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American doctors of Indian...

US-based medical firm, My American Doctor, on Saturday launched Telemedicine service in India . The platform will allow patients in India to virtually consult doctors in the US for a second opinion. The service aims to address patient issues related to oncology, dermatology and cardiology among 30 specialties Speaking of the service, Dr Raj Narla, Emergency Medicine specialist and CEO, My American Doctor said. "It has been a collective vision..

'Please allow me to pass', says...

Standing next to a national highway that connects the southern part of West Bengal to its north, a restaurant resembling a typical village house serves multicuisine platter to its patrons. But, it does that in style. The food is brought to tables from the kitchen not by a human being but by a robot that can walk and talk. Negotiating turns on its way, the robot named Ananya gently asks anyone blocking its route, "Please let me go. Please don't stand in the way and allow me to serve." Painted in white, the robot is about



G20 Sherpa Kant calls for consistent...

G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant on Saturday advocated for a "longterm predictability and consistency policy" for the sugar sector, which he said would be crucial in making India a developed economy by the industry presses for lifting a sugar export ban and increasing the minimum selling price of sugar in line with cane prices, among other demands. "I totally agree that we need a long-term predictability and consistency of the policy. Otherwise, it will be difficult for the sector," Kant said at a conference organized by..

How travel insurance can...

In an era of climate uncertainty and increasing extreme weather events, the joy of travel must be balanced with foresight and preparedness. Going on a travel vacation is not just about exploration: it also involves anticipating the unexpected. The thrill of discovery comes with the potential for trip cancellations medical emergencies, lost baggage and travel delays, all exacerbated by today's changing climate. Even seasoned travellers can be caught off guard by cancelled flights, flooded accommodations and impassable roads. With 1.4 million lost luggage incidents annually and the very real threat of natural disasters turning dream vacations into nightmares, the risks of modern travel..

OBTUSE ANGL

-PAGE: 11

BRS looted TG in the name of schemes: CM

Calls for probe into corruption in the previous regime

PNS HYDERABAD

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy delivered a strong counter to the remarks made by BRS leader Harish Rao in the Assembly on Saturday.

He also pointed out the huge corruption in the Batukamma saree distribution scheme which exploited women's sentiments. He said the sarees are now being tied to scare away crows in farmlands.

Challenging the BRS, Revanth called for a probe into the distribution of Batukamma sarees, KCR kits and the sheep distribution scheme.

Accusing Harish of spreading

misinformation, Revanth said that the BRS has lost public confidence due to its misleading statements and corruption.

Reacting to Harish's statements that Congress workers are "half knowledge fellows," Revanth said, "KCR is a full knowledge person,"

hinting at his alcohol consumption. He criticized the BRS government for selling the Outer Ring Road for a meagre Rs 7,000 crore and highlighted the corruption in the sheep distribution scheme which swindled

The Chief Minister said the opposition provided conflicting figures

Bharat Rashtra Samithi working

president KT Rama Rao said that he

suspected that there might be a

Congress 'conspiracy' behind the collapse of the Medigadda Barrage's

pillars.He questioned why the barrage,

which withstood lakhs of cusecs of

floodwater, collapsed just before the

elections and said that if anything hap-

PNS HYDERABAD



on expenditure on the Kaleshwaram Project and is now saying that it is Rs 94,000 crore.

He expressed readiness to disclose

data on lands sold during the BRS government's tenure, emphasizing the opposition's focus on debts while ignoring facts about land sales.Revanth condemned the lack of progress in Palamuru over the last decade, despite Rs 20,000 crore being spent on the project, which remains incomplete. He criticized the neglect of Rangareddy district, which has turned into a desert with no irrigation facilities despite the sale of costly lands. He said that Godavari water flowed into the sea without benefitting the region.



Hyd Old City Metro Rail in 4 years: CM

MEDIGADDA PILLAR COLLAPSE

KCR questioned why the barrage, which withstood lakhs of

that if anything happens to the barrage in future, it should be

considered the result of the Congress government's 'conspiracy.'

cusecs of floodwater, collapsed just before the elections and said

he TG Congress government will complete the Old City Metro Rail project in four years, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy said. The CM said that soon after coming to power, the Congress government had laid the foundation stone for the Metro Rail in the Old City and had submitted a report to the Centre for executing Metro Rail's second phase

travel in the same Metro Rail along with Akbaruddin Owaisi to seek votes in the 2029 Assembly elections. The CM said that he will not deceive the people of the Old City by telling them he will transform the Old City like Istanbul, Warangal like London and Karimnagar like New York.

NITI AAYOG MEETING

PM Modi calls for zero poverty targets, seeks States' active role

Ten States' CMs skip the meet
Mamata stages walkout for 'muting' mic

PNS NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday called for setting zero poverty targets starting at village level at a meeting of NITI Aayog Governing Council that witnessed high drama with West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee walking out in a huff alleging her mic was switched off.

In his address to the ninth Governing Council meeting, Modi emphasised the need to tackle poverty on an individual basis rather than just at a programme level."We must

target zero poverty as a priority for a Viksit Bharat starting at village level," Modi said, adding it would bring about a transformational effect in our country. Modi said that states

Man's intestines bulge

out as Bihar GRP beat

up railway passengers

pumping two TMCs of water is not

enough.He said the government's ego

is preventing the pumping of water

from the Kannepalli pump house and

criticised attempts to portray the

Continued on Page 2

Kaleshwaram Project as a failure.



meeting of NITI Aayog in Delhi on Saturday

can play an active role to achieve this aim as they are directly connected with the people.

As many as 10 states and UTs did not participate in the Governing Council meeting of the NITI Aayog. The absentees were Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Telangana, Bihar, Delhi, Punjab, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand and Puducherry, said CEO B.V.R. Subrahmanyam while

briefing the media about the meeting."It is their loss if they did not participate," he added. The NITI Aayog meeting held at the Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre witnessed a walkout by the West Bengal chief minister, who claimed that she was unfairly stopped midway in her speech, despite being the sole representative of the opposition.



Congress government will complete the Metro Rail in the Old City and

which extends 78 km. He said the

KTR sees Congress conspiracy

Speaking to journalists during a

chit-chat at the BRS LP office on

Saturday, he said that it is well known

who some Congress Ministers are

He accused the Congress govern-

ment of trying to evade responsibili-

ty for the Kaleshwaram Project by cit-

ing the NDSA report as a reason for

Why step motherly treatment to TG?

□ Congress MPs ask FM, demand fulfilment of assurances

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Telangana Congress MPs wrote a letter to Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitaraman regarding the 'injustice' done to Telangana in the Union Budget. The MPs asked Nirmala to fulfil the assurances given in the State Reorganisation

Kadiam was done to Telangana in the Union Budget. They said the Telangana

Act.In their letter, the MPs Mallu Reddy, Kavya, Chamala Kiran Kumar Reddy, Balaram Naik, Suresh Shetkar, Raghurami Reddy and Gaddam Vamshi said that 'injustice'

was carved out through the AP Reorganisation Act. During the reorganisation, the Centre promised

to give ITIR, an IIM, the Bayyaram Steel Factory, the Railway Coach Factory at Kazipet, recognising a major irrigation project as a national project, that is, Palamuru

Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Scheme and also promised to give backward funds to nine of the 10 districts of Telangana.

The MPs also said in their letter that the promises in the AP Bifurcation Act were fully implemented in the case of AP.

pens to the barrage in future, it should associated with and hinted that they not pumping water. He said that it is be considered the result of the might be capable of 'tampering' with a relief that water is being pumped from Ellampalli, but emphasized that Congress government's 'conspiracy'.

'CM should focus on TG's progess'

Union Minister Joshi slams Revanth for boycotting NITI Aayog meet

PNS HYDERABAD

Criticising Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy for boycotting the NITI Ayog meeting held in New Delhi on Saturday, Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Prahlad Joshi warned the Revanth government that people would teach them a lesson like they taught the BRS government.

He said the Congress government should try to develop Telangana and Revanth should correct his government's mistakes at least now.

Addressing the media at the State BJP office on Saturday, Joshi said that during Congress rule, AP and



Union Minister Prahlad Joshi addressing the media at State BJP office on Saturday

crore as grants. However, under NDA both states together got Rs 26,000 crore. Joshi said the BRS government told lies for the sake of politicking.He said that India stood fifth under the leadership of Modi and that the Modi government had

Telangana got Rs 5000 to Rs 6000 introduced a 'wonderful' budget. He said the Union Budget gave priority to basic infra in all states and that the Centre had allocated around Rs 5,000 crore in the Railway budget to Telangana

Row over law & order in Hyd

PNS HYDERABAD

The Bharat Rashtra Samithi and the AIMIM pulled up the government over the law and order situation in Hyderabad.

BRS MLA Harish Rao said, "In just eight months of Congress rule, law and order has been seriously impacted. There were 500 murders, 60 dacoities, 400 rob-

BRS, AIMIM pull up govt for failure beries, 10,000 theft cases and law and order? Rapes are happen-1,800 rape cases in Telangana. In June, 28 murders took place in Hyderabad city. Law and order has been seriously hit and

Revanth has kept the Home port-folio for himself."

cream for his daughter at around the police are beating up people," Harish said.

Akbaruddin Owaisi also said that the law & order situation is order is collapsing. Kindly take collapsing. "What is the state of care.

Israeli airstrike hits school,

kills 30 people in Gaza

ing. Ganja and drugs are coming. In the Old City, knives are out and murders are occurring. What is the condition of law and order? Police come out at night 10:30 pm and start beating. I have the "A minister wanted to buy ice right to live. If I stand at 11 pm outside my house the police will 10:30 pm. A UP ice cream seller beat me. Police raided my friend's said that this new government is area and found nothing. Police closing shops by 10 pm. The commissioner came on record Minister told this to the CM durand said we probably have and said we probably have ing a videoconference and that informers in our department and that's why we are not getting anything. In Old city people are being beaten at night. Law and

We will not tax P2 citizens to raise resources: Bhatti









Surya-Gambhir regime starts with 43-run win against Lanka

New captain Suryakumar Yadav led from the front with a breathtaking half-century as India comfortably out-batted Śri Lanka by 43 runs in the opening T20 International to start the Gautam Gambhir era with a victory here on Saturday.

It was India skipper Suryakumar's 26-ball 58 and a 74-run opening blitzkrieg in just six overs between openers Yashasvi Jaiswal and Shubman Gill that took India to 213 Despite a fine batting effort from

the Sri Lankans till the 15th over, the

Indian bowlers did well enough to

bowl out the home team for 170 in

ners -- Axar Patel, Ravi Bishnoi and 19.2 overs. The Indian bowlers did remarkably well towards the backend, utilising the slowness of the track to provide the team 1-0 lead in the three-match series. The spin-

over, the Indian bowlers did well enough to bowl out the home team for 170 in 19.2 overs.

rookie Riyan Parag -- snared six of the 10 wickets



Despite a fine batting effort from the Sri Lankans till the 15th

girls' school in Deir Al-Balah were taken to Al Aqsa Hospital and pro-nounced dead after a strike that Israel's military said targeted a Hamas command and control centre used to store weapons and plan Gaza's Health Ministry said 11

Israeli airstrikes hit a school and a hospital in central Gaza on Saturday

as the country's negotiators pre-

pared to meet international medi-

ators to discuss a proposed cease-

At least 30 people sheltering at a

PNS ■ DEIR AL-BALAH

people were killed in other strikes on Saturday. Israel's military ordered the evac-

uation of a part of a designated



humanitarian zone in Gaza ahead of a planned strike on Khan Younis on Saturday, as the country's negotiators prepare to meet international mediators to discuss a proposed cease-fire.









BRS is very active, vocal as an opposition party

all the more evident while Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka was delivering his first full Budget speech. Bharat Rashtra Samithi legislator K T Rama Rao kept on punctuating Bhatti's speech with slogans like "False, Bogus, Shame, Fail". Whenever he raised slogans, Vivekanand Goud, Prashanth Reddy and Padi Koushik Reddy quickly joined him to raise the sloganeering to a crescendo. Initially Harish Rao too was commenting, but chose to leave quickly so as to prepare for the

subsequent press meet. In fact, an MLA hurt his voice box by overusing his lung power and had to take rest the next day.

Evidently, the BRS has more experienced MLAs than the Congress. That is because KCR did not give newbies a chance to contest in the elections and the ones who got elected ended up in the Opposition camp. This has come has blessing in disguise for the BRS, whose seasoned leaders decide on flavour of the day while challenging the Congress government. The Congress has the highest number of first-timers among the three major parties. Some of the novices do not even know when to clap and when to yell. The Speaker and ruling party leaders, whenever intimidated, remind BRS leaders, "You are senior legislators". Considering defections, even if only a handful of BRS legislators remain, theirs will be the loudest voices in the Assembly.

BRS in a cramped room, but KCR still towers

Telangana's former chief minister K Chandrasekhar Rao and Bharat Rashtra Samithi president is a tall leader. What if his party is cooped up in a small enclo-

Reflecting a refreshing change following regime change, the Telangana Assembly now has a very active opposition party. This became the came after Bhatti Vikramarka started his budget speech and left just when the Deputy CM was about to conclude his address. During Bhatti's speech, KCR skimmed through the pages of the budget, gave some inputs to Harish Rao, waved at those who greeted him, and just sat through. Many eyes were on him. He was directed towards the Media point by MLAs. Journalists went over to him as it was his first time at a media point in decades. Before entering the Assembly hall, he was sitting in a small modified room that had been allocated to the BRS

in the lobby. During the first session,

there were two rooms. Those were mod-

ified as one room ahead of the Budget

session. The BRS, as the main opposition

party, initially had 39 MLAs. Now its

strength has dwindled to 28, with 10

MLAs defecting and BRS losing in one

by-election. The room that has been

allotted is not capacious enough to accommodate all of them comfortably.

However, BRS managed the show with

small chairs. MLAs like Harish Rao

expressed their anger over a small room

being allotted. When Bhatti Vikramarka

was asked about cramped BRS room, he

said: "They are open to make modifications as it is Praja Palana".

Cops still show great

respect to KCR

Regime change has not changed the stripes of the cops engaged to provide security to former chief minister K

Chandrasekhar Rao. Scribes got the

wind of it on July 25 when the Budget

was presented. For, journalists not arriv-

the Assembly from the Ravindra Bharati side. Asked ábout the curbs on aam admi scribes' entry, a cop informed the scribes that the Police Department had tightened security as BRS supremo and former Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao came to the Assembly that day. The overall hungama suggested that the police have high regard for the previous

Revanth tightening his grip

It appears to be the Congress' moment of glory in Telangana right now. When the Bharat Rashtra

Samithi was in power, it drove the Congress to the wall by making challenges and delivering dialogues laden with

PNS HYDERABAD

Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti

Vikramarka said the Assembly

that the government will not

tax citizens while responding

to questions on how the state

will generate additional rev-

He countered BRS MLA

Harish Rao's comments regarding the alleged neglect of public issues by saying, "The BRS means betrayal, while Congress stands for trust.

People who have experienced

both will testify to this. When

Congress makes a promise, it

Congress government intro-

duced a realistic budget with-

out any illusions, focusing on

welfare. He criticized the BRS

for failing to fulfil any of its

promises during its 10 years of

Cong to approach court

over removing Shah's

name in MCC case

Akbaruddin Owaisi ques-

tioned the Telangana govern-

ment over removing Amit

Shah's name in the Model

Code of Conduct violation

He said a case was filed

against him even though he had not violated MCC. He

said the police asked him to stop his speech at 9:50 pm. He said he asked them to

leave and ended his speech by

10 pm. "However, the police

registered a case against me,

but Sandeep Sandilya told me

that it's a wrong case. But the

new police commissioner is

continuing the Akbaruddin said.

PNS AHMEDABAD

Union minister Hardeep Singh

Puri on Saturday denied the

allegation that the Union bud-

get favoured Andhra Pradesh,

commitment made under the

State Reorganisation Act

passed during a Congress

He was speaking at a press

conference on the budget,

PNS HYDERABAD

He highlighted the signifi-

Bhatti emphasized that the

fulfill it without deception."

punch. Now the scene has upended so much so that Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy appears to be playing the villain for BRS in the Assembly. The leaders of the pink party are left red-faced whenever Revanth takes them on in the House. Should the BRS make an allegation against the Congress government, Revanth counters it by digging up dirt against BRS. The BRS leadership underestimated Revanth's staying power when it concluded that intra-party politics in TPCC would see the Chief Minister's downfall soon. As the days pass, Revanth is consolidating his position. With his decisive actions, he is cementing his position in the party and winning over the public too. Going by the positive responses Revanth has been receiving from the public, people are beginning to draw parallels between him and combined Andhra Pradesh's late chief minister Dr YS Rajasekhara Reddy.

> (With inputs from Naveena Ghanate, K Venkateshwarlu and SNCN Acharyulu)

Akbaruddin not to contest from Kodangal as the BJP defeated them

Chandrayangutta constituency on Metro Rail to participate

in the 2029 election cam-

The CM appealed to Akbaruddin to give a

chance to a BC can-

didate of the

Chandrayangutta,

which is the con-

KIR sees...

Congress

next elections the CM

stituency Akbaruddin. In the

tory of Owaisi if he contests

from Kodangal on a Congress

ticket and said that he (CM)

will stay away from contesting

from Kodangal. The CM also

offered a Deputy Chief

Minister post to Owaisi.

Continued from page 1

He said that during his visit

to Medigadda on Friday, he

had found that 10 lakh cusecs

of water were flowing through

the barrage and that the bar-

rage withstood even a flow of

28 lakh cusecs.He claimed

that the NDSA report is actu-

and the BJP for their

stance against the

Kaleshwaram Project.

KTR pointed out the

hypocrisy of the NDSA

report not being men-

tioned when the

Polavaram cofferdam

was washed away and

highlighted the wastage

of 90 TMCs of water of

the Godavari, which is

equivalent to the capac-

ity of the Sriram Sagar

He called for the

pumping of water from

the Kannepalli pump

house instead of engag-

ing in unnecessary

drama and stressed the

importance of ensuring

water supply to farmers.

He asked whether the

government is more con-

cerned about electricity

costs or providing water

to farmers.KTR criticised

comparing the state to

cancer and AIDS and

called it foolishness. He

project.

PNS HYDERABAD

the BJP got more

stituency, he said..

AIMIM Floor Leader Akbaruddin Owaisi made it clear that he will not contest from the K o d a n g a l Assembly con-stituency on a Congress ticket as

than 60,000 votes in Kodangal during the Lok Sabha elections. mere 3,000 votes in the Kodangal Assembly con-

Reacting to Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's offer of the Deputy Chief Minister post if Akbaruddin Owaisi contests on a Congress ticket in the next elections from Kodangal Assembly constituency, Akbaruddin said that he will die as an AIMIM leader but will not change his political

This discussion came up in the Assembly on Saturday. Akbaruddin demanded Chief Minister Revanth Reddy to complete the Metro Rail project in Old City. The CM responded saying that he will complete the Metro Rail in the Old City and will come to

ally an NDA report and criticised both the Congress TODAY **ALMANAC** Month & Paksham Krishna Paksha Tithi: Ashtami Jul 27 09:19 PM to Jul 28 07:27 PM Navami: Jul 28 07:27 PM to Jul 29 05:56 PM Nakshatram: Jul 27 12:59 PM Ashwini Jul 28 11:47 AM Bharani to Jul 29 10:55 AM 5:11 PM to 6:47 PM Rahukalam: 12:22 PM to 1:58 PM Yamagandam: 09:02 PM to 10:35 PM Varjyam: 3:34 PM to 5:11 PM Gulika: Amritakalam: NONE Abhiiit Muhurtham: 11:57 AM to 12:48 PM HYDERABAD WEATHER Forecast: Cloudy Temp: 28[∞] Humidity: 77% Sunrise: 5:54 AM Sunset: 6:51 PM

Updated: July 27 2024 5:00 PM

Israeli airstrike hits...

Continued from page 1

The evacuation order is in response to rocket fire that Israel said originated from the area. The military said it planned an operation against Hamas militants in the city, including parts of Muwasi, the crowded tent camp in an area where Israel has told thousands of Palestinians to seek refuge throughout the war.

