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TO BOOST COLLABORATION IN CRITICAL MINERAL SUPPLY CHAINS





QUOTE OF THE DAY the pioneer Hyderabad's real estate business was destroyed by the policies of the Congress government. The economy of Telangana has been destroyed. It is not proper for the Congress government to adopt a stubborn attitude without thinking of its consequences. The BJP is opposing this attitude of the government. We are preparing an action plan against HYDRAA demolitions under the leadership of Telangana BJP president G. Kishan Reddy. The BJP is going to fight for the poor. It will fight till the government comes down - Bandi Sanjay Kumar,

Defunct fountains reducing ...

If you have seen the iconic movie 'Nikaah', starring Salma Agha and Raj Babbar, which was released in 1982, then you must have seen beautiful fountains in the backdrop of one of the scenes of the movie. Yes, this beautiful scene was shot at Osmania University (OU) main building. But, now those beautiful fountains are defunct, reducing the beauty quotient at Osmania University (OU) campus. For students who studied here in the past, studying at present and to thousands who throng the university in the mornings and evenings for a stroll, the

Kharge vows not to die till PM..

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge vowed to fight for the restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, asserting that he would remain active in politics until Prime Minister Narendra Modi is ousted from power. Kharge's remarks came amid criticism of the BJP-led government at the Centre for its handling of the Union territory, particularly regarding the delay of elections. "We will fight to restore statehood. We are not going to

Govt considering foreign investment...

The government is considering setting up a foreign investment regulatory mechanism for postinvestment review and monitoring in the country, according to sources. At present, the ation is at the di level only, they added. "It has been observed that all countries do oversight on the FDI (foreign direct investment), which is coming into their country. People suggest that in India also, there should be an oversight mechanism. It's a kind of oversight on money, which is coming up in the...

-PAGE: 8

Indian shooters win two gold...

Indian shooters began their ISSF Junior World Championship (Rifle/Pistol/Shotgun) campaign in Peru on a good note, winning team gold in men's and women's 10m air pistol events, though a potential top-podium finish was lost in the individual category after a marksman was docked two points for reporting late for the final The junior men's trio of Umesh Choudhary, Pradhyumn Singh and Mukesh Nelavall topped the men's team competition in 10m air.

Govt likely to slow down HYDRAA's demolition drive



Builders are doing business in the name of poor: Bhatti

PNS HYDERABAD

Alleging that builders are doing business in the name of the poor in the state, Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka said that steps are being taken to rehabilitate the people displaced by the Musi clean-up programme. He said the government's responsibility is to protect the assets and lives of the people and as part of it it will protect the lakes to preserve them for future generations. The Telugu community of San Francisco in the US organised a meeting on Sunday. Attending the meeting, Bhatti said that illegal buildings are being demolished in Hyderabad. Hundreds of ponds and other water bodies have disappeared in Hyderabad, he said.

He said his government's idea is to stop the ponds from being encroached **Continued on Page 5**



The Congress government may slow down the speed of HYDRAA demolitions. One can understand this from the statements of IT Minister D. Sridhar Babu and Khairatabad MLA Danam Nagender.

Protests began against HYDRAA after the demolition of illegal structures started affecting commoners. The people are now angry with HYDRAA as although officials said that they will not trouble commoners, they are demolishing the houses of the poor without issuing any warning.

HYDRAA did not demolish houses on Saturday

and Sunday although officials have been saying that they are conducting surveys for demolitions. This means that the government has applied the brakes on HYDRAA moves. However, IT Minister D. Sridhar Babu said on Sunday that the government will focus on the Musi River Development Project to make it a growth corridor.

Meanwhile, Danam Nagender said on Sunday that he had asked HYDRAA in the beginning not to touch slums and that it is not right to demolish the house es of the poor. There are many illegal buildings like I-MAX and Jalavihar that can be demolished. He said that he will write a letter to the CM regarding this.

Although people hailed HYDRAA in the beginning for demolishing buildings like N-Convention, protests started when HYDRAA Continued on Page 5



Everybody thought HYDRAA will go after bigwigs'

Union Minister of State for Home Affairs Bandi Sanjay Kumar said that everybody expected in the beginning that HYDRAA would demolish the illegal buildings of bigwigs, however, HYDRAA is now demolishing only the houses
Continued on Page 5



Union Minister

Will cleanse TG revenue system: Ponguleti

PNS HYDERABAD

Declaring that the Congress government will do justice to farmers and stand by the poor, Revenue Minister Ponguleti Srinivas Reddy said the Congress government will cleanse

the revenue system to help the poor.
Participating as the chief guest in the 'Face-to-Face programme with 33 District Tehsildars at the NAL-SAR University in Shamirpet on Sunday, Ponguleti said that Tehsildars should ensure that government lands are not encroached.

He said the government will establish training centres for revenue employees.

The government would positively solve the problems of revenue employees. A review would be conducted with employee unions regarding the transfers of Tehsildars, the Minister said.

Public representatives and

employees should work hand in

hand to provide good services to the people and bring a good name to the government, he said. He said that the government is going to issue orders making it a

must to get the Collector's permission to file cases against Tehsildars. Ponguleti said that farmers faced

severe problems due to the BRS government's Dharani Portal. The ongress government will solve the Dharani problems of farmers, he said. He said the Revenue Department is **Continued on Page 5**

Govt will build more hospitals, strengthen healthcare facilities: CM



Chief Minister Revanth Reddy said that we will continue to build more hospitals, strengthen healthcare systems and create a society where women's health and welfare receive the utmost attention.

Megha Engineering Infrastructures Ltd (MEIL) and the

ised the 'Pink Power Run 2024' at the Gachibowli Stadium on Sunday to raise awareness about the growing incidence of breast cancer in India. During the event, the CM said, "I am proud to say that Telangana is committed to improving healthcare

BRS leader KTR warns CM Revanth **PNS** ■ HYDERABAD

BRS Working President KT Rama Rao warned Chief Minister Revanth Reddy that even his BJP friends in New Delhi will find it diffi-

cult to protect him. "Revanth might have thought that I would stop talking about his illegal acts if a legal notice is sent through his (CM's) brotherin-law Sudini Srujan Reddy," KTR said. He said the BRS will not remain silent if the CM distributes nectar to his brother-in-law and poison to the poor.

Posting on X regarding this on Sunday, KTR said, "If you send a legal notice through your brother-inlaw, do you think I will stop

talking about your illegal in the Adarsh scam. acts? We will not keep quiet Resignation is inevitable." In if you distribute nectar to your brother-in-law and poison to the poor. It is true that the Chief Minister awarded a tender valued at Rs 1,137 crore to his brother-in-law's Shodha Company. It is a fact that the Chief Minister violated Sections 7, 11 and 13 of the Prevention of Corruption Act. Shodha is a minor only a profit of Rs 2 crore in the last two years. Even

'Even your BJP friends can't save you'

your BJP friends in New Delhi will find it difficult to protect you. The judiciary is strong in this country. You have been found out like Ashok Chavan

another post on X, KTR said, "Millions of people are dying of Continued on Page 5



Rythu Deeksha to highlight govt's 'false promises', asserts BJP

ment and to make it fulfil the

Speaking to the media on Sunday

promises it had given to farmers.

at the state BJP office here along

with Malkajgiri MP Eatala Rajender,



The BJP said that the aim of its 24hour Rythu Deeksha at the Indira Park Dharna Chowk being held on Monday (September 30) is to exert Reddy said they are staging Rythu Deeksha in protest against the Congress government for deceiving farmers with false promises.

"The Congress government has been deceiving all sections of people by giving impossible promises to get votes. We are staging a protest demanding that the Congress government fulfil the assurances it had given to the people. Thousands of farmers across the state would participate in the Deeksha," Maheshwar said. Continued on Page 5

BRS inciting Musi oustees, alleges Sridhar

Says govt wants to see the Musi development as growth engine



Pointing out that the BRS is inciting Musi oustees, IT Minister D. Sridhar Babu said the Congress government wants to develop the Musi River into an

'economic growth engine' and a 'development centre?

However, the BRS is trying to make people speak against the Chief Minister and the government by giving them money. The BRS is encouraging anarchy, Sridhar said.

Addressing the media at the CLP Media Hall on Sunday along with government whip Adluri Laxmana Kumar, Sridhar said that some opportunist politicians are trying to incite the people.

'The Congress is trying to develop Hyderabad as a global city. As part of it, the govern-ment is trying to develop the Musi River area. Knowingly or unknowingly, people constructed houses in the Musi River area. The Congress will not throw the poor on to the streets. Already officials have clarified

Will fight for victims in Courts: Harish (2)



TIRUMALA SRIVARI LADDU ROW

SC to hear case today



PNS VIJAYAWADA

September 30 a batch of petitions ment regarding the use of adulter-

seeking a court-monitored investi-The Supreme Court will hear on TDP-led Andhra Pradesh govern-

dus at the Tirumala Tirupati Temple during the previous YSRCP regime. The matter is scheduled before a bench of Justices BR Gavai and KV

To summarise, the controversy stems from a lab report made public by Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, which revealed that samples of ghee supplied to the Tirupati temple for laddu preparation during the previous YSRCP government were found to contain foreign fats, including beef fat and fish oil. So far, five petitions have been filed seeking relief, including a court-monitored probe into the allegations and greater accountability in Hindu temples managed by government bodies. Continued on Page 5

Chief Minister Revanth Reddy reviewed the progress of preparing Metro Rail Phase Two DPRs (Detailed Project Reports) with senior officers of the MA & UD

Hyderabad Airport Metro Limited (HAML) MD NVS Reddy made a detailed presentation, explaining the alignment, salient features, station locations etc of the metro's second phase corridors.

The MD informed the CM that DPRs for all the corridors are being given final touches and that HAML is awaiting the traffic study report of the Comprehensive Mobility Plan (CMP) being prepared for the Hyderabad Metropolitan Area by the HMDA.

He also said that as decided in an earlier review meeting held by the CM, the Airport Metro alignment is Neopolis-11.6 km; Corridor VI:

DPRs getting final touches

Push to Metro Rail Second Phase



The CM approved the broad 13.4 km; Corridor VIII: contours of Metro Phase II corridors as under:

Corridor IV: Nagole - RGIA (Airport Corridor)-36.6 km; Corridor V: Raidurg - Kokapet

LB Nagar - Hayat Nagar-.1 km; Corridor IX: RGIA - Fourth City (Skill University)-40 km; Total-



Monday Mirchi

They say through proper negotiations even the most complex issues like war can be settled amicably. But what stands out in HYDRAA's controversial operations along the Musi River is bureaucratic bungling.
The fallout of the ongoing evictions has left
many wondering if the Municipal
Administration and Urban Development (MAUD) Department, along with District Collectors, have forgotten the standard operating procedures of rehabilitation altogether. As per norms, officials engage in multiple rounds of discussions with those set to be rehabilitated, with potential oustees being shown alternative pieces of land and offered prescribed compensation packages. Most of the SOPs were apparently given the go-by in the case of Musi evictions. A little bird told us that discussions regarding existings along the Musi had been regarding evictions along the Musi had been ongoing for four months, with officials claiming they were 'ready to move forward'. But when it came to the word 'Go' for actual evictions; only those occupying the riverbed were targeted, leaving those in the Full Tank Level (FTL) and buffer zones. Interestingly, the entire operation was based on findings of drone surveys, with no semblance of conversations with the affected people. Sources in the Chief Minister's Office said when the Chief Minister gave his nod for the evictions, the presumption was that all the SOPs had been addressed. The sting lies in the twist in the tale: residents in the FTL and buffer zones were promised compensation and 2BHK houses— even that was never communicated properly. Now, with backlash from the potential oustees amid mounting public outrage, the whispers in the corridors of power are turning toward babus' missteps. It is not that they did not know their job. The larger question is: Was there a will? After all, these are the same officials who had successfully rehabilitated lakhs of people over the last decade. Yet this time they faltered with just 16,000 people.

DIFFERING PERSPECTIVES AMONG
BUREAUCRATS ON CM
With a rather young Chief Minister ruling India's youngest state -- Telangana, there is a discernible divide among babus in the state, coupled with their differing perspectives on CM Revanth Reddy. Going by both types of babus' recent interactions with yours truly, it is evident that the younger lot see in the Chief Minister a visionary and are accordingly more willing to engage with his ideas and plans. Seasoned bureaucrats, however, have adopted a cautious approach towards the CM, largely because of hushhush discussions among them about the possibility of his being replaced any time. Hence, they are reluctant to commit fully to the government's plans. As one young bureaucrat pointed out, "Many critical issues are slowpaced by senior officials, largely due to their

reluctance to believe the security of the current CM's tenure". So, they are playing it safe and staying within their comfort zones. This conflicting approach is no doubt hampering administration. "It is a tale of two generations within the bureaucracy: one that sees a future with the CM at the helm and the other that is unsure about his tenure, another borderline babu remarked. How this internal divide will shape governance remains to be seen. Meanwhile, the writing on the wall suggests that the CM's control is only increasing by the day.

IN UNIFORM, THOUGH NOT ON DUTY AT THE SCENE

Whispers are making the rounds about Cyberabad CP Avinash Mohanty's impeccable record, though he was forced to proceed on leave when the defection drama involving Arikepudi Gandhi reached its climax. On the very day when Gandhi was headed to Padi Kaushik's place, Bharat Rashtra Samithi leaders showed up at the CP office only to be told that Avinash was 'on leave'. They then handed their letter to Joel Davis instead. But here's the kicker: Avinash, despite his official absence, was apparently in the loop, answering calls from media personnel and staying on top of the developments. Now, though tongues are wagging, no one seems to be badmouthing him, largely because of Mohanty's unsullied reputation. After all, it is whispered, he has stood his ground against former chief minister K Chandrasekhar Rao in the past. The latest incident makes one wonder whether his 'leaving' the scene was just a coincidence or is there more to it than meets the eye. Whatever it be, whenever the defection episode comes up, reference to Avinash Mohanty follows invariably.

WASHING INFORMATION COMMISSION'S DIRTY LINEN IN PUBLIC

The authorities at the office of Andhra Pradesh Information Commission have begun washing their dirty linen in public, apparently due to a rift between the RTI Chief Commissioner and a few of the Commissioners. Matters came to a head when RTI Chief Commissioner R Mehboob Basha reportedly issued a circular placing restrictions on some of the Commissioners, virtually 'insulting' them. Presently, Andhra Pradesh RTI Commissioners are P Samuel Jonathan, Chavali Sunil, Rehana Begum, and Ellareddy Uday Bhaskar Reddy -- appointed during the erstwhile YSRCP regime.

The Chief Commissioner has justified the circular, stating that some of the Commissioners are enjoying their salaries and perks without even coming to office or choosing to drop in as per their whims and fancies. As per the circular, among other things, their salaries will be determined strictly on the basis of their attendance

--Yours truly

MUSI PROJECT OUSTEES

Will fight for victims in Courts

PNS HYDERABAD

BRS MLA Harish Rao told people living near the Musi River that the BRS will fight for them in court.

As the government is marking houses for demolishing them for the Musi River Development Project (MRDP), many people are opposing the project. Along with Harish Rao, many other BRS leaders met the victims of the project at Langer Houz on Sunday.

Harish said that the CM Revanth Reddy, is unnecessarily proceeding with the Musi project. All houses will be demolished and our lands will be 'handed over' to the World Bank. "Will you beautify Musi with the blood



and tears of the poor?" Harish asked. He said there are many issues other than Musi River

beautification. "The six guarantees have not been implemented. But why are you carrying out

these demolitions," Harish said. "For whom are you executing this project? Whose hands are the CM. He said that KCR constructed but Revanth has been demolishing. During election campaigns in other states, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said the bulldozer kingdom will not work.

"But in Hyderabad, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy brought goonda raj. The Congress should remove the hand symbol and replace it with the bulldozer," he said.

People have been staying here for the last 30 years. They have built houses during the previous Congress rule also. Residents are proving all taxes to the govern paying all taxes to the government. If the government wants to file cases, register them against the officials who gave permis-

HYDRAA should have woken up a bit earlier: Danam

PNS HYDERABAD

Khairatabad MLA Danam Nagender said that if HYDRAA had woken up a bit earlier, the people would not have felt insecure. He said that small incidents bring a bad name to the government.

Addressing the media on Sunday Danam said, "It is not reasonable to demolish the houses of the poor. There are many buildings like IMAX and Jalavihar that can be demolished. Alternative arrangements should be made for Musi oustees and their houses can be demolished

later. Marking houses for demolition is a hasty act. I will write to the CM on this issue."

Targeting BRS Working President KT Rama Rao, he asked whether KTR had forgotten the statement of KCR that he would demolish illegal buildings. A fact-finding committee on HYDRAA demolitions will be set up, Danam said and added that he will ask the CM to appoint a committee for that. On HYDRAA, the government must create awareness. The permission to construct illegal buildings was given by the BRS admin.

Congress planning to use Musi clean-up to loot funds: Eatala

PNS HYDERABAD

The BJP's Malkajgiri MP, Eatala Rajender, said the Congress has prepared a plan for using the Musi River clean-up project to loot the public money.

He said the Congress government thinks that Mission Bhagiratha and Kaleshwaram Projects are over and so it dusted out the Musi cleaning project to loot money. The Congress government has been stating it will clean the Musi River with

plan of the Congress to loot the public exchequer, he said.

Addressing the media on Sunday, Eatala said that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy failed to perform as an MLA and as an MP and has no experience as a Minister. He also has no understanding about tanks and lakes, Eatala said.

"People voted Revanth Reddy to power thinking that

would make people cry. Revanth is laughing at people and their tears. He is a psycho and a sadist. His mentality does not allow him to love people. I am ready for a debate on this issue because people are experiencing pain and are now thinking why they made Revanth the CM," Eatala said. He said that people would

keep a leader in their hearts if he does good things but would he would do good things but smash him with a stone if he did harmful things.

After Yechury's death, CPM names Prakash Karat as coordinator

PNS NEW DELHI

Senior CPI(M) leader Prakash Karat will be the coordinator of the party's Politburo and Central Committee as an interim arrangement until the 24th party Congress to be held in April next year, the Left party said on Sunday. The decision comes in the

tary Sitaram Yechury's death on September 12 at the age of 72. The Central Committee of

wake of CPI(M) general secre-

the Communist Party of India (Marxist), now in session in

Woman tied to

tree, burnt

PNS AGARTALA

alive by sons

A 62-year-old woman was

tied to a tree and allegedly

burnt alive by her two sons in

West Tripura, officials said on

Sunday. Police said they have

arrested the sons, and suspect

that a family dispute might

have led to the gruesome

murder. The incident hap-

pened on Saturday night in

Champaknagar police sta-

The woman lived with her

two sons after she lost her

husband around one-and-a-

half-year ago. Her other son

Khamarbari in

tion area, they said.

lived in Agartala.

New Delhi, has decided that Comrade Prakash Karat will be the coordinator of the Polit Bureau and the Central Committee, as an interim arrangement until the 24th party Congress to be held in April 2025 at Madurai," the CPI(M) said in a statement.

