sunday pioneer VIJAYAWADA DELHI LUCKNOW **BHOPAL RAIPUR CHANDIGARH** BHUBANESWAR RANCHI **DEHRADUN HYDERABAD** *LATE CITY VOL. 3 ISSUE 312

*Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable





CJI says Legislature needs to revisit laws

Joe Biden reiterates **P** US support for India's entry...

→ In brief **←**

Dalit made to spend Rs 11K on feast for entering temple Close on the heels of a Dalit family being penalised Rs 25,000 over

their two-year-old son entering a temple in Kustagi, a Dalit man was forced to arrange a feast spending Rs 11,000 for entering a Lakshmi Devi temple in a village at Karatagi about 11 days ago, a police officer said. "Yes, it is true that the man spent Rs 11,000 to arrange feast for entering the temple. Our officers are investigating the matter," SP T Sreedhara said on Saturday. According to him, the incident came to light only on Friday and since then the temple management led by the priest raised an alarm and forced the man to organise the feast. Sreedhara said a few months ago, a theft had taken place in the

Cong backs Bharat Bandh called by agitating farmers

village and it was decided that no one

except the priest enters the temple.

he Congress on Saturday extended support to the Bharat Bandh call given by farmer unions against the Centre's three agri laws and demanded that discussions be initiated with the protesters. Congress spokesperson Gourav Vallabh said the Congress party and all its workers will support the "peaceful Bharat Bandh on September 27, called by farmer unions and farmers". "We demand that the due process of discussion with the farmers should be initiated because they are sitting on the borders of Delhi for last more than nine months. We demand that these three black laws be taken back," Gourav Vallabh said.

CBIC makes Aadhaar mandatory for GST refund

he government has made Aadhaar authentication of taxpayers mandatory for claiming GST refund. The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs has amended GST rules bringing in various anti-evasion measures, including disbursal of GS1 refunds only in the bank account, which is linked with same PAN on which GST registration has been obtained. The notification also states that from January 1, 2022, businesses who have defaulted in filing summary return and paying monthly GST will not be able to file GSTR-1 sales return of the succeeding month.

Month & Paksham:

panchangam

Varivam: Nil

Gulika:

Bhadrapada & Krishna Paksha

Tithi: Panchami 13:04

Nakshatram: Krittika 14:33

Time to Avoid: (Bad time to start

Rahukalam: 4:35 pm - 6:05 pm

Yamagandam: 12:07 pm - 1:36 pm

3:06 pm - 4:35 pm

Good Time: (to start any important work)

Amritakalam: 11:51 am - 1:39 pm Abhijit Muhurtham: 11:43 am - 12:31 pm

any important work)

Cyclone 'Gulab' looms over AP horizon, orange alert issued

PNS VISAKHAPATNAM

The deep depression over the Bay of Bengal has intensified into Cyclone 'Gulab' on Saturday and an orange alert has been issued for north Andhra Pradesh and adjoining south Odisha coasts, the India Meteorological Department (IMD) said.

Cyclonic storm 'Gulab' is expected to bring heavy to very heavy rains in the districts of Srikakulam, Vizianagaram and Visakhapatnam in the State, as well as Odisha and West Bengal and districts of in the next 48 hours.

The deep depression lay centred 510 km east-southeast of Gopalpur and 590 km east of Kalingapatnam in Andhra Pradesh early on Saturday. The cyclonic storm is likely to

move nearly westwards and cross north Andhra Pradeshsouth Odisha coasts between Kalingapatnam and Gopalpur around Sunday evening, the Cyclone Warning Division of the IMD said.

"The deep depression over northwest and adjoining westcentral Bay of Bengal moved nearly westwards with a speed of 7 kmph in last six hours, and intensified into Cyclonic Storm Gulab'," the IMD said.

A cyclone warning has been issued for north Andhra Pradesh and adjoining south Odisha coasts. An 'orange' alert has also been issued for Andhra Pradesh and Odisha coasts.

The 'orange' alert is issued as a warning of extremely bad weather with the potential of disruption in commute with road and rail closures, and interruption of power supply.

Under its influence, the wea therman said that light to moderate showers at most places with heavy rainfall at isolated places is expected over Odisha and coastal AP on Sunday.



Police officials caution fishermen about the impending danger off Vizag coast on Saturday.

CM reviews preparedness

PNS VIJAYAWADA

Chairing a review meeting on the preparedness of the official machinery in view of the cyclone alert issued by the IMD, Chief Minister YS Jaganmohan Reddy on Saturday directed officials to take all necessary steps.
The officials informed the Chief

Minister that they have alerted district Collectors to take all necessary steps. They said control

Officials asked

duty on Sunday

With the cyclone threat looming

over north coastal districts, the

administration is gearing up to

address all kinds of emergencies.

Disaster Management authorities and also the IMD, the adminis-

trations of Srikakulam,

Vizianagaram and Visakhapatnam have alerted offi-

cials of all line departments to be

on duty on Sunday too.

With the alerts from the

to report for

PNS VISAKHAPATNAM

rooms were being set up village secretariat-wise and that they have readied disaster management staff in Srikakulam and Visakhapatnam districts.

The district Collectors are taking steps to set up relief camps at required locations, the officials informed the Chief Minister.

Jagan directed them to be alert and take necessary steps as there are chances of heavy rains after the cyclonic storm makes landfall.

The National Disaster Response

Force (NDRF) has begun deploying a total of 18 teams in

Odisha and Andhra Pradesh in view of a cyclonic storm form-

NDRF director general SN Pradhan tweeted that the teams - 13 in Odisha and five in

Andhra Pradesh - will be in

place by Saturday night.
The NDRF teams in Odisha

Ganjam, Gajapati, Rayagada,

ing over the Bay of Bengal.

NDRF deploys 18

teams in AP, Odisha

NCMC takes stock of preparations

PNS NEW DELHI

The National Crisis Management Committee on Saturday reviewed the preparedness to deal with a cyclonic storm developing in the Bay of Bengal and directed authorities to take all necessary measures.

The storm is expected to cross the northern Andhra Pradesh and the southern Odisha coasts on Sunday evening with wind speeds ranging from 75-85 kmph, gusting to 95 kmph, accompa-

nied by heavy rainfall. It is likely to affect districts of Srikakulam, Vizianagaram and Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh, and Ganjam and Gajapati in Odisha.





Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses the 76th United Nations General Assembly on

When India reforms, world transforms, Modi tells UNGA

PNS ■ UNITED NATION

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday said that when Indians make progress, it also gives an impetus to the development of the world as its growth is linked with the globe.

Addressing the 76th UN General Assembly session here, Prime Minister Modi said that today, every sixth person in the world is an Indian.

When Indians make progress, it also gives an impetus to the development of the world, he said while speaking in Hindi. "When India grows, the world grows. When India reforms, the world transforms," Modi said.

He said that the science and technology-based innovations

technology-based innovations taking place in India can make a big contribution to the world. The scalability of tech solutions and cost effectiveness are both unparalleled. Over 3.5 billion transactions are taking place every month in India through the Unified Payment Interface (UPI), the Prime Minister said.

India's vaccine delivery platform CoWin offers digital support to register the administration of millions of vaccine doses adding that India puts into practice the principle of Seva Parmo Dharm (service is the highest religion).

He said that India today is moving forward on the path of integrated equitable development. "Our priority is that development should be all inclusive, all pervasive, universal and one that nurtures all," he said.

During the last seven years, India has brought over 430 million people who were previously unbound into the banking system. Today, over 360 million people who earlier could not even imagine this was possible now have insurance coverage as security, the Prime Minister

"By giving over 500 million people the facility of free treatment in hospitals, India has given them access to quality health services, he said, adding that by building 30 million proper homes, India has made homeless families homeowners," Modi

Speaking about potable water, he said polluted water is a very big problem not just for India but for the entire world, and in particular for poor and developing countries.



Ruling party candidates bag all Zilla Parishad chairperson posts

PNS VIJAYAWADA

The ruling YSRCP grabbed all 13 Zilla Parishad chairperson posts across the State, elections for which were held on Saturday.

Following the completion of the election process, those elected as ZP chairpersons across the State were – U Harika from Krishna district, B Girajamma from Anantapur district, Srinivasulu from Chittoor district, Venugopala Rao from East Godavari district, K Srinivas from West Godavari district, Heni Kreestina from Guntur district, Venkata Subba Reddy from Kurnool district, A

Venkayyamma from Prakasam district, A Amarnath Reddy from Kadapa district, B Subhadra from Visakĥapatnam district, M Srinivas Rao from Vizianagaram district and Vijaya from Srikakulam dis-

The election of ZP chairperson and deputy chairpersons for Krishna district was held at the ZP Hall in Machilipatnam on Saturday. Apart from ZP chairperson U Harika from Gudlavalleru, G Krishnam Raju from Nuzvid and Sridevi from Ibramhimpatnam were elected deputy chairpersons. District

Collector J Nivas was the presiding officer and Muralidhar Reddy the observer.

Candidates hailing from SC/ST/BC and Minority communities bagged 67 percent of MPP posts; women were given 64 percent of MPP posts.

SC/ST/BC and Minority communities bag 69 percent of ZP chair posts and 73 percent of deputy chairpersons 1 and 2 posts and the women bagged 54 percent of ZP chairperson and 58 percent of ZP vice chairperson 1 and 2 posts.



YSRCP backs bandh, no buses on Sept 27

PNS VIJAYAWADA

Malkangiri districts

In Andhra Pradesh, the teams

will be deployed in Visakhapatnam, Srikakulam, Yanam and Vizianagaram. An NDRF team usually has a

strength of 47 personnel who are

equipped with tree and pole cut-

ters, communication gadgets,

inflatable boats and basic med-

ical aid to rescue affected peo-

ple and to launch relief opera-

The ruling YSR Congress Party has extended its support to Bharat Bandh called by opposition parties on September 27

State Transport Minister Perni Venkataramaiah alias Nani said that YSRCP was declaring its "total support to the Bharat Bandh" against the three contentious agricultural laws and proposed privatisation of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant.

The Minister said that as part of the bandh, RTC buses will not ply from midnight of September 26 to

1 pm of September 27. He stated that buses would ply as usual after

Nani said that passengers should take note of the cancellation of RTC bus services. He said that YSRCP

urges the Union government on behalf of the State not to privatise Visakhapatnam Steel Plant and to repeal the three farm

The Minister appealed to the farmers' unions to ensure the bandh remains peaceful and is a



Das appointed Chief Advisor to AP govt

PNS VIJAYAWADA

Chief Secretary Aditya Nath Das was on Saturday appointed the Chief Advisor to the Government of Andhra Pradesh with Cabinet status and will be positioned at AP Bhavan, New Delhi, after his superannuation on September 30.

ually distancing itself from the BJP

cates this.

and veering towards the TDP.

Its backing of the agitation

against the Union gov-

ernment's decision to

privatise the Vizag

Steel Plant and sup-

porting the TDP in

the MPP elections indi-



Temp: 34 Humidity: 67% Sunrise: 6:03 am **Sunset:** 6:09 pm transferred Current Weather Conditions Updated September 25, 2021 5:00 PM



Allies and rivals keep political cauldron boiling in AP, TS

There is no better example of the saying "politics makes strange bedfellows" than the two Telugu States where allies and friends, rivals and enemies acquire an entirely new definition.

SNCN ACHARYULU

Those new to the political scene in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh may be surprised by the fact that while two political parties are friends in one State, they are bitter rivals, at least for public consump-

tion, in the other. For example, Telugu Desam Party politics revolves around the Jana Sena and Congress in one State, Jana Sena politics revolves around BJP and TDP and Congress politics revolves around anti-BJP parties in

Telangana.
The TDP and Congress are friends in TS, but in AP these two parties are rivals. BJP and Jana Sena are friends in TS but in AP, there is no clarity over which party Jana Sena is sailing with. Officially though,

alliance in AP, and BJP and TDP are

But the Jana Sena struck an alliance with the TDP at some places in the recent ZPP and MPP elections. TDP and Congress have joined hands with each other in TS while in AP, the Congress is a big 'no' for the TDP.

TDP leaders fear if they join hands with Congress in AP, the 'sin' of State bifurcation will stick to their party, and their standing among the people will go from bad to worse.

The people of AP still see the Congress as the villain of State bifurcation. In the two Assembly elections after bifurcation, the party has not been to win even a single seat in residuary AP. Keeping this in view, the TDP will not have an alliance with the Congress in AP at any cost.

In Telangana, a contrary situation

prevails - here, State Congress leaders vehemently oppose any alliance with TDP. However, under pressure

from the party high command, the Telangana Congress leaders grudgingly accepted a tie-up

with the TDP in the last Assembly elections. Perhaps as a result of this alliance, the Congress failed to win a sizable number

of seats in the previous assembly elections in Telangana in spite of support by TDP and other opposition parties.

However, in the changed political scenario in Telangana, the State Congress now wants to continue the relations with TDP and the latter

In Andhra Pradesh, the TDP is ready to have an alliance with the Jana Sena, which

officially is an ally of the BJP. After the rout in the last Assembly elections in Andhra

Pradesh, the TDP has tried its best to woo the BJP and revive their past relation-

ship. However, the BJP is not ready for an alliance with TDP as it

remembers the bitter experience of the past. Rebuffed, the TDP is now trying to woo Jana Sena. Political observers say that a TDP-Jana Sena combination would be far more potent

than a BJP-Jana Sena alliance, in AP.

There is every chance of the TDP Jana Sena and Left

parties coming together in AP to take on the ruling YSR Congress Party. At the same time in

Telangana, the Congress, TDP, TJS and Left parties appear to be headed towards an alliance against the ruling TRS.

These alliances may be the result of the TDP in Andhra Pradesh and the Congress in Telangana having realised that they cannot defeat the ruling parties in their respective states on their own.



37 junior civil judges promoted, transferred across the State

junior civil judge, Kadapa was

promoted and posted as addi-

tional civil judge, Kadapa. G

Ganga Raju, junior civil judge,

Kanagiri, Prakasam district

was promoted, transferred and

posted as additional senior

civil judge, Anakapalle,

Ch Yugandhar, I additional

junior civil judge, Rajahmundry, East Godavari

was promoted, transferred and

posted as I additional chief

metropolitan magistrate,

civil judge, Guntur was pro-

moted, transferred and posted

as senior civil judge,

Srikalahasti, Chittoor district.

MVN Padmaja, special mobile court for trial of cases under PCR Act-cum III principal junior civil judge, Kurnool was promoted, transferred and

posted as II Additional senior

civil judge, Kakinada, East Godavari district.

K Madhavi Devi IV princi-

pal junior civil judge, Nellore

was promoted, transferred and

posted as senior civil judge,

Ramachandrapuram, East

Godavari. A Sunitha Rani,

principal junior civil judge,

Guntur was promoted and

posted as IV additional senior

K Aruna, VI principal junior

Visakhapatnam.

Visakhapatnam district.

As many as 37 junior civil judges were promoted as Civil Judges (Senior Division) and transferred across the State on Saturday.

As per the orders issued by the Andhra Pradesh High Court Registrar (Vigilance) S Sailaja, the principal junior civil judge Kavali, Nellore district was promoted, transferred and posted as senior civil judge, Adoni, Kurnool district in the existing vacancy. G Yagna Narayana, junior civil judge Jangareddigudem, West Godavari district was posted as civil judge, Vizianagaram district in the existing vacancy.

N Ramesh Naidu, principal junior civil judge, Kakinada, East Godavari district was promoted, transferred and posted as senior civil judge Markapur, Prakasam district. N Vijaya Babu, principal junior civil judge, Ongole, Prakasam district was promoted, transferred and posted as senior civil judge, Kandukur, Prakasam district.

R Sanyasi Naidu, VI Metropolitan Magistrate for Railways, Visakhapatnam is posted to VII Additional senior civil judge, Visakhapatnam.

TVSS Prakash, II Additional junior civil judge, Bheemunipatnam, Visakhapatnam district was promoted, transferred and posted as I additional chief magistrate Vijayawada, Krishna

P Vijaya, principal junior civil judge-cum-IV additional Bheemunipatnam, Visakhapatnam district was promoted, transferred and posted as additional senior civil judge, Eluru, West Godavari district. K Vani, I



additional junior civil judge, Ongole, Prakasam district was promoted, transferred and posted as additional civil judge, Tenali, Guntur district. T Ramachandrudu, additional senior civil judge, Tenali, Guntur district was promoted, transferred and posted as principal senior civil judge, Tenali, Guntur district.

G Shiva Prasad Yadav, principal junior civil judge, Tirupati, Chittoor district was promoted, transferred and posted as senior civil judge Proddatur, Kadapa district.

T Vasudevan, principal junior civil judge, Chilakaluripet, Guntur district was promoted, transferred and posted as senior civil judge, Bobbili, Vizianagaram district. A Padma, principal junior civil judge, Kurnool was promoted and posted as additional senior civil judge, Kurnool.