The planned strike comes a day before officials from the UŚ, Egypt, Qatar and Israel are scheduled to meet in Italy and discuss the ongoing hostage and cease-fire negotiations. CIA Director Bill Burns is Minister Mohammed Bin Abdul Rahman al-Thani, Mossad director David Barnea and Egyptian spy chief Abbas Kamel on Sunday, according to officials from the US and Egypt

who spoke on condition of

said that despite building a 'sig-

nificant' project like Kaleshwaram, the BRS had

failed to properly publicise it

which led to electoral defeat.

from AIMIM for the delay in

the Old City Metro project and

criticized the Chief Minister for

making derogatory remarks

about L&T in the Assembly,

which sent a wrong message to

would come to the state if the

CM talks like that and said

that the CM sees scams every-

He defended the affidavit

given in the Supreme Court

regarding the Shah Wali

Dargah and lashed out at

Revanth Reddy's objection to

it. He said that despite

spending huge amounts for

drinking water in the Persian

Gulf, people are complaining

about the expenditure on

He said the Musi cleaning

project requires Rs 1.5 lakh

crore and questioned its ben-

efits and added that he sus-

pects corruption in it. He

emphasized the need to fill

irrigation projects with the

water available and

announced that they would

declare an action plan for

releasing water from the

Kannepalli pump house after

discussing with KCR after

August 2.

the Kaleshwaram Project.

He asked how investments

investors.

He also blamed pressure

anonymity as they were not authorised to discuss the plans.

It's the second evacuation order issued in a week that has included striking part of the humanitarian zone, a 60square-kilometer (roughly 20square-mile) blanketed with tent camps that lack sanitation and medical facilities and have limited access to aid, United Nations and humanitarian groups say. Israel expanded the zone in May to take in people fleeing Rafah, where more than half of Gaza's population at the time had crowded. According to Israeli estimates, about 1.8 million Palestinians are currently sheltering there after being multiple times search of safety during Israel's punishing air and ground campaign. In November, the military said the area could still be struck and that it was "not a safe zone, but it is a safer place than any other" in Gaza.

'CM should...

Continued from page 1

The Union Minister said that road projects costing Rs 48,000 crore are going on in Telangana and added that the Centre will expand the road network if the TG government allots land.

He said the Centre has been trying to make the Indian economy the third biggest in the world.

Meanwhile, Union Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment, Ramdas Athawale, along with Medak MP M. Raghunandan Rao said in Medak that the Centre is committed to the development of Telangana.

Why step...

regime.

Continued from page 1

They said that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy and Deputy Chief Minister Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka met Prime Minister Modi, the Finance Minister and all other concerned ministers for implementing the promises given to Telangana.In spite of all these nothing was given to Telangana in the Union Budget. They said that they are requesting the PM and the Finance Minister to fulfil the commitments made to Telangana like in the case of Andhra Pradesh. They also said in the letter that they are not against the Centre fulfilling its commitments made to Andhra

Banerjee's speaking time was About Bihar, Subrahmanyam said Chief

Minister Nitish Kumar could not attend the meeting as he was busy with an assembly session in the state.

During the meeting, Modi encouraged states to provide an investor-friendly environment and directed the NITI Aayog to prepare an 'Investment-friendly Charter' of parameters which would include policies, programmes and processes to be put in place for attracting investments.

wanted the states to compete for FDI so that investments could reach all the states, especially those that are less successful.

rather than just incentives.

The Prime Minister emphasised on cooperation and collective effort of all states and past ten years.

BRS looted TG...

He accused Harish of mak-

NGRI, DRDO, HCU, and the construction of the Raiiv Gandhi International Airport. He took a dig at the BRS for their lack of fulfilment of

poor labourers and a clear

energy policy, ensuring suffi-

Bhatti criticized the BRS for

their neglect of Hyderabad's development, highlighting the

Congress government's achievements, including the establishment of key institutions like ECIL, NFC, CCMB,

cient power until 2035.

promises, such as appointing a Dalit as the Chief Minister, providing jobs and distributing three acres of land per family. The Congress government, he assured, is implementing all its guarantees within four months, unlike the BRS.

Bhatti pointed out that the Congress has been releasing Aasara pension funds every month without delay since

these products, and issuing appointment letters to 32,410 government proposed Rs. 12,000 annually for landless Revanth, Harish clash over metering farm pumps

individuals within four

He assured the ongoing

process for competitive exams

to fill another 35,000 positions

and lambasted the BRS for

mocking the Congress' promise to waive Rs 2 lakh of

farmer loans, which the

Congress has successfully

He noted that the Congress

months.

implemented.

PNS HYDERABAD

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy accused BRS MLA Harish Rao of attempting to mislead the Assembly on affixing meters

We will not tax citizens

cant allocations in the current

budget, including over Rs

72,000 crore for agriculture and

Rs 10,000 crore for the devel-

opment of Hyderabad. The

Congress government also

introduced the SC/ST Sub-

Plan Act, ensuring funds were

allocated based on the popula-

tion proportion of these com-

He criticized the BRS gov-ernment for neglecting welfare schemes, including the Indira

Canteen for women and inter-

est-free loans. He announced

the Congress government's

plan to provide Rs 20,000 crore

annually in interest-free loans

Bhatti also detailed initia-

tives, such as establishing mar-

keting facilities for products

made by DWCRA women's

groups, allocating land next to

Shilparamam for marketing

munities.

to women.

to raise resources: Bhatti

on farm pumps.
The CM stated that the malicious agreements made in 2017 by Harish placed the power companies in a precarious situation. He warned that the failure to enforce these agreements could lead to the Centre taking action for violating agreements.

He said that under compulsion smart meters had to be installed on distribution transformers. He urged Harish to admit the truth and apologize

here.Puri was asked about the

Opposition's allegation that

the budget presented by

finance minister Nirmala

Sitharaman only benefited

Bihar and Andhra Pradesh, the

by JD(U) and TDP, key allies

of the BJP-led government at

State Reorganisation Act....It

was the Congress government.

It is your commitment. We are

"Ask them who signed the

states respectively

the Centre.

to the people of Telangana. Harish responded by saying that the Assembly is being misled by those in power. He criticized the government for adjourning the session without giving the main opposition a chance to speak or seek clarification.

He explained that during his morning speech, he had said that the Centre had unfairly imposed Rs 9,000 crores on the

fulfilling your commitment," he said.

The Act of 2014 divided

erstwhile Andhra Pradesh,

carving out a new state of

Modi announced Rs 1 lakh

crore-worth projects for

Maharashtra during his

Mumbai visit, including a Rs

76,000 crore port project that

will create 10 lakh jobs, Puri

Telangana.

state under a scheme. He accused the Chief Minister of trying to mislead the public by referring to an old note from January 4, 2017, which mentioned installing smart meters on agricultural borewells but did not discuss meters in gen

Harish clarified that the note he referred to was dated June 9, 2021, where states were invited to send proposals if they wanted to borrow 0.5% of the loan. However, Telangana did not agree to this, and as a result, missed out on Rs 30,000 crore over four years. He emphasized that they declined this for the ben-

Surya-Gambhir... Budget fulfilled commitment made under State Reorganisation Act: Min

Continued from page 1

From 149 for 2, Sri Lanka lost seven wickets for just 21 runs as the final quarter of the match was dominated by the Indian bowlers after a listless first 15.Kusal Mendis (45 off 27 balls) and Pathum Nissanka (79 off 47 balls) were not as brutal Indian counterparts but close enough to increase the creases on new coach Gautam Gambhir's forehead as they didn't spare any bad balls, getting at least one if not two boundaries per over.

organised by the Gujarat BJP

PM Modi calls for zero...

Continued from page 1

The government, however, rejected her claim and said

NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Suman Bery said that Modi

The Prime Minister also underscored the importance of law and order, good governance and infrastructure as vital for attracting investments,

He also encouraged the creation of river grids at state level for effective utilisation of water resources.

order to achieve the vision of Viksit Bharat @2047. Modi encouraged states to initiate Demographic Management Plans to address the issues of population ageing in future. Modi observed that the

the Centre to work together in

vision of Viksit Bharat can be realized through Viksit States, and that the aspiration of Viksit Bharat should reach the grassroot level i.e to each district, block, and village. "For this, each state and

district should create a vision for 2047 so as to realise Viksit Bharat @ 2047," he said.

He observed that India has achieved steady growth in the

Hyd Old City Metro Rail...

Responding to the comments of AIMIM floor leader Akbaruddin Owaisi's remarks in the Assembly on Saturday, Chief Minister Revanth said that the Old City is not a mere old habitation in Hyderabad but it is the original city.

Akbaruddin had asked Revanth to reveal when the Congress government will start work on the Metro Rail stretch in the Old City. He said that all state governments had neglect-

ed the Old City Metro rail project and asked the Congress government to complete the Metro Rail stretch in the Old City.The Chief Minister said the Union Minister for Urban development, S. Jaipal Reddy, had provided a Viable Gap Fund (VGF) for constructing the Hyderabad Metro Rail.

The CM said that during its 10-year-rule, the BRS government had failed to extend Metro Rail services to the Old City.The CM told the Assembly that the government

is holding talks about the Metro Rail project in the Old City with L&T.He said the government redesigned the Metro Rail project in a manner that will benefit the people of the Old City and that the Metro Rail will be laid through Chandrayanagutta.

He said the Centre did not give funds for the second phase of the Metro and that the Congress government will complete the Metro Rail project in the Old City whether the Centre takes part in it or not.

Continued from page 1

ing false comments and misleading the Assembly about the installation of electric meters on agricultural pump sets.The Chief Minister clarified that the BRS government had signed an agreement with the Centre on January 4, 2017, to fix meters on distribution transformers within six months, with officials Ajay Mishra, Raghuma Reddy and

A. Gopal Rao signing the

review the agreement before making false statements in the Assembly. Revanth emphasized that it

agreement. He urged Harish to

is not good on the part of the BRS to speak lies even after people rejected it in the Lok Sabha elections and said that there is a need to set the record straight by placing facts regarding the agreement entered into by the BRS government with the Centre on the installation of electricity meters before the house.

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TO FACILITATE SECOND OPINION

American doctors of Indian origin launch telemedicine for patients

PNS HYDERABAD

US-based medical firm, My American Doctor, on Saturday launched Telemedicine service in India. The platform will allow patients in India to virtually consult doctors in the US for a second opinion. The service aims to address patient issues related to oncology, dermatology and cardiology among 30 specialties.

Speaking of the service, Dr

Raj Narla, Emergency Medicine specialist and CEO, My American Doctor said, "It has been a collective vision of over 40 American doctors of Indian origin to reach out to the needy patients in India. My American Doctor has been conceptualised after understanding the need of the Indian community, the challenges being faced by an Indian patients in difficult situations and with a clear mandate to reinforce the wonderful work being done by Indian doctors in India. It is not a commercial initiative, our vision is to create a patient-friendly sustainable initiative that bridges the gap between an Indian patient and



US-based My American Doctor members announcing the launch of Telemedicine platform at a programme in Hyderabad on Saturday

an expert American doctor in a cost-effective manner. We would like to complete the consultation and generate a written report within 72 hours. We are right now focused on servicing patients only in India. Later we will extend our services to the Middle East and eventually in USA. Our price point is \$ 149, it's more of a service initiative to help our fellow Indians.

Dr Rajan Garg, ICU Medicine specialist and Board member, My American Doctor; said, "Almost over a million patients are travelling abroad from India, every year to seek medical treatment for complex medical conditions, rare diseases, difficult diagnosis and for privacy reasons, apart from those there are approximately four times more patients who

expert medical opinion from the physicians abroad if they have the resources."

He further said, "There is also a certain perception that treatment abroad is better, right or wrong that perception does exists. My American Doctor will provide the latest treatment plan to Indian patients using the technology. Indian healthcare systems and Doctors are comparable to anyone anywhere in the world, sometimes patients just need the reassurance that the treatment being provided to them by their Indian healthcare system and the Indian doctor is the right treatment, and sometimes the treatment plan needs a small tweak. A study of the Journal of

Clinical Oncology indicated that the second opinion led to significant change in the management of patients, the study had a sample of 300 to 600 patients and 50 per cent of the patients saw a change in the treatment. A study by Mayo clinic said approximately 26% to 50% patients had a decrease in the diagnosis error after a second opinion.

Excise Department vows to make Dhoolpet drug-free by August 31

State Prohibition and Excise director VB Kamalasan Reddy said that the Excise Police would focus on eradicating drug menace at Dhoolpet area before August 31.

On Saturday, he held a press conference at the Excise Bhavan at Nampally here.

He said that wherever the marijuana was seized in the GHMC limits are traced to Dhoolpet area. "Against this background, we are conducting searches extensively at Dhoolpet along with other areas in the city."

Kamalasan Reddy said,

"There are so many activities going on at Dhoolpet. It turned out to be an adda for ganja (marijuana). To curb the ganja, Excise officials started Operation Ganja from July 16. We are conducting police and Excise joint operations to make it as Ganja free Dhoolpet".

"We have identified 15 notorious drug offenders in the city. Their network is operating the drugs. We have identified main suppliers, traders, and peddlers. Even if a small quantity has been seized, we are



State Prohibition and Excise director VB Kamalasan Reddy speaking to the media

reaching the main kingpin in the network", he added.

These drug peddlers are supplying parts of the city through private and government buses. They are transporting the drugs from Andhra Orissa Border (AOB) region like Koraput by roads from Bhadrachalam and Aswaraopet.

In the last 10 years, A total 931 Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act (NDPS) cases have been registered in the Dhoolpet area. But in a span of seven months of 2024, more than 110 cases have been registered in Dhoolpet area only. Few years ago, illicitly distilled (ID) liquor was manufactured there, but drugs came in the ID liquor place after liquor was elimi-

nated there. "The Telangana Anti-Narcotics Bureau (TGANB) is providing every resource to the Excise Department. Mainly, to improve the investigation skills of the Excise officials, the TGANB conducted training to more than 1,000 officials. They have trained them in Online and Offline", he added.

Prohibition and Excise Joint Commissioner SY Qureshi expressed hope that the Dhoolpet would soon become a drug-free zone.

Women held on charge mobile theft

PNS HYDERABAD

The Commissioner's Task Force (North) Zone in coordination with Mahankali police on Saturday arrested two women accused of mobile

The two accused were identified as Orsu Sony (26), a resident of Borabanda and Vemla Sirisha (24), a resident of Fatehnagar. They were involved in five cases of mobile theft under the Mahankali police station.

The police seized four mobile phones, chargers and earphones all worth Rs 2 lakh from them. Sony and Shirisha targetted crowded places like Bonalu celebrations, Ganesh imersion or any other festivals to commit theft. They mingled with public and stole valuables. Based on the examination of CCTV footages, the accused were caught while stealing at the Ujjaini Mahankali temple, according to police.

The police searched Shirisha and Sony's houses and found several mobile phones which were to be sold in order to make money. The accused were booked under sections 303 and 303 (2) of the Bharat Nyaya Sanhita (BNS).



Electric expo to be held from Aug 29 in city

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Thriving towards innovation through AI in energy along with sustainable and greener solutions, Secunderabad Electric Traders Association (SETA) announced the Electric Expo 2024 from August 29 to August 31 at the Hitex

Exhibition Centre in the city. This South India's largest Electric-expo will be inaugu-Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal, along with the State Minister for Information Technology, Industries and Commerce, and Legislative Affairs D Sridhar Babu, and Union Minister for Coal and Mines G Kishan Reddy.

one-of-a-kind expo where over 100 renowned electric brands will be exhibited and innovative products in stalls showcasing the latest technologies and developments. SETA's president Suresh Jain

According to SETA, this is a

said, "This is not just an exhibition. We also help in finding technologies that not only revolutionise industries but also ensure a healthier planet. He that thi also shows the tradition along with the global demand for sustainability solutions and automation. As we are witnessing unprecedented advancements in electric vehicles, smart technologies, and renewable energy, these inno-

vations not only change the world but also drive economic growth and create a new environmental era of stewardship. Suresh Jain also encourages pushing bound-aries and collaborating to har-ness the power of technology for the greater good.

He announced that the expo

is open for all professionals, innovators, and leaders to witness the energy products creogy, and sustainability solutions. Over 30,000 engineers, real estate professionals, businessmen, students, architects, contractors, and individuals from across the country are expected to visit the three-day

Couple arrested for cheating man of Rs 3.5 cr promising **Admission in Stanford varsity**

PNS HYDERABAD

The Economic Offence Wing (EOW) police of Cyberabad Police Commissionerate on Saturday arrested two persons on charge of cheating, criminal breach of trust and collected money of Rs 3.25 crore from a person on the promise of providing admis-

sion for a youth in undergraduate course in Stanford University California in the USA. Police arrest-Paladugu Raghuram and his Paladugu Sunitha. Previously

Raghuram was involved in a cheating case in the city.

Chatla Sanjeev Kumar, in a complaint, said Paladugu Raghuram and his wife Sunitha fabricated fake admission documents for his son in USA and collected money Rs 3.25 crore from the com-

The accused, the complaint said, had promised admission for his son in the university by claiming that he had friend working in the White House in the

United States of America and he would help in securing admission for the youth. Later, Chatla Sanjeev Kumar

came to know that that was fraud and they were cheated so they complained to the police.

The Cyberabad EOW Police advised the public to be aware of fraudsters, cheaters

the accused Paladugu and not to believe and approach anybody to get admissions in any university or colleges without knowing them properly and advised to visit the concerned university for correct information. The department is committed to cheaters and ensuring justice to victims.

'China is pumping money to create industrial unrest in India'

PNS HYDERABAD

The Union Budget has announced significant incentives for Bihar and it could lead to industrial growth in the state. This growth may gen-

erate employment for local people, reducing the number of laborers migrating to Telangana and other states. This could result in a labor shortage, posing a major challenge for HR professionals, said Rajesh Khosla, CEO of AGI, Greenpac, during a keynote address at the HR Conclave organised by the HR Committee of the Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI) on Saturday. Rajesh Khosla highlighted

that India is the youngest nation in the world, with a median age of 28 years, compared to 38 in China, 40 in the USA, 45 in Europe, and 50 in Japan. This means that 70 to 80 crore of India's 140-crore population are potential jobseekers. Engaging this youth population is a significant challenge for HR.

The global economy is valued at 93 trillion rs with China's making up 20-22% of the global economy. India faces unusual situation where there is

a high number of unemployed youth, yet companies are struggling to find skilled employees. The skill gap is a major issue that HR professionals need to address by training the unemployed youth to make them job-ready.

Khosla also pointed out that the Western population is aging, while India has a young population with a Western

outlook. He emphasized the need to make employment in India interesting and attractive to retain talent, which might otherwise migrate to the West for better opportu-

He also noted that China is investing money in India to create industrial unrest, which is a politically sensitive but

real issue. Additionally, the African

continent, with its younger and more laborious population, could pose a future challenge to India due to its rich mineral resources, despite a lack of ecosystem. The Joint Commissioner of Labour,

Government of Telangana, Chandrasekharam addressed over 100 attendees, stating that as are also evolving to keep pace with these devel-

'Three 'abducted' minor girls traced to Hyderabad, Nanded, rescued'

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Latur Police have rescued three minor girls allegedly abducted more than a year ago from Hyderabad and Nanded, and nabbed two persons, an Anti-Human Trafficking Unit official

Police tracked down the girls using technical analysis and following leads.

The missing persons reports of two 17 -year-old girls were registered almost a year ago at Udgir Rural and Nilanga police stations in Latur. Another complaint was registered at MIDC police station about the abduction of a 16-yearold girl.

The 17-year-old were traced to Hyderabad and another one to Nanded district.

Over the past 45 days, 10 abducted minors have been rescued from Latur district, according to the AHTU official.



City-based philanthropist Sudha Reddy attends Olympics in Paris

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Hyderabad-based businesswoman, philanthropist, and social luminary Sudha Reddy attended the prestigious opening ceremony of the Paris Olympics on Friday. She was among the exclusive 95 holders of the desired Trocadéro Giraffe passes.

Sudha Reddy had a frontrow seat at the grand spectacle of the Paris Olympics Opening Ceremony, where she showcased Indian luxury and joined a distinguished roster of global leaders and celebrities. Sudha Reddy also had the opportunity to interact with French President Emmanuel Macron, who sat

very close to her and engaged with the attendees. She commanded attention with a cusneckpiece by Schiaparelli. Her presence among global dignitaries and sporting icons was a testament to her stature and influ-

As Director of MEIL Group and Chairperson of the Sudha Reddy Foundation, her attendance at the Olympics also underscores her global influence and commitment to supporting international events. A prominent figure in the philanthropic world, she has consistently championed causes that promote education, healthcare, and social welfare.

PNS HYDERABAD

Vigilance Enforcement officials, along with the Mines and Road Transport Authority (RTA) officials, conducted raids at several places in the State on Friday and Saturday and filed cases against violators of various kinds.

