

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS OF INDIA'S INDEPENDENCE

Telangana State

From 08-08-2022 to 22-08-2022

CELEBRATING THE TRUE SPIRIT OF INDEPENDENCE

Government of Telangana has decided to conduct the 75th Independence day Celebrations of India in a grand manner. Hon'ble Chief Minister of Telangana Sri K. Chandrasekhar Rao has called for a grand tribute to the valiant Freedom Fighters who sacrificed their life for India's freedom and to carryout the vision of these great leaders by taking up development and welfare of all citizens. Today, Telangana has gained the reputation nationally as the best governed Welfare State. Telangana shines with uninterrupted 24/7 power supply and a strong, stable governance ensuring people development and welfare of all religions, castes and communities. Telangana has emerged as the most preferred destination for investment and real estate.

The state is striving hard to realise Mahathma Gandhi's dream of self sustaining Gram panchayats by developing (Adarsh) model villages & ULBs. As India celebrates the 75th year of independence, Telangana is becoming the role model for the nation.

PROGRAMME DETAILS

08.08.2022	Inauguration at HICC, Hyderabad by Hon'ble Chief Minister	14.08.2022	Janapada Kalakarula Pradarshanalu in all Dist./Constituency HQs • Folk artist performances to be arranged in coordination with Telangana Samskruthika Sarathi. • In the evening, fireworks are to be arranged in all Dist. Hqs.
09.08.2022	Commencement of Distribution of National Flags to all Households • National Flags will be delivered to Collectors. • Organize function at Dist. HQs with Hon'ble Ministers for commending distribution Collectors to send it to Mandals & GPs • Ensure distribution to each & every households • Ensure it is hoisted on all households • Flag code to be followed during hoisting	15.08.2022	Independence Day Celebrations
10.08.2022	Vanamahotsavam - Planting of Saplings Setting up of 'Freedom Parks' Take up planting of saplings in all GPs/ULBs	16.08.2022	Telangana Rashtra Samoochika Jateeya Geeta Alapana. (Singing of National Anthem in all GPs / Municipalities at a designated time) • To be arranged in all GPs/ ULBs in coordination with SPs/CPs. • Kavi Sammelanam in all Districts
11.08.2022	Freedom Run - Organize 'Freedom Run' at all Mandals/ULBs in coordination with Police Department	17.08.2022	Blood Donation Camps at District HQs • To be organized in coordination with DM&HO, NGOs with atleast 75 Donors.
12.08.2022	Jateeya Samikyata Raksha (Local TV networks to be requested to telecast patriotic programmes)	18.08.2022	"Freedom Cup" Sports Tournaments for employees / Youth • To be organized for employees at Mandal level, District level in coordination with Sports Dept.
13.08.2022	Rallies by students / NCC / NSS/ Scouts & Guides / Employees with Flag & Placards • Congregation at a big ground & release of tricoloured Balloons In all GP's/ULBs	19.08.2022	Distribution of Fruits / Sweets at Hospitals / Old Age Homes / Orphanages / Prisons
		20.08.2022	'Rangoli' on the theme of patriotism by SHGs & Women (In all GPs/ULBs)
		21.08.2022	Special Session of Assembly • Special Meetings of ZPP/ MPP/GP • Special Meetings of Municipal Corporations / Municipalities
		22.08.2022	Valedictory Programme at LB Stadium at Hyderabad

Independent India's Brightest State -Telangana



Monday Mirchi

OPPOSITION SYMPATHIES WITH CS

Political leaders with bloated egos, particularly those in the opposition camp, normally do not take it lightly if a babu, however big he may be in the administration, does not respond to their calls. Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar belongs to a different ilk. He may be the blue-eyed boy of Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao. But his biggest sympathisers are in the opposition parties. The Chief Secretary often does not take calls of leaders of opposition parties. While some do get angry about it at times, many of them feel sorry for him that he is in under surveillance. The buzz in opposition circles is that the CS is a figurehead and worried that if he speaks to opponents of KCR, he might get an earful. Some say that they have stopped calling him for his own safety and suspect that it is the Chief Minister who has barred him from talking to opposition leaders.

ALL EYES ON NALGONDA COLLECTOR

When polls come, can minor bureaucratic reshuffle be far behind? With by-polls imminent to the Munugode Assembly seat, all eyes are on the Nalgonda District Collector position. In June, Rahul Sharma, Additional Collector (Local Bodies) Nalgonda, was given full additional charge as the District Collector. About a year ago, just before the Huzurabad bypoll, RV Karnan took charge as the District Collector of Karimnagar, after Shashanka was moved. Bureaucratic circles are agog now discussing who could take over as the District Collector in Nalgonda, given poll-bound Munugode.

FOLLOWING, IN LETTER AND SPIRIT

With the advent of social media, the word 'following', like the word 'like', has lost some of its significance with many people using them mechanically bereft of feelings. Politicians often play to the gallery and forget statements made by them. Bureaucrats are known to forget even decisions taken by the government. But special secretary in the Telangana CMO Smitha Sabharwal is differ-

ent. Among top bureaucrats, she is the one who goes the extra mile. Municipal Administration and Industries Minister KT Rama Rao had some time back asked government officials to wear handloom clothes once a week, say every Monday. His idea is to encourage handloom weavers and the Minister normally wears handloom clothes every Monday. He may have forgotten to do this at times, but Smitha Sabharwal wears only handloom sarees not only on Mondays, but every day of the week. She says that the making handloom cloth is an ancient Indian art, and everyone should protect this art by encouraging the handloom industry.

MIRCH MASALA ON A PLATTER

For the media, mirch masala always sells, and, if it comes on a platter from top-level babus, it is indeed a bonanza. The Vasool Raja series carried by a vernacular daily -- which is known to be anti-YSRCP -- has triggered tremors in the babudom of the state. For, the series alludes to a bureaucrat who is considered the 'most powerful officer' in the state. After heated discussions over the past few weeks, it has now emerged that the mirch masala series found its way to the 'right' media house because it was an insider job of a few senior bureaucrats who do not get along well with the powerful officer in question. These senior babus did not like this officer calling the shots. So, they conspired and planted the stories in the daily, which lapped it up to tarnish the image of the Jagannathan Reddy government. Peers close to the officer have advised him to be cautious henceforth, considering the prying eyes of those who have put him on their watchlist. They have warned him that political bosses at the Centre may use their muscle and manipulative skills to paint the present government in bad light by using his deeds, just like the way it is being done in other states through raids by central agencies like the Enforcement Directorate and the Central Bureau of Investigation.

-Yours truly

PREZ, VP POLLS

Split wide open in Oppn ranks

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The polls to elect the president and the vice president may be over but the bitter aftertaste in the Opposition ranks is likely to linger with the schism between the Congress and the TMC widening and jibes at each other flowing thick and fast.

The defeat of the Opposition's candidates in these polls were on expected lines, but what surprised many was that the bid for unity had in effect exposed the political fault lines in the Opposition ranks.

The two major Opposition forces trading barbs and the Trinamool Congress abstaining from the vice presidential poll do not augur well for the

Unfortunately, some opposition parties chose to directly or indirectly support the BJP, in an attempt to derail the idea of a united opposition. It is my belief that by doing so, these parties and their leaders have damaged their own credibility.

Opposition moving towards the 2024 parliamentary elections and are likely to dent their electoral prospects, analysts say.

While the Congress and the TMC were seen vying for credit in forging a consensus on a joint presidential candidate, their differences came out in the open during the vice presidential election.

Congress veteran Margaret Alva was fielded by the

Opposition for the vice presidential poll against the ruling NDA's Jagdeep Dhankhar, but the Mamata Banerjee-led Trinamool Congress announced it would abstain from the election as there was no proper consultation before deciding on the candidate.

Alva's first reaction was stern, saying this was not the time for 'whataboutery', ego or anger, but the time for courage, leadership and unity.

NITI Aayog has assumed political colour: Harish

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Finance Minister T. Harish Rao said that NITI Aayog has assumed a political colour.

He said that it is not expected of the NITI Aayog to release a press note supporting the BJP without answering the questions Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao had raised on Saturday.

Speaking to the media on Sunday, Harish said that the Centre did not release funds even though NITI Aayog had recommended funds.

However, the NITI Aayog released a false statement that the Telangana government did not use the funds given by the Centre.

Govt implementing schemes to help weavers, says CM



PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao has extended greetings to the weaver community on National Handloom Day (August 7).

KCR said the government is implementing a slew of schemes to ensure the welfare

of weavers.

KCR said the state government had introduced the 'Netanna Bhima' scheme on the eve of National Handloom Day.

The CM said that it is first of its kind scheme for weavers in the country. Nearly 80,000 families of weavers will benefit from the insurance scheme, he said.

The CM said the new scheme will provide an insurance cover of Rs 5 lakh to the families of weavers in case of the beneficiary's death. The new scheme provides financial security to handloom and power loom weaver families.

The CM said the introduction of the scheme is a testimony to the government's com-

mitment towards welfare.

The CM said the Centre instead of supporting the State Government which is trying to ensure the welfare of weavers is wrecking the handloom and power loom sector

by imposing taxes. The CM declared that despite challenges the government will stand by the Padmashali community which depended on the handloom sector for livelihood.

KTR ASKS CENTRE TO SCRAP GST ON HANDLOOM PRODUCTS

HYDERABAD: Industries Minister KTR expressed anger over the Centre weakening the handloom sector and demanded that the Centre should immediately withdraw the GST on handloom products. The Minister said that they are providing employment to handloom weavers in Telangana. He said that handloom workers will benefit from the Cheneta Mitra and Netanna insurance schemes. Handloom products are part of India's artistic heritage and people should come forward to help the handloom sector, KTR said.



ICMR-NIV analysis finds A.2 strain of monkeypox virus

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

An analysis of India's first two monkeypox cases by an institute of the Indian Council of Medical Research revealed that the duo who returned from the UAE were infected with the virus strain A.2 -- different from the one causing the outbreak in Europe.

The A.2 strain, which was detected in the US last year, has not been linked to major clusters. The current outbreak is being driven by the B.1 strain of monkeypox virus, Dr Pragna Yadav, a senior scientist at the National Institute of Virology (NIV) and lead author of the study, said.

The findings of the study have



been published in the Research Square, a pre-print server, and have not been peer reviewed.

India has reported nine cases of monkeypox and one death so far.

The foreign returnees from the United Arab Emirates presented with fever, myalgia, and vesicular lesions on the genital area with cervical lymphadenopathy. The oropharyngeal and nasopharyngeal swab, EDTA blood, serum, urine, lesion samples from mul-

tiple sites were collected from both the cases on the ninth post onset day of illness.

The clinical specimens of both the cases were tested with real-time PCR for orthopoxvirus, monkeypox virus (MPXV).

"The complete genome sequences obtained from skin lesions of cases 1 and 2 showed similarity of 99.91 and 99.96 per cent respectively with MPXV_USA_2022_FL001 West African clade. Phylogenetic analysis revealed that the two cases were infected with monkeypox virus strain A.2 which belong to hMPXV-1A lineage of clade 3 (West African clade)," the study by the NIV under the ICMR found.

TRS launches poster war again in Hyderabad

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

A poster war has started again in Hyderabad.

The TRS has put up posters across the city mocking Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the BJP government. The posters have promises made by the BJP government and below that it reads 'Kya Hua Tera Wada?'

One poster found at a bus stop says, 'Farmers' income will be doubled by 2022, Kya Hua Tera Wada?'

The Prime Minister had said in 2016 that the income of farmers will be doubled by 2022.

Another poster, which has also been displayed at a bus stop, says, 'India will become a 5 trillion dollar economy by

2024, Kya hua tera wada?' This statement was also made by Prime Minister Modi in 2019.

These posters came up in the city a few days after Industries Minister KT Rama Rao had questioned the Prime Minister in a tweet by using the hashtag 'Kya Hua Tera Wada?'

KTR had said, 'The Tricolour in every house is fine but what happened to Modi's promise to give everyone a house by 2022. #KyaHuaTeraWada.'

In another Twitter response, he said, "Deposits by Indians in Swiss banks have grown by at least six times in the last five years. In 2021 it saw a more than 50 per cent jump over 2020, 'KyaHuaTeraWada'

A new India being shaped under Modi's leadership: Amit Shah

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday said a new India is being shaped under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who has enhanced India's honour internationally and made it indispensable to the world.

Addressing 'Tiranga Utsav' to honour the creator of the national flag, Pingali Venkayya, Shah also appealed everyone to make the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign a grand success by hoisting the tricolour from their homes and uploading its image as their profile picture on social media accounts.

"The dream of a new India is com-

ing up under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Now, the whole world is looking towards India with respect. Between 2014 and 2022, Prime Minister Modi has enhanced India's prestige in the world.

"Today the world does not take any decision on any issue unless Prime Minister Modi gives his opinion," he said. The home minister said lakhs of people sacrificed their lives over the years to see India honoured like this.

"They have sacrificed their lives to see an India which is self-reliant, a country which is proud of its history, a country which not only makes its own future Such a new India is being built under the leadership of Prime Minister Modi,

it is being built as per the dream of Prime Minister Modi," he said.

Shah said Modi has now given a call for hoisting of the national flag from every home from August 13 to 15 as part of the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' and to upload the tricolour in the social media profiles.

"There is no better way to give respect to the soldiers of the country, martyrs of the country," he said.

The home minister said the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' is being celebrated, as India completes 75 years of its independence, to remember those who sacrificed their lives for the country.

"There were many unsung heroes of our freedom struggle, whom people

have forgotten. This 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' is an occasion to remember and give respect to all such unsung heroes," he said.

Shah said another of their aims is to take India's success stories to everyone in the country, and spread the success of Indian democracy to every part of the world.

The third aim is to make India 'Vishwa Guru' by 2047 through the collective efforts of every Indian, he said.

The home minister also paid rich tributes to Venkayya, the creator of the country's national flag.

In 1916, Venkayya had published a book offering 30 designs of what could make the Indian flag.

KCR, Babu...

Continued from page 3

If this happens the YSR Congress will face a tough fight with the TDP, BJP, Jana Sena alliance.

In the past, the TDP and the BJP had an alliance and fought Assembly elections twice. Both times the TDP came to power. Now also Chandrababu wants an alliance with the BJP.

Meanwhile, in Telangana, the TRS and the Congress had an alliance during the 2004 Assembly elections in united Andhra Pradesh. The TRS and the Congress jointly fought the BJP-led NDA government in Parliament.

In the vice presidential election, the TRS supported Congress leader Margaret Alva. In the state, senior Congress leaders are leaving the party one after the other

and joining the BJP.

If this continues, the Congress will become weak and the BJP will become stronger. This will prove a danger to the TRS which wants to retain power in the next Assembly elections.

Both the TRS and the Congress want to prevent the BJP from coming to power in the next Assembly elections. This may lead to an alliance between the TRS and the Congress against the BJP.

If the BJP secures second place instead of coming to power in the Assembly elections, either the TRS or the Congress will end up third. If the BJP comes second it will fight to come to power and the TRS or the Congress which comes third will find it very difficult to win subsequent elections.

It will be a...

Continued from page 3

The same will be the case with domestic consumers as well. Thus this Bill is neither in the interests of the general public nor in the interests of employees. Meanwhile, 27 lakh electricity sector employees throughout the country will go on strike on August 8 in protest against the Electricity (Amendment) Bill, 2022, being introduced in Parliament to privatise electricity distribution.

The All India Power Engineers Federation has appealed to Prime Minister Modi to intervene in the matter so that the Bill is not passed in haste in Parliament and to discuss the Bill in detail with all stakeholders.

KCR's family controlling...

Continued from page 3

Kishan said that KCR has been enacting dramas to divert public attention from the failures of his government.