T Kesava, additional senior civil judge, Kurnool was promoted and posted as principal senior civil judge, Kurnool. D Naga Venkata Lakshmi, principal junior civil judge, Anantapur was promoted, transferred and posted as senior civil judge, Sattenapalle,

S Hemalatha, principal

K Madhavi, I additional principal junior civil judge, Kovvur, West Godavari was promoted, transferred and posted as senior civil judge, Pithapuram, East Godavari

A Shobha Rani, I Additional junior civil judge, Tirupati, Chittoor district was promoted to the control of the ed, transferred and posted as additional senior civil judge, Narasaraopet, Guntur district. Sunkara Sridevi, additional civil judge, Narasaraopet, Guntur district was promoted and posted as principal senior civil judge, Narasaraopet, Guntur district.

M Babu, principal junior civil judge, Kandukur, Prakasam district was promoted, transferred and posted as senior civil judge, Rajam, Srikakulam district. K Vasudeva Rao, principal junior civil judge, Tadepalligudem, West Godavari district was promoted, transferred and posted as senior civil judge, Punganur, Chittoor district.

K Prakash Babu, junior civil Kotabammali, judge, Srikakulam district was promoted, transferred and posted as senior civil judge, Tadepalligudem, West Godavari district. Yalamarthi Srinivasa Rao, junior civil judge, Udayagiri, Nellore dis-trict was promoted, transferred and posted as senior civil judge, Narsapur, West Godavari dis-

S Arunasri, principal junior civil judge, Puttur, Chittoor district was promoted, transferred and posted as senior civil judge, Chodavaram, Visakhapatnam district. GLV Prasad, principal junior civil judge, Tuni, East Godavari district was promoted, transferred and posted as

senior civil judge, Darsi, Prakasam district.

H Amara Rangeswara Rao, principal junior civil judge, Alamur, East Godavari district was promoted, transferred and posted as additional senior civil judge, Anakapalle, Visakhapatnam district.

B Leela Venkata Seshadri, V additional junior civil judge Nellore was promoted, transferred and posted as senior civil judge, Gurazala, Guntur dis-Marapu Sreedhar, principal junior civil judge, Vijayawada,

Krishna district was promoted, transferred and posted as senior civil judge, Kothapet, East Godavari district. K Prathush Kumari, junior

civil judge, Lakkireddipalli, Kadapa district was promoted, transferred and posted as secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Rajahmundry, East Godavari district.

P Goverdhan, principal junior civil judge, Anakapalle, Visakhapatnam district was promoted and posted as principal senior civil judge, Visakhapatnam. KVL Hima Bhidhu, secretary, District Legal Services Authority, East Godavari was promoted, transferred and posted as II additional chief metropolitan mag-istrate (Juvenile court) Visakhapatnam. S Praveen Kumar, additional senior civil judge, Kadapa was promoted, transferred and posted as I additional senior civil judge Rajahmundry, East Godavari district.

High Court Registrar (Vigilance) Sunitha said in her order that all the judicial officers shall get themselves relieved from their present posts and join their new posts on or before October 8.

Cyclone 'Gulab'

looms over AP

Only common projects must be under Boards, says KCR

■ Seeks postponement of gazette notification implementation; nod for Palamuru-Ranga Reddy

M L MELLY MAITREYI ■ HYDERABAD

Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao, who reached Delhi on Saturday met Union Jal Shakti Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat to discuss the concerns of the State related to sharing of river waters with Andhra Pradesh and about certain provisions in the gazette notification on jurisdiction of Krishna and Godavari River Management

He is also believed to have requested postponement of implementation of notification from October 14.

According to those in the know, KCR reiterated the request that only projects common to both the Telugu States should be brought under the ambit of the jurisdiction of the

Water allocation for various projects should be decided before the Boards start exercising their authority, KCR is believed to have told Shekhawat.

KCR reached Delhi to attend the conference of Chief Ministers of States affected by Left Wing Extremism convened by Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Sunday. In his 40-minute long one-

on-one meeting with Shekhawat, KCR reportedly discussed the dispute with sharing of Krishna water and some of the controversial projects taken up by Andhra Pradesh without allocation of water in Krishna basin like Rayalaseema Lift Irrigation scheme and the adverse impact of the project on Mahbubnagar

During his last visit to Delhi in the first week of September, KCR had given Shekhawat a detailed representation on these issues which he followed up again to give more clarity about the concerns of the State.

He also requested approval to Palamuru-Ranga Reddy lift irrigation scheme and also allocation of water.
The Chief Minister was

accompanied by TRS MLAs from Mahbubnagar district Lakshma Reddy, Rajender Reddy and Ala Venkateswar Reddy whom he introduced to the Union Minister.

After the meeting with Amit Shah on Sunday, he is scheduled to meet Union Minister for Food and Civil Supplies Piyush Goyal and discuss

Ruling party candidates...

Continued from page 1

In a statement, the YSRCP said that the election was a reiteration of the party and its supremo YS Jaganmohan Reddy's commitment to uplift downtrodden communities (SC/ST/BC and Minorities) and women by ensuring that 64 percent, 54 percent and 58 percent of MPP, ZP chair and ZP Vice chair 1 and 2 are bagged by women and 67 percent 69 percent and 62 percent of MPP, ZP chair and ZP Vice chair 1 & 2 posts are bagged by candidates belonging to the SC/ST/BC and minority

The YSRCP and the AP

government have ensured that social justice is fur-thered at all possible levels, since taking charge in May, 2019, the statement said.

Nearly 60 percent of posts in the State Cabinet are given to candidates hailing from the SC/ST/BC and Minority communities – including one Deputy Chief Minister post each to SC/ST/BC and Minority communities. Both the speakers of the Legislative Assembly and Council hail from the same communities, the statement said.

50 percent of the Rajya

Sabha Members nominated by the YSRCP government belong to the BC community. Of the 15 members nominated to the Legislative Council, a whopping 11 hail from the aforementioned communities, the Statement said. The government has ensured that 50 percent of all nominated posts and contracts are dedicated to the SC/ST/BC and Minority communities and 50 percent to women while 83 percent of the permanent posts in village and ward secretariats were secured by the

Minister YS Jaganmohan

Reddy. Das was appointed the Chief Secretary in December

NDRF deploys

Continued from page 1

According to a senior Odisha government official, seven districts of the state -Gajapati, Ganjam, Rayagada, Koraput, Malkangiri, Nabarangpur, Kandhamal have been put on high alert as the India Meteorological Department (IMD) predicted the formation of a cyclonic storm over the Bay of Bengal.

The cyclone, according to the IMD prediction, may the southern part of Odisha and neighbouring A P.
The IMD had earlier said

a deep depression that lay over north and adjoining central Bay of Bengal has moved westwards at a speed of 14 kmph.

At 8.30 am on Saturday, it was centred around 470 km east-southeast of Gopalpur in Odisha and 540 km eastnortheast of Kalingapatnam in Andhra Pradesh.

"It (the weather system) is likely to intensify into a cyclonic storm and move nearly westwards and cross north Andhra Pradesh and south Odisha coasts between Visakhapatnam around Gopalpur, Kalingapatnam, by evening of September 26," the agency noted. IMD director general Mrutyunjay Mohapatra said the wind speed of the weath-

er system will vary between 75 kmph and 85 kmph, gusting up to 95 kmph. For September 27, the IMD forecast light to moderate rainfall at most places with heavy to very heavy showers at isolated places in Odisha and Telangana and torrential rainfall at isolated

places in coastal West Bengal.

CHICKEN

RATES ₹/KG

Dressed/With Skin ₹254 ₹274 Without Skin Broiler at Farm RATES ₹/100 VIJAYAWADA **HYDERABAD** 428 VISAKHAPATNAM 470 **RETAIL PRICE**

NCMC takes stock of preparations

Continued from page 1

The NCMC under the chairmanship of Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba reviewed the preparedness of central ministries, agencies and state governments to deal with the situation arising out of the cyclonic storm developing in the Bay of Bengal, an official statement said.

Meteorological the NCMC about the current status of the deep depression in the Bay of Bengal, which is likely to develop into a cyclonic storm by Saturday

The Chief Secretaries of state and central governments

Continued from page 1

The government has cancelled

the Sunday holiday and direct-

ed all field-level administra-

tors, officers, staff and workers

to be ready to take on any resp-

onsibility in the next 48 hours.

Frontline departments including fisheries, horticul-

ture, power, revenue and oth-

ers have directed all the staff

and employees to be on alert

Already, control rooms have

in their respective areas.

Odisha and Andhra Pradesh apprised the NCMC of the preparatory measures being undertaken to protect the population in the expected path of the cyclonic storm as also measures being taken to ensure that there is minimal damage to infrastructure such as telecom and power in the aftermath of the storm.

Necessary arrangements The director general of the have been made to ensure that Covid-19 protocols are

Reviewing the preparedness of the states and central agencies, Gauba stressed that all preventive and precautionary measures should be taken by authorities concerned of the

been set up and officials, who

have deputed to low-lying

areas in the coastal belt alert-

ed to report on hourly-basis to

the headquarters about the

In Vizag, GVMC Commissioner G Srujana directed offi-

cials to be on duty on Sunday.

As the IMD predicts that the

wind speed is expected to reach 95 kmph, damage to

hoardings and trees is expect-

ed. Officials were told to be

alert and ensure there is no

Officials asked to report...

before the cyclonic storm makes landfall, the statement

He said the aim should be to keep loss of life to near zero and minimise damage to property and infrastructure.

The Cabinet Secretary assured the State governments that all central agencies are ready and will be available for assistance. The meeting was attended

by the Chief Secretaries of lisha and Andhra Pradesh Secretaries of Ministries of Home Affairs and Power.

The Directors General of the NDRF and the IMD, and senior officers from the Ministry of Home Affairs also attended the meeting.

damage to life or property,

districts have appealed to the public to avoid venturing out

of their home, unless for very

important reasons, on Sunday.

trying to contact fishermen who have already ventured

into the sea. Security guards

have been deputed at beaches

and public announcements

have been started asking peo-

ple not to venture into the sea.

The Fisheries Department is

The Collectors of the three

very heavy showers at isolated places over Odisha and Telangana and heavy rainfall at isolated places over coastal West Bengal. It also predicted squally

weather with wind speed reaching 50-60 kmph and gusting up to 70 kmph over northwest and adjoining west-central Bay of Bengal.

Wind speed may gradually increase to 70-80 kmph and gust up to 90 very rough, it said.

horizon...

Continued from page 1

There is also a likelihood of light to moderate showers at most places on Sunday with heavy to very heavy rain in some areas and extremely heavy rainfall at isolated places over south Odisha and north coastal Andhra Pradesh.

Parts of north Odisha, Telangana and Chhattisgarh may also experience heavy rainfall on Sunday. Similarly, for September

27, the IMD forecast light to moderate rainfall at most places with heavy to

kmph on Sunday, the weather office said. During the next three days, the sea condition will be rough to

Das appointed Chief Advisor to AP govt The terms of appointment of by three months till September Chief Advisor to the 30 by the Union government Government of Andhra on the request of Chief Pradesh will be issued sepa-

rately, the GO said.

Das was due to retire on

Continued from page 1

A GO (No. 1586) to his effect was issued by Mutyala Raju Revu Principal Secretary to Government on Saturday.

He shall be assigned Cabinet

AP adds 1,167 new Covid cases, 7 deaths

PNS VIJAYAWADA

Andhra Pradesh reported 1,167 fresh cases of coronavirus, 1,487 recoveries and seven deaths in the 24 hours ending 9 am on Saturday.

The state Covid-19 chart now showed a total of 20,45,657 positives, 20,18,324 recoveries and 14,125 deaths, according to the latest bulletin. The active caseload reduced to 13,208, it said.

East Godavari reported 224 fresh cases, Chittoor 167, SPS Nellore 141, Prakasam 130, West Godavari 121, Krishna 113 and Guntur 110 in 24 hours. Kadapa registered 91 and Visakhapatnam 37, while the remaining four added less than 15 each, with Vizianagaram logging only June 26, but his tenure as 2020, replacing Nilam Chief Secretary was extended **EC CLEARS CONFUSION**

Symbols resembling 'car' not to be used

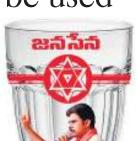
PNS HYDERABAD

The Election Commission of India (ECI) has imposed restrictions on the use of auto-rickshaw, cap, iron box and truck as poll symbols in Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

Apart from AP and Telangana, other States and Union Territories across the country have been given the opportunity to use these poll symbols.

It may be mentioned here that TRS had earlier written to EC on how voters in Telangana State were getting confused with party symbols, especially truck, iron, cap and camera, which closely resemble the TRS poll symbol.

TRS believed that the party candidates lost the election by a slim margin in some constituencies only due to confusion with symbols that appear more or less similar to the TRS poll symbol, the 'car'. Meanwhile, the ECI placed the 'glass' poll symbol, previously assigned to Janasena, in



the 'free symbols' category. This move ahead of Huzurabad bypoll, raises eye-

The ECI had on Friday issued a gazette notification amending the election sym-

The poll panel assigns permanent election symbols to

national and state parties. The Election Commission has imposed some restrictions on the allocation of free symbols for unrecognised parties. It has issued fresh orders taking steps to prevent the use of multiple markers in the respective States in accordance with the conditions

When India reforms, world transforms, Modi... "Despite limited resources, immune system recognises

Continued from page 1

In order to address this challenge, we in India are carrying out a very big campaign to ensure that piped clean water reaches over 170 million homes, which reputed institutions of the world have said is important for the development of any country, he said.

People must have property rights to their homes and land with an ownership record are a must in the most developed countries. There are a large number of people who do not have property rights to the land and homes,

he said. World to Con "Today, we are using cine in India."

drones in India to map over 600,000 villages. And by doing so we are giving people their digital records of their homes and land. These digital records not only reduce property disputes but also provide people an increased access to credit and bank loans," Modi added.

He said that "India is a shining example of a vibrant democracy".

"India has developed the world's first DNA vaccine that can be given to everyone above 12 years of age," Modi said, giving an open invite to manufactures across the world to "Come, make vac-

India - which believes in the philosophy of "Seva Param Dharam" (service is the highest religion) - is completely invested in the development and manufacture of the vaccines," PM Modi stressed as he gave details about Zydus Cadila's threedose CÓVID-19 DNA vaccine that was cleared by the drug regulator DCGA last

ZyCoV-D is the world's

first plasmid DNA vaccine

against the coronavirus. It

uses a section of genetic

material from the virus that

gives instructions as either

DNA or RNA to make the

"While understanding the responsibility towards humanity, India has yet again started giving vaccines to those who need it," Modi

and responds to.

He also took a swipe at Pakistan over "using terrorism as a political tool". "The danger of regressive thinking and extremism is rising in the world," Modi said at the 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), which was held online last year due to the

Covid-19 pandemic. "Those who use terrorism as a political tool should specific protein that the know that terrorism is dangerous for them too," the PM said, a day after India gave a strong response to Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan bringing up the Kashmir issue at the UNGA.

Modi called for a broader global response against terrorism, and also asked nations to work towards keeping the world's shipping lanes free from "expansionism".

"In Afghanistan, minorities need help. We should fulfil our responsibility... We must keep in mind that we can use ocean resources, but not abuse them. The world must protect the oceans from expansionism and keep maritime trade free," he said.

MUNICIPAL CORPORATION ELURU

prevailing.

e-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE No:59-68 14th FC 15th FC &

General 2021-22 DATED, 24.09.2021.

The Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Buru invites tenders from interested, eligible bidders for "Construction of Outfall Drain from Pitchukaguntla Brilliant School (D.No.7010-2) to Madepalli Bridge (Ele.Pole.No.70140P) via Gowramma Temple (Ele.Pole.No.A20107) to Yanadula Colony (D.No.PKG100355), in Division Nos. 7&9, Construction of Garbage Transfer Station at 3 Locations, Supply of 2 No's of 625 KVA Diesel Generators, Supply of 1000 KVA. Transference of Service of 69 No. 2010 No. 1000 KVA Transformer and Supply of 60 HP Motor Panel Board etc., One CC Road in 32" Division and One CC Drain in 3rd Division of Municipal Corporation,

Eluru" Total No's of works is 10 with an amount of Rs. 584.23 Lakhs. Tender schedules are available on e-procurement market place from 28.09.2021. Last date of receipt of tenders is 12.10.2021. Further details can be seen at e-procurement market place at www.apeprocurement.gov.in or contact Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Eluru, West Godavari District (Phone /Fax: 08812 - 245990). COMMISSIONER, MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, ELURU

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Pawan to visit East Godavari on October 2

PNS KAKINADA

Janasena party chief K Pawan Kalyan will visit East Godavari district on October 2. According to party sources, Pawan Kalyan will arrive at Rajahmundry airport on October 2 morning. He will visit the Janasena activists who have suffered injuries in the alleged attack by the activists at Kadiyapulanka village. Pawan Kalyan will inspect he damaged roads at various places in Rajahmundry parliamentary constituency. He will also participate in a dharna protesting against the bad state of roads. The Janasena activists have started making arrangements for Pawan Kalyan's visit and according him a grand manner.

Cabinet reshuffle after Dasara, hints Balineni

Energy Minister Balineni Srinivas Reddy made a few key remarks on the upcoming Cabinet reshuffle by YSRCP president and Chief Minister YS Jaganmohan Reddy. The Minister on Saturday made a bold statement at a programme organised in connection with the ZP chairperson election in Ongole.

