over and then clobbered two fours and a six off Samaira as India crossed the 180-run mark.

While Harmanpreet was run out in the first ball of the 19th over, Ghosh slammed five fours in the remaining five balls to reach her fifty, her first in the shortest format.

Ghosh reached her fifty in just 26 balls, and in the last over alone she milked 20



Leander Paes, Vijay Amritraj inducted into Tennis Hall of Fame

PTI NEWPORT (USA)

Legendary Indian tennis players, Leander Paes and Vijay Amritraj, the heroes of many a historic transcending triumph generations, on Sunday became the first two exponents of the sport from Asia to be inducted into the International Hall of Fame. Paes, 51, whose list of achievements include the 1996 Atlanta Olympic Games men's singles bronze, eight men's doubles and 10 mixed doubles slam grand crowns besides several Davis Cup famed victories, was given the rare honour in the 'Player Category'. Vijay Amritraj, 70, reached the singles t the men's quarterfinals at Wimbledon and US Open twice each besides guiding India to the Davis Cup finals twice -- in 1974 and 1987. At his peak, he was ranked No.18 in the world in singles and No. 23 in doubles. He along with Richard Evans was inducted into the Hall of fame in the 'Contributor Category'. "Paes was inducted in the Player Category, while Amritraj and Evans were recognised as a part of the Contributor Category: honoring visionary leaders, acrimonious split.

pioneers, or individuals who have made a consummate impact on the sport. The three inductees brings the total to 267 legends from 28 nations represented in the Hall of Fame," said the International Tennis Hall of Fame statement. Paes spent 37 wee in the world rankings in doubles, and won 54 doubles titles on tour. He is one of only three men in tennis history to capture a career Grand Slam in both disciplines. Paes, who hails from Kolkata, competed in seven straight Olympic Games between Barcelona, 1992 to Rio, 2016, the most in tennis history. Reflecting on his journey, Paes said, "A few of us are very blessed to be born into legacy. Today, sitting here at the International Tennis Hall of Fame, I wouldn't have ever dreamt it, playing street cricket and street football barefoot back in Calcutta. "I am so excited to share this with all of you, representing every young boy and girl around the planet who has a dream in their mind, passion in their hearts and fire in their belly," said Paes, who partnered Mahesh Bhupathi in men's doubles and took Indian tennis to great heights before their

Neeraj Chopra's adductor is fine, he is doing intense training now: Coach Bartonietz Singh

PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

The adductor niggle that has troubled Neeraj Chopra in the past couple of months "is fine" now and the reigning Olympic champion has entered the high intensity phase of his Paris preparations, his German coach Klaus Bartonietz told PTI, dismissing concerns surrounding the Indian star's

fitness. The 26-year-old Chopra, who scripted history by winning the javelin throw gold at the Tokyo Olympics, is once again the country's best bet for a top podium finish in the Paris Games beginning on July 26.

on track.

training.

. 85.97m.

But his season has been far qualification round scheduled from perfect in terms of fitness. Bartonietz, however, on August 6. insisted that things are back



Games. His coach does not see

German teenager Mex Dehning is the only one to have thrown more than 90m

pointed out.

momentum.



India's Kush Maini wins his first-ever F2 Sprint race

maiden Formula 2 Sprint

in the Formula 2 Drivers

competition calendar this only three ahead of the Paris year.

Chopra's competition day is anything wrong in cutting just two weeks away with the down competitions. "You can compete

Asked about the training routine of Chopra, Bartonietz "Everything is according to said, "We have sessions of plan. At the moment, no issue sprinting, jumping or throwing or weightlifting alternately for activation in with that (adductor niggle), it's fine, it looks good, hoping alternately for activation in to remain like that till the the morning. Two sessions, one in morning and one in evening, two to two-and-a-Olympics," the coach, who has been with Chopra for close to

five years, told PTI in an half-hour long each. exclusive interview from Bartonietz said the approach Antalya, Turkiye where they are currently based for is nearly the same as the one adopted before the Tokyo Olympics.

Chopra has maintained that "It's just over two weeks left in the Ólympics, so the intensity he is focusing more on training than competitions of training is high. He is having full throwing sessions." this time. He is working on strengthening his blocking leg Chopra withdrew from Ostrava Golden Spike on May to mitigate pressure on his 28 as a precautionary measure groin.

Yes. Generally, javelin throw is all about it (having fast after he felt "something" in his adductor (group of muscles located on inner thighs). He made a strong comeback by runway and blocking well). It's very hard to throw far with a winning gold at the Paavo poor runway. More the energy you bring with that, the better Nurmi Games in Finland on June 18 with a throw of it is," said the German biomechanics expert.

He opted out of the Paris "Three events before Diamond League on July 7, Olympics not disadvantage" insisting that the event was Chopra competed in five Not safe to predict medal never a part of his events before Tokyo but in None of the top javelin

events or not, it's tough to say what is enough (number of events). It depends on the

situation. Jan Železny (Czech legend and world record holder) says he does not compete in too many events (just two before 1992 Olympics where he won gold). "Competitions sometimes disrupt preparation and you start all over again. Competing in high class events can become risky also.