This decision was taken due to the sad and sudden demise of the sitting general secretary of the CPI(M), Comrade Sitaram Yechury," it added. Karat (76), one of the seniormost leaders of the Communist Party of India

(Marxist), was its general secretary from 2005 to 2015. Karat was born on February 7, 1948 in Letpadan in present-day Myanmar, where his father, C P Nair, was employed with the Burma Railways and later, at the Burma Oil Pipeline Project.

He studied in the Madras Christian College Higher Secondary School in Chennai and later, went to the University of Edinburgh in the United Kingdom for a master's degree in politics. He became active in student politics at the university.

Cong demands FM's resignation over FIR

Slams BJP for 'undermining democracy'

PNS NEW DELHI

The Congress hit out at the BJP on Sunday after a case was lodged in Karnataka against Union Finance Minister ers on a complaint relating to the now-scrapped electoral bonds scheme, demanding her resignation and seeking an objective probe under the supervision of courts.

Addressing a press conference here along with Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh, AICC spokesperson Abhishek Singhvi said his party hopes that that through the judicial process, those involved in this "corruption" will be summoned, their statements recorded and on that basis, they will be arrested.

"All the agencies, all the official organs know very well how to proceed because they have been proceeding against a large number of political

opponents (of the BJP) in the last 11 years. They do not have to be told how to proceed.... We would certainly demand an objective probe under the courts' control but more importantly, ultimately superby the S Court or an SIT of the Supreme Court," Singhvi said.

The first need of the hour is for the legal process started by this court order to take its course and to be supervised by courts -- both the high court and ultimately, the Supreme Court -- to prevent any interference or distortion or subordination," he said. The opposition party reiterated its demand for a Supreme Court-monitored inquiry through a special investigation team (SIT) into the electoral bonds scheme.

Ramesh alleged that four ways were used to extort money through the "conspiracy of electoral bonds -- prepaid bribery, postpaid bribery, post-raid bribery and through shell companies".

Was jailed so that my work could be stopped: Kejriwal

PNS CHANDIGARH

AAP national convenor Arvind Kejriwal lashed out at the BJP-led Centre on Sunday and claimed that he was put in jail so that the work initiated by him could be stopped and also to prove him dishonest.

The former Delhi chief minister was addressing a rally in Haryana's Rewari to garner support for Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) candidate Satish Yadav in the October 5 state Assembly polls. Kejriwal was released from Delhi's Tihar Jail on September 13 after he was granted bail by the Supreme Court in a case lodged by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)linked to the alleged excise policy scam in the national

Sep 29 04:47 PM to Sep 30 07:06 PM

to Oct 01 09:39 PM

Sep 29 03:37 AM

Sep 30 06:18 AM

to Oct 01 09:16 AM

7:38 AM to 9:07 AM

10:36 AM to 12:05 PM

03:17 PM to 05:05 PM

02:04 AM to 03:52 AM

Abhijit Muhurtham: 11:42 AM to 12:29 PM

Updated: September 29, 2024 5:00 PM

HYDERABAD WEATHER

1:34 PM to 3:03 PM

to Sep 30 06:18 AM

TODAY

ALMANAC

Trayodashi:

Chaturdashi:

Nakshatram

Purva Phalguni

Rahukalam

Gulika

Yamagandam:

Forecast: Rain

Humidity: 72% Sunrise: 6:06 AM

Sunset: 6:06 PM

Temp: 32°°



Flood situation alarming in

northern West Bengal: Mamata

Alleges that Centre not assisting

capital. He was in jail for about five months.

Addressing the rally, Kejriwal said his government in Delhi built "excellent" schools and hospitals and added that around one lakh elderly people were sent on pilgrimages for free.

PNS KOLKATA/SILIGURI

West Bengal Chief Minister

Mamata Banerjee on Sunday

described the flood situation

in the northern districts as

"alarming" and claimed that

the state has been deprived

of central assistance to deal

with the natural calamity.

She said her government was dealing with the deluge

on a war footing.

"North Bengal is reeling

under flood. Districts such as

Cooch Behar, Jalpaiguri and

Alipurduar have been affect-

ed. Due to heavy rain in

catchment areas of Kosi river,

places in Bihar, and Malda

and Dakshin Dinajpur dis-

tricts of West Bengal will be

affected in the near future,"

she said on her way to Siliguri.

"(Prime Minister Narendra) Modiji felt that he (Kejriwal) is doing so much work. He won (elections) first in Delhi, then in Punjab and now, he will win in Haryana and Gujarat. Stop him, stop his work, prove him dishonest. And then they put me in jail," he said.

Chandrayaan-3 landed on oldest craters of Moon PTI, "Chandrayaan-3 landing site

India's lunar mission Chandrayaan-3 possibly landed in one of the oldest craters of the Moon, according to scientists who analysed images from the mission and satellites. The crater was formed during the Nectarian period, which dates back to 3.85 billion years and is one of the oldest time periods in the Moon's history, the team, including researchers from the Physical Research Laboratory and Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Ahmedabad, said. S Vijayan, an associate professor in the Planetary Sciences Division,

Physical Research Laboratory, told

is a unique geological setting where no other missions have gone. The images from the mission's Pragyan rover are the first on-site ones of the Moon at this latitude. They reveal how the Moon evolved over time".A crater is formed when an asteroid crashes into the surface of a larger body like a planet or a Moon, and the displaced material is called 'ejecta'.

Revealing how the Moon evolved over time, the images showed that one half of the crater was buried under material thrown out or 'ejecta' from the South Pole-Aitken basin -- the largest and most known impact basin on the Moon, the researchers said.

'It's not possible to restore Article 370 through Assembly': Ghulam Nabi Azad PNS ■ JAMMU

Democratic Progressive Azad Party chairman Ghulam Nabi Azad on Sunday said the restoration of Article 370 of the Constitution is not possible through the assembly, asking people not to get misled by "false promises" of the politicians and vote for development and progress.

Addressing a series of election rallies in support of his party's candidates in Jammu on the last day of campaigning, Azad voiced concerns over the promises made by various political parties regarding the return of Article 370 and said these promises are not grounded in reality.
"We all want the return of

Article 370, but we cannot expect anything from the BJP.



Even the Congress fails to speak on this crucial issue. It is not possible to restore Article 370 through the assembly, but we can introduce legislation to ensure that no outsider can buy land or secure jobs in our region. This was the essence of Article 370," Azad, a former chief minister,

The Democratic Progressive Azad Party (DPAP) founder said he do not "cheat, lie, or

Rahul's poll guarantees in Himachal, Karnataka came a cropper: Shah

PNS CHANDIGARH

Union Home Minister Amit Shah hit out at the Congress in poll-bound Haryana on Sunday, alleging that Rahul Gandhi's election guarantees have come a cropper in states, such as Himachal Pradesh and Karnataka, where the grand old party is in power.

Addressing a poll rally in Gurugram's Badshahpur, Shah said the Congress makes tall promises at the time of elec-But it does not fulfil those

promises, he said, adding that Gandhi's guarantees have "come a cropper" in Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka and Telangana. The Bharatiya Janata Party

(BIP) does not make a promise

that it cannot honour, Shah

"Rahul baba and company cannot undertake development" and it is the "doubleengine" government that will ensure Haryana's development,



he said, referring to the BJP being in power both at the Centre and in the state.

'We will secure the country's borders, we will protect reservations and never allow Article 370 (of the Constitution) to return," he said. After Badshahpur, Shah addressed two more rallies at Nangal Chaudhary in

Mahendragarh and Indri in Karnal district. He said he has sensed the "atmosphere" across Haryana and asserted that the BJP is set to score a "hat-trick" of poll victories in the state. The Congress can neither secure the country nor make it

developed, Shah said, targeting the opposition party over corruption, casteism, nepotism and appeasement. He dubbed the Congress as "anti-poor", "anti-Dalits", "anti-youngsters" and "anti-farmers". As some BJP rebels are con-

testing the election as independents, Shah told the gathering at Indri to cast their votes on "lotus" (the saffron party's poll symbol).

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Global South Conference

The three-day Global South Conference on Infection Prevention, Control and Antimicrobial Stewardship (G-SPARC)-2024 which will be attended by well over 1,000 delegates.

Venue

JSK Board Room, 1st Floor, in FTCCI, Federation House, Red Hills, Hyderabad September 30, 11.30am

> SERP - SARAS **Fair-2024**

People's Plaza, Hyderabad Till October 7

Dubai Proprty Show

Property experts coming to your city

ITC Kohenur, HYTEC City, Plot No. 5, Survey No. 83/1, Madhapur, Opposite Inorbit Mall October 5 and 6.

Toxic

By Abhishek Upmanyu

Shilpakala Vedika November 2

Prateek Kuhad

Slhouettes tour.

Venue

Hyderabad international convention centre November 8

City Pioneer

the pioneer

HYDERABAD MONDAY | SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

Defunct fountains reducing library, Engineering College and Chemistry department building in the campus, are now not in use beauty quotient at OU

B SRINIVAS REDDY

srinivasred84@gmail.com ■ HYDERABAD

If you have seen the iconic movie 'Nikaah', starring Salma Agha and Raj Babbar, which was released in 1982, then you must have seen beautiful fountains in the backdrop of one of the scenes of the movie.

Yes, this beautiful scene was shot at Osmania University (OU) main building. But, now those beautiful fountains are defunct, reducing the beauty quotient at Osmania University (OU) campus.

For students who studied here in the past, studying at present and to thousands who throng the university in the mornings and evenings for a stroll, the fountains in the university add beauty to the environment.

When the Pioneer visited the spot, most of the water fountains are not in a working condition and some don't have proper water connections also. All the fountains are filled with mud and rain water.

There are six big water fountains in the 1,200 acres of OU campus and these fountains were repaired just before the centenary celebrations of the university seven years ago. Huge and well-designed water fountains, set up in front of Registrar office building, Arts College, varsity library, Engineering College and Chemistry department building in the campus, are now not in use.

All the fountains were installed on the campus to enhance the beauty with the help of a sanctioned amount in the varsity budget long ago, but all the fountains became defunct. Though there is not much water required for the water fountains, as water gets recycled to change only once in a 15 days, the varsity officials said that water is not sufficient for the hostel inmates and for

27 acres of garden area during summer. The water fountains, which are located in front of the



Arts College and Engineering College, come under the removed and are replaced with new ones and new marauthorities of the respective colleges and the remaining water fountains come under the Director of Gardens and

bles were put in them. They were started just before the centenary celebrations of the varsity in 2017, but again Green Belt wing of the OU. Old water fountains have been they have been stopped for seven years.

WORLD HEART DAY

Health experts urge govt to promote health checks



PNS HYDERABAD

The health experts of Cardiology Society of India (CSI) gathered for a walk on World Heart Day to create awareness and appeal to the government to promote preventive health checks to detect early symptoms of heart disease on Sunday.

Cardiovascular diseases are the leading cause of deaths globally, claiming more lives each year than cancer, HIV, AIDS and malaria combined, said Dr Aman Salwan, president of Cardiology Society of India (CSI) - Telangana State.

Cardiovascular diseases encompass a range of conditions affecting the heart and blood vessels. It could be broadly classified as coronary artery disease (CAD), which is caused by the buildup of plaque in the coronary arteries that supply blood to the heart muscle. It can lead to chest pain (angina), heart attacks and heart fail-

Dr PC Rath, national president, Cardiology Society of India, said, "World Heart Day is commemorated on September 29 every year to emphasise keeping the heart healthy and building awareness about healthy lifestyle, physical exercise, healthy diet and avoiding smoking. This year's theme is Use Heart For

Action. I appeal to the government to promote preventive health checks to detect early symptoms of heart dis-

MRDCL likely to remove riverbed structures today

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Musi River Development Corporation Limited (MRDCL), with the help of the Revenue, Police and other departments, is likely to conduct demolitions at Musi riverbed constructions.

A source from the revenue department said that the authorities may demolish the houses of those who left from the Musi river areas and shifted to 2BHK houses.

Anudeep Durishetti said that 20 families have been shifted to 2 BHK houses from Himayat Nagar,

Malakpet and Nampally revenue mandals on Friday. A total of 151 families have been shifted to 2 BHK houses on Saturday.

These demolitions may take place at Shankar Nagar in Himayat Nagar mandal, Bhavani Nagar mandal, Rajendrangar and other mandals in Hyderabad.

The government authorities are saying that most of the people are willing to shift to 2BHK houses from Musi Hyderabad Collector riverbed. Though some of the residents are not willing to convince them to vacate the place from Musi riverbed.

Kala Mahotsav attracts crowds to Rashtrapati Nilayam

PNS HYDERABAD

Bharatiya Kala Mahotsav which began on Sunday, will continue until October 6 at Rashtrapati Nilayam.

There will be free entry for all visitors to book their tickets online. Shuttle bus service from Paradise Metro Station will be operated for visitors. The grand public opening of much-anticipated Bharatiya Kala Mahotsav at Rashtrapati Nilayam saw an overwhelming response with a huge crowd on Sunday.

which began with a dance performance 'Colors of the



the rich and diverse culture of tional dance forms from all

The State pavilions were a

major attraction, drawing large

The programme celebrated North East', showcasing tradi- crowds eager to explore and purchase local handicrafts. tic traditions of the Northeast. One of the highlights of the

day was the live demonstration zone, whose visitons had the opportunity to try their hand at various indigenous craft forms such as lotus silk weaving, pottery and basket weaving. This hands-on experience was favorite, offering a deeper appreciation of the cultural heritage of the North-

The musical performances, including electrifying sets by 6 Strings Band from Assam and Doctor and The Band from Manipur entertained the audience. Another notable attraction was the stunning Ashtalakshmi Rangoli, a beautiful visual representation of

Cases booked against 17 pubs for sound pollution

PNS HYDERABAD

The Cyberabad Police booked cases against 17 pubs and other amusement places in Hyderabad city on Saturday for causing sound pollution and not obtaining a licence for entertainment.

Cyberabad police, along with teams and the Pollution Control Board officials, jointly conducted a drive to inspect and check entertainment licences and also sound levels at various pubs.

It was found that 17 pubs ed permissible sound limits causing noise pollution, violat-

ing the Environment Protect Act-1986 and Hyderabad City Police Act r/w Cyberabad (Metropolitan Area) Police

Cases were booked against these 17 pubs and other amusement places for violating the abov and seized the sound system for necessary action.

Golf course will be of global standards: Min

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Tourism and Culture Minister Jupally Krishna Rao on Sunday said that the golf course will be designed with international standards and an international golf tournament will be organised next year in Hyderabad city.

Minister Krishna Rao attended the valedictory programme of Telangana Golconda Masters Golf Championship as the chief guest. Winner Shankar Das got a trophy and Rs 1 lakh of prize money in the event.

Speaking on the occasion, the Minister said plans are being made to organise an International golf tournament in the month of January and February next year. He said that international golfers will participate in the event. He said that efforts are being made to make it an Asian professional golf tour circuit.

12 people arrested for involving in mujra

PNS HYDERABAD

The sleuths of Commissioner's Task Force, South Zone Team, Hyderabad, along with Bandlaguda Police, on Sunday raided a plot with compound wall situated at Lake View Hills, Ghouse Nagar, Bandlaguda and arrested 12 people, including four trans-genders who were found involved in organising a

The arrested people have been identified as Mohammed Jabri (25), Mohammed Riyaz (23), Shaik Sohail (19), Shahnawaz Khan (23), Mohammed Imran (20), Mohammed Feroz (19), Syed Shah Farooq (20), Shaik Mohammed (25), Sohail (28), Mohammed Saif (27), Kareema Baksha (27) and Abdul Amer (28). Police have seized one amplifier and loud-

speaker box from them. On Saturday night, Police



teams raided a mujra party and found that eight male persons were involved in an obscene dance with four transgenders in indecent manner while playing loud music and creating nuisance. On enquiry, it was found that Hameed is the organiser of the mujra,

who was absconding.
The Bandlaguda Police have registered a case under the Sections of 223, 292 R/w 3 (5) BNS and Sec 21/76 of CP Act and took up the investigation.

Green activists oppose GHMC infra plan around KBR Park

PNS HYDERABAD

Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC), under the Hyderabad City Innovative Transformative Infrastructure (HCITI) programme has announced a significant infrastructure development around the Kasu Brahmananda Reddy National Park (KBR) to enhance traffic flow and reduce congestion.

The project, with a sanctioned budget of Rs 826 crore, includes the construction of grade separators across six major junctions surrounding KBR Park, which was opposed by environmentalists. They said that with this project one should have the slogans ready as "RIP KBR Park".

With years long fight for saving KBR Park from various violations, Uday Krishna



Peddireddi, co-founder of Vata Foundation shared. "There should be a practical way for a period such as trying for one way route near KBR Park if one is talking about traffic jams. Then there are many violations we have fought for, such as sewage flow and an alternate solution has been provided but with the project it will be damaged again.'

KBR Park is the centrally attractive tourist location of Hyderabad and any infrastructure developed around it will disturb the flora and, According to the GHMC,

these developments aim to create a seamless traffic experience, ensuring a conflictfree flow by eliminating signals and incorporating rainwater retention structures to prevent bottlenecks during monsoons. This initiative is set to transform the core of Hyderabad's road network, connecting key areas like Jubilee Hills, Yousufguda

and Punjagutta. Mirza Kareem, another activist said, "The project will kill the entire ecosystem in and around KBR, plus there will be heavy water logging in surrounding localities even for little rains.'

Groups of Green Activists have written to CM A Revanth Reddy urging him to prioritise the park's preser-

Cyberabad Police register a case against 'Lady Don'

PNS HYDERABAD

The Dundigal police of Cyberabad Commissionerate have registered a cheating case against Gurram Vijaya Lakshmi, locally called Lady Don. She constructed a building on government land and sold that building to people. After the authorities demolished the building, a person complained to the

The Hyderabad Disaster Response and Asset Protection Agency (HYDRAA) demolished illegal structures at Dundigal on September 8.

Then, the HYDRAA Commi ssioner AV Ranganath said that HYDRAA demolished illegal constructions, which are in the FTL. The builder's name is Vijaya Lakshmi (called lady Don locally), who has many criminal cases against her and also connected to the local political leaders.

The complainant said that Gurram Vijaya Lakshmi has started Sri Laxmi Constructions and Sri

Laxmi Magnus Constructions at Mallampet in the year 2018. In the brochure she had mentioned that in 150,120,200,300 sq.yds villas are being constructed with the facilities with permission.

They have made agreements with Gurram Vijaya Lakshmi and construction staff by taking loans, sold their properties and paid huge money to Vijaya Lakshmi. But she did not provide the facilities and didn't complete the works like drainage, water, current meters and compound wall which was promised by her.

In the year 2021, the municipal staff filed a case against her for grabbing government land and showing the said land as a park. On September 9, the HYDRAA demolished 13 villas and marked 28 vil-

After the HYDRAA demolished the structures, one of the victims had complained to the police.

The case has been registered under 318(4),318(2),316(2) sec-

Excise Police arrest a person for selling spurious liquor

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The sleuths of the Excise department on Sunday arrested a person for duping people in the name of selling premi-um liquor brands at less cost.

The arrested person has been identified as Malina Das hailing from West Bengal and residing at Indiranagar in Jubilee Hills. His associate Satyabharat Shaila, working as an event manager in Hyderabad and native of



Odisha, is absconding.