On the occasion, he said that CM Jaganmohan Reddy had earlier said that chance would be given to other legislators. He said that there would be a 100 percent reshuffle in the Cabinet soon, and added that he was ready to give up the ministry and continue to work for the party with commitment as the party is more important

It may be recalled that during the formation of the Cabinet for the first time, CM Jagan made it clear that there would be changes in the Cabinet after two-and-a-half years. Up to 90 percent of the present ministers would be changed and a chance would

be given to new legislators. With more than two-and-a-



During the formation of the Cabinet for the first time, CM made it clear that there would be changes in the Cabinet after two-and-a-half years. Up to 90 percent of the present ministers would be changed and a chance would be given to new legislators.

half years being completed there is a debate in political circles on the expansion of the

It is being reported that there is a possibility of expansion anytime after the Dasara

Recently, CM Jagan offered nominated posts to leaders who had worked for the party. Adhering to the policy that

MLAs should not hold two posts, nominated posts to RK Roja, Jakkampudi Raja, and Malladi Vishnu were cancelled.

Speculation is rife that the responsibilities will be given to ministers who will leave the Cabinet. Many are trying to secure a berth in the new Cabinet. It seems that the party will choose the new Cabinet carefully.



AP candidate secures 441^s rank in Civils

PNS VIJAYAWADA

Thirupathi Rao Ghanta secured All India Rank 441 in the UPSC Civil Services Examination results that were announced on Friday.

He went to interview in the previous attempt but missed the service by a whisker. This time around, he hit the bull's eye and would probably get an IAS.

Talking to media persons here on Saturday, Rao said, "My parents are farmers from Gangada, a remote village in Vizianagaram district that doesn't even have bus connectivity. I studied in Government Telugu medium school and did B Tech and worked as PMRDF (Prime Minister Rural Development Fellow). During my work, I observed the problems of rural people and tribals and have decided to become a civil servant as it provides me ample opportunities to solve their problems." **ALL SET FOR RGUKT-CET-21 TODAY**

75,283 to appear for test at 467 centres in AP, eight in Telangana

As many as 75,283 candidates are going to attend RGUKT-CET – 21, popularly known as IIIT, scheduled to be held on September 26 (Sunday) from 11 am to 1 pm. The RGUKT officials initiated all measures for the smooth performance of RGUKT-CET-21 in 467 examination centres in AP and eight in Telangana State following Covid-19 protocol. In Telangana, the centers are located in Hyderabad, Rangareddy, Nizamabad, Mahaboobnagar, Karimnagar, Warangal, Nalgonda and Khammam districts.

Addressing a press meet in IIIT-Nuzvid on Saturday, RGUKT Chancellor Prof KC Reddy said that a total of 75,283 candidates registered for the test in which YSR Kadapa District has maximum registration of 8,887 with a share of 12 percent of the total candidates. Anantapur stood second with 7,281 registrations, Prakasam third with 6,567 registrations and Kurnool fourth with 6,066 registrations. While 5,836 candidates registered in Chittoor, 5,763 in Srikakulam, 5,760 in Guntur and 5,535 in Krishna. The lowest registration was observed in West Godavari with 3,060



candidates.

Prof. KC Reddy said that of the total candidates 54 percent are boys and 46 percent girls. He explained that the count of applications by social background shows that 21 percent belong to BC-D followed by SC with 17.6 percent, BC-B (16 percent) and BC-A with 13.4 percent. The share of OC candidates is 16.7 percent of the total candidates and percent of the candidates belong to EWS (Economically Weaker Section). The percent of BC-E candidates is 4% and the same percentage (4 percent) is also observed in the case of ST candidates. The registration of BC-C candidates is 0.4 percent of the total candidates.

Prof KC Reddy said that all arrangements are made to conduct the test smoothly and effectively following Corona protocol. RGUKT-CET-21 convener Prof D Harinarayana said that the

Test will be conducted in all mandals of the Andhra Pradesh State provided a minimum of 60 students registered in a center. A total of 467 examination centers are selected in the State under which the highest 52 centers are located in YSR Kadapa district and the lowest number of 16 centers are located in West Godavari district, which also has the lowest number of registration.

Prof Harinarayana said that the maximum number of candidates accommodated in a center is 240 and the minimum is 60 and the seating capacity of an examination hall is fixed at a maximum of 24 or 16 following Corona guidelines. He stated that Candidates with Covid protocols will only be allowed into the test

RGUKT-CET-21 Registrar Dr K Samrajya Lakhmi and other officials participated in the press

TDP suspects drugs case cover-up bid

PNS VIJAYAWADA

TDP MP K Rammohan Naidu on Saturday accused the YSRCP government and the AP police of trying to cover up the involvement of the Vijayawada-based firm in the international drug smuggling racket.

Rammohan Naidu asked how the State police were not at all investigating the shady activities of Aashi trading company in whose name heroin worth Rs. 72,000 crore was caught in Gujarat. This tainted company was located in the vicinity of the Chief Minister's official residence and it was registered after the YSRCP came to power in the State. Instead of ordering a probe, even the DGP was trying to blame the Opposition leaders.

Addressing a press conference here, the TDP MP said that the national media was widely reporting that the drug smuggling was going on in the name of an AP company. The DGP was wrongfully saying that there was no drug smuggling from AP. Such efforts were being made only to save the face of Government. They were trying to throw the blame on the opposi-



statements. The YSRCP leaders were bringing disrepute to the AP

State all over the country. Rammohan asserted that the TDP had a duty to ask questions on the huge drug seizure made in Gujarat in the name of the AP company. The DGP was not giving proper clarifications. The police officials were making political statements in the State under the Jaganmohan Reddy regime. It had become a routine for the YSRCP leaders to spread false and fake information campaigns as they did on the pink diamond in the past. With regard to the heroin seizure, there were proofs available. Aashi trading for over nine months. The DGP should explain this.

TDP extends support to Bharat Bandh

TDP State president K Atchannaidu on Saturday said their party would extend total support to the Bharat Bandh to be observed on September 27 by the national level farmers' associations in protest against the Union Government's new farm laws. Atchannaidu called upon the party leaders and activists to take part in the nationwide bandh and make it a success. Already, the TDP MPs had made it clear in the Parliament that their party was opposed to the farm laws and that the Central Government should rethink them. In a statement here, the TDP leader deplored that Jaganmohan Reddy was nursuing anti-farmer policies in Andhra Pradesh. The cultivators into coolies with its draconian decisions Meters

agricultural motors with an ulterior motive to get multicrore loans. The meters on motors were going to be a noose round the necks of the farmers. The drip irrigation benefits were stopped, which was putting severe problems to the farmers in upland areas. Atchannaidu recalled how CM Jaganmohan Reddy had betrayed the farmers by reneging on his promise to give Rs 12,500 assistance under Rythu Bharosa. After becoming the CM, he was given just Rs 7,500. The Chief Minister had also conveniently forgotten about the Rs 50.000 investment assistance to the farmers. They promised to provide free borewells and spent crores of rupees but no benefits were borewell was provided in the

were being fixed on the

Oppn making baseless charges over drug bust: YSRCP MLA

Asserting that TDP leaders are indulging in cheap politics over drug bust in Gujarat, YSRCP MLA Dr Gopireddy Srinivasa Reddy said that the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) is investigating the case and the Opposition is making baseless allegations against the government creating panic among the

Addressing a press conference here on Saturday, the MLA said that there is no link between the huge consignment of heroin in Gujarat and Vijayawada, where DRI, an apex body for anti-smuggling, intelligence, and operations, had clearly stated that the investigation is going on. However, the TDP leaders are making misleading statements and creating chaos in the State, he said and added that oppospeak about such issues. The MLA stated that Ashi



Trading Company's address is in Vijayawada, but the company has no activities in Andhra Pradesh and is operated from Chennai, where the suspect had moved to Chennai almost eight years back. The DRI officials had already confirmed this and there is no evidence that the heroin was imported to Vijayawada. It was clearly intended to reach Delhi. Even though there is no constructive evidence, the opposition and a section of media are desperately trying to mislead the public with false allegations against the government.

Ashi Trading Company's address is in Vijayawada, but the company has no activities in APand is operated from Chennai

He assured that Chief Minister YS Jaganmohan Reddy who strives for the good future of students and youth in the State will not allow drugs into Andhra Pradesh and also constituted a Special Enforcement Bureau (SEB) to take serious action on anti-social activities. MLA Srinivas Reddy stated that the government will take responsibility if the opposition proves their claims with evidence. He asked the State Police to take action on those trying to defame the government and the public through false propa-

Video contest by NSUI

PNS VIJAYAWADA

In an innovative initiative, the student wing of Congress party NSUI is conducting a video competition on "Who Killed Gandhi? Why" topic on the occasion of 75 years of Independence for students. NSUI State vice-president Moola Reddy Dhruva Kumar Reddy released a video poster on the competition which would be held for students and said that prizes would be given to winners.

Dhruvkumar Reddy said

that the NSUI national committee decided to bring about an awareness on Gandhi and conspiracy to kill him in view of the false propaganda by the saffron organisations. He said that NSUI AP is conducting a video competition on "Who Killed Gandhi? Why" topic. He said that students can participate in the short video competition on the subject. He stated that Rs 11,000 would be first prize, Rs 5 500 will be second Rs 3,300 is the third prize for the best short videos

37th RPF Raising Day celebrations conclude

PNS VISAKHAPATNAM

Railway Protection Force (RPF) personnel of Waltair Division celebrated the conclusion of the 37th RPF Raising Day on Saturday. A parade was held at the Senior Divisional Security Commissioner's office campus here in which the RPF Senior Divisional Security Commissioner, Waltair, Ch.Raghuvir took the salute and highlighted the achievements of the

Divisional Railway Manager Anup Satpathy and C.J. Chakradhar, Assistant Commissioner RPF graced the occasion. A week-long programme was organised in Waltair Division to mark the RPF Raising Day by conducting blood donation camp, tree plantation, and public awareness pro-grammes. During the function, Five RPF per-sonnel were honored by issuing them with 'certificate of commendation' for their excellent work done in 2021.

A brief presentation on achievement and accomplishments of RPF was given by the Senior Divisional Security Commissioner. The various initiatives taken by RPF for curbing the illegal activities, protection of railway assets, security enhancement and ensuring safety of the travelling public were highlighted.

Govt eyeing assets of aided colleges, alleges Ashok Babu

TDP MLC P Ashok Babu on Saturday advised the Jaganmohan Reddy Government to withdraw GO No. 42 in order to preserve and protect the decades-old system of aided educational institutions in the State.

Ashok Babu said it was unbecoming of the Jagan regime to use its habitual tactics of political rowdyism to suppress the managements of aided colleges including those under the management of minorities. The GO 42 was unlawful and draconian as it had contained threats to the aided managements if they did not surrender their aided staff and properties to the State Government. This sort of suppression of educational institutions was not seen anywhere in the country and

never before in the history of

Addressing a press conference here, the TDP leader demanded that the Chief Minister change his arbitrary policies considering the rising resentment from different sections. Now, over 12 aided institutions including the famous Loyola, AJ Kalasala in Machilipatnam, SVAS College in Giddalur and MG College in Guntur, had challenged GO 42 in the court. The YSRCP regime should realise the foolishness of its policy and start taking a right policy regarding the aided institu-

Ashok Babu said that the aided system was continuing in the country since the 1880s, when the kings and affluent people donated lands and money to start and run colleges by paying even salaries of teachers. CM Jagan was trying to smash such a long running aided system that had helped in providing educational opportunities to generations of students. The YSRCP regime was putting out an illogical argument that there was no need for aided systems since it was implementing Nadu Nedu, Amma Vadi, Jagananna Vidya Deevena and such programmes.
The TDP MLC said that

there were 9,000 teaching staff and 5,000 non-teaching staff in aided posts in over 140 degree colleges and 118 junior colleges in the State. The AP and Central Governments were contributing 50 percent each towards Rs. 565 Cr on these aided staff. Though the burden was far less, the Jagan regime was giving flimsy excuses to kill the aided system.

PNS VIJAYAWADA

The second and third convocations of the Indian Institute of Technology Tirupati were conducted in a joint ceremony on its permanent campus at Yerpedu in Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh on Saturday.

Saint Gobain CEO (Asia-Pacific) B Santhanam attended as the chief guest for the ed as the chief guest for the convocations, presided over by Union Higher Education Secretary Amit Khare, a press release here said.

On the occasion, 208 B.Tech degrees, 99 M.Tech degrees, nine M.Sc, 11 MS degrees and the institute's first Ph.D were awarded.

B.Tech graduate S Naresh Chockalingam was awarded the President's gold medal for outstanding academic performance for the year 2020 and S Gowtham for 2021.

Saishradha Mohanty and Surya Ganesh Vadhri received the Governor's prize for all-



round performance in curricular and extra-curricular activities for the years 2020 and 2021 respectively, the release said. IITT Director K N

Satyanarayana explained the development of the institute over the past three years and the ongoing construction of the campus. Khare said it was remarkable that state-of-the-art facilities were developed in a span of only six years since the inception of IITT.

The chief guest exhorted the graduates to follow the STAY framework that could serve as a radar chart for evaluating their positioning at critical points in their career.

"Stay immersed, stay relevant, stay connected and stay organised," Santhanam told the graduates.

Vizag to host first-ever AP Amateur Golf Championship

PNS VISAKHAPATNAM

East Point Golf Club (EPGC), Visakhapatnam, is gearing up to host the first-ever Andhra Pradesh Amateur Golf Championship being organised under the aegis of the Indian Golf Union (IGU) from September 28 to October 1 in

The stars of Indian Golf including Anirban Lahiri (Olympics, PGA tour) Gaganjeet Bhullar (Asian tour) Shiv Kapur (Asian games Gold medallist and European tour) Chikkarangappa, Rashid Khan, Subhankar Sharma, Aditi Ashok (Olympics) and Udayan

Mane (Olympics) have come through the IGU Amateur sys-

IGU runs the sport of Golf in India and regulates the rules. IGU runs the junior events, ladies' events, and the Amateur circuit. The IGU conducts amateur events annually for men around the country on a variety of courses and also sends amateur teams to international events such as the Asian Games, Eisenhower Trophy (World Amateur Team Championship), Nomura Cup (Asia Pacific Amateur Team Golf Championship), Faldo Series, Asian Junior Championships and now the Olympics.

This year due to Covid, the IGU circuit was cut short by six tournaments confining mostly to the metro cities like **ŘCGC** Kolkata and Delhi Golf Club only.

However, with some persuasion, Visakhapatnam was added to the calendar while Tamil Nadu and Telangana are not having the event this

The AP Golf Association is recognised by IGU as the AP State Golf Association and is also based at EPGC, Visakhapatnam, and is responsible for bringing the Amateur Championship to the port city.

About 80 Amateurs from across the country will participate in this tournament which will determine their Indian Rankings. EPGC is now firmly on the National Golf Map and will open the doors for national tournaments, professional golf, and more importantly, will give a boost to

junior golf.

The East Point Golf Club, founded around 1884, is Visakhapatnam's premier golf club and the only golf course in Andhra Pradesh with 18 holes and is also working towards popularising the game of golf and promoting Golf Tourism in Andhra Pradesh.





ZP chairpersons take oath in distsGovernment creating infra for industries: Kannababu

Chairpersons of Zilla Parishads of various districts were sworn

in on Saturday. In Guntur, Kathera Henry Christina was sworn in as chairperson of Zilla Parishad of Guntur district at a colourful function held in the ZP office here on Saturday. Two vice-chairpersons S Narsi Reddy and B Anuradha were also sworn in. District Collector Vivek Yadav administered the oath to the Chairperson and vice-chairpersons.

A host of YSRCP leaders including MP Lavu Sri Krishnadevaraya, MLAs Kona Raghupathi, Pinnelli Ramakrishna Reddy, MP Mopidevi Venkataramana MLC Ummareddy Venkateswarulu were among those who attended the programme. Kathera Henry Christina thanked the Chief Minister for giving her an opportunity to serve the peo-

In Eluru, Kavuru Srinivas was sworn-in as Zilla Parishad chairman of West Godavari district here on Saturday. District Collector Karitikeya Mishra administered oath with Kavuru Srinivas as chairman and P Srilekha and Penumala Vijay Babu as vice-chairmen.