On Saturday at 4 am to 3 pm, the officials of Vigilance Enforcement, Ramachandrapuram, along with the officials of Mines and RT authorities, conducted surprise route checks at the Muttangi area of Sangareddy district. The officials intercepted seven vehicles with overload as per Motor Vehicle Act, out of seven vehicles, six vehicles were transporting sand ille-

gally without waybills as per Mines Act. Those seven vehi-

V&E conducts raids, book

cases against vehicles

cles were seized. Approximately the overload tax and compounding fee of Rs 1,40,000, seigniorage fee and penalty of Rs 2.2 lakh and GST tax of Rs.40,000 as per GST Act, the total amount of detected fine is Rs 4 lakh. During raids, a lorry driver escaped, hence the vehicle was seized and handed to Patancheru police station. A case registered under section 303(2) BNS, 3 of PDPP Act and 21(1) of mines and minerals development

and regulating act 1957. Officials also conducted route checks at Dundigal X Road, intercepted the vehicles and booked cases under Motor Vehicles Act against 19 lorries carrying robo sand,

bricks, and seized 12 of them and kept them under custody. Out of those 19 cases, 10 cases of overweight, 3 cases of without permit, 3 cases of without fitness, 2 cases of without driving license and 1 case for without tax have

been registered. VE officials, Nalgonda unit, along with the officials of Mines and RTA Departments have conducted route check at Kodad surroundings areas of Survapet district, intercepted 33 vehicles and booked cases against the vehicles for without tax, permits and over load for carrying bulk cement, loose cement, sponge Iron and granite blocks and seized five lorries and kept under safe custody and imposed fine

Police, prosecutors hailed for better conviction rate

PNS HYDERABAD

Police officers and public prosecutors were felicitated over the Women Safety Wing (WSW) focusing on ensuring justice for victims of violence through swift case resolution.

This WSW task force ensures quality and timely investigations under the POCSO Act and the Criminal Law Amendment Act, 2018. A dedicated Sexual Offences (SO) module within the WSW monitors rape and sexual assault cases through a special task force led by an Additional Superintendent of Police, adhering to Supreme Court and MHA guidelines.

The officers and prosecutors engaged in these convictions were felicitated on Saturday by Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) of the Women Safety Wing, Shikha Goel. Convictions in Hyderabad, Jagtial, Karimnagar, and Rachakonda were celebrated, recognising the diligent efforts of investigation officers (IOs), public prosecutors (PPs), and court duty officers (CDOs). A total of

13 IOs, 7 PPs, 12 CDOs, and 2 BHAROSA legal officers received Certificates of Appreciation for their work.

According to the Women Safety Wing, specialised cases, identified based on severity, are monitored closely. These include repeat offend-

er cases, public place assaults, gang rapes, and child assaults by public servants. Detailed data is collected and investigations are supervised by

Shikha Goel, Additional Director General of Police (ADGP) of the Women Safety Wing. The WSW team follows through on trials, coordinating with public prosecutors and monitoring witness testimonies. Monthly Zoom meetings track investigation progress.

Over the past couple of years, 49 cases have resulted in convictions, with 12 notable cases this year alone. The Additional Director General of Police appreciated the officers for their dedication to women's safety and the swift delivery of justice, urging continued use of victim-centric legal provisions.

DCA seizes habit-forming, abortfacient drugs

The Drug Control Administration (DCA) on Saturday raided an unlicensed distributor at Moosarambagh and seized 19 varieties of medicine worth Rs 3,50,000.

The seized medicines include habit-forming drugs, steroids, antibiotics, abortifacient drugs, anti-hypertensive drugs, anti-diabetic drugs etc. DCA officials lifted smaples for testing and further investigation would be carried out and action taken as per the law

against all the offenders. The DCA officials also raided the premises of a quack P. Thirumalachari at Nalla gand-



la, Serilingampally mandal, who was practicing medicine without proper qualification at his clinic and detected 18 varieties of medicines, including antibiotics, anti-ulcer drugs,

analgesics, cough syrups etc., The officials detected several higher generation antibiotics at the clinic during the raid.

A. Shylaja Rani, Drugs Inspector, Serilingampally and.

abortifacient drugs, antihypertensive drugs, antidiabetic drugs etc

medicines include

habit-forming drugs, steroids,

The seized

antibiotics,

D. Swethabindu, Drugs Inspector, Gandipet were among the officers who carried out the raid.

Meanwhile, the DCA also detected certain medicines

misleading claims on their labels stating they treat fever, rheumatism and diseases and disorders of the uterus, in contravention of the Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisements) Act, 1954.

During a special drive conducted on July 26 and 27, different products with misleading claims were detected by K. Anvesh, Drugs Inspector, Shabad, A. Saritha, Drugs Inspector, Jeedimetla, A. Srilatha, Drugs Inspector, Adilabad, K. Murali Krishna, Drugs Inspector, Malkajgiri and T. Chandana, Drugs Inspector, Mancherial.

hmda Hyderabad Metropolitan Development Authority

PUBLIC NOTICE PLANNING DEPARTMENT No. 061520/GHT/LT/U6/HMDA/18072023,

No. 061520/GHT/LT/U6/HMDA/18072023.

Ris to inform that, Smt. V. Lawanya & others have field an application for Addition / Alteration of Residential Draft Layout (open plot) in Sy Nos. 169/A1, 169/A2, 169/E7, 169/E2, 170/A/1, 170/A/2, 171/A/2/1, 171/A/3/1 stusted at Austrapur (V), Ghatkesar (M), Medchal-Makkajain District to an extent of 4.488.43 Sq. Mtrs. for which Draft layout parmission is approved wide File. No. 026762/GHT/LT/U6/HMDA/09082019 & L.P. No. 000198/LO/Pig/HMDA/2021, dt.26-04-2021.

Therefore, the plots owners / Purchasers / Agreement holders of approved Residential Draft layout (apen plot) in Sy,Nos. 169/A1,169/A2, 169/E/1, 169/E/2, 170/A/1, 170/A/2, 171/A/3/1 situated at Austrapur (V), Ghatkesar (M), Medchal-Malkajain District to an extent of 4.489.43 Sq. Mtrs. may file their objections/suggestions in writing if any within (15) days to this office from the date of Publication of the notice with regard to the changes made to earlier approved Building Permission. If no objections/suggestions are received within the stipulated period, the request of the applicant for approval of Residential Draft layout (open piot) in Sy,Nos.169/A1,169/A2, 169/E/1, 169/E/2, 170/A/1, 170/A/2, 171/A/2/1, 171/A/3/1 situated at Austrapur (V), Ghatkesar (M), Medchal-Malkajain District to an extent of 4,489,43 Sq. Mtrs. will be consistered basing on the material papers available with this office.

DIPR RO No : 248-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2024-25

Sd/- For Metropolitan Commissioner







Godavari breaches third warning level of 53 feet at Bhadrachalam

PNS BHADRACHALAM

Due to increased inflows from its upper reaches, the River Godavari breached the third warning level of 53 feet mark at Bhadrachalam in Bhadradri Kothagudem district on Saturday afternoon.

The third flood warning has been issued in accordance with the Godavari flood manual. The water level in the river hovered around 53.30 feet at 7 pm. The discharge was about 14.40 lakh cusecs.

Over 200 people from lowlying areas moved to relief

The district administration has put the officials on high alert, cancelling leaves of Revenue employees and taking steps to rehabilitate the people from low-lying areas. Boats

All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul-Muslimeen (AIMIM) MLA

Akbaruddin Owaisi ques-

tioned the Congress regarding

asked the government about

the responsibility of collecting

electricity charges being hand-

ed over to the Adani group. He said the people in the

Old City are accused of elec-

tricity theft. There are no

thieves and there is no theft of

electricity in the Old City, he

selected for the pilot Adani project? Why not Kodangal or

another area? This won't work.

I have details of issues connect-

ed to the electricity depart-

focus on developing the Old

'The government should

"Why was an Old City area

electricity on Saturday. The AIMIM floor leader

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

have been kept ready to meet any eventuality.

With the river turning ferocious, the communication facilities to 13 villages in Charla, and Dummugude mmandals were snapped. Road communications to Kunavaram, VR Puram and Chinturumandals have been severed from Bhadrachalam. Several villages Aswapuram, Burgampahad and Pinapaka have been marooned. In all, 200 persons were rehabilitated in the reha-

AMC colony. If the water level at Bhadrachalam is between 53 and 58 feet, 48 villages in Bhadrachalam, Charla, Burgampahad, Aswapuram, Dummugudem, Manuguru and Pinapakamandals would

bilitation center set up at

Meanwhile, water entered three low-lying colonies in Bhadrachalam.

On account of heavy rains in Maharashtra, tributaries of Godavari river like Indravati, Penganga have swollen emptying themselves into River Godavari. The water level in the river is likely to increase at least by two feet, according to

Union Jal Sakti Ministry.
Pumpsets have been installed to pump out water near Annadanachoultry, Subash Nagar, Kotta Colony from time to time.

The district officials have placed sand on thenational high way to prevent water

No water supply in some parts of the city on 30 July

PNS HYDERABAD

Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) will be stopping the water supply in some parts of the city on July 30. Junction works will be carried out at Value Zone in Patan Cheru for the Manjeera Phase-1 pipeline, which supplies drinking water to the Hyderabad metropolis from 6 am on 30 July to 6 am on 31 July. Therefore, in these 24 hours, there will be a complete interruption in the supply of drinking water and low pressure water will be supplied on that day.

Water supply would be effected in the areas of Township, Hyderabad Central University, PatanCheru Industrial Area of Division 8. Patancheru, RC Puram, Ashok Nagar, Jyoti Nagar, Lingampally, Chandanagar, Gangaram, Madinaguda, Hafiz Pate, Doyens Colony, SBI Training Centre in Division 15 would be affect-

scheme was put on hold for a while after the Congress came to power. Lakhs of applica-

tions are pending. In 2023-24,

the BRS government allocat-

ed 17,700 crore for the

scheme however, no money

was released. When it comes

to tribal welfare the govern-

ment allocated Rs 33,124

crore. I hope the government

will spend the funds judi-

ciously as there was a huge shortfall in SC, ST SDF in

2023-24 when the allocation

was Rs 36,7750 crore while

expenditure was only Rs 14,

He questioned the govern-

ment for not issuing a clarifi-

cation after reports in the

national media said that the

SC, ST budget was reduced to

allocate budget for minorities.

The bureaucrats must be held

responsible for the figure they

present to the Ministers.

649 crore

Harish calls out Congress Budget's unrealistic projections

Former Finance Minister T Harish Rao delivered a comprehensive critique of the Congress government's budget for 2024-25, describing it as "unrealistic and filled with contradictions."

In his detailed speech in the State Assembly, Harish accused the Congress of prioritising political rhetoric over presenting a viable financial plan for

Telangana.

He began by highlighting the contradictions in the budget.
He noted that while the Congress criticised the BRS government for its performance over the past decade, the same budget acknowledged a significant increase in the state's per capita income, which rose to Rs 347,229.

"How can the budget claim that the BRS government failed in all areas and then say that the per capita income rose to



Rs 347,229?" he asked, emphasizing the budget's self-contra-

dictory nature. He criticised the Budget's revenue projections, particularly the expected grants-in-aid from the Centre. He pointed out that the budget projected Rs 21,636 crore in grants-in-aid for 2024-25, more than double the Rs 9,729 crore received in the previous year.

'With the Centre only marginally increasing grants, it is impractical to expect such a

massive increase for TG alone. he asserted. He also criticised the projected tax revenues, especially the increased estimates for stamps and registrations, excise and sales taxes. He said that the budget projected Rs 18,228 crore from stamps

and registrations, a significant

increase from Rs 14,295 crore

in the previous year. "In a time of economic slowdown, expecting an additional Rs 4,000 crore from duties is

families and small businesses, Harish warned.

He criticised the unrealistic estimates for excise revenue, which was projected to increase by Rs 5,773 crore to Rs 25,617 crore. Harish warned that this increase would lead to higher liquor prices and an undue burden on consumers. He also highlighted the projected increase in taxes on sales and trade, questioning the feasibility of raising Rs. 3,466 crore more than the previous year.
He contrasted these projec-

tions with the achievements of the BRS government over the past decade. He highlighted the increase in the State's GDP from Rs 4.5 lakh crore to Rs 14.5 lakh crore, the rise in agricultural production from 1.07 crore tonnes to 4 crore tonnes, and the enhancement of the state's electricity generation capacity from 7,778 MW to 19,483 MW.

from entering the temple town in resolving disputes stressed ed. The water board requestfrom new flood bank, which is under construction on ed the people to conserve water for future use.



Community volunteers' role

High Court Judge Sujoy Paul speaking at a meeting in Kamareddy on Saturday

PNS KAMAREDDY

Telangana High Court Judge Sujoy Paul has underlined the role of community volunteers in resolving the problems related to marriage and other social issues nipping them in the bud to reduce work load on the

He was addressing the community volunteers as the chief guest at the Kamareddy District Police Officers' Conference hall held on Saturday under the aegis of the Kamareddy dis-

resolved effectively by sensitising the

villagers due to lack of maturity have been indulging in clashes and going to the extent of lodging cases in courts. The villagers are going to the extent of moving the courts over triv-

Collector Rahul Raj on Saturday paid

surprise visit to Tahsildar's office,

Anganwadi center, Government pri-

mary school and veterinary hospital

in Masayipeta mandal of the district.

He sought information from Tahsildar about the pending files

related to Dharani portal and the representation received under Praja

Vaani. He directed the Revenue offi-

cials to resolve pending files related

to Dharani portal. Further, he want-

ed the officials of various government

departments to give written replies to

At the Anganwadi center, he

enquired about distribution of food to

the expectant and nursing mothers.

He inspected the kitchen there and

asked Anganwadis to provide nutri-

tious food to the children as well as

people who represented their prob-

lems during Prajavaani.

expectant women.

PNS MEDAK

ial matters, which can be resolved amicably through effective mediation. Earlier, for several years the village

elders used to resolve such problems then and there, he said asking the community volunteers to work effectively and set example for other states

Srinivasa Rao, who was the guest of honour, asked the community mediation volunteers to work to settle the problem in the presence of the village

trict Leval Services Authority.

He expressed the opinion that the marital and social problems can be

community volunteers on the laws of mediation. Such a system has been functioning effectively in Kerala and MP. The community volunteers in the many problems He expressed concern over some

High Court judge Justice K

Later Justice Sujoy Paul, Justice J Srinivas Rao, visited the office of the legal aid defence counsel system.

Officials told make all arrangements for Bonalu festival

Akbaruddin to Govt: Do you think we are thieves?

PNS HYDERABAD

ment," he said.

Greater Hyderabad Municipal (GHMC) Corporation Commissioner Amrapali Kata directed officials to make arrangements for the Bonalu festival and ensure that devotees do not face any problem during the festivals on Sunday in various parts of the city.

City by working on the pedes-

trianisation project. It did not

feature in the budget present-

ed by the Finance Minister. The

emphasis should be on restor-

ing the hospital at Charminar.

The Imams appointed for Makkah Masjid and Public

Garden should be regularised,"

Speaking on the increasing traffic the MLA said, "These

people (BRS) developed only

he added.

On Saturday, she held a teleconference with Zonal Commissioners and Deputy Commissioners.

The officials were ordered to make arrangements for drinking water. The officials were Commissioner said that sanita-

asked to fill potholes, ensrue tion workers should be sanitation, and lighting during Bonala festivals.

Gachibowli and never devel-

oped the Old City. I had also

proposed development of the

flyovers at Bandlaguda and

Hafiz Babanagar. KTR always

assured me that the work

would be done but nothing

happened. Now, I expect the

Chief Minister to take up these

Regarding the Dalit

Bandhu scheme, Akbaruddin

said, "The Dalit Bandhu

The Commissioner also directed the officials to ensure that street vendors do not throw waste on the roads.

Apart from that, the

arranged to remove garbage from time to time so that the area around the temple is clean.

The officials were also directed to submit a complete report to the Commissioner on the details of the community halls in the city.

NEWS FROM ANDHRA PRADESH

Zero tolerance to harassment of women: Dy CM

PNS VIJAYAWADA

Deputy Chief Minister, Pawan Kalyan, has issued a stern warning against harassment and inappropriate behaviour towards women, emphasising that such actions will not be tolerated. Since Saturday morning, the Deputy Chief Minister has been personally reviewing applications and complaints from citizens across the State, along with his office staff.

the Panchayat Raj, Rural Development, Rural Water Supply, Environment, and Forest Departments, a particularly concerning complaint caught Pawan Kalyan's attention. Women and elderly residents from NTR Colony in Venkatagiri, Tirupati district, reported severe harassment by local youths. These individuals allegedly formed gangs, roamed on bikes, harassed students and women, and threatened the stressed the importance of addressing the have been filed to ensure they refrain from elderly. The complaint detailed incidents issue promptly and taking strict measures further misconduct.



propriate pictures of young women online, bances by consuming alcohol, making loud noises, singing, and throwing stones at houses. They even mentioned harassment of a female Sub-Inspector.

blackmailing them, and causing distur-Moved by these accounts, Pawan Kalyan immediately contacted Tirupati SP

Subbarayudu, urging swift action. He

against those responsible for harassing

SP Subbarayudu responded by instructing the concerned officials to investigate the situation in the NTR Colony. The police team visited the area, spoke to residents, and recorded details of the harassment. As a result, cases have been registered against several youths for rash and dangerous driving, and bind-over cases

AP poised to become FDI destination, says Union Min Murugan

Union Minister of State for Information & Broadcasting and Parliamentary Affairs, Dr L. Murugan, declared that the Union Budget 2024-25, presented on July 23, is historical, in tune with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of a developed nation, Viksit Bharat, by

Addressing the media on Saturday in Vijayawada, Dr Murugan expressed confidence that Modi's victory for a record third successive term will help realize this vision.

He said the National Democratic ments. Alliance's continued governance at both the Centre and in Andhra Pradesh will drive the State's development through a double-engine growth strategy.

Dr Murugan highlighted that Andhra

Pradesh is poised to become a prime destination for Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). The State aims to build on the 8.2% GDP growth recorded in 2023-24, continuing reforms to position India as a \$5 trillion economy in the next few years. Simplified FDI rules and policies are set to boost revenue for Andhra Pradesh by attracting foreign invest-

He noted that the Social Welfare Sector segment has received a substantial allocation of Rs 23 lakh crore, up from Rs 11 lakh crore in the previous budget, with a focus on an output-outcome framework to monitor program effectiveness

Significant budgetary increases for PM-Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission, Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana, and mental health programs are expected to enhance healthcare improvements, according to

At the Government Primary office and make available needy med-School, collector doubled up as icines to the people. Father-son duo arrested on

charge of drug trafficking

Collector pays surprise visit to

Tahsildar office, Anganwadi centre

PNS RANGAREDDY

In a major breakthrough, the Rachakonda Police, in collaboration with the Maheshwaram Zone Special Operations Team (SOT) and Balapur Police, arrested a father-son duo involved in drug trafficking. The main supplier, Montu, is still at large.

The father, Hanif, previously arrested in Mumbai on drug charges, and his son Siddique have been found transporting drugs together. The duo operated similarly to the plot of an

Amitabh Bachchan movie, with Hanif turning his son into a drug dealer.

Authorities revealed that the drugs were being transported to Hyderabad from Madhya Pradesh and Mumbai. In the operation, 100 grams of heroin, valued at Rs 12 lakhs, were seized. The drugs reached the city through private buses and were distributed

The police intensified their efforts to apprehend Montu and dismantle the entire network. Further investigations are ongoing.

through local contacts.

Food inspector inspects hostel for boys

PNS ■ KHAMMAM

Food safety officer on Saturday inspected several restaurants, ST Hostel for Boys and asked the hotel staff not to use dangerous chemicals in preparation of food and asked them to observe cleanliness in kitchen and keep the kitchen equipment tidy.

He visited the Sri Maruti Restaurant, Bommarillu Restaurant and Lovely Restaurant.

He checked the quality of the food and collected some samples to send them to laboratory. He said that suitable action would be taken against the violators of rules depending on the labora-

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA Revenue (Land Acquisition) Department FORM - VII (DECLARATION) (The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Leguisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act of 2013, under Section 19 (1) of the central Act 30(2013) and state rule 25 (1) (Collector's File No. G1/1347(2019 Date: 23-07-202 Special deputy collector's file No. Bi41/2023 Gazette No: 105/2024

Gazette No. 195/2024 Dete: 23/07/2024

The Government of Telangana/Collector, Siddiget decided to acquire Ac 7.32 guntas in Chandapur village of Toguta mendel of Stiddiget district for public purpose i.e. for econvoltion of D-6 distributary of RMC of Sri Komunived Mallanna Sagar Reservoir under Kalashwaran Project.