He said the KCR government which had proudly accepted NITI Aayog awards for Telangana is now behaving against its earlier stand. KCR's attitude has changed due to the changed political conditions. KCR is badmouthing

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Central organisations like NITI Aayog as the BJP has gained ground in Telangana, Kishan said.

The Union Minister said that the Centre has allowed state governments to construct any number of houses for the poor. The Centre has also been releasing its share of funds. KCR is not implementing this scheme as he is afraid that the Centre may get a good name, he pointed out.

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Panghal, on the other hand, avenged his 2018 Commonwealth Games final loss against Kieran MacDonald by clinching the title with a comprehensive 5-0 win over the favourite. Indian boxers made it three out of three golds on the day as young Nitu Ghanghas (48kg) too reigned supreme on her CWG debut.

Sagar Ahlawat will play his final bout later tonight.

The India pugilists will return with seven medals from Birmingham, two less than the previous edition.

Nikhata started off the year by clinching a gold at the prestigious Strandja Memorial tournament before going on to become a world champion.

The Telangana boxer, who dropped from 52kg to 50kg for the CWG, glided around the ring, landing hooks and tight jabs at will. Her defence was equally impressive.

Such was her dominance that when the nine minutes ended there was no doubt which way the decision would go. Having lost to a Briton four years ago at the same stage in Gold Coast, the 26-year-old Panghal was at his aggressive

KTR, journo Ranganathan duel...

Continued from page 3

Quoting Anand Ranganathan's tweet, KTR said, "Anandji, the development of my nation is the religion that I believe in. I am a developmental nationalist. Please ask 'fringe elements' running the Union Government to explain why they were apologising profusely to other nations. Also why did they suspend her if she was right?"

KTR continued the tweet saying, "By the way Anandji, my name is Ram. Let me remind you that we live in a nation where the President's village got electrified only a month ago. 75 years after

Independence, we still cannot provide safe drinking water or electricity. And our focus is: Whose god is the greatest?"

"We are the world's most diverse nation. India is celebrating 75 years of Independence. We have many gods and millions of places to worship. We still don't have enough educational institutions or healthcare facilities. Let's focus on issues that will propel India as the best nation," he added.

Anand Ranganathan replied, "Ramji, I'm afraid you are shifting goalposts. Since when have you started agreeing with the BJP? Do you also agree with Yogi when he says that the TRS is corrupt? No

one has criticised the BJP on this more than I have."

Anand Ranganathan replied, "Ram this won't end well for you. What has the President's village got to do with this? By the way 239 Telangana villages are still without electricity. Forget which God is the greatest. Azaan informs us five times a day that there is only one God. Do you condemn that claim?"

KTR replied to this, "This won't end well for you, what arrogance. Please educate and advise your guru Modiji to stop peddling white lies and fake narratives that he electrified the whole of India in 2018. I respect diversity, multiple religions and multiple gods.

No false moral superiority for me."

Anand Ranganathan replied, "It is a manner of speech, KTR garu, and no, I wasn't being arrogant, just lamenting that this won't end well for you because you will look like Rahul Gandhi at the end of it. Devoid of facts, shifting goalposts and a dynast. Sadly, my worst fears have come true."

KTR replied, "Anand, dynasty is any day better than nasty bigotry. And by the way, goalpost shifting narrative is better suited for your paymaster jumalaking. Please remind your guru Modiji not to shift the goalpost and deliver before 2022. I can send you a list of all BJP dynasts if you like."

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby informed that my client Sri. P. SOMKUMAR, Son of Late P. KRISHNA RAO, Aged about 48 years, Resident of H. No. 1-7-80/4, South Kamala Nagar, Opp: St. Joseph High School, ECIL Post Hyderabad-500 062, has lost following Document.

1) Sale Deed Document No. 4436 of 2012, Regd. At S.R.O. Bhongiri.

While traveling on Bike in between ECIL X Road to South Kamala Nagar, Kapra, Hyderabad-500 062, on 29/07/2022.

Hence it is informed that if any one finds the said document the same may be handed over to the above said address of my client Sri. P. SOMKUMAR, Contact No. 986663505.

Place: Hyderabad
Date: 06/08/2022

N. NARASIMHA RAO
M.A., B.L.
ADVOCATE



the pioneer



ASEES
KAURBRINGING A
DISTINCT POP WORLD
IN TELUGU

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IN A FIRST, US NAVY SHIP ARRIVES FOR REPAIR AT L&T SHIPYARD IN TN

In a leg-up to the Indo-US strategic partnership, US navy ship Charles Drew on Sunday arrived at Larsen and Toubro shipyard at Kattupalli here for undergoing repairs and allied services. According to an official release, the US Navy had awarded a contract to the L&T Shipyard for undertaking maintenance of the ship. The event signifies the capabilities of the country's shipyards in the global ship repairing market. Indian shipyards offer wide ranging and cost-effective ship repair and maintenance services, using advanced maritime technology platforms. United States' Military Sealift Command's Lewis and Clark-class dry cargo ship USNS Charles Drew provides critical support to the U.S. Navy fleet operating in the Indo-Pacific Region, it said.

MAIDEN TEST RUN OF FIRST RRTS TRAIN SET CONDUCTED AT DUHAI

The National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) has conducted the maiden test run of the RRTS train-set on its depot tracks at Duhai in Ghaziabad, the transport body said on Sunday. The NCRTC is establishing India's first Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) a rail-based, high-speed regional commuter transit system from Delhi to Meerut via Ghaziabad. The first RRTS train-set had arrived at Duhai depot in June from its manufacturing unit in Savli in Gujarat. The test run was conducted at Duhai depot on Saturday evening. "The NCRTC achieved an important milestone towards bringing in India's 1st Regional Rail on time, yesterday, RRTS trainset did a maiden test run on its depot tracks.

HITLER'S WATCH SELLS AT MARYLAND AUCTION FOR \$1.1 MILLION

A Maryland auction house has sold a wristwatch that once belonged to Adolf Hitler for 1.1 million. Alexander Historical Auctions in Chesapeake City had estimated the value between 2 and 4 million, describing the watch as a World War II relic of historic proportions. Newsoutlets report that Jewish leaders and others objected to the sale this week, saying it had little to no historical value. The auction house's president, Bill Panagopolos, defended the auction and said the buyer is a European Jew. The watch features the initials AH and a swastika. The auction house said a French soldier seized the watch as spoils of war on May 4, 1945, when his unit became the first Allied force to arrive at Hitler's Berchtesgaden retreat.

ISRO'S MAIDEN SMALL SATELLITE LAUNCH MISSION FACES ANOMALY

The Indian Space Research Organisation on Sunday faced a blip in its plan to tap the small satellite launch vehicle market, as an anomaly in the placing of the satellites by the rocket led to deviation on its path thereby becoming 'no longer usable', Chairman S Somanath said on Sunday. However, he said that apart from the 'anomaly' which surfaced, the entire 'architecture of the rocket' performed well and the scientists were happy with every stage of the rocket operating as per the plan. The 34 metre tall Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) on its maiden journey to place an Earth Observation Satellite (EOS-02) and students satellite AzadiSAT lifted off at the precise 9.18 hrs from the first launch pad at Satish Dhawan Space Centre, here in this spaceport.

IF ELECTRICITY BILL BECOMES AN ACT

It will be a power shock for all

SNCN ACHARYULU
■ HYDERABAD

The distribution of electricity will go into the hands of the private sector once the Electricity (Amendment) Bill 2022 which is being introduced in the Lok Sabha on Monday becomes law.

The financial burden on ordinary domestic consumers will go up after the privatisation of the power sector. There will be no obligation for private power distribution companies to give priority to domestic consumers.

According to the Bill which was circulated to MPs, licenses will be given to multiple distribution companies in the same area. The private power distribution companies will supply electricity using the public sector network.

There is also a provision in the Bill that the universal power supply obligation, that is, the obligation to supply electricity to all categories of consumers will be honoured only if the government company and private sector companies earn a profit by supplying electricity to indus-



trial and commercial consumers.

The job of maintaining the distribution network will lie with the government company and the government company will have to spend money on its operation and maintenance.

Private companies will earn a profit by paying only wheeling charges. As a result, government companies will go insolvent.

According to the Bill, subsidies and cross-subsidies will be abolished so that the full cost of electricity can be recovered from all categories of consumers. According to power sector officials, if a pumping set of 7.5 HP is run for only six hours, farmers will have to pay a bill of Rs 10,000 to Rs 12,000 per month.

2

ELECTRICITY UNIONS PLAN DHARNA TODAY

HYDERABAD: The Power Engineers Association and the Vidut JAC have declared that they will organise a 'Power Cut' on Monday across the State. In a statement issued on Sunday, the leaders of the two unions said that they are staging a 'maha dharma' to protest against the Centre's decision to introduce the Electricity Act Amendment Bill in Parliament. They also released a poster on the planned Maha Dharma. Speaking on the occasion, the leaders said that the Centre is going to introduce the Electricity Act Amendment Bill. The leaders gave a call to electricity employees to boycott their duties on Monday across the State. They said that they will not restore power supply in case there is any interruption on Monday during their protest. The union leaders requested consumers to extend their cooperation in this regard and warned that they will launch an indefinite strike in case the Centre introduces the Bill.



Govt launches insurance scheme for weavers

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Telangana government has launched an insurance scheme for handloom and power loom weavers for the first time in the country. The insurance scheme is named, 'Nethanna Ku Bima'.

Industries Minister KT Rama Rao announced this while virtually launching the National Handloom Day exhibition in Hyderabad on Sunday. The exhibition had around 100 stalls with artisans from across the Telugu states and the country. The items being sold are pochampally sarees, masks, khadi bags and other things made by weavers.

2

KCR, Babu trying to revive old ties with allies

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Developments in the Telugu states are creating interest in political circles nationwide.

It appears that Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao and TDP President N. Chandrababu Naidu are trying to revive their old ties with other political parties.

While former united AP Chief Minister Chandrababu wants to revive relations with the BJP, Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao is likely to revive ties with the Congress.

In Andhra Pradesh, Chandrababu badly needs an alliance with the BJP to prevent the YSR Congress from retaining power in the next Assembly elections.

In Telangana, if the Congress high command comes forward to have an alliance with the TRS, KCR may not object as the forthcoming elections will not be a cakewalk for the TRS.

TDP President Chandrababu met Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah and other



While former united AP Chief Minister Chandrababu wants to revive relations with the BJP, Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao is likely to revive ties with the Congress



top BJP leaders in New Delhi on Saturday.

TDP sources said that both Modi and Chandrababu held discussions for about five minutes. Sources said that Modi had asked Chandrababu to come to New Delhi.

Interestingly, when Chandrababu met Modi in New Delhi, Andhra Pradesh BJP president Somu Veerajulu praised Chandrababu and criticised Jagan while speaking to the media in Vijayawada.

Somu Veerajulu said that Chandrababu is a visionary and due

to that the Centre had released funds to construct AP's capital at Amaravati. He said that Jagan has no such vision and that's why the Centre did not release funds for the three capitals proposed by him.

If the TDP and the BJP revive old ties the Jana Sena will also join them. Jana Sena President Pawan Kalyan wants the TDP, the BJP and the Jana Sena to forge an alliance to prevent the splitting of anti-government votes in the next elections.

2

KCR's family controlling 15 Ministries: Kishan

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Pointing out that the Kalvakuntla family is controlling 15 Ministries, Union Tourism Minister G. Kishan Reddy said that KCR's decision to boycott NITI Aayog meeting was atrocious and that it is wrong to make baseless allegations against Central organisations.

Kishan said that if the TRS government has any intention to develop Telangana, KCR should come and speak on the NITI Aayog platform. He added that boycotting NITI Aayog goes against the federal spirit. "If you don't want to come to the meeting then don't come. But it is unjustifiable to make baseless comments due to political malice against organisations like NITI



“KCR has been speaking as if Telangana will come to nothing if there is no KCR. KCR has been speaking about golden Telangana but what sort of administration has he provided? Everyone speaks about KCR's administration and how he has been ruling TS. KCR has been criticising the Centre as he fears that he is going to lose power.”

Aayog. If you don't want to come... stay in your farmhouse," Kishan said.

Addressing the media in New Delhi on Sunday, Kishan said, "KCR has been speaking as if Telangana will come to nothing if there is no KCR. KCR has been speaking about golden Telangana

but what sort of administration has he provided? Everyone speaks about KCR's administration and how he has been ruling TS. KCR has been criticising the Centre as he fears that he is going to lose power," he said.

2

Make India self sufficient

■ PM urges states to focus on farm sector

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday made a strong case for modernising agriculture, animal husbandry and food processing to help the country become self-sufficient and a global leader in the agriculture sector.

The Prime Minister also asked the states to focus on promoting 3Ts -- Trade, Tourism,

Technology -- with a view to reducing imports and increasing exports, said an official release after the seventh meeting of the Governing Council of the NITI Aayog.

"We should encourage people to use local goods wherever possible, he said, adding, 'Vocal for local' is not the agenda of an individual political party but a common goal.

India, he said, needs to "focus on modernized agriculture, animal husbandry, and food processing to become self-sufficient and a global leader in the agriculture sector." He further said that rapid urbanization can become India's strength instead of weakness by leveraging technology to ensure ease of liv-



TS-bPASS issues 1,34,327 building permits

P4



ing, transparent service delivery, and improvement in the quality of life for every citizen.

The Prime Minister also appreciated the collective efforts of all the states in the spirit of cooperative federalism in the fight against the Covid pandemic.

IMD ISSUES

2 day red alert for TS

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a red alert in Telangana on Monday and Tuesday.

Isolated heavy rain is likely in the districts of Adilabad, Komarambheem Asifabad, Mancherial, Nirmal, Jagtial, Karimnagar, Peddapalli, Jayshankar Bhupalapally and Mulugu.

The IMD issued an orange alert in Nizamabad, Rajanna Sircilla, Bhadradi Kothagudem, Khammam, Mahbubabad and Warangal (Rural and Urban) districts on Monday.

In Hyderabad, the sky will be generally cloudy. Light to moderate rains or thunderstorms is likely. There is also a possibility of intense spells of rain

Surface winds are likely to be west-



erlies/north-westerlies with a speed of 8 to 16 kmph. The maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be around 28 degrees Celsius and 21 degrees Celsius respectively.

The state's highest rainfall on Sunday was recorded at Mancherial (99 mm), followed by Peddapally (87 mm) and Komarambheem Asifabad (86.2 mm).

In the GHMC area, the highest rainfall recorded was 6.6 mm at Kapra, and at Medchal Malkajigiri.

TODAY

ALMANAC

Month & Paksham:

Tithi: Ekadashi:

Dwadashi:

Nakshatram:

Jyeshtha:

Moola:

Rahukalam:

7:36 AM to 9:11 AM

Yamagandam:

10:46 AM to 12:21 PM

Variyam:

10:51 AM to 12:18 PM

Gulika:

1:56 PM to 3:32 PM

Amritakalam:

06:31 AM to 07:59 AM

Abhijit Muhurtham:

11:56 AM to 12:47 PM

HYDERABAD WEATHER

Forecast: Thunderstorm

Temp: 23°C

Humidity: 100%

Sunrise: 5:57 AM

Sunset: 6:46 PM

Updated: AUGUST 7, 2022 5:00 PM

‘85% of children have experienced cyberbullying’

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Around 85 per cent of Indian children have reported being cyberbullied as well as having cyberbullied someone else at rates well over twice the international average, according to a McAfee Cyberbullying report released on Sunday.

Cyberbullying includes racism, trolling, personal attacks and sexual harassment, among others.

The survey was conducted between June 15 to July 5 covering 11,687 parents and their children across 10 countries.

"Cyberbullying in India reaches alarming highs as more than 1 in 3 kids face cyber racism, sexual harassment, and threats of physical harm as early as at the age of 10 - making India the number 1 nation for reported cyberbullying in the world," McAfee Chief Product Officer Gagan Singh said in the report.



“Extreme forms of cyberbullying reported besides racism include trolling (36 per cent), personal attacks (29 per cent), sexual harassment (30 per cent), threat of personal harm (28 per cent) and doxing (23 per cent), all of these at almost double the global average.”

Indian children witness and experience the maximum cyberbullying on almost every social media and messaging platform.

"85 per cent of Indian children reported being cyberbullied as well as having cyberbullied someone else at rates well over twice the international average," the report said.

"Indian children said that they are more likely to be cyberbullied by strangers compared to other children around the world, at 70 per cent in India versus 45 per cent worldwide,"

it added. Besides, 45 per cent of Indian children said they hide their cyberbullying experiences from parents, perhaps due to the relative absence of conversation, the report said.

According to Indian parents, 42 per cent of children have been the target of racist cyberbullying, strikingly 14 per cent higher than the rest of the world at 28 per cent.

"Extreme forms of cyberbullying reported besides racism include trolling (36 per cent), personal



Clean stagnant water to prevent diseases: Minister Sabitha

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Education Minister Sabitha Indra Reddy on Sunday cleaned standing water areas at her home in the city's Srinagar Colony as part of the 10 minutes at 10am every Sunday programme to prevent mosquito-borne diseases.

Along with the entomology staff of the GHMC, the Minister organised a cleanliness programme to create public awareness.

A poster was unveiled on the precautions to be taken by the people.

Minister Sabitha Indra Reddy said that Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao has formed a sub-committee and is taking steps to prevent seasonal diseases during the rainy season. Every Friday is a dry day in schools just like it is in



homes on Sundays. She stated that with the measures taken by the Chief Minister, villages have become clean as part of rural and urban progress and most of the dis-

eases have reduced. The minister said that water in pot-holes should be removed as there is a possibility of spreading malaria and dengue due to stagnant water.

These diseases can be prevented only by cleanliness. She added that due to the prevalence of seasonal and infectious diseases the mosquito, which causes dengue, lays its

Minister Sabitha Indra Reddy said that Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao has formed a sub-committee and is taking steps to prevent seasonal diseases during the rainy season

eggs in freshwater. The minister said that it should be cleaned once in a week or larvae will form.

The minister said that the Chief Minister has ordered this programme in schools every Friday.

A task to restore heritage clocks

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The tick tick of heritage clock is back in the city as the work reached the accurate person. The watches established for eight to nine years by the then rulers have gained interest of the government officials. They took the restoration works but few failed to set them up.

Then Laxman Chugani of Ramesh Swiss Watch Gallery, which has a history of over 40 years, got a call to take up the work and thus the man took it up as a challenge to show that perfect hand in work and thus no complaints for now. It is a journey of tower clocks, explains the man behind.

"We have been making this work of restoring clocks for five years now. We first repaired the Church Clock of Warangal. It is one of my hobbies. When I was new to our watch shop, I always wondered how one goes for repair if the watch stops suddenly and later understood that there is technology to learn the techniques of how clocks are made."



"To be faithful to our customers, I have learnt the technology in Switzerland. I got trained and returned to India. Then we began repairing the watches in our shop. I also sent my employees to Switzerland and trained them. Two or three people tried Mozamjahi Market Tower Clock but they could not do it. Then officials approached us asking if we do one side of the clock and it works for two months then we will be given other orders. The challenge for us was that pigeons

dropped the needles of the watch and others gave an excuse that pigeons are spoiling it. But I said if the father of the pigeon sits on it also our watch doesn't stop and till now there is no problem."

This watch shop also has a history of Prince Moazzam Jah often visiting it as a client. They have a team of 15 employees working for it. Later, they shifted to restoration of Secunderabad Tower Clock.

The other added feature is that the watch's striking sound can be heard for 2 km away. T

he different types of clocks they have are one face, two face, three face and digital clocks.

The forthcoming projects are that they will fix a floral clock in Lumbini Park and they are coming up with the highest height of 10-feet Tower Clock in Siddipet.

Few of the other places where watches are restored are MCME Army, Tadbund Digital Clock, Uppal Cricket Stadium and Kacheguda Railway Station Clock.

TS-bPASS issues 1,34,327 building permits

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Telangana State Building Permission Approval and Self Certification System (TS-bPASS) has issued 1,34,327 building permits till February 2020. It is issued through TS-bPASS in 142 Municipal Corporations of the State.

TS-bPASS is one of the revolutionary measures taken up by the Telangana government to facilitate and making transparent the building plan, layout, occupancy and change of land use. The Telangana government enacted TS-bPASS Act 2020 in September 2020. The main objective of the provisions of this Act is to speed up approval of layouts or buildings in a transparent manner and to control unauthorised development works and illegal constructions. If people upload related docu-



ments online from home to TS-bPASS for construction and other permissions from various departments, the respective validations will be issued within the specified time. So far, 1,34,327 applications have been processed through TS-bPASS in 142 Municipal Corporations of the State.

The terms are for instant registration: Individual residential building up to 75 sqmts and height up to 7 meters (G+1 floor).

Immediate approval: Above 75 sq yards and 600sq. Individual residential building of plot area up to yards and height up to 10 meters.

Single Window Approval (Buildings): All residential buildings with plot area exceeding 500 square meters and or height exceeding 10 meters and all non-residential buildings (high-rise buildings, cluster development schemes, apartment complexes, multi-plexes, non-residential buildings and layouts.

I-Day jubilee fete:GHMC to hold slew of events

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

With the State government deciding to celebrate 'Swatantra Bharata Vajrotsava Dwi Saptaham' for two weeks, the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) is organising a slew of programmes to mark 75 years of Independence.

As a part of the festivities, the Deputy Commissioners of the GHMC were instructed to make sure the National Flags are distributed and hoisted in all houses duly following the flag code during hoisting. Plantation drives, cultural programmes, kavi sammelanam and blood donations camps in all zones.

DIAMOND JUBILEE FETE



Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar and DGP Mahender Reddy inspect the arrangements being made at the Hyderabad International Convention Centre where the Diamond Jubilee festival of Indian Independence would be organised Photos by SV Chary



Sub-inspector preliminary exams completed

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Police sub-inspector preliminary written examination was completed successfully on Sunday. Aspirants should continue preparation for the next stage of exams like PET and Mains without waiting for results of Prelims, said Commissioner of Police Mahesh Bhagwat.

On Sunday, Mahesh Bhagwat inspected the examination centres of police recruitment sub-inspector preliminary written examination held at TKR Engineering College, Meerpet, Sri Indu College, Ibrahimpatnam, Princeton Degree College, Ramanthapur and Aurora Engineering

College, Ghatkesar.

Addressing the media, the CP said that all the required amenities have been arranged at the examination centres to complete the exam successfully. "Thousands of aspirants are appearing for preliminary examination across Rachakonda limits in more than 55 centres," he added.

The CP has supervised the security arrangements at examination centres provided by the police teams and instructed the officials to coordinate with the educational institutions. He advised the aspirants to follow the instructions carefully and use the time accordingly to achieve good marks in the examination.

Traffic advisory issued for Muharram procession

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Hyderabad City Police issued a traffic advisory in connection with the 10th Moharrum Bibi ka Alam procession to be held on Tuesday. Vehicular traffic will not be allowed towards Bibi ka Alawa at Sunargalli T junction and it will be diverted towards Dabeerpura Darwaza and Ganga Nagar nala and Yakutpura side. Traffic coming from Etebar Chowk will not be allowed towards Bada Bazaar and it will be diverted at Etebar Chowk either towards Kotla Alijah or Purani Haveli.

When the procession reaches Ganga Nagar nala, traffic coming from Moghalpura and Volta Hotel will not be allowed towards Etebar Chowk and it will be diverted at Bibi Bazaar X Roads towards Paris Café or Talab Katta side. When the procession reaches Charminar, traffic coming from Shakkarkote will not be allowed towards Gulzar House and it will be diverted at Mittika-Sher junction towards either Ghansi Bazaar or Chelapura, where the traffic will be diverted at Etebar Chowk towards Kotla Alija or Purani Haveli.

Private schools not buying government textbooks

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Private schools have been collecting huge amount of funds from students, apart from the tuition fees, towards the cost of text books, setting aside government rules prevailing in this regard.

According to the relevant GO, all private schools should purchase books published by the government-recognised publishers. The textbooks are published depending on the SCERT prescribed syllabus. But, 70% of the private schools are using their own textbooks instead of the government textbooks, inflicting loss on the publishers who have paid royalty to the government.

The cost of government textbooks for SSC class is put at Rs 1,060. But some private schools, instead of buying these textbooks, are selling the books published by them at exorbitant rates. The state government has powers to cancel recognition of such schools, but officials did not take any action so far.

Private publishers submitted memoranda to education secretary Vakati Karuna and school education director Devasena seeking redressal of

their grievances, but of no use.

The state government decided to publish 1.22 crore textbooks this year and gave tenders to shortlisted 13 private printers and publishers and collected a royalty of Rs 6.70 crore from them. As per the directions of the government, the printers and publishers published the textbooks and put them for sale to enable private schools to buy them. Since corporate schools did not bother to buy them, the sale of these textbooks is disappointing. Of the total number of books, 36.60 lakh were sold while the remaining 85.40 lakh books were lying idle in shops and godowns. Of the 2.50 lakh SSC textbook sets printed this year, only 54,200 sets were sold, constituting only 22 per cent. For class nine, 2.25 lakh sets of textbooks were published, but only 61,000 sets were sold.

Similarly, several textbook sets for almost all classes remained unsold. The publishers and printers who have paid royalty to the government are worried about the sales and lamenting that the textbooks printed with investment of several crores are lying idle in godowns.



Workshop on basic life support skills conducted by city hospital

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

A hands-on workshop on basic life support (BLS) skills to ambulance drivers, technicians and other first responders was organised by Udaï Omni Hospital at Nampally. The workshop focused on equipping life-saving skills to professionals who first came in contact with patients needing emergency care. The workshop was organised under the guidance of Dr Raghava Dutt Mulukutla, Director and Chief of Spine

Surgery Unit in collaboration with Indian Orthopedic Association (IOA).

The training included live demonstration on how to give first aid to road accident victims or those suffering from choking or even a heart attack. Dr Srirang Abkari, Consultant, General Medicine, said, "Every citizen should have basic knowledge and skill to save a life in an emergency."

Around 2 lakh citizens across the country meet with accidents and almost 1 lakh of

them succumb to fatal injuries. In such cases, ambulance drivers are the first ones to interact with the victims. If they have the skill to save such victims, it would be really helpful but most of them are not trained to deal with such situations.

The initiative aims to train a common man with skills to save a life. The ambulance drivers, technicians and other first responders were trained by the expert orthopedics and emergency specialists from the hospital.

Five districts are being run with in-charge collectors

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Contrary to claims of state government that small districts have been created to achieve greater decentralisation of administration, there are no full-time collectors for five districts - Hyderabad, Medchal, Bhadradi, Nalgonda and Gadwal.

The state government claims that integrated collectorate complexes have been built in districts, but the situation is at its worse at the field level.

In-charge collectors are running the administration in many districts. As a result, the problems pertaining to Dharani and other fields of activity are forced to be kept in the pendency.

In fact, several crucial government departments are under the administration of the Chief Secretary. Four IAS

officers are exercising control over two or three departments, while many IAS officers are kept in waiting for their postings.

Following retirement of Sarman, Hyderabad district collector, Ranga Reddy district collector Amoy Kumar was made in-charge collector of Hyderabad district. No regular collector has been appointed in place of Venkateswarlu, district collector for Medchal Malkajigiri district, who is transferred out. Medak District Collector has been given additional charge of Medchal Malkajigiri district. He is spending four days in Medak and two days in Medchal. Nalgonda District collector Prashant Jeevan Patil has been transferred to Siddipet recently. So there was no regular collector for Nalgonda district. Nalgonda district additional

collector Rahul Sarma has been given additional charge. After retirement of Bhadradi Kothagudem district MV Reddy, no regular collector has been appointed but Local Bodies Additional Collector Anudeep has been made incharge collector.

Jogulamba Gadwal district collector Kranti proceeded on leave. Additional Collector Koya Sriharsha has been given full additional charge of the district.

Similarly, several government departments have no secretaries, but some crucial departments are running under the incharge IAS officers' administration. As some of them are forced to take care of three and four government departments they are not able to pay full attention to the activities in these departments. The departments of revenue,



excise and commercial tax have principal secretaries, but they are kept under the Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar's administration. In fact, he is officiating as the SERP in-charge CEO too.

Another senior IAS officer Sandeep Kumar Sultania, who is the principal secretary to the panchayat raj and rural devel-

The state government claims that integrated collectorate complexes have been built in districts, but the situation is at its worse at the field level

Secretary and Disaster Management Secretary. Raghunandan Rao is the principal secretary and commission to the agriculture department. He is also officiating as the VC of the Prof Jayasankar Agricultural University too. Similarly, Arvind Kumar is officiating as principal secretary to Municipal Administration department and also working as I and PR Commissioner and HMDA commissioner.

Similarly Finance department special secretary Ronald Ross is also officiating as residential schools educational institutions' society secretary and director to the mining department.

Similarly, retired IAS officer Anil Kumar has been entrusted with the department of Civil Supplies and Endowments department.

GHMC to engage agencies for construction of 4 bridges

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The GHMC is engaged in appointing suitable agencies that undertake field survey, prepare suitable designs and other related works to execute four high-level road bridges on River Musi at a cost of Rs 168 crore. The state government recently entrusted the GHMC the construction of the bridges. Therefore, the GHMC officials are busy preparing an action plan to build them. The officials want to complete the preparation of DPRs in three months and want to complete the bridges in a year. The design of the bridges should be such that they should be viable and provide safe journey to commuters not only in rainy season but in all seasons.

As part of the road bridge works, the officials say that they will also complete other works like approach roads, service roads, foot-paths, drains, ducts, central medians, kerbs, streetlight works and so on. The survey should focus on road safety, minimalist land acquisition, easing of traffic jams while building them, use of modern technology for faster execution of the bridges, the bridges should be wider, having more lanes and should have high capacity. The bridges should improve the movement of public transport, should have traffic signals and road markings and amenities for pedestrians to cross the road and ducts concealed under footpaths for concealing electric and telecom cables.

Effective time management skills to excel in academics

Time is the most valuable resource on the earth. Spending time effectively is vital to achieve success in life. Time management is an important skill to reach highest rung in career ladder. Since it is an impalpable thing, many people take it for granted and misuse it. As Benjamin Franklin says, 'Lost time is never found again.' Time can only be spent but can't be stored. It slips from hands just like water and nothing can be substituted for time. So, don't spend time, invest it. Being busy doesn't mean effective utilisation of time. Throughout the history, there had been much emphasis on effective time management which was considered as one of the vital elements for success.

Time management is a process of determining objectives, prioritizing tasks, allocation of time for importance tasks and planning to achieve

goals. It refers to optimum utilization of time for productive activities. Time management is vital and it actually affects individual's overall performance and accomplishments.

TIME IS AN INDISPENSABLE RESOURCE

Nowadays, students always complain that they do not have ample amount of time to complete academic tasks. Time is an indispensable asset which all the students possess equally but unable to utilise it at the same level due to varied reasons. From the perspective of students, effective time management skills lead to higher academic performance. Time management is a crucial element for success but it is not taught as a core subject in the classroom. Getting admission into a college or university is an exciting moment in student's life. Later, due to fierce

Nowadays, students always complain that they do not have ample amount of time to complete academic tasks. Time is an indispensable asset which all the students possess equally but unable to utilise it at the same level due to varied reasons.

competition, academic life creates a lot of scholastic stress in students. Hence, many students are unable to handle stress effectively that may lead to committing grave mistakes

TIME MANAGEMENT HELPS

Usually, many students face lot of academic challenges due to lack of time management skills which show a negative impact on their mental health and makes students academically weary. It depends upon students' efficiency to manage their daily routine on time

without taking much stress. Students can quickly become petulant if they have a long list of things to do and not sufficient time to finish them. Proper time management enables to prioritise tasks and accomplish them on time. It can include proper academic planning, time allocation, prioritisation of things, self-management, goal setting and analysing of usage of time.

Effective time management requires focus on activities which will yield expected results. Penchant of practicing effective time management may lead to finish important



SRINIVAS VISSAPRAGADA

tasks with minimal effort.

POSITIVE IMPACT ON PERFORMANCE

Time management shows a positive influence on academic performance. Students, who consider time as a resource can show interest on their studies, submit their academic task on time, attend classes regularly, have a low rate of absenteeism

and are well prepared for examinations. Time management is usually one of the biggest challenges for students. Many students often struggle to find adequate time to finish their assignments and prepare for examinations. This can cause them to feel overwhelmed, frustrated, and stressed. Each one of us has 24 hours a day and how we spend it completely depends on us. As the term suggests, time management is organising time and making the most of daily routine. The best way for effective utilisation of time is to create and follow a fixed timetable for each day. This is beneficial for students since they will have a clear idea of the different tasks to be performed each day, and they could also easily mark the tasks as done after completing them. This will make them daily tasks organised and they can even choose to do the more important tasks first by putting them at the top of the things-to-do

list. Learning proper time management skills can help students when they join employment. It can also help them to become a reliable employee who turns in dedication, and delivers high-quality work on time. This improves professional reputation and paves the way for better opportunities to build career.

EFFECTIVE TIME MANAGEMENT

- ❑ Setting goals
- ❑ Prioritising those goals
- ❑ Deciding how much time to allocate to each task
- ❑ Adjusting plans if schedule changes
- ❑ Revisiting the goals and prioritising things regularly
- ❑ Monitoring results and performance

Due to pressure of studies, students often get stressed and anxiety. When students

utilise their time wisely, they do not need to burn their midnight oil when examinations approach..

Cutting down sleeping time will exacerbate mental health, which will impede the next day plan. Sound sleep is essential for human brain and body to recharge itself, and this reflects positively on physical and mental health. Taking care of mental health is important for every student since it reflects on their academic performance. Effective time management can help lessening this mental pressure, which will boost confidence and enhance mental stamina. Students should prioritise important academic tasks that require immediate action to excel in studies.

(The writer is Assistant Professor, Department of Commerce PB Siddhartha College of Arts & Science Vijayawada)

Students' problems in RGKUT can be easily resolved: Guv

Tamilisai Soundararajan visited Rajiv Gandhi University of Knowledge and Technologies- Basar

PNS ■ NIRMAL

Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan on Sunday promised to make efforts to resolve the problems being faced by the students at Rajiv Gandhi University of Knowledge and Technologies (RGUKT)-Basar.

The Governor visited RGKUT, which was rocked by student protests over the poor amenities in the university and poor quality food being served to them.

After interacting with the students, she said, 'The children's demands are reasonable. They have every right to demand better amenities. She had breakfast with the students. She further said the students' demands included better management of mess.

Tamilisai Soundararajan earlier visited the famed Sri



Tamilisai Soundararajan having a breakfast with students at RGKUT-Basar in Basara on Sunday

Ganga Saraswathi Devi temple and performed special prayers in Basara. She arrived there by train.

The Governor interacted with the students and gave a patient hearing to the stu-

dents. She also spoke to RGKUT in-charge Vice-Chancellor Prof V Venkata Ramana and Director Peddapalli Satish Kumar.

Later, Tamilisai Soundararajan told the media

that the students' problems can be resolved.

Addressing pressmen, the Governor maintained that the students' problems could easily be addressed as most of them were not difficult to be

resolved. She promised to try to solve them at the earliest. She said she had brought the problems to the Vice-Chancellor's notice and hoped that they would be resolved soon.

She said that students have not been given laptops since 2017 and the students complained about amenities. She stated that the quality of breakfast was fine.

The students, however, told her that they would be served with a similar quality of food only during the visit of dignitaries.

She expressed unhappiness over the condition of the library, lapses in security for girl students and harassment of students by policemen. She promised support to the kin of Sanjay Kiran, a student, who died allegedly due to food poisoning recently.



Telangana BJP Affairs in-charge Tarun Chugh handing over party membership to Dasoju Sravan in Delhi on Sunday

Dasoju joins BJP in the presence of Tarun Chugh

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Reiterating that the BJP is the only alternative to the BJP in Telangana, the BJP's Telangana affairs in-charge Tarun Chugh said that he is happy that former AICC spokesperson Dr Dasoju Sravan has joined the BJP.

Chugh said that Dr Dasoju joined the BJP as he appreciated the Central Government's welfare schemes. Chugh welcomed Dr Dasoju into the BJP fold on Sunday in New Delhi by offering him the party Kanduva in the presence of Union Tourism Minister G. Kishan

Reddy, Rajya Sabha Member Dr K. Laxman, Madhya Pradesh in-charge Muralidhar Rao, BJP National Executive Committee member Vivek Venkat Swamy and others. Speaking on the occasion, Vivek said that KCR had deceived Telangana activists. The BJP's strength has increased in Telangana with the joining of Dr Dasoju, he added. Dr Dasoju said that there is a need for a change of guard if Telangana wants development. He said that there were many mafia operators like Chikoti Praveen in TS and that the politicians behind Chikoti

Praveen were all TRS leaders.

He said that TRS leaders have looted the state making Telangana debt-riddled. The goal of a separate Telangana state has gone awry and the time for toppling Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhara Reddy is near. He thanked Telangana BJP President Bandi Sanjay Kumar as he had been asking him to join the BJP since the last two years.

Muralidhar Rao said that is receiving Dr Dasoju into the party wholeheartedly and that the BJP will move forward strongly against the TRS.

Eatala criticises KCR for abolishing VRO system

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

BJP MLA from Huzurabad Eatala Rajender on Sunday alleged that the TRS government had brought Dharani Portal only to encroach on 'uncleared' lands. The government removed the VROs system because of the fear they may create a hurdle in the of grabbing the lands.

While addressing a meeting held in the name of 'Revenue Employees Morale-Future Course of Action' held at Sundarayya Vignana Kendram on Sunday, Rajender recalled that the Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao once said that the GSDP of the State would be two per cent more than GDP if the land records were transparent. But, what KCR has been doing now. He said that land is an assurance, a security, a social status. He said that the Revenue Department would coordinate with all departments.

Narasapur Municipal Chairman quits TRS

PNS ■ MEDAK

A day after the TRS party suspended him from the party, Narasapur Municipal Chairman Murali Yadav announced on Sunday that he had quit the party.

He raised his voice of dissent once again by targeting the TRS leadership for giving short shrift to the leaders belonging to the Backward Classes. Speaking at a media conference here, Murali Yadav announced his resignation from TRS. He said that he can no longer bear the insults being heaped on the party activities belonging to the Backward Classes. He took objection to the party leadership suspending him from the party without serving show-cause notice to him.

There is no internal democracy in the party. The leadership, he alleged, was suppressing the voice of dissent. He recalled that he had fought for

There is no internal democracy in the party. The leadership, he alleged, was suppressing the voice of dissent.

a separate Telangana State. The TRS leadership had failed to give recognition to those who fought for statehood of Telangana, he claimed.

Murali Yadav alleged that Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao was insulting party leaders and MLA by refusing to meet them at Pragati Bhavan. The possibility of leaders being allowed to meet the Chief Minister at Pragati Bhavan was ruled out, he said.

The Municipal Chairman said the TRS leadership had failed to award posts to the leaders belonging to Backward Classes.



District Collector Jitesh V Patil at a review meeting in Kamareddy on Sunday

District Collector releases schedule for diamond Jubilee celebrations

PNS ■ KAMAREDDY

District Collector Jitesh V Patil has called upon the district officials to conduct the Azadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav from Aug 8 to 22 to promote national integration. Addressing a meeting to review the preparations for the diamond jubilee celebrations, he asked the district officials to conduct celebrations in a festive atmosphere as

the country celebrates the 75th anniversary of Independence Day. On August 8, the inaugural of diamond jubilee celebrations will be held at the Collectorate. On August 9, national flags will be distributed in the district. On August 10, Vana Mahotsav is scheduled. A freedom run will be held on Aug 11. He ordered relay of only those programmes that reflect national

integrity on Aug 12 through local cable TV networks. Rakshabandhan will be celebrated on August 12 and a rally will be taken out on August 13 besides releasing balloons into the air. Folk artistes will stage their performances on August 14, he said. Independence Day should be celebrated on Aug 15 in a colourful way. Several programmes, too, would be held, he said.

Kejriwal, Mamata oppose BJP but attend NITI Aayog meet: Prabhakar

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Criticising Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhara Rao for boycotting the NITI Aayog meeting held on Sunday in New Delhi, BJP leader NVSS Prabhakar said that KCR might not know the importance of NITI Aayog.

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal oppose the Centre politically but they attended the NITI Aayog meeting, he said.

"KCR might have decided to boycott the NITI Aayog as per his Kalvakuntla Constitution," he said.

Addressing the media on Sunday at the State BJP office, Prabhakar asked whether TRS Ministers express their views during Cabinet meetings while taking policy decisions.

KCR speaks everything and the Chief Secretary reads the agenda but do the

Ministers speak at any time? He asked whether the Chief Minister took the opinions of Collectors during the Collectors' review meetings.

Prabhakar said that as per the NITI Aayog press note, KCR did not use funds given by the Centre.

He alleged that the TRS government had set up Corporations for making political appointments and for politicking using public funds. The TRS government tool loans through its corporations and pocketed commissions, he said.

He said that NITI Aayog will treat all states equally and that NITI Aayog meetings are intended for the Centre and States to hold discussions on development matters. But KCR holds collectors' meetings only for himself to speak, he said and added that KCR has no intention of studying the feedback provided by collectors.

Left expected to oppose BJP in Munugode

K. VENKATESHWARLU
■ HYDERABAD

Left parties have not started the exercise to field a candidate in the Munugode Assembly constituency in case of by-elections. However, they are likely to oppose the BJP, it is learnt.

The Left parties, the CPI and the CPM may discuss the issue in three or four days. Both the Left parties will discuss whether to field their own candidate or to support any other political party.

Munugode was once a stronghold of the CPI and it had won the constituency five times. According to sources, the CPI has been observing political developments in Munugode. The CPI may take

a decision on whether to contest the by-poll or not only after Komatireddy Rajagopal Reddy resigns.

As of now, the CPI is thinking of targeting the BJP. The CPI is thinking of defeating the BJP by hook or by crook in Munugode. It may not hesitate to support any other political party to defeat the BJP candidate.

According to sources, the CPI thinks that BJP may spread its wings rapidly across TS if it wins in Munugode. So it is thinking of making an all-out effort to defeat the BJP by joining hands with any other party. The CPI is likely to take a decision on targeting the BJP. Most probably the CPI may support the party which has the strength to defeat the BJP.



There are speculations that the CPI may support the TRS in the by-poll as the TRS has been opposing the BJP. Left leaders also met KCR at Pragathi Bhavan when he launched a scathing attack on the BJP sometime back.

The CPM is also thinking on the same lines as the CPI. The CPM is ready to support

the CPI if the CPI fields its candidate in Munugode or else it would support the party which is likely to defeat the BJP candidate in Munugode.

Both parties will hold talks on the issue in three or four days after Munugode MLA Komatireddy Rajagopal Reddy resigns his MLA post. However, their decision would

There are speculations that the CPI may support the TRS in the by-poll as the TRS has been opposing the BJP.

depend on the response they get from the TRS and the Congress.

Their first priority is to contest by fielding CPI candidates. The CPI won Munugode last in 2009. CPI candidate Vujjini Yadagirao won by defeating Palvai Goverdhan Reddy of the Congress. The Left had around 25,000 votes in Munugode.

Speaker gives appointment to Komatireddy Rajagopal

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Telangana Assembly Speaker Pocharam Srinivas Reddy gave an appointment to Munugode MLA Komatireddy Rajagopal Reddy on August 8. Rajagopal will submit his resignation letter to the Speaker on Monday in the Speaker's format at 10.30 am.

Speaking to the media on Sunday at Munugode, Rajagopal said that he will submit his resignation letter to the Speaker.

If the Speaker is not available he said he will submit it to the Assembly Secretary. He said he would also submit his resignation letter to the Election Commission too.

Bhatti contradicts Revanth on KCR boycotting NITI Aayog meet

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Congress Legislature Party (CLP) leader Mallu Bhatti Vikramarka contradicted TPCC President Revanth Reddy's statement on Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhara Rao boycotting the NITI Aayog meeting held at New Delhi on Sunday.

Bhatti said that KCR's decision not to attend the NITI Aayog meeting presided over by Prime Minister Modi is his choice. It may be recalled that Revanth had demanded on Saturday that KCR should have attended the NITI Aayog meeting. Revanth had also said that they were ready to provide a flight ticket for KCR to go to New Delhi.

Addressing the media at

the Khammam Camp Office on Sunday, Bhatti spoke about the defections by Congress leaders. The CLP leader said that he would discuss the issue with his seniors and that Congress leaders should not get disturbed by some leaders quitting the party. He said that everyone will have to work hard to bring the Congress to power in the next elections. 'I will speak to all senior leaders on defections. We will ensure the victory of the Congress in the next elections. We will move forward to fulfil the hopes of people,' Bhatti said.

Bhatti said the Congress has problems with TPCC Star Campaigner Bhongir MP Komatireddy Venkat Reddy. "We will sort them out within the party," he said.

FIRST COLUMN

SPIRITUAL PROGRESS IS MEASURE OF SUCCESS

Material cravings remain brief; spiritual progress gives better life



AJIT KUMAR BISHNOI

What are our hopes for near and dear ones when they depart? That they would have gotten a better birth. This actually defines the philosophy of life. Let us critically examine what we consider success in life.

Let me begin with wealth. Practically, everyone wishes to have lots of it in order to obtain everything desirable, because money is the means for acquiring material objects, including ways for comfortable living. The underlying idea is to avoid suffering at any cost and enjoy life.

Sufferings are determined by fate and they are inevitable. Steve Jobs, cofounder of Apple, died at the age of 56 due to a terminal disease. Wealth didn't help him beat the ailment.

Another human craving is for power, because it allows control over others, situations, etc. Do we succeed? Yes and no. Yes, for a limited duration, because power is also a material acquisition. It is a result of pious activities. Once they run out, power is gone. Hitler wanted to control the entire Europe, and maybe the whole world, with the help from his allies. He ruled Germany and some parts of Europe for a brief period and then he was stripped of his power. This shocked him to such an extent that he died by suicide; yes, suicide.



Fame is another human trap. We all crave for attention. There is nothing wrong with such a desire, but when fame becomes the yardstick for success, we go horribly wrong. Michael Jackson desired big success, which would ensure tremendous fame. He did succeed for some time till his insatiable appetite for fame took his life. He had sacrificed his sleep to be able to work more and more. And he had to be administered drugs to help him sleep. Doses kept on increasing till he never woke up.

The fourth yardstick of success is beauty. Models, film stars, etc., are paid huge sums, because beauty sells. Marilyn Monroe found out the dark side of it in a very depressive way, and she too died by suicide.

Fifthly, being independent, i.e. above rules, is another measure of success. What happens to some toppers in All India competitions when they flout all rules for their personal benefits? They are caught and put in jail. Their idea to prolong their sukha ends in lots of dukkha.

All popular notions of success are flawed, and they don't make us big or independent. They don't even prevent suffering or make our sukha permanent. What then should be the yardstick for success? It should be progress in life. Yes, progress is what we should look for. In younger days, it should be mainly material progress, because that will set us up nicely for our later years. Subsequently, it must be spiritual progress, however small it may be, because this will connect us with God, who is everything (The Geeta 7.19) and source of everything superior. (10.41) Then, all our inherent shortcomings won't matter; God will supplement whatever we lack. Fortunately God is ever willing to help; we just have to approach Him in a humble mood, in order to take His shelter.

From experiences of countless fortunate souls, who took shelter in God, we learn that we begin to succeed in all aspects of our lives. Our health in all its manifestations begins to improve. Physically we benefit; mentally we become stranger; emotionally we become mature; intellectually we become wise; and spiritually we advance. Our interpersonal relationships improve; we become more useful; and we get set for a better next life.


(The author is a spiritual teacher)

Countering radicalisation in Assam with long-term vision

Elimination of Ayman al-Zawahiri is an opportunity for Assam administration to counter radical elements

The precision strike against Ayman al-Zawahiri will have far reaching implications for India. Indeed, the eliminated Al-Qaeda Emir's gaze had already been on India ever since 3 October 2014 when he proclaimed the formation of the Al-Qaeda in the Indian subcontinent.

The 'shadow of Zawahiri' had encompassed the Rakhine province of Myanmar, Bangladesh, West Bengal and most of Assam. Moreover, Zawahiri had made controversial statements when the Hijab controversy broke in Karnataka. Although the recent arrests of several cadres of the Al-Qaeda affiliated Ansarullah Bangla Team from different places in Assam has not come as a surprise, the matter of concern is



JAIDEEP SAIKIA

(The author is a conflict analyst)

the state's inability to fathom the extent to which the radicalisation efforts have taken place.

Indeed, the state has witnessed subterfuge by Islamists since the late 1990s when Pakistan-trained radical elements were arrested from the heart of Guwahati. However, the threat had all but weakened with en masse surrender of cadres after their return from places such as Batrasi in Pakistan occupied Kashmir (PoK). Indeed, by their own admission, the wayward group had realised that the motivation for which they had gone to train alongside tanzeems such as the ISI chaperoned Lashkar-e-Toiba were at variance with their local objectives to garner aspects such as reservations for Muslims in the legislature. Nizam-e-Mustafa, which has become the primary goal for almost all Islamist groups that have a global bearing, was not in their agenda. The syncretism that characterised Assamese society of the time ascertained it and got disenchanted with the alien exhortation by the ISI, which had included assassination of political leaders and engineering of pogroms against the Bodo community, which sat cheek-by-jowl with the Muslims, and the belligerence dissipated.

However, there were some who, eschewing attention, continued with their sinister endeavours. Indeed, for a time it was felt that Assam was rid of the radical threat. But quite clearly they were silent, "not by the absence of activity but by the presence of non-activity". However, the present apprehensions of the Islamists that have brought back the limelight of the Islamist intimidation to Assam are not indicative of a turnaround in the Assamese Muslim psyche. While it is true that the target group for the Islamist minders have undergone a sea change and are directed primarily on the educated class, the fact of the matter is that an important constituency among the Muslim population of Assam ignored the overtures of the Islamists.

The atmosphere that prevails in the rest of the country, too, has had a sobering effect on the Muslim community, and it was evident that the quam sought no truck with the Islamists. In any event, the chaperons that are seeking to radicalise the Muslim community are exclusively from Bangladesh and have very little to do with the manner in which an indigenous Assamese Muslim identifies himself with the state's inclusive character.

But the fact of the matter is that there is a clear move by the Islamists from Bangladesh to make inroads into the Muslim community of Assam. An alert Special Branch of the Assam Police has been able to pre-empt the attempts and, to a considerable extent, thwart at least the opening moves of the Islamists.

However, marshes and warrens are plentiful in the Lower and Middle Assam and it would be less than prudent to lower the vigilance that has characterised the manner in which the Special Branch has, albeit temporarily, halted the march of the radicals. The porosity of the border with Bangladesh coupled with the pressure that the Islamists are facing in the country dictate greater watchfulness. After all, one of the primary motivation for the Bangladesh-based Islamists is to utilise the demographic jungle of Lower Assam as a safe haven and construct a "doorway" to metropolitan India in order to perpetrate terror which would be visible to a global audience.

Indeed, therein lies their intent. The fact that Ayman al-Zawahiri had mentioned Assam during his televised statement on 3 September 2014 when he announced the creation of the Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent must be seen in the light of the fact that that Assam and thereabouts had been in the Islamist radar with clearly such a purpose in mind.

Bangladesh, of course, is a crucial midpoint between the Islamist hotspots of South East Asia and West Asia. Bangladesh was the receptacle for the cross pollination between groups such as Jemaah Islamiyah and Jaish-e-Mohammad.

In any event, the accent of the present must be to ferret out the guest-radical elements that have entered Assam and stem the tide before it begins to mimic the flood waters that are upon the state. The establishment must also immediately psychologically segregate the Muslim community of Assam, co-opt them in its battle against the divisive agenda and announce resolve to root out the menace.



Defence Atmanirbharta is a real game changer

PM's push for defence Atmanirbharta can bring about a sea change in our armed preparedness

“

ATMANIRBHAR BHARAT-II IN THE DEFENCE SECTOR WILL INCLUDE REFORMS REGARDING THE PRODUCTION OF CORE TECHNOLOGIES VIA A PPP MODE. IT WILL ALSO LIBERALISE THE TESTING AND CERTIFICATION OF PRODUCTS, A SHIFT FROM THE PAST PRACTICES

(The author is Assistant Professor, Central University of Punjab, Bathinda)



NISHTHA KAUSHIKI



Putin and the needful was successfully done. This led the PM to bring out a list of banned items for defence imports in August 2020 and May 2021, with the third list announced in April 2022. The positive list currently has banned 310 items from being imported. The Indian army is now equipped with the Ashlesha radar, predominantly a 'Low Level Lightweight Radar' (LLLWR). The radar successfully detects multiple objects of the adversary like helicopters, fighters and UAVs at low and medium altitudes and can be used in diverse terrains like plains, deserts, mountain tops, etc. It is currently helping the country against the Chinese PLA on the Northern and Eastern borders.

Developing the Active Electronically Scanned Array (AESA) radar is an important development for the Air Force. The radar enhanced India's technical capability in electronic warfare, making the country fifth in the world to possess such technology. The radar is 95 per cent indigenous, with only one subsystem imported. Other necessary inductions such as LCA (Tejas), Astra Air to Air missile, Akash Surface to Air missile system, and Light Combat Helicopter systems pile up the success stories of Atmanirbhar Bharat.

Given the threat of PLAN, attempts are being made to upgrade the naval facilities through Swavlamban (self-reliance), focusing on developing 75 indigenous technologies. The past electronic warfare platforms such as 'Ajanta', 'Kite', etc., have been upgraded and can now successfully detect enemy combatants' presence without dis-

closing our position. The list is impressive, from developing underwater sensors to electro-optical Fire Control System (FCS), a world-class Combat Management System (CMS) and 'Battle Damage Control Systems'.

Moreover, 'Project 75-India' aims to build a series of future aircraft carriers and submarines that will qualitatively increase the stealth of the Indian Navy. The tactical importance of the submarine project can be ascertained from the fact that even our closest partners like Russia and France have refused the technology transfer of Air Independent Propulsion (AIP) technology that allows the submarines to stay underwater for a longer duration. So, one can ascertain the financial and strategic interests of the countries with a war-based economy.

Some critical but lesser known indigenous productions in Artificial Intelligence (AI) are Face Recognition System under Disguise, AI-Based Intercept Management System (IMS) for the western theatre, iSentinel threat detection and tracking system and finally, the swarm drones. These indigenous productions will redefine how we respond to the threats of hybrid warfare. Using such technologies for counter-terrorism will help bring peace to the country. Space has been added as a new battlefield domain, and in 2019, DRDO successfully conducted the Anti-Satellite (ASAT) test by accurately hitting a target. Further, under the Defence India Start-up Challenge 5.0, 35 areas such as cyber security, quantum technologies, artificial intelligence (AI), and augmented reality (AR) have been identified as focus areas.

In 2021, two Defence Industrial Corridors (DICs) were established in Uttar Pradesh and Tamil Nadu to boost Defence manufacturing to attract investment of Rs 10,000 Crore in each DIC.


Creation of Defence Space Agency and Armed Forces Special Operations Division apart from the post of Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) with Department of Military Affairs (DMA) to conduct joint operations will ensure that the next 25 years would be an 'Amrit Kaal' for the Ministry of Defence. New challenges have been accepted. For instance, Bhoomi, a hackathon initiative of the BSF, contributed to finding solutions in tunnel detection and an anti-drone system.

The objective of the PM is to ensure that we are battle ready for the next war, be it conventional, electronic or even on two fronts. Soon, Atmanirbhar Bharat II in the Defence sector will be unveiled, which will include reforms regarding the production of core technologies via a public-private partnership (PPP) mode. It will also liberalise the testing and certification of products, a shift from the past practices.


The aforementioned case studies are just a few contributions of the policy that the upcoming generation needs to be told. Such achievements of the country should be incorporated into the school textbooks at different levels to inculcate a feeling of nationalism and pride apart from encouraging the scientific temper amongst the budding scientists.

POINT COUNTERPOINT

ON THIS DAY MODIJI HAD LAID THE FOUNDATION STONE OF SHRI RAM TEMPLE, SO CONGRESS IS OPPOSING IT. ED AND INFLATION ARE JUST EXCUSES. —HOME MINISTER AMIT SHAH



THE ONE WHO INFLECTS PAIN ON THE WEAK BY INCREASING PRICES, ATTACKS LORD RAM & MISREPRESENTS THOSE AGITATING AGAINST INFLATION, INSULTS LOKNAYAK RAM. — CONGRESS LEADER PRIYANKA GANDHI




Countering radicalisation in Assam with long-term vision

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India's outbound tourism to surpass \$42 bn by 2024

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Outbound trips from India will surpass USD 42 billion by 2024 and the government could bring about certain policy changes to boost this growing market, a report said. The report titled 'Outbound Travel and Tourism - An Opportunity Untapped' by Nangia Andersen LLP in association with FICCI, highlights the up-and-coming Indian travel market and outline a framework for creating a more value for money experience for Indian tourists and travellers.

To facilitate ease of doing business and promote the interests of Indian firms dealing in outbound travel the government could look at steps like increasing direct connections to popular and upcoming destinations, allowing foreign cruise vessels to operate on Indian waters,



besides taking concerted and coordinated efforts on multiple fronts to propel the outbound tourism market, the report said.

Nangia Andersen LLP Head - Government and Public Sector Advisory Suraj Nangia said Indian outbound

tourism is going to surpass USD 42 billion by 2024.

"We are soon going to be the most populous country in the world with the fastest growing economy. The Indian outbound travel market is among the fastest growing markets globally with approx-

imately 80 million passport level of purchasing power, especially among the middle class." The report noted that allowing foreign cruise vessels to include Indian destinations as a stop would encourage both inbound and outbound tourism as well as

increase revenue for Indian ports. With a growing economy, young population, and growing middle class, India is ideally positioned to become one of the most lucrative outbound tourism markets in the world. Europe sees 20 per cent of the travellers from India's outbound traffic. 10 per cent travel to Australia and New Zealand, while the rest of the traffic is towards South east Asia, it said.

Nangia Andersen LLP Partner - Government and Public Sector Advisory Poonam Kaura said, "With the positive response of foreign delegations and their policies, our government can surely establish bilateral relations with tourist-friendly countries for both inbound and outbound tourists."

In 2021, Indians spent approximately USD 12.6 billion in outbound trips, compared to USD 22.9 billion in 2019.

IOC, HPCL, BPCL post Rs 18,480 cr loss on holding petrol, diesel prices

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

State-owned Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) posted a combined loss of Rs 18,480 crore on holding petrol and diesel prices despite a rise in cost.

According to stock exchange filings by the three fuel retailers, the losses were due to erosion in the marketing margin on petrol, diesel and domestic LPG.

This wiped away gains from the record refining margin. IOC, HPCL and BPCL, which are supposed to revise petrol and diesel prices daily in line with cost, have not changed rates for four months now despite international oil prices shooting up.

They have also not changed cooking gas LPG rates in tandem with cost. IOC on July 29 reported a net loss of Rs 1,995.3 crore for the April-June quarter. On Saturday, HPCL reported its highest ever quarterly loss of Rs 10,196.94 crore and BPCL



posted a loss of Rs 6,290.8 crore.

The combined loss at Rs 18,480.27 crore is the highest ever for any quarter including the era when petrol and diesel prices were regulated and the government used to give subsidies to the three retailers.

During April-June, IOC, BPCL and HPCL did not revise petrol and diesel prices in line with rising costs to help the government contain inflation which had topped 7 per cent. The basket of crude oil India imports during the quarter averaged USD 109 per barrel but the retail pump rates were aligned to about

USD 85-86 a barrel cost.

While the government has maintained that oil companies are free to revise retail prices, the three state-owned firms haven't explained the reasons for freezing the rates since April 6.

Typically, oil companies calculate a refinery gate price based on import parity rates. But if the marketing division sells it at prices less than import parity, losses are booked. State fuel retailers are supposed to align rates with an international cost every day. But they have periodically frozen prices before crucial elections.

28 cos secure Sebi's clearance to float IPOs worth Rs 45,000-cr

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Sebi has given its nod to 28 companies to raise funds totalling Rs 45,000 crore through initial public offerings (IPOs) in April-July period of 2022-23 which has already seen 11 debutantes raising over Rs 33,000 crore.

Among the firms that have secured the regulator's clearance include Lifestyle retail brand FabIndia; Bharat FIH, a subsidiary of FIH Mobiles and a Foxconn Technology Group; TVS Supply Chain Solutions; Blackstone-backed Aadhar Housing Finance; Macleods Pharmaceuticals and Kids Clinic India, which operates



super-specialty mother and baby care chain Cloudnine.

These firms are yet to announce the launch date of their IPOs and are waiting for the right time to float their issues as current market con-

ditions are challenging, merchant bankers said. "Current environment is challenging and companies with approvals in hand are waiting for the right window of opportunity to launch the initial share-sales.

PGCIL to seek shareholders' nod to raise up to Rs 6,000 cr

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

State-owned Power Grid Corporation of India (PGCIL) will seek shareholders' approval on August 29, to raise up to Rs 6,000 crore through the issuance of bonds during the financial year 2023-24. The proposal to raise funds up to Rs 6,000 crore, from the domestic market through issuance of bonds, under private placement basis, during the financial year 2023-24, in up to twenty tranches/offers, is listed on the agenda of the annual general meeting (AGM) on August 29, 2022.

Steel players expect govt to withdraw export duty

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The export duty imposed on certain steel products recently will not force steel makers to review their capital expenditure plans as top producers expect it to be a 'short-term' move to stabilise inflation.

On May 21, the government hiked the duty on exports of iron ore by up to 50 per cent and for a few steel intermediaries to 15 per cent. It also waived customs duty on the import of some raw materials, including coking coal and ferro-nickel, used by the steel industry. The measures were taken to boost domestic availability, check inflation, stabilise prices of coal and address



the issues of steel producers reeling under high input costs.

However, steel industry players had said imposition of export duties on steel products will send a negative signal to investors and adversely impact capacity expansion projects under the Production Linked

Incentive (PLI) scheme.

The Indian Steel Association (ISA), which represents the domestic steel companies, had said India may lose export opportunities and the decision may also impact the overall economic activity in the country.

Earnings, global cues to set market trend this week: Analysts

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Quarterly earnings and global developments would be the major factors driving equity markets in the holiday-shortened week ahead, analysts said.

Foreign fund movement will also play a crucial role in deciding the trend, they added.

Markets will remain closed on Tuesday for Muharram.

"This week market will deal with the last batch of Q1 earnings where it will react to SBI, HPCL and BPCL results on Monday, while Adani Ports, Bharti Airtel, PowerGrid, Coal India, Eicher Motors, Hindalco, Grasim, Hero Motocorp, LIC, ONGC and Bata India will be other prominent earnings during the week," said Santosh Meena, Head of Research, Swastika Investmart Ltd.

The country's biggest lender State Bank of India (SBI) on Saturday posted a 7 per cent decline in standalone net profit at Rs 6,068 crore for the first quarter of the current financial year on account of mark-to-market (MTM) losses. Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) on Saturday reported its highest-ever quarterly net loss of Rs 10,196.94 crore in the June quarter as a freeze on petrol and diesel price revision wiped away record refining margins.

TO RENAME IT 'BIMA BHAROSA' Irdai to revamp grievance redressal mechanism

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Insurance regulator Irdai will soon launch a revamped grievance redressal mechanism to make complaint redressal more efficient with the option of customers filing their complaints in regional languages.

The Integrated Grievance Redressal System (IGMS), launched in 2011, is being upgraded to make it more convenient for customers. It is to be renamed as Bima Bharosa, sources said.

The new portal will not only be a gateway for registering and tracking grievances online but also act as an industry-wide grievance repository for the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (Irdai) to monitor disposal of griev-

ances by insurance companies, the sources said.

All transactions, starting from registrations of complaints against various entities, processing of complaints through various stages and final closure of complaints, will happen on this portal, they said, adding it will allow policyholders to file complaints in 13 regional languages for redressal of their grievances against insurance companies.

The robust and effective mechanism would allow easy on-boarding of the complainant and s/he has to fill only eight mandatory fields to lodge the grievance. The landing page is simple with a clean design. It focusses on two actions -- namely 'register a new complaint' and 'track status of complaint raised'.



FPIs buy shares worth Rs 14,000 cr amid softening dollar index

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

After turning net buyers last month, foreign investors continued their positive stance on Indian equities and invested over Rs 14,000 crore in the first week of August amid softening of the dollar index.

This was way higher than the net investment of nearly



Rs 5,000 crore by Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) in

entire July, data with depositaries showed.

FPIs had turned buyers in July after nine straight months of heavy net outflows, which started from October last year. Between October 2021 and June 2022, they sold a massive Rs 2.46 lakh crore in the Indian equity markets.

5G to bring new and innovative applications

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With telcos eyeing 5G deployments, India is poised for dramatically improved data speeds and lag-free videos, where applications would range from connected ambulances to cloud gaming and even augmented reality driven tryouts for shoppers, say experts.

The fifth generation or 5G would allow downloading full-length high-quality video or movie to mobile and other devices in a matter of seconds (even in crowded areas, or at mega events) and support a million devices in a square kilometre.

Superfast speeds (about 10 times faster than 4G), low

latency connectivity, enabling billions of connected devices to share data in real time, promises to unleash more-immersive entertainment, 3D hologram calling, metaverse experiences, and redefine educational applications, even the manner in which people play or watch sports.

While Indian consumers would see 5G roll outs in select cities shortly, followed by a wider coverage over in 12-18 months, enhanced mobile broadband is expected to be the initial main use case.

The new technology over a period of time would bring to life applications which may have sounded far-fetched, just a few years back.



Retailers are dabbling with augmented reality (AR) in a 5G environment to curate immersive shopping experiences that allow customers to see how a piece of new furniture would

look in their homes.

5G with hi-tech gadgets can change the way education is delivered, even in remote areas, say, by hosting educators or guest lecturers via powered

holograms or beaming mixed-reality content into classrooms.

Earlier this year, Airtel teamed up with Apollo Hospitals, and Cisco to demonstrate 5G connected ambulance, that acts as an extension of emergency room transmitting in real-time, the patient's telemetry data, including vitals, to doctors and experts at the hospital. The idea is to utilise the 'golden hour' or the critical first 60 minutes following any injury or trauma, where prompt medical attention can save lives. The 5G connected ambulance has medical equipment, patient monitoring applications, and telemetry devices that transmit the patient health data to the hospital. It has

onboard cameras, camera-based headgear, and body cams for paramedic staff, connected to the ultra-high speed and low latency 5G network.

These lifesaving applications are further enabled with technologies like AR/VR (Augmented Reality and Virtual Reality). The demonstration was conducted in Bengaluru over the 5G trial spectrum allotted to Airtel by the Department of Telecom.

Another case in point is 5G VR cloud gaming, a concept that market watchers say, will thrill gamers. Reliance Jio has tested a Virtual Reality or VR enabled multi-player cloud gaming experience on its indigenous 5G network.

Maruti Suzuki aims to produce 20 lakh units this fiscal

Maruti Suzuki India will increase its production and aims to produce 20 lakh units in the ongoing fiscal with improving availability of semiconductors, according to company Chairman RC Bhargava. In his address to shareholders in the company's annual report for 2021-22, he said the upcoming mid-sized SUV Grand Vitara will play a key role in the challenge to touch 20 lakh units. In 2021-22, total sales of Maruti Suzuki India Ltd (MSIL) increased by 13.4 per cent to 16.52 lakh units. It had lost out on sales in the first quarter of the fiscal due to the pandemic and production being affected by the shortage of semiconductors, mainly for domestic models, Bhargava wrote. "The number of unmet bookings with the company at the end of the year rose to about 2.7 lakhs," he said, adding MSIL's market share declined to 43.4 per cent from nearly 50 per cent as it lost some opportunity in the domestic market.



Auto industry expects car sales on fast lane in festive season

The auto industry expects car sales to be on the fast lane this festive season on the back of new launches and improved production but is cautiously optimistic on the road ahead once the festivities peter out. The festive season, which usually witnesses a spike in automobile sales, begins this year on August 11 with Rakshabandhan stretching up to Diwali on October 25. "We expect the festive season this year to be the best in terms of passenger vehicle sales on the back of new launches and improved production activity. The industry has been rolling out over 3 lakh units on an average in the past 4-5 months which is helping in retail," automobile dealer's body FADA President Vinkesh Gulati told PTI in an interaction. He listed erratic monsoon in some parts of the country, inflationary pressures and the looming threat of a China-Taiwan war as some of the challenges to watch out for in the days ahead.



Cipla betting big on digitisation and emerging segments

Drug major Cipla is betting big on digitisation and emerging segments like biosimilars and mRNA aided medications to drive its next phase of growth. The Mumbai-based drug maker is also bullish on maximising value opportunity in the complex generics in the US market. It is also looking to scale up its US core formulations sales on the back of respiratory and peptide franchises while monitoring upcoming complex product launches in the second half of the current fiscal. "Digitalisation in healthcare found its rightful place during the pandemic, and there is a need to expand and support the essential backup services to enable digital healthcare to function efficiently in all primary and secondary healthcare centres," Cipla Executive Vice-Chairperson Samina Hamied said in the company's Annual Report for 2021-22.





Health-tech startup's changing the dynamics

The entry of start-ups into the market for medical technology has changed how medical equipment companies operate.

To compete with traditional market participants, start-ups are combining digital solutions with novel hardware. Following the Covid-19 outbreak, start-ups developed revolutionary business models to transform the healthcare industry.

Gaurav Dubey, CEO, LivLong shares, "Start-ups have partnered with tech businesses or are developing a product that is dynamic and focuses on user-friendly wearables. Various start-ups are developing stand-alone digital solutions to assist people in managing their health concerns. Companies are increasing their visibility in the Indian market. All of these innovative solutions are integrated with accessible and unique pricing methods to pique the interest of purchasers. New-age firms are to be credited for the transition from hardware-centric products to integrated solutions, which has forced incumbent medical equipment companies to reconsider their business models."

Technologies are more focussed on diagnosis and detection, particularly around testing. The number of start-ups in point-of-care goods has increased dramatically. Companies are also concentrating on genomics or sequencing to provide breakthrough and cost-effective genetic diagnostics and personalized solutions. The Indian Medical technology business is still dominated by imports, with most enterprises relying on foreign products. However, these new-age enterprises are now bringing in new products with a core concentration on India-based production that competes on profitability with MNCs. A new generation of medical technology companies are developing unique technology and specialized, patented products to address universal healthcare concerns.

Innovative approaches to treatment and post-acute care management are being developed. Start-ups are creating businesses based on

cutting-edge technology such as artificial intelligence and machine learning. Electrical, mechanical engineering, and product design expertise are combined to develop products and solutions for their portfolios that address the entire patient journey from diagnosis through rehabilitation. These start-ups are motivated by deliberate innovation that addresses specific difficulties and opens new commercial prospects for the Indian healthcare system.

Patient care is likewise moving away from the typical hospital setting. At-home care, self-administered tests such as the Covid Antigen Rapid Home test, portable clinics, and remote monitoring are becoming priorities for new-age enterprises. The vast majority of diagnostic businesses are developing goods for point-of-care applications.

Emerging technologies bring new opportunities for healthcare professionals and suppliers while also empowering patients. Medical technology is becoming smarter as a result of increased technology and study. One of the variables that are in more demand is personalization, which is an expectation that Medtech companies must meet. New-age businesses are focusing on well-being and disease detection, prevention, and treatment. This is good news for Medical technology businesses because illness diagnosis and prevention will most likely rely on regulated, wearable, user-centric, sensor-driven medical devices, resulting in the growth of the new medical technology market. Because so much core innovation is being done in these areas, healthcare delivery is becoming an integral aspect of the care itself. As people expect connected ecosystems where patients can access care through virtual and retail channels, as well as at home, medical technology firms may experience substantial changes in the future. The experience and products of start-ups are forcing Medical technology firms to shift from episodic treatment to enhancing and maintaining the well-being of all.

LOVE BEYOND AGE

TEJAL SINHA

When in love, it's just the two of you that matters. We've heard this several times, isn't it! You cannot love someone out of your caste, marry a guy or a girl with a less age gap, and so on, are the things we've been hearing, for over decades.

As the years passed, these myths have also faded away to a certain extent but the norm is still alive.

Bollywood celebs have inspired many people out there breaking the stereotypes that revolve around love. While, we have Kareena Kapoor Khan, who not only got married to Saif Ali Khan, who was from a different caste, but also had a huge age gap. Another such celeb is the *Ishaqzaade* star Arjun Kapoor, who has been dating the super hottest diva of Bollywood, Malaika Arora and we cannot stop adoring them for how hot they look together, setting up some major goals.

And breaking the stereotypes that revolves around love, comes to the Television industry. You might have guessed by now. Yes, we are talking about the recently released *Na Umra Ki Seema ho*. The show stars the handsome hunk Iqbal Khan and the gorgeous Rachna Mishra. Apart from them, Rishina Kandhari, Deepshika Nagpal, Vijay Kalwani, Sneha Wagh, Aarohi Patel, are seen playing important roles.

As the title suggests *Na Umra Ki Seema ho*, age is just

a number when two of you are in love with each other. *The Pioneer* connects with the lead actor Iqbal Khan over a quick call, who shares with us his experience playing the character of Dev, how the show is beyond your regular Saas-Bahu and the Kitchen politics and much more.

Iqbal plays the role of Dev Raichand and over the last few episodes, his fans cannot stop adoring him for his character in the show. Sharing with us his experience on playing the character, he says, "It's a very inspiring character, it's a role of a guy who is soft but not weak, strong but not violent. He's somebody who cares for his family, he's given his entire life for the family, he's a believer of truthfulness. He always appreciates people and that's one of the reasons he falls for this girl who is simple and has this quality of being honest. People have put up a lot of effort in this show and the show is trying to an extent to break the stereotypes."

The show is a perfect example of opposite attracts. We see a fresh pairing on television, which is a treat to the viewers. While Iqbal is seen in a true gentleman avatar, Rachana's naive personality makes them a perfect pair. He continues, "You are getting to see what I am, not someone trying to hide. We've tried to avoid how we see the general daily soap. The channel is also bringing out the message gonna be a channel that brings to the audience concepts based on relationships



and love and these kinds of content and not just Kitchen politics."

The *Dil se Dil Tak* actor exclusively shares with us that the character is similar to how he is, in real life.

He says, "Like the character, even my life revolves around my family. I hate dishonesty, there are many similar things within me that's similar to what you see in the character. He's a strong believer that no one should be able to put you down, you should be independent."

Over the past decade, we've seen how important it is for one to be on social media to stay updated. Now, the talk of the town is that it is the number of followers that make actors get work. He opposes these views because he's been away from social media for around two years now, and has been able to do some amazing shows and films.

"I'm out of social media for the past two years. On July 18, 2022 I had one web show called *Doon Kaand* released

on Voot. On July 22 this year, the film called *X or Y* on Hotstar was released that has a 9.8 IMDB rating and has won many international film awards and July 26, *Na Umra Ki Seema ho* was released and has got a good buzz and by august end or september I've got another web series *Crackdown season 2* will release so it has definitely not done any harm to me," shares the *The Bull of Dalal Street* actor. Apart from *Na Umra Ki Seema ho*, he was also seen in the film *X or Y*, a film that takes a deep look at the misconception that prevails in India about how the sex of a child is determined. *X or Y* has won around 13 reputed awards including Istanbul Film Awards, International Motion Picture Awards, Los Angeles Film Awards, among others.

He signs off sharing that as an actor he does not limit himself to the type of characters that he would work on, as long as one gets time to prepare.

In an exclusive interview with *The Pioneer*, Iqbal Khan, who is currently seen in *Na Umra Ki Seema Ho*, gets candid about his character, how the show is trying to break stereotypes and much more

POWER UP YOUR CAREER

K. RAMYA SREE

Over the last couple of years, there has been a significant surge in demand for career coaching. Much of this demand is closely linked to the changing needs of workers, triggered by Covid-19 and the great resignation, which led to 4.4 million people quitting their jobs. This has also increased the demand for new coaches to enter the field. New experts are taking part in this shift and have even adapted traditional coaching practices to address the ever-changing career path of clients.

Sawan Kapoor, a career coach, who helps working professionals choose the right for them. He became the CEO of America's largest beverage alcohol firm under the age of 30. He also runs TruNorth Solutions, a job search, application and career management firm, founded in 2012. Now over 1 lakh professionals have attended his 'Power up Your Career in 4 hours' masterclass.

His journey to finding TruNorth Solutions has come with many challenges which this career coach has thoroughly enjoyed and felt it empowering. He says he got hired at a time

when the larger economic condition was quite bleak right after the 9/11 terrorist attacks in the United States.

"Up until the September 10, I had received 8 job offers. The next day changed everything. All the job offers I had were rescinded and taken back by the companies. Despite having nothing to do with this event, it impacted me and my future so gravely. It set me thinking about how a job candidate can have more control to get hired into the right opportunity. Being an analytical mind, these ideas kept brewing in my head," he shares.

After changing multiple jobs and being dissatisfied with the progress, Sawan felt the method to learn about the true ground reality of the culture of the organisation prior to joining them. After being fired from one of his jobs, he decided to use to go after opportunities instead of using the traditional manner in which professionals apply for jobs. And in less than 30 days, he generated 4 job offers, each with an offer that was a minimum of 3X the salary of his last position. That is when he realised this works.

He immediately decided to set up a career management firm to help people like him in the



industry. "The biggest challenge was to scale up to be able to reach people who needed this kind of knowledge and help. When I first started in 2010, I was helping friends and associates known to me personally. And on being able to help them successfully, I got very excited at the power of this system. On returning to India in 2013, I offered my services to serious working professionals in a one-on-one capacity as a business service. In 2019, I wanted to explore the online space but I had no understanding of how to be able to build a business in the digital world. From learning the technological ecosystem required to be able to operate online, to understanding how to generate awareness for ones' services, it has been quite a ride. It took me a year to be able to put all the pieces of the puzzle together so that one could create the reach and become visible to working professionals in the online space. That has been the

most significant challenge," shares Sawan, who runs a masterclass known as Power up your career in 4 hours.

In this masterclass, he covers the complete overview of the system that he built that puts the power back in the hands of a candidate. It enables working professionals to look at the job search, job application and career management process in an incredibly unique way. Professionals who then use the system understand that they can create a rapid and significant increase in their salary in less than 90 days. They also understand that this is a system that they will use multiple times so it puts them on a path to creating an exceptional career in a much shorter time span.

The system allows candidates to target the company of their choosing or desire and secure job offers that said, they also understand that they are the product and they must represent

irresistible value to these organisations for the process to make this happen. And lastly, the process allows them to present, communicate and market themselves in a way that makes the competition irrelevant.

When asked how he differentiates himself from other players in the market, he asserts, "Other players in the market that I am aware of are mid-career coaches, or coaches helping make people employable, or helping with getting a usual hike in salary. That said, one can only give what one has, and the limitation with mid-career coaches is that you do not get a medal for climbing only half the mountain. We are a comprehensive service provider that has produced stellar results for candidates across 60 plus industries, and our students have accepted offers from in 27 different countries. And while the journey and results of each student are unique, the system only works if you are willing to put in the blood, sweat and tears required."

Hoping to redefine the job search, job application and career management space, this firm, as Sawan says, helps one to target the right job and how to then be able to create irresistible value in that opportunity to continue to grow and accelerate your career trajectory. The goal he is trying to accomplish through this venture is simple. It is to reach one million working professionals within their first five years of operations.

"We have already covered about 30% of that journey in the last 2 years. Indian management and leadership is some of the finest in the world. And the proof of this is the many Indian leaders that are now heading major global corporations.

Just how India has become a hot bed for unicorns, we envision our country to become the CEO capital of the world. In fact, I often say this to my team, I think the ultimate nirvana for any folder is to have their company run by an Indian CEO," concludes Sawan.

what's brewing?



Shobita



Sahiba Lamba



Prabhjyot kavur



Mohita

PARTY



Nagesh Goud

Renowned classical dancer and National Award Winner Actress Sandhya Raju inaugurated the two-days Inner Kali Exhibition at Kalakriti Art Gallery in Banjara Hills. The exhibition was organised by renowned artist Venkat Gaddam, which is going to end today.



Angel witness



Divya katara



Monika and Indira

Hyderabad's first women travel community, Beyond Border, celebrated its five years anniversary at the Hotel Marriott in Hyderabad.

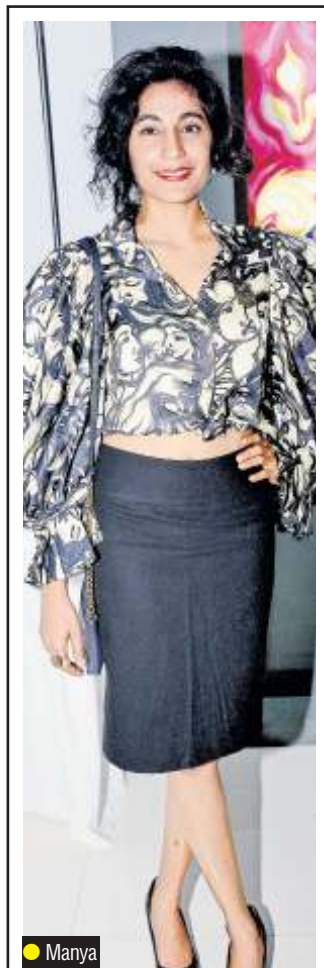
Photos by SV Chary



Nisha



Neeta



Manya



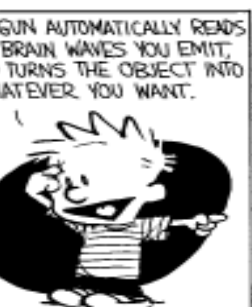
The Premia Academy, in collaboration with The Next Mile had hosted a session on 'Voice of Wisdom'. The event was organised in light of Friendship's Day and focused on conflict resolution among the peer group and helping them maintain healthy friendships, making them more empathetic and responsible citizens.

FUN

ARCHIE



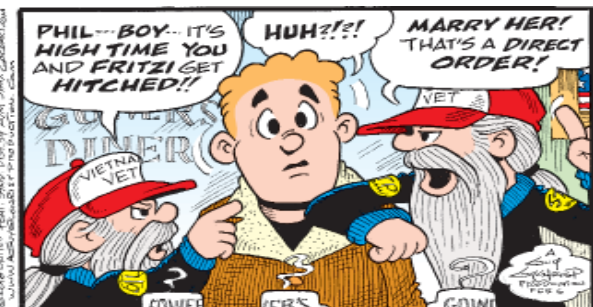
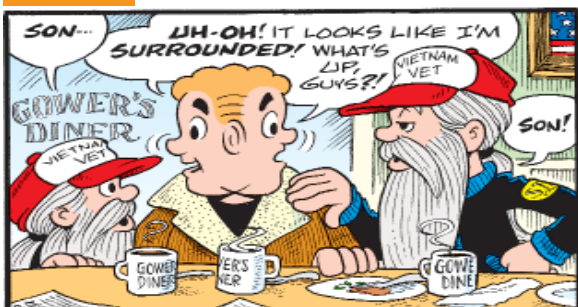
CALVIN AND HOBBS



GARFIELD



NANCY



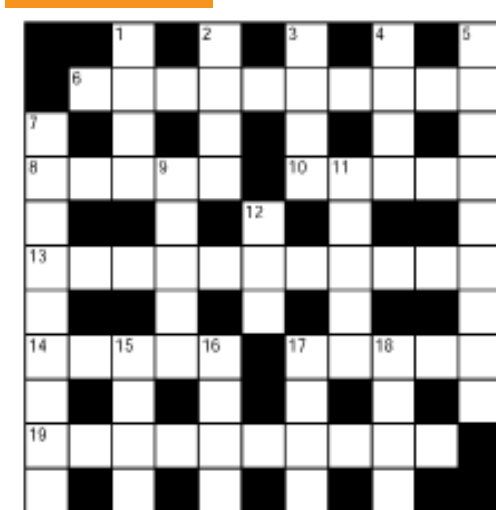
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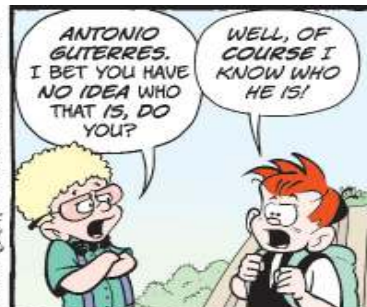
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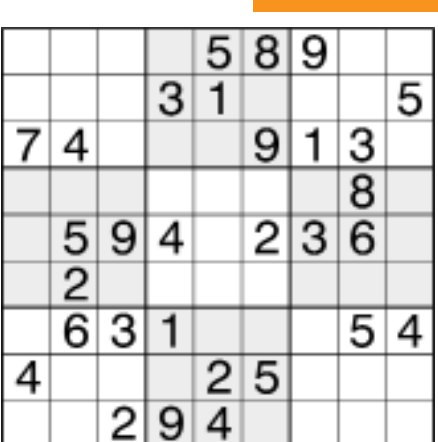
CROSSWORD



GINGER MEGGS



SUDOKU



Yesterday's solution

9	7	4	8	1	2	3	6	5
5	8	6	4	3	9	7	1	2
2	3	1	5	6	7	9	4	8
1	2	3	6	9	8	4	5	7
7	5	9	2	4	1	6	8	3
6	4	8	3	7	5	2	9	1
4	1	2	9	8	3	5	7	6
8	6	5	7	2	4	1	3	9
3	9	7	1	5	6	8	2	4

Rules

- Each row and column can contain each number (1 to 9) exactly once.
- The sum of all numbers in any row or column must equal 45.

ACROSS

- 6 Intentional on purpose
- 8 Weary
- 10 Frequently
- 13 Scary
- 14 Go in
- 17 A baking ingredient
- 19 Turned from liquid into vapour

DOWN

- 9 A big bird of prey
- 11 Last
- 12 A place where pigs are kept
- 15 A salty drop of water from your eye
- 16 An area in a house
- 17 A young horse
- 18 Bake things in here





Rocketry screened in parliament

Rocketry: The Nambi Effect has been both a box-office hit and a critically-acclaimed movie. The R Madhavan-starrer was on Friday screened on the premises of the Indian Parliament.

The special screening was attended by several BJP leaders and MPs. Speaking on the occasion, Union Minister Anurag Thakur said that, like the classic *Godfather*, *Rocketry* has amassed a 9.2 rating on IMDb. The screening was attended by Union Minister Piyush Goyal and BJP National President JP Nadda, among others. The hosts gave a bouquet to scientist Nambi Narayanan, on whose life *Rocketry* is based. Madhavan, who directed and produced the movie besides playing the lead role, was also present.

Aha announces Highway, starring Anand Devarakonda and Abhishek Banerjee

Aha, the 100% local entertainment OTT platform, announces *Highway*, a psychological thriller starring Anand Devarakonda and Abhishek Banerjee in a never-before-seen avatar. Directed and written by K.V. Guhan, and produced by Venkat Talari, the film will hit aha screens very soon.

The *Highway* is a psychological thriller about a photographer Vishnu (Anand Devarakonda), falling in love with Tulasi (Manasa), who was sheltered all her life. When everything is going great, his life turns upside down when a serial killer named D kidnaps his lady love. Will the hero be able to save her in time? Aha has a solid vision to bring audiences engaging content, and recently announced its original 'Color Photo' also won the Best Regional Award – Telugu at 68th National Awards. With another original titled 'Highway' coming soon, Aha again is set to showcase the commitment to audiences by providing 100% local entertainment.



PNS| HYDERABAD

Krithi Shetty awaits the theatrical release of *Macherla Nijojakavargam* on August 12. Her first three movies came to her even before *Uppena* was released in theatres. She is fortunate

and thanked her directors for offering her beautiful roles. She

is young and new. She loves to work and if she doesn't have work on a day, she sort of feels guilty, and says, "After listening to a script, I write notes on my character. If I am confused about something, I reflect on it. At the end of the day, we make films for the audience. If something goes wrong, it will become a learning experience. I have no regrets. I enjoyed doing *The Warriorr* because its director has been my favourite since I watched *Awara*. I got to work with him, someone like Ram Potthineni sir and a good production house. It's an amazing experience."

But her character in *Macherla Nijojakavargam* is naive and innocent. She is an effortless girl.

Some people are beautiful from within and the inner beauty reflects in their outer personality. She is such a girl. In the average commercial movie, the heroine doesn't have much screen time.

Nevertheless, "Since I am the youngest one in the unit, everyone took good care of me. They would send me food and sweets. It was a lovely atmosphere. This is the quickest I okayed the project. I sensed that this is the kind of movie the family audience would watch with enthusiasm. There is a political element, there are nice performances, good comedy and awesome action. It's a complete package."

She is also doing Suriya's movie directed by Bala. About 30% of the shoot is over. She is also doing Naga Chaitanya's movie directed by Venkat Prabhu. Both are bilinguals. *Aa Ammayi Gurinchi Meeku Cheppali*, starring Sudheer Babu and directed by Mohan Krishna Indraganti, is among her other upcoming movies and she is playing a strong female character in it. And this one is a very good love story that doesn't have typical commercial scenes. A few more projects are in the pipeline.

Krithi Shetty will be seen playing a variety of roles

Taapsee reveals reason behind not appearing on Koffee with Karan

Taapsee Pannu, who is currently gearing up for the release of her upcoming film *Dobaaraa*, shared why she hasn't been on the Karan Johar-hosted popular chat show *Koffee With Karan*.

During a promotional event, while Taapsee Pannu and Anurag Kashyap were promoting their film *Dobaaraa*, Karan Johar was in the adjacent room promoting his chat show. Taking note of that, the media probed Taapsee about the reason why she hasn't been invited to Karan's show.

Answering the question, the actress said in jest that her sex life is not interesting enough to be invited on *Koffee With Karan*.



SHIKHA DUGGAL

In an exclusive interview with *The Pioneer*, the singing sensation Asees Kaur shares with us how she finds it interesting to sing in a different language.

Tables have turned in the industry, where singers are giving some amazing rocking hits in Tollywood too. Asees Kaur is the newly turned Pan-India vocalist now with Rakulpreet starrer, *Mashooka*.

In an exclusive chat with us, we went on to know about this fervour and how interesting it is finding it to be. She shared with us, "Our music industry is always evolving. There is a lot more that is different about what we now listen to and enjoy. I saw a new wave where everyone is busy binge-watching south remakes, and I have always been a gigantic fan of south films. *Mashooka* added a multilingual singer's tag to my graph."

We are a streaming generation with our iTunes and Spotify apps a click away on our smart devices. Yet, Asees managed to make a mark and she's extremely delighted, "I was looking forward to Tollywood embracing me as a singer. It was a nerve-chilling experience this time despite having so much love coming my way from Bollywood. Pronunciation was a little difficult to begin with, to get the apt verse and feeling in Telugu. I may not



understand the language, but as a singer will always know how to make others groove on it."

There is the pressure in the showbiz reveals because they get similar songs again and again. It has to happen in an industry where whenever a song is a big hit, even music composers are asked to compose such songs again. And eventually, the first choice will be the singer who sung the first hit song of that genre. But, she says, "More than play-back singing, as an artist everybody is the happiest when they are live on stage, singing live for their audience. Something like that gives us an adrenaline rush, so I really miss that. Income was definitely hampered, but I think more than artists, musicians and the other people involved in the production of those live shows were affected."

Nithya makes a shocking revelation of being harassed for 6 years



Nithya Menen recently opened up about being harassed by a youth and a film reviewer, who is known for his quirky film reviews on social media. The *Ok Kanmani* actress made this shocking revelation during one of her recent interviews for film *19 (1)*. Nithya also revealed that her parents were equally troubled by the viral film reviewer.

Without revealing the name of the reviewer, Nithya added that she went through all these when her mom was recovering from cancer. "Those who believe whatever he says are the real fools. He has been harassing me for a long time. He began to speak about me publicly after he became viral. He has been bothering me for more than six years. I have shown incredible patience despite everyone asking me to file police complaint. He

would call my parents on their phones. Finally, even they had to raise their voice after losing their patients. He would always call even when my mother was recovering from cancer. I have seen my father and mother, who are usually gentle and calm, speak angrily to him. I told them to block his number. I had to block almost thirty phone numbers that he owns," said Nithya in a recent interview.

Last seen in a legal drama *19 (1)* (a) co-starring Vijay Sethupathi, Nithya Menen will be playing one of the leads in Dhanush's upcoming film, *Thiruchitrambalam*. Written and directed by Mithran Jawahar, *Thiruchitrambalam* is set to release on 18 August 2022. The film is produced by Kalanithi Maran under the banner Sun Pictures.

Shahid Kapoor in talks for the Hindi remake of *Mumbai Police*

Bollywood actor Shahid Kapoor is on the remake bandwagon. The actor had a blockbuster hit with *Kabir Singh* which was Hindi remake of *Arjun Reddy* but his next remake, *Jersey*, didn't do well at the box office. While he is also set for Ali Abbas Zafar's next which is also a remake of the French film, *Nuit Blanche*, he is in advance talks to star in the Hindi remake of Malayalam thriller *Mumbai Police*. The film originally starred Prithviraj Sukumaran.

As per a report in a media portal, the actor is currently in

talks for the project which is being produced by Siddharth Roy Kapur's production house Roy Kapur Films. Rosshan Andrews, who helmed the original film, will be directing the remake as well. He is currently working on the script with Hindi script writers.

Mumbai Police starred Prithviraj Sukumaran, Jayasurya and Rahman. The casting for the roles of the latter two actors is underway. Meanwhile, the makers are in talks with an actress from the South industry to star opposite Shahid Kapoor.



A CHANGE IN ATTITUDE AND APPROACH WAS REQUIRED AFTER LAST YEARS' T20 WC: ROHIT

PTI ■ LAUDERHILL

A disastrous campaign in the last T20 World Cup has forced the Indian team to bring about a radical change in its attitude and approach, skipper Rohit Sharma has said.

Rohit is now gearing up to lead the Indian side in the upcoming edition of the T20 showpiece in Australia, but before that, they have the Asia Cup to deal with.

Speaking on Star Sports show 'Follow the Blues', Rohit said, "We've made it very clear after the T20 World Cup in Dubai, where we didn't qualify for the finals, that we felt there needed to be a change in our attitude and approach in how we play our game."

India will enter the Asia Cup as defending champions.

With Team India adopting a more aggressive batting style in the past few months, Rohit spoke about how the squad is getting ready for the upcoming challenges.

"If the message is clear from the captain and the coach about where the team is trying to head, then the individuals will definitely try to do that. For that to happen they need freedom and clarity and that's what we are trying to do. We are trying to give them as much freedom as possible."

When asked about his experience of captaining a team with so many young leaders, Rohit said, "I know it's very exciting honestly to create so many leaders around the team because it's always a good sign."

"And you want the guys to handle the pressure, who understand the game and know each other really well. And when they are leading the team, all these things can happen."

India have had six different cap-



'Turned to slower to unsettle WI batters'

PTI ■ LAUDERHILL

India pacer Avesh Khan's redemption, after being whacked around the Caribbean grounds with strong wind and short boundaries, came about after he slowed down his pace following skipper Rohit Sharma's advice.

Khan said he has received "enormous amount of confidence" from Rohit and coach Rahul Dravid when he was struggling to come to grips with the strong wind and short boundaries.

The bowler's match-winning performance (2/17 in 4 overs) helped India seal the T20I series against West Indies with a 59-run victory in the fourth match here on Saturday.

"They have given me an enormous

amount of confidence, despite the fact I did not perform well in my last two games.

However, Rohit bhai and Rahul Sir's support have given me the confidence both on and off the field... And told me that rough patches do happen," Khan told reporters after the match.

Khan had leaked 54 runs in six overs on his ODI debut in Port-of-Spain last month. In the ensuing first two T20Is in St Kitts, he continued to bleed runs but Rohit, regardless of his pacer's struggles, had tasked Khan with defending nine off the final over in the second T20.

Khan failed to deliver, but the team management kept backing

him.

"They also backed me by saying that an average performance in two matches do not make anyone a bad bowler, especially in T20s, given how the format is.

"I was backed the same way in this match too and I am happy that I performed well. They provided me necessary support during the South Africa tour as well.

"When a player is constantly encouraged by the captain and coach to perform well, it automatically motivates him to give his best. Rohit bhai is a fantastic leader. Not only me, he always backs and supports everyone in the team," Khan added.

tains in the past eight months owing to a combination of factors.

"I think it's very important to have that leadership, but obviously, you know we play the IPL and it's a 10-team tournament. So there will be 10 captains which at some stage will be a part of the Indian team as well.

"You know, I think it's fantastic because honestly my job is much lesser as these guys understand everything pretty well. So, it's just about if someone's having a thought, how am I going to back up that thought. For me as captain that is my role and that is what I'm trying to do," he said.

Looking ahead, Rohit mentioned that the role of coach Rahul Dravid is vital for the Indian team.

"With Rahul bhai I have played some games with him as he was my first captain when I made my ODI debut. So, obviously we have some kind of understanding. I have spent a lot of time in the NCA when I was injured and he was there.

"We had regular chats happening all the time and he was closely following my game as well," he said.

The 'Hitman' also spoke about the importance of having a coach whose vision and belief aligns with the team.

"When he (Dravid) became a coach here, we met and sat together in a room for a while and decided how we want to take this thing forward and he was pretty much on the same thought process as to what I was thinking.

"That made it a little easier for me to give out a clear message to the boys because we don't want to create confusion among the group; and of course, we wanted him to change the style of cricket as well.

"We wanted to play a certain way in all three formats and he was ready to accept all of that."



Zimbabwe beat B'desh by 5 wickets, seal ODI series

AP ■ HARARE

Zimbabwe trounced Bangladesh by five wickets in the second ODI. With that, the hosts clinched an unassailable 2-0 lead in the three-match series. Batting first, the Bangla Tigers hoarded 290/9, courtesy of the fifties from Tamim Iqbal (50) and Mahmudullah (84*). Chasing 291, the hosts stumbled at the start, but centuries Sikandar Raza (117*) and Regis Chakabva (102) steered them home (291/5).

Raza has been a man possessed in the limited-over duels played this year. This series has been no different for the all-rounder. In addition to picking three wickets, Raza brought up his fifth ODI ton (10 to seal the series for the hosts. Notably, it's his fifth fifty-plus score in a span of seven innings in ODIs, including a 135* in the last outing.

Chakabva had class written all over him in the pivotal duel. The wicket-keeper batter clobbered a hostile-look-

ing 102 off 75 deliveries, studied with 10 fours and two sixes. It was his maiden ODI ton. He has breached the 1,000-run mark (1,057) while averaging 21.57. He also fetched a colossal 201-run stand alongside Raza to put Zimbabwe back in the chase.

Mahmudullah Riyad and Tamim Iqbal hit half centuries as Bangladesh scored 290-9.

Coming in at 127 for three in the 24th over Mahmudullah was unbeaten on 80 at the close of the 50-over innings.

Captain and opener Tamim followed up his half-century in a five-wicket loss on Friday by making 50 before becoming the first Bangladeshi batter to fall, with 71 runs on the board.

Mahmudullah scored his runs off 84 balls with his knock including three sixes and three fours at Harare Sports Club.

Tamim, who on Friday became the first Bangladeshi to score 8,000 ODI runs, was equally brisk, reaching his total off 45 deliveries.

World No.1 Medvedev ends ATP title drought



AP ■ LOS CABOS

World number one Daniil Medvedev won his first ATP title of 2022 on Saturday, roaring past defending champion Cameron Norrie 7-5, 6-0 in the final of the hardcourt tournament in Los Cabos, Mexico.

Medvedev snapped a five-match losing streak in finals — a stretch that included his agonizing five-set loss to Rafael Nadal in the Australian Open final in February.

He also came up short this year in 's-Hertogenbosch and Halle. He didn't get a chance at Wimbledon, where Russian and Belarussian players were banned because of Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

His first trophy since he won the US Open last year — denying Novak Djokovic a calendar Grand Slam — comes just as he launches the final build up to his title defense in the final Grand Slam of 2022.

Next he'll defend his Canadian Open title before tackling the Cincinnati Masters.

ROGERS SAN JOSE FINAL

San Jose: Shelby Rogers, ranked 45th in the world, qualified for the WTA hardcourt tournament final in San Jose, California, on Saturday with a 6-3, 6-4 victory over 19th-ranked Veronika Kudermetova.

Rogers reached her first final since 2016 and will be seeking a first WTA Tour title when she takes on No. 12 Daria Kasatkina.

Rogers continued an impressive week that included an opening win over former US Open champion Bianca Andreescu and a victory over world number three Maria Sakkari, the top seed.

The 28-year-old hasn't dropped a set all week. Rogers will be playing her first final since Rio de Janeiro in 2016. She was runner up at Bad Gastein in 2014.

KANEPI VS SAMSONOVA

Washington: Estonia's Kaia Kanepi, trying to end a nine-year WTA title drought at age 37, advanced to the Washington Open final on Saturday by defeating Australian Daria Saville 6-3, 6-1.

World number 37 Kanepi will play for the crown against 60th-ranked Liudmila Samsonova, who routed China's Wang Xiyu 6-1, 6-1 in the other semi-final at the ATP and WTA hardcourt event, a US Open tune-up.

Kanepi seeks her fifth career WTA title but her first since the 2013 Brussels Open. She won her only WTA hardcourt title at Brisbane in 2012.

In her first WTA final since a 2021 Australian Open tuneup at Melbourne, Kanepi needed only 73 minutes to dispatch Saville, who was in her first WTA semi-final since 2018 at Acapulco.

"I played my best match," Kanepi said. "Everything was very smooth for me. I hit a lot of lines."

Fraser-Pryce runs world leading 10.66 sec for 100m

AP ■ CHORZOW

Jamaican sprint star Shelly-Ann Fraser-Pryce ran a world-leading 10.66 seconds to win the women's 100 metres on Saturday at the Silesia Diamond League meeting in Poland.

Crowned 100m world champion for the fifth time last month in Eugene, Oregon, Fraser-Pryce finished ahead of American Aleia Hobbs (10.94) and Ivory Coast's Marie-Josee Ta Lou (11.00) in Chorzow.

"I always come into races expecting to run fast! Last year I set a meeting record here," said Fraser-Pryce.

"Last year I felt a lot of pressure on me and this year I decided to just have fun. It is amazing to be this consistent. I am always excited to compete and see what I can do."

It was her second Diamond

League win of the season over 100m following victory in Paris.

The 35-year-old was 0.06sec off her personal best set last August in Lausanne.

Fraser-Pryce took Gold in 10.67sec at the recent world championships, coming home ahead of Shericka Jackson and Olympic champion Elaine Thompson-Herah in a Jamaican sweep.

With Thompson-Herah bidding for a sprint double at the Commonwealth Games in Birmingham, world champion Jackson continued her strong season in Poland as she won the 200m in 21.84sec.

World Bronze medalist Trayvon Bromell triumphed in the men's 100m in 9.95sec, ahead of compatriot and silver medalist Marvin Bracy and Jamaica's Ackem Blake. Reigning Olympic and world champion Emmanuel Korir of Kenya won the 800m.



AP ■ CLERMONT

Lionel Messi scored twice in the second half, including with a stunning overhead kick, as Paris Saint-Germain began their defence of the Ligue 1 title with a 5-0 demolition of Clermont on Saturday.

Neymar was also in outstanding form for a PSG side who did not miss the injured Kylian Mbappe, with the Brazilian opening the scoring in Clermont before setting up Achraf Hakimi and Marquinhos for further goals before half-time.

Messi then exchanged passes with Neymar before sidefooting in the visitors' fourth goal with 10 minutes left. Yet Messi saved the best for last,

Ten Hag loses 1st game as Man Utd manager

AP ■ MANCHESTER

Erik ten Hag's reign as Manchester United manager got off to a nightmare start as Brighton registered their first ever victory at Old Trafford with a 2-1 win on the opening weekend of the Premier League season.

Any hope of a fresh start for United after a miserable 2021/22 season was wiped away within 45 minutes as Pascal Gross struck twice to put Brighton in command.

Alexis Mac Allister's own goal gave United a foothold in the game, but they rarely looked like getting back on level terms, showing the scale of the task lying ahead for Ten Hag.

The former Ajax boss left Cristiano Ronaldo on the bench after he only returned to pre-sea-



son training last week.

Ronaldo is reportedly seeking an exit from Old Trafford to play CL football this season.

But without the five time Ballon d'Or winner, United had no focal point to their attack as Christian Eriksen started in an unfamiliar role as a false nine.

The outcome could have

been very different had Bruno Fernandes not blazed over a glorious chance on six minutes.

The nadir of a nightmare campaign for United last season as they finished sixth in the Premier League came in a 4-0 defeat to Brighton in May, and the Seagulls quickly settled into their passing rhythm.

Messi, Neymar combine to script PSG's 5-0 win

darting into the box four minutes from the end to control a Leandro Paredes pass on his chest with his back to goal, before converting with an acrobatic overhead kick.

That goal had the crowd at Clermont's Stade Gabriel-Montpied singing the name of the seven-time Ballon d'Or winner, who endured a difficult first season in Paris.

PSG's victory in new coach Christophe Galtier's first league game

in charge was achieved despite Mbappe missing the trip due to an adductor injury.

Mbappe also missed last week's 4-0 defeat of Nantes in the season-opening Champions Trophy due to suspension.

Messi had opened the scoring in that game, while Neymar netted a brace.

The duo therefore already have six goals between them this season, with PSG looking in ominous form.

Rahul & Virat set to return for Asia Cup T20

The 2022 edition of the Asia Cup T20 tournament will take place in the United Arab Emirates from August 27. The tournament was initially supposed to take place in Sri Lanka, but due to the ongoing political and economic crisis there, it was shifted to the UAE, but Sri Lanka will remain the host. This year, in preparation for the T20 World Cup, which will be held in Australia from October 16 to November 13, the Asia Cup will be played in the T20I format, making the upcoming matches, in which India will face Pakistan at least twice, crucial. Ahead of the team selection in Mumbai on Monday for the multi-nation event, **DRITI ATRI** takes a look at the 15 players who can find a place in the squad.

OPENERS: Even though since the end of last year's T20 World Cup, India have tried as many as eight players as openers, Rohit Sharma and KL Rahul are almost certain to be picked. And with Suryakumar Yadav, Rishabh Pant, and Virat Kohli also capable of batting at the top in case of any mishap, there are almost negligible chances for a reserve opener.

MIDDLE ORDER: Virat Kohli will make his comeback for India in the Asia Cup after taking a break from the West Indies tour. He will bat at his usual number three position, and in the middle, joining him will be Suryakumar Yadav. The Mumbai-based has established himself in the white-ball format of the game.

WICKETKEEPER: Even though there are options in the form of Ishan Kishan, Sanju Samson, and Dinesh Karthik, Rishabh Pant is almost certain to be picked up as India's first choice wicketkeeper-batter. His numbers in white-ball cricket are not as high as they are in Test cricket, but he cannot be dropped.

ALL ROUNDERS: Hardik Pandya and Ravindra Jadeja are two of the best all-rounders in world cricket at the moment, and both of them are almost certain to be picked. Apart from contributing with the bat and ball, both are excellent fielders and now also have the experience of leading an IPL side, which will come in handy as the tournament progresses.



FINISHER: There's no one better than Dinesh Karthik in the world at the moment as a number seven batter. The veteran Indian stumper made a sensational comeback to the Indian shortest format side and is now on his way to the big events.

PACERS: Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Jasprit Bumrah are definite starters, and with Hardik Pandya to support them with the ball in hand now, India is likely to stick with the duo for the Asia Cup.

SPINNER: Even though Yuzvendra Chahal wasn't included in the Indian team for the five T20Is against West Indies, he is still India's first choice white-ball spinner, and despite competition from

Ravichandran Ashwin, Ravi Bishnoi, Axar Patel, and Kuldeep Yadav, he will get the nod.

RESERVES: Since the squad for the Asia Cup is almost likely to be the one that India will field in the T20 World Cup later this year, it becomes interesting to see which other four players get the selectors' nod. Since Harshal Patel is out of the Asia Cup due to an injury, there are question marks over his availability for the T20 World Cup as well. But India have enough options to replace him and the likes of Deepak Chahal, who will return to action for the first time since February 20 against Zimbabwe this month, Avesh Khan, Arshdeep Singh and

Mohammed Shami will be in the fray. As far as a back-up middle order batter is concerned, Shreyas Iyer is likely to get the nod of selectors over Deepak Hooda, who has also impressed in the limited chances he has had so far. And in the back-up spinner category, Axar Patel is likely to pip Ashwin, Ravi Bishnoi, and Kuldeep.

India's likely squad for the Asia Cup: Rohit Sharma (Captain), KL Rahul, Virat Kohli, Suryakumar Yadav, Rishabh Pant (wk), Hardik Pandya, Dinesh Karthik, Ravindra Jadeja, Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Jasprit Bumrah, Yuzvendra Chahal, Shreyas Iyer, Axar Patel, Deepak Chahal, Arshdeep Singh