Das, along with Satyabharat, were getting empty liquor bottles of premium brands and filling them with spurious liquor purchased for over Rs 500 to Rs 600. After putting a seal, the duo was found to be selling the bottles to persons known to them in the name of premium liquor bottles.

They used to attract buyers stating that they will get the liquor at less price compared to those available in the wine shops across the city. Excise police have seized 6 Regal, 2 full bottles, 42 empty wine bottles and 128 wine bottle caps from the person.

deepikapasham2015@gmail.com ■ HYDĖRABAD

The Rotary Club, partnering with major government and private hospitals, is serving the needy for dialysis care, detection, treatment of various cancers and pediatric surg-

"We are publicising the pri-orities of the Rotary Club and the growth of it. We are also understanding the strategy of the community and what services it needs," said Rotary International president Mário César Martins de Camargo, to agenda to improve community services. For instance, in Brazil the community serves the needy as a responsibility and we are going to abide by the culture. The emerging needs are increasing in the local communities and we need more Rotarians. We need more funds. We are also looking for big companies to work with us for their CSR funds as we know

the communities and we can assist them in serving the society in the right manner," he added. Mário César Martins de Camargo adds that he is satis-



fied with various projects such as the Pediatric Heart Surgery unit in NIMS – Hyderabad, which carried out 400 plus Pediatric surgeries, increasing from 50 to 300 surgeries in a year. They were worth Rs 2.0

crore of medical equipment

In addition to it are Lifelines in Action - Dialysis Care which has impacted over 90,000 dialysis treatments that have been completed at the Hyderabad Deccan's Dialysis Centre. In regard to Cancer check-up, prevention, detection and treatment for various types such as Cervical, Breast, and Oral Cancer screenings, 50,000 people were screened over two years, saved 480 lives through early detection and free treatment at MNJ Cancer Hospital.

The Rotary has established

Centres in Choutuppal, Jangaon and Bhupalpally. The centres have screens for free and have completed hundreds of cataract surgeries.

The future projects are that a young Premiere Solar company has been given a grant of Rs 2 crore to establish India's first dedicated Epilepsy Unit in Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences.

Any individual who is struggling for health care services can visit the Rotary Club and also their mobile vans which travel to places with their services awareness

lelangana :-





RS 23.91 LAKH NETTED ON SUNDAY

Yadadri temple recording impressive revenue

PNS YADAGIRIGUTTA

Yadadri Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy temple recorded an impressive revenue of Rs 23.91 Lakh on Sunday. The temple administration also noted that the annadanam (free meal service) programme received donations of Rs 41,283, allowing many devotees to partake in the service. Other key sources of revenue included Suvarna Pushparchana with Rs 55,548 and Yadarishi Nilayam generating Rs 89,258.

In addition, vehicle entry fees to the hill brought in Rs 3,50,000, demonstrating the increasing number of visitors travelling on their own means. Other services such as vrathams, vehicle pujas, and break darshan also saw good participation, contributing Rs 37,600, Rs 10,600 and Rs 1,98,000 respectively.

The prasadam sales proved to be one of the highest revenue generators, accumulating Rs 10,95,150, with devo-

tees purchasing sacred offerings in large quantities. Furthermore, Shivalayam at the temple contributed Rs 8,800 to the day's revenue.

The temple authorities expressed satisfaction with the day's proceedings and acknowledged the continuous support from devotees, which helps maintain the various services offered at the temple.



The temple authorities expressed satisfaction with the day's proceedings and acknowledged the continuous support from devotees, which helps maintain various services

They also stressed the importance of these offerings, stating that they play a crucial role in the spiritual and financial upkeep of the tem-

As the number of devotees visiting Yadagirigutta continues to grow, the authorities planning further improvements to the facilities and services, ensuring a seamless and devotional experience for all visitors.







Survapet MLA G Jagadish Reddy addressing people at his party camp office on Sunday

Jagadish vows to stand by people amid criticism of Cong governance

PNS SURYAPET

Former minister and Suryapet MLA G Jagadish Reddy delivered a passionate address at his party's MLA camp office on Sunday, promising unwavering support for the people and vowing to fight against injustice. He declared, "Even if it costs my life, I will not allow injustice to happen to the people," urging the community to unite in their struggles.

During the meeting, Reddy emphasised the importance of solidarity, assuring residents, "There is no need for fear; let us fight together. Do not lose hope; we will stand by you." He asserted that the BRS is the only political entity genuinely advocating for the rights of the people. "If this government thinks it can toy with people's lives, we will not sit idle," he warned.

Reddy sharply criticised the Congress, claiming it has prioritised chaos over development. "While KCR is focused on building new projects, the Congress is busy creating disruptions and demolitions," he stated. He warned that as long as the Congress warned that as long as the Congress continues to prioritise political interests, public unrest would be inevitable. "It is not good for society to make people weep," he added.

Jagdish escalated his criticism of the Congress government, claiming that the State and joint Nalgonda district administrations have been disorganised for the past nine months. He accused the government of regressing the State and failing to implement new policies or effectively manage existing ones. "The current administration has failed to provide essential services such as water for education, healthcare, and irrigation projects, severely impacting the lives of our people,

He also criticised the current government's inaction regarding breaches in the Nagarjuna Sagar canal, contrasting it with his own tenure when such issues were resolved swiftly. 'Even after 20 days, there has been no resolution to these breaches, demonstrating the current government's inefficiency," he noted.

Concluding his remarks, Reddy called for the immediate implementation of the farm loan waiver and the Rythu Bharosa scheme to support farmers.

He urged the government to take proactive steps to ensure the welfare of the agricultural community, emphasising the need for accountability and responsive governance.

Transport sector facing crisis amid rising costs and unresolved issues

PNS RANGAREDDY

The Telangana transport sector is grappling with a severe crisis, according to Syed Sadiq, State vice-president of the Telangana Lorry Owners Association and manager of Star Transport Company in Shadnagar constituency, Rangareddy district. He voiced concern over the mounting challenges the sector has faced over the last two months due to persistent rains in the Telugu states of Telangana and unresolved issues affecting lorry operators.

An emergency meeting, organised by the Lorry Owners Association at Kothapally, Peddapally, sought to address these challenges. Several association leaders, including president Anji Reddy, general secretary Durga Prasad, and vicepresidents Nawaz Ghori, Mohammad Fayaz and Mohammad Shabir, were in

Speaking to the media, Syed Sadiq outlined a range of problems plaguing the transport industry, exacerbated by the recent heavy rains. He highlighted the financial burden on lorry owners, citing increased operational difficulties and unresolved policy issues. An unanimous resolution was

Posted to his

alma mater as



Members of the Lorry Owners Association at an emergency

passed during the meeting, calling for the immediate waiving of various taxes imposed

Sadiq pointed to the rising diesel prices, despite promises of reduction, as a major factor crippling the sector. He urged the government to take swift action to lower fuel prices and provide relief to lorry operators. The association also pressed for the immediate implementation of the longpending single permit system to streamline operations.

Another key concern raised was the substantial amounts collected in fitness and green taxes over the last 15 years. The association resolved to push for a reduction in these taxes, which they believe are placing undue pressure on transporters. Sadiq emphasised that the government should extend the same support to the transport sector as it does to farmers affected by natural calamities. He argued that the government should take responsibility for repairing lorries damaged during the recent

Furthermore, the association demanded that local lorries be given priority in the transportation of grain procured from farmers by the government. They also called for the State government to reconsider the recent central government directive on the cancellation of old vehicles, currently under review by the

Minister flags off 33 electric buses

PNS KARIMNAGAR

Minister for Transport Ponnam Prabhakar has said that the Congress govern-ment provides "Praja Palana". He hinted at filling 3000 posts in the TG RTC

He flagged off 33 electric buses at Karimnagar bus station here on Sunday. Speaking after inauguration of the buses, he said that several women undertood free travel on the RTC buses. Further, he said that RTC would buy more buses through Mahila Sakti and Mission for Elimination of Poverty in Municipal Areas.

Besides filling 3000 posts, the RTC would pay attention to extending PRC to the RTC employees and filling of posts in the RTC on compassionate grounds.

Further, he said that the TGRTC entering into an MoU with the JBM group to procure electric buses. The Government's idea is to run electric buses in Hyderabad and other districts.



To check the pollution in Hyderabad city, plans are under way to phase out all diesel buses within the Regional Ring Road, he said

adding that the Congress government soon after coming to power has been intro-ducing revolutionary mea-

sures to develop the RTC.

Birth anniversary of Bhagat Singh celebrated

PNS KHAMMAM

The district committee of SFI celebrated 117th birth anniversary of noted revolutionary Bhagat Singh here on Sunday paying him glowing tributes. The SFI district committee celebrat-

ed the occasion garlanding Bhagat Singh's portrait at various places in the district. At a young age of 23 years, Bhagat Singh kissed the noose with a smile on his face to liberate the country from the Britrish rule.

House of accused in sexual assault on minor case torched

PNS SIDDIPET

The relatives along with some of the villagers have set fire to the house of the accused in Guruvannapeta village of Komaravelli mandal of Siddipet district in the minor sexual assault case. They also damaged vehicles -- a car and a JCB -- parked in front of the house, reports reaching here said on Sunday.

It may be recalled that a girl studying class seven

in Guruvannapeta village was sexually assaulted, taking advantage of her loneliness, by a youth of the village when the inmates were away.

When the girl became indisposed, her parents

consulted a private hospital where doctors confirmed that the girl was sexually assaulted. Soon the matter was leaked in the village, the rel-

atives set fire to the house of the accused in the village and caused damage to the vehicles parked in front of the house.

On learning about it, the police rushed to the village and dispersed the protestors. A case was registered against the accused.

Villagers and several associations in the village have been demanding the police to ensure that the accused received the capital punishment.



PNS ■ NALGONDA/YADADRI BHUVANAGIRI

The District Legal Services Authorities (DLSA) of both Nalgonda and Yadadri-Bhuvanagiri districts, under the directions of the National Legal Services Authority and the State Legal Services Authority, successfully conducted the National Lok Adalat in all court complexes across their respective districts on Sunday.

In Nalgonda, the Lok Adalat was presided over by the District Judge and Chairperson of DLSA, M Nagaraju, who resolved a significant number of cases. A total of 16,830 cases (including pending and prelitigation cases) were settled. These cases included civil disputes (71), criminal cases (4,530), motor vehicle accident insurance claims (120), bank disputes (24), cybercrime cases (38), Transco cases (318), and traffic challan violations. Notably, compensation amounting of Rs 7.95 crore was awarded in motor accident claims, Rs 20.26 lakh in bank loan disputes and Rs 3.35 lakh was recovered in cybercrime

The event witnessed the participation of Secretary of DLSA, B addressing the gathering, Jayaraju Deepthi, various judicial officers and highlighted the role of the Legal



District Principal Judge and Chairman of the District Legal Services Authority, A Jayaraju, participating in the National Lok Adalat in Bhuvanagiri, Yadadri district on Sunday

members of the Bar Association, including its president and vice-president, alongside legal professionals and litigants.

Similarly, in Yadadri-Bhuvanagiri, the National Lok Adalat, inaugurated by District Principal Judge and Chairperson of DLSA, A Jayaraju, also saw the resolution of numerous

A total of 11,066 cases were settled across the district, including criminal cases (3,459), civil disputes (17), pre-litigation bank cases (73), and traffic challans (7,517). While

Services Authorities in ensuring access to justice, promoting amicable settlements and fostering a cooperative environment in society.

Participating dignitaries in Yadadri-Bhuvanagiri included Senior Civil Judge and Secretary of DLSA, V Madhavilatha, Principal Junior Civil Judge, D Nageshwar Rao, along with representatives from the Bar Association, police department and other stakeholders. The event emphasised the importance of settlement as a preferred method of resolving disputes, contributing to social and economic sta-

headmaster PNS VALIGONDA Achieving a rare feat, a

teacher was appointed head-

master to the Sri Venkateswara ZP High School at Valigonda, in Bhongir district, of which he was a student. The government has also

saddled him with the additional responsibility of the office of the Valigonda mandal educational officer.

He was identified as Sankoju Bhaskar, who pursued his primary education sued his primary education in Mallepalli government primary school and later pursued his high school edu-cation in Sri Venkateswara ZP High school at Valigonda. Afterwards he moved to Hyderabad to pursue high-er education and obtained a degree in science and later graduated in B. Ed graduated in B Ed.

During the teacher transfers carried out last year, he was posted headmaster.

State govt not focusing on developmental activities: MLA

PNS MEDCHAL-MALKAJGIRI

Malkajigiri MLA Marri Rajasekhar Shekhar Reddy, visited East Anand Bagh, Vinayak Nagar and Moulali divisions under the juridiction of the constituency on Sunday. Rajasekhar Shekhar Reddy assured the people of Shankaraiah Colony, Simhadri Nagar NMDC Colony, Sivananda Nagar and other colonies who were worried about the HYDRAA authorities' merciless attitude and people are terrified that it would demolish their houses.

Speaking to the media, he said, "It does not make sense to demolish houses in the name of HYDRAA when they had built the houses before 30 years and paying all kinds of taxes for municipal permissions and registrations." He assured that he will stand on the side of the people and fight to any extent. He said that this problem is not the problem of any individual but of the entire people of Malkajigiri. Congress government is doing unnecessary programmes by leaving development activities,



Kamareddy needs another police station

PNS ■ KAMAREDDY

Kamareddy town, which recently became the district headquarters, has been expanding in all directions with the development of new housing colonies. Yet the police personnel to maintain the law and order in the town is inadequate.

Kamareddy is one of the important junctions on bus routes to Sircilla, Siddipet, Medak and Nizamabad dis-The business activity

and educational amenities are on the rise. The town is developing in all other spheres. Consequently, the number of people settling in Kamareddy is increasing.

According to 2011 census, the population of Kamareddy

was 1,04,267. The town has 49 wards. The town has only one police station established to cater to the law and order

needs of the 2011 population. With Kamareddy upgraded to district headquarters subsequently, another police station

is needed to be set up, but there are no signs of establishing second police station. Meanwhile, the traffic has increased in the town. The people of the town have been demanding establishment of Mahila police station. The town developed up to a radius of four or five km. The crime rate has also increased. The accident cases have increased.

The number of commuters to

the town has increased man-

ifold with the town locating close to national highway and

the railway line. The town has no traffic police station. Five members of the existing police station have been deputed on traffic duty. They are limited to imposing fines of violators of the traffic. Hundreds of vehicles frequent the town. The number of accidents is on the rise. The movement of traffic is haphazard in New bus stand, Nizam Sagar X roads, Indira Chowk, Old Bus stand, JPS Road in the town. The proposal to set up a traffic

police station in the town was limited to papers.

The proposals to set up a traffic police station has been sent four years ago. When the former CM KCR visited here, he orally directed the superior police officials to take steps to set up a traffic police station in the town. But, it was not set up so far. Therefore, in view of the increased population, there is a need to set up another police station and also a traffic police station in Kamareddy.

PNS NEW DELHI

ment said.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi

on Sunday dedicated the Bidkin

Industrial Area (BIA) in

Maharashtra to the nation with

Maharashtra Governor C P

Radhakrishnan and chief min-

ister Eknath Shinde, among

The Bidkin Industrial Area,

a project spanning 7,855 acres,

has been developed under the

National Industrial Corridor

Maharashtra, this industrial

hub holds immense potential to

catalyse economic growth in the

PM Modi dedicates Bidkin

industrial area to nation

ACROSS THE STATES

the pioneer



Terrorist killed in J-K, fresh encounter in Rajouri

terrorist, suspected to be affiliated with the Pakistanbased Jaish-e-Mohammad (JeM) outfit, was killed in a Aremote village of Jammu and Kashmir's Kathua district, officials said on Sunday. Also, a fresh encounter broke out in the Thanamandi area of Rajouri district on Sunday evening when security forces launched a cordon and search operation after getting information about the presence of two terrorists, the officials said. "Based on specific intelligence about the presence of terrorists, a joint search operation was launched by security forces at Manial Gali in Thanamandi. Contact has been established and few rounds have been fired from both sides," a police official said. Earlier in the day, a live hand grenade was found on the banks of a stream in the area and the device was later destroyed by experts in a controlled explosion. In Kathua district, the body of an unidentified terrorist was recovered this afternoon from the scene of the Saturday evening encounter at Kog-Mandli in Billawar tehsil, taking the death toll in the two-day operation



Cops recover TV from Naxal dump in Chhattisgarh

n a possible first, police on Sunday recovered a television set from a Maoist dump in Sukma district in Chhattisgarh, a senior official said. The television, made by electronics firm BPL, was recovered in the morning in a forested hill near Danteshpuram village under Bheji police station limits when security forces were on an anti-Naxalite operation, Bastar Range Inspector General of Police Sundarraj told PTI A muzzle loading gun, one tiffin bomb, pressure IED switch, 49 syringes, firecrackers, mobile chargers, Maoist banners and literature as well as medicines were also found at the dump, the Inspector General said. "We have recovered laptops, printers and other electronic gadgets after anti-Naxal operations in the past. But a television has been found possibly for the first time. Naxalites may have got it for senior cadres who camp in core areas or it may have been looted from villagers," he asserted.



33 more arrested for felling of trees in Mathura

hirty three persons allegedly involved in the felling of more than 450 trees at Dalmia Farms here were arrested, police said on Sunday. "Acting on a tip-off, they were arrested from Guru Kripa Kutir on Saturday where they were hiding," Senior Superintendent of Police Shailesh Kumar Pandey said. Six persons, including Shiv Shankar Seth alias Shankar Seth who is alleged to be the kingpin, had previously been arrested in connection with the case. The total number of arrests in the matter now stand at 39. Subregistrar Ajai Tripathi said that neither has any registered deed been made for the 35-acre land on which trees were felled, nor any agreement to sell been made so far. "Enquiring about the amount of stamp duty etc, the counsel of the party in fact came to us. They were told to first present the sale deed, disclosing the transaction of money made, and on the basis of that amount, stamp duty will be calculated. However, afterwards neither their representative approached us nor they presented a sale deed for getting it registered," Tripathi said.

Everybody thought HYDRAA...

Continued from page 1

of the poor. Addressing the gathering after inaugurating the Seva Pakwada photo exhibition on Sunday at the Barkatpura BJP office, Sanjay asked the Congress govern-ment to explain how far it is right to demolish the houses of the poor constructed using bank loans and the income from their small jobs. Who will support these poor people after they lose their houses and how will they live without

houses, he asked. "Hyderabad's real estate business was destroyed by the policies of the Congress government. The economy of ernment to get ready to meet Telangana has been totally the BJP's challenge.

destroyed. It is not proper for the Congress government to adopt a stubborn attitude without thinking of consequences. The BJP is totally opposed to this attitude of the government. We are preparing an action plan against HYDRAA demolitions under the leadership of Telangana BJP President G. Kishan Reddy. The BJP is going to become the protector of the poor. It will fight till the government comes down," Sanjay said. He said that bulldozers should touch BJP activists first if they want to touch the houses of the poor. BJP activists are ready for it, he said and asked the gov-

HAD PAKISTAN MAINTAINED FRIENDLY TIES

HYDERABAD | MONDAY | SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

India would have given larger bailout package: Rajnath

PNS SRINAGAR

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Sunday said India would have given a larger bailout package to Pakistan than sought by Islamabad from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) had the neighbouring nation maintained friendly relations with New Delhi.