Therefore a declaration has been issued under Section 19 (1) of the Richt to Fair Commencation and Togranapapore in Lend Amplicition. The Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act of 2013.

An area of Ac 7.32 guntas of land will be acquired in Chandapur village of Togata mandal of Siddipet district as per the declaration as shown in the below schedule. The declaration has been issued to initiate

legal aid defence counsel system.	th	the land acquisition works as shown in the below schedule. SCHEDULE											
Member-secretary of Telangana	v	illas	llage: Chandapur Mandal: Toguta District: Si									ddipet	
state legal services authority		Not		Extent		Name of the	Туре		Bour	darie	15	Trees	
Panchakshari, Collector Ashish Sangwan, SP Sindhu Sarma, district			No.	of land acqui- sition		Pattadari Enjoyer	of Land	East	West	Month	South	Pipesi Drips Well ob on lane	
judge Dr ChVRRVaraprasad, additional judge Lal Singh, senior civil	1	1	51/ 63		332	Mohammed Ismeil (Nasar)	Lavuni Potto	51	٧B	51	51	Trae	
judge T Nagarani, junior civil judge K Sudhakar, additional junior civil	2	2	51/ 65	0.06	248	MD Raja Mohammed (Ahmed All)	Lavuni Pata	51	VΒ	51	51	Wells and other	
judge Deeksha, district legal services authority superintendent Chandrasen	3	3	/w		474	Nersetty Swarny (Chandralah)	Patta	184	202	186	192		
Reddy and others took part in the event.	4	Ľ	/w	0.07	7	Akkaram Anjalah (Sallu)	Patta				192		
	5	5	203 /w	0.26	34	Sisilla Cheryala Malikarjun (Bhuchaiah)	Patta	203	200	185	206		
surprise visit to Anganwadi centre	6	6	206 /m/ 2/1	0.11	35	Gurram Nageeh Kurner Goud (Narayana Goud) (P) Sirisilla Bhaskar	Patta	206	211	211	209		
anganwaar ochtic	7	7	211	0.02	197	(Anjalah) (E) Sirisila Sosirekho (Buchelah)	Lavuni Patte	206	211	211	209		
teacher and taught mathematics to students. He posed questions to stu-	8	8	211	0.27	176	Badanapuram Yellalah (Pochalah)	Lavuni	210	213	209	209		
dents and elicited suitable replies. He said that the government schools pro-	9	9	_	0.02	195	Yenumula Mallalah (Anjoloh)	Patta	218	214	214	213		
vide quality education and also quality food. The school has experienced	10	10	215 //a	0.11	1	Sirisilla Anjalah (Gouralah)	Patta	211	218	214	213		
teachers and appreciated the quality in teaching. He assured the teachers to resolve the school's problems as	11	11	215 /46	0.11	148	Sirisilla Buchalah (Gouralah) (P) Sirisilla Anjalah (Gouralah) (E)							
early as possible. He appreciated students for their		12	ln/1	-		Sirisilla Lingam (Sambelah)	Patte						
enthusiasm and lauded the teachers		13	/a	0.15	L	Sirisilla Anjalah (Gouralah) Chandanani	Patte						
for the students' academic progress. He went round the mandal headquarters village and interacted the beneficiaries of free power supply and LPG		"	101	0.23		Narayana (Shudalah) (P) Chandaneni Lingam (Shumelah) (E)	-	243			240		
gas subsidy. He felt that all eligible persons should get benefit under		┖	3/3	0.16	03	Koyyati (Narayana)	Patta		Ш				
zero power bill and get LPG subsidy. He asked the mandal officials to		16	31	0.02	01	Nandaguram Jeofinao (Mallalah) Ayilia Surekha	Patte Patte						
ensure that there would be no water stagnation anywhere in the streets. He		ļ.,	13	****		(Sattaleh) Yerve Srikenth Re-	Patte			-			
asked them to maintain sanitation in the village. Further, he asked the vet-	19	19	247/ 5HZ	0.30	400	ddy (Kishtareddy) Pothula Shiva Shankar Reddy	Patta	247	237	247	246		
erinary officials to be punctual to the office and make available needy medicines to the people.	20	20	207 e/21		413	(Subbaneddy) Kanduru Rangareddy (Narsimhareddy)	Patta	247	237	247	246		
uo arrested on	21	21	255 e	0.07	195	Yesumula Mallolah (Anjalah) (P) Yesumula Balavva (Anjalah) E)	Patta	214	215	255	254		
uo arresteu orr	22	22	255	0.05	195	Yenumula Mallolah	Patte	215	255	244	256		

(80/2013) the declaration has been issued. Since the land is being acquired in Chandapur village of Togutz mandal of Siddperl district for excavation of the D6 distributary canal se-pert of the package-13 of the Kaleshavaram Project and the land acquisition is being limited to acquire try landholdings.

otification within the time stipulated under Section (15) (Central.

Total 7.32

Therefore, the question of rehabilitation and resettlement does not arise since the exceivation of canal will improve impation facility to the rest of the lands and improve the invalinants of the people. Moreover the land acquisition is not going to affect the livelihoods of people and habilitis of the people, hence the question of resettlement and matchilitation does not risk.

ehabilitation does not arise. Since the land is being acquired for the project, mines of coal, iron stone, slate or other minerals lying under the said land or any particula portion of the said land are not needed or may be used if they are usefu

portion in the said and are not become on may be used in the year users to the project. The plan of the land may be inspected in the office of the Special Deputy Collector, Land Acquisition Department-1, Siddipet during working hours on any working day. Sal. Addi. Sal. Dist. Collector (LA) Callector Collector (LA) Callector Collector Tabelither Hotel Materiary Broket. Sd/- Spl. Dy. Collector (LA) Unit-1, Kaleswaren Project Siddipet Dist



Man jumps on railway tracks, crushed under train wheels

PNS MUZAFFARPUR

An unidentified person jumped on the railway tracks and was crushed under the wheels of a speeding train in Bihar, an official said on Saturday. The ghastly incident, which was caught on CCTV cameras installed at Muzaffarpur Junction, took place on Friday evening, and his body with head and limbs dismembered was recovered, Deputy SP, Railway, Nidhi Kumari said.

The person was on platform number one and jumped into the buffer between two cars of Ahmedabad-bound Sabarmati Express after the train had chugged off and gathered speed," she said. The deputy SP said the mutilated body was sent for post-mortem examinations and a case of unnatural death lodged at the local GRP police station.

EAM: Be robust in combating terrorism in all its forms

Jayashankar at Lao's meeting

PNS ■ VIENTIANE (LAOS)

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Saturday called on the international community to be robust in combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and dismantle terror sanctuaries and UNproscribed terrorism financing networks.

Jaishankar's remarks came as he participated in the 31st ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) in Laos' capital Vientiane.

"Be robust in combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, dismantle terror sanctuaries and UN-proscribed terrorism financing networks and tackle cybercrime. #ARF can make a difference," Jaishankar posted on X about his address at the forum.

He said COVID, conflict



and climate highlight the world's predicament today.

"Solutions can only emerge through Cooperation - economic, political, technological

and connectivity," he said.
"Neither the deployment of new technologies nor the interdependence of globalisation must be unfairly leveraged. Only international cooperation can ensure that the global commons is secure and globgoods are delivered," he

Jaishankar is in the capital of Laos to participate in the meetings of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

He said India strongly supports ASEAN unity, centrality and the ASEAN Outlook on Indo-Pacific (AOIP) and synergy between India's Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative and

He said there is a need to recognise the importance of maritime safety and security, freedom of navigation and overflight and peaceful resolution of disputes in the region, in accordance with international law, especially the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea 1982

He said the Quad complements ASEAN-led mechanisms in their effort to make the region stable, secure and prosperous through the delivery of people-centric benefits.

In November 2017, India, Japan, the US, and Australia gave shape to the long-pending proposal of setting up the Quad to develop a new strategy to keep the critical sea routes in the Indo-Pacific free of any influence.

Opposition creating false narrative over Budget: Min

Union Minister Arjun Ram Meghwal on Saturday said a strong foundation has been laid in the Union Budget to achieve the goal of 'Viksit Bharat-2047' but the opposition was trying to create a "false narrative" to mislead people.

He claimed the opposition parties' "Constitution in danger" propaganda fell flat during the recent Lok Sabha polls and the same thing will happen this time too.

The opposition parties have accused the Union government of meting out "step-motherly" treatment to states ruled by non-NDA parties and claimed the financial packages to Bihar and Andhra Pradesh showed this was a Budget of "compulsion".

Hitting back at the opposition, the Union minister of law and justice said, "A strong foundation has been laid in the Union Budget for 'Viksit Bharat-2047'.' "Since the names of Bihar and

Andhra Pradesh were mentioned (in the Budget), they are trying to create a false narrative. I come from Rajasthan and its name was not mentioned in the Budget. Does that mean that the state will not get money? When roads are expanded, wouldn't it be done in Rajasthan too?" Meghwal told reporters at the

BJP headquarters here. Opposition parties are deliberately raking up such issues to mislead people, he said at a press conference, also attended by Jammu and Kashmir BJP chief Ravinder Raina and MP Juga Kishore.

"They tried such a thing during Lok Sabha elections by claiming that the Constitution is in danger. But the propaganda fell flat as people... their false narrative about the Budget will also not succeed," he said.

Asked about the spike in terror activities in the Union Territory, especially in the Jammu region, Meghwal said peace is a pre-requisite for development and investment



Dhankhar laments oppn walkout in RS during PM's speech

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Rajya Sabha Chairperson Jagdeep Dhankhar on Saturday criticised the opposition walkout during the speech of the prime minister, asserting that he does not belong to any political party but to the entire country.

Dhankhar also rejected suggestions about the Chair's partiality, saying his inclination is towards the basic sentiment of the member towards the Constitution, towards the law

and towards the country.
Addressing the new Rajya Sabha members at an orientation programme here, Dhankhar said it hurts when members keep looking for an opportunity to create disrup-

before the House begins that they will create disruption today. Is it appropriate?" he questioned.

He said such things do not happen in other thriving

democracies. "Why here?" Dhankhar described as deeply concerning the person-

al attacks and "hit-and-run

strategy" adopted by members to capture attention and "secure newspaper space".

He also said national issues and interests should take precedence over political con-

Referring to the walkout staged by the opposition in the Rajya Sabha during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's reply on the motion of thanks in the last session, he said the PM does not belong to any political party.

"After six decades, a prime minister came for a third consecutive term. The prime minister does not belong to any political party.

"The prime minister is called the Leader of the House, the PM is of the country. The opposition did not listen to Rajya Sabha," he said.

Ignoring time constraints, Dhankhar said, he gave more than 1.30 hours to Leader of the Opposition Mallikarjun Kharge and the Leader of the House Jagat Prakash Nadda, and did not let anyone interrupt them during the debate on the motion of thanks.

'Let's build better Bengaluru together'

PNS BENGALURU

Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar on Saturday called upon Opposition leaders from the city to join hands in building a better Bengaluru. Shivakumar, who is also the Bengaluru Development Minister said "Let's leave our politics at the booth levels and join hands to build a better Bengaluru," while addressing

elected representatives of all political parties representing the city, who cutting across party lines participated in the 'Public Voice-Government Voice' programme at Vidhana Soudha here to discuss the Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill and issues concerning the capital city.
"There is nothing to be worried

about the Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill. The copy is available



with you and you can examine every word of it. We have taken all possible steps to ensure a better future for Bengaluru city. Let's debate and we are open to take your feedback. We have decided to form a House committee on the Greater Bengaluru Governance Bill," he said. "Representatives of Opposition parties are here and if you can recommend names from your side, we will form the House committee this evening itself. We are open for discussion, let us know your thoughts," he added.

According to him, the Bengaluru Development Department is challenging, but they are trying to give a new shape to the city. Kempe Gowda Bengaluru, Kengel Hanumanthaiah built Vidhana Soudha and SM Krishna made Bengaluru a global city.

Man's intestines bulge out as Bihar **GRP** beat up railway passengers

PNS SAMASTIPUR (BIHAR)

Government Railway Police personnel brutally beat up a person on board a train in Bihar, causing his intestines to come out as stitches on a recent abdominal surgery got ruptured, an official said on Saturday.

The incident occurred on Thursday evening when the Mumbai-bound Karmbhoomi Express train reached Janakpur Road railway station and two groups of passengers engaged in a heated argument over seats in the train, which forced the GRP personnel to inter-

the GRP (Muzaffarpur). The altercation took an ugly turn when a group of passengers, fighting for seats, beat up the GRP personnel, and in retaliation, they "used mild force to disperse the passengers", it said.

The injured person has been identified as Mohamad



Furkaan, who had undergone surgery a few days ago, a police officer said.

atons to disperse the passengers and one cop struck Furkaan on his still-sutured abdomen with a baton, causing bulging out of his intestines.

The GRP authorities have suspended two personnel following the incident and ordered an inquiry into the incident, a senior officer said.



Talking to PTI on Saturday. Muzaffarpur Superintendent of Police (Rail) Gaurav Mangla Eyewitnesses alleged that said, "An inquiry has already GRP personnel resorted to been ordered to probe the matter meanwh were suspended after the incident. We are analysing CCTV footage and examining those who were present there when the incident took place.'

Furkaan has been admitted to Muzaffarpur's Sri Krishna Medical College and Hospital and his condition is reported to be stable, the officer said.

14 terror attacks in J-K since new govt took office at Centre: Priyanka

PNS NEW DELHI

Congress general secretary Priyanka Ğandhi Vadra on Saturday expressed concern over the recent terror attacks in Jammu and Kashmir and called for strict and decisive steps against terrorism.

Her remarks came after a soldier was killed and four others, including a captain, were injured as the Indian Army on Saturday foiled an attack by Pakistan's Border Action Team (BAT) in the Kamakari sector of Jammu and Kashmir's Kupwara dis-

A Pakistani intruder was also killed in the exchange of fire. In a post in Hindi on X, Priyanka Gandhi said, "The news of one soldier being martyred and 4 soldiers getting injured in an encounter with terrorists in Jammu and Kashmir is extremely sadden-

INDIA CORNER

Students in Kerala schools may soon have bagless days



have to lug hefty backpacks to schools, at least four days a month if the Kerala government decides to go ahead with its new 'bag free days' initiative. In view of increasing complaints about the weight of school bags, the state

government is considering various measures to address the concerns of children and parents, General Education Minister V Sivankutty has said. The government would soon take a call on the issue of heavy school bags of students from Class 1 to 12 in the state, he said in a statement on Friday. Several complaints and is are pouring in from parents and those who love th public education system. Sivankutty said the textbooks are already being printed and distributed among the children in the state as two parts, with an objective to alleviate the burden

Woman Naxalite carrying Rs 8 lakh reward surrenders



woman Naxalite booked Afor a murder and an attack on security forces and carrying a reward of Rs 8 lakh surrendered before the police and CRPF in . Maharashtra's Gadchiroli district on Saturday, officials said. Rina Narote, alias Lalita, was a commander of the Tailor Team' and was responsible for logistics in

the entire Gadchiroli Division of the CPI (Maoist), police said in a release. The 36-year-old woman Naxalite, a resident of Gadchiroli, is named in a murder case and an attack on security personnel, it said. The Maharashtra government had announced a reward of Rs 8 lakh for her capture. She surrendered before police and Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) officials, it said. Police said Narote will receive Rs 5.5 lakh under the policies of the Centre and state for the rehabilitation of surrendered Naxalites. Intensified anti-Maoist operations in the district and the opportunity provided by the state government for Naxalites to "surrender and lead a respectful life" has resulted in 23 hardcore rebels turning themselves in before the Gadchiroli police since 2022

Man stages kidnapping, seeks **Rs 60 lakh ransom from family**



businessman, who his family feared had been Habducted for a ransom of Rs 60 lakh, had allegedly faked his kidnapping to repay a loan, police said on Saturday. According to police, Arjun Kumar (35), a flower trader from Basehiya village, reached Colonelganj market on

Wednesday evening but did not

return home. His family registered a missing person's complaint and teams were deployed to look for him. On Thursday, Kumar's brother Rakesh received a call claiming to have kidnapped the businessman and demanded a ransom of Rs 60 lakh, the police said. Gonda Superintendent of Police (SP) Vineet Jaiswal on Saturday said, Arjun Kumar was caught by our team in Haridwar where he had fled to stage his kidnapping." Kumar told police he had taken a loan of Rs 31 Lakh without informing his family members. He was unable to pay the loan after suffering losses in the business. "Arjun Kumar staged his kidnapping, hoping that his family members would arrange the ransom, which he would then use to pay his loan. The police will take action against him for this act,

'Telecom connectivity in all villages soon'

PNS GUWAHATI

Union Minister Jyotiraditya M Scindia said on Saturday that 100 per cent coverage of villages in terms of telecom connectivity in the country is targeted in the next 12 months.

Scindia, the Union minister for Communications and Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), said special funds have been sanctioned by the Cabinet for the purpose and he has himself been monitoring the progress of work every week.

Addressing a press conference here, he said, "The prime minister is committed to 100 per cent saturation. We have identified around 24,000 villages in the country that still



need saturation in terms of telecom connection.

A special scheme to reach all these villages has already been rolled out along with funds sanctioned for the purpose, he

Areas in the northeastern states are among these villages, and strategies are being worked out to reach these places, the minister said.

Provisions of the new telecom Act enable setting up required infrastructure and mixed technologies, like V-sat and satellite, are being utilised with the "target of cent per cent saturation within 12 months", Scindia said. "I have been monitoring the

work on a weekly basis, and 13,000-14,000 of these villages have also been covered," he added. Scindia also spoke about

the allocations for northeastern states in the 2024-25 Union 'For the past 75 years, North East was treated as an orphan. But Prime Minister Narendra

Modi is determined to make

the region the engine of

growth," he claimed.

Special funds of about Rs 11,000 crore have been earmarked for flood management in Assam and Sikkim, and 100 new branches of India Post Payments Bank will come up in the region as per provisions of the budget.

Scindia maintained that the region will benefit from the different schemes for women, farmers, youth and economically weaker sections as provided in the budget He asserted that the impor-

tance given to the region can be gauged from increased monetary allocation to the DoNER ministry, more funds coming through the devolution of central taxes and investment in developing connectivity

DEFAMATION CASE

SC sets aside HC order quashing summons to editors of 'The Wire'

PNS NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has set aside a Delhi High Court order that quashed a summons issued to the editor and deputy editor of online news portal "The Wire" in a criminal defamation case over a publication on a dossier allegedly depicting the Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) here as a "den of organised sex racket"

The complaint was filed by Amita Singh, former professor and chairperson of the Centre for Study of Law and Governance at the JNU, against several people, including the editor and deputy edi-

tor of "The Wire", for allegedly imputing in the April 2016 publication that she had prepared the dossier in question. A bench of Justices M M

Sundresh and Aravind Kumar said the high court, in its March 29, 2023 order, exceeded its jurisdiction. It said the high court, while

finding fault with the reasoning adopted by the magistrate for issuing the summons, went ahead and decided the matter on merit and held that no case for defamation was made out.

"Though arguments have been made at length, we are of the view that the high court has certainly exceeded its juris-

'Please allow me to pass', says robot Ananya as she serves food

PNS KOLKATA

Standing next to a national highway that connects the southern part of West Bengal to its north, a restaurant resembling a typical village house serves multi-cuisine platter to its patrons. But, it does that in style.

The food is brought to tables from the kitchen not by a human being but by a robot that can walk and talk.

Negotiating turns on its way, the robot named Ananya gently asks anyone blocking its route, "Please let me go. Please don't stand in the way and

allow me to serve."

Painted in white, the robot is about 5 feet tall and has a rectangular 'face' which doubles up as a sensor-driven digital screen to help the kitchen staff transport food ordered by customers sitting at a particular table.

Ananya has wheels but no hands. It also has four shelves placed vertically on which it carries the food. A human staff, waiting at the table, takes out the food from the tray to serve it to the enraptured patron who, more often than not, is found trying to cope with the amazement of a walk



ing-talking machine standing right next to the table.

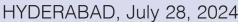
If met with a hurdle, the robot can turn right or left without toppling over or spilling the food items, to reach its destination.

