

**ANALYSIS 7**  
IMPART KNOWLEDGE WITH  
HOLISTIC EDUCATION**MONEY 8**  
CENTRE UNVEILS PLATFORM FOR  
INDUSTRY-R&D LINKAGES**SPORTS 11**  
DHAWAN ALWAYS READY TO HELP  
YOUNGSTERS

VIJAYAWADA, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 2022; PAGES 12 ₹3



the pioneer

www.dailypioneer.com

'DIRECTORS FIND IT  
DIFFICULT TO STICK TO  
JUST ONE GENRE'

Page 12

**PUTIN BLASTS US 'HEGEMONY', PREDICTS  
END TO 'UNIPOLAR' WORLD**

Russian President Vladimir Putin accused the United States of trying to encourage extended hostilities in Ukraine as part of what he described Tuesday as Washington's alleged efforts to maintain its global hegemony. Addressing a security conference attended by military officials from Africa, Asia and Latin America, Putin reaffirmed his long-held claim that he sent troops into Ukraine in response to Washington turning the country into an anti-Russia bulwark. They need conflicts to retain their hegemony, Putin charged. That's why they have turned the Ukrainian people into cannon fodder.

**'TIRANGA' HOISTED AT ASI MONUMENTS  
TO FLUTTER PERMANENTLY**

The national flag hoisted on the premises of 150 ASI monuments on the 75th anniversary of India's independence will flutter permanently, except at sites where flagpoles are unit after dark, senior officials said on Tuesday. At such sites, where there is no provision to illuminate flagpoles, 'Tiranga' will be lowered in the evening and hoisted again in the morning, they said. "Our national flag was hoisted at 150 ASI sites across the country, from Sher Shah Suri's Tomb in Bihar to Chittorgarh Fort in Rajasthan, and Tisaru Stupa in Leh to Vellore Fort in south India. And, it has been decided that all these flagpoles will be there on site permanently.

**HINDUS, MUSLIMS JOIN HANDS TO  
CELEBRATE I-DAY WITH 256-FT TRICOLOUR**

In a joint initiative by a temple trust and some Muslim organisations, Hindus and Muslims together held a Tiranga rally on the Independence Day here holding a 256-foot-long tricolour over their heads. The air reverberated with shouts of Vande Mataram' and Bharat Mata ki Jai' as the people from the two communities assembled on a stretch of road which had a mosque and a temple facing each other. The rally was organised by All India Sufi Sajadanashin Council in association with Juna Khedapati Temple Trust, Chherghar Masjid Committee, and Marwar Muslim Education and Welfare Society.

**NATIONAL FLAGS WORTH OVER RS 60 CR  
PROCURED VIA GEM PORTAL**

More than 2.36 crore national flags worth over Rs 60 crore were procured by different government departments and states from public buying portal GeM from July 1 to August 15, according to an official data. These procurements were carried out for the 'Har Ghar Tiranga' campaign. The Government e-Marketplace (GeM) was launched on August 9, 2016 by the commerce ministry to create an open and transparent procurement platform for government buyers. The platform is open for procurement by all government buyers -- central and state ministries, departments, public sector enterprises, autonomous institutions and local bodies.

# State making rapid strides in industrial sector: CM

**Inaugurates first phase of AP Tyres unit at Atchutapuram SEZ**

PNS ■ ANAKAPALLE

Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has said that the State is rapidly progressing towards industrialisation with major corporates looking toward Andhra Pradesh.

After inaugurating the first phase of the AP Tyres unit at the AP SEZ here on Tuesday, the Chief Minister said that the Japan-based Yokohama Company has begun production in just 15 months and the second phase is likely to go into steam by August 2023.

The company stands in fifth place in the world ranking and is likely to move to the third spot soon, the Chief Minister said adding that such a Company coming to AP is a happy sign.

In the first phase, the Company has invested Rs 1250 crore providing employment to over 1200 people.



In the second phase, employment would be created for over 800 people.

During the past three years, an investment of Rs 39,350 crore has come through 17 largescale industries and 56 major industries would be setting shop in the State in the

coming two years. In the MSME sector, 31671 industries are investing Rs 8,285 crore. A revival package of Rs 1463 crore was to MSMEs, he said. Earlier, Adani was just a name but after YSRCP came to power both Adani and Ambani have been looking towards AP, he

said. In all, 1.54 lakh crore is coming in as investments providing employment to over 1.64 lakh people, he said.

Within two months Adani Data Centre is coming up at Vizag and locals will get 75 per cent of the jobs, he said. AP is the only State with three industrial corridors and nine shipping harbours coming up, he said. In exports as well, the State is poised for a big leap from 2 per cent to 10 per cent of the national average. For three consecutive years, the State has been on top of the Ease of Doing Business list.

He assured the industrialists that the government will extend full cooperation if they come forward.

State Ministers P Rajanna Dora, B Mutyalu Naidu, G Amarnath, Party MLCs, and MLAs were among those who attended the programme.

# 21-member Dharmika Parishad formed in State

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

Deputy Chief Minister and Minister for Endowments Kottu Satyanarayana has said that the government has full rights on the 'Maanyam' lands which were in possession of priests and affirmed that priests have the right only on the income of those lands. He said that under the preservation of Hindu Dharma, the government is setting up funds for 'Dhoopa, Deepa, Naivedyam' in a temple in every village. He said that the state government has issued an order setting up Andhra Pradesh Dharmika Parishad.

Speaking to media persons here on Tuesday, the minister said that the State government had issued GO MS No 571 on August 13 establishing Andhra Pradesh Dharmika Parishad with 21 members. He said that the Dharmika Parishad has been formed with the Endowments Minister as the Chairman, Endowments Commissioner as Member Secretary, Revenue Department Principal Secretary and 18 other members and the Dharmika Parishad has special



Endowments Minister Kottu Satyanarayana said that the State government had issued orders GO MS No 572, giving an opportunity to three more members of Common Good Fund (CGF).

powers. The minister said that the State government has the authority to form trust boards for temples with an income of less than Rs 25 lakh and above Rs 1 crore Trust boards for temples with assets ranging from Rs 25 lakh to Rs 1 crore will have to be set up by this Dharmika Parishad. He said that the Dharmika Parishad has

the power to prevent corruption and irregularities in the temples and to take action against the heads of Matts who commit corruption and irregularities and appoint others in their place. Similarly, he said, the Dharmic Parishad also has the power to extend the lease of the lands and properties of the Endowments Departments beyond 11 years.

The minister said that the State government had issued orders GO MS No 572 giving opportunity to three more members of Common Good Fund (CGF).

He said that around 4,708 cases were pending in the court pertaining to the Endowment department for a long time, only 722 cases have been resolved so far. The minister said that the local conditions were not conducive to solving the remaining cases. It has been decided to ask the High Court to allocate the necessary 8 Amenas to resolve all these as soon as possible.