Addressing an election rally in Gurez assembly segment of Bandipora district, Singh referred to the prime minister's development package for Jammu and Kashmir announced in 2014-15 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

"Modi ji in 2014-15 announced a special package for development of Jammu and Kashmir which has now reached Rs 90,000 crore. The amount is much bigger than what Pakistan was seeking from the IMF (as bailout package)," the senior

PNS NEW DELHI

The BJP on Sunday slammed PDP chief Mehbooba Mufti for

cancelling her poll campaign over the killing of Hezbollah

leader Hassan Nasrallah, saying she does not feel sad when an

Indian soldier is martyred on

The BJP's reaction came a

day after Mufti announced that

she was going to cancel her poll

campaign on Sunday "in soli-

darity with the martyrs of

Lebanon & Gaza, especially

feel sad when an Indian soldier

is martyred on the border. But

if any Nasrallah dies in

Lebanon, she feels very sad.

What kind of message does she want to send out," former

Union Minister and BJP nation-

al spokesperson Syed Shahnawaz Hussain told PTI

video when asked for comment.

India also wants peace in the world and Prime Minister

Hussain, however, said that

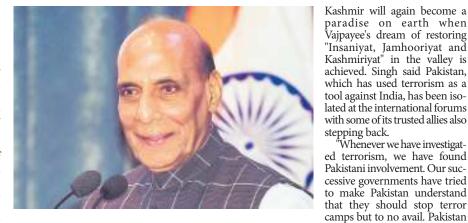
"Mehbooba Mufti doesn't

the country's border.

Hassan Nasrallah".

Mufti doesn't feel sad when

Indian soldier is martyred: BJP



Singh referred to former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's famous statement that "we can change friends but we

cannot change the neighbours". "I said, my Pakistani friends, why have strained relations, we are neighbours. If we had good relations, we would have given more money than the IMF," he

Narendra Modi is appealing that the war should end.

At the UN General

Assembly, External Affairs

Minister S. Jaishankar also

appealed for peace, he added.

not mourn for the people of the

country. If something happens

abroad, she is very sad about it,"

Suspending her election campaigns, the PDP chief ear-

lier posted on X, "Cancelling my

campaign tomorrow in solidar-

ity with the martyrs of Lebanon

& Gaza especially Hassan

Nasarullah. We stand with the

people of Palestine & Lebanon

in this hour of immense grief & exemplary resistance."

the BJP leader charged.

But Mehbooba Mufti does

Singh said the Centre gives money to Jammu and Kashmir for development while Pakistan has been misusing financial aid for a long time.

"It seeks money from other countries to run a terrorism factory on its soil," he added. The defence minister said

Article 370 and is making attempts to revive terror. They do not want democracy to take roots here. (But) India is strong enough

Development Programme (NICDP) as part of the Delhisoil. If anyone in Pakistan carries out an attack on India, we can Mumbai Industrial Corridor. 'Situated 20 km south of crossover and respond," he Chhatrapati Sambhaji Nagar, Kharge vows not to die till PM

Vajpayee's dream of restoring

is frustrated after revocation of

that it can take on Pakistan on its



PNS ■ JASROTA (JAMMU)

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge vowed to fight for the restoration of statehood to Jammu and Kashmir, asserting that he would remain active in politics until Prime Minister Narendra Modi is ousted from

Kharge's remarks came amid criticism of the BJP-led government at the Centre for its handling of the Union territory, particularly regarding the delay

"We will fight to restore statehood. We are not going to leave it. I am 83 years old, I am not going to die so early. I will stay alive until PM Modi is removed from power. I will listen to you. I will fight for you," Kharge told a public rally here after he was provided medical assistance at the rally venue.

The Congress chief earlier complained of dizziness while speaking and had to be provided medical help.

"He was addressing a public rally in Jasrota when he felt uneasy and dizzy. His colleagues helped him into a chair," Congress general secretary Gulam Ahmed Mir told PTI.

Kharge had flown to Jasrota to address a rally to garner support for his party candidates in the assembly polls.

Jammu and Kashmir Congress vice president Ravindra Sharma said Kharge felt dizzy and was taken to a room, where doctors were called for a check-up. They will advise whether he can attend the second rally at Udhampur or not, he said.

Later, Kharge's second rally at Udhampur was cancelled. He will return to Delhi.

At the Jasrota rally, Kharge continued, "I wanted to talk. But due to dizziness, I have sat down. Please pardon me. They (BJP) are trying to ter-

'Rahul is leading oppn, will lead country too'

PNS NEW DELHI

Congress general secretary Sachin Pilot on Sunday said he sees Rahul Gandhi as a leader who will lead the country in future and the entire opposition will stand unitedly behind him when the next Lok Sabha elections happen.

In an interview with PTI, Pilot said Gandhi, following the historic Bharat Jodo Yatras and a good result for the Congress, has taken the Centre to task with the BJP-led government "failing on all fronts".

Asked about the impact of Gandhi assuming the charge of Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha, Pilot said, "Rahul Gandhi has led from the front as the Leader of the Opposition (in the Lok Sabha). He is asking pertinent questions for which the government has no

Continued from page 1

touched the houses of the

poor. The poor say that they had purchased their lands,

have all permissions of the gov-

ernment and had constructed

houses after that. Why is the

government now demolishing

our houses, ask the poor. Day

by day many questions are

raised regarding HYDRAA. It

seems that HYDRAA's speed

has decreased as public oppo-

sition to the government is increasing. Although political parties initially backed

HYDRAA, now they are

opposing it as it is troubling

common people. The BRS and

the BJP are intensifying their

protests after HYDRAA vic-

tims approached them.

BRS inciting Musi oustees..

Continued from page 1

that only illegal buildings will be demolished. We will do jus-tice to the poor. We will give double-bedroom houses and Indiramma houses to the displaced. The admin will protect them," Sridhar said.

He said the government wants to clean up Musi. The government is trying to bring Godavari water into the Musi River. The government will construct bridges, green spaces, and walk to work employment facilities in the Musi River area, he said.

He said the government is going to develop the Musi area on the PPP model and for that they are conducting a socio-eco-

nomic survey with 35 teams. Sridhar said the government has been taking suggestions from civil societies, NGOs and others on how to provide alternative employment. Anganvadis will be established and self-help

groups will be set up, he said. He said the government has a plan and will appoint a highlevel committee and that the displaced will be provided with all facilities.

He said that for the development of the Musi the govern-ment is preparing a blueprint and the government will invite global companies to execute the work. The aim of developing the Musi area includes providing clean water to the people of Vikarabad and Nalgonda dis-

He asked people not to get disturbed by the displacement of people from the Musi area. If there are any doubts on HYDRAA and the Musi, the people should approach help desks which will be set up in all districts.

He said the culture of the Congress is to stand by the poor and that the Congress is not like BRS leaders who shed crocodile tears for the poor.

Everybody knows what happened in Mallanna Sagar project oustees, Sridhar pointed out. KTR and Harish Rao spoke a lot but they forgot the fact that they gave different packages to the people at different projects, he said.

Push to Metro Rail Second. | Govt likely to..

Continued from page 1

Corridor IV (Airport Metro Corridor) covers a length of about 36.6 Km from Nagole to Shamshabad Airport via L.B Nagar, Karmanghat, Owaisi Hospital, DRDO, Chandrayangutta,

Mailardevpally, Aramghar, New High Court and the Shamshabad Jn on NH. This Airport line will be connected to all the existing Metro lines at Nagole, LB Nagar and Chandrayangutta respectively. Out of the total length of 36.6 km, 35 km is elevated and 1.6 km is underground, with 24 metro stations including one underground station which is the Airport station.

Corridor V is being built as

an extension of the Blue Line from Raidurg Metro station to

around eight stations. meters away from Salarjung names are retained as station significance.

Kokapet Neopolis via Biodiversity Jn, Khajaguda Rd, Nanakramguda Jn, Wipro Circle, Financial dist and Kokapet Neopolis. This is a wholly elevated corridor with Corridor VI (Old City

Metro) is being built as an extension of the Green Line from MGBS to Chandra yangutta. This 7.5 km line from MGBS travels via Mandi Rd in Old City over Darulshifa Jn, Shalibanda Jn, and Falaknuma. Although the corridor is 500 Museum and Charminar, these names due to their historical

Will cleanse..

Continued from page 1

a special department compared to other departments as the revenue staff plays a special role on all occasions. Telangana has 972 Tehsildars. This face-to-face programme was held to know the problems facing revenue staff at the village and mandal levels, he said and added that the government will take the suggestions of Tehsildars about field-level troubles and consider them while amending the Revenue Act.

Builders are doing... Continued from page 1

on and that the government wants to inject fresh water into the Musi River. The government intends to ensure that the people living in the Musi's catchment areas have a good environment, Bhatti said. He said the government plans to make the Musi River healthy so that families can live in its catchment area. Bhatti said that it is not good for anyone to live near the polluted Musi River.

Rythu Deeksha...

Continued from page 1 Eatala Rajender said that all

BJP MPs, MLAs and all state BJP leaders would participate in the Deeksha.

He said the Congress government had given assurances to farmers like the loan waiver scheme, Rythu Bharosa, Rythu Bima and Rs 500 bonus but the government is not implementing any of these things.

Eatala said that the government has not yet implemented the loan waiver scheme completely. There is no information about how many farmers benefited from the loan waiver scheme although the government has been stating that it waived loans worth Rs 17,000 crore. "Revanth Reddy has become a nickname for deceit. Lies are his life. So we are protesting to bend the necks of the government. We are staging a 24-hour Rythu Deeksha on Monday at Indira Park. We request farmers to participate in the protest in large num-

bers," Eatala said.

Continued from page 1

One of the petitions has been submitted by Suresh Khanderao Chavhanke, Editor of Sudarshan News TV, who is calling for an investigation by a committee headed by a retired Supreme Court judge or a retired High Court Chief

A second petition has been filed by Surjit Singh Yadav, President of Hindu Sena, requesting a Special Investigation Team (SIT) to concerned lab, including its probe the alleged use of adul- source. The fourth petition, the ghee used in that report, Monday.

SC to hear case today

terated ghee in the laddus. The third petition, filed by senior BJP leader Subramanian Swamy, seeks an investigation

by a court-monitored committee. In addition to requesting the appointment of a committee, Swamy has sought a detailed report from the authorities on the forensics of the ghee sample used by the

submitted by Rajya Sabha MP and former TTD Chairman YV Subba Reddy, requests an independent investigation by a court-monitored committee or a retired judge along with domain experts into the allegations of adulteration. Reddy also seeks a directive to the respondent authorities for a report detailing the forensics of the lab report and the source of

along with all additional details regarding sampling and pro-curement. The fifth petition has been filed by historian Dr. Vikram Sampath and spiritual speaker Dushyanth Sridhar, calling for the divestment of government and bureaucratic control over temples. The duo seeks to establish accountability in Hindu temples managed by government bodies.

The petitions submitted by Subramanian Swamy, YV Subba Reddy, and Vikram Sampath are set to be listed on

Even your BJP friends..

Continued from page 1

hunger while you spent Rs 1,500,000,000,000 crore on the Musi, Mr Cheap Minister. The city weeps, hearts are broken, huts are destroyed, daughters cry and families curse you. One mother wonders whether she can give her dream cottages to her children. A man cries asking where to go with an aged mother. The mother who committed suicide was worried that the house given as dowry to her daughter would be demol-

ished. A husband poured petrol on himself saying that his wife is pregnant.

Where is Revanth Reddy (Sannasi), who provoked farmers with 20 cars in connection with the construction of a reservoir to provide water to 30,000 acres? You proved that you will do anything for your needs. People of this great city, don't get discouraged. Don't rush and sacrifice your lives. There are legal provisions and then BRS to support you."

Govt will build more hospitals...

Continued from page 1

for women. We believe that the health of women is the founshare the inspiring stories of

ive community. dation for the wellbeing of families and communities." He said that the participants' presence shows solidarity with women across the state who face medical problems. The Chairperson of the SR Foundation, Sudha Reddy, said that the Pink Power Run is not just a race. It is a platform to

cancer survivors, to motivate others, and to build a support-

> 'Together, we can break mental barriers, dispel myths, and empower individuals to take charge of their health," she added. "I wholeheartedly thank everyone for participating in this event aimed at raising awareness about breast cancer and offering hope to all those affected. Every step taken today brings us closer to a world free of cancer," Sudha Reddy said.

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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

Saving Sunita Williams

Relying on her mental fortitude, Sunita has not only survived the ordeal but plays a crucial role in her rescue

t is heartening to hear that Sunita Williams will be back home soon. Elon Musk's SpaceX has launched a Falcon 9 rocket from Cape Canaveral, Florida to rescue two astronauts stranded in the International Space Station (ISS). The mission aims to retrieve American astronauts Butch Wilmore and Sunita Williams, who have been stranded on the International Space Station for months due to issues with Boeing's Starliner spacecraft. Originally planned for an eight-day stay, the astronauts' mission was extended far beyond after technical problems with the Starliner. As every Indian waits for her rescue the image of Kalpana Chawla flashes in the mind who lost her life in a space mission. She was one of the seven crew members who died in the Space Shuttle Columbia disaster when the spacecraft disintegrated during its re-entry into the Earth's atmosphere on February 1, 2003. The vast, unexplored frontier of space offers countless wonders, but it also brings unique

challenges. The present snag is no fault of the astronauts but a lapse on the part of NASA and Boeing company which allowed the mission to proceed despite several alarms and glitches.

Sunita Williams, a veteran of two spaceflights and a woman who has spent over 300 days in space, embarked on her latest mission with the confidence and expertise that comes from years of training and commitment. However, space is as unpredictable as it is vast. A critical error occurred during her mission, which disabled vital components of the spacecraft, leaving her stranded in the ISS. The malfunction wasn't just a minor glitch-it was a cascade of

failures. Yet, if there was one person equipped to face such adversity, it was Sunita Williams. Her resilience, mental fortitude, and the ability to maintain calm in even the most extreme conditions became the defining elements in her survival. Williams is no stranger to adversity. The daughter of Indian and Slovenian immigrants, she broke barriers early in her career by rising to prominence in a male-dominated field. Her indomitable spirit and work ethic have always stood out. She has done spacewalk. she holds the record for the longest single spaceflight by a woman, spending 195 days in space until 2017. Over her career, Williams has accumulated more than 322 days in space, marking her as one of the most experienced female astronauts in history, Sunita Williams approached this life-threatening situation with a mix of grit, hope, and resourcefulness. She immediately got involved in troubleshooting, all the while keeping her own morale high through mental exercises and meditation. Let's hope and pray that the rescue mission succeeds and Sunita along with colleague Butch Wilmore reaches home safely and is united with her family. This mission is also a lesson and learning for NASA and its contractors to ensure zero tolerance for any glitches and snags in their operations.



Artistes perform 'Mahishasur Mardini' act ahead of Durga Puja festival, in Nadia district

Transforming India through 'Make in India'



The 'Make in India' initiative has completed 10 years of transformative impact. PM Modi's vision has ignited a revival in manufacturing and spurred job creation

n September 25, the country observed 10 years of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's game-changing 'Make in India' initiative that is transforming India's industrial landscape by encouraging jobcreating investments and giving many ordinary citizens the confidence to become wealth creators. It's been a remarkable 10year journey, which gave renewed vigour to industrial sectors turning these into engines of growth, meeting domestic demand as well as contributing to exports. The exciting journey began at a difficult time when domestic investors were despondent because of the policy paralysis and poor governance by the indecisive Congress government.

The economy was down, confidence was shattered, headlines were dominated by a regular dose of corruption scandals, inflation was soaring, interest rates were high and the rupee had an uncertain outlook. To end the feeling of doom and gloom, the Indian voters decisively voted for PM Modi. Our Prime Minister came with a vision for India. He wanted to ensure that India became a global superpower. He wanted India to provide jobs and opportunities to our youth, recognising that manufacturing was critical to India's success story.

That is when the PM launched the 'Make in India' initiative. Ten years has been a remarkable journey, but it would not have been possible for the multidimensional and transformative changes done by the Modi government. Initiatives include GST, the Bankruptcy Code and a multitude of other reforms. To improve the ease of doing business, as many as 42,000 compliance requirements were done away with, and 3,700 provisions that provided for criminal penalties for ninor offences were removed from various statutes to protect small businesses from harass-

India sharply improved its rank in the World Bank's Doing Business Report from 142nd in 2014 to 63rd in 2019. The government's Startup India initiative



TECH SUMI

These startups are driving the innovation ecosystem in the country, working on solutions to pressing issues in areas such as sanitation, space navigation, reducing food wastage, improving access to healthcare, and empowering women. The development of 11 Industrial Corridors is another focus area of the Government. 20 industrial smart cities are being developed under the programm, which would help make these corridors the backbone of India's manufacturing growth. Four of these smart cities have already become magnets of investment with infrastructure and clearances available for manufacturing units to be set up. Potential investment of Rs 1.7 lakh crore is already committed which will provide direct employment to 80,000 persons and indirect to many more.

ments, and creating more than

15 lakh jobs.

The Government's PLI schemes focus on critical sectors such as electronics, pharmaceuticals, automobiles, textiles and medical devices to create the eco-systems in these sectors for sustained growth



MANY COUNTRIES ARE KEEN TO SIGN TRADE DEALS WITH INDIA.THE WORLD IS NOW LOOKING AT INDIA AS A MANUFACTURING DESTINATION. AND THE KEY REASON FOR THIS INTEREST IS INDIA'S COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE AND ROBUST ECONOMIC **FUNDAMENTALS**

LETTERS TO

and ensure their global competitiveness. PLI schemes have resulted in Rs 1.32 lakh crore in investment and a significant boost in manufacturing output of around 11 lakh crore. More than 8.5 lakh jobs have been created directly and indirect-

ly through this initiative. The Prime Minister's initiatives on infrastructure have been another shot in the arm of Indian manufacturing, apart from generating demand for goods and services, infrastructure development is a major facilitator of industrial activity. Today, India has a huge, and growing, network of expressways and highways. New, world-class railway stations are being built, while new freight corridors are coming up. India is increasingly being seen as a very attractive destination for investment. The country provides the 4D advantage - The decisive leadership of PM Modi; the Demographic dividend of our youthful, talented, skilled Indians; the Demand that 140 crore Indians generate in the economy; and Democracy that ensures the safety and security of investors, and the rule of law which will never allow discrimination against one or the other. The 4-D is a very, very compelling case to attract rule. manufacturers to India. Domestic and international investors today find a golden

opportunity to grow their business. There is a flurry of activity in the investor community. A series of delegations is visiting India, hungry for opportunities to invest and participate in the Indian growth story. Foreign governments and global CEOs are keenly eyeing opportunities in India. Many countries are keen to sign trade deals with

The world is now looking at India as a manufacturing destination. And the key reason for this interest is India's competitive advantage and robust economic fundamentals. Today, inflation is under control, economic growth is strong and the Modi government is following strict fiscal discipline. This is all the more commendable in the current global situation marred by conflict and uncertainty. The initiatives of PM Modi have helped India rise from the unenviable situation of being regarded as one of the "Fragile Five" in the world in 2014, to being one of the Top Five in the world. In effect, PM Modi's initiatives like Make in India have contributed to making the last 10 years a transformational decade - a quantum jump over the lost decade of Congress

(The writer is Minister of Commerce and Industry; views expressed are personal)

Breaking life into small steps for lasting fulfillment



Happiness is actually the most important project of life. True contentment comes from savouring each step, no matter how small

important project of life. It should be broken up into smaller activities to attain the eventual goal. The only time that we probably understand this is in our childhood. As a child, I had intuitively learned the art of allocating the hours of the day for various activities, like waking up, getting ready and spending time in school, having lunch on return, completing homework, going out to play, returning for dinner, and going to bed.