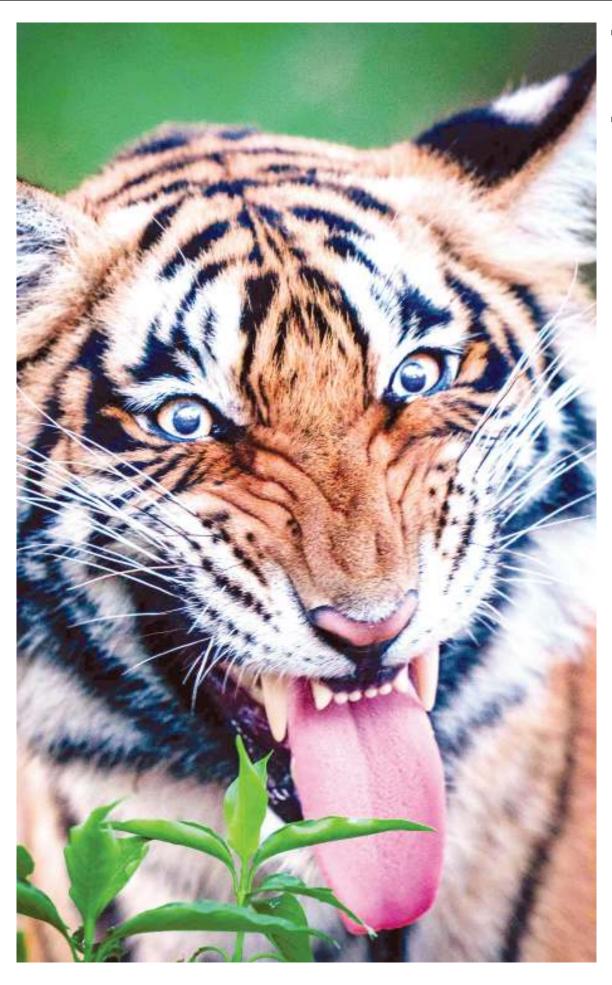
"We have four robots, all named Ananya (Invincible), to project the resilience and fighting spirit of every woman. Our restaurant is run entirely by women hailing from the neighbourhood. They take care of everything - from housekeeping to cooking, from handling the cash counter to helping the reception desk. So, we

thought Ananya would be the most appropriate name," said Subhankar Mondal, manager of Mother's Hut restaurant.

The eatery is located near Krishnanagar in Nadia district, around 120 km from Kolkata, beside National Highway 12 (formerly NH 34).

Fast gaining popularity, diners from the metropolis and from neighbouring towns like Barasat, Barrackpore, Kalyani, Ranaghat and Berhampore are flocking to the eating joint to relish the experience of a robot serving them food, Mondal





THE STORY OF A TIGRESS LEGACY

Explore the journey through the lens of MANISH KALANI, a wildlife photographer, as he unveils the legacy of Ranthambore's tigresses, revealing their untold stories and the majesty of their wilderness, says SAKSHI PRIYA

Warrior Queens of Ranthambore is more than just a coffee table book, it's a journey into the heart of Ranthambore National Park and a touching tribute to one of its most iconic residents, Machhli. This book is a celebration of the majestic tigresses who have roamed the park over five generations, captured through Kalani's lens in an eight-year photographic adventure.

The book opens with a striking portrait of Machhli, striking portrait of Machnii, the legendary tigress known as "The Lady of the Lakes." Kalani's photographs capture her in all her glory, her powerful presence, her regal bearing and the deep wisdom in her eyes. Machhli was not just a tigress: she was a symbol of tigress; she was a symbol of strength and resilience, her story woven into the fabric Ranthambore's conservation history. Kalani's images of her are infused with a sense of reverence, reflecting the profound impact she had on the park and its tiger

population. Machhli's story is central to the book, but Kalani extends his narrative to



instance, Arrowhead is shown with her fierce territorial instincts, contrasting with the more complex interactions of Riddhi, who navigates the challenges of her position within the family. Through Kalani's lens, these tigresses come to life as individuals with their own personalities, struggles and triumphs.

Kalani's dedication to his craft is evident in every page. His photographs are not just visually stunning; they are imbued with emotion and context. Each image tells a story whether it's a serene moment of rest or an intense interaction with other wildlife. The book is filled with moments that make you feel as include her descendants, creating a rich tapestry of the tiger lineage. The book features photographs of Machhli's daughter, Krishna, her granddaughter, Arrowhead and her great- offering a rich tapestry of though you are right there though you are right there though you are right there are protection. Reading Warrior Queens of Ranthambore is like taking a personal journey with Kalani into the heart of Ranthambore. It's more than just a visual experience; it's an offering a deeper emotional one. The book and her great- offering a deeper emotional one. The book granddaughter, Riddhi. understanding of their invites you to connect with



behaviors and relationships. What makes Warrior Queens of Ranthambore particularly compelling is its role in conservation. Kalani has dedicated the proceeds from the book to the Regal Roar Trust, a tribute to his commitment to the protection of these incredible creatures. This aspect of the book highlights how storytelling can be a powerful tool for change, transforming a beautiful collection of photographs into a means of supporting conservation efforts. The book serves not only as a tribute to the tigresses but also as a call to action for their continued protection.

deeper emotional one. The book

the tigresses on a deeper level, to feel their struggles and triumphs, and to appreciate the beauty and complexity of their lives. Kalani's passion for wildlife and his respect for the tigers shine through every page, making this book a heartfelt and moving experience.
Arguably, Warrior Queens of Ranthambore is a

masterful blend of art and conservation. Manish Kalani's photographic journey offers a window into the lives of Ranthambore's royal tigresses, capturing their beauty, strength and spirit. The book is not only a must-have for wildlife enthusiasts but also serves as an important reminder of the ongoing efforts needed to protect our natural heritage. Through Kalani's eyes, we are reminded of the enduring spirit of Ranthambore's tigers and the crucial role we all play in ensuring their future.

A POIGNANT PORTRAIT OF SRINAGAR'S BEAUTY AND STRUGGLE

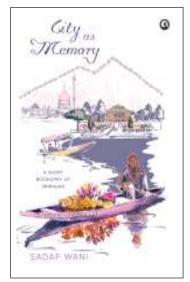
Sadaf Wani's City as Memory is a heartfelt exploration of Srinagar, where breathtaking beauty and deep-rooted pain exist side by side. Wani shares her personal experiences, creating a vivid picture of a city that is both fascinating and deeply scarred, says TEAM AGENDA

adaf Wani's City as Memory -A Short Biography Of Srinagar offers a deeply personal and insightful look into Srinagar, Kashmir - a city where breathtaking landscapes are often overshadowed by ongoing conflict. Wani blends personal stories with historical context to present a nuanced portrait of Srinagar, revealing how its natural beauty is entwined with its troubled past.

The book begins by delving into Srinagar's rich historical backdrop. Founded in 250 BCE by the Buddhist king Ashoka, the city's history is marked by conquest and foreign rule. Wani uses this historical context to set the stage for understanding Srinagar's contemporary struggles. childhood memories from the mid-1990s, a period of waning insurgency and increasing militarisation, illustrate how increasing historical forces have shaped the city. The beautiful gardens and serene lakes of Srinagar are persistently overshadowed by the heavy presence of military forces, which are a constant reminder of

As Wani transitions to her teenage years in the early 2000s, the focus shifts to a time of intensified violence and civilian unrest. Her personal experiences during this period offer a close-up view of life in a conflict zone. The contrast between the picturesque Dal Lake and the harsh realities of military checkpoints becomes a powerful symbol of Srinagar's contradictions. Wani's descriptions

the city's ongoing issues.



psychological and emotional impact of living under constant surveillance. This juxtaposition highlights the deep scars left by ongoing conflict on both the city

and its people. Wani's writing seamlessly weaves personal memories with broader historical and political analysis. Her stories reveal how conflict influences both medical identities and public spaces, providing a thoughtful influences both individual providing a thoughtful commentary on how political strife shapes a city's character. The contrast between Srinagar's scenic beauty and its troubled reality underscores the city's profound contradictions. Through vivid descriptions and reflective insights, of restricted access to public spaces Wani captures a place that is both and tourist sites shed light on the enchanting and beleaguered.

The cover of the book, illustrated by Zainab Tambawalla, truly brings Srinagar to life. It features a charming cityscape with a mosque, majestic mountains and a serene lake dotted with traditional boats. A delightful "Flower Man" in a shikara adds a touch of local character. The illustration's gentle, watercolor-like style creates a warm, nostalgic feeling, while the subtle barbed wire design hints at the region's complicated past. This artwork beautifully complements Wani's story, offering a vivid, heartfelt glimpse into Srinagar's captivating blend of beauty and struggle.

City as Memory is more than a recounting of events; it's a profound exploration of Srinagar's complex character. Sadaf Wani's portrayal offers readers a deeper understanding of how beauty and conflict coexist, shaping the lives of its inhabitants. This book is a significant addition to the literature on Kashmir, providing both personal and political perspectives on a city at the crossroads of history and identity. Adding this book to your bookshelf is not just a literary choice but a way to appreciate the intricate relationship between place and memory. Wani's work is a must-read for anyone interested in the interplay between historical conflict and personal experience. It offers a compelling narrative and valuable perspectives that will resonate long after the last page is

Publisher - Aleph Book Company

THE HAUNTING PAST

Mamta Sharma's debut novel masterfully intertwines personal loss with a suspenseful mystery, creating a profound narrative of emotional healing and the quest for answer, says TEAM AGENDA

amta Sharma's Searching for Sarah is a compelling compelling narrative that delves into themes of grief, loss and the quest for closure through a gripping mystery. The story begins with Rini, a 34-yearold widow, navigating her life in Mumbai as she deals with the deep-seated sorrow following her husband's untimely death. Her personal journey intertwines with a decades-old mystery that unravels as she embarks on a quest for answers.

The novel opens with Rini grappling with the emotional aftermath of her husband's passing. Her life, marked by a pervasive sense of emptiness, is depicted with raw honesty. Rini's struggle to find meaning and solace in her daily existence is palpable as she works as an estate agent, a role that provides her with some distraction from her grief. The routine of her professional life, however, cannot fully shield her from the emótional turmoil she faces. Her sleep is disturbed by recurring nightmares, adding to the weight of her sorrow.

The turning point in Rini's life occurs during a routine work trip when she encounters a bungalow that piques her interest. The bungalow, owned by Mr. and Mrs. D'souza, an elderly Christian couple, holds a dark secret from the past. Their daughter, Sarah, disappeared 34 years ago, leaving the couple in a state of perpetual mourning and relentless searching for answers. The disappearance of Sarah has cast a long shadow over their lives, creating an atmosphere of melancholy and unresolved tension. Rini's curiosity is

Sharma's D'souzas' story. The more she about learns disappearance, the more she becomes emotionally invested in the case. Sharma effectively uses Rini's growing obsession with the mystery to drive the narrative forward, intertwining Rini's personal grief with the broader mystery of Sarah's vanishing. This dual focus enriches the story, providing a nuanced exploration of how personal loss can intersect with and amplify the search for external truths. As Rini delves deeper into the case, the novel reveals her complex emotional landscape. The investigation forces Rini to confront her own fears and insecurities, mirroring her internal struggle with her husband's death. Sharma's portrayal of Rini's psychological state is both sensitive and profound, illustrating how personal trauma can influence one's actions and decisions. Rini's interactions with the D'souzas and other characters involved in the case are marked by empathy and determination, showcasing her growth as she navigates the intricacies of the mystery.

The narrative unfolds with increasing tension as Rini uncovers hidden layers of the case. Sharma crafts a suspenseful plot, filled with unexpected twists and turns, that keeps readers engaged and invested in the outcome. The process of unraveling Sarah's fate is depicted with meticulous detail, reflecting the complexity of real-life investigations where every clue can lead to multiple possibilities. The author's attention to detail enhances the authenticity of the story, making immediately sparked by the Rini's journey both credible and



captivating. In the "One Year Later" chapter, the novel takes a reflective turn as Rini looks back on the changes that have occurred in her life since her involvement in the case. This chapter provides a poignant conclusion to Rini's emotional arc, highlighting her personal growth and the impact of the investigation on her life. The passage of time allows Rini to evaluate the significance of her journey, offering insights into how the search for answers can lead to personal transformation

and healing.
In terms of style, Sharma's prose is evocative and often poetic, enhancing the emotional impact of the story. The descriptive passages are not merely visual but also sensory, immersing readers in the sights, sounds, and feelings of the settings. This sensory richness contributes to the novel's immersive quality, making the reader feel as though they are experiencing Rini's world firsthand. Sharma also employs a meticulous and

detailed approach to plot development.

The author's careful attention to the investigation into Sarah's disappearance lends credibility to the story and engages readers with its methodical unraveling. The suspenseful elements of the narrative are crafted with precision, maintaining a steady pace that keeps readers invested in the unfolding mystery. Sharma's ability to blend personal grief with a compelling investigative plot showcases her skill in balancing different narrative threads. Sharma's writing throughout Searching for Sarah is marked by its emotional depth and character-driven narrative. The author skillfully balances the elements of mystery and psychological exploration, creating a story that resonates on multiple levels. The interplay between Rini's personal struggles and the mystery of Sarah's disappearance adds layers of complexity to the narrative, making it a rich and engaging

Searching for Sarah is a masterful debut by Mamta Sharma that successfully blends elements of crime fiction with a deep psychological exploration. The novel's exploration of grief, loss and the search for closure is handled with sensitivity and insight, making it a standout addition to the genre. Sharma's addition to the genre. Snarmas ability to weave a captivating mystery with a profound emotional journey ensures that Searching for Sarah will resonate with readers long after the final page is turned. page is turned.

> Price of the book: Rs.200/-Self Publish and available on Kindle and Amazon

HYDERABAD, July 28, 2024











A DAZZLING DEBUT IN THE WORLD OF KUCHIPIINI

Aadya Gupta's breathtaking Kuchipudi debut, Rangapravesham, showcased her years of dedication and passion. Guided by the esteemed Drs. Raja Radha Reddy and Guru Kaushalya Reddy, Aadya's performance beautifully highlighted her mastery of the classical art form, illustrating her journey from student to accomplished dancer, writes SAKSHI PRIYA

Kamani are immediately the heart of a spellbinding also Kuchipudi recital Rangapravesham.

cherished milestone, marking consummate performer. a dancer's formal debut, was brilliantly embodied by Aadya Gupta. Under the esteemed guidance of Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri awardees Drs. Raja Radha Reddy and Guru Kaushalya

s one steps into Reddy, Aadya's performance was a radiant showcase of her Auditorium, they dedication and passion. Her recital not only highlighted transported into years of rigorous training but celebrated remarkable journey from an This earnest student

> The evening was more than just a performance; it was a celebration of art and tradition that captivated everyone The present. audience's presence in the hall was a tribute to the enduring

appreciation for Kuchipudi, as people from all age groups came together to admire the rich heritage of this classical dance form. The non-stop applause and standing ovation from the audience, spanning from children to elders, underscored the universal appeal and excellence of Aadya's performance. This enthusiastic response highlighted not only her individual talent but also the remarkable mentorship of her



Kuchipudi to life, ensuring that each movement was complemented by its visual presentation. A particularly magical aspect of the performance was the live orchestra, whose contribution was essential to

the recital's success. The musicians created a soothing and heavenly auditory experience, particularly in the Raga Ragamaalika, which accompanied the piece "Chhaap Tilak Sab Cheni." The harmonious balance and deeply devotional quality of the music elevated Aadya's performance, creating a rich, immersive experience that resonated deeply with the audience. The symbiotic relationship between the dancer and the musicians underscored the true essence of classical performance, highlighting the integral role of live music in enhancing the beauty and emotional

depth of the dance. The program featured a range of pieces that demonstrated Aadya's mastery over Kuchipudi's expressive depth and technical brilliance. She began with "Shree Venkateshwara Stothram," a devotional piece that set a serene tone for

the evening. This was followed by "Jatthikattu" in Raag Maand and Taal Khanda Chapu, a dynamic dance that showcased her precision and rhythmic mastery. One of the evening's highlights was "Bhamakalapam," a narrative dance that vividly portrayed Satyabhama's intense love for Krishna. Aadya's nuanced performance captured the emotional complexity of the character, showcasing her ability to convey deep emotions through her dance. Her rendition of "Chhaap Tilak Sab Cheeni," a poem by the 14th-century Sufi mystic Amir Khusro, was another standout, blending romantic and devotional themes in a mesmerizing performance. The recital concluded with "Tarangam," a traditional Kuchipudi piece celebrating Lord Krishna's childhood stories.

Aadya's skillful execution of intricate footwork on a brass plate was a breathtaking display of her virtuosity and command over the and dance form. Drs. Raja and Radha Reddy, along with Kaushalya Reddy, Kaushalya have played a pivotal role in promoting Kuchipudi Their globally. u n i q u e choreographic style and ability to blend tradition modern sensibilities have garnered them n u m e r o u s accolades. Natya

founded in 1976, stands as a testament to their dedication and vision, nurturing countless dancers over the years.

Aadya's journey, shaped by the disciplined and compassionate guidance of her Gurus, reflects the transformative power of Kuchipudi. The institute's focus on technical precision and emotional depth has enabled her to perform on prestigious platforms across India. This debut marks not just an achievement but a new beginning for Aadya, promising greater heights in her dance journey.

Aadya Gupta's Rangapravesham was a radiant celebration of her talent and dedication. The performance, accentuated by beautiful lighting, elegant costumes and a supportive

audience, was a seamless blend of technical brilliance and emotional depth. The live orchestra's contribution added a magical dimension, making the evening an immersive experience that beautifully highlighted the essence of Kuchipudi. o v e r w h e l m i n g appreciation from

attendees, coupled with the meticulous execution of every element of the recital, left a lasting impression. With unwavering support of her family, friends and mentors, Aadya is poised to achieve even greater success in her future



A Celebration of Connection

M-tastic's inaugural Mother & Kids Exhibition offers a perfect blend of quality shopping and interactive fun. This vibrant event celebrates the special bond between mothers and children, featuring curated products and engaging activities that create unforgettable family moments, says TEAM AGENDA



meet unforgettable experiences, ▲M-tastic's inaugural Mother & Kids Exhibition has set a new benchmark for joy and connection. This enchanting event celebrates the special bond between mothers and their children, blending quality shopping, imaginative play and creative activities into a magical experience for families. Founded by Suryashi Juneja and Surbhi Sachdeva, the exhibition reflects their combined expertise and passion. Suryashi, a seasoned chartered accountant with a background in logistics, and Surbhi, who holds dual MBAs and extensive corporate experience, have crafted an event dedicated to enhancing family life. Their goal is to bridge the gap between emerging homegrown brands and discerning parents, providing a premier platform for consists beauty and a second consists and consists and consists and consists and consists and consists are consists and consists and consists are consistent as a consist of the consists and consists are consistent as a consist of the consists are consistent as a consistent as a consistent and consists are consistent as a quality brands and enthusiastic parents to connect and discover.

The exhibition features a curated selection of products catering to every child's needs. Visitors are greeted with chic clothing, innovative imaginative toys, educational tools and stylish accessories. Highlights include the Norah Kids Collection and PNK by

dresses capturing the essence of childhood wonder. Tiny COCO adds to the excitement with its chic finds for little minds, appealing to both children and their parents. Beyond shopping, the event is a celebration of creativity and fun. Children can participate in art workshops, science experiments, dynamic STEM projects and cupcake decorating. Face painting, gel nail art and a dedicated play area provide endless entertainment, while older kids enjoy exciting games. The creative free art corner stands out, allowing children to express their artistic talents and share special moments with their families. Seeing their faces light up with joy and concentration highlights the simple yet profound pleasures of childhood.

A standout feature is the face painting, adding a special touch of joy to the event. Children and mothers are thrilled to see their favourite stars and characters come to life with vibrant designs. A particularly heartwarming sight was a little girl with a doll painted on her face in sparkling glitter, capturing the fun and creativity that define the exhibition. The event also includes

free nail art by the talented Vaishali

Nagpal. Her decision to offer this service at no charge underscores the significance of such exhibitions in providing small businesses with a valuable platform. Vaishali's work adds glamour to the day and highlights how events like M-tastics play a crucial role in supporting the visibility and growth of emerging brands. This commitment enriches

the experience for all attendees. Another highlight is the variety of stalls. Rakhi stands by a motherdaughter duo buzzing with activity as children eagerly choose their favourite designs, reflecting the creativity and personal touch of the event. The Ritwik Collection, featuring handmade tote bags and file folders crafted by a mother-son duo, exemplifies collaborative creativity and practical products from small businesses. M-tastic's dedication to a holistic experience is evident in its food offerings. Healthconscious parents will appreciate the homemade bakery items and granola bites from Pinks & Grumps, crafted without preservatives. Sanchita's Gourmet Medleys provides a selection of additive-free snacks, including Nutri Hexas cheese basil crackers and Millet Murukku. This focus on wholesome, artisanal products underscores the organizer's commitment to creating a nurturing environment for families.