The Special Meeting of Zilla Parishad was conducted at Godavari meeting hall in District Collectorate here in the afternoon. The District Collector and Presiding officer Kartikeya Mishra conducted the election to Zilla Parishad Chairman and Vice Chairmen

As no other candidate filed nominations for the ZP Chairman post, Kavuru Srinivas remained in the fray. With this, after scrutiny, the Presiding officer announced that Kavuru Srinivas was elected unanimously to the post of Chairman of Zilla parishad. Penumala Vijayababu ZPTC member of Pedavegi and Posina Srilekha, ZPTC member of Tallapudi are only members

Speaking after taking the oath, Kavuru Srinivas thanked Chief Minister Y S Jaganmohan Reddy for giving him an opportunity to serve the people of the district as ZP chairman. He also extended gratitudes to ministers Alla Kalikrishna Srinivas, Cherukuvada Sri Ranghanadh Raju, Taneti Vanita and MLAs and MLCs. A host of YSRCP leaders including Ministers Alla Kalikrishna Srinivas, Cherukuvada Sri Ranghanadh Raju, Taneti Vanita, MP Margani Bharat Kumar, MLAs K Abbayya Chowdary, K Nageswara Rao, K Satyanarayana MLCs Moshen Nageswara

were among those who present. In Ongole, Buchepalli Venkayamma was sworn-in as chairperson of Prakasham district here on Saturday. District Collector Pravin Kumar administered the oath with the ZP chairperson and two vicechairpersons. s.Aruna and Sujata were the two vice-chairpersons. Collector declared they were elected unopposed.

Collector Pravin Kumar con-

gratulated the ZP chairperson

Raju, and MLAs and MLCs

and vice-chairpersons. Ministers Balineni Srinivasa Reddy, Adimulapu Suresh, MP Magunta Srinivasa Reddy who were present in the programme congratulated the newly elected ZP chairperson and vicechairpersons. A slew of YSRCP leaders including MLA Karanam Balaram were pre-

In Kadapa, Akepati Amarnath Reddy was sworn-in as chairman of Zilla parishad of Kadapadistrict.

J Sharada and Balaiah P were sworn in vice chairpersons. District Collector V Vijayarama Raju administered

the oath to the chairman. Deputy Chief Minister S B Amzath Basha, Chief Whip G Srikanth Reddy, Whip K Srinivasulu, MP Y S Avinash Reddy and MLCs C Ramachandraiah were among a host of YSRCP leaders who attended the programme.



Kathera Henry Christina takes oath as Zilla Parishad Chairperson of Guntur district

ZP CHIEF POLLS PEACEFUL IN NORTH COASTAL AP

PNS VISAKHAPATNAM

The elections to Zilla Parishad Chairperson posts Visakhapatnam, Vizianagaram and Srikakulam districts were held peacefully on Friday. With no opposition to the YSRCP candidates, the elections were held as per schedule.

Visakhapatnam Zilla Parishad Chairperson while T Apparao and B V Satyavathi are elected as vicechairpersons. M Srinivasa Rao took the oath as Chairman of Vizianagaram Zilla Parishad while M Bapujinaidu and A Anil Kumar elected his deputies. In Srikakulam district, P

Chairperson of Zilla Parishad while S Jaganmohan Rao and P Sravani were elected the vice-chairpersons.

All ministers representing the three districts, MLAs, MPs and others were present in their respective districts during the elections. They complimented the the successful candidates



V Venugopala Rao was sworn in as Chairman of Zilla Parishad of East Godavari district in Kakinada on Saturdav.

SHORT TAKES



Gutka, liquor seized, 2 held

KAKINADA: The police seized a huge quantity of banned gutka and liquor bottles while being transported illegally at Krishnavaram toll gate plaza in Kirlampudi mandal. Superintendent of Police M Ravindranath Babu told the media that on a tip-off a police team led by CI Suresh Babu conducted checking of vehicles. The police seized 51,000 gutka sachets and 127 liquor bottles of various brands which were being transported illegally in a mini-truck. The police arrested two persons Md. Irfan Khan Hafiz and Salman Sharif in this connection. They were transporting gutka sachets and liquor bottles from Hyderabad to Anakapalli illegally. The kingpin of the racket is at large and the police launched a search for him. The SP appreciated the police team for seizure of huge quantities of d gutka

HC Judge takes driving test

GUNTUR: High Court judge Justice U Durga Prasad Rao took a driving test to obtain a driving licence on Saturday. The Judge took the driving test conducted by the Transport department officials at the motor vehicle inspection office. Guntur district Transport Commissioner E Meera Prasad and other officials were present



Fire breaks out in GMR plant

KAKINADA: Fire broke out in the GMR power plant located on the beach road here on Saturday. The flames spread all over within a few minutes. The power plant has remained closed for the last five years. The flames, which erupted during welding work, were suspected to be the reason for the fire accident. The fire tenders rushed there and put out the fire. No one was hurt in the fire mishap.



Parents should play key role to protect Telugu language

Andhra Pradesh Telugu Sanskrit Academy president Dr. Nandamuri Lakshmi Parvathi has underlined the need for parand promote the Telugu lan-

guage.
She was addressing a seminar on "Opportunities to promote Telugu Language-Challenges" organised by the Yogi Vemana University here on Saturday.

Referring to the introduction of English medium in all government schools, Lakshmi Parvati said that a survey was conducted on the introduction of the English medium in government schools. In Naravaripalle, which is the native village of former Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, 98 percent favoured English medium education in government schools. Those 2 percent of people who opposed were the relatives of Chandrababu

Naidu, she ridiculed. "Even if the English medium is implemented in all government schools, Telugu will remain a subiect so that no damage will be done to the Telugu language. It is imperative to the students to



study in the English medium of instruction to compete at the international level", she asserted. Mr.Lakshmi Parvati claimed

that the Telugu language is lagging in the bottom in world languages as per the UNESCO survey and the Chief Minister had taken steps to bring glory to the

Telugu language.
She emphasized upon the need for all to speak in the Telugu language only at their homes. She recalled that N T Rama Rao had brought worldwide recognition to the Telugu language by floating the Telugu Desam party in 1982.

language. promotion of the Telugu language. Yogi Vemana university vice-chancellor Prof.M Surva Kalavati said that the Telugu language is one of the six ancient languages and all Telugus should feel proud of that. She explained the efforts YVU is making for the development and promotion of

the Telugu language. Chief guest

prof.D Vijaya Raghava Prasad,

Prof. Chandramathi Shankar also

per the UNESCO survey and the **Chief Minister** had taken steps to bring glory to the Telugu The erstwhile rulers ruined the Telugu Academy but present Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy had taken all steps for the

Telugu language

is lagging in the

bottom in world

languages as

ed value of these shares has been arrived at Rs 700 crore as per the valuation for the year 2019-20," it said. These shares of the Karvy group are being held "directly and indirectly" by CMD Comandur Parthasarathy, his

Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotav. Minister for Agriculture Kurasala Kannababu has said

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Kannababu said that 65 major industries had been established in the State in the last two years. He said that about 16,000 MSMEs had also started their production in the State.

Kannababu said that EG in the State. district is witnessing industri-al development and food pro-The minister, along with Backward Classes Welfare Minister Ch Srinivas cessing units are being set up here. Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy is taking all steps to make EG district an Venugopala Krishna and MP Vanga Gita, inaugurated the Vanijya Utsavam 2021 at Nagamallithota here on industrial hub. He said that Saturday. The programme is there are two seaports in the

that the government is creat-

ing the required infrastructure

for the establishment of indus-

tries and informed that 65

major industries have been

set up during the last two years

ing a lot for the establishment

of industries here. Minister Venugopal Krishna said that the government had taken up many programmes to encourage and extend needed support to the entrepreneurs to set up industries here.

MP Vanga Gita and Collector C Hari Kiran also

MLAs Dwarampudi Chandrasekhar Reddy, Jakkampudi Raja and R Varaprasada Rao were among those who attended the pro-



ED freezes Rs 700 cr shares and assets of Karvy CMD

PNS NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Saturday said it has frozen shares worth Rs 700 crore after raids against Karvy Stock Broking Limited (KSBL) CMD C Parthasarathy and others as part of a money laundering investigation against them.

He is currently lodged in the Chanchalguda jail of Hyderabad after being arrested by the Telangana Police last

The ED searches were carried out on September 22 at six locations in Hyderabad and on various premises of Karvv group of companies, connected entities and the residential the agency said in a statement.

"Several incriminating evidences in the form of property documents, personal diaries, electronic devices, email dumps, etc have been seized and are being analysed," it

"It is reliably learnt that C Parthasarathy is trying to offload his shares in the group companies through private deals and thus, in order to preserve the proceeds of crime till further investigation, ED has issued a freezing order on September 24 and the estimat-

sons Rajat Parthasarathy and Adhiraj Parthasarathy, and their entities.

The ED case, filed under the criminal provisions of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA), is based on a Telangana Police FIR alleging KSBL had "illegally pledged the securities of its clients and taken a loan of Rs 329 crore and diverted the same."

"Another FIR has been registered by central crime station of Hyderabad Police for defrauding IndusInd Bank to the tune of Rs 137 crore and one more FIR has been registered by Cyberabad Police authorities for defrauding ICICI Bank to the tune of Rs 562.5 crore," it said.

The ED has clubbed all these FIRs as part of its probe and has al statement of C Parthasarathy

KSBL under the leadership of C Parthasarathy had committed "gross irregularities" and all the illegally taken loans have become NPA, the agency

It is learnt that more FIRs are being registered by other banks and also individual shareholders/ investors, the ED said.

The total loan proceeds taken from multiple banks using the same modus operandi is around Rs 2,873 crore, it said, adding that the NSE and SEBI are also investigating the affairs of KSBL.

The agency said its probe found that KSBL "did not report" the depository participatory or DP account no. 11458979, named KARVY STOCK BROKING LTD (BSE), in the filings made from January-August, 2019

with regulators/exchanges. "KSBL fraudulently transferred shares belonging to its

clients to its own demat account (which is not disclosed to the exchanges) and pledged the shares held in these accounts with the lenders/banks (HDFC bank, ICICI bank, IndusInd bank, Axis Bank, etc.)."

"The securities lying in the aforesaid DP account of KSBL, actually belonged to the clients who were/are the legitimate owners of the pledged securities," the agency said.

It said KSBL did not have any legal right to create a pledge on these securities and generate funds. "The quantum of such loans

ken by KSBI pledge of shares is to the tune of Rs 2,873 crore. KSBL credited the funds raised by pledging of client securities to 6 of its own bank accounts (stock broker-own account) instead of the "Stock Broker-Client Account" and further has not reported these 6 own bank accounts (stock broker-own account) held with various private banks to the Sebi," it

Prima facie, the ED said, a net amount of Rs 1,096 crore was transferred by KSBL to its group company--Karvy Realty (India) Ltd-- between April 1, 2016 to October 19, 2019.

It accused KSBL of conducting "large-scale trading activities in the names of 9 companies that included Karvy Consultants Limited (KCL), which is a group company of Karvy, and 8 other shell companies, in the guise of doing insurance business.'

TTD warns organisers of games portals

PNS TIRUPATI

The Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD) on Saturday warned of legal action against those who were running the games portal in the name of Tirupati Hill Climbing Racing Game' and 'Tirupati bus driver' and also operating a website by the name Digital Annamaiah.

In a statement, TTD Chief Vigilance Security Officer (CVSO) Gopinath Jatti said that the TTD vigilance inquiries showed that a person Varadachari Suresh had designed an online game and uploaded it in Google Play store in total violation of TTD regulations.

The CVSO warned that the accused is also managing a website on TTD's name on which the TTD will take legal

WARM WELCOME



Guntur District Collector Vivek Yadav called on e-Commerce Secretary B V R Subramanyam of the Union government on Saturday. The e-Commerce Secretary was here to attend the meeting with the tobacco scientists, farmers and traders. The Collector met Subramanyam in the Annapurna D Royal palace hotel. Later, the e-Commerce Secretary, Joint Secretary Diwakarnath Mishra and Tobacco Board ED Addanki Babu discussed various issues.

V-P Naidu calls for addressing shortage of healthcare staff

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu on Saturday called for addressing the shortage of trained human resources in the health sector on a war footing.

Naidu made the remarks while addressing the convocation of the University College of Medical Sciences (UCMS).

Noting the low doctor to population ratio at 1:1,511 in Îndia against the WHO norm of 1:1,000, he stressed the need for creating more medical colleges in line with the government's intention of setting up one medical college and hospital in every district of the country.

Referring to the paucity of paramedical staff in the country, Naidu called for improving the nurse to population ratio (1:670 in India, compared to the WHO norm of 1:300) on a mission mode. On the shortage of trained man-

power in rural areas, he suggested creating better incentives and infrastructure to attract healthcare workers to serve in villages.

While noting the improvement in different health indicators since independence, he said that there were many challenges that require a coordinated and concerted approach by both the government and the private sector.

He stressed that the first step to achieving the goal of 'Health for All' is to increase public spending on health.

He referred to the 15th Finance Commission recommendations, which said that states should increase spending on health to more than eight per cent of their respective budgets by 2022 and the public health expenditure of the Centre and States together should be increased in a progressive manner to reach 2.5 per cent of GDP by 2025.

India playing leading role globally under PM Modi: BJP

PNS NEW DELHI

Noting Prime Minister Narendra Modi's meetings with a number of world leaders and corporate bigwigs during his US trip, the BJP said on Saturday that India under his leadership has been playing a leading role in international diplomacy.

Party spokesperson and Rajya Sabha MP Sudhanshu Trivedi also referred to the discussion on COVID-19 besides other issues in the Quad meeting, and said India will be playing a very important role in the production and distribution of over one billion vaccines to be made available for the members of the grouping.

Modi has met five CEOs and US Vice President Kamala Harris, has held bilateral meetings with President Joe Biden and the leaders of two other Quad members, Japan and Australia, besides attending the meeting of the four-member group, Trivedi said, highlighting the "multi-dimensional" aspect of the prime minis-

CJI says Legislature needs to revisit laws

The Chief Justice of India, Justice N V Ramana Saturday said the Legislature needs to revisit laws and reform them to suit the needs of time and people so that they match "practical realities".

The CJI while inaugurating the new building of the Odisha State Legal Service Authority here, also said there is need for the executive and the legislature to work hand in hand in realising "constitutional aspirations."

"I emphasize, our laws must match with our practical realities. The executive has to match these efforts by way of simplifying the corresponding rules," Justice Ramana said. He also emphasised that it was important for the Executive and Legislature to "function in unison in realising Constitutional aspirations." The CJI noted that it is only then, the Judiciary would not be compelled to step in as a law-maker and would only be left with the duty of applying and interpreting laws.

At the end of the day, it is the harmonious functioning of the



three organs of the State that can remove procedural barriers to jus-

tice, he pointed out. Stating that the Indian Judicial system is faced with twin chalnges, the CJI pointed out that the first one is that of "Indianisation of Justice delivery system". Even after 74 years of Independence, traditional and agrarian societies which have been following customary ways of life, "feel hesitant to approach the courts," he noted.

The practices, procedures, language of our Courts feel alien to them", he said adding that between the complex language of the acts and the process of justice

At the end of the day, it is the harmonious functioning of the three organs of the State that can remove procedural barriers to justice, he pointed out.

delivery, the common man seems to lose control over the fate of his grievance.

Often in this trajectory, the justice-seeker feels like an outsider to the system, he pointed out.

He, however, said that although it is a harsh reality, often the Indian legal system fails to take into consideration the social realities and implications.

"Sadly, our system is designed in such a way that by the time all the facts and law are churned in the court of law, much gets lost. People might be bringing their problems to the courts, but what remains at the end of a day is yet another "case", the CJI said.

MP: Woman constable gang-raped; five booked

PNS ■ NEEMUCH (MP)

A 30-year-old woman police constable was allegedly gang-raped by three men, who shot a video of the act and threatened her in Madhya Pradesh's Neemuch district, an official said on Saturday.

While the incident took place earlier this month, the constable lodged a complaint on September 13, following which a probe was conducted and a case was registered this week against five persons, including the mother of the main accused, the official

The police have arrested the main accused and his mother in connection with the crime, said Anuradha Girwal, in-charge of the women police station.

"The accused had befriended the victim on Facebook and had been interacting with her on WhatsApp since April. He invited the victim to his younger brother's birthday party, where she was raped by three men,"

'Country needs at least 600 medical colleges, 50 AIIMS'

The country needs at least 600 medical colleges, 50 AIIMSlike institutions and 200 superspecialty hospitals, Union minister Nitin Gadkari said on Saturday as he called for the need to replicate the infrastructure development sector's pub-lic-private partnership model in the health care and education sectors.

The Road Transport and Highways Minister was speaking at the felicitation of COVID-19 warriors in Karad city of Maharashtra's Satara district. He said the cooperative sec-

tor should also come forward to set up medical facilities.

"Once during a discussion with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, I told him about the scarcity of ventilators. He asked me how many ventilators were there in the country, to which I replied there must be around 2.5 lakh. But he told me that there were only 13,000 ventilators when the coronavirus pandemic broke out in the country," Gadkari said.

There was lack of oxygen,



The public-private investment model in the road and infrastructure development sector can be replicated in health care and education sectors.

beds, and other medical facilities at that time. But doctors, paramedical, nurses helped a lot in those times, he said, adding, "I appreciate their

Apart from the governmentrun hospitals, the contribution of medical facilities set up by the cooperative and private sectors was commendable, the minister said.

"The public-private invest-

ment model in the road and infrastructure development sector can be replicated in health care and education sectors. The country needs a minimum of 600 medical colleges, 50 AIIMS-like institutions and 200 super-specialty hospitals. The government is also thinking of providing help to those social organisations that work in medical and education sectors," Gadkari said.