Travelling too much with logistics, with javelins around the world, is also not good. "So, it's fine, he has prepared and trained well."

Asked about Chopra opting out of the Paris Diamond League on July 7, Bartonietz said, "There were some minor issues, not worth risking by going there.

The venue (of Paris Diamond League) was also not the Olympic stadium (where Chopra will compete on August 6 and 8) anyway, so we decided not to take chances."

this year, and Bartonietz said it all boils down to PTI BUDAPEST

"An 88m throw may not be enough in the Olympics for a Race at the Hungarian Grand medal but it can happen with Prix after initial winner Richard Verschoor's was disqualified due to a technical an 85m also, you never know. It is like a game of poker and on some days you can throw infringement. far if vou have momentum." Apart from Czech Republic's Jakub Vadlejch (silver medal winner in Tokyo Olympics), to his season tally. Julian Weber of Germany and two-time former world champion Anderson Peters of Grenada, Bartonietz also picked Oliver Helander of Standings to P8 with 66 points under his belt. Finland as a medal contender.

Placed ninth on the starting The Olympic Stadium in Paris grid in round 9 of the F2 will have purple-coloured Championship, Maini had his work cut out after a tough Mondo tracks, which experts believe give faster timings in races

Asked if Neeraj will gain from the track on the runway, Bartonietz said, "It's basically for sprinters (to have better timings). It may be good for Neeraj also, of course, but it's for all javelin throwers, it can

be fast. But it is a matter of full use of the speed."

when he showcased his acumen and ability to ndia's Kush Maini won his perform under pressure,

regaining P2. The final 11 laps saw him not only fiercely defending his position, but also constantly challenging Verschoor --demonstrating his prowess in handling the demanding

Following the top of podium finish, the 23-year-old Invicta racing driver added 10 points Hungaroring circuit. The sole Indian driver on the 2024 F2 grid is currently enjoying his career-best season with five podiums, With the win at the at Hungaroring on Saturday, Maini surpassed Mercedes including a race win under junior driver Kimi Antonelli his belt.

'The team and I, we keep coming back and we keep fighting. I have a great team around me and thank you so much to them for today," Maini said.

Maini's strong performance came on the heels of his start on the hard compound exhilarating experience at the Goodwood Festival of Speed tyre, which saw him lose a position on the opening lap to the Prema racing driver last weekend, where he had the honour of driving the Despite the setback in the iconic E20 Lotus, adorned in opening lap, Maini kept his composure and steadily the Alpine livery, a car once piloted by racing legend Kimi closed the gap on his rivals, finally bearing fruit on lap 17, Raikkonen and Romain

Mandeep's obsession with hockey has grown over the years: Sister

PTI 📕 NEW DELHI

Indian hockey forward Mandeep Singh might not have acquired a cult figure like his skipper Harmanpreet Singh or former captain Manpreet Singh but when he is on the prowl upfront, rival defenders dare not

take him lightly. With the 29-year-old prolific goal-getter set to be a vital cog in India's campaign at the Paris Olympics, after being a part of the team that won bronze at the Tokyo Games, his sister Bhupinderjeet Kaur says Mandeep's obsession with hockey has only grown over the years, so much so that if he stays away from the national camp for even a few days, he becomes restless.

"He was so crazy about playing hockey that he would come home from school, skip meals, and head straight to practice. As Mandeep grew older, his commitment only deepened.

"Even now, whenever I talk to him during a break, he says he has fun at home but starts missing the camp after 15 days," Kaur said in an episode of 'Hockey Te Charcha, highlighting her brother's passion for the sport.

Mandeep's blinder against Belgium in the semifinal at the Tokyo Olympics and his speed



Red Lions regrouped to beat India 5-2 to end their hopes of a Kaur says, Mandeep just doesn't want to be in the limelight. "He prefers to be seen as a simple boy rather than a star," said Kaur. Recalling the

left the rivals home when India won the in confused but the bronze medal in Tokyo beating Germany, Kaur said it filled everyone with pride.

Antonelli.

We were all watching it on TV. Mandeep looked up with tears in gold medal. India, though, to himself. At home, everyone returned with a was praying, fingers crossed, bronze, making hoping for victory. When we every player a finally won, it felt like we had achieved something monumental. The atmosphere at home was electric with joy and

> Mandeep's prolific goal-scoring has seen him being a part of several successful campaigns, including the Junior World Cup title triumph in Lucknow in 2016, Asia Cup gold in 2017, Asian Champions Trophy titles

2018 and 2023. Commonwealth Games silver in 2022 Birmingham and the Hangzhou Asian Games gold in

Grosjean.

2023, which helped India qualify automatically for Paris.

Kaur herself has forged a bond with the entire India team and she says all the players respect her and she wants them to return from Paris a successful bunch.

"Once Harmanpreet asked where his rakhi was, and from then on, I started sending it to all of them (players). They call me their sister, and I feel the same way."

She is confident India will come back with a gold medal from Paris.

"The team has become so perfect that they will win and bring (home) the gold," she said.

pride," she said.

celebrations at