In essence, M-tastic's Mother & Kids Exhibition resonates with laughter, joy and discovery. It has set a new standard for family-centric celebrations and illuminated the beauty of shared experiences. Families leave with hands full of delightful finds and hearts brimming cherished memories. experiencing a renewed sense of wonder and connection. M-tastic's dedication to thoughtful curation and the joy of family moments ensures that this exhibition will be remembered as a radiant chapter in the story of family celebrations.

Discover the Depths of Abstraction

Teiinder Kanda's latest exhibition is a vivid exploration of the human psyche, inviting viewers to delve into the realm of self-discovery through a mesmerising display of abstract artistry

BY **TEAM AGENDA**

ejinder Kanda's latest exhibition, "In-Within," at the Shridharani Art Gallery. is a profound exploration of the human psyche through abstract art. Kanda, a celebrated contemporary artist known for his evocative and thoughtprovoking pieces, continues to push the boundaries of abstraction with this new series. The exhibition features 32 artworks, each painted with acrylic on canvas, offering viewers an opportunity to engage with art that is both visually stunning and deeply introspective.

Kanda's work in this exhibition showcases a mastery of abstract techniques, utilising impasto methods and a vibrant palette to create canvases that evoke a powerful emotional response. The use of impasto techniques adds a tactile dimension to his work, inviting viewers to experience the paintings not just visually, but almost physically. This adds depth and complexity, drawing the audience into the layered and textured world Kanda creates. The swirling strokes and tonal gradations are reminiscent of the Abstract Expressionist movement, echoing the work of artists like Jackson Pollock and Mark Rothko. However, Kanda's approach is distinct in its exploration of the "unidentified and unknown," pushing beyond the traditional confines of

abstraction. Kanda's versatility as an artist is evident in his wide range of influences and mediums. While this exhibition focuses on acrylic paintings, Kanda's artistic practice extends to vibrant silk-screen prints and ceramics, showcasing his ability to adapt and explore various forms of artistic expression. This diversity is a monument to Kanda's commitment to exploring the creative process in its many facets, providing a richer context for understanding his work. It also speaks to his broader artistic philosophy that art is not confined to a single medium or style, but is a continually evolving dialogue between artist, material,

and audience.

The palette in "In-Within" is

notably varied, ranging from earthy tones of reds and browns

to cool blues, purples and greens. This wide spectrum of color not

only reflects Kanda's skillful use of

color theory but also the

emotional depth of his work. He

also incorporates pinks, pastels and yellows, which are traditionally seen as more feminine colors. However, Kanda

employs them with a vigorous

application and powerful strokes

that inject a masculine energy

into his paintings, subverting

traditional color associations.























This interplay of color and technique creates a dynamic tension in the artwork, allowing viewers to experience a range of emotions from calmness and contentment to intensity and excitement.

One of the most compelling aspects of Kanda's work is his ability to capture the passage of time and emotion. The fluid application of watered-down acrylics allows him to layer colors in a way that reflects his emotions and thoughts at the moment of creation. This technique gives his work a sense of immediacy and authenticity, inviting viewers to

connect with emotional journey. It's as if each painting captures a fleeting moment in Kanda's personal exploration of his own psyche, offering a glimpse into his inner

world. The exhibition is curated by Georgina Maddox, who highlights the transformative power of abstraction in Kanda's work. Maddox emphasises how abstraction goes beyond the physical realm, allowing viewers to connect with the intangible essence of the world. In this regard, Kanda's work invites the audience to engage in a shared journey of self-discovery. His art dissolves the boundaries between the physical and the metaphysical, revealing the true essence of the human experience. In "In-Within," Tejinder Kanda offers more than just an art exhibition; he provides a profound and introspective experience that invites viewers to look beyond the surface and engage with the deeper layers of meaning and emotion embedded in his work. This series represents a significant milestone in Kanda's artistic journey, as he delves into the depths of his psyche, translating his internal exploration into a visually stunning and emotive body of work. The exhibition is a tribute to Kanda's skill and creativity, offering a compelling exploration of the human condition that is both intimate and universal. "In-Within" offers a unique opportunity to experience the transformative power of abstract art in a profoundly personal and meaningful way.

NDA govt to continue on path laid down in last 10 yrs: Goyal

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Saturday said that Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led NDA government will continue on the path that it laid down over the last 10 years and assured the market not to worry over it being a coalition government.

Speaking at an event here, Goyal also sounded optimistic about India becoming a US\$ 5trillion economy within the third term of the Modi Government.

"Let me assure you that this is certainly a strong coalition government. All our partners are very strongly aligned with us. And you have absolutely no reason to worry of any uncertainties or any other," Goyal said.

For the next five years, the minister said, "This will be a strong government, which will focus on the nation first, which

The government is likely to

take a decision on increasing the minimum selling price

PNS MUMBAI



For the next five years, the minister said, "This will be a strong government, which will focus on the nation first, which will work for national interests and will never have to compromise on our principles"

will work for national interests and will never have to compromise on our principles."

against corruption will also

hike in coming days: Food Secy

Secretary Sanjeev Chopra said

Speaking on the sidelines of

a conference organised by All India Sugar Trade Association

on Saturday.

SUGAR & BIOENERGY

CONCLAVE

The most anticipated event of the year starts today!

(MSP) of sugar within the next few days, Union Food discussing the MSP (proposal).

ICICI Bank Q1 profit rises

10% to Rs 11,696 cr

Get ready for exciting sessions, networking, & a grand evening of ente

Govt to decide on sugar MSP

The government's fight

remain strong and India's position in the world will also grow stronger going forward, he

"As far as the priorities of this

In the coming days, we will hopefully take a call."

MSP of sugar has remained

unchanged at Rs 31 per kg since 2019, despite annual hikes in the fair and remunerative price

(FRP) paid to sugarcane farm-

ers. Industry bodies, including National Federation of

Cooperative Sugar Factories

(NFCSF), have urged the gov-

ernment to raise the MSP to at

least Rs 42 per kg to help mills

sustain operations amid rising

production costs. Chopra noted

that sugar production for the

2024-25 season (October-

September) looks promising,

with the area sown to sugarcane

increasing to 58 lakh hectare so

far from 57 lakh hectare during

For the 2023-24 season,

sugar production is estimated

at 32 million tonne, lower

than 32.8 million tonne in the

previous season, but sufficient

to meet the domestic demand

Expressing optimism in steel

demand amid headwinds, a

senior central government offi-

cial said on Saturday that the

domestic production is likely to

cross 300 million tonnes by

The ministry also does not

foresee any hurdles in capaci-

ty addition due to decarboni-

sation efforts in the steel sec-

tor and will soon release a draft

roadmap seeking public opin-

ion to reduce the carbon foot-

print in the steel sector, which

accounts for 12 per cent of total

emissions, Steel Secretary

remains strong with infrastruc-

ture push from the government

The current steel demand

Nagaendra Nath Sinha said.

of 27 million tonne.

the same period last year.

think it will be a government which will continue on the path that we have laid down over the last 10 years. So, you look at our story of 10 years and look at the direction that this budget is placed before all," Goyal stated. Stating that one thinks big, unless one has whole targets to achieve one can never go for transformational outcomes or big outcomes, he said, "I'm glad that the nation as a whole has decided to progress from 3.5trillion dollar economy, now the fifth largest in the world, to 5-trillion dollar. He said that in his own esti-

mate, the target of US\$ 5-trillion will happen "within the third term of the Modi government, possibly the next threeand-a-half years. By which time (it) will also be the third largest economy in the world given that our fourth and fifth current economies are not in the best of shape".

PNS GORAKHPUR

Modi.

Union Minister of State for

Finance Pankaj Chaudhary on

Saturday said that this year's

budget is an important step towards building a new India,

and is dedicated to the vision of Prime Minister Narendra

Chaudhary, who was in

Gorakhpur on Saturday, in a post on X in Hindi, said,

"Addressed the media friends in

a specially organized press con-

ference on Budget-2024 in

Gorakhpur. This budget is an

important step towards build-

ing a new India. It is dedicated

to the vision of Hon'ble Prime

Minister Shri @narendramodi

the Circuit House, Chaudhary

emphasized that this year's

budget has been crafted by

keeping the interests of the cit-

significant relief has been pro-

vided in the tax slabs," he

said. The 2024-25 budget aims

to transform India into a devel-

also growing robustly, and with

continued emphasis on infra-

structure from both govern-

ment and private sectors, steel

demand will continue to stay strong," Sinha said, while

addressing members of the

Bharat Chamber of Commerce

Finished steel output during

(BCC).

India steel production to cross 300MT by 2030: Official

'GST has been reduced, and

izens in mind.

Speaking with reporters at

Ji and building a new India."



About 151 GW renewable capacity under implementation across nation: Joshi

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Renewable energy projects of about 151 GW capacity are under various stages of implementation in the country, Union Minister Pralhad Joshi has said.

The Minister for New and Renewable Energy further said that around 76.42 GW of renewable energy capacity will be operationalized in next 3-4

"The government is taking several initiatives to prioritise renewable energy. Nearly 151 GW of renewable projects are being implemented, and 76.42 GW will be operationalized in

'A key step towards building new India'

oped nation by 2047, focusing

on four key areas: women, the

icated to employment and

business. It is designed to

boost GDP growth and create

job opportunities, while also

further developing the educa-

tion sector. This year's budget

is inclusive of all regions and

On the comparison between

Bihar and Uttar Pradesh,

Chaudhary criticized the

opposition for not highlighting the positive aspects.

tonnes of installed capacity, a

CAGR of 12 per cent would be

From January to April 2024,

steel production was 49.5 mil-

lion tonnes, a jump of 8.5 per cent, BCC president N G

steel makers were not report-

ing production and sales data

accurately, and the ministry

feels there are gaps. He urged

Sinha also stated that some

required.

Khaitan said.

sections of society," he said.

"This budget is entirely ded-

poor, farmers, and youth.

3-4 years," he said addressing a session at 'Mercom India Renewables Summit 2024' in

the national capital on Friday. The tendering process for 76.42 GW capacity of projects has already been completed, the minister said.

The renewable energy capacity has increased over 2.5 times from 76 GW in 2014 to more than 195 GW as of June 2024, Joshi said.

The solar power capacity witnessed a steep jump from just 3 GW in 2014 to more than 85 GW now while wind power capacity increased from 21 GW to more than 46 GW,

'The overall budget has been

increased, including the

Railway Budget. The opposi-

tion should acknowledge these improvements," he said.

Pradesh has received a signif-

icant budget allocation when

The Union minister reiter-

ated that the budget has been

increased across various sec-

tors, including agriculture, education, and the military,

reinforcing the government's

commitment to comprehen-

to support policy framing.

The steel makers complain

of several headwinds like iron

ore shortage, cheap steel

imports and policy shortcom-

ings.

The steel makers of eastern

India raised serious concerns

about iron ore shortages in the

sector and suggested several

steps to address the 53 million

tonne iron ore shortage in the

concerns from the industry,

Sinha said imports in quanti-

ty are only 5 per cent of con-

sumption, but there are com-

plaints about hot-rolled coil

from Vietnam, which the

Directorate General of Trade

Remedies, under the Ministry

of Commerce and Industry,

Asked about steel import

Indian steel industry.

sive development.

analysed department-wise.

He assured that Uttar

MONEY MATTERS

NTPC Q1 profit grows 12% to over Rs 5,500 cr



tate-owned NTPC on Saturday posted 12 per cent rise in consolidated net profit at Rs 5,506.07 crore for the June quarter, mainly on the back of higher income. In the year-ago period, its net profit stood at Rs 4,907.13 crore, the company said in an exchange filing. Total income rose to Rs 48,981.68 crore from Rs

43,390.02 crore in the same period a year ago. Expenses stood at Rs 41,844.18 crore against Rs 36,963.61 crore a year ago. NTPC's consolidated power generation rose to 114 billion units (BUs) in Q1 FY25 from 104 billion units in Q1 FY24. On standalone basis, the company reported a net profit of Rs 4,511 crore, around 11 per cent higher as against Rs 4,066 crore in the year-ago period. Total income was at Rs 45,053 crore as against Rs 39,681 crore in April-June 2023-24. The company's standalone power generation was at 98 billion units, higher from 88 billion units in the year-ago period.

PNB records its highest ever quarterly profit of Rs 3,252 cr



(PNB) on Saturday reported its highest ever quarterly standalone profit at Rs 3,252 crore in April-June FY25 helped by decline in bad loans and improvement in interest income. The state-owned bank had posted a net profit of Rs 1,255 crore in June quarter FY24. This is the

recorded by the bank on account of improvement in various



Laboratorie s on Saturday said profit after tax dropped 1,392 crore for

2024. The drug major had reported a profit after tax (PAT) of Rs 1,402 crore in the April-June quarter of last fiscal. Revenue crore for the first quarter against Rs 6 738



highest ever quarterly profit

parameters, including net interest income, recovery and CASA, Managing Director Atul Kumar Goel said. Total income in the quarter rose to Rs 32,166 crore from Rs 28,579 crore in the same period a year ago. The lender's interest income also increased to Rs 28,556 crore from Rs 25,145 crore in the same quarter a year ago, as per a regulatory filing. Net Interest Income (NII) increased to Rs 10,476 crore in Q1 FY25 from Rs 9,504 crore earlier, showing an improvement of 10.23 per cent.

Dr Reddy's Q1 profit dips marginally to Rs 1,392 cr

its consolidated marginally to Rs the first quarter

crore in the year-ago period, Dr Reddy's Laboratories said in a regulatory filing. "We had a good start to the new fiscal year and our growth & profitability were mainly driven by our generics business," Dr Reddy's Co-Chairman and MD, G V Prasad said. The company continues to strengthen its core businesses and have made strategic investments in biologics, consumer healthcare and innovation to drive patient impact and value creation, he added. North American generics business revenues rose by 20 per cent year on year to Rs 3,846 crore for the first quarter as against Rs 3,200 crore in

More than 5 cr ITRs filed so far this fiscal

PNS NEW DELHI

The income tax department on Saturday said more than 5 crore I-T returns have been filed on the e-filing portal, an 8 per cent increase over last year.

uninterrupted services and the company has assured uninterrupted services during the e-filing peak period.

"More than 5 crore ITRs for AY 2024-25 have already been received on the e-filing portal

It further said that Infosys of the Income Tax Department has been instructed to ensure till 26th of July 2024.

NIT No: 03/VET/KPZ/ GHMC/24, Hem No.1, Dt: 27.07.24 Name of the work: Supply of food and other ingredients for the year 2024-2025 pertaining mates), which reflects an

Sawant told a Niti Aayog

Sawant said the GSDP of the smallest state has swelled to Rs 74,157.92 crore in 2020-21 from Rs 38,120.02 crore in 2013-14 and Goa has emerged as the most preferred international tourist destination. "The per capita income of Goa has increased manifold from Rs 2,41,893 in the year 2013-14 to Rs 5,96,260 in 2022-23 (Q)," the chief minister told

the 9th governing council meeting of the think tank, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Goa's GSDP at current

prices for the year 2022-23 (Quick Estimates) is Rs 93,672.38 crore compared to Rs 84,266.24 crore in the year

11.16 per cent growth as against 13.63 per cent in 2021-22, the chief minister stated. Sawant recalled Prime

Minister Narendra Modi's remarks at the 8th governing council meeting wherein he had urged states to strive towards doubling their GDP.

sure to state that, in the centennial year of Independence, Goa is poised to have its GSDP increased by two-anda-half times," he said. Sawant said Goa has become a tourist hub for international festivals and events, emerging as the most preferred international

Sawant stated India has emerged as the medical tourism hub of the world providing cost-effective treatments with the latest technology enabled by several path-breaking reforms and provisions.

🔞 GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION 🚙 TENDER NOTIFICATION NIT Nes, 03/VETIKP2/GHMC74, Item No. 1 to 3 Dt. 27.07.202 Online lander are invited through www.aprecurement.telangana.gov.in by the Deputy Directo (Veterinary Section), Kukatpolly Zone GHVIC for the following worksisenice for the year 2024-2025.

to Veterinary Section, Kukatpally Zone, GHMC. Estimated Cost: Rs.35,95,333f-NIT No: 03/VET/KPZ/GHMC/24, Item No.2, Dt: 27.07.24

Name of the work: Supply of medicine and vaccines for the year 2024-2025 pertaining to Veterinary Section, Kukatpally Zone, GHIVC. Estimated Cost: Rs.31,11,8544-NIT No: 03/VET/KPZ/GHMC/24, Hem No.3, Dt: 27.07.24

Name of the work: Supply of surgical equipments & other material for the year 2024-2025 pertaining to Veterinary Section, Kukatpally Zone, GHMC. Estimated Cost: Rs.35,47,360F Date & Time of tender schedule: 29-07-2024 at 10.30 A.M. to 02.08.2024 upto 4.00 P.M. Name & Address Officer: Dr. C. Sukunandan Reddy, Deputy Director, Veterinar

Section, Kukatpally Zone, GHMC. Mobile: 9989930359. (This has the approval of the Zonal Commissioner, Kukatpally Zone, GHMC)

Sd/- Deputy Director, Veterinary Section

HYDERABAD METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

(Lr. No. SML0200009136345/CLU/PIg/TG-iPASS/HMDA/2024 dt:20.07.2024 In exercise of powers conferred by Sub-Section (3) of Section 15 of HMDA Act 2008, it is proposed to make the following changes to the land use in the Notified Metropolitan Development Plan MDP-2031 approved by the Government vide G.O.Ms.No.33, MA & UD

Public Notification U/s. 15 (3) of HMDA Act. 2000

The site in Sy.Nos. 246/A/2/1/2, 246/A/1/1/2/2, 246/E/1/1/1/2, 246/A/2. 246/E/2 246/E/1/1/1/12, 246/E/1/1/1/1/2, 246/A/1/2 situated at Kesavaram (V), Shamirpet (M) Medichal District to an extent of 8194.40Sq. mts which is presently earmarked for Conservatio use zone in the MDP-2031 notified vide G.O.Ms.No.33, MA & UD. dt:24.01.2013 is now proposed to be designated as Manufacturing Use zone for setting up unit for Manufacturing of UPVC Pipes & HDPE And DWC Pipes under 'Green category...

The details of the above are available in Websites http://gezette.telangana.gov.in// and http://hmda.gov.in//. Objections/Suggestions would be considered from any person or body it the said proposals. They can submit objections / suggestions in writing either to the M.C. HMDA or to Principal Secretary to Government, MA & UD Dept., Telangana Secretarial Hyderabad within Seven (7) days from the date of publication of this Notice.

R.O. No.: 243-PPICL-AGENCY/NOVT/1/2024-25

in June quarter consolidated net profit at Rs 11,695.84 The company had logged a profit of Rs 10,636.12 crore in the same period of 2023-24. On a standalone basis, the country's second-largest private sector lender reported 14.62 per cent rise in profit at Coal India arrests

ICICI Bank on Saturday

reported 9.96 per cent increase

PNS MUMBAI

declining trend in **UG** production after 14 year

PNS KOLKATA

For the first time in 14 years, Coal India Limited (CIL) reversed the declining trend in underground (UG) coal production.

The company reported an output of 26.021 million tonnes for FY 2024, surpassing the previous fiscal year's production of 25.487 MT, marking a y-o-y growth of 2.10 per cent, Chairman P M Prasad told shareholders in its latest annual report.

Modern technology and equipment have helped reverse the declining trend of output, offi-

cials said. CIL deployed six continuous miners as part of its strategy to enhance UG mechanization using mass production technology.

2023-24 was 138.5 million tonnes, up 12.4 per cent yearand expecting a growth of about 10 per cent. The GDP is on-year. To achieve 300 million period, and Rs 718.49 crore in the March quarter. India needs to avoid the Middle-Income trap: NITI document

PNS MUMBAI

Rs 11,059 crore as against Rs

9,648.2 crore in the year-ago

period. Total income rose to

Rs 45,998 crore in April-June

FY25 from Rs 38,763 crore a

year ago, as per an exchange filing by the lender. Expenses

jumped to Rs 29,973 crore

Rs 1,332.18 crore as against Rs

1,292.44 crore for the year-ago

Overall provisions came in at

from Rs 24,624 crore.

Upgrading capabilities in manufacturing and logistics and bridging the gap between rural and urban incomes are some of the structural challenges that India needs to address, according to a document prepared by NITI Aayog. In the document titled Vision for Viksit Bharat @ 2047:An Approach Paper, the Aayog said India needs to avoid the Middle-Income trap and carefully work towards breaking out of it.