He expressed the hope that if these 8 Amenas are appointed by the High Court, all the cases will be solved as soon as possible.

# Swatantra TV MD deplores falling values in journalism

PNS ■ KAKINADA

Swatantra TV news channel Managing Director B Krishna Prasad has deplored the dwindling in journalism. The present situation is such that journalists are being asked which party they belong to. "I believe in truth. It is my belief that truth brings real success," he said.

Krishna Prasad, who was the chief guest of the 'Swatantra Sporthi' programme organised by the Swatantra TV news channel on the Aditya College campus on Tuesday, expressed concern over declining values in journalism by the day. "There is a growing apathy among people towards newspapers and electronic media," he regretted.

Krishna Prasad said that he believes that the people will welcome any channel if the truth is telecast. "The Swatantra TV news channel, launched by me, will be on the side of the common man," he asserted.

Minister Ch Venugopal Krishna appreciated the naming of the news channel as 'Swatantra TV'



Chairman of Aditya Educational Institutions N Sessa Reddy presenting a memento to Swatantra TV Managing Director B Krishna Prasad during the 'Swatantra Sporthi' programme in Kakinada on Tuesday.

and hoped that the channel would telecast unbiased news. The Minister said that poverty is a major problem in the country and the youth should come forward to take part in eradicating the same.

Chairman of the college and former MLA Nallamilli Sessa Reddy

said that the news channels should take up social responsibility. He appreciated the Swatantra TV news channel for maintaining values in journalism. He wished that Swatantra TV would become the most popular news channel in Telugu states.

# Civil Courts Complex to be opened on Aug 20

**CJI, CM, and High Court CJ to take part in the inaugural function**

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

All arrangements have been made for the inauguration of the Vijayawada Civil Courts Complex which is slated for inauguration on August 20. Chief Justice of India Justice NV Ramana, Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, and AP High Court Chief Justice Prashant Kumar Mishra will inaugurate the new complex, said Bezudha Bar Association (BBA) president Ch Vishnu Vardhan. The BBA presidents said that the new court complex foundation-stone was laid by

the then AP CJ NV Ramana in 2013 and on August 20, 2022, CJI NV Ramana will be inaugurating the full-fledged court complex along with the CM Jagan and HC CJ Prashant Kumar Mishra.

He said that the new civil courts complex works began in 2014 with a total budget of Rs 100 crore that includes a cellar and eight floors with spacious parking to park four-wheelers and two-wheelers. The eight-floor court complex will accommodate 29 court halls. On the first floor, there will be three court halls, four each on 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, and

7 floors and on the 8th floor, there will be two. All the 29 court halls are attached to 29 Judge Chambers with washrooms and toilets. Each floor has a Bar Association hall for both male/female advocates. Each floor has a good number of spacious waiting halls for the general public visiting the court complex along with about seven toilets on each floor. A total of seven lifts are available in the complex of which two lifts are exclusively for the Judges while one lift is for advocates and the remaining four are for the general public including advocates.

**Vajpayee was  
a visionary,  
says AP Guv**

# Amul, Mother Dairy to hike milk prices by Rs 2 per litre

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Leading milk suppliers Amul and Mother Dairy will increase milk prices by Rs 2 per litre with effect from Wednesday on account of rising input costs.

This is the second hike by Amul and Mother Dairy in nearly six months. In the beginning of March, both had increased milk prices by Rs 2 per litre. The Gujarat

Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation (GCMMF), which sells milk and other dairy products under the Amul brand, on Tuesday said it has decided to increase the milk prices by Rs 2 per litre in Ahmedabad and Saurashtra of Gujarat, Delhi-NCR, West Bengal, Mumbai and other markets effective from August 17.



# LIC launches special campaign to revive lapsed policies



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Insurance behemoth Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) on Tuesday announced the launch of a campaign for revival of individual lapsed policies. This special drive, to be carried out from August 17 to October 21, 2022, is extended to all non-ULIP policies with very attractive concession in late fee.

# 'Many unsung heroes in freedom struggle'

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) national executive member Ram Madhav has said that India has achieved independence due to the supreme sacrifices made by many freedom fighters. Now, it is the responsibility of each and every Indian to protect the integrity of the nation.

Ram Madhav participated in the release of a book titled 'Hindutva Paradigm' brought out by the Sahiti Sudha Foundation here on Tuesday. Speaking on the occasion, he said everybody knows about some leaders who participated in the freedom struggle including Mahatma Gandhi, Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Jawahar Lal Nehru and Subhash Chandra Bose. But, there were some unsung freedom fighters and their names are coming out now.

The RSS leader said that the Indians are now coming to know about the sacrifices of many people



hitherto not known. The people never understood how Komaram Bhim fought against the Britishers, he said. "We fought for freedom and we should protect the sovereignty and integrity of the country together," he said.

Hinduism is not a religion but it is a way of life, he added. Popular writer and Rajya Sabha member Vijayendra Prasad said that he did not know about the RSS until three years ago. "I was asked

Popular writer and Rajya Sabha member Vijayendra Prasad said that he did not know about the RSS until three years ago. "I was asked to write a story for a movie on RSS. I went to Nagpur to meet RSS chief Mohan Bagawat and there I understood what RSS is," he said.

to write a story for a movie on RSS. I went to Nagpur to meet RSS chief Mohan Bagawat and there I understood what RSS is," he said. Vijayendra Prasad, father of famous Telugu film director SS Rajamouli and script writer of the global blockbuster 'Bahubali', opined that without the RSS, there is no Kashmir. "A movie and a web series are coming up on the RSS," he said.

# Vizag Police nab serial killer

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

The Visakhapatnam police on Tuesday arrested a serial killer who was allegedly involved in killing three persons, including two women and assaulting another three people including a woman. The police identified the accused as Chandaka Rambabu, 49, a native of Dharma Sagaram Village in Kotavurata Mandal, Anakapalli district. Speaking to media persons, Police Commissioner Ch Srikanth said that on July 7 the first crime, an assault on a woman named Thota Nallamma, 50, and her son Vallayya, 19, was committed when they were sleeping outside an under-construction apartment in Brundavan Gardens, Pendurthi.