We lived in the present from one hour to the next. I was a satisfied and happy person as I could complete the 'Project Day'. We did not have the need or the time to look too far into the future. As we outgrew childhood, we forgot the lessons learned.

I joined college. Like others, I too started making grand resolutions on the first day of the year. My resolution could be as mundane as losing the 15 kgs within the first three months, which had taken me

a year to gain. It could also be an important resolution to secure 90 per cent marks in my semester examinations, a substantial

improvement over the 60 per cent in the previous one. Each resolution would fly out of the window within the first few months. I had forgotten to take small steps to reach the end destination. Things did not improve even

after I started working. I found a new toy – a 'To Do List. A diary would be earmarked for this most important ritual.

I would start with one such list and continue adding till I had inked the second or third page with only a few activities completed. I would give up, and start all over again. The previous year's diary was promptly destroyed lest anyone glanced into it and called my bluff. This continued for a few years till I discovered the computer. I could delete these

no one any wiser to my shenanigans. I was fooling only myself. I quit my railway job to join a government company working in the execution of construction projects. I was exposed to software-based project management tools for the first time.

I reluctantly spent weeks with the consultant to develop an activity-based project breakdown structure. He educated us about the importance of breaking each activity into smaller sub-activities. We were reluctant to accept that more activities to monitor would result in successful and timely completion.

He was not satisfied with the first draft of less than 100 activities. He was a tough taskmaster. We marched on, to our ever-increasing despair, pending activities at will, with and his impatience, till we

called it quits after we had reached 1000 odd activities. It was a revelation to me. I now appreciated the time that my wife spent planning the daily household chores. The exercise in project management also brought into stark focus all the wrong I was doing while making my New Year resolutions and the To-Do Lists, and more importantly, living my life.

now understand why we remain unhappy most of the time. We forget to derive joy out of each step that we take, however small it may be. The young of today are far more mature. Hina Khan, a young actor, recently diagnosed with cancer, is a courageous woman fighting all that life has to throw at her.

Her thoughts are the most inspiring words I have read in some time, "First normalise the challenges of your lives then set goals for yourself and try to live up to them all along the way. No matter how hard Never back down. Never give

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

QUAD STRENGTHENS INDIA'S ROLE

Madam — China's aggressive posture has consistently threatened peace in the Indo-Pacific region. India, has faced quite a few challenges from the latter. It is a matter of pride that New Delhi is looked upon by other countries to be their firm partner on global platforms to tackle Beijing's economic and military prowess. Specifically, the Asia-Pacific region was described as Indo-Pacific to denote India's increasingly active involvement in the region. The Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (Quad) is one international forum that glues the four friendly nations-the United States, Japan, Australia and India-together. All these nations are keen to usher in a free and open Indo-Pacific region, diminishing the influence of a marauding Beijing. The four have been able to sustain a momentum that no country can ignore. In the fourth in-person Quad summit at US' Wilmington, leaders of the four countries underlined the importance of shared democratic values that have kept them together.

Issues of health, security, climate change, capacity building and technology occupied the leaders' attention. More importantly, India is emerging as a 'leader' of the four, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi has proposed to host the next year's summit in New Delhi in 2025. It can only grow stronger from here.

Ganapathi Bhat | Akola

TOP COURT REJECTS GUJARAT PLEA

Madam— The Supreme Court has dismissed a plea filed by the Gujarat government seeking a review of the court's verdict, which contained certain observations against the State while quashing the remission granted to 11 men convicted of raping Bilkis Bano and murdering seven of her family during the 2002 riots. Having carefully gone through the review petitions, the order under challenge and the papers annexed therewith, the judges were satisfied

Durga Puja has transformed



his is in response to the article titled "A symphony of tradition and transformation" (September 29). In the mid-1980s, Durga Puja used to get celebrated with utmost devotion according to rituals with dominance of Bhakti encompassing both the organisers and public. Only on Saptami morning, we used to get awakened by the rhythmic beats of Dhak, all puja rituals used to

that there is no error apparent on the By integrating tourism studies into face of the record or any merit in the review petitions, warranting reconsideration of the order impugned.

The review petitions are, accordingly, dismissed and it is a landmark decision. The Gujarat government in its plea had said the apex court's observation in the January 8 judgement, holding the State guilty of "usurpation of power" and "abuse of discretion" for complying with an order of another top court bench, was an "error apparent on the face of the record" primarily on three grounds.

CK Subramani | Kerala

TOURISM EDUCATION EMPOWERMENT Madam —Tourism plays a pivotal role in the global economy acting as a bridge between cultures and fostering economic growth in various regions. It contributes approximately 10 per cent to the world's GDP and generates millions of employment opportunities, especially in rural and less developed

commence with rendition of Sanskrit mantras and people used to start flock-

But in last 4 decades all things associated with Durga Puja have undergone a sea change! Far from commencing the Puja on Saptami morning, many pandals and idols now open up for public "consumption" right from the Mahalaya itself thereby "promoting" 4-day Puja to a "modern" 10-day extravaganza! After all majority of these "glamorous" Puja committees do not care to actually offer homage to it through rituals mantras holy hymns or flowers! Durga Puja of today is nothing but a fashion show of sorts with exhibition of flexing muscles - be it monetary might or trophies garnered!

Kajal Chatterjee | Kolkata

academic curricula, institutions can equip students with essential skills in areas such as sustainable tourism practices, travel management and hospitality management.

This education not only prepares students for diverse career opportunities but also fosters a deeper understanding of how to balance tourism's economic benefits with environmental sustainabil-

ity and cultural preservation. Promoting tourism education in colleges cultivates a new generation ready to take the bull by the horns, driving innovation while advocating for responsible tourism practices that balance economic growth with social and environmental accountability. Moreover, it supports regional development by teaching students how to effectively market and manage local attractions thereby preserving cultural heritage while boosting local economies.

Tanisha Gupta | Ujjain Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com facebook.com/dailypioneer | @TheDailyPioneer | instagram.com/dailypioneer/

FIRST COLUMN

HARNESSING INNER POTENTIAL

The human mind is still an enigma. It has enormous potential and is a reservoir of energy



RAVI VALLURI

is alcoholism became a quotidian habit. Dharmendra was making a last-ditch effort as he boarded a flight from Jaipur to the Art of Living Ashram in Bangalore. Fortuitously, Gurudev Sri Sri Ravi Shankar had given him an appointment at 4 PM that evening. Stinking of liquor, and reeking of stale cigarettes, with an unsteady gait he landed at Bangalore airport. He needed a physical, mental, spiritual, and emotional, parachute. Only a 'Master' through grace could provide such a life support system. For some time, my friend was trying to seek redemption from the lethal disease of alcoholism. My inventory list was prepared: join a rehab, attend Alcoholics Anonymous meetings, and undertake the Happiness Programme of the Art of Living.

Gurudev advanced the appointment to 11 AM., and after one glance asked my friend to get admitted to the Ayurveda Hospital in the Ashram for a complete detoxification of body, mind, and soul, and after a 15-day rehab to undergo the Happiness Programme. The Guru had scripted a change in the life of Dharmendra, it was for his mind to grab the opportunity. But the monkey mind invented an excuse and Dharmendra left the Ayurveda Hospital and once again indulged in brinkmanship.

He could not draw the redlines or flag the issues confronting his mind and succumbed to temptation. While the brain is an organ that serves as the centre of the nervous system, the mind is the faculty of consciousness and thoughts. It is an individual's intellect, memory or attention span and will, whose potential needs to be enhanced or live in the past. Such individuals are unable to break the patterns and barriers of their comfort zone. Their prana levels



are exceedingly low and the pendulum of their mind's swings to the past. The moot question is how we use this enormous energy. If we look at the brighter aspects of life, such mental imagery works miraculously. Over some time the mind feels blessed, gains in abundance and becomes grateful. This is what Masters refers

to as the Law of Attraction

The Law of Attraction remains an illusion if it is not in conjunction with the Law of Gratitude. Both these laws operate in tandem and will fuel inner potential to harness growth leading to robust minds. Low and the pendulum of their minds swings to the past. They carry the burden of the past and attempt a course correction without any professional help (Guru) displaying false brayado in their imaginary worlds. They invariably try to also change the behavioural patterns of those close to them, essentially to market their point of view. Such minds invariably resort to shortcuts in life, trying to please everyone without any success. Ignoring the larger picture, this is a cunning and selfish mind, which does not trust anyone: basically, short of confidence and haunted by fear. The human mind is an enigma. It has enormous potential and is a reservoir of energy. The moot question is how we use this enormous energy. If we look at the brighter aspects of life, such mental imagery works miraculously. Over some time the mind feels blessed, gains in abundance and

Both these laws operate in tandem. (The writer is the CEO of Chhattisgarh East Railway Ltd. and Chhattisgarh East West Railway Ltd. He is a faculty of the Art of

becomes grateful. Positive thoughts beget positivity and have a spi-

ralling effect. The jigsaw puzzle of life gets sorted out. This is what

Masters refer to as the Law of Attraction. The Law of Attraction

remains an illusion if it is not in conjunction with the Law of Gratitude.

Can India become a manufacturing hub?



UTTAM GUPTA

Growth is driven by strong domestic demand, export potential, government infrastructure efforts, private sector investment, and initiatives like 'Make in India'



ccording to a Study Report by IDBI Capital, India is set to add US\$ 1 trillion to its gross domestic product (GDP) every 18 months over the next six years. It goes on to say that "with this momentum, the country is on track to become a US\$ 10 trillion economy positioning itself as the world's third-largest economy by 2030". Currently, India has a GDP of US\$ 4 trillion. The report has also highlighted that "India's accelerated growth will be driven primarily by the manufacturing sector, which is projected to contribute 32 per cent to the incremental Gross Value Added (GVA)". It adds "India will overtake the top five economies in manufacturing IIP (Index of Industrial Production) viz. US, China, Germany, South Korea and Japan..."Manufacturing essentially involves the production of a wide spectrum of consumer products, industrial machinery and so on.

It is the most important component of Industrial activity at a broader level which also includes Construction (primarily building infrastructure); Logistics (transportation and storage of goods). Aerospace (aircraft and spacecraft etc) and maintenance and services required to support industrial activities. The contribution of the Industrial sector to India's GDP is around 30 per cent of which manufacturing alone is 17 per cent. The share of Agriculture and allied activities in GDP is around 18 per cent. The remaining 52 per cent comes from the Services sector (SS).

The SS encompasses 'intangible' services such as education, health, entertainment, hospitality and tourism, banking, insurance

While, all three sectors play a crucial role in growth, creating jobs and increasing incomes, manufacturing can provide a more sustainable basis for providing jobs and surety of income. This is in sharp contrast to agriculture which is fundamentally a seasonal activity and economic fortunes are largely tied to how monsoon pans out. Manufacturing can also provide a good buffer for absorbing the excess workforce from agriculture with positive spin-offs even for the latter in terms of higher productivity and income. Within the manufacturing sector, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) occupy a pivotal position. The



WHILE, ALL THREE SECTORS PLAY A CRUCIAL ROLE IN GROWTH, CREATING JOBS AND INCREASING CAN PROVIDE A MORE SUSTAINABLE BASIS FOR PROVIDING JOBS AND SURETY OF

INCOME

MSMEs are ancillary units engaged in the production, manufacturing and processing of goods and commodities (mostly intermediate goods) which are supplied to large enterprises or master units. These units operate on a small scale and are further categorized into micro, small and medium enterprises depending on the 'investment' and 'turnover' threshold. According to the Ministry of Statistics & Program Implementation, the share of MSME manufacturing output in all India Manufacturing output is around 36 per cent. The share of export of MSME-specified products in all India exports has oscillated between 44 – 50 per cent during the last couple of years. As for employment according to a report released ment, according to a report released by the McKinsey Global Institute (MGI), MSMEs in India contribute 62 per cent to the total. Yet, in the past, manufacturing hasn't been given the desired push. Its low contribution of 17 per cent in GDP and even lower share of total MANUFACTURING employment at about 10 per cent

Now, India aiming at the generation of 32 per cent of the incremental GVA from manufacturing shows its determination to put in the effort during the next six years or so, which is nearly double what it has done cumulatively to date. At this pace, by 2030, the share of manufacturing in GDP will have reached 26 per cent (4x0.17+6x0.32)/10. Is it doable?

The factors that can make it happen are robust domestic demand; strong export potential; heavy lifting by the Central Government (plus support to States) by building infrastructure; increasing investment by the private sector; key initiatives such as "Make in India" playing a pivotal role in bolstering the country's manufacturing capabilities underpinned by the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) schemes; India taking up a lead role in recalibrating global supply chains to position the country

as a global manufacturing hub; giving a boost to the micro small and medium enterprises (MSME) and so on. Nearly 70 per cent of India's GDP is driven by domestic consumption; Stimulating demand holds the key to putting manufac-turing on an 'accelerated' and 'sus-tained' growth trajectory. For this, not only people's income should grow, but it should also be evenly and widely distributed. What do the facts speak? According to an Oxfam report, 'Inequality Kills', the collective wealth of India's 100 richest people in 2021 hit a record high of US\$ 775 billion or over 25 per cent of India's GDP. This shows the extreme inequalities in the distribution of income and wealth. There are other pointers to confirm that this is indeed so. According to an analysis of the financials of India's largest companies - those comprising the BSE 500 index – over five years, the profits of corporations included in this index more than doubled from Rs 480,000 crore during 2017-18 Rs 1000,000 crore during 2021-22, whereas their revenue growth was only 47 per cent. This means that payments to factors

of production other than the owners of capital such as to employees/workers, etc., have been kept under a tight leash, resulting in a disproportionate boost to profits. The aggregate dividend paid by these firms increased from Rs 176,000 crore during 2017-18 to Rs 302,000 crore during 2021-22, which is an increase of 72 per cent. In those five years, cumulatively, they paid 34 per cent of aggregate net profit as dividends. This is an unusually high payout ratio - even higher than 30 per cent paid by the world's largest companies in America's S&P 500.

The products made in India need to be priced low if they are to be competitive. But, there are three major reasons as to why prices are downward inflexible. First, several big businesses operating in metals

such as copper, zinc, aluminium or hydrocarbons like oil and gas, enjoy a natural monopoly enabling them to set high prices. Firms in the chemical, petrochemicals, pharmaceutical and agrochemicals sectors also charge more courtesy, high tariffs on imports and licensing and registration requirements. Second, you have the impact of high taxation particularly when it comes to petroleum products. These are taxed under the pre-GST regime leading to the high incidence of 80 per cent of the ex-refinery price of petrol (Delhi). Ditto in the case of diesel. Increasing the cost of the movement of goods raises the cost of almost every manufactured item. Third, how can one be oblivious of the exorbitant power tariff set in double digits in many states? The power distribution companies or discoms (mostly owned and controlled by the States) are forced to charge high rates on supplies to industries as they have to make up for the under-recoveries incurred on supplies to farmers and households, either free or at a heavily subsidized price.

Finally, industries are operating in highly interesting environments. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has kept the policy rate (the interest rate at which it lends money to banks) unchanged at a high of 6.5 per cent along with a 'withdrawal of accommodation' stance (a jargon for tight liquidity) for nearly 20 months.

This leads to high cost loans to all industries across the board. The MSMEs are more vulnerable to all the above cost-push factors. To add salt to the injury, they get delayed payment for their dues from large firms. Unless the above fault lines are addressed, Initiatives under 'Make in India" won't yield the desired result and India becoming a manufacturing hub of the world will remain a distant dream.

> (The writer is a policy analyst; views expressed are personal)

India's education system must prioritise learning over infrastructure

Despite schools being filled with students, foundational skills like basic literacy and numeracy continue to lag

Since gaining independence, India has made significant strides in the field of education, especially in terms of infrastructure and expanding access to schools. Classrooms now accommodate children from all walks of life, and government initiatives have succeeded in bringing millions of students into the

education system. However, despite these achievements, a critical component remains neglected the quality of learning. Infrastructure may be flourishing, but the foundational skills that students require for future success often lag behind. To understand this, imagine a farmer who diligently sows seeds in well-tilled soil, only to



Living; views are personal)

ASHU KAPOOR

ed to the soil. In the same way, India's educational progress in infrastructure is commendable, but the students' foundational skills—the seeds of education—are still not producing the robust results we hope for. Year after year, surveys like the Annual Status of Education Report (ASER) and the National Achievement Survey (NAS) reveal a startling realiskills like basic literacy and

These are the building blocks of education, without which the entire edifice remains shaky. Students are spending years in school, but many are not learning at the expected level. The alarming gap between schooling and actual learning points to a crucial flaw in the system. If foundational skills are not nurtured early on, the benefits of educational progress will remain elusive, much like the farmer's poor

harvest. The introduction of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 brings a renewed sense of hope. It promises transformative change and a shift towards a system that valfind the harvest insufficient ty: a large proportion of stu-because the seeds weren't suit ty: a large proportion of stu-dents struggle with essential but the quality of learning. ues not just access to education

Together with the National Curriculum Framework for Foundational and School Education, NEP 2020 emphasizes the need to measure educational progress through well-designed assessments and to tailor interventions accordingly.

The goal is clear: to raise a generation of learners who are not only equipped with knowledge but also the critical thinking skills required to thrive in the modern world. Research consistently shows that assessments play a transformative role in improving education. Their primary goal is not to rank students or schools but to provide insights into where learners stand on their educational journey. By identifying what students know and can do at individual, school, and

system levels, assessments offer a roadmap for educators to develop targeted interventions that can address specific learn-

In the quest to transform learning, large-scale assess-ments like ASER and NAS will be pivotal. ASER, a householdbased survey, provides insights into basic literacy and numeracy skills, while NAS offers a broader view of students' achievement of curricular outcomes. Recently, the State Educational Achievement Survey (SEAS) was conducted by NCERT to provide state-level insights into educational

Simply generating report cards on students' performance is not enough. The data must be used to inform policy decisions and to implement specif-

ic interventions aimed at individual states, enabling improving learning outcomes. If not, students will continue to face the same challenges year after year, with little improvement. Large-scale assessments should be seen as the first step in a larger strategy to address educational

inequities. While NAS offers a broad overview of the education system, state-level assessment surveys (SAS) have the potential to zoom in on specific issues at the school level. NEP 2020 recognizes the importance of these surveys and recommends that each state conduct its own census-based assessment to drive continuous improvement. By focusing on local contexts, SAS can provide valuable insights into the

unique challenges faced by

more targeted interventions. However, the effectiveness of SAS depends on how well states define their objectives. To make SAS truly impactful, states need to align their assessment frameworks with clear objectives. A well-designed assessment should consider the needs of the educational system at the state level, and the data collected should be used to support and improve schools, rather than ranking them. India's states would do well to ensure that all stakeholders in the education system-teachers, school administrators, and district-level educators—are trained in data use and analysis.