Azad plans dharna to secure promises made to Hathras victim's kin

PNS ALIGARH (UP)

Azad Samaj Party national president Chandrashekhar Azad has threatened to begin an indefinite protest if the Uttar Pradesh government fails to fulfil its promises to the family of a 19-year-old woman from Hathras who was gang-raped and assaulted last year leading to her death.

Azad, who had visited the family of the woman in Hathras earlier this week, said, "Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's promises made a year back of providing financial support to the family, including job and housing, have become a cruel joke for the family.'

Azad met Aligarh Divisional Commissioner Gaurav Dayal who, he said, "assured that the promised assistance to the family would be given within one

"We will begin an indefinite dharna at the Aligarh divisional commissioner's office after 10 days if these assurances are not fulfilled and justice is not given to the family," he told reporters here on Friday.

The woman died at a hospital in Delhi in September last year, days after being assaulted and raped by four men.

Azad claimed that Aligarh "has become such a difficult place for Dalits that they would be forced to migrate from here."

Asked whether his party will form any alliance for the 2022 assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh, he said, "So far no decision has been taken, but we will not spare any effort to ensure the defeat of the BJP.'

Partition was not just separation of territories, but division of minds: Ram

PNS NEW DELHI

The Partition was not just a separation of territories but also a division of minds, RSS func-tionary Ram Madhav said Saturday, asserting there is a need to find ways to "build bridges" and discourage the elements that believe in separatism.

He also said the whole idea of 'Akhand Bharat' should be seen as not about mitigating physical borders, but erasing the mental barriers that were created due to "this horrendous saga of Partition".

In his address during an international webinar hosted by the JNU and themed on Partition Horrors Remembrance Day, he alleged Pakistan's founder Mohammad Ali Jinnah was a leader who was allowed to "grow into a monster" during the free-dom struggle and was "hell-bent on partition of India".

Jinnah, one of the most contro-

versial figures of the subcontinent served as a leader of the All-India Muslim League from early 20th century until Pakistan's creation on August 14, 1947, when British India was divided into two separate dominions, with India born as a free nation on August 15, 1947.

Madhav, also a member of Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh national executive, described the partition as a "cataclysmic event" which, he said, resulted from "errors of judgment".

"Partition of India unlike many other partitions seen in other countries in that period, was not just a simple redrawing of boundaries... and it also took place on a false premise that Hindus and Muslims were separate nations, even though they had been living together despite their different practices," he said.

The RSS functionary said the Partition also holds important lessons and "we must learn from



the mistakes" of the past, and attempt to "build bridges" with those who have separated, as a way forward.

The Partition of India was not just a partition of territories but also a partition of minds. And, the partition of minds also need to be seen with utmost seriousness and utmost care. We need to build a united Indian society. And, that can happen only if the leadership and elements which believe in separatism and communal separation are discouraged, and the sense of one nationhood need to encouraged," he said.

The webinar, titled, 'India, Partition and its Aftermath: Remembering the Horrors of History', comes a month after Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced that August 14 will be observed as the Partition Horrors Remembrance Day in the memory of the struggles and sacrifices of people, saying the pain of partition can never be for-

Madhav said there was a need to "build bridges" and "not be enemies" with people who have become part of separate entities".

"We need to pull down the walls of mental separation and create, one united Indian society, so that we ensure that India shall not have to bear another trauma of partition anytime in future. And, the next step will be build bridges," he added.

INDIA CORNER

Army officer cycling from Leh to Manali for Guinness record



An Indian Army officer is cycling from Leh to Manali in an attempt to set a Guinness record for the "fastest solo cycling (men)", a defence spokesman said. Lt Col Sripada Sriram of the strategic Strikers Division started cycling for his mission after being flagged off

by Brig R K Thakur from Leh at 4 am on Saturday, the spokesman said He said the officer would attempt to cover the distance of 472 km with a total elevation gain of approximately 8,000 metres. The route involves crossing of five major passes in tough weather conditions, the spokesman said, adding the officer is expected to reach Manali in Himachal Pradesh by September 26 afternoon. "This event becomes more special as it is part of 'Swarnim Vijay Varsh' celebrations and marks the occasion of 195th Gunners' Day," the spokesman said. India is celebrating 'Swarnim Vijay Varsh' to mark the 50th anniversary of its

NCPCR writes to Raj CM over bill on marriage registration



The NCPCR has written to the Rajasthan chief minister's office expressing apprehensions over the Registration of Marriages (Amendment) Bill, 2021, saying it legitimises" child marriages. The of Child Rights, in its letter, said the Section 8 of the amendment bill

provides for registration of child marriages through marriage registration officers of the place where they have been residing for more than 30 days. The commission feared the enactment of the bill may have a serious impact on the physical, psychological, and social state of the minors, and their education. It asked the government to reconsider the bill and review it in accordance with the law and welfare of the children in the state. "The bill ... states that the marriage between the bridegroom who has not completed 21 years and the bride who has not completed 18 years of age could be registered by the parents or guardians within the 30 days of the marriage," the NCPCR said in the

CYCLONE ALERT

Odisha rushes rescue teams to 7 districts, orders evacuation

PNS BHUBANESWAR

The Odisha government on Saturday put seven districts on high alert as the IMD predicted the formation of a cyclonic storm over Bay of Bengal, which may then move towards the southern part of the state and neighbouring Andhra Pradesh, a top official said.

The government has rushed rescue teams to the vulnerable areas and asked officials to evacuate people from low-lying areas, Special Relief Commissioner (ŜRC) P K Jena stated.

As many as 42 teams of Odisha Disaster Rapid Action Force (ODRAF) and 24 squads of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF), along with fire brigade personnel, have been dispatched to the seven districts -- Gajapati, Ganjam, Rayagada, Koraput, Malkangiri, Nabarangpur, Kandhamal.

Ganjam is expected to get severely affected by the cyclonic storm, and 15 rescue teams have been deployed in that area alone,

Besides, 11 fire service units, six teams of the ODRAF and eight of the NDRF are in reserve for emergency purposes, he

The district administrations of



Gajapati and Koraput have cancelled holidays and leaves on September 25 and 26. Collectors have directed government officials and employees to be on their toes at respective headquarters to

meet any exigency. According to the India Meteorological Department (IMD), a deep depression that lay over north and adjoining central

Bay of Bengal has moved westwards at a speed of 14 kmph.

At 8.30 am on Saturday, it was centred around 470 km eastsoutheast of Gopalpur in Odisha and 540 km east-northeast of Kalingapatnam in Andhra

"It (the weather system) is likely to intensify into a cyclonic storm and move nearly westwards and cross north Andhra Pradesh and south Odisha coasts between Vishakhapatnam and Gopalpur, around Kalingapatnam, by evening of September 26," the agency noted.

IMD Director General (DG) Dr Mrutunjay Mohapatra said the wind speed of the weather system will vary between 75 kmph to 85 kmph, gusting up to 95 kmph.

"Many low-lying areas will be inundated in the identified districts. Flash flood is feared in the hilly areas of Odisha's southern region. Urban pockets in Ganjam and Puri could experience waterlogging due to heavy to very heavy and extremely heavy rainfall in parts," Mohapatra warned.

10 additional judges sworn in as judges of Karnataka HC

PNS BENGALURU

Ten additional judges, who were elevated as permanent judges of the Karnataka High Court, took the oath of office here on

Karnataka Thaawarchand Gehlot on Saturday administered oath to 10 judges of the Karnataka High Court.

The new appointees are Justice Maralur Indrakumar Arun, Justice Engalaguppe Seetharamaiah Indiresh, Justice Ravi Venkappa Hosmani, Justice Savanur Vishwajith Shetty, Justice Shivashankar Amarannavar, Justice Makkimane Ganeshaiah Uma, Justice Vedavyasachar Srishananda, Justice Hanchate Sanjeevkumar, Justice Padmaraj Nemachandra Desai, and Justice

Panjigadde Krishna Bhat. A notification on their elevation from additional judges to judges was issued by the Ministry of Law and Justice, Government of India on

VP Naidu on five-day visit of Rajasthan from today

Vice-President M Venkaiah Naidu will be on a five-day visit of Rajasthan from Sunday.

In the first leg of the five-day visit, Naidu will be in Jaisalmer, where he will go to the border areas to boost the morale of the Indian Army and BSF personnel. He will also address a Sainik

Sammelan in Jaisalmer. Naidu will visit the famous temple of Tanot Mata on Sunday and pay homage to martyrs at the Vijay Stambh located there, according to an

official statement. The Tanot Mata temple is located 120 km from Jaisalmer, near the Indo-Pak border.

The temple suffered no damage during the 1971 War even after many shells were fired on it by Pakistan forces. BSF personnel look after the arrangement and worship of this temple. After the temple, Naidu will

Memorial. The memorial is situated on the site where the Longewala bat-

visit the Longewala War

tle of the Indo-Pak War in 1971 was fought.

Senior Army officers will brief the Vice-President about the bat-The Indian Army is celebrating this year as the Golden

He will also attend a cultural programme in the evening. On September 27, Naidu will address a Sainik Sammelan at the

Victory Year of the 1971 War.

Jaisalmer Museum and will leave for Jodhpur, where he will visit Mehrangarh fort the same day. On September 28,

Naidu will inaugurate the Jodhpur City Knowledge and Innovation Cluster at

the IIT there. He will also lay the foundation of an "artificial intelligence of things" (AIOT) laboratory. Thereafter, Naidu will interact

with students and faculty members of the IIT, Jodhpur. During his stay in Jodhpur, the Vice-President will also release a book, "Samvidhan, Sanskriti Aur Rashtra", written by Governor

Kalraj Mishra.

Cinema halls, drama theatres in Maha to reopen from Oct 22



Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray on Saturday said cinema halls and drama theatres in the state will be permitted to operate from October 22 on the condition that they follow all the protocols required to prevent the spread of coronavirus. The state government will soon issue the

standard operating procedure (SOPs) in this regard, he said. Thackeray was speaking at a meeting of the COVID-19 task force, which was also attended by Shiv Sena's Rajya Sabha member Sanjay Raut, state chief secretary Sitaram Kunte, filmmakers Rohit Shetty and Kunal Kapoor, theatre personality Makarand Deshpande, Marathi actors Subodh Bhave, Aadesh Bandekar, among others. In the meeting, it was announced that cinema halls and drama theatres will be allowed to function from October 22, provided they follow all COVID-19- related health protocols.

'BJP will get another opportunity to come to power in Maharashtra'



Senior BJP leader Devendra Fadnavis on Saturday said ups and downs are part of democracy and hoped the BJP would get another opportunity to form its government in Maharashtra again. Addressing a gathering of Mathadi workers in Navi Mumbai to commemorate the 88th birth

minister called for a speedy resolution of issues concerning headloaders. "We will again get an opportunity to come to power. Ups and downs are part of democracy, "he said. Fadanvis said the issues of Mathadi workers would have been resolved had his government got more time. The Sena-led Maha Vikas Aghadi government came to power after the Assembly polls in October 2019. "Now, this government has the opportunity to resolve the problems of Mathadi workers. I am confident that the issues will be resolved. Even if the issues are not resolved..we will get another opportunity (to solve them).

anniversary of labour leader late Annasaheb Patil, the former chief

ROHINI SHOOTOUT

Pleas in SC, HC for immediate security in courts

PNS NEW DELHI

An application has been filed in the Supreme Court seeking directions to the Centre and the states to take immediate steps for security in subordinate courts in wake of the shootout inside a district court in Delhi on Friday that left three gangsters dead and a law intern injured.

It said that gangsters and hard-core criminals may be produced from jails through video-conferencing before the trial court instead of producing them phys-

The application was filed by advocate Vishal Tiwari even as another lawyer, Deepa Joseph,

moved the Delhi High Court urging it to direct authorities to take requisite measures for the safety and security of district courts in the national capital.

Jailed gangster Jitender Maan alias Gogi and two assailants of a rival gang who were posing as lawyers were killed in a shootout in Rohini district court here that also saw police fire bullets in retal-

Chief Justice of India N V Ramana had on Friday expressed deep concern over the shootout inside the crowded courtroom here and spoken to the Delhi High Court Chief Justice D N Patel in this regard, an apex court official



The application by Tiwari has been filed in the apex court in a pending plea which raised the issue of safety and security of judicial officers and advocates while referring to the alleged mowing down of District and Sessions Judge-8 of Dhanbad court, Uttam

Anand, by a vehicle on July 28 in Iharkhand.

While referring to the Delhi shootout, the application said such incidents are not only a threat to the judicial officers, lawyers and others present in the court premises but also to the jus-

It has sought the apex court's direction to the Centre and the states to take immediate steps and measures to ensure security in subordinate courts.

threat to our judicial officers, lawyers and people present in the court premises but it is also a threat to our justice system," it It said apart from securing the judges against any threat, it is also

secured against any attack by militants or other criminals. It said a huge crowd is seen in

court complexes and security becomes vulnerable if adequate

The application has sought directions for the installation of

CCTV cameras and the setting up of armed police posts in district court premises across the country. "Such incidents are not only Referring to several past incidents which had happened in district court premises, it said unwanted persons should not be permitted inside the court complex.

The plea by Deepa Joseph in the high court sought a direction to the Delhi Police and the Bar important that court premises are Council of Delhi to consider instructing all police personnel at court entrances to ensure that they check the ID cards of every lawyer who enters the court

TRANSFER PRICING BY FOREIGN FIRMS

I-T dept notifies FY21 'safe harbour' rates

The tax department has notified the 'safe harbour' rates for 2020-21 for calculation of transfer pricing by foreign companies in India.

Generally, safe harbour is defined as circumstances in which the tax authority shall accept the transfer price declared by the taxpayer to be

at arm's length.
The Central Board of Direct Taxes, through a notification has extended the applicability of Safe Harbour Rules (SHR) to 2020-21.

As per the notification, the rates under SHR applicable from 2016-17 to 2018-19, and later extended to 2019-20, will continue to apply for 2020-21

Transfer pricing implies the prices at which various overseas divisions of a company transact with each other.

Nangia & Co LLP, Partner-Transfer Pricing, Nitin Narang said like last year, this year again, the rates have been prescribed for one year only,

and tax authorities. For taxpayers, in terms of reduced compliance burden, cost saving, administrative convenience and resources channelised in other business area, and for tax authorities, in terms of reduced time for review and litigation, agreed margins with computation mechanism and taxes

ed due to the pandemic, any lowering of the rates in line with the current economic circumstances would have gone a long way to make SHR more attractive and lowering of

> willing taxpayers," Narang Being an alternate dispute

threshold, or adding more transactions, may add more

more impetus, Narang added.

Following international best practice, India introduced the concept of SHR in Finance Act 2009. Post that, the first round of SHR provisions were introduced in August 2013 for a period of three years, followed by a revision in 2017 in the SHR which was applicable till

USFDA issues 6 observations after inspection of Biocon's unit

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Biotechnology major Biocon on Saturday said the US health regulator has issued six observations after the inspection of the manufacturing facility of its Malaysian

Facilities," it added.

A Biocon spokesperson said the company is confident of addressing these observations through procedural enhancements and an appropriate Corrective and Preventive Action Plan (CAPA), which will be submitted to the USFDA in the stipulated time.

Shah: Centre will announce new cooperative policy soon

PNS NEW DELHI

Union Cooperation Minister Amit Shah on Saturday said the Centre will soon come out with a new cooperative policy and work in tandem with states to strengthen the cooperative movement.

people wonder why the Centre created this new ministry as the cooperatives are a state

Shah said there could be a legal response to it, but he does not want to "get into this argu-

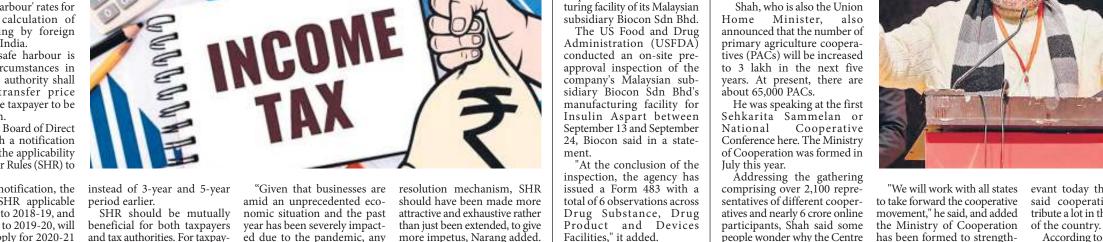
The Centre, he stressed, will cooperate with states and "there will be no friction".

evant today than ever, Shah said cooperatives can contribute a lot in the development

According to him, the cooperatives will play a crucial part in making India a USD 5 trillion economy.

Referring to the problems

being faced by cooperatives on taxation front and other issues, Shah said he was aware of the concerns and assured that there would be no injustice towards them.



Tourism sector heading for a comeback

With the help of large-scale vaccination programmes and new norms rolling out, the tourism sector is inching its way back to recovery, and restart of tourism will help kick-start recovery and growth, the Confederation of Hospitality, Technology and Tourism Industry said on

It is also essential that the benefits this will bring are enjoyed widely and fairly, the industry body said in a statement.