This document was discussed during NITI Aayog's ninth Governing Council meeting chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. It noted that the country needs to achieve a balance between energy, security, access, affordability and sus-

tainibility. The document said improving the competitiveness of



The document said improving the competitiveness of industry is equally necessary for the transformation of the country's agricultural workforce into an industrial workforce and making India a global manufacturing and service hub

industry is equally necessary for the transformation of the country's agricultural workforce into an industrial workforce and making India a global manufacturing and service hub.

Noting that a vision for India

cannot be the work of a few

individuals or of one govern-

to be the result of the collective efforts of the entire nation. According to the document, India is at a turning point in its history and the 21st century can be India's century, as the country pole-vaults into the future confident of its capabilities.

ment, the document said it has

Goa's per capita income has increased manifold: CM

PNS PANAJI

Goa's per capita income has increased to Rs 5,96,260 in 2022-23 from Rs 2,41,893 in the year 2013-14, portraying a robust and healthy economy, Chief Minister Pramod meeting in Delhi on Saturday.

2021-22 (provisional esti-

"It gives me immense plea-

tourist destination. "Goa witnessed a footfall of 88.46 lakh tourists in 2023-24 of which 4.14 lakh were international tourists," he said.

a the pioneer of the

"It is not part of a true culture to tame tigers, any more than it is to make sheep ferocious"



Image Source: Ministry of Information and Broadcasting on X post

Forests, which are essential carbon sinks and wildlife habitats, play a crucial role in combating climate change.

Strengthening tiger conservation programs is vital to protect their ecosystems, benefiting both tigers and humans, writes

BK SINGH on the eve of

International Tiger Day

DON'T LETTHE ROAR DIE DOWN

cientific studies have consistently brought out that the planet Earth is warming at a faster pace than ever before. The report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has warned of the consequences of frequent and destructive climatic catastrophes if the global rise in temperature is not contained within 1.5 degrees Celsius concerning pre-industrial (1850–1900 levels). Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S) dealing with the European Union's 'earth observation program' launched in January 2023, has recently taken stock of the project and found that June 2024 marks the 13th month of global temperature at 1.50 C above pre industrial levels. The monthly average surface air temperature from June 2023 to June 2024 was 16 660C and w .760C higher than the average for 1991-2020 and 1.640C above pre industrial 1850-1900 levels. So far 2023 has been the warmest year on record, but 2024 is on course to break this.

We are left with no option but to transition away from fossil fuel consumption and develop renewable energy with speed and scale. Forests are the biggest carbon sink that can suck CO2 emitted into the atmosphere due to industrial activities and fossil fuel burning. It is the home of wild animals. Forests not only provide food and shelter to wild animals but also provide a series of ecological services necessary for the survival of mankind. Tiger is at the apex of wild animals. If a tiger is saved, other wild animals and the forests are secure. Project Tiger was launched in India in 1973 by the then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi covering nine tigerbearing areas extending over 16338 sq km of good quality forests across the country namely Corbett, Kaziranga, Melghat, Bandipur etc. Since then many more areas have been added to the list and by now there are 53 Tiger Reserves (TRs) in India. To commemorate 50 years of Project Tiger an international conference was held at Mysuru on 9th April 2023, which was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The most important takeaway of the conference was the launch of the international big cat alliance to protect seven species namely tiger, leopard, jaguar, lion, snow leopard, puma and cheetah worldwide. Among 94 member countries harbouring these species, the Ministers from India, Ārmenia, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Suriname. Tanzania, Vientiane, and Vietnam presented the status of conservation of big cat species in

their country. They also pledged

to conserve the species. Forests

and wildlife have a symbiotic

relationship and both cannot

survive without the other.



INTERNATIONAL TIGER DAY

BK SINGH

PROJECT TIGER WAS LAUNCHED IN INDIA IN 1973 BY THE THEN PRIME MINISTER INDIRA GANDHI COVERING NINE TIGER-**BEARING AREAS** EXTENDING OVER 16338 SQ KM OF GOOD QUALITY FORESTS ACROSS THE COUNTRY NAMELY CORBETT, KAZIRANGA, MELGHAT, BANDIPUR ETC. SINCE THEN MANY MORE AREAS HAVE BEEN ADDED TO THE LIST AND BY NOW THERE ARE 53 TIGER RESERVES (TRS) IN INDIA. TO **COMMEMORATE 50** YEARS OF PROJECT TIGER AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE WAS HELD AT MYSURU ON 9TH APRIL 2023, WHICH WAS **INAUGURATED BY**

NARENDRA MODI

PRIME MINISTER

In this long journey of 50 years, the Project tiger coverage has been increased from 9 to 53 sites. The area under Project Tiger management has also been increased from 16338 sq km to 75000 sq km. Though tiger security was the focus in all 53 tiger reserves of the country, aggressive activities of interstate poaching gangs who killed tigers at will and decimated tigers from many reserves namely Sariska (Rajasthan), Panna (Madhya Pradesh), Buxa (West Bengal), Namdapha and Kamlang (Arunachal Pradesh) and Dampa (Mizoram). Project Tiger was revamped when the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) was brought in 2006 and enabling the Wildlife (Protection) Act through amendment. A robust methodology for All India Tiger estimation was developed by our Scientists at the Wildlife Institute of India and experts from NTCA and used for tiger estimation in the same year. First firstever exercise was carried out in all forest areas of the country, which revealed that India had 1411 tigers in the wild. Thereafter the estimation was repeated every four years that was in 2010, 2014, 2018 and 2022 which brought out the tiger numbers as 1710, 2226, 2967 and 3682 respectively.

An increasing trend in tiger numbers has been noticed, but the most worrying part that surfaced was the shrinkage in the areas of tiger occupancy. Though the recovery of tigers has grown from 1411 to 3682, the area of its occupancy has declined. From 92,000 sq km area in the first cycle of estimation in 2006, it has been reduced to 88,000 sq km in the fourth cycle in 2018. Despite all stringent measures the fragmentation of habitats and encroachments in forest lands have continued resulting in the loss of tiger-occupied areas. The western Ghats landscape itself has lost 527 sq km of tiger occupancy in four years between 2014 and 2018. North northeastern part of the country has lost more than 6000 sq km area under tiger occupancy in this period. Survey of India biannual report,

Survey of India biannual report, which was last published in 2021 has assessed the change in forest cover of all tiger reserves over a decade (from 2011 to 2021). The report brings out that the forest cover has decreased by 22.62 sq km (0.04%) in this period. Twenty tiger reserves have gained in forest cover, while the remaining 33 have lost. While Buxa (West Bengal, Annamalai (Tamil Nadu) and Indravati (Chhattisgarh) have gained,

Kawal (Telangana), Bhadra

about the Western Ghats landscape reads, "Majority of tiger populations remain stable and some have declined, a significant reduction of tiger occupancy has been observed throughout the landscape." Central Indian Highlands and Eastern Ghats landscape are reported to have added tigers but several threats are looming large; The report adds "High concentration of mining activity poses a significant challenge to conservation. The forests of this region are under threat from various activities, despite their high biodiversity and conservation significance. - Tiger occupancy declined in states of Jharkhand, Odisha, Chhattisgarh and Telangana." The description from the north eastern landscape is no different. It indicates some major threats the region is facing "The landscape has experienced extensive change in landuse patterns in the past, leading to severe loss of natural habitat." Overall, the report is positive about the increase in tiger numbers from 2967 to at least 3167; the loss in the Western Ghats

landscape has been wiped out by the gains in the central Indian landscape. Human-carnivore conflict is prevalent in several landscapes, especially where buffer forests are disturbed due to human and livestock presence. When an area of occupancy decreases and the number increases, tigers are bound to stray outside the reserve and come in conflict with humans. Forest department faces challenges across the tiger landscapes; the conflicts can disturb the relationship with communities. The country should pledge to focus on conservation even outside tiger reserves. Diversion of natural forests, whether inside or outside the tiger reserve is detrimental to conservation. There is a mechanism for paying

compensation for the loss of human life as well as livestock, but the community has to be taken in confidence.Losing tigers would mean losing tree cover and vice versa. Loss of forest cover is the loss of sink for Carbon dioxide and further warming of the planet.

The writer is retired Principal Chief Conservator of Forests Karnataka; views are personalK



HYDERABAD | SUNDAY | JULY 28, 2024

MEDITERRANEAN WONDERS MARRIED TO MAGIC OF MIXOLO

AARTI SREENATH

ucked away in the heart of Hyderabad, beneath the sprawling embrace of a magnificent Banyan tree, lies Olive Bistro, a sanctuary where culinary magic and time itself seem to pause. This alfresco haven transcends the ordinary, inviting guests into a world where every meal is a timeless adventure and the outside world's chaos melts

into distant memory.
Chef Dhruv Oberoi, a maestro of progressive Mediterranean cuisine, orchestrated a menu that was both innovative and rooted in tradition. Each dish was a proof of his allegiance to local, seasonal produce and sustainable practices. The pop-up experience, beginning from July 22 to August 31, promises to be an unforgettable experience that marries innovation and comfort with Mediterranean marvels and mixology magic. The Amla and Aam-Aada salad, a vibrant medley of amla, green mango and seasonal leaves-a refreshing start. The Aam-Aada dressing, sour cheese and poppy seed pistachios elevated this simple salad into a culinary masterpiece.

For the non-vegetarians, the Duck and Aam-Aada salad was a revelation! The smoky richness of

the duck and the crunch of poppy seed pistachios, created a harmo-nious blend of flavours that

danced on the palate.

The small plates at Olive Bistro were a celebration of culinary artistry. The Himalayan Cheese and Jamun, a delicate soufflé served with pickled jamun and candied salted walnuts, is a delightful fusion of sweet and savoury. The Goat and Aubergine, with its minced Sirohi goat and quail egg "Kuffeh" meatballs, served with smoked aubergine labneh and pickled ivy gourd, was another symphony of textures and flavours. The Seawood and Avocado dish, featuring avocado and apple in a Himalayan ginger and tahini dressing, paired with marinated seaweed and a lentil cracker, was both refreshing and satisfying! The Andaman Tuna and Seawood, amidst its fresh tuna crudo, Himalayan ginger and tahini dressing, served with marinated seaweed and a lentil cracker, was a demonstration to the chef's ability to highlight the purity of each ingredient.

The main courses at Olive Bistro

were nothing short of spectacular. The Tahini and Sea Bass, featuring tahini miso-baked Chilean sea bass, smoked root puree and

crispy

buckwheat, was a delicate balance of flavours and textures. The Chef's Edition pasta was a must-try! The Algae and Pici, with their hand-rolled thick spaghetti cooked in a seaweed beurre blanc emulsion, topped with a fried egg, were both luxurious and comforting. The
Cuttlefish and Pici, with its charred squid and Goan chorizo creme, was a bold and adventurous dish that left a

> lasting impression. No meal at Olive Bistro was complete without indulging in their decadent desserts. Jamun and Almonds, a caramelised Basque cheesecake

baked with almond frangipane, served with iamun compote and almond turron crunch, was a sweet symphony that ends

the meal on a high note. The Rum and Coffee Tiramisu Picnic Basket, among its coffee and rumsoaked sponge and mascarpone trifle, was a dreamy dessert that transported us to a picnic in the clouds.

Barkeep Harish Chhimwal's cocktails were the perfect accompaniment to this culinary journey! From the Hibiscus and Rosa Teq, with their tea-infused Patron Reposado and house-smoked rose cordial, to the Athena, a zesty blend of Bombay Sapphire, Funnel vermouth, lime and orange liqueur, each drink was crafted with precision and passion. The Tripoli Punch, with Patron Reposado, Italian Vermouth, hibiscus cordial and citrus zest, was a refreshing and invigorating drink that complements the rich

flavors of the food. The Olive, Hyderabad X Olive Delhi pop-up was not just a dining experience; it was a sensation that left an indelible mark on our

hyderabad 10

celebrated Chef Jameela Ghani until July 28th, 2024, at the Food Exchange. The event celebrated the rich tapestry of Lebanese cuisine, offering guests a journey through its flavours and culture. Chef Jameela who is renowned for her expertise in Syrian. Lebanese and Middle Eastern cuisine brought her culinary mastery to this event. The menu featured a diverse array of dishes, from mezze platters and grilled meats to traditional stews and flavourful vegetarian options. This culinary extravaganza highlighted Hummus, Shorbat Adas, Kusa Ma Jibin and Rubiyan Ma Fle Fle among other dishes as well as Knafae, Mahalabia and Baklava-the delectable dessert platter. The ambience at the Leban



WHAT'S NEW

PRAUSH BEAUTY

Here is an exciting way with new Praush Luxe Matte Liquid Lipsticks you can dazzle nonstop, all day long! They are extremely long lasting with a 10 hour stay, giving you a refreshing look throughout the day. The lipstick comes in 9 flattering shades to give you a flawless look for every occasion and

TYPE BEAUTY LIGHT UP LIPSTICK

World's first anti-pigmentation lipstick that also heals and hydrates lips, a smooth creamy, pigmented Light Up Lipstick will last up to 8 hours, leaving your lips totally nourished and visibly brighter!

Price: Rs 999/-



Sehzadi mini lipstick combo has

four enchanting lipstick shades Noor, Pyari, Angel and Queen from the majestic warmth of browns of the sweet allure.



The High on Shine Lipstick brings a touch of luxury to everyday wear with its mirror-shine finish. It offers a glazed-lip effect that lasts for over 6 hours without smudging or bleeding. Available in 11 diverse and intensely pigmented shades, these lipsticks provide Price: INR 410/full coverage in a single swipe.



THE BODY SHOP

This lipstick is your finishing touch, a dash of moisturisation added in no time and a quick hint of coloir applied on the way to brunch, all in one compact, travelfriendly, refillable case. The best of both worlds, this lipstick is a blend of matte and satin with a velvet finish, providing the colo8r pavoff and coverage of a heavy duty lipstick without that tacky feeling. Not too shiny, but not too matte either. Price: INR 1095/-

LOVE LOUD WITH YSL BEAUTY

In the spirit of Yves Saint Laurent, who redefined modernity with uncompromising audacity, YSL Beauty continues its mission to empower and inspire women worldwide. It's Rouge Pur Couture Lipstick is a luxurious range in bold, daring shades, tailored to complement Indian skin tones and make a powerful statement.



LIP SUEDE

Suede matte, non-

transfer formula that

delivers a weightless

dose of colour in an

easy glide-on

texture. It's so

hydrating and

wearing it.

comfortable, you

will forget you are

TAURUS Your efforts pay off, allowing you to relax. Tenacity will ensure success. Complex situations arise. Expect help from coworkers. Beware of anxiety and false friends.

GEMINI

You'll be attracted to someone with whom you'll share your thoughts. Career goals may he hard to achieve Family disputes may arise from poor communication

CANCER

Your hard work pays off. Avoid high expectations from siblings. Selfimprovement is key. Friends and relatives will help. A close friendship may become lifelong.

Siblings resolve misunderstandings. Your peculiarities will prove advantageous. Balance work and family time. Avoid seclusion. Your innovative nature enlivens life.



F00D

Must try - Himalayan

rolled thick spaghet

DECOR

Aestnetically pleasing for outdoor sitting, perfect for a

PRICE

people (approx.)

VIRGO

Minor setbacks won't hinder your progress. Face all situations calmly Help your children. Avoid ego and pride. Think positively. Charitable efforts will succeed.



Your experimental ability wins your superiors' praise. Engage with influential people to overcome negativity. Patience aids in problemsolving. Expect opposition.

LIBRA

You'll reveal your heart to

someone new. Stay calm at times of mental stress. Friends' support will help you achieve your dreams. Use your survival skills

SAGITTARIUS

Your experimental nature gains attention. Stay calm during emotional blowups. Persevere despite delayed support. Innovate to enjoy life. Focus on your

CAPRICORN

New project ideas emerge; experiment to choose the best. Minor setbacks won't deter you. Engage with influential people. Patience and tenacity aid progress.

AQUARIUS

Be open to others' ideas and consult responsibly before innovations. Proceed with long-held plans as signs are favourable. Friend support helps achieve dreams.

You might appear unreliable but remain enthusiastic. Novel ideas need coworker support. The family relies on you; expect exhaustion. Your loyalty brings support.

Peace returns with 'Prasanna Kutir' concept

SHIKHA DUGGAL

eaders, you may be surprised to learn that the worldwide wellness tourism market is currently valued at \$651 billion and that it is expected to increase at an average annual rate of 16.6% through 2027. Well, well, the industry enhances the mental, physical and emotional wellbeing of tourists while also delivering long-term advantages to the local, regional and urban economies. But let us find some spiritual solace with fresh concepts together in this piece!

Immersion in a sanctuary created to support your mind, body and spirit—you could find that a wellness retreat is the ideal location to get away from life's everyday stresses. A wellness retreat that guides you on a transformative journey of wellbeingand what if its name is connected to the tranquility you've been seeking—only seems like a cherry on the cake, is it not? "Ekaanta," that's correct, yes. Putting forward a special fusion of modern science and antique knowledge, through move-ment, energy renewal and mental calmness, you can reestablish your connection with yourself, others and the natural world in such places.

Over the past several years, there has been a noticeable increase in the popularity of travel themes that emphasise mental wellbeing, which is indicative of a larg-

er cultural movement to value self-care and mental health. But a travel trend like this encompasses a variety of activities and locations created especially to support mental, emotional and spiritual health! Two factors are driving this trend: the desire for more genuine experiences that foster a stronger sense of self and the stress and burnout that come with today's fastpaced lifestyle.

Inspired by peace and quiet, a wellness retreat embraces a mindfulness and self-discovery philosophy. Giving a posh environment where people may discover more about themselves, form deep connections and regenerate in the stunning scenery of nature—being in charge of the industry still in demand! The word Ekaanta, which means seclusion in Sanskrit, denotes a place where one can find serenity without feeling alone. These retreats' surrealistic ideas of detoxification and the allure of discovering inner peace are the reasons behind their trend.

As part of the larger movement towards holistic wellness and the pursuit of real, life-changing experiences, indigenous healing has become more and more wellknown with these getaways. These experiences offer healing methods that have been established and handed down through the decades, drawing on the wisdom and customs of indigenous cultures worldwide. Reconnecting with the land, acknowledging indigenous healing techniques and taking a holistic approach are



the driving forces behind its popularity. Whether it's the ayurvedic program for COPD, which emphasises holistic therapies to lessen symptoms for people with respiratory disorders, such as disc bulge and herniated disc, or the holistic therapies used for cardiac ailments, there is increasing interest in wellness retreats such

Now is also the perfect moment for us to present to you a very novel idea that has never been heard of in this nation before and that has also piqued our curiosity. A notion of "Prasanna Kutir!" We exclusively present to you a slice of history that will transport you to a place of mystique. It was once a center for transcendental meditation and wow, is it back? Integrating a rich

spiritual ambiance, inspired by the presence of three generations of saints who once resided in Haridwar, Ekaanta maintains the essence of the saints' kutirs, where they practiced "tap." The natural surroundings and the historical significance of the location enhance this holistic experience. And all we're doing is presenting to you its rejuvenated avatar. Modernised and influenced by the thousands of tents strewn during the Kumbh Mela — *Kutirs*' philosophy is on living simply but opulently while finding inner serenity. This shows that a spin class and a smoothie are no longer the only ways to achieve wellbeing!