The road ahead is challenging, but the promise of censusbased state assessments is transformative. By monitoring student progress and providing data-driven insights, SAS can reshape India's educational landscape. When combined with national-level assessments like NAS, SAS has the power to create a more responsive, equitable education system. With a strategic approach and strong governance, India can ensure that every student has the opportunity to thrive.

Fellow at Australian Council for Educational Research (India) and a former Senior Academic Consultant at NCERT and Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Government of India. Views are personal. Inputs by Dr Priyanka Sharma, Director ACER (India)

The writer is a Research

IN BRIEF



GSTN restores Jul, Aug 2017 GST returns data

ST Network on Sunday said the monthly returns data of July and August 2017, the initial months of the Goods July and August 2017, the initial monators of the portal and Services Tax rollout, has been restored on the portal. The GSTN had last week said it is implementing its data policy, as per which data for taxpayers will be retained for seven years only. Thus, GST returns data will not be available beyond 7 years for taxpayers, and they would be archived. Accordingly, on August 1, 2024, returns filed for July 2017 were archived, and on September 1, 2024, data for August 2017 was archived. However, trade and industry had sought some more time before implementing this policy so that they could download their relevant data from the GST portal for any future reference. In an advisory to taxpayers, GSTN on Sunday said GST returns for 17-18 were made available again on the feedback received from the trade and industry. "...in view of the requests received from the trade due to the difficulties faced, data has been restored back on the portal



Global tourists prefer durable travel products

onsumers' preference for environmentally sustainable practices, experiential travel, and a significant spending on self-care are the latest trends in the global tourism market, said experts at the 12th edition of Kerala Travel Mart (KTM) here on Sunday. During a seminar on 'Evolution in Tourism Trends' at KTM 2024 held at Willingdon Island here, they opined that efficiency and personalisation matter the most to travellers. Commenting on the emerging trends, Dipak Deva, managing director, SITA, said sustainable travel products will influence choices of tourists, whose spending on self-care in the tourism sector is projected to quadruple by 2027. According to him, travellers will prioritise experiential travel over daily luxuries and Gen AI is going to impact areas like developer efficiencies, customer support, reputation management and performance advertising of the industry.



AI Express-AIX Connect merger in October

IX Connect as well as airline designator code '15' will fly into the past in the first week of October as the merger of Athe no-frills carrier with Air India Express becomes a reality. "Everything is on track," a senior airline official told PTI earlier this week about the merger process that has been in progress for nearly one year. AIX Connect, which was earlier known as AirAsia India, will cease to exist after flying for 11 years. The aircraft registered under its Air Operator Certificate (AOC) will be transferred to the AOC of Air India Express under the legal merger that is to come into effect in the first week of October, another official said. Currently, Air India Express and AIX Connect operate around 400 flights daily and the operations are set to expand in the coming months. It has a fleet of 88 planes, including 61 Boeing 737 NGs and MAXs, and 27 A320 ceos and neos. With the legal merger, all flights of erstwhile AIX Connect will be operated with the airline designator code of Air India Express -- 'IX' and the code 'I5' will not be there, the official said.

GOYAL'S VISIT TO AMERICA

India, US to push collaboration in critical mineral supply chains

India and the US are negotiating a pact to enhance collaboration in essential critical minerals, and the issue will figure during the visit of Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal to Washington this week.

At the invitation of the US Secretary of Commerce Gina Raimondo, Goyal will undertake a visit from September 30-October 3.

The commerce ministry said, in a statement on Sunday, that Goyal and Raimondo will also discuss steps to expand and diversify critical minerals supply chains between India and the US.

The two sides are negotiating a MoU which intends to enhance bilateral collaboration to increase and diversify essential critical mineral supply chains and leverage their complementary strengths," it

Critical minerals, such as cobalt, copper, lithium, nickel and rare earths, play a crucial role in the production of clean energy technologies, from wind turbines to electric

cars. They are particularly in demand for the production of batteries for electric cars.

Goyal will also meet the US Representative Ambassador Katherine Tai in Washington DC to discuss the ongoing collaboration under the Trade Policy Forum and ways to further add to bilateral trade between the two countries.

The minister will co-chair with Raimondo the India-USA CEO Forum on October 2 and the 6th India-USA

Commercial Dialogue on October 3 to be held in Washington DC.

During the deliberations, both sides will discuss ways to generate sustainable economic growth, improve the business and investment climate and deepen ties between the Indian and the American business communities.

The minister will also interact with leading American and Indian CEOs and industry leaders to highlight the vast opportunities for invest-ment in India.

PRODUCTION-LINKED **INCENTIVES**

Minister holds talks with 140 firms

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal on Sunday held detailed discussions with companies that are getting fiscal benefits under the production linked incentive (PLI) scheme. The minister engaged with 140 companies out of the 1.300 manufacturing units across 14 sectors, which have been the beneficiaries of the scheme. "We had estimated that in the 14 sectors, about Rs 1.46 lakh crore would be invested...Our estimate is that we could look at an investment of upward of Rs 2 lakh crores being seeded through the production linked the scheme period)," Goyal told reporters. At the job front, he added that looking at the numbers that some of them are saying, "we could easily look at about 12 lakh jobs".

India has become manufacturing powerhouse: PM

PNS NEW DELHI

With his government's flagship 'Make in India' initiative completing 10 years, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday said India has become a manufacturing power-

house and it is because of the country's youth power that the whole world is looking up to

As the 'Make in India' initiative marked its 10th anniversary last week, the prime minister talked about it in his monthly 'Mann Ki Baat' radio broadcast and said the success of this campaign includes the contribution of the country's big industries as well as small shopkeepers.

"Today, it gives me immense joy to see that the poor, the middle class and MSMEs are getting a lot of benefit from this campaign. This campaign has provided an opportunity to people of every class to showcase their talent," Modi said.

"Today, India has become a

manufacturing powerhouse and it is because of the youth power of the country that the whole world is looking up to us. Be it automobiles, textiles, aviation, electronics or defence... every sector in the country's exports are constantly on the rise,"

he added. The prime minister said the continual rise of FDI in the country is narrating the success saga of 'Make in

'Now we are mainly focusing on two things... The first is 'Quality', that is, goods made in our country should be of global standards... and the other is Vocal for Local. That means, local products should get max-

imum promotion," Modi said. "In 'Mann Ki Baat' we've also discussed 'My Product My Pride. How the people of the country can benefit from promoting local products can be understood through an example. In Bhandara district of Maharashtra, there is an old textile tradition of, 'Bhandara Tussar Silk Handloom'.

Reliance Infra wins Rs 780 cr arbitration case against Damodar Valley Corp

PNS NEW DELHI

The Calcutta High Court has upheld a Rs 780 crore arbitration award in favour of Reliance Infrastructure Ltd in a dispute with West Bengal-based Damodar Valley Corporation, the Anil Ambani group firm said in a stock

exchange filing. More than a decade back, Reliance Infrastructure had won a contract to set up a 1,200 MW thermal power plant in Purulia in West Bengal for Rs 3,750 crore.

The project was delayed due to disputes and other reasons, leading to DVC seeking damages from Reliance Infrastructure. Reliance Infrastructure, however, challenged this, and an arbitration tribunal in 2019 ruled in favour of the company and directed DVC to pay Rs 896 crore to the com-

pany. DVC challenged the order of the arbitral tri-

bunal in the Calcutta High Court, which was dismissed by the court.

"This is to inform that on September 27, 2024, the Division Bench of Hon'ble High Court of Calcutta delivered its judgment in a peti-

tion filed by Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) challenging the arbitration award under Section 34, dated September 29, 2023, amounting to approximately Rs 780 crore, including accrued interest in favour of the company concerning the Raghunathpur Thermal Power Project," the firm said in the filing. The company said the court "with

the exception of relief on pre-award interest and reduction in the rate of interest on bank guarantee totalling to Rs 181 crore and upheld the (arbitration) award, totalling approximately Rs 780 crore, including accrued interest. In addition, the bank guarantee of Rs 600 crore will

FPI inflow hits Rs 57,359 cr; surpasses Rs 1 lakh cr mark

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Foreign investors have poured Rs 57,359 crore into Indian equities in September, making it the highest inflow in nine months, mainly driven by a rate cut by the US Federal

With this infusion, foreign portfolio investors' (FPIs) investment in equities has surpassed the Rs 1 lakh crore mark in 2024, data with the depositories showed.

Going ahead, FPI inflows are likely to remain robust, driven by global interest rate easing and India's strong fundamentals. However, the RBI's decisions, particularly regarding inflation management and liquidity, will be key in sustaining this momentum, Robin Arya, smallcase Manager and founder & CEO of research

analyst firm GoalFi, said. According to the data, FPIs made a net investment of Rs 57,359 crore in equities until September 27, with one trading session still left this month.



This was the highest net inflow since December 2023, when FPIs had invested Rs 66,135 crore in equities.

Since June, FPIs have consistently bought equities after withdrawing Rs 34,252 crore in April-May. Overall, FPIs have been net buyers in 2024, except for January, April, and Several factors have con-

tributed to the recent surge in FPI inflow into Indian equity markets, such as the start of the interest rate cut cycle initiated by the US Fed increased India weightage in global indices, better growth prospects, and a series of large IPOs, Himanshu Srivastava, Associate Director- Manager Research, Morningstar Investment Research India,

The 50 basis points rate cut by the US Fed on September 18 increased the liquidity in the Indian markets since the Indian rupee was aided by currency fluctuations. This interest rate differential is expected to attract more FPI inflows into India, Manoj Purohit, Partner and leader, FS Tax, Tax and Regulatory Services, BDO India, said.

"With quite a few main-board IPOs with healthy valuations listing on the stock market, foreign money has been flowing in for the new opportunities," Bharat Gala, COO of Equity broking-Ventura Securities, said.

In terms of FPI inflows, the Hong Kong market was the top performer in September, with the Hang Seng index rising 14 per cent.

SBI plans to boost deposit growth: Chairman

PNS NEW DELHI

In a bid to attract depositors, State Bank of India is contemplating to come out with innovative products including a combo product of recurring deposit and SIP, said the bank's chairman C S Setty.

With the economy progressing, he said, customers are becoming financially more aware and demanding, and have started looking for innovative investment instruments.

Today the customers are looking at the value proposition as financial literacy improves and the concept of asset allocation will gain greater importance, he said. "Obviously, nobody wants to

put everything in a risky asset or a speculative asset...banking products will always be part of the basket. So, we are trying to bring products which will appeal to them," he told PTI in

ASUS aims to

become India's

Taiwanese tech giant

ASUS aims to become

India's top PC (personal

computer) brand having

25-30 per cent market

share in two years, with

aggressive retail expan-

sion as one of its key

strategies.
ASUS has already tripled its market share in

India from 6.3 per cent in 2017 to 17.8 per cent in

2023, making it the num-

ber two consumer notebook brand in the country,

said Arnold Su, Vice

President, Consumer &

Gaming PC, System

Business Group, ASUS

top PC brand

PNS NEW DELHI

"We are trying to bring innovation in some of the conventional products like recurring deposit, which is actually a conventional SIP...Maybe, we can combine both fixed deposit/recurring deposit and SIP, a combo product that could be digitally accessible," he said. So, he said, these are the

innovations which the bank is thinking of in terms of popularising the deposit products among the Gen Z.

has undertaken a massive outreach programme for the deposit mobilisation.

tomer both existing as well as new customers," he said.

Besides, he said, the bank

'As I said, for us, deposit mobilisation is a franchisee job. We have the largest number of physical outlets across the country. We are leveraging our huge physical reach by initiating outreach programmes where customers are contact-SBI is to reach out to every cus-

Stressing that deposit is a function of interest rate and

customer service, Setty said, obviously, there is a requirement of adequately compensating our customers, but we would not like to fight in the rate war. I think most of the banks are also pursuing a balancing act of giving the right rate as well as right service. So, our focus is on improving the customer service and also ade-

Regulatory, policy reforms crucial for pharma R&D: Report

PNS NEW DELHI

India's regulatory and policy reforms are crucial for shaping the future of pharmaceutical research and development by streamlining approval processes, strengthening IP protections and incentivising innovation, as several policy challenges continue to hinder the growth of R&D in the sector, according to a report.

As the country modernises its regulatory framework and enhances collaboration with global regulatory agencies, India is well-positioned to become a global leader in pharmaceutical innovation, as per the report by Deloitte and industry ASSOCHAM. chamber

It acknowledged that India's pharmaceutical ecosystem is transforming significantly, supported by comprehensive regulatory and policy reforms to

foster innovation and growth. The regulatory framework, which governs drug discovery, development and commercialisation, is being actively enhanced to streamline approval processes, increase transparency and reduce barriers to entry for innovative products.

However, the report said several policy challenges continue to hinder the growth of India's pharmaceutical R&D sector, such as inadequate capacity for drug regulation, the need for advanced testing facilities and the lack of a strong framework for monitoring quality compliance in manufacturing units".

There is scope for harmonisation between state and central policies to ensure a uniform regulatory environment across the country.

There is also a lack of alignment among different regulatory bodies, resulting in overlapping jurisdictions and inconsistent regulatory outcomes, the report said.

Additionally, bureaucratic complexities within the regulatory framework led to extended timelines for drug approvals and clinical trials, making India less attractive for conducting high-quality clinical research,



Govt considering foreign investment regulatory mechanism

PNS NEW DELHI

The government is considering setting up a foreign investment regulatory mechanism for post-investment review and monitoring in the country, according to sources. At present, the consideration is at

the discussion level only, they added. "It has been observed that all countries do oversight on the FDI (foreign direct investment), which is coming into their country. People suggest that in India also, there should be an oversight mechanism. It's a kind of oversight on money,

which is coming up in the country as FDI," one of the sources said. It can help ascertain that the FDI coming into the country is beneficial to the economy and originates from

legitimate sources. Índia is a major destination for foreign direct investments given its 1.4



billion market, stable policies, demographic dividend, good investment returns and skilled workforce.

The government has taken a series of measures to attract overseas investments like promoting ease of doing business through simplifying proce-

dures and significantly reducing compliance burden for the industry.

The government has also eased FDI norms in several sectors, such as space, e-commerce, pharma, civil aviation, contract manufacturing, digital media, coal mining, and The government has taken a series of measures to attract overseas investments like promoting ease of doing business through simplifying procedures and significantly reducing compliance burden for the industry

defence, besides rolling out the production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme for 14 sectors like electronics and white goods.

The official added that the measures to improve ease of doing business, zero tolerance for corruption

promote 'Make In India' and boost domestic and foreign investments in the country. The 'Make in India' initiative was launched on September 25, 2014, to facilitate investment, foster innova-

tion, build world-class infrastructure,

and the focused effort on emerging

sectors like electronics have helped

and make the country a hub for manufacturing, design, and innovation. Over the last 10 financial years, FDI inflow has increased by 119 per cent, reaching USD 667 billion compared to USD 304 billion in the previous 10 vears (2005-14), with over 90 per cent

of total FDI received through the

automatic route. Foreign direct investment in India jumped 47.8 per cent to USD 16.17 billion in April-June this fiscal on healthy inflows in services, computer, telecom and pharma sectors, according to government data.

Hyderabade Ethepioneer Dad

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'QUEEN OF NEGATIVE ROLES' WITH A HEART FOR WELFARE

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egardless of the character or the story, an antagonist or the story, an antagonist does play a major role to make the story intriguing. In this world of villains and vamps, Jaya Bhattacharya is a sassy demeanour, not just on-screen but also off-screen with her quick-witted aura. While films like Devdas, Ek Vivaah Aisa Bhi or Mimi have seen her in diverse characters her have seen her in diverse characters, her television shows have highlighted her prowess in bringing out something new and fresh in her negative roles.

A much-celebrated actress and a sweet-heart by nature, *The Pioneer* brings her onboard for an exclusive chat and here she begins, "My journey has been wonderful with a little bit of ups and downs, down the hill; not the canyons, not the Everest. But yes, see, that is also very important to keep everybody in check and focused. If everything is always hunky dory, we would never appreciate the ups. I appreciate whatever, wherever and however I have reached, taken my little dip and with

my own perseverance and willpower" *Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi* was the first show that one saw her playing a negative character, Payal. And guess what? She had herself never envisioned playing a negative character. Well, who even would? "That is certainly not my nature, I was very timid before I had played the character," she harks back on. Just as they say, 'As you get the power, things change' and that's what had happened with her too. "Kyunki Saas Bhi Kabhi Bahu Thi was supposed to be the fire starter and was supposed to be a cameo. Thankfully, it clicked and I played that character for 8 years." Isn't that amazing, like literally! "For that, the preparations I did was just being the puppet of my director's hands to suggest what we the first show that one saw her playing a my director's hands to suggest what we could do. A lot of help actually came in from my learning of dance and music. Dance automatically got my eyebrows up and things worked out well. My dialogues has always been commanded by the music I learned. Most Bengalis speak in a little tune. Even when I'm speaking now, it all goes in music. So whenever I give a gali also, it always is musical (we laugh out loud). It was quite fun actually. Doing this show, my on screen image, that strong negative image came very handy. Not just professionally but also personally, I got to start doing animal welfare work. I also got a lot of films. I got *Devdas*, Hindustan Ki Kasam and Lajja'.

Now here she is, she's seen playing the character of Urmila in her latest show Chhathi Maiyaa Ki Bitiya in Sun Neo, Ir this, we see her character bringing in different dimensions and that was what made her say a 'yes' to the project. "She is a negative person, by far. She gives a masala also. But then there is also the aspect where she's very sweet, around her stepson. It gives a lot of places for me to play around. I had also done Thapki Pyaar Ki with the same production house. So it was like coming back to the same family. Also because it is on a new channel. Then Imlie was shutting so why not?" The meaty role that she's got to play in this latest show was a 'no-brainer'. "I am aware that wherever I will go, I'll get good footage."

With negative characters, there's always a sense of fear about playing it. However, the *Delhi Crime* fame says, "I was put into this bracket because of my character I played Kyunki. I became such a huge success that I was labelled that I am going to be a negative character only. And sadly, whoever or whichever character I was



all similar characters. They had already had it in mind that they are not going to be deviating from that path. They are not going to be experimenting with anything else. I kept on doing it for some time. Obviously, we are required to be working. So we actors do some projects to make money, we do some projects to fulfill the requirements of our soul, experiment on our acting skills and give something different to the audience to watch and appreciate also." watch and appreciate also."