"The travel sector, especially domestic travel, appears to be heading for a comeback. Indian travellers are looking for quick getaways through road trips, weekend breaks and staycations that offer local stay experiences," Airbnb India, Southeast Asia, Hong Kong and Taiwan General Manager,

Travellers are also becoming increasingly aware of sustainable travel and are making environment-friendly choices



when travelling, he added.

"The pandemic has helped promote environmental awareness amongst travellers and today, it's encouraging to see people actively seeking sustainable travel choices," MakeMyTrip Co-Founder & Group CEO Rajesh Magow

In a similar vein, EaseMyTrip CEO and Coshant Pitti said "We have noticed that Indian travellers have started making more sustainable travel decisions as the pandemic has

made everyone think about the kind of impact they are creating while travelling."

They are now more aware of their choices as they reevaluate their plans keeping sustainability in mind, he added.

"The industry travel booking trends suggest that in a year from now we will be witnessing the best phase for the travel sector. The demand we are and holiday patterns have changed tremendously," OYO India & South-East Asia CEO Rohit Kapoor said.



NTPC wins 1.9 GW solar projects under CPŚU scheme PNS NEW DELHI

State-owned power giant NTPC has bagged 1.9 GW solar projects in CPSU Scheme-II tender.

With this, NTPC now has over 6.3 GW capacity won through competitive biddings. This shall pave the way for NTPC's plan of 60 GW RE (renewable energy) capacity by 2032, a company statement said.

The company has won the projects in tranche 3 of 5 GW tender. Central Public Sector Undertaking (CPSU) Scheme Phase-II envisages setting up 12,000 MW grid-connected solar photovoltaic power projects by the government producers with Viability Gap Funding (VGF) support.

Godavari Biorefineries files IPO papers with SEBI

Godavari Biorefineries has filed preliminary papers with capital markets regulator Sebi to raise funds through an initial public offering (IPO).
The IPO comprises fresh

issuance of equity shares worth Rs 370 crore and an offer of sale (OFS) of 65,58,278 equity shares by promoters and investors, the draft red herring prospectus (DRHP) showed.

The OFS consists of sale of 5 lakh equity shares each by Samir Shantilal Somaiya and Somaiya Agencies, up to 49.27 lakh by Mandala Capital, up to 3 lakh equity shares by Filmedia Communication Systems, up to 1.31 lakh equity shares by Somaiya Properties and Investments and up to 2 lakh equity shares by Lakshmiwadi Mines and Minerals

The company may considto Rs 100 crore. If such placement is completed, the fresh

issue size will be reduced. Proceeds from the fresh



issue will be used for payment of debt, to fund capital expenditure for sugarcane crushing expansion, support capital expenditure for the potash unit and for general corporate purposes.

Godavari Biorefineries is one of the leading producers of ethanol and a pioneer in manufacturing ethanol-based chemicals in India. The diversified product portfolio comprises bio-based chemicals,

rectified spirits, ethanol,

Equirus Capital and JM Financial are the book running lead managers to the issue.

ousing Development Finance Corporation Ltd (HDFC) on Saturday said it has sold a part of the shares, invoked by it of Ansal Housing, to recover its dues. In August, HDFC had invoked

46,20,000 shares of Ansal Housing Limited (Ansal) aggregating 7.78 per cent of the paid-up share

capital, for recovery of part outstanding dues

against loans availed by pledgers/borrowers. "In this connection, we wish to inform you that out of this, the Corporation has in aggregate sold 12.67.504 shares, representing 2.13 per cent of the paid-up share capital of Ansal, including 1,57,939 shares representing 0.27 per cent of the paid-up share capital of Ansal which were sold on September 24, 2021," HDFC said in a regulatory filing.

UK eyes visa change to ease trucker shortage

PNS LONDON

In a U-turn, the British government is expected to ease visa rules for truck drivers to help fix supply-chain problems that have triggered long lines at gas stations and some shuttered pumps.

The government said late Friday it was "looking at temporary measures to avoid any immediate problems." It said any action it took would be "very strictly time-limited."

The haulage industry says the UK is short tens of thousands of truckers, due to a perfect storm of factors including the coronavirus pandemic, an aging workforce and an exodus of foreign workers following Britain's departure from the European

mean EU citizens can no longer live and work visa-free in Britain, as they could when the UK was a member of the trade bloc. Trucking companies have

been urging the Conservative government to ease immigration rules so drivers can more easily be recruited from across Europe. Britain's farming and food processing industries, which are

short of fruit-pickers and meatpackers, have made similar The government has resisted, saying British workers should be trained up to take the jobs. It has stressed that Britain is not short of fuel, but that has not stopped motorists forming lines at gas

stations to fill up just in case.

ASCI rejects complaint against Lux Cozi TV ad by rival

its campaign.

Advertising sector regulator ASCI has rejected a complaint against innerwear brand Lux Cozi's TV Commercial featuring Bollywood star Varun Dhawan, filed by its rival Amul Macho claiming plagiarism of

The Consumer Complaints Council (CCC) of the ASCI observed that both the advertisements "barely had any similarities" between them in terms of concept and execution elements, and was not in contravention of its Code.

"The CCC concluded that the advertiser's advertisement was not similar to the complainant's earlier run advertisement in general layout, copy, slogans, visual presentations, music or sound effects, so as to suggest plagiarism. The TVC was not in contravention of the ASCI Code," the order said.



"This complaint was not upheld," said the Advertising Standards Council of India

Earlier, this month, J G Hosiery, which owns the Amul Macho innerwear brand, had alleged its TOING Ad has been copied by Lux Industries for its LUX Cozi television commercial and had approached ASCI.

Kolkata-based Industries has launched a new advertising campaign for its Lux Cozi innerwear brand featuring Varun Dhawan.

Lux industries had contended before ASCI, its advertisement is unique on individual points as well as in totality, and any semblance is fleeting and

commonly used in the trade, such as shape and colour of the garment. Moreover, Amul's Toing

advertisement was last aired in 2007, and thereafter, banned.

"No reputation, goodwill or brand equity can be vested in publicity/marketing material that has been banned to the public for the last 14 years," it had said.

Commenting on the development, Lux industries Executive Director Udit Todi said: "We welcome the verdict passed by ASCI."

"This advertisement is something of a first, and the verdict does add some necessary clarity and sends out the right message about a responsible brand like Lux Cozi. We are already witnessing a growth trajectory in our sales and are very confident about our product's success," he added.

One-third of employees feel disconnected with leadership: Report President Gary Beckstrand said.

PNS NEW DELHI

With the new normal after the Covid-19 completely changing the work culture across the world, a report has revealed that one-third of employees interviewed across the world feel disconnected from their leaders as interactions between employees and employers plunged amid the pandemic.

One in every three employees feels disconnected from the leader, furthering feelings of isolation and loneliness, according to a report by O C Tanner's the '2022 Global Culture Report'.

The report further found that 61 per cent of employees said the workplace is where they form most of their new friendships and that their social group at work inspires them to do their Around 45 per cent of

employees said the number of individuals they regularly interact with at work has decreased significantly over the past year, and 57 per cent said they engage in fewer social activities, it stat-

When employees feel less connected to their workplace, culture and purpose, the likelihood of great work falls about 90 per cent, the probability of burnout increases drastically and the odds that employees will leave within three years surges, the report noted.

Therefore, organisations need to maintain strong connections



among team members to ensure the best possible employee experience, which will result in less likelihood of fragmentation and will help minimise the risk to the company, the report noted.

The former concept of workplace 'normalcy' left the building in March 2020, and it's not

coming back. A new landscape of work and business has emerged from the pandemic, and helping employees feel connected to purpose, accomplishment, and one another-no matter where or when they work—is more important than ever," O C Tanner Institute Vice-

'2022 Global Culture Report' by O C Tanner, the global leader in employee recognition and workplace culture, is based on data gathered from over 38,000 employees, leaders, HR practitioners, and executives from 21 countries worldwide, including from over 5,500 respondents in

Meanwhile, the report found that one in every three employees do not feel connected to their leaders which leads to diminishing cultural and business outcomes.

Currently, 62 per cent of leaders communicate what success looks like and 52 per cent make others aware of their employees' success, said the report adding

that only 57 per cent of employees feel appreciated by their

"Whether intentional or not, when leaders don't make an effort to connect to employees, employees perceive the leader doesn't care about them and doesn't want to help them feel included in the organisation," it

In organisations where diversity is high, recognition is an important way to showcase how everyone can work and succeed together and it allows every employee to develop leadership skills, and the company benefits from improved cultural and business outcomes and a strong pipeline of leaders as a result, it

MONEY MATTERS

en and modernise the sector.

On the proposed new cooperative policy, Shah said a pol-

icy was brought in 2002 by the

then Prime Minister Atal

Bihari Vajpayee, and now the

Modi government will start

Stressing that the coopera-

tive movement was more rel-

working on a new policy.

Balkrishna Industries to raise up to Rs 1,000 cr via long-term finance

ff-highway tyres major
Balkrishna Industries on
Saturday said it will raise up to Rs 1,000 crore through long-term borrowings.In a regulatory filing, the company said its board at a meeting held on Saturday decided to raise
"funds up to Rs 1,000 crore through broader means of long-term finance". The long-term finance "can be in the

form of foreign currency bonds, non-convertible debentures (NCD) external commercial borrowings and term loans in various currencies", it added. "These long-term borrowings may be secured or

unsecured, rated or unrated, in one or more tranches/drawdowns. and in case of bonds or NCDs — it may be listed or unlisted in one or more stock exchanges in India." the filing added. The company, which sells its tyres under the BKT brand, said its board has further delegated the power to its Finance Committee to do the needful for the fundraise. Known for its off-highway tyres, BKT has focused on specialist segments such as agricultural, construction and industrial as well as earthmoving, port and mining, ATV, and gardening applications. The company has undertaken a Rs 1,000-crore capacity expansion programme and earlier this month commenced trial production at its new manufacturing unit at Walui in Maharashtra. The new plant has an installed capacity of 30,000 MT per annum along with warehousing facility for raw materials and finished goods.

HDFC sells part of invoked **shares of Ansal Housing**

J HDFC

Piaggio's India arm sets up first EV facility in Chennai

taly-headquartered Piaggio Group's Indian subsidiary Piaggio Vehicles Pvt Ltd has set up its first EV outlet in Chennai, which is first-of-its kind facility in Tamil Nadu, the company said on Saturday. Inaugurated by Minister for Medical and



Family Welfare of Tamil Nadu, M A Subramanium, the experience centre (EV showroom) will allow customers to access Piaggio's entire range of electric vehicles, the company said. "We are happy to open our first EV exclusive showroom in Tamil Nadu at Chennai. Chennai being a big metro and a major business hub, inter-city transportation business is one of the major economic drivers," said Saju Nair, EVP and Head of Commercial Vehicle Business, Piaggio India Pvt Ltd. After Chennai, the company further looks to expand its EV presence in various other markets in Tamil Nadu, Nair added. Piaggio had recently launched their FX range (fixed battery) of EVs in both cargo and passenger segments. These new products will be available at the new Chennai outlet, it said. "With the TN government's focus on ecofriendly technologies, EV vehicles are going to be of extreme importance in the future. Our EV policy is drawn in order to facilitate multi-fold increase in production and infrastructure development of electric vehicles," said Subramanium at the launch. Piaggio's new range of electric vehicles will definitely help in increasing the earnability due to its low cost of operation superior range, he said. We are offering unique service solutions like class leading warranty and free maintenance package to ensure confidence and peace of mind for our customers while shifting to EV technology," Nair said.





VIJAYAWADA, September 26, 2021

ATTACHED TO NONE

Renunciation is a critical part of the journey towards enlightenment. The way to look at it is what makes it different, writes HINGORI



iragya, in Sanskrit, roughly translates as dispassion, detachment, or renunciation. The big question on renunciation is 'what is it that we are

Is tyaag (sacrifice) of all our worldly possessions the same as renunciation? To understand this, I would like to draw from Yog Vashistha. There is a wonderful story of a king and queen who eventually realised the truth. While the queen realised it very early, the king decided that the way to enlightenment was austerity and penance. He left his kingdom in the care of his wife, gave up all his worldly possessions and moved to the forest where he performed severe penance for many years — so was this the right path to enlightenment? Not really, it just resulted in him being extremely frustrated and unhappy. This is a common confusion with initiates on the path to spiritual growth.

True renunciation does not lie in becoming a swami, going to the mountains, living in a 'dharamshala' and sleeping on the floor. Further, it a multi-millionaire, yogi, student, farmer, doctor, prisoner or anyone else. It's not what you have or don't have; it's your state of consciousness. This, of course, sounds very profound but let's discuss what it really means. The renunciate is someone who rests in the joy of the spirit rather than that provided by the senses. A true renunciate enjoys what comes to them unsought, and does not chase desires in this illusionary world. In fact seeking enlightenment and forcibly renouncing worldly pleasures as the king also translates into intense desire as does the setting of milestones to measure spiritual progress.

If I were to put it in a single statement — someone who has overcome the attraction of the senses and is detached in terms of possessions, relationships and desires is a true renunciate.

Renunciation is a critical part of the journey towards enlightenment, however the way to look at it is not that you don't 'own anything' rather it is to not let anything 'own you'. Not your senses, not your mind, not your possessions, not your relationships and most of all not your 'identity'. Remain established in the 'self'. So how does one renounce all these 'thinks' and

 \bar{A} simple way to look at it is equajoy and sorrow, pain and pleasure, likes and dislikes, we achieve equanimity. How then do we reach this stage. In this article we will examine one of the ways to get there, and that is the way of 'acceptance'. When we see things just

THE RENUNCIATE IS SOMEONE WHO **RESTS IN THE JOY** OF THE SPIRIT RATHER THAN THAT PROVIDED BY THE SENSES. A TRUE RENUNCIATE ENJOYS WHAT COMES TO

THEM UNSOUGHT

'as they are' and not as they 'should or should not be' we develop acceptance. Apart from situations and scenarios that may occur externally, this also pertains to accepting ourselves. This does not mean inaction or making no effort towards correction and change. But once acceptance has permeated within, it lacks the emotion and you learn to accept yourself on an 'as-iswhere-is' basis. I am not recommending a sense of futility or fatalism, which are both negative in connotation. Rather, saints often talk about 'contentment', the root of which lies in 'acceptance' which stems from a positive

mindset. Rabia of Basra, was a well-known Sufi mystic. Her approach to spiritual life won respect from many contemporaries. When people asked her, "When are servants of god content?" She replied, "They are content when they are as grateful for pain, as they are for placeure."

for pleasure."

It's a long journey, a journey which we have traversed across many lifetimes, and as we continue the path. Let me share a great tool to build eptance of onese lf and others. It is known as pratipaksh bhavana. This is one of the yogic mind practices that teaches you to cultivate a positive thought every time a negative one enters the mind. In other words, it is a device to create an opposite attitude

towards thoughts or feelings that cause a disturbance in your mind.

In simpler words, it reflects an opposite viewpoint. When you receive thoughts about something your intellect does not like, you select an opposite the state of the select and opposite the select an site thought to superimpose the dis-liked original one. For example, if someone is rude to you, instead of naturally developing animosity towards them, *pratipaksh bhavana* teaches you to look at them in the opposite manner. You can convince yourself that maybe the person was going through stress and did not realise how they were speaking, or that perhaps it was your destiny to face a crude reaction from someone, or you can ask yourself if something you said initiated this reaction. These are just a few illustrations of how you can stop the other person's behaviour from hurting you.

As a golden rule instead of looking at the rate of success, look at the

rate of decreasing failure.

Maharishi Patanjali remarked,
"Expose the mind to constant thoughts of anger and resentment, and you will find these anger-waves build up anger-samskars, which will predispose you to find occasions for anger permeating your daily life. A man with well-developed anger-samskars is said to have a bad temper."

Once a guru was questioned, "What should I do if I get sensual thoughts while treating women?" He smiled as if he had been asked that question a hundred times before. He said, "While treating women visualise her as an infant and then an old lady." This was a unique example of a kind of pratipaksh bhavana, where you superimpose not an opposite emotion but a variation of visualisations to avoid a negative one.

I urge you to think about a game of cricket. Technically, it is almost impossible to see a ball at 100 miles an hour and then decide how to play it. Few batsmen can do that. So how do they hit a ball that moves faster than one can think? It is called practice. It also leads to muscle memory.

You have to go to the nets and keep practicing till you know what to do. You need to understand that you will improve, but only a little at a time.

And so it is with spiritual practices.
Even when struggling to accept yourself, you can look at the flip side and say, "These days, I dislike myself lear" and the gare "I headly dislike myself less" and then say, "I hardly dislike myself", which will eventually lead to a feeling wherein you will not dislike yourself at all. From here on, I pray that you can start accepting yourself unquestioningly.