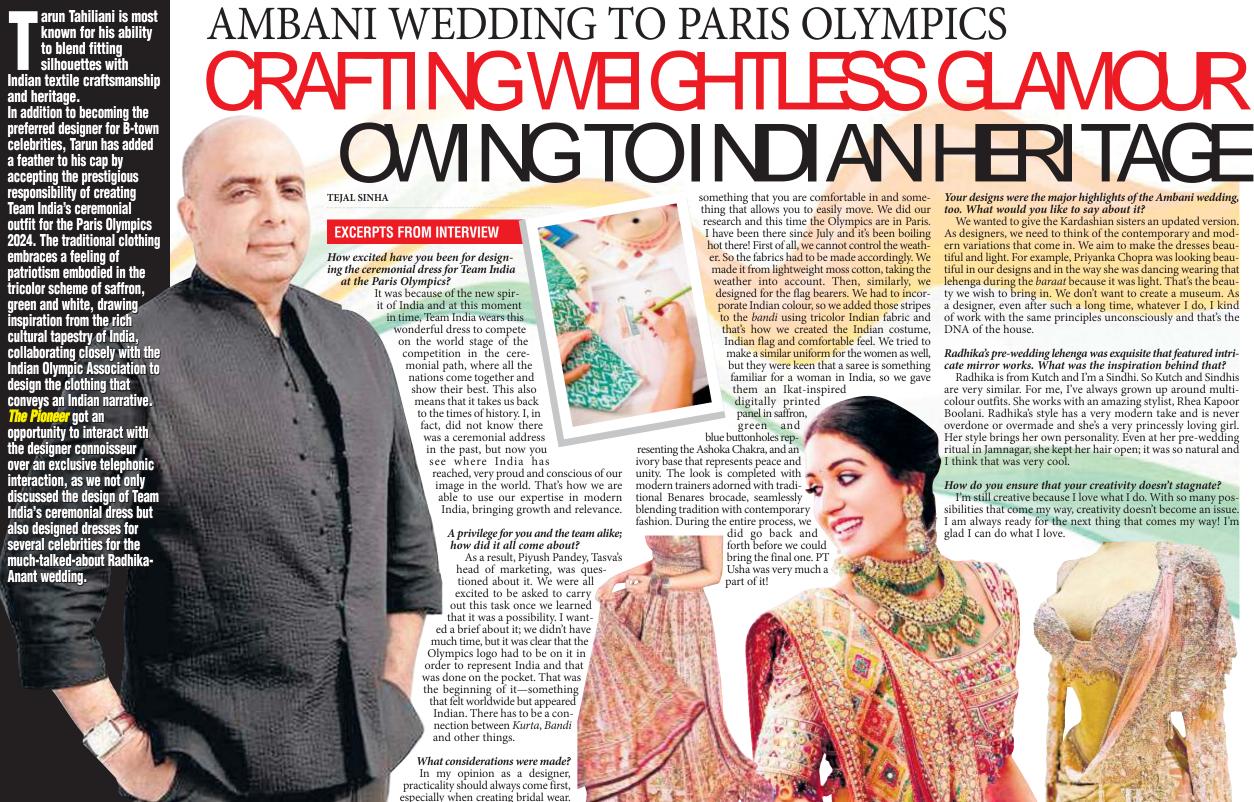
The Ekaanta concepts—that is, engaging in mindful music sessions and storytelling by the river, which foster a deeper



connection with your inner self and the environment, or experiencing the Japanese concept of forest bathing, which enhances your connection with nature and promotes mental clarity—have become the most talked-about ideas of the year.

One thing is clear from the outstanding numbers at the beginning of our read: wellness travel is popular and there are several new trends that look set to dominate the coming year and beyond!

ınday pioneer



AARTI SREENATH

power."

•n the digital age, social media has become the heartbeat of the beauty industry, breathing new life into how trends are created, shared and celebrated. To uncover the forces driving this seismic shift, we delved into conversations with industry trailblazers, influencers and brand visionaries, exploring how these virtual arenas are not just reflecting but actively reshaping the beauty landscape.

Influence of social media on beauty trends

Palak Chandel, a social media analyst, notes, "The very first thing are maybe influencers. If you have accessibility to tutorials, it helps brands to be more promoted because influencers hold a lot of

Dr. Chytra V Anand, celebrity cosmetic dermatologist founder & CEO, Kosmoderma Founder, SkinQ, adds, "Social media has revolutionised the skincare industry by making information more accessible and influencing consumer behaviour. On the positive side, people are more informed and engaged, discovering new products, routines and treatments through influencers and dermatologists. However, misinformation can spread quickly, leading to the adoption of ineffective or potentially harmful practices."

Dr. Sunil Kumar Prabhu, consultant dermatologist and aesthetic physician, Aster RV hospitals expands on this: "The immediacy with which trends can go viral has changed the way consumers engage with beauty products. However, it also places a burden on consumers to discern between genuine and misleading information." He further adds, "This speed can sometimes lead to the proliferation of unverified claims and temporary fads, which may not always be beneficial."

Kanikka Dewanii, founder & director of Mintree, underscores the role of social media in niche markets, stating, "For a boutique brand, social media has been crucial as it allows us to directly connect with our niche audience. Through targeted ads, influencer partnerships and user-generated content, it helps build a loyal community."

Sahil Gupta, CEO, Bodycraft Spa & Salon shares, "Social media's role in shap-

Click, post, glow: How social media is redefining beauty standards



ing beauty trends cannot be overstated. The platforms not only allow for the rapid dissemination of new trends but also provide a space for real-time customer feedback and engagement. This feedback loop helps refine offerings and stay aligned with consumer preferences."

Smita Vallurupalli, Founder of Old School Rituals, observes, "Posts featuring videos of creators and influencers I collaborate with tend to get the most engagement from her followers." She also highlights that minimalist skincare routines and sustainable beauty practices are currently popular trends on social media.

Role of influencers in promoting eauty trends

Naeera Charania, a beauty social media influencer and makeup artist, shared how social media has profoundly influenced her journey. "When I entered the industry, Instagram wasn't really famous. It was more about TikTok and I was fascinated by how people created such unreal makeup looks. That triggered my interest," she reflects. "At that time, I wasn't properly into makeup; I used to look at all those looks and create something avant-garde, like face painting. Also, because it was COVID, I had nothing to do except explore. So, social media did influence me a lot to get into it and I am glad I did. Seeing so many people get famous through it, I realised this is the kind of content people like, so that influenced me to create more creative

I always believe that fashion needs to be

Notable trends and viral moments

Several notable trends have emerged from social media's influence.

Discussing process for creating engaging and informative beauty content, Charania reveals, "Sometimes the ideas come through scrolling or maybe just by ooking at something random near you. Keeping the colors and music in mind, I try to create a transition or probably a tutorial on topics that engage people's attention. I try to add elements in my videos that give something of value, making them worth saving."

Challenges and solutions in social media marketing

Marketing beauty products on social media presents various challenges. Rupali Sharma, founder Aegte discusses some of these: "One major challenge is the skepticism surrounding the effectiveness of natural and vegan products. To overcome this, we focus on transparency and education. We regularly share detailed information about our product USPs, ingredients, their sourcing and the science behind their efficacy."

MALE GROOMING: A rising trend

For decades, male grooming has been a topic overshadowed by its female ounterpart. Rarely discussed openly, it is nonetheless a practice that is demonstrably on the rise. Salons traditionally catered to a predominantly female clientele and discussions about skincare routines or beard care were relegated to hushed whispers amongst men. However, a powerful shift is underway, fueled by evolving social norms, media influences and a growing understanding of the benefits of self-care.

Today, male grooming encompasses a vast spectrum of personal care routines, including skincare, haircare, beard management, and overall hygiene. The market research firm IMARC Group reports that the global male grooming market surpassed a significant milestone, reaching JS\$85.2 billion in 2023 and is projected to climb even higher, reaching US\$148.9 billion by 2032. Salons, once hesitant to cater specifically to men, are now expanding their services to meet this burgeoning demand. Even traditionally "feminine" services like manicures and pedicures are finding new customers among men seeking a complete grooming experience. The driving forces behind this market expansion include a growing focus on personal hygiene and appearance, the proliferation of specialised men's grooming products, the influence of social media and celebrities and the increasing accessibility of these products and services through various retail channels.

The benefits of this grooming revolution extend far beyond aesthetics. Studies have shown that self-care practices like maintaining a grooming routine can contribute to reduced stress and anxiety. A well-groomed appearance creates a positive first impression, which is crucial in professional settings where a polished image can be the difference between landing a job or closing a business deal.

As designers, we need to think of the contemporary and modern variations that come in. We aim to make the dresses beautiful and light. For example, Priyanka Chopra was looking beautiful in our designs and in the way she was dancing wearing that lehenga during the *baraat* because it was light. That's the beauty we wish to bring in. We don't want to create a museum. As a designer, even after such a long time, whatever I do, I kind of work with the same principles unconsciously and that's the

are very similar. For me, I've always grown up around multicolour outfits. She works with an amazing stylist, Rhea Kapoor Boolani. Radhika's style has a very modern take and is never overdone or overmade and she's a very princessly loving girl. Her style brings her own personality. Even at her pre-wedding ritual in Jamnagar, she kept her hair open; it was so natural and I think that was very cool.

sibilities that come my way, creativity doesn't become an issue. I am always ready for the next thing that comes my way! I'm



travellers during natural calamities n an era of climate uncertainty and of travellers now purchase policies, especial-increasing extreme weather events, the joy ly post-pandemic. It is advisable to disclose increasing extreme weather events, the joy of travel must be balanced with foresight

and preparedness. Going on a travel vacation is not just about exploration; it also involves anticipating the unexpected. The thrill of discovery comes with the potential for trip cancellations, medical emergencies, lost baggage and travel delays, all exacerbated by today's changing climate. Even seasoned travellers can be caught off guard by cancelled flights, flooded accommodations and impassable roads. With 1.4 million lost luggage incidents annually and the very real threat of natural disasters turning dream vacations into nightmares, the risks of modern travel have never been higher.

Benefits of having travel insurance during monsoons

As we have hit the month of July, a lot of people are already planning their mid-year travel plans. However, with late and extremely uncertain monsoons hitting India this year, it is strongly advised to travel wisely and travel insured. Travel insurance is particularly valuable during the monsoon season, offering a comprehensive safety net for travellers facing various challenges. Beyond flight-related issues, it provides coverage for personal accidents, medical emergencies and baggage delays or losses. Personal accident coverage ensures financial security for hospitalisation expenses, medical treatments and emergency evacuations resulting from accidents during the journey. Add-ons like flight delay cover and cancellation by operators protect against flight disruptions, caused by weather-related issues, easing the financial

Essential travel insurance tips

impact on trav-

ellers.

The resurgence of travel has led to a surge in demand for travel insurance, with reports showing that over 76%

any pre-existing medical conditions to the insurance company to ensure coverage in case of a medical emergency during the trip.

Know how to choose the right policy

The key to finding the right travel insurance policy is to ensure it fits one's unique needs and circumstances, providing robust protection for everything from adventurous pursuits to leisurely explorations. One should avoid settling for the first policy; instead, draw comparisons from multiple quotes from various providers, considering coverage, deductibles, and price. Before purchasing, con-sumers should check for any travel advisories or warnings issued by the government regarding the destination, as some policies may not cover areas with high security risks or during pandemics.

How do I make a travel claim?

When a consumer has to file a travel claim, it is important to act immediately and reach out to the insurance provider, highlighting the challenges. It is also important that the consumer take the necessary advice and guidance from the insurance provider, which is essential for a smoother claim settlement process. The process of filing the claim includes understanding the issue, assessing the coverage, deductibles, assistance and premiums, and thoroughly reviewing the policy's terms and conditions. It is also crucial that proper documentation is done; hence, consumers should keep records of their medical bills, police reports (in case of theft) and any other relevant documents to facilitate the claims process. Every policy comes with its own coverage limits; hence, one should be aware of these limits, especially when it comes to medical

expenses, as healthcare costs can vary significantly depending on one's location.

> (The author, Chetan Vasudeva, is the Senior Vice President of Business Development at Elephant.in.)







Shah Rukh Khan was presented with personalised gold coins by the Grevin Museum in Paris. The Bollywood actor is now the first in the museum to own gold coins.



n July 24, while attempting to take off from the airport serving Nepal's capital, Kathmandu, a civilian plane carrying 19 people went off the runway and crashed, killing at least 18 passengers.

lajh's release is officially just a few months away and to celebrate, the film's makers have released a tantalising teaser that's already making quite the stir. Just wait until you witness Janhvi Kapoor and Gulshan Devaiah in action if you thought your summer was scorching.





n July 24, the first song from Stree 2, which features Tamannaah Bhatia, was released. Her stylish fashion sense was equally impressive





HYDERABAD | SUNDAY | JULY 28, 2024

things from my childhood.

NEVER ASK FOR HELP!

In my family, I am the youngest. I have always been content with the way I tried

doing a variety of things in my own way. I never ask for assistance, since I have

been raised to believe that I could do any task given to me on my own. Even so, being the youngest member of the family, I enjoyed having those privileges to be pampered. I remember the times when my dad arrived home late at night from his

factory job, or if I saw my *bade papa*; I would cry at random and beg them to

spoil me. I was so notorious that I found it odd that my older brothers were being

beaten up, hehe! I also remember how other students used to stare at me with odd

eyes when I went to school. Still, I never gave a shit! Whenever someone asked if I

would like help in tying my laces or sharpening pencil, my conscience used to tell

tie my own laces guite early, when other kids were still learning how to do it

BORN WITH AN AFFLICTION

likes of us as 'disabled' is incorrect.

IGNORED AT TIMES

something I was meant to do. After learning

about sports quota

for the differently

abled, numerous females persuaded

I was born with an impaired forearm. While growing up, I was initially unaware of

it. Only when I used to visit parks or schools did I begin to realise gradually my

limitations. I was then somewhat immature; so, I did not know how to respond.

I will always remember that period of my life. I could tell some girls were guite

self-conscious about how they looked; perhaps, this contributed to a feeling of

did not want my appearance to be the basis for criticism! I did not want to be

labelled as 'Palak is handicapped' or have my abilities disregarded. Identifying th

There have been occasions when I was ignored because of my arm. That caused

me to become very self-conscious. It was a dance move, I recall! I was unable to participate in any sports. These factors made my childhood quite difficult for me.

TRANSFORMATION INTO CONFIDENT BACCHI

Although I was born and raised in Jalandhar, I moved to Lucknow to further my

badminton skills. My family and I are very far away from one another and we miss

each other terribly. Having grown up in a blended household, I never experienced any sense of being a 'different' child from them. They never held me to account! Punjabi blood runs in my family. It would have truly hurt my heart if someone had

Among other things, my granddad has been such a strong and encouraging figure

joint household were playing cards or cricket. I miss my mom's homemade meals

in my athletic career! My favourite weekend activities as a child growing up in a

repeatedly made me realise that I have only one functional hand. Fortunately, nobody did. I was transformed into a 'confident bacchi' by the entire family.

However, I started to sense anxiety creeping into me as I approached adolescence.

inadequacy. I started to feel like I had a responsibility to address my impairment. I

me 'no' right away. Looking back, I realised that I was one of those kids who could



PRE-PARALYMPIC SELF I guess I was a little mischievous. I feel so happy about the start of this interview; because it takes me back to my pre-paralympic self. I have been curious to try new

AT PARIS

SHIKHA DUGGAL

kay, the T20 World Cup Thailand, to know the gritty is over. Hold your year, there is a lot more to look forward to. The world's greatest spectacle, the Olympics, is about to begin!

differing abilities and accomplishments and an estimated 10 million ordinary tourists and spectators will gather in Paris for the 33rd Summer Olympic Games, which will be held for the first time in the City of Lights since 1924, from Friday, July 26, 2024, to

Approximately 10,000 athletes with

start of the Paris Olympics and Paralympics. *The* **Pioneer's Shikha Duggal** caught up with Indian paralympic athlete Palak Kohli, who won her first-ever medal at the Para-**Badminton World** Championships in

Pattaya,

Sunday, August 11, 2024.

Friday marked the formal

girl's prospects as the breath, the excitement nation awaits her *ihalak* at has not ended yet. This Paris. Of course, the young athlete is proud of her incredible return at the BWF Para-Badminton World Championships, which served as a qualifying event for the Paralympics in Paris. The para badminton path of Palak Kohli is replete with examples of her tenacity. When para badminton made its debut at the Tokyo Paralympics in 2021; Kohli, who was born with an undeveloped left arm and left leg, competed in women's doubles, mixed doubles and singles. It was an

> amazing feat for her! But she had to have emergency surgery for a bone tumour on her left ankle a year later. Even though a significant change was on the horizon, Kohli persisted in her efforts as usual. It is now over to Paris Paralympics! Palak Kohli, our special interviewee who represents India, is oozing supreme confidence.

> > Hurray!

The rest is history; the winning streak, touchwood, continues to this day. I never looked back from winning large national championships to competing in tournaments **COACH'S BACKING: FROM WAITING**

hyderabad 12

me to safeguard my future. They said, 'Go take that route! There was also another group of people that made me fearful that I would hurt my other hand. That stage of life was emotionally upsetting. I was broken on the inside. The media greatly aided me! The national coach of the Indian badminton team, who works with para athletes and I got to meet outside of a mall. It was in my ego.

My coach has witnessed the most significant, life-changing events; he was in Jalandhar for a national railway competition. I would not have been a gold-winning national paralympic athlete today if it were not for Gaurav Khanna! He has been with me through thick and thin. He used to wait outside the operation theatre and was always there for me during major surgeries and whenever I had serious injuries. He has helped me accomplish so much, from teaching me how to grip a racquet to making me a paralympian twice. He puts up a lot of effort on behalf of every para-athlete now competing for our country.

OUTSIDE OTS TO SEEING HER RECOVER

EARNING A SPOT AT THE PARIS PARALYMPICS!

After being absent from the international circuit for over a year, I had to start the tournaments over in order to earn a spot at the Paris Paralympics, which was difficult for me to do. Everyone is aware of my handicap in both my left arm and left leg. They generally aim for my rear end. For me, it is more difficult, but I am making progress. I will only be playing singles in the upcoming Paris Paralympics because I am also dealing with some obstacles in my recovery.

HARD-PRESSED FOR TIME

Playing back-to-back tournaments wears you out so much. Those from outside would say, "Whoa, Palak is visiting Japan!" Here, reality sets in, even if I am about to enjoy the time of my life! We travel overseas two days before our tournaments; so, we arrange our schedules appropriately. It's just one day, but my nation's reputation is involved; so, I have to give it my all! I barely have time to myself on Sundays; the rest of the week is spent being utterly weary. I also cannot have a lot of hobbies because that could make my injuries worse.

MAKING IT TO THE TOKYO OLYMPICS

Regarding the Tokyo Olympics, I was expected to compete for my nation in three different categories. But you have to heal in order to play the following one, right? I also suffered a calf muscle tear during that time! Still, I battled for the medal in that! Every event, after all, is a fresh opportunity for me to succeed and it has worked for me. The largest competition is the Paralympics. And I was fortunate to qualify for it when para badminton was first featured in the Paralympics in Tokyo, making it one of the tournaments that everyone hopes to compete in. Being the youngest athlete in history to qualify for the Paralympics and have it included in the games for the first time was an amazing sensation. Aside from that, I was also dealing with bone marrow edema and a leg injury that was bothering me all the time. In addition, I had three Paralympic events to compete in, which was really taxing. However, the tournament taught me a lot. It was like getting a ton of experience from playing against athletes who had been competing since before I was even born.

EXPECTATIONS AS A PARA-ATHLETE

There are so many excellent amenities for us that I got to know whenever I travelled overseas for my tournaments. They were such a helping hand, whether they were Chinese or Japanese! I would like a database to keep track of the number of para-athletes in our nation so that they can be identified at an early age.

DIAGNOSIS OF BONE TUMOUR!

where I was placed first and took home three golds. And then, all of a sudden; my injuries grew worse and an additional diagnosis of a bone tumour was made. I had to go through a very trying time in my life, requiring emergency surgery and bed rest, after which I returned this year to resume my tournament career in April and finish with over 10 international medals. I was terrified to have surgery because I was so nervous. My family was astounded by how quickly things transpired that day. The issue might have gotten worse if I had not decided to get the surgery. I

had nothing left to do. Overall, I think it has gone really well. I believe that I would dedicate this year to making a return to this place, where I was informed by the best surgeons and doctors that I would never be able to resume my sport. Additionally, I find it challenging because there have been numerous issues. Both the tumour and my operation are to

LIFE POST BONE TUMOUR SURGERY

I love being here in Lucknow. The academy athletes would come home after the sessions. Everybody used to get coffee from my mom and we would play cards, have fun and chat. They would grab juice or coconut water for me on their way over. They would always video-call me while they were on their way to a tournament. The foot is smaller now. I now have to wear a six-size shoe on my right foot and a 3.5-size shoe on my left. We decided on some bespoke ankle support and shoes, which help me keep my balance on the court and prevent my ankle from twisting. Every evening, I get a separate strengthening session in

addition to my rehab session. Because the right leg must compensate for the left leg's burden, we want to strengthen it. I need to focus on strengthening my back because I walk with a tiny limp, which has caused back issues. The posture has also altered as a result. It is challenging and complex, but I cannot really complain.

DESTINED TO PLAY BADMINTON I was destined to learn badminton! When I took to badminton, many people attempted to discourage me from playing the game. But then something quite startling occurred in my life: I realised that playing badminton was

PINCH ME MOMENT OF LIFE: When I was back on the podium after a bone tumour! LATEST THING I DISCOVERED ABOUT MYSELF: Rehab and strengthening sessions AN ATHLETE WHO INSPIRES YOU: Calvin Carrie PROUDEST MOMENT OF YOUR CAREER: Qualifying for the Paris Olympics **FAVOURITE**

CITY/COUNTRY TO LIVE IN: Paris

RAPID FIRE

HERBALIFE

PHITION FOR THE 4 HOUR ATHLETE