# When netas and babus fail to uphold values

A strong system supported by disciplined people can correct things even if prominent people in public life fail to uphold values. In contrast, things are bound to deteriorate under a weak system. When people cooperate with the system, they expect those operating it to reciprocate. At the end of the day, the moral attitude of public representatives influences society much as well as decency and decorum of the Houses they represent. Legislators' behavior, both within and without the Houses they represent, is under watch. Likewise, police personnel bring disrespect to their department by distancing themselves from people by default or deceit. The recent episodes relat-

ing to MLC Anantha Babu (East Godavari district) and MP Gorantla Madhav (Hindupur), both belonging to the ruling YSR Congress Party, are cases in point. Anantha Babu got involved in a murder case in which the body of a dalit car driver was laid at the door of his house at midnight, after which a cock and bull story was spread to hoodwink the family members. The reported reason for the murder was nonpayment of a loan of Rs 20,000 that the victim had taken from the MLC. Anantha Babu is a highly influential political figure at the district level. Although he is currently in jail and trying hard to obtain bail, no charge-sheet has been filed by the police in this murder case so far.

**Legislators' behavior, both within and without the Houses they represent, is under watch. Likewise, police personnel bring disrespect to their department by distancing themselves from people by default or deceit.**

The Police Department appears to be buying time, instead of filing a charge-sheet within the stipulated time frame of 90 days. This has created an impression among the public that the MLC might be granted bail due to non-filing of a charge-sheet against him within the stipulated three-month period. Strangely, the MLC attended the plenary session of his party, though he had been sus-

pended in connection with the murder case. The family members of the dalit who lost the breadwinner allegedly due to the cruelty of the MLC may lose confidence in system should the MLC get bail. In case of Madhav, he was purportedly found naked in a video while speaking to a woman. The clip negatively impacted the decency and decorum of the lower House of



M D RATNA KUMAR  
Senior Journalist

Parliament. Formerly Inspector of Police in Two Town PS of Anantapur city, he had incensed the general public by resorting to a brutal lathi charge on people who had queued up at ATM centre during the agonising days following demonetization of high value notes. He managed to

get ticket to contest from the Hindupur LS seat due to his social background, which has much influence on voters. The National Commission for Women has issued notices to police authorities, asking them to file a case in this regard. Women leaders of Telugu Desam Party are on a war path, demanding the resignation of the MP. In response, he has used filthy language against his detractors. The LS Speaker is yet to take a decision on him. The political scene has become ugly also due to the use of unprintable words by legislators like Kodali Sri Venkateswara Rao @Nani who has always been in the forefront of attacking political opponents with unprintable words. Factional politics is also causing a lot of distress to people who prefer peace and tran-

quility for ensuring all-round development. Some of the leaders known to indulge in factional feuds want to become legislators, irrespective of the sentiments of voters. The backyard of the Police Department is not always clean. An Inspector of Police working in Hyderabad was accused of raping a woman at gunpoint. We can imagine the sense of disgust that people would have for such an inspector. Another Inspector had turned a cottage in the temple town of Tirumala into a retreat for his 'pleasure' trips while on duty. For this purpose he chose a woman who had come to the police station for justice. Will his transfer alone pacify people? Due to such instances people are bound to lose confidence in the system.

It may be mentioned here that, about a quarter century ago, two IPS trainees at Sardar Patel National Police Academy at Rajendra Nagar, made news for the wrong reasons. They picked a quarrel with a cigarette seller and thrashed him for no reason. The authorities of the Academy had tried to hush it up, but the trainees' misdemeanor appeared in the papers the next day. The IPS trainees were spared, but the black mark reportedly affected their professional growth. We do not know whether the trainees ultimately improved their behavior towards the public! If people are disciplined, together they can buttress the system so that it is aligned to serve the nation better, instead of providing cover for notorious netas and unscrupulous babus.

# Atal Behari Vajpayee was a visionary, says Governor

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

Andhra Pradesh Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan paid rich tributes to former prime minister Bharat Ratna Atal Behari Vajpayee, on his 4th death anniversary, by offering flowers to his portrait at a programme held in Durbar Hall in Raj Bhavan here on Tuesday. Governor Harichandan said that Vajpayee was a legendary leader who led the country on the path of development in every sector and was a statesman who is known all over the world. After the Emergency, when the Janata government was formed, he was the foreign minister and fostered friendship with both the American block and the Russian block and visited many countries in the world. He said, "I had the privilege of working under his great leadership since 1972 till his death, as the party president and as a Minister in Odisha in different capacities." Vajpayee served as a Member of the Lok Sabha nine times and as Member of the Rajya Sabha



He said, "I had the privilege of working under his great leadership since 1972 till his death, as the party president and as a Minister in Odisha in different capacities." Vajpayee served as a Member of the Lok Sabha nine times and as Member of the Rajya Sabha two times, from 1957 to 2009, which is a record by itself, said the Governor.

two times, from 1957 to 2009, which is a record by itself, said the Governor. The Governor said that it was a unique occasion when he became the Prime Minister of the country, with the support of 24 parties and successfully led the government with the participation of all of them, due to his great personality by taking them all together and run the govt. from 1997 till 2004. India got great recognition when it successfully conducted five nuclear tests in Pokhran, under the guidance of Atal Behari Vajpayee as Prime Minister at a time when the big powers of the world

decided that no country can have any atomic test, said the Governor. He further said that the world was surprised when India went ahead and conducted two tests on May 11, 1998. The big powers pounced upon him saying that he should not have conducted the atomic tests. India went ahead and conducted three more atomic tests on May 13, after which, Vajpayee boldly announced to the world that India had become an atomic power and it had absolutely no desire to attack any country and no country could dare attack India now. He said the big powers

imposed economic sanctions on India because of the atomic tests conducted by India without caring for the warning of the big powers, to which Vajpayee gave a strong response saying that India did not bother for the economic sanctions. India received enormous support from NRIs who said that Vajpayee had given a great honour for the country and they were very proud of him as now they are treated by the people in foreign countries with respect as India has now become a big atomic power and they assured all possible help for the development of the

country, said the Governor. Taken aback by the firm stand taken by Vajpayee, the big powers ultimately yielded and the first invitation received by him to visit was from America. The President of the USA announced that no international problem could be solved without India and without consulting Atal Behari Vajpayee, the Prime Minister of India. Vajpayee was a great visionary who conceptualised and launched the Swarna Chaturbhuj (Golden Quadrilateral) national highway network connecting the four metropolitan cities and other major cities in the country and the Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana. He wanted the people living in villages to be provided with all facilities that are available to people living in cities to avoid people from rural areas migrating to the cities and had implemented several pro-poor projects during his tenure as the Prime Minister of the country, the Governor said. PS Surya Prakash, Joint Secretary to Governor and other officials of Raj Bhavan were present.

# Pingali's statue unveiled



PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

Krishna District Collector P Ranjith Basha and Avaniigadda MLA Simhadri Ramesh unveiled the statue of Pingali Venkayya, who designed the Indian national flag, at Pedakallepalli village of Mopidevi Mandal in Krishna district on Tuesday. The Collector and MLA Ramesh paid tributes to Venkayya. Speaking on the

occasion, Collector Ranjith Basha said that the present generation should take inspiration from Pingali Venkayya and his history was a role model to everyone. He participated in the freedom movement at an early age and he lived for the country, he said. Everyone should follow Venkayya's path and keep their ambitions, he added. Avaniigadda MLA Simhadri Ramesh said that

Pingali Venkayya was not only the National Flag designer but also a freedom fighter, farmer, and lecturer. Krishna District SP P Joshua, Joint Collector Dr. R Mahesh, Sarpanch Arja Sandhya Rani, ZPTC member M Mallikharjuna Rao, MPP Ravi Durga Vani, Vice - MPP K Seetharamanjaneyulu, MPTC member Arja Asha Devi, and others were present.

## LIC launches ...

**Continued from page 1**  
All policies except ULIP (Unit linked Insurance Plan) can be revived within 5 years from date of the first unpaid premium subject to policy conditions, LIC said in a statement. There is a 100 per cent waiver of late fee for Micro Insurance Policies to facilitate affordable restoration of risk cover, it said. Life insurance cover is a risk management, for contingent, unexpected loss of life, it said, adding, this campaign gives an opportunity for LIC's policy holders to revive their lapsed policies and continue the benefit of insurance to protect the financial interests of their family. For a total receivable premium of up to Rs 1 lakh, the insurer is offering a 25 per cent concession in late fee, with a maximum limit of Rs 2,500, while for premium amounting Rs 1-3 lakh, the maximum concession allowed is Rs 3,000. Similarly, for a premium amount of above Rs 3 lakh, concession offered is 30 per cent, with a cap of Rs 3,500.

CHICKEN RATES ₹/KG	
Dressed/With Skin	₹205
Without Skin	₹215
Broiler at Farm	₹190
EGG RATES ₹/100	
VIJAYAWADA	462
HYDERABAD	460
VISAKHAPATNAM	460
RETAIL PRICE	₹4.62

# Coal stocks to last 17 days

PNS ■ NAGPUR

Union coal secretary Anil Kumar Jain on Tuesday said that thermal power stations have coal stocks that will last for the next 17 days and Mahagenco has stocks for eight to 10 days. Jain addressed a press conference along with Coal India Ltd (CIL) chairman Pramod Agrawal at the Western Coalfields Limited (WCL) during their visit to Nagpur. A major decision has been taken with regards to the pension scheme of coal mine workers, Jain said. The CIL gives Rs 10 per tonne of coal production towards pension scheme to coal mine workers, and likewise, the CIL gave approximately Rs 622 crore towards pension scheme out of the total production of 622 million tonnes last year, he said. As private coal companies were not contributing this way, the coal ministry was planning to make a law wherein such firms will have to contribute around Rs 20 per tonne coal towards pension fund, Jain said. Speaking about the



coal supply to Mahagenco and other power companies, Jain said the WCL was supposed to give 1.50 lakh tonnes coal per day to the power sector from its Wardha valley zone, but it could give average 60,000 tonnes a day, as the production was

hit due to rains. Accordingly, the CIL recognised the issue and provided coal to Mahagenco from Mahanadi Coalfields in Odisha and Chhattisgarh, he said. The Mahagenco has coal stock that can last about eight to 10 days, while the thermal power plants have enough stock for 17 days. Responding to a question on workers' pay revision, CIL chairman Pramod Agrawal said a joint bipartite committee for coal industry (JBICC) was formed in July and about four to five meetings have been held till now. "We trying to reduce the differences (workers' unions are demanding 50 per cent increase in pay revision) and implement it soon," he said. The WCL has floated a tender for a surface coal gasification plant in Majhri. Under the project, ammonium nitrate will be produced from coal. The project worth Rs 800 crore will be carried out in association with Engineers India Limited (EIL), it was stated.

**Continued from page 1**

The hike of Rs 2 per litre will translate into a 4 per cent increase in MRP (Maximum Retail Price) which is lower than the average food inflation, it said in a statement. "This price hike is being done due to an increase in overall cost of operation and production of milk. The cattle feeding cost alone has increased to approximate 20 per cent compared to last year. Considering the rise in input costs, our member unions have also increased farmers' price in the range of 8-9 per cent over the previous year," GCMMF said. The co-operative passes on almost 80 paise of every

# Amul, Mother Dairy to hike...

rupee paid by consumers for milk and milk products to the milk producers. The price revision shall help in sustaining remunerative milk prices to our milk producers and to encourage them for higher milk production, the GCMMF said. Separately, Mother Dairy announced that it will hike milk prices in the Delhi-NCR (National Capital Region) by Rs 2 per litre from Wednesday. Mother Dairy is a leading milk supplier in the Delhi-NCR market and sells more than 30 lakh litres per day in poly packs and through vending

machines. A company official on Tuesday said it is "compelled" to raise its liquid milk prices by Rs 2 per litre with effect from August 17, 2022. The new prices will be applicable for all milk variants. Full cream milk will cost Rs 61 per litre from Wednesday, up from Rs 59 per litre. Prices of toned milk will increase to Rs 51 while double toned milk will rise to Rs 45 per litre. Cow milk price have been hiked to Rs 53 per litre. Bulk vended milk (token milk) price has been raised to Rs 48 from Rs 46 per litre. The

company has witnessed an increase in input costs in the last five months, the official said. For instance, the farm prices of raw milk have spiked by about 10-11 per cent. Likewise, the cost of feed and fodder has also witnessed a significant rise due to the heat wave and extended summer season. According to the official, the surge in farm prices is only being partially passed on to the consumers, thereby securing the interests of both the stakeholders - consumers and farmers. The company spends around 75-80 per cent

of the sales realisation from milk towards the procurement of milk from the farmers. GCMMF said that Amul full cream milk will be available at Rs 62 per litre in Ahmedabad, Kolkata, Delhi-NCR and Mumbai while toned milk will be sold at Rs 50 in Ahmedabad and Rs 52 each in the remaining three markets. Amul's double toned milk price has been increased to Rs 44 in Ahmedabad and Rs 46 per litre in Kolkata and Delhi-NCR. GCMMF sells more than 150 lakh litres of milk per day and out of the total quantity, Delhi-NCR accounts for nearly 40 lakh litres per day. India is the world's largest milk producer.1



# Vajpayee made pioneering efforts to transform India: PM

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

President Droupadi Murmu, Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and a host of other dignitaries paid tributes to former prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee on his fourth death anniversary on Tuesday. They were joined by several Union ministers and other leaders, including Home Minister Amit Shah and BJP president J P Nadda, at Sadaiv Atal', Vajpayee's memorial, here Modi later tweeted, "Today, on the Punya Tithi of respected Atal Ji, visited Sadaiv Atal and paid tributes

to him. We remain inspired by Atal Ji's efforts to serve India. He made pioneering efforts to transform India and prepare our nation for the challenges of the 21st century." They also attended a prayer meeting in the memory of the BJP stalwart who was crucial to the party's rise to power in the second half of the 1990s as his amiable personality and cross-party relations brought it many allies and helped it form a winning coalition. A prime minister for six years between 1998-2004, Vajpayee, a Bharat Ratna awardee, died in 2018 at the age of 93.



GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH  
RURAL WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION DEPARTMENT  
E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

Tender Notice No.285 Is 247/2022-23

Dated: 11-08-2022

Online tenders are invited for works under JJM Grant (1st call). Approximate value of works Rs. 1180.86 Lakhs. Details can be seen at e-procurement market place [www.aprocurement.gov.in](http://www.aprocurement.gov.in). For other details of the work contact at office on working hours. Phone No. 08499-242252, Whats App No. 9100121663.

Sd/- Executive Engineer,  
RWS&S Department, Podili.

G.O No. 558/CLAD/WTTH/2021-22, Dt. 16.08.2022

Although every possible care and caution has been taken to avoid errors or omissions, this publication is being sold on the condition and understanding that information given in this publication is merely for reference and must not be taken as having authority of or binding in any way on the writers, editors, publishers, and printers and sellers who do not owe any responsibility for any damage or loss to any person, a purchaser of this publication or not for the result of any action taken on the basis of this work. All disputes are subject to the exclusive jurisdiction of competent court and forums in Delhi/New Delhi only. Readers are advised and requested to verify and seek appropriate advice to satisfy themselves about the veracity of any kind of advertisement before responding to any contents published in this newspaper. The printer, publisher, editor and any employee of the Pioneer Group's will not be held responsible for any kind of claim made by the advertisers of the products & services and shall not be made responsible for any kind of loss, consequences and further product-related damages on such advertisements.





# CM will disburse 'Nethanna Nestham' aid on August 23

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy to visit Pedana on August 23 to disburse amounts to 'YSR Nethanna Nestham' beneficiaries and address a public meeting. Minister for Housing Jogi Ramesh said that CM Jagan is going to visit the Krishna district after the reorganisation of districts and said that the CM will address the public meeting at Thotamula in Pedana. The minister conducted a review meeting with the officials in the market yard at Pedana on Tuesday on CM's visit in which CM's programmes coordinator Thalasila Raghuram, former minister and MLA Perni Venkataramaiah, district collector Ranjit Basha, district SP Pallo Jashua and others participated.

The Minister said that they are primarily expecting 50,000 people for the public meeting and instructed the officials to make arrangements accordingly.

He further said that CM



Jagan will release funds to YSR Nethanna Nestham beneficiaries by pressing the button. He said that there were 3,161 'YSR Nethanna Nestham' beneficiaries in the Pedana constituency and instructed the officials to invite them to the programme.

He further instructed the officials to select 20 weavers for a photo with the CM.

Minister Ramesh said that the proposed place for CM's helpaid in the ZP High School was cancelled due to a railway gate hurdle and a new place will be selected.

Raghuram asked the officials to mobilize weavers from Machilipatnam and Gudlavallu for the meeting. He said that party cadres also will work dedicatedly for the

grand success of the CM's public meeting.

Collector Ranjit Basha said that Pedana is famous for Kalamkari arts hence a special Kalamkari frame would be presented to CM Jagan during the programme. He instructed the officials to make foolproof arrangements for the Nethanna Nestham and the public meeting.

## Amarnath thanks CM for support to ATC

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

IT and Industries Minister Gudivada Amarnath has thanked Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy for his support in establishing a huge industry with an investment of Rs 1,400 crore within 15 months.

The minister said that the industry will provide employment to about 800-1,000 people, and by the time the second phase of the unit is completed with an investment of another Rs 1000 crore, the unit will provide employment to 2,000 people in the region.

The minister said that it is a matter of pride for the region and the State that the tyres manufactured in this unit will be going to 120 countries. He said, "We have seen AP becoming No 1 in ease of doing business and it is only because of CM YS Jagan Mohan Reddy."



## Kanipakam Brahmotsavams from Aug 31, CM gets invite

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy was invited to participate in the Brahmotsavams of Sri Vara Sidhi Vinayaka Swamy of

Kanipakam to be held from August 31 to September 20 and a special ritual to be held after the event.

The Chief Minister was given Vedasirvadham and the invitation.

MLA MS Babu, Temple Committee Chairman A Mohan Reddy, EO MV Suresh Babu and other officials were among those who invited the Chief Minister.

## Rs 94 lakh unaccounted cash seized

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

On a tip-off, the Vijayawada Task Force police, led by Task Force ACP Ramana Murthy along with Satyanarayana Puram police station staff, arrested a person and seized Rs 94 lakh from him on Tuesday. The arrested person was identified as Chinta Venkata Gopinath (41) from Narsapuram, West Godavari district. The police arrested him at the Gymkhana ground in the city.

On being questioned, Gopinath said that he was working as a clerk with a real estate businessman Suresh from Hyderabad. His boss Suresh instructed him to collect money from a person in Narsapuram, West Godavari district, and come to Hyderabad. Gopinath went and took the suitcase full of cash and boarded the train from Narsapuram to Vijayawada railway. Gopinath got off the train at Vijayawada station to board a bus to Hyderabad, but doubting that someone might follow him he came to Gymkhana ground with the suitcase full of cash.

The task force police and Satyanarayanapuram police station staff jointly came and took Gopinath into custody and on opening the suitcase and found Rs 94,96,000 unaccountable cash and a cell phone that was seized by the police. A case was registered and informed to the Income Tax department officials.

## 'Mano Bandhu' website launched

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

Ajeya Kallam, Principal Advisor to Chief Minister, inaugurated the 'Mano Bandhu' website, a campaign to rehabilitate wandering mentally ill destitutes, at his office here on Tuesday. 'Mano Bandhu' facilitated an MoU between the Shraddha Foundation and the Government of AP that enabled the foundation to pick up and reunite treated patients with their families. Ajeya Kallam hailed 'Mano Bandhu' services and underscored the need for bringing awareness about caring mentally ill people among masses.

Founder trustee B

Ramakrishna Raju said that for the last eight months more than 110 destitutes in Visakhapatnam city and surrounding areas were identified through this initiative and were admitted in the government Mental Care Hospital for treatment. He further said that on medical advice they will be reunited with their families after recovery. He deplored that there are no shelter homes for mentally challenged patients, though as per the Mental Health Care Act 2017 there should be two shelter homes one for Men and one for women. He further deplored that it's shameful that even today the patients are still chained or locked up in dingy rooms, intim-

idated and beaten up by their family members. Ramakrishna Raju said that Mano Bandhu will support and bring about awareness among the public for mental health services to the patients.

Dr M Suresh Babu, the Associate member, said that 'Mano Bandhu' facilitated a MoU between the Shraddha Foundation and the Government of AP that enabled the foundation to pick up and reunite treated patients with their families. He said that in collaboration with LibTech India they are launching a study on the state's wandering mentally ill destitute people and possible solutions to improve their situation.

## Lord's 'Vaibhavotsavams' off to grand start

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

'Venkateswara Vaibhavotsavams' is off to a colourful start at AC Subba Reddy Stadium in the Nellore district on Tuesday. After awakening Venkateswara Swamy with 'Suprabatha Seva', 'Thomala', 'Koluvu', and Archana were observed followed by the 'Arjita Seva' and 'Asta Dala Pada Padmaradhana'. The seva that is being performed in Tirumala every Tuesday for the past three and a half decades was replicated by worshipping Srivaru with 108 gold lotuses, reciting the divine names.

The Spring Festival

Vasanthotsavam was observed with celestial fervour between 10 am and 11 am when 'Snapanam Tirumanjanam' was performed to the processional deities of Srivaru, Sridevi and Bhudevi. Renowned musician Balarka presented Annamacharya Sankeertans in a mellifluous way.

Rajya Sabha MP Vemireddi Prabhakar Reddy, New Delhi LAC Chief Prasanti Reddy, JEO Veerabrahmam, SVVC CEO Shanmukh Kumar, one of the Tirumala temple Chief Priests Venugopala Deekshitulu, SE 2 Jagadeeshwar Reddy, VGO Manohar, and other officials were present.

## Study material distributed to students

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

An alumnus of NLVGRSV School at Nimmakuru has distributed English grammar study materials to the students of Puchalapalli Sundaraiyah Municipal Corporation High School at LBS Nagar in Vijayawada. Anumolu Krishna Kishore, a jewelry merchant at Kondapalli, along with his family members and NLVGRSV School friends, distributed study materials to the students of Classes 9 and 10 on Tuesday.

Speaking on the occasion, Krishna Kishore said that his schoolmate K Srinivasa Rao was working as school assistant in English in the PSM High School. He distributed the English grammar study materials to the students on the request of Srinivasa Rao.

He further said that he was



ready to provide help to bright students. "Students should set an aim while in school and work hard to reach that goal," he said. "When I was in school, we did not have this kind of support. No one gave us suggestions on careers. But now, several people are coming forward to help meritorious students. They should accept help and reach their goals," he said.

He assured the students that

he would continue providing study materials, books and also financial help. The students should make use of all these facilities and achieve good results in the public examinations, he added.

School Headmaster D Mohan said that Krishna Kishore had been providing financial help to the school for the past two years. He has also distributed copywriting books

to the students.

"The students should consider him as an inspiration and help needy ones in the future," he added.

PSM High School's second headmaster M Hussain, School Assistant K Srinivasa Rao, old student of Nimmakuru Residential School Kiran Kumar, Akanksha Foundation treasurer K Narasimha Rao and others were present.

## NTRUHS inter-collegiate women's meet from August 18 to 20

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

Dr. NTR University of Health Sciences is set to conduct the 22nd Inter Collegiate Games for Women for the students of modern medical and dental colleges at Dr. Pinnamaneni Siddhartha Institute of Medical Sciences at China Avutapalli of Gannavaram Mandal in Krishna district from August 18-20.

Only the students of the colleges affiliated to Dr. NTR University of Health Sciences can take part in the tournament, said Health University Sports Board Secretary Dr. E Trimurthy in a press release here on Tuesday.

He further said that inter-collegiate games would be conducted in the disciplines of

Volleyball, Basketball, Badminton, Ball Badminton, Table Tennis, Tennis, Throwball, and Chess. He added that about 600 players would participate in the State's three-day mega tournament from 29 medical and 24 dental colleges. He said it was the biggest inter-collegiate level tournament among universities.

Dr. NTRUHS Vice-Chancellor Dr. P Shyam Prasad will inaugurate the tournament on August 18. Siddhartha Academy of General & Technical Education president Dr. C Nageswara Rao, secretary P Lakshmana Rao, Dr. PSIMS principal Dr. PSN Murthy and Media Superintendent B Anil Kumar will attend the function, he added.

## Atithya service at Hyd airport

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

With the goal of providing travellers a rich and memorable airport experience, Encalm Hospitality has introduced their Atithya, service at the Hyderabad, Rajiv Gandhi Airport.

After receiving an overwhelming response for their services at the Delhi Airport, Atithya, the meet and greet service is all set to expand their best in class services for travellers at Hyderabad airport.

The Meet and Greet Service includes Welcome and Assist Service, Porter Service and Concierge Services.

Atithya's Welcome and Assist service ensures that each of its guest traveller is treated like a VIP during their airport journey.



## Rs 5 lakh cheque presented to retired home guard

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

NTR Vijayawada Police Commissioner Kanti Rana Tata presented a cheque of Rs. 5 lakh as financial assistance to retired Home Guard M Ramakrishna at the police commissioner's office in Vijayawada on Tuesday. Home Guard M Ramakrishna retired from service on August 14. He was working at the Vijayawada Cit Home Guard Unit.

Speaking on the occasion, the Police Commissioner said

that Home Guards had formed a separate fund to help those who have retired from service and the kin of those who died while in service. For this, they are giving a share of their salaries voluntarily. Rs.5 lakh would be provided as financial assistance from the Home Guards' fund, to retired officials and the kin of the deceased, he said.

Admin in charge ADCP P Venkata Ratnam, Home Guard RI Sri Krishna and others were present on the occasion.

## 'Vijayawada Central constituency developed under TDP rule'

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

TDP State secretary Navaneetham Sambasiva Rao has said that Vijayawada Central constituency was developed during the TDP rule. Former MLA Bonda Umamaheswara Rao developed the constituency spending Rs. 400 crore. He provided drinking water and medical facilities to the people, he said.

Sambasiva Rao addressed the media at his office at Gandhi Nagar in Vijayawada on Tuesday. He said that the constituency had seen no development for the past three years.

He further said that former Chief Minister Dr. Nandamuri Taraka Ramarao started the TDP under the slogan of 'Koodu, Gudu, and Needa' (food, cloth, and shelter) and the party had always followed the path. TDP president and former CM Nara Chandrababu Naidu followed the footsteps of Dr. NTR and his motto is development and welfare schemes for the people.

He said that Bonda Uma had given top priority to the health sector and he had attached



about 14 Urban Primary Hospitals to Apollo Group of Hospitals to provide better health services to people. He constructed four drinking water tanks to cater to the water needs of the people of Singh Nagar, Payakapuram and other areas.

He added that Bonda Uma resolved the long-pending problem of Rail Under Bridge (RUB) and it was beneficial to two lakh people, who had been facing severe traffic problems

for about 20 years.

Devi Nagar Bridge was completed under the TDP rule and the then government laid the foundation stone to construct RUB at Devi Nagar, but works have not started due to the release of the election notification, he said.

He alleged that the present YSRCP government was neglecting people's problems and never tried to solve them. The YSRCP government is using the community halls

which were constructed under the rule of the TDP, he said. The State government should implement welfare schemes for eligible persons in the constituency. Or the TDP would organise an agitation against the State government under the leadership of Bonda Umamaheswara Rao, he warned.

TDP leaders D Murali Krishnam Raju, B Jayapal, A Rambabu, B Tirupati Goud, Sk Anwar, and Maruthi were present.



## T-shirts presented to Krishna district badminton teams

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

Krishna District Badminton Association (KDBA) president Ramineni Rammohana Rao and joint secretary Parasa Srinivas presented T-shirts to the Under-19 boys' and girls' teams at the Dandamudi Rajagopal Rao Municipal Corporation (DRRMC) indoor stadium in Vijayawada on Tuesday.

Both the teams will participate in the Under-19 AP Inter-District Badminton Championship to be held at Rajamahendravaram from August 18.

Speaking on the occasion,

Rammohana Rao said that district boys' and girls' teams were selected from those who performed well at the Krishna District Badminton Championship which was held in the city from August 2-4, he said. KDBA general secretary P Ankamma Chowdary, joint secretary Dr. E Trimurthy and treasurer Shankar Gupta congratulated the district teams. Krishna District Teams - Girls Singles: Surya Charishma, D Rashmitha, Doubles: D Rashmitha, B Ruthivika Sai

Boys Singles: T Harshan, G Dileep Doubles: Irhaan, Manikanta



# Officials directed to speed up construction of houses

**PNS ■ ELURU**

District Collector V Prasanna Venkatesh has directed the officials to speed up the construction works of houses in the Jagananna colonies. He conducted a review with the officials on the construction of houses in Jagananna colonies here on Tuesday.

On this occasion, he said that 1.03 lakh houses had been sanctioned in the district, out of which the construction of 7,260 houses had been completed. He instructed the officials to provide the infrastructure like electricity and drinking water in two days to make them ready for occupancy.

The Collector directed the mandal special officers to lay special focus to expedite the construction of houses in the Jagananna colonies. The authorities should take measures to provide facilities including the construction of roads, roads, electricity, and water facilities in the colonies

within the prescribed period.

Collector Prasanna Venkatesh warned that negligence of the officials in this matter would not be tolerated, adding that Rs 115 crore was sanctioned at the rate of Rs 35,000 each for the construction of houses for 25,000 DWACRA women in the district.

The Collector asked the officials to take steps to use the amount for the construction of houses. The Collector advised the authorities to use the services of Engineering Assistants and Energy Assistants for the application of electricity and drinking water connections in relation to Jagananna houses and for the progress of construction works. Housing PD Venugopal, ZP CEO K Ravikumar DWAMA PD Rambabu, Transco SC G Shyambabu, Agriculture Department JD Y Ramakrishna RDO Panchal Kishore DEO RS Gangabhavani and DRDA PD Vijayaraju were present.



**The Collector advised the authorities to use the services of Engineering Assistants and Energy Assistants for the application of electricity and drinking water connections in relation to Jagananna houses and for the progress of construction works.**



## Couple among three killed in road accident

**PNS ■ ONGOLE**

A couple among three killed in a road accident that took place near Gowthami junior College at Yerragondapalem on Tuesday. Police said that the deceased couple D Rangaiah and Chinna Mariamma were going to a hospital for a medical check-up on a motorcycle.

A Tata Magic goods carrier hit their bike killing the couple instantaneously. The Tata Magic goods carrier vehicle driver was also killed in the accident.

Poignant scenes were witnessed at the government hospital as the deceased couple had three minor children who have become orphaned after the death of the couple.

# Ex-HM: Maintain quality in developmental works

**PNS ■ GUNTUR**

Ruling party MLA and former home minister Mekathoti Sucharita has directed the officials to maintain quality while carrying out development works and expediting the construction process.

The former Home Minister, along with MLCs Lella Appireddy, KS Lakshman Rao, Mayor Kaviti Shiva Naga Manohar Naidu and Municipal Commissioner Keerthi Chekuri, laid the foundation stone for various development works in 41 and 48 divisions here on Tuesday.

Speaking on the occasion, Mekathoti Sucharita said that foundation laid for the construction of CC drains and CC roads at a cost of Rs 2.20 crore. "All the construction works should be completed by the prescribed time following the quality standards. The local Corporators should oversee the constructions and ensure that quality is maintained", she said.

MLA Appireddy said that the government is giving priority not only to implementing welfare schemes but also to carry-



ing out development works and the progress of the state. He reminded that many development works had begun in Guntur city and directed the officials to take steps to complete the constructions at the earliest. "The elected representatives are striving hard to carry out more development works to provide more facilities to the people in the city", he made it clear, adding that after the formation of the municipal Council, the development works picked up speed.

MLC Lakshmana Rao underlined the need of carrying out development works in the slum areas and the officials should know the problems of dwellers and take steps to resolve them.

Mayor Manohar Naidu said that plans were evolved to carry out development works in the villages which were merged into the Guntur city. He said that the Reddypalem ring road is being converted as CC road ill ST Colony at a cost of Rs 1.5 crore. The mission farm road in Swarna Bharathi Nagar is being constructed at a cost of Rs 70 lakh.

Commissioner Keerthi Chekuri directed the officials to take steps for the completion of the construction at the earliest following quality. Corporators T Krishna Reddy, Boddupalli Smita Padmaja, Boddupalli Smita Yallaya and Yeruva Samibi Reddy and engineering officials were present.

## Police trace kidnapped girl, restores her to parents

**PNS ■ KARIMNAGAR**

The police in Karimnagar on Tuesday cracked the mystery behind the kidnap of a one-and-half-year old girl and restored the baby to her parents. The police arrested the alleged kidnapper.

According to police, an auto-rickshaw driver, identified as S Santhosh allegedly abducted the girl from the baby's hous at Ashoknagar on Monday morning.

As girl's parents could not find here in the neighbourhood, they approached the police after their neighbours told them that the child was taken away by an auto-rickshaw driver.

# ‘Complete govt buildings on priority by 2<sup>nd</sup> week of Sept’

Collector says engineering officers should take the responsibility

**PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA**

NTR District Collector S Dilli Rao has made it clear that the government's priority building constructions should be completed by the second week of September and that engineers should take responsibility in this regard. Engineering officers should chalk out a plan to start the building construction soon, he ordered.

The District Collector Dilli Rao convened a teleconference with all Panchayat Raj Engineering officers from the collectorate in Vijayawada on Tuesday.

Speaking on the occasion, he said that all 268 grama

sachivalayams, 239 YSR Health Clinics, and 260 Rythu Bharosa Kendrams should be completed by the second week of September. He expressed dissatisfaction over the delay in the works on the government's priority buildings. As many as 148 grama sachivalayams were completed out of the total 268, he said. Also, 75 RBKs and 50 YSR Health Clinics have been completed so far, he added.

He further said that 40 YSR Health Clinics, 11 grama sachivalayams, and 28 RBKs are yet to be started and officers concerned should take the necessary steps to start the works. More than 48 YSR Health Clinic buildings are



below the basement level, and 20 grama sachivalayams and 58 RBKs are also below the basement level and these should be taken into the basement level, said.

Meanwhile, he directed the engineers that basement-level buildings should be taken to

the roof level, and the roof-level building should be taken to the finishing stage. About 13 YSR Health Clinics, 17 grama sachivalayams, and 22 RBKs are in the final stage of construction, he added. Various issues should be resolved with the coordination of people's representatives, he said.

Further, he said the State government was focusing on the prioritised buildings and the higher officials had been conducting review meetings every week. So, following the direction of the State government, the district administration has taken a step toward coordinating engineering officers and people's representa-

tives, he added.

"As of now, there are no fund issues. Sand, iron, cement, and chips are supplied on time. Engineering officers should chalk out a plan to speed up the construction," he directed.

New DLDO Anuradha meets the collector

Newly-appointed Divisional Development Officer (DLDO) Kodali Anuradha on Tuesday met NTR District Collector S Dilli Rao. She took charge as DLDO of the Vijayawada Division recently. She met the Collector on courtesy. Anuradha earlier worked as Mandal Parishad Development Officer (MPDO) and was promoted as DLDO recently.

# Call to 1930 toll-free number in case of cybercrime: SP

**PNS ■ BAPATLA**

Superintendent of Police Vakul Jindal has asked the people to call toll free number 1930 to complain about cybercrime.

"In case of loss of more than Rs.15,000, due to cybercrime, call toll-free number 1930 within 48 hours and inform the AP Intelligence Department about your details, your money in the account of the accused will be frozen", the SP said while addressing a video conference.

SP Vakul Jindal held a conference with the district SDPOs, Inspectors, SIs, Writers, and station computer staff on cyber crimes and the investigation of cases.

As part of this awareness program, the District I.T. core team explained Various types of cyber crimes, registration of cases, investigation methodology, online frauds, financial crimes, loan apps, OTP crimes, e-KYC, honey trap, job scams, phone call frauds, fake social media accounts, OLC add frauds, child Pornography, Aadhaar card related crimes, necessary techniques to deal

with cyber crimes, use of new technology and functioning of online applications like crime reporting portal, IT Act laws and their implementation, preventive measures against cyber crimes are briefly explained in an understandable manner to all the staff with the help of PPT.

Speaking on the occasion, the SP suggested to the officials that all the district officials should have a full understanding of cyber crimes, basic investigation, comprehensive IT Act laws, and carry out a quality investigation in the cases so that the people who commit cyber crimes are severely punished.

Similarly, awareness among the people is the key to preventing cyber crimes, so all the district officials should conduct awareness programs for the people and youth of the villages in their respective areas about cyber crimes and give them priority on cyber crime helpline number 1930, and they can get any kind of help if they call the helpline number immediately after the occurrence of cyber-crime.



# Hold special classes for Gurukul students: Minister

**PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA**

Social Welfare Minister Merugu Nagarajuna has directed the officials to give admissions to the Intermediate course at SC Gurukuls to the candidates who have passed Class 10 in advanced supplementary exams this year. The officials were directed to speed up the process of conversion of MEC and CEC courses into MPC and Bi PC.

In a review meeting on Tuesday, the minister said that although there was a rule not to give admissions in Intermediate to students who have passed the supplementary exams in Class 10 in Gurukuls, it has been relaxed for the current year and orders have been issued to give admissions to those who have passed the supplementary exams. He said

that Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy's idea was to ensure that not a single seat was left vacant in the Gurukuls across the State. In this context, if the seats are not vacant at the school level, it is suggested to take measures to fill them up at the district level. The minister directed the officials to send proposals for the grant of additional seats apart from the existing seats in Intermediate.

The minister instructed the officials concerned to take measures to convert MEC and CEC seats, in Gurukuls, into MPC and Bi PC. Officials were asked to conduct weekend exams for students and take steps to provide special classes to the students who are slow learners by appointing tutors. If the students are lagging behind in any subject, the

teachers of that subject should take responsibility of the students.

Nagarajuna suggested that DCOs should continuously monitor the Gurukuls and strive to achieve good results. It is believed that the results will be better if the caretakers stay in the hostels belonging to the Gurukuls and monitor the studies of the students. The DCOs were asked to identify the Gurukulas with water scarcity and propose measures to be taken to solve the problem permanently.

On this occasion, the minister thanked the Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy for issuing orders to take up the works as part of Nadu-Nedu scheme to solve the problems in the hostels along with Gurukuls across the State.



# Foundation laid for Rs 6-cr road works in Vijayawada

Minister opens renovated KL Rao Park's Swimming Pool

**PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA**

Minister for Municipal Administration and Urban Development Dr. Adimulapu Suresh laid the foundation stones for the development works in the Vijayawada West Assembly constituency on Tuesday. He laid the foundation stone for the RTC workshop road to provide end-to-end paper blocks worth Rs. 3 crore and BT and CC road construction worth Rs.3 crore at the part of Iron Yard at various divisions of Vijayawada Municipal Corporation. VMC is spending the 15th Finance Commission's funds to the tune of Rs. 6 crore for these road works.

Minister Suresh, along with Vijayawada West MLA Velampalli Srinivasa Rao and Mayor Rayana Bhagyalakshmi, also inaugurated the renovated VMC's KL Rao Park Swimming Pool worth Rs.90 lakh. VMC has set up three pools in all three assembly constituencies.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Suresh said that the State government set an aim that all cities and towns would be developed as plastic-free. The State government has taken this as a movement and he urged the people better not to



use plastic. People may use jute or cloth bags in place of plastic, he added.

He further said that the state government is taking steps to complete the stadium at the West constituency as early as possible. All cities should develop as dustbin-free cities, he said.

"To face solid waste and liquid waste management the State government is providing PPE kits to the sanitary workers. CM YS Jagan Mohan Reddy enhanced the wages of sanitary workers and also provided health allowance. AP is the only state enhanced wages for sanitary workers", he added.

Vijayawada West MLA Velampalli Srinivasa Rao said that his constituency had been developing for the past three

years. VMC is spending crores of rupees to provide better amenities