But then came a time when, "I felt very

restricted and I started questioning my ability because I was not allowed to come out of the box. I stopped doing work for about 7 years. I was working behind the camera. I was working with Siddharth Nagar, my Rakhi brother. Since 1993, he's been a producer. So, I was writing. I was doing the costumes. I was doing the art decor. I was hanging every very thing almost. I also produced a show for Doordarshan, but there was a back stabbing so I myself went ahead and closed the showdown. My motto has never been only showdown. My motto has never been only to mint money. Giving something good and a good thought is also very important according to me. I take it very seriously that whatever story, be it for theatre, film, any-thing, there is a moral attached to it and that should be conveyed to the audience."

After the 7 years of hiatus, she landed another antagonist, a different negative role in the show *Ganga*, where she played a strict widow, a strong woman because she was looking after all the other widow ladies and children who are widowed. "I had a variety. The whole panorama of that particular character of the series was so particular character of the series was so very brilliant and I'm grateful that I got that particular character. The journey goes on and I get very many roles to play. I did *Delhi Crime* season 1. I am going to be doing *Delhi Crime* season 3. I'm super excited about it," says the *Jigyaasa* star, who further highlights, "It's important to bring diversity everytime on screen. It's bring diversity everytime on-screen. It's always a challenge when you are allowed to explore something, then you make the best use of it."

But then came a point when reports started claiming her to be 'penniless' and 'pleading for work in order to earn some money'. Recalling of those times, she shares with us, "When the post came out that I was penniless, bankrupt, I was not. I certainly was not. Indeed. Yes, There have been times where I have been penniless. During the lockdown, my bank account was 0 and I was laughing. That was the point where I asked my father to allow me to use his savings that he had received in pensions in the form of pensions, which he never touched. I asked my father to allow me to utilise that money to share rations with needy people. I am that stronger person and I come from that lineage. That is what I did when I was penniless, actually. During that time, not only was I helping out human beings, I also went to the area to distribute rations, even at the red light areas to people who had retired, the needy's at the railway stations and more. There were various other organisations who made a fool out of me also."

Not that she's stopped the cause in any way because she runs the NGO Thank You Earth for the last 5 years now that takes in injured and ill animals. However, getting the right amount of funds have been a task.

"I don't want to keep asking people to "I don't want to keep asking people to help me with funds. I'm just grateful that I keep getting work because I wish to have a huge parcel of land where I can make my own 24/7 hospital. I would like to make a proper animal friendly hotel, along with our hospital which will work free of cost for the needy."



Bohemian designs elevating your minimalist aesthetics

mixture of bohemian and minimalist designs can result in a harmoniously balanced space, despite their apparent differences. The simplicity of minimalism offers a great contrast to the intricate details and rustic colors of Bohemian decor.

By merging the simplicity of minimalism with the warmth and vibrancy of Boho elements, vou can create a balanced space that exudes tranquility and personality. Through a combination of carefully choosing diverse accessories and layering natural elements, this blend of styles creates a distinct and welcoming home atmosphere that embodies both tranquility and innovation.

Bohemian design can beautifully complement a minimalist aesthetic in several ways:

• Adding texture and depth: Bohemian elements like vintage rugs, macrame wall hangings ar woven baskets bring texture and visual interest to a minimalist

• Introducing natural elements: Bohemian style often incorporates natural elements like plants, branches, and stones, which can add warmth and coziness to a minimalist space.

Creating a cozy atmosphere: Lighting, such as candles and lanterns, can create a warm and inviting ambiance in a minimalist space.

• Incorporating statement pieces: Bohemian decor often features unique, eye-catching pieces like colourful artwork, vintage furniture, or eclectic accessories, which can add personality to a minimalist space.

- Embracing imperfection: Bohemian style celebrates imperfection and uniqueness, which can help balance out the clean lines and simplicity of a minimalist aesthetic. It celebrates individuality and self-expression, allowing people to add personality to their space.
- Need for visual interest: Bohemian decor adds depth, texture and visual interest to a minimalist space, preventing it from feeling too sterile or empty.
- Interest in sustainability: Bohemian style often incorporates vintage, repurposed, or second-hand items, aligning with the growing interest in sustainable living.
- Desire for a sense of adventure: Bohemian design can evoke a sense of travel, exploration and adventure, adding a laver of excitement to a minimalist space.
- · Reaction against mass-produced decor: Bohemian style rejects mass-produced, generic decor, allowing people to create a truly one-of-a-kind space.

• Seeking a sense of community: Bohemian design often incorporates elements from different cultures and traditions, fostering a sense of connection and commu-

• Embracing imperfection: Bohemian style celebrates imperfection and uniqueness, allowing people to embrace the beauty of imperfection in their homes.

> (The author, Tushar Joshi, is the founder of Utkarsh Vastukaran.)

RAISE YOUR GLASS AND EXPECTATIONS!

AARTI SREENATH aarti.sreenath9@gmail.com

n the inauguration evening of Diageo's X Series, the party scene has transitioned from whisky-on-the-rocks to cocktails-on-the-wildside, with everyone—from Gen Z to seasoned millennials seeking a fresher sip of life. The rise of the "cocktail culture" has become the new status symbol, with the latest concoctions focusing on boldness, experimentation and just plain fun.

Imagine a berry festival happening in your mouth. The combination of house vanilla and Italian lemon adds a touch of sophistication, but let's be honest—you're here for that raspberry zing that keeps you sipping for more. It's sweet, it's tart; it's like the quirky rom-com of cocktails.

The Unexpected Devil; this one's like inviting a mild-mannered librar-

ian to your party and discovering she moonlights as a salsa dancer. A cilantro garnish just sits there, smirking, knowing full well that this drink packs a punch.

with activated charcoal and jaggery joining forces, it's got a goth look with a golden soul. The lime and grapefruit lift it from being too broody, and with a sprinkle of salt, you'll feel like a moody artist sipping on liquid creativity. It's mysterious yet oddly comforting, just like every latenight existential conversation. Who needs tomato juice when you can spice things up with some

rasam? This is that's come back from an ashram with a fresh twist. A bit desi, a bit daring, and definitely not for the faint-hearted. Sip it slowly, lest you end up doing yoga on the table.

Back to Cuba, Ginger and honey have teamed up to take your taste buds on a nostalgic ride to the golden days of rum cocktails. It's like sitting with a charming old friend who still knows how to party.

What-a-Delightful-Melon! A watermelon in a party mood, this drink

is sunshine in a glass. Basically, it's a beach vacation for your senses, even if vou're stuck at a crowded bar. Now about the ambiance, it was nothing short of a sensory spectacle.



Imagine stepping into an art installation that decided cocktails were its muse. Four vibrant booths stood proudly, each wrapped in one of the four primary colours: blue, green, red and yellow. It wasn't just a colour-coded dream, though; each hue had its spirited dedication. If you were hoping

for subtlety, you were in the wrong place. Neon lights bathed everything in an electric glow, turning guests into shadows, silhouettes, and abstract shapes. And just in case you thought this couldn't get more theatrical, a juggler appeared out of nowhere, tossing neon-lit balls in the air like he'd been born to boggle minds at fancy cocktail gatherings.

The entire evening had

this mysterious yet slightly absurd vibe, which was only amplified by the inauguration of the Grand X Series. Who knew what we were inaugurating so grandly? Neon lights punctuated the darkness like party punctuation, and suddenly, every cocktail station seemed like an invitation to an exclusive club for the mildly curious and slightly unhinged.

But the best part? Picture this: You hit a bell for a drink (more like smash-

ing the bell in sheer curiosity) and a mysterious hand appears from behind a velvet curtain, holding your cocktail like an offering. You couldn't see the face, and it was all a bit reminiscent of being in some shady alley, except this dark alley offered refreshments, garnished with an elegant orchid petal no less. Honestly, it was like *Alice in Wonderland* meets a speakeasy, complete with neon lights and a sprinkle of "What on earth is happening?"

And so, there we were, sipping mystery drinks from phantom hands, as the juggler spun light into the darkness. If that's not a night well spent, then I don't know what is.

what's brewing?

















KAI India hosted a remarkable solo Odissi dance performance by acclaimed Japanese artist Chigusa Kamamasu at Triveni Kala Sangam. This enchanting event was part of the Japan Month celebrations, aimed at promoting cultural exchange and deepening ties between India and Japan through the rich traditions of Odissi dance. The evening attracted a diverse audience eager to witness Chigusa's unique artistry, which beautifully blended her Japanese background with the elegance and spirituality of Indian classical dance. The evening was graced by Chief Guest Amitabh Kant, an IAS officer, India's G20 Sherpa and former CEO of Niti Aayog, along with Gurumata Sharon Lowen and other guests. The event not only celebrated the beauty of Odissi but also deepened the understanding of the cultural ties that connect India and Japan.



The two-day 11th International Annual Conference of The Fertility Preservation Society of India, Fertiprotect 2024, a global event dedicated to addressing cutting-edge advancements in fertility preservation, was inaugurated by the Chief Guest, Dr B. Bhaskar Rao, Chairman & Managing Director, KIMS Group of Hospitals at Taj Vivanta. The conference brought together the world's leading experts in reproductive medicine, in particular fertility preservation, oncology and embryology.



Indian actress and TV show host, Suma Kanakala, marked her presence at the opening of V Nourish Yourhealth's clinical nutrition center in collaboration with Nuegut by DesiNutri. The event was also attended by IRS Commissioner of GST Mr. Chandrashekar Reddy and CEO of Nutrihub at IIMR, Dayakar Rao.



The Mass Communication department of Loyola Academy in Hyderabad, concluded its two-day photography festival, Lenzcape 2024. With a theme of Reminiscence: A Sense of Nostalgia, with a sub-theme on Fashion Photography, the event provided students with an invaluable platform to showcase their skills, learn from industry experts and engage in creative

discussions. The event was inaugurated by Principal Fr. Dr. N.B. Babu SJ, alongside Vice Principal of Arts and Science Fr. Prabhu SJ and Dean of Arts Dr. Swaralipi.



Building on its glorious legacy of thirteen successful seasons, IFP (Formerly India Film Project), Creativity X Culture, is gearing up to return with its eagerly awaited fourteenth edition on October 12 and 13.



11-year-old Kalasha Naidu, from Andhra Pradesh, has been awarded the Asia Icon 2024 award from Colombo Governor Senthil during the Asia Icon Awards ceremony held in Colombo, Šri Lanka. Maithripala Sirisena, Former President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, personally attended this event.



The 2024 International School Sports Organisation (ISSO) National Games Basketball Tournament commenced with great enthusiasm at CHIREC International School's Serilingampally Campus. The event which will end on October 2, showcases the talents of over 60 teams from across the nation, competing for the championship title. The tournament was inaugurated by Norman Issac, World Technical Delegate and former Commissioner of FIBA.



Kapoor, along with actor Manas. launched India's first intelligent CUV-MG Windsor EV at the MG showroom in Secunderabad.

Actress Seerat

ARCHIE







CALVIN AND HOBBES









GARFIELD











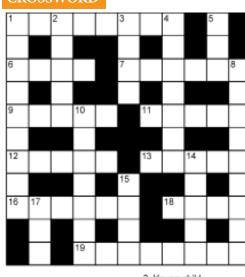
RUNO MARS HAD HIS OWN PROBLEMS

REALITY CHECK

SPEED BUMP LAWYERS CAVE



CROSSWORD











SUDOKU



DIFFICULTY RATING: ***

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DOWN

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3 Young child 4 Went in

- ACROSS 1 Worth lots of money 6 A short letter
- 7 Tasting very sour
- 9 Vapour from boiling water 10 Replies
- 11 Pain caused by a muscle 14 Operate a car tightening suddenly
- 12 From Ireland
- 17 Uncooked 13 A kind of snake
- 16 Athens is the capital of
- this country
- 18 Become weary 19 People in the army



5 Honey-making insect

15 Tripped over

8 People who gather news

stories for newspapers

GINGER MEGGS







tollywood

Satyam Sundaram: Classic potrayal of love

SURESH KAVIRAYANI sureshkavirayani@gmail.com

irector C. Prem Kumar, who previously made the hit Tamil film 96, an emotional love story that took place in a single night, has returned nearly six years later with Satyam Sundaram, starring Karthi and Aravind Swamy in the lead roles. Similar to his earlier work, the story of this film also unfolds over one night. Produced by Suriya and Jyothika, the promotional videos of this movie were intriguing. This is the dubbed version of Meiyazhagan, with the Tamil version which was released on September 27 and the Telugu version a

Sathyam (Aravind Swamy) is settled in Vizag with his parents, wife (Divyadarshini) and daughter. His native place is Uddandarayunipalem, but dur-ing his teenage years, his father lost their house due to fraud committed by relatives, forcing the family to move to Vizag. Despite being settled, Sathyam cherishes memories of his native village, the people and his old house. When Sathyam receives a wedding invitation from his cousin's sister, he reluctantly decides to

attend, planning only to gift his sister and return immediately. However, at the wedding, a mysterious person (Karthi) encounters him, calling him "bava" and showering him with affection. Sathyam is baffled he doesn't recognise this man nor knows his name. Who is this mysterious person and how does he change Sathyam's perspective? The crux of the story lies in Sathyam's journey of finally recognising him.

C Prem Kumar's earlier film 96 was an emotional love story centered around a 22-year reunion of the '96 batch students, creating a sense of nostalgia for the audience and achieving great success. In *Satyam Sundaram*, Prem Kumar brings the audience back to their roots, this time focusing on the emotions shared between two men. After watching the film, audiences will feel nostalgia akin to 96. The story revolves around a family that left their village due to the betrayal of relatives. Rather than fight or blame, they shifted to Vizag. Sathyam, though now settled in Vizag, remains haunted by memories of his native village. When he attends a wedding there, a mysterious person warmly welcomes him. Initially, Sathyam intends to catch the last bus back but ends up staying longer due to the affection shown by this stranger. The story turns emotional



as Sathyam tries, yet struggles, to discov-

as Sathyam tries, yet su uggies, to close or this person's identity.

The film begins by showing why Sathyam left the village during his teenage years and some of his lingering memories. Unlike a typical commercial film with songs, dances, or action drama, Sathyam

Mahendran Jayaraj **Producers:** Jyothika-Suriya Writer and **Director:** C Prem Kumar

Raj Kiran,

others

Vasantha

Sundaram is a deeply emotional narrative about two individuals. The wedding scenes, how people talk, eat and behave are portrayed realistically and these scenes will resonate with anyone who has experienced similar family gatherings. Despite its nearly three-hour runtime, the film

doesn't feel long; it moves at an engross-ing pace. Full credit goes to the director for his storytelling, with scenes that are both authentic and emotionally touching. The moment where Sathyam gifts his sister is particularly poignant.

In the second half, the story shifts to

Karthi's house, introducing several humorous yet emotional moments. The cycle episode stands out as a highlight, marking the beginning of Sathyam's quest to discover Karthi's name. Creating emotionally rich scenes between two male characters is challenging, but Prem Kumar manages to do so skillfully, keeping the audience intrigued throughout. In fact, the audience is left anxiously waiting to hear Karthi's name, which is cleverly kept a suspense until the end.

One thing is certain: while many Telugu filmmakers often rely on typical commercial elements, Tamil filmmakers like Prem Kumar are bringing innovative storytelling, as seen in Satyam Sundaram. There are no songs, forced action sequences, or double entendres just a story that feels real and relatable. It evokes nostalgia, much like reading a cherished novel, and is enriched by stellar performances from the cast.

ERFORMANCE

The lead actors, Aravind Swamy and Karthi, deliver excellent performances.

Aravind Swamy, returning to the screen after a long time, impresses as Sathyam. His expressions in scenes like when Karthi asks him to bless his family members and during the climax when he speaks to Karthi on the phone, are superb. Karthi, a versatile actor known for his work in commercial films, reaches new heights in this role. He fits perfectly into his character and has dubbed his Telugu lines convincingly. Sri Divya is adequate as Karthi's wife, and Devadarshini portrays Sathyam's wife well. The supporting cast also delivers commendable performances. Mahendran Jayaraj's cinematography captures every scene beautifully, while Govind Vasantha's background score breathes life into the film. Most of the technicians from Prem Kumar's film 96 have returned for this one, contributing significantly to its success.

In conclusion, Satyam Sundaram is a must-watch film, with full credit going to director Prem Kumar and lead actors Aravind Swamy and Karthi. It's an emotional tale that takes viewers back to their past. The film doesn't feel like a dubbed version, as every Telugu detail, from village names to characters, has been thoughtfully localised. Though the pace of narration may be a bit slow for some, it's worth watching for its rare, heartwarming storytelling.



Free health check-up for all **MAA members: Vishnu Manchu**

free health check-up camp was organized on Sunday for all members of the Movie
Artists Association (MAA) by President
Vishnu Manchu and Vice President Madala Ravi. It was set up in collaboration with GVK Health Hub, and a large number of MAA members participated in this free check-up drive. "Thanks to Dr. Sastry and GVK Health Hub for conducting this free health camp for all MAA tals," Ravi said. We are grateful for providing this expensive check-up at no cost. I hope this initiative continues in the future," said MAA President Manchu Vishnu.

Vishnu Manchu has always prioritised the GVK Health Hub.

health of MAA members and health cards have also been issued for their well-being, with a request that everyone makes use of them, said Madala Ravi, Vice President of MAA. He added that this is the fourth comprehensive medical camp for MAA members. "We have also provided free health insurance cards to all MAA members for inpatient treatments in all hospi-

are conducting a special master check-up for them. Adequate sleep and attention to spiritual health are also essential," said Dr. Sastry of

Ravi Teja's nephew Madhav impresses with *Mr Idiot* trailer

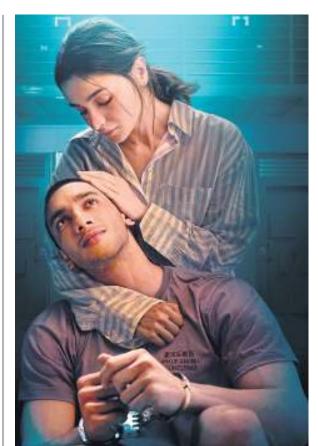


as the chief guest. Lead actor Madhav thanked director

Prasanth Varma for attending the trailer launch of his film. "I'm speaking in front of the media for the first time. The movie has been delayed a bit because I wanted to ensure the final output met high standards. We released the trailer and I hope you all like it," said Madhav. He also expressed gratitude to producer Ravichand and his uncle Ravi

Teja for their constant sup port, adding that they are planning to release the film in November. Anup Rubens is pro-viding the music. Director Gowri Ronanki stated that the film would be a musical hit. "From the beginning, I told music director Anup that the film needed great music, and he understood our story

ed as the chief guest, said that Ravi Teja has been a guiding force for many in the industry. "I felt it was my responsibility to support Madhav when I was invited to this event. Hearing the title Mr Idiot reminded me of the days when I watched Ravi Teja's film *Idiot,* " said Prasanth Varma. He praised Madhav after seeing trailer and his performance in it. "He has acted with a lot of energy and aspires to reach Ravi Teja's level," said Prasanth



JIGRA GOES TELUGU; TELUGU TRAILER

Besides Tamil, Malayalam and Kannada films, Hindi films are now also releasing in Telugu. Alia Bhatt, familiar to Telugu audiences through RRR, is set to release her upcoming film Jigra, also in Telugu. Not only is she the lead actress, but also one of the producers, alongside Karan Johar. Asian Suresh Entertainment is handling the Telugu version's release. Vedang Raina plays Alia's brother in the film, directed by Vasan Bala. Notably, popular actor Rana Daggubati is involved in the Telugu version.