The writer is the author of Hingori Sutras series of spiritual books



HIDDENSOULS PRAMOD PATHAK



Gandhi as I see him

Triting about Gandhi is a passion for some. It is a fashion for some. But there is another class that has emerged on the scene, the Gandhi baiters. Though still insignificant in numbers, the group is aggressive, vocal and kind of social media activist who believe that a storm can be created in a tea cup. For such activists attempts to demean Gandhi is a pastime they enjoy. Whether it is a perception or a propaganda, misinformation or disinformation, the campaign is more impulsive than objective. But there is need to let the right knowledge reach the vast young population who get carried away by social media. Maybe, the recent research publication by an authentic source like the Sage throw some light on the nature of social media misinformation and serve as an eye opener. The study has rightly found that India is one of the most misinformation affected country and also produces the largest amount of misined country and also produces the largest amount of misinformation. Obviously, because social media is a full time pastime for a large number of people. Against this backdrop, and even at risk of coming in the firing range of the troll brigade let's talk about Gandhi on his yet another birthday. More so, because we are celebrating 75 years of Indian independence in a big way. Though it must be acknowledged that there were many who fought for and contributed towards India's freedom, yet it was Gandhi who played the stellar role. Many before his advent on the scene tried to make the British Many before his advent on the scene tried to make the British Government listen, but it was Gandhi who succeeded. It was Gandhi who proved that the British were not invincible. It was Gandhi who converted the Congress into an organ of mass movement from a motley group of passionate people dominated by lawyers. And it was Gandhi who influenced the world's opinion against the British that ultimately paved way for their retreat. From Champaran to Dandi it was Gandhi who involved the common Indian in the fight against the British. The greatest misstatement on Gandhi is about his Hindu credentials. The fact is that he was a more devout Hindu than the many who are championing the cause today. Gandhi not only understood Hinduism in its real sense, but he also practiced it religiously. He followed the principles of Geeta and believed in the philosophy of the religion so lucidly advocated by Swami Vivekananda. His understanding of Ram was much better than many of the claimants of Ram's legacy today. A perfect blend of tradition and modernity, Gandhi was an example of ethical leadership, so popular in Management classrooms today. In fact, no course on ethics can be complete without a mention of Gandhi. He not only preached ethical conduct, but he epitomised it. Ethics for him was not about right behaviour when you are in temple, but also when you are alone and no one is watching. He believed in truth and nonviolence, he believed in upliftment of the poorest, he believed in cleanliness as Godliness. For him simple living and high thinking was the credo and he practiced what he preached. For him means and ends were interchange-able. His economic ideas were endorsed by the World Bank time and again. Little wonder, he still is one of our most popular global brands. Rightly was he adjudged man of the millennium in the year 2000. For those who still not understand him: forgive them O'lord, for they know not what they do.

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Turn to art for progress

Creativity in any form helps to relieves stress, enhances mental health, and strengthens the immune system, says AARRTI ZAVERI



nyone can be an artist, regardless of their talent. Husing art, creativity, and imagination in your daily life may lead to bravery, breakthroughs, and uniqueness, all of which can pave the path for genuine success. Understanding how art makes you more creative and capable of thinking outside the box will push you out of your comfort zone and make you willing to face any challenges that come your way. Here are ways that incorporating art and imagination into your regular work will result in productivity and accomplish-

ment in the long run. It's simple to assume that looking at art makes us happy. Whether one prefers modern subjects, classic styles, sculptures, still life, or ceramics, the love for art is universal, even among people who do not consider themselves artists. This reciprocal emotion, though, isn't just for show. Exposure to art influences our health, success, and our life. Let's take a deeper look at some of the ways art may improve

ART AFFECTS OUR LIFE Did you realise that gazing at art has a direct impact on the brain? The University of London reported in 2011 that when individuals saw attractive artwork, blood flow to the brain increased by up to 10%. Perhaps the word 'art' is hidden within the term 'smart' for a reason! Art can heal both the mind and the physical. This fact has garnered attention, as physicians have discovered that looking at and producing art has many health advantages. It relieves stress, enhances mental health, and strengthens the immune system. Art reduces patient

recovery time and increases

hospital staff productivity. There is so much proof that art improves health that we now have trained art therapists.

ART FACILITATES COMMUNICA-

When words fail to express something, the visual arts are a method to communicate it. It's a method for us to express ourselves and think about the human predicament. We make an image with a message based on what we think or feel and share it with others to see how they perceive it. In this sense, art might be the ticket that allows us to build a more peaceful environment in which to

ART IS A FUEL THAT IMPROVES ONE'S QUALITY OF LIFE

Art not only improves our physical and mental wellbeing, but it also gives us a feeling of direction. The creativity that comes with creating and viewing art may transform our perspective on life and assure us that there are brighter days ahead. Do you get a sense of impending doom? Take a look at some art, or pick up a brush or pen and try your hand at it. Art provides a respite from the daily grind and an opportunity to tackle difficulties in a healthy way. Do you want to see more art in your life? Take advantage of those little perks by stopping by an art gallery on your way home or while doing errands.

The writer is visual artist

God is easily pleased

If we wish to lead a quality life, we must be prepared to listen to God and try to please Him, writes AJIT KUMAR BISHNOI

od is always on a lookout for ways to help us, reward us. That Jis why He is always watching us, listening to us and He even knows what we are thinking. The purpose is to respond to us as necessary. Such is the cosmic design. He pleased when someone is dutiful, i.e. one performs one's duties. Of course, God is much more pleased if someone acts according to 'dharma' for which reason He incarnates. He appreciates those engaged in welfare activities to an extent that He has assured no 'durgati' (bad end) for such persons. Lord Krishna has specifically commended Janakaji for his selfless working with public welfare.

God has commended even those who approach Him due to distress; Lord Krishna has called such persons noble. (7.18) Same view He holds about seekers of wealth. There is nothing wrong in seeking wealth; God's only requirement is that it should be according to 'dharma'. If seeking wealth was not desirable, the entire world will be disqualified. Can you expect God to have such a mindset? Then, where is our problem in pleasing God? What we want must be bona fide and God will be pleased if we approach Him. And spiritual acts, even a little, are highly pleasing to God; He promises protection from great fear. (3.40) It is impossible to imagine if anyone of us is pleased so easily and readily.

But we have plenty of excuses both not to approach God and also not to try to please Him by our acts. The most common excuse is that others are not doing it. Yes, they are not, because they won't as Lord Krishna has pointed out when he stated, "Due to the illusion



caused by hate and duality of wish, all living entities get illusioned." (7.27) If we wish to be one of the masses and go through the cycle of birth and death and spend an ordinary life and return for another ordinary life, that is our decision. But if we wish to lead a quality life in this one and the next, we must be prepared to listen to God's instructions and try to please Him. Is he not the one who holds all the cards?

Another excuse is that we will do what God says in old age. Noble idea, but it does not work. By that time our habits become rigid and bodies weak. The reality is that any effort required to approach God and please Him becomes increasingly difficult with age. The third excuse is that mind does not agree. Of course it won't because we have embraced a child's mindset, who refuses to eat a fruit because he does not like it. Has he tasted the fruit? No, he

hasn't. This explains the fourth excuse, which is: who has seen God? Surely, you haven't because you didn't make the requisite effort. But how can you be sure that others have also not seen God? Have you checked with everyone before making such a statement? The list of excuses is endless. So where does it get us? The Lord has answered: in illusion. I am sure some of us are smart enough to admit that the present life is not that great and something should be done about it. God is very merciful. As the saying goes, you take one step, He takes 99 towards you. This one baby step will also please God and He will reward adequately much more that our expectations. It is no wonder that devotees of God write such praise for God, because they are overwhelmed by what God does for them.

Bishnoi is a spiritual writer and can be reached at spiritual@ajitbishnoi.com

Active Parenting can help parents significantly in reducing stress, both for their children and for themselves, writes RAMG VALLATH, as he suggests strategies & age-appropriate techniques to tackle the challenges being



he pandemic has delivered a triple-whammy to parents. First and foreunprecedented, once-in-a-lifetime event. Even the best of scientists cannot predict where it is headed; who are safe, who are vulnerable; or what precautions including vaccines — afford what level of protection. Secondly, children have been uprooted from their routines, confined inside the house, kept away from socialising and have even been forced by circumstances to become screen addicts. Parenting, which is a discovery process, even in normal circumstances, has become far tougher due to these added stresses. Thirdly, parents themselves have been uprooted from their routines and forced to reduce social interactions. Many have lost their jobs and many have work hours that have eaten up into personal time in an unprecedented blending of work and personal life.

And now, their world is going to be shaken up yet again, with schools reopening. Routines being practiced over the last 18 months will need to be unlearned and new routines reestablished, with the sword of Damocles of a possible new wave always hanging on their heads. This is when the principles of Active Parenting can come to the rescue of parents.

WHAT IS ACTIVE PARENTING?

While every child is unique and every family and circumstances unique, the underlying principles, framework and strategies of Active Parenting can substantially help in every situation, for every child and every parent. Active Parenting can help parents significantly in reducing stress — both for their children and for themselves. In fact, it can even help in converting these uncertainties into learning opportunities for children and bonding opportunities for the family. The three key principles of Active Parenting are as below.

Inculcate the right attributes and qualities

- systematically and proactively instead of firefighting when issues pop up
- Be mindful that every opportunity can be utilised to build these attributes and qualities and proactively use every opportunity to do
- Provide high support, while empowering children to take ownership and responsibility

Based on the above principles, there are several strategies and age-appropriate techniques that a practitioner of Active Parenting can use to tackle each of the challenges that school reopening presents.

CHALLENGES POSED BY REOPENING OF

First let us list out the challenges to be

• Both parents and children may have fear of

Covid. Even though most schools are taking utmost care in putting in place strict guidelines school with many children, implementation is unlikely to be perfect. This could lead to anxiety and stress for both parents and children.

• For both children and parents, reopening means changing routines drastically. For children, it means having to get up earlier by sometimes as much as 60 to 90 minutes, getting ready, giving up on snacking any time they want, coming back from school feeling tired etc. For parents, it again means having to get up earlier to get children ready, ensuring breakfast/snack is ready on time, sometimes having to drop and pick up children from the school or bus stop etc. These can induce stress and also create conflict between parents and

• For children, school reopening will create

academic stress. After perhaps 18 months, they are going back into a formal classroom. While most schools had organised for online classes, in is a less-than-perfect mode of learning and it is likely that the topics covered in the last eighteen months haven't been absorbed well enough. Even worse, surveys have shown that there is even some slippage of concepts learned before the pandemic. Many children will feel overwhelmed by the workload in the first few months as schools try to cover lost ground. • Social stress is another problem that some children will need to deal with, especially the more introverted children. Children who have been subjected to bullying in the past and who have had a safe cocoon at home in these eighteen months will be suddenly confronted with the prospect of facing their tormentors again. There could also be children who are apprehensive of certain teachers who would dread

the prospect of facing them face to face again. In children, these signs of stress could manifest in many ways. Reluctance to go to school, tantrums, unusual levels of obstinacy, subdued look, emotional meltdowns, headache, upset stomach etc. are few of the signs that parents can watch out for. On the other hand, stress can cause irritation, shorttemper, frustration, and even anger in parents.

APPLYING ACTIVE PARENTING PRINCIPLES

With so much stress on themselves and on the children on various counts, the principles of Active Parenting can come to the rescue. First and foremost, parents need to extend unconditional support to their children by demonstrating deep love, compassion and trust. While it is understandable that parents, who are themselves under stress, might feel irritated, impatient and short-tempered when children show reluctance to go to school or otherwise act difficult, parents need to be understanding and empathetic.

In fact, they need to be proactive in bring-



IN CHILDREN, THESE SIGNS OF STRESS COULD MANIFEST IN MANY WAYS. RELUCTANCE TO GO TO SCHOOL, TANTRUMS, UNUSUAL LEVELS OF **OBSTINACY, SUBDUED** LOOK, EMOTIONAL MELTDOWNS, HEADACHE, UPSET STOMACH ETC. ARE FEW OF THE SIGNS THAT PARENTS CAN WATCH OUT FOR. ON THE OTHER HAND, STRESS CAN CAUSE IRRITATION, SHORT-TEMPER, FRUSTRATION, AND EVEN ANGER IN **PARENTS**



ing up the possibility of the above stress points and assure the children that they understand parents are there to help them. What the child needs in a parent in a situation like this is a friend who they can share their apprehensions or worries with and not a pushy and aggressive master. To quote the famous model of the clinical psychologist, Diana Baumrind, parents need to be high on warmth and responsiveness during this turmoil.

But the question remains — how can parents ensure that children share their apprehensions openly? This would depend a lot on the nature of the child. But one of the key strategies of Active Parenting — befriending — can help in unlocking some of the reluctance of children to share deeply personal stuff. The underlying principle is that children, like adults, feel more comfortable in sharing inner feelings when there is empathy and trust instead of judgment. For this, parents need to spend quality time with children. It will help if parents can share instances from their own childhood, when they faced stressful situations. This may give the confidence for children to

open up their own fears. Another technique would be to have a family team discussion: with each member sharing their own challenges and fears relating to the current situation. Then each member can share an action plan on what they intent to do to overcome the challenges. Finally, each member can request specific support from other members of the team. It can start with each of the parents sharing how the new routines could affect them and asking specific support from each other to help them cope with this. Then they could also ask for specific support from the children, such as 'taking responsibility for manging their own routine or 'being patient when they come back home hungry, if their favourite food isn't available'. This could prompt the children to also share their challenges and expected support.

One of the aspects that can get addressed through the above 'team approach' is Covid appropriate behaviour. As someone who has been deeply involved with the pandemic response of a large philanthropic organisation, I would like to reassure the parents that there is very little chance of children catching a severe attack of Covid.

However, it is important to take all precaution and ensuring both children and parents follow Covid appropriate behaviour is critical. Parents need to impress upon children the importance of following the protocols such as masking, regular handwashing, and physical distancing. They need to spell these out and ensure children understand the reason behind these guidelines.

The children should know that their deviation from the protocols could affect the parents rs at home — if anv than it would affect themselves. This is a great way to build a sense of responsibility. Let the children know that you trust them to adhere to the guidelines. Parents also need to role model Covid-appropriate behaviour when they themselves venture out.

RESPECT, TRUST AND EMPATHY

During this challenging transition period, the two traits that parents need to role-model are patience and empathy. With each other, as well as with kids. If the parents are biting each other's heads off at the drop of a hat, it would be unreasonable and impractical for them to expect a patient behaviour from their children. When children observe their parents facing stressful situations in a candid and humorous fashion, they are also likely to adopt the same behaviour. This includes unabashed apology from parents to each other and to the children when they lose their cool and making fun of their own such 'ridiculous' behaviour.

STORY-TELLING

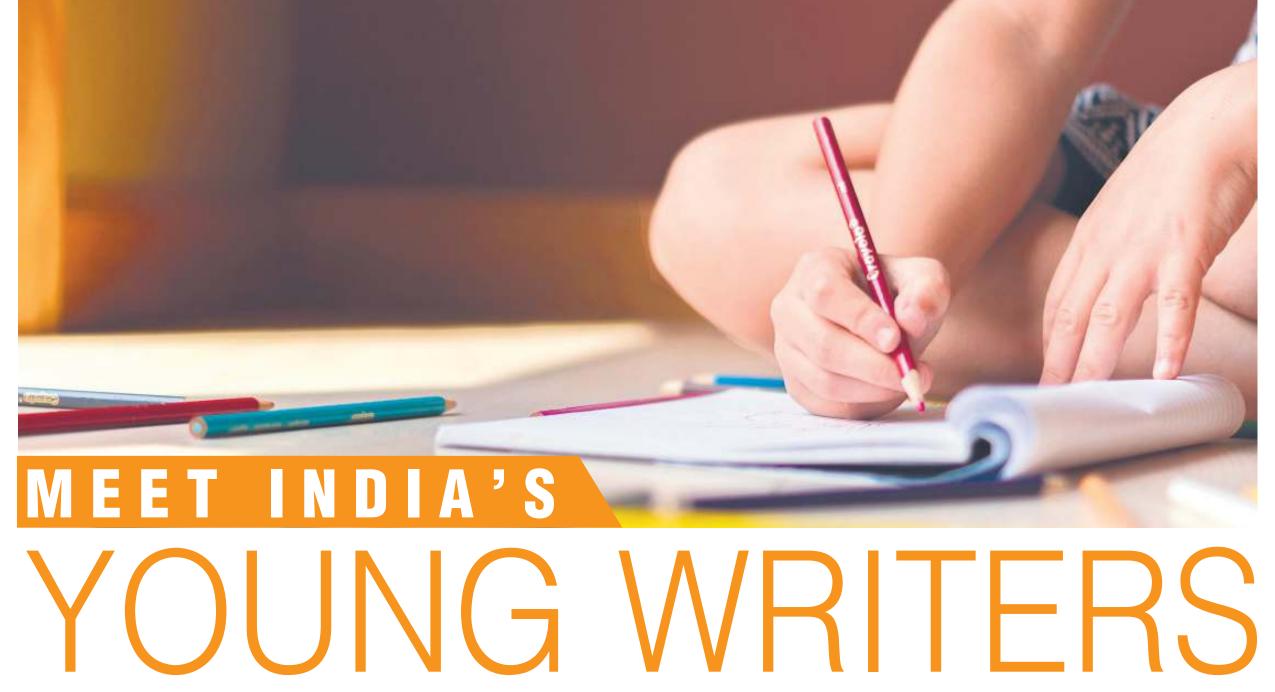
Another key Active Parenting strategy that can come in handy in such situations is storytelling. There is no better way to inculcate the desired qualities (values and traits) in children than by telling them stories — of real life heroes and fictitious heroes who manifested the same qualities and succeeded because of them. Similarly, parents telling the children of times when they themselves demonstrated these qualities to their own advantage will also help in driving home the benefit of these qualities. Of course, it is important that these storytelling sessions do not appear to be sessions for the sake of building these qualities.