Last week saw the release of the Hindi trailer, and now Ram Charan has unveiled the Telugu trailer on his social media, wishing the team all the best.

"I'm proud to collaborate with the renowned Dharma Productions in bringing this film to the Telugu audience. Jigra is more than just an action-packed film, it's a story rooted in family and the lengths we go to protect the ones we love. With exceptional performances from Alia Bhatt and Vedang Raina, Jigra is sure to deliver a breathtaking film experience that goes beyond language and cultural barriers, appealing to audiences from all walks of life," said Rana Daggubati.

Ram Charan's folk-tastic entry in Game Changer

The entry of actor Ram Charan in his upcoming movie *Game Changer* will be a grand affair. His introduction in the film is marked by the song Raa Macha Macha (titled Dam Tu song Raa Macha Macha (titled Dam 1a Dikha Jaa in Hindi), featuring 1,000 folk dancers performing various traditional dance forms of India. The song, choreographed by Ganesh Acharya, is a tribute to India's diverse cultural heritage, showcasing an array of folk dances from different regions of the country. The song features unique and visually captivating forms like Gussadi from Adilabad, Chaau from West Bengal, Ghumra from

Odisha's Matilkala, Goravara Kunitha from Karnataka and many more. Nakash Aziz has lent his vocals to all three language versions of the track, Telugu, Tamil, and Hindi with lyrics written by Anantha Sriram.

Thaman S adds, "This is something never been seen before. Our idea was to capture all the diverse cultures and make this song the most visually expansive in recent times. The way to achieve this was to bring in 1,000 dancers and feature them alongside Ram Charan." The film is directed by Shankar and produced by Dil Raju.



Nani Best Actor for Dasara, SRK for Jawan at IIFA

he International Indian Film Academy Awards (IIFA) event was held in Abu Dhabi and presented the prestigious awards to the talented individuals in Indian cinema, covering the Hindi, Telugu, Kannada, Tamil and Malayalam industries. This year at IIFA, the Telugu cinema icon and megastar Chiranjeevi was honoured with the Outstanding Achievement Award. The megastar a few days back got his name into the Guinness World Records and now he has been honored at IIFA.

Bollywood actress Shabana Azmi and renowned lyricist Javed Akhtar presented the award to the megastar at this event. "This award is not just recognition of my work but a testament to the love and encouragement I have received from my fans. I am forever indebted to them," he said, amidst the thunderous applause and a standing ovation. Interestingly, the event was hosted by Tollywood actors Rana Daggubati and Teja Sajja. Nani, who has received an award for his

performance in *Dasara* at every awards function, won the Best Actor Award for the same role at IIFA as well. Legendary comedian Brahmanandam received the Best Supporting Actor Award for his performance in Ranga Marthanda. The Best Director Award went to Anil Ravipudi for Bhagavanth Kesari. The film stars Nandamuri Balakrishna, Kajal Aggarwal and Sreeleela and was a successful film. The other actress who was at the center of attention was Samantha Ruth Prabhu. She

won the Woman of the Year in Indian Cinema Award at the 2024 IIFA Utsavam. Many South stars attended the event, including Nasser, Brahmanandam, Priyadarshan, Priyamani, Jayaraman, Sarathkumar, Radhika and Varalaxmi. The three-day IIFA Festival celebrates the best of Indian cinema, and Chiranjeevi's award is a fitting tribute to his remarkable contribution to the world of entertainment.

Meanwhile, actress Keerthy Suresh was

honoured with the Best Actress Award for Dasara. Mani Ratnam helmed Ponnivin Selvan: II made it big at the awards by being honoured with four awards, Best Actor (Tamil): Vikram, Best Actress (Tamil): Aishwarya Rai, Best Director (Tamil): Mani Ratnam and Best Music Direction (Tamil): AR Rahman.

Meanwhile, Animal swept most of the awards. In a night filled with glamour and celebration, Animal emerged as the undisputed champion at the IIFA Awards

2024, capturing hearts and accolades alike. With a total of five prestigious awards, including Best Picture and two significant acting honors, the film has proven to be a monumental success. The film was awarded Best Picture and actors Anil Kapoor and Bobby Deol received the Best Supporting Role (Male) and Performance in a Negative Role awards, respectively. Siddharth Singh and Garima Wahal also received the Best Lyrics Award for the film Animal.















Sri Lanka crushes New Zealand Indian shooters win two to clinch historic series win

AP GALLE (SRI LANKA)

Sri Lanka stormed to a series victory over New Zealand, securing the twomatch test series with a resounding innings and 154-run triumph on the fourth day in Galle on Sunday.

This victory, Sri Lanka's most dominant over the Kiwis, also marks their first win against New Zealand in 15 years. The hero of the games, left-

spinner Prabath Jayasuriya, was named Player of the Series after a masterful performance, claiming 18 wickets across the two matches.

Meanwhile, Kamindu Mendis took home Man of the Match honours for his unbeaten 182, anchoring Sri Lanka's colossal total of 602-5 declared.

With this knock, Mendis etched his name in history, joining the great Sir Don Bradman as the third joint-fastest player to reach 1,000 test runs.

Jayasuriya, who took nine wickets in the first test, was at again, snaring



another nine wickets in the second test as New Zealand's batters struggled to cope with Sri Lanka's spin-heavy attack. Debutant Nishan Peiris was the perfect foil, chipping in with nine wickets of his own, including a five-wicket haul in the second innings.
"We discussed the need to

score big in the first innings. That has been something that has been worrying us for a while. Glad we rectified that this innings," said Sri Lanka captain Dananjaya de Silva.

The spinners were superb. They kept creating pressure and didn't allow New Zealand to get away with things. It was a superb display. That's how we want to compete in home conditions, dominate the opposition from ball one," he

New Zealand's woes began early, bundled out for a paltry 88 in their first innings. Forced to follow on, the Kiwis showed more fight in their second innings, posting 360 – their highest total of the tour and in Galle – but it was too little, too late.

Tom Blundell, Glenn Phillips and Mitchell Santner all contributed half-centuries in the second innings, but the tourists needed far more to challenge

wickets

Resuming at 199-5, New Zealand lost three wickets before lunch on the fourth Despite Sri Lanka's fielding lapses, which saw three catches dropped, they eventually cleaned up after eventually cleaned up after lunch. Jayasuriya removed Ajaz Patel and Peiris took the final scalp of Santner, stumped by Kusal Mendis, sealing the series win for Sri Lanka. "We had our moments in the series, but disappointed with the end result," said New Zealand captain Tim Southee.
"That morning session on day
three when we lost nine

disappointing.
"There were dropped catches and missed stumpings as well in the Sri Lankan innings and in these conditions when you don't hold onto those chances it is very difficult."

was

With this victory, Sri Lanka has now won three consecutive test matches and bolstered their hopes of qualifying for the ICC World Test Championship final at Lord's next June.

gold medals in Peru

PTI NEW DELHI

Indian shooters began their ISSF Junior World C h a m p i o n s h i p (Rifle/Pistol/Shotgun) campaign in Peru on a good note, winning team gold in men's and women's 10m air pistol events, though a potential top-podium finish was lost in the individual category after a marksman was docked two points for reporting late for the final. The junior men's trio of Umesh Choudhary, Pradhyumn Singh and Mukesh Nelavalli topped the

men's team competition in 10m air pistol with a tally of 1726 points. They finished 10 points ahead of secondplaced Romania, while Italy took bronze with a score of

Choudhary though missed a potential individual gold after being penalised two points for reporting late for the final.

Choudhary and Singh had earlier made it to the individual finals placed third and fourth respectively in the qualification round. Choudhary shot 580 and

Singh 578 but missed out on individual medals, ending up sixth and eighth

Luca Joldea of Romania won the gold medal, while Chinese Taipei's Hsieh Hsiang-Chen clinched the silver. Nelavalli was ninth in qualification with a score of

respectively.

combination The Kanishka Dagar, Lakshita and Anjali Chaudhary and tallied 1708 to clinch the junior women's 10m air pistol team gold. They pipped Azerbaijan by a point and bronze-winning bronze-winning Ukraine by four points.

Dagar also made the individual final in third place with a score of 573 along with Kanak who also shot the same score but with lesser inner 10s, to bag the

fifth qualifying spot.
In the final, Kanak won bronze with a score of 217.6, while Dagar finished eighth. Chinese Taipei's Chen Yu-Chun won gold, while Slovakia's Manja Slak bagged the silver.

Wet outfield wipes out play for second day

PTI ■ KANPUR

o play was possible for the second consecutive day in the second Test between India and Bangladesh due to a wet outfield at the Green Park Stadium here. Overnight rain had caused a delay to the start of action but even as the sun was shining

bright around 2:00pm and

there were no soggy patches on the ground, the officials decided to call off the play. Almost eight sessions have been lost in the game due to persistent rain that has played havoc with the final match of two-game

Questions on the drainage system used at the venue have been duly raised. Bangladesh had ended the rain-shortened opening day at 107 for 3. The entire second day was washed out without a

ball being bowled, and only 35 overs were bowled on the opening day. India pacer Akash Deep (2/34) and Ravichandran Ashwin (1/22) were among the wickets.

Champions League returns missing Mbappé, Rodri, Barella as injury wave hits European soccer

AP ■ PARIS

ey players will be sidelined when the Key players will be sidefined when the Champions League resumes on Tuesday after a wave of injuries within a week of the new-look competition

starting. Kylian Mbappé's sore hamstring is likely to sideline him beyond Wednesday when he was due to return to France with defending champion Real Madrid to face Lille.

Serious knee injuries mean Manchester City midfielder Rodri is out for the season and Barcelona goalkeeper Marc-André ter Stegen will miss at least most

Inter Milan midfielder Nicolò Barella, who was a standout playing against Rodri on September 18, will miss at least one Champions League game

because of a thigh strain.

The injuries to four players who were involved at the European Championship into the knockout phase have sharpened the debate about player workload in a calendar made more congested by the bigger Champions

leaves each of them with six more to play through January. Another final rematch

There were two repeats of past finals in the first week of games that relaunched the Champions League in a single-standings format. Man City and Inter drew 0-0 and Liverpool won 3-1 at AC

The next rematch comes Wednesday when Aston Villa hosts Bayern Munich, a giant of the European Cup era that was shocked 1-0 in the 1982 final.

Villa Park will host a first game in the competition since March 1983 when the English side's title defense was ended by Iuventus.

Both eased to winning starts two weeks ago. Villa won 3-0 at Young Boys and Bayern's nine goals against Dinamo Zagreb was a record for any team in the

33-season Champions League era. Harry Kane scored four in Bayern's 9-2 win and has a good record visiting Villa, with five goals there in five Premier League games for Tottenham. He faces a late check on an ankle injury.

Kane edges Haaland



second time in 16 months, a fact he was The extended program is what influential clubs all-but forced UEFA to outpaced even Erling Haaland's 10 in Francesco Acerbi, who smiled and held

PTI ■ THIMPHU

here on Monday.

India will fancy their chances of maintaining

their stranglehold on Bangladesh when the two

sides meet in the final of the SAFF U17 Championship

India began their tournament

nine days ago with a last-gasp 1-0 victory over Bangladesh in the group stage. The same script unfolded last year as

well, when the India U16 boys

beat their eastern neighbours

1-0 in the first game and then 2-0 in the final.

Head coach Ishfaq Ahmed

and his boys will hope for a repeat of that on Monday for a

For the record, the two teams

have met four times in the

finals of SAFF men's age-

group tournaments, with

successful title defence.

Tuesday in Slovakia when Man City round, 5-

for a rare European win by the Scottish champion stood out in an opening week where anticipation was not universal. Pundits including former Man City goalkeeper Peter Schmeichel noted a quietness about the stadium for the Inter game. The attendance was nearly 2,000 higher five days later when Man City met Arsenal in a tempestuous Premier League clash where title ambitions were already in play.

Milan-Liverpool was a heavyweight European fixture yet far from sold out,

with fewer than 60,000 at San Siro. The crowd topped 70,000 at each of Milan's first two Serie A home games this season, and 66,000 on the equivalent Champions League opening night last season to see another English club, Newcastle.

Paris Saint-Germain drew at least 46,000 fans for each home game in Ligue 1 this season — and all three Champions League group-stage games last season — yet fewer than 40,000 were at Parc des Princes to see European debutant Girona two weeks ago.

a Champions League opener against Lille that was 6,000 down on the crowd for a domestic league game against

will be watched as fans respond to the longer and more expensive program of four Champions League home games. The 36-team standings is set to be more dynamic for the final two rounds in January. Tuesday's games

The raucous atmosphere should follow Celtic to Borussia Dortmund whose fans in the Yellow Wall tribune are among the noisiest in Europe.

Bundesliga champion Bayer Leverkusen hosts Milan after making a fast star in a 4-0 rout at Feyenoord. San Siro now reverts to Inter to host Red Star Belgrade.

Arsenal hosts PSG in a meeting of two teams chasing a trophy they never won. Each was a beaten finalist once. Also, Barcelona hosts Young Boys.

Wednesday's games
Even without Mbappé, Madrid should
have too much for Lille playing in the stadium that hosted basketball groupstage games at the Paris Olympics.

Premier League leader Liverpool hosts Bologna, and Girona's first European visitor to the Montilivi stadium is Fevenoord.

Dinamo Zagreb fired its coach, Sergej Jakirovic, after the drubbing at Bave and brought back Nenad Bjelica for a

Osasuna stuns Barcelona 4-2 record for best start



AP BARCELONA

 $B^{\text{ryan Zaragoza scored one goal and set up}}_{\text{another to spark Osasuna's stunning 4-2}}$ win over Barcelona, dealing the Spanish league four wins and a draw.

The lightning-fast forward on loan from Bayern Munich crossed for Ante Budimir to open the scoring in the 17th minute. Zaragoza then showed some fancy high-speed dribbling to round goalkeeper Iñaki Peña on the break

for 2-0 in the 28th on Saturday. Barcelona youth player Pau Víctor pulled one back for the visitors in the 53rd, but Budimir earned and converted a penalty to put the result beyond doubt in the 72nd.

Abel Bretones made it 4-1 in the 85th and substitute Lamine Yamal scored Barcelona's second goal.

Barcelona recorded wins in the first seven rounds of the league. An eighth victory would have equaled a club record established in 2013. Barcelona remained atop the league standings at four points ahead of Real Madrid before the defending champion visits Atletico Madrid in a derby on Sunday.
Osasuna moved into sixth place and stayed

unbeaten in Pamplona in this campaign with

Sporting Lisbon also had 40,000 fans for Kane's fast start to the season with 10 reminded of in a post-game talk with faces Slovan Bratislava, which took the second biggest beating in the opening

create and the 18 games this week, split between Tuesday and Wednesday, still Haaland was kept quiet by Inter for the Haaland should find it easier on The pulsating atmosphere at Celtic Park The attendance and atmosphere trends second spell.

India U17 look to maintain dominance against Bangladesh in final

2019, U20 in 2022 and U16 in emerging victorious once (U16 in 2015).

"We know Bangladesh are a India winning thrice (U18 in come from behind in the Ahmed in the pre-match

semi-final. They had some and Bangladesh hiccups but they've been more stable as compared to the other teams. Our win against them is in the past. A good side. They did well to final is a different game," said press conference.

Îndia beat Nepal 4-2 in a frenetic semi-final Saturday, which saw four goals scored in the last 10 minutes.

Vishal Yadav's second-half

brace put India in control but Nepal didn't go down easily as they kept reducing the Blue Colts' lead.

In the end, goals from s u b s t i t u t e s Ningthoukhongjam Rishi Singh and Hemneichung Lunkim sealed the Indian

Set-pieces are something India have been excellent with so far. They've scored four goals from dead ball situations so far and Ahmed has been delighted with that. In the second semi-final, Bangladesh indomitable spirit as they came from two goals down to level it at 2-2 against Pakistan thanks to Md Manik's 74th and 94th minute goals.

They then converted all eight of their penalties to cap off a memorable comeback and

Messi scores, Inter Miami moves closer to No. 1 seed with 1-1

AP ■ **FORT LAUDERDALE (US)**

Lionel Messi moved Inter Miami another step closer to the No. 1 seed for the MLS Cup playoffs. And the MLS single-season

points record remains in the club's reach as well.

Messi scored in the 67th minute and Inter Miami pushed its unbeaten streak to eight straight Major League Soccer matches with a 1-1 tie against Charlotte FC on Saturday night. It was Messi's 15th goal in 16 league matches this season.

Messi became the sixth player in MLS history with at least 15 goals and 15 assists in a 15 goals and 15 assists in a single season - and he's done that while missing 15 of Inter Miami's league contests.

The tie, combined with remaining.

"We are playing a great team that is chasing us in the Supporters Shield," Inter Miami coach Gerardo "Tata"

Columbus' 2-2 draw with D.C. United on Saturday, left Inter Miami eight points clear of the Crew for the No. 1 seed in the Eastern Conference. Inter Miami is also seven points up on the LA Galaxy for the No. 1 overall seed in the MLS playoffs.

Inter Miami plays at Columbus on Wednesday, and a win would wrap up the No. 1 overall seed - not just the East, but the Supporters Shield as the regular-season winners as well. Inter Miami (19-4-8) has 65 points with matches three Columbus (16-5-9) has 57 points with four matches



But first, the Columbus match looms and Inter Miami knows exactly what's at stake.

"It's very important," defender Jordi Alba said. The Supporters Shield would give Inter Miami home-field edge throughout the playoffs, including for a potential MLS Cup final December 7. And if Inter Miami wins out, it will finish with 74 points - one more than the MLS record of 73 set by New England in 2021.

DC United helped Inter Miami a bit on Saturday. Columbus led 2-1 late in the second half but surrendered the tying goal in the 81st minute; otherwise, the Crew could have been two points closer to Inter Miami in the and standings made

Wednesday's match far more interesting. Messi's goal was his typical brilliance. He took a pass near the top of the penalty box, dribbling once and threading his natural left-footed shot between four defenders and into the net to tie the match.

It came 10 minutes after Charlotte (11-11-9, 42 points, seventh in the East) struck first, with Karol Swiderski deflecting a shot into the net.

But Messi answered, and Inter Miami settled for its third consecutive draw. The team is 5-0-3 in its last eight league matches and 9-1-3 in MLS play since June 1.

"Obviously, we are frustrated with the three consecutive ties," Martino said. "But the story continues." There were

two great chances for Inter Miami in the final moments. Messi lobbied for a shot at the gamewinner in the 10th minute of stoppage time, after getting taken down near the top of the penalty area. No foul was called - one almost certainly would have led to a penalty shot opportunity - and about two minutes later, Luis Suarez somehow missed from pointblank range on the final play of the match. The match was the next-to-

last of the home regular season slate for Inter Miami. After the showdown at Columbus on Wednesday, the club goes to Toronto on October 5 and then wraps up the 34-match schedule at home against New England on October 19.