The primary purpose of stories should be entertainment as far as the child is concerned. The secondary and invisible purpose is inculcating the traits and values. The child should subconsciously absorb these deeper messages. In a stressful situation like this, the most desirable qualities to instil are self-discipline, sense of responsibility, ownership, sense of humour, respect, gratitude etc. remember that stories plant seeds in the mind and at the appropriate time, these seeds sprout.

Every crisis is an opportunity. If the above suggestions are embraced by parents wholeheartedly, they might find that this stressful situation was the best learning period for themselves and their children and that it offered a truly life-altering situation with family bonds becoming stronger than ever.

The writer is an IITian, a tech company cofounder, a motivational speaker & the author of Active Parenting: How to raise children with boundless potential, *published by HarperCollins*





Today young children are just not interested in excelling in academics. Pursuing their passion and dream gets them going — be it to become entrepreneurs or authors. SHALINI SAKSENA chats up a few such children who talk about their novels

Artistically inclined

Ishanvi Jain 11 years old Author of: Throne of the Sea

ou expect 11-yearolds enjoying with friends and doing kid stuff. What you don't expect is that they will have a day cramped with school classes and then Art of Communication course that teaches with how to perfect their English grammar. Not only this, the classes at Camp K-12 also teach the kids how to write - write novels.

One such student is Ishanvi Jain, an 11-year-old studying in Delhi Public School, Durgapur. She is in Class VI and loves reading books, listening to music, doodling and travel-

Her novel, The Throne of the Sea that is available on Amazon and Kindle is about underwater creatures and the story is how true love finds its way and true friends help each other in every phase of life through thick and thin.

When I was planning on what to write my six-year-old sister told me that I should write on her favourite topic, the mermaids and the underwater world. She is so fascinated by both. So I gave this theme a shot and the novel was born, Jain

It was during one of the daily booster sessions, her men-



tor talked about English. "The way she explained things and the way she taught was very fascinating. She explained how to write as well. All this was very inspiring. So I decided to take the class full-time. Once we had taken a certain number of classes, we were invited to write a story. I was one of the lucky ones to be chosen. And here I am today, an author," Jain tells

Her friends who have read her book are inspired and want to join the class and become writers. Her favourite subjects

are English and history. "I love to read and know about facts. History is all about facts, about people and how they lived back then. It is fascinating to read that despite not being very educated they were able to achieve so much," Jain says.

She tells you that she loves to read novels that have fantasy as a theme. She loves Sudha Murthy novels. She was introduced to these by her mentor. How I taught my Grandmother to Read is her favourite.

"I love the way she writes. Also, her life inspires me. She and I love it," Jain says.

had lived a very humble life. I am told that she is a very down to earth person. Of course, there are other authors I read as well: Ruskin Bond is one of them. My tutor also tells me what books I should read to increase my vocabulary She tells me that these will help me improve my language skills. She also tells me that reading more and more books will give me an insight about how authors take a subject and weave their stories. This helps me to have a perspective as well," Jain says.

It has been over a year since she joined these classes and plans to continue to take them since she loves the classes. Also the personal attention that she and other kids get, keeps her going. There are many changes that she has seen in her writing since she started.

'To begin with I didn't know how to be descriptive. Now, I can. I have learnt how to be a better writer. I have a better grasp of the language. This helps me to weave the stories," Jain explains who also loves listening to music.

'I love all kinds of music. I also listen to Tamil and Telugu songs as well. I do have a few favourite English songs like Yummy by Justin Bieber and Jalebi Baby by Tesher," Jain

She also does a lot of mindless doodling. Once again she took a class for this and even made a Unicorn using mandala art. "It was my mother who introduced me to this art form

Fantasy world beckons her

Nevaeha Palkar 10 years old **Author of: Adventure** on the Other Side

he was born in the US Wh she was three years old, her parents decided to come back to India and settle in Pune. A Class V student of PICT Model School, Pune, this 10-year-old decided to join the Art of Communication course with Camp K-12 because she loves English. Meet Nevaeha Palkar.

She tells you that a few months back, her mother came across an ad in the newspaper. There was an announcement for a competition in English. Palkar enrolled and she ranked No 3. It was a competition that tested us on grammar and vocabulary. It was after I participated in this competitive exam that we came to know about Camp K-12. It was my mother's decision to enroll me for these classes since she knows that I love English," Palkar says.

While she loves reading books and novels, she doesn't have a single book that is her favourite. However, she tells vou that she does have a favourite author, Sudha Murthy who has written

many kids novels. "I absolutely love her novels; they are truly amazing. I love the way she writes. I read her first book when I was much younger. I don't really remember how old I was. But my mother gave it to me and I instantly fell in love with them. I also love to read Enid Blyton and Roald Dahl books as well," Palkar says.

She tells you that her debut novel, Adventures of the Other Side, is about three friends who embark on a journey that takes them on the other side of the world and now they have to figure a way out to get back home.



My debut novel, **Adventures of the** Other Side, is about three friends who embark on a journey that takes them on the other side of the world and now they have to figure a way out to get back home

"I love to read adventure, fantasy and mythological stories. My passion to write has also encouraged me to write poems as well. These however have not been published but my mother shares these on her Facebook page. So when I had to submit a story for the Art of Communication course I decided write it on this topic. Once I submitted it, the mentors really loved it and that's when I developed it into a novel," Palkar

It was the workshop that helped her shape her novel. "In the workshop we are taught how to write and how to develop a story. I loved the course and decided to continue to take the classes. For now, I have not written anything else. But I plan to write another novel or write a sequel to my debut novel," Palkar says whose novel is available on Amazon and

But this is not all. Palkar is a girl of many talents. When she was six, she found that a kids clothing company was looking for kid models around her age. I decided to participate. I had so much fun doing it," Palkar tells you. She is also into singing, and is learning western vocals.

She is also an animal lover, especially cats. While her parents have not allowed her to keep one as a pet, she hopes that she will be allowed to keep one in the near future. She tells you that while she is an author at heart, she wants to pursue medicine when she grows up. However, she will not give up her passion for writing and will continue to write. "I don't know what I will write about in the future. Maybe it will be a book about medicine or it can be on mythology. It is difficult to say what I will do in the future," Palkar says. Her friends have loved her novel which has

84 pages. "My parents have encouraged me all through my journey," Palkar says.

'I want to base all my stories on animals'

Parvathy Ramnarayan 11 years old **Author of: The Great Escapade of Vegla The Polar Bear**

his student of Class VI is not your average school-goer. From horse riding to playing basketball to drawing to even writing a novel is what keeps her occupied. Though her day calendar is filled with extracurricular activities and competitions, she does manage to take time out for her pet — a mongrel, Brownie, that she has adopted. If this was not enough on her plate, this 11-year-old has also joined

writing classes at Camp K-12 and loves participating in the spelling bee and other

competitions organised by them. This student of Kendriya Vidyalaya from Kanhangad, Kerala tells you that she loves to read and write. She tells you that taking online classes has been a tad difficult because she is unable to meet her friends. "I miss meeting them and seeing them online and talking with them is not the same. Also. where I stay, sometimes there are Internet problems. There are many interruptions," she

Looking at her interest in reading and writing, her mother told her about a workshop where she could enroll. "The best part of this class is that they teach us something new



every time. This keeps me interested. Also the teacher ensures that the one-hour session is never boring. I have been taking these classes for the last four months and I plan to keep taking them. Even though my day is full since I enjoy these classes it is never a chore to attend them," Ramnarayan says.

Her novel. The Great Escapades of Vegla The Polar Bear, is about a female polar bear who decides to explore the world. "She is bored of her pristine white world and wants to add colour to her life and to roam the world that see what it has to offer. She is not aware of the dangers that the outside world poses. All her friends try to dissuade her from embarking on this journey but Vegla is determined. She doesn't listen to them and

goes on this journey," Ramnarayan says. Her

novel is available on Amazon and Kindle. She decided to write a story on polar bears after extensive research on these wonderful animals that live in the ice cold regions of the world. "I read so much about polar bears. There was so much information on them. When I looked at their pictures. I found that they were cute looking, especially the cubs. Also, not many people know about their world. Not many people have explored their world. These animals shun human presence. This was another reason why I chose to make Vegla the hero of my novel,"

Ramnarayan tells you. Interestingly, nobody told her to choose this subject. She decided on her own.

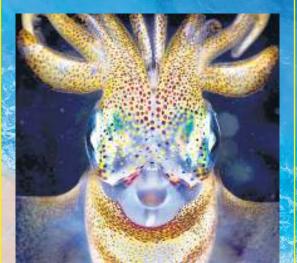
"My teacher taught me about speeches and how to improve my vocabulary. I was taught so many things that I didn't know about," Ramnarayan says.

This also includes horse riding. At that time the family lived near a horse riding academy. Her father encouraged her to take the classes. "It was fun." she tells vou.

For now, she is in the process of deciding what to write next. One thing she is sure of is that it will be related to animals only. She plans to continue with the classes since her dream is to be a writer. Not only this, she wants to pursue archaeology. "I love history and to know all about our past. There are so many things about it that we don't know and I would love to explore it," Ramnarayan says.

Ocean Photography Awards 2021

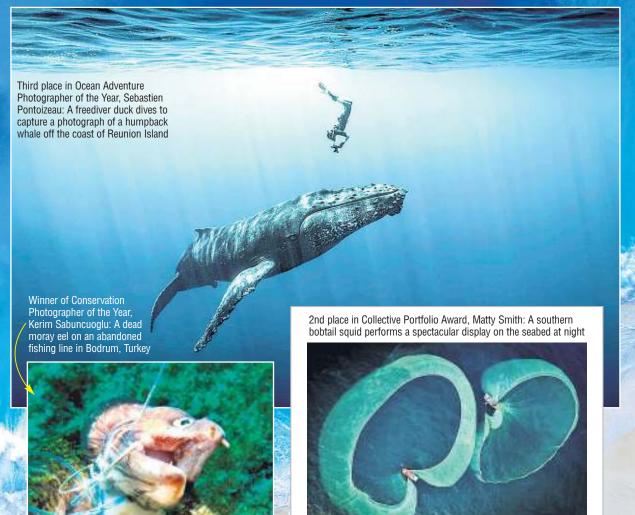
Winners of the Ocean Photography Awards 2021 have been announced, as the outdoor exhibition, showcasing some of the most striking submissions, opens to the public in London, Waves, whales, penguins and turtles are recurring themes, with Aimee Jan named Ocean Photographer of the Year for her hypnotic image of a sea turtle crowded by a school of glass fish, taken on Ningaloo Reef in Australia. "I was out snorkelling when one of my colleagues told me there was a turtle under a ledge in a school of glass fish, about 10 metres down," Jan says of her image. "When I dived down to look, the fish separated around the turtle perfectly. I said to her: 'I think I just took the best photo I have ever taken'." Second place was awarded to Henley Spiers for her image of gannets diving for mackerel in the Shetland Islands, UK, and third place went to Matty Smith, for his shot of a turtle hatchling's first moments of life. Including Ocean Photographer of the Year, there are eight awards in the competition.







Third place in Collective Portfolio Award, Alex Kydd: A rare encounter with a fever of cownose rays on the Ningaloo Reef. Western Australia



Joe Biden reiterates US support for India's entry in top UN body

President Joe Biden has reiterated America's support for India's permanent membership on a reformed United Nations Security Council and its entry into the Nuclear Suppliers Group during his first in-person bilateral meeting with Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the White House.
President Biden, in his talks with Prime Minister Modi, applauded India's "strong leadership" during its UN Security

Council Presidency in August 2021 according to the US-India Joint Leaders' Statement issued after their meeting in the White

House on Friday. "In this context, President for India's permanent member-ship on a reformed UN Security Council and for other countries who are important champions of multilateral cooperation and aspire to permanent seats on the UN Security Council," it said.

President Biden's support provides a big boost to New Delhi's push for the reform of the powerful UN organ as India has been at the forefront of efforts at the United Nations to push for an urgent long-pending reform of the Security Council, emphasising that it rightly deserves a place at the UN high table as a permanent member.

India in June asserted that the Inter-Governmental Negotiations (IGN) on UN Security Council reforms can no longer be used as a smokescreen, as the General Assembly decided to roll over the IGN work to the next UN General Assembly session and agreed to include an amendment proposed by the G4 nations of Brazil, Germany, India and Japan. At present, the UN Security Council comprises five permanent members and 10 non-permanent member countries which are elected for a two-year term by the

Closest known relatives of domain allows SARS-CoV-2 to attach to a receptor called ACE2 on the surface of human cells to enter them.

Ccientists have found three viruses in bats Sin Laos that are more similar to SARS-CoV-2 than any known viruses. Researchers say that parts of their genetic code bolster claims that the virus behind Covid-19 has a natural origin — but their discovery also raises fears that there are numerous coronaviruses with the potential to infect people. David Robertson, a virologist at the University of Glasgow, UK, calls the find "fascinating, and quite terrifying". The results, which are not peer reviewed, The results, which are not peer reviewed, have been posted on the preprint server Research Square 1. Particularly concerning is that the new viruses contain receptor binding domains that are almost identical to that of SARS-CoV-2, and can therefore infect human cells. The receptor binding

Abhishek wishes mom Jaya Bachchan on completing 50 years in cinema

Taya Bachchan completed 50 glorious years in Bollywood on Saturday and on the special occasion, her son Abhishek Bachchan shared a post on his Instagram profile. The actor shared some film stills from Jaya Bahchan's movies over the years and he wrote a caption along with it, which read, "I'm so grateful to be her son, and to see her complete 50 years in the film industry is a moment of pride. Happy 50 years of cinema Ma, I love you." In the comments section, Jaya Bachchan's granddaughter Navya Naveli Nanda wrote: "She is love." Bobby Deol, Anil Kapoor, Chitrangda Singh and other actors dropped heart emojis in the comments section of the post





Brother of Arjun Rampal's partner, 3 others arrested after Goa drug raids

he brother of Arjun Rampal's partner Gabriella Demetriades is among four people arrested from Goa for alleged possession of drugs. The NCB had arrested Agisilans Demetriades last year too in connection with its investigation into the alleged Bollywood drugs nexus and he was later released on bail The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) made the arrests during a series of raids in Goa over the week, an official said, according to a report by news agency PTI. The NCB's Goa sub zone unit arrested Nouman Savery (22), originally from Chhattisgarh, at Siolim beach village in North Goa on Wednesday. Thereafter, they arrested his partner Siddig Ahmed (25) of Hyderabad, the official said.

researchers. "I think it's a good

appointment," says James Wilsdon, who studies research policy at the University of Sheffield, UK. "It's

great to have someone in the role

innovation system." Kieron

policy at the University of

nomic potential," he says.

who understands the research and

Flanagan, who studies science and

Manchester, UK, agrees. "I think most scientists will be happy to

have an enthusiast who values sci-

ence for its commercial and eco-





UK minister takes on ambitious research agenda

The United Kingdom has a new science minister — its ninth since 2010, following a reshuffle of Prime Minister Boris Johnson's cabinet. George Freeman, a former investor in life-sciences companies, takes the role at a time when the coronavirus pandemic has renewed focus on research. But there are concerns that the Conservative government's ambitious target for research spending will not be met; the United Kingdom's relationship with Europe

General Assembly of the United Nations.

is also likely to influence the minister's agendá.

Freeman has been a Conservative Member of Parliament since 2010 and has previously served as a government life-sciences adviser and transport minister. He takes over his latest role — a junior ministerial iob — from Amanda Solloway, who was appointed in early 2020.

His background, as a minister and a biotechnology venture capitalist, makes Freeman a relatively popular choice for some



concentration of state they be

George Freeman

Resistance to frontline malaria drugs confirmed in Africa

Scientists have confirmed that malaria parasites in Africa have developed resistance to a key family of drugs used to protect against them. "We've all been expecting and dreading this for quite some time," says Leann Tilley, a biochemist at the University of Melbourne in Australia, who researches the molecular basis of antimalarial resistance. Signs of drug resistance have long been present in Africa: for instance, in Rwanda between 2012 and 2015, scientists detected1 the existence of gene mutations associated with resistance in malaria parasites. A new study, published in the New England Journal of Medicine today2, bolsters these findings by showing that such mutations are causing an observable drop in antimalarials' ability to quickly treat people with the disease. The 'gold standard' treatments for malaria — the drug family including artemisinin and its derivatives — are often administered alongside 'partner' drugs in what are called artemisinin-combination therapies (ACTs), because multiple drugs are more difficult for parasites to develop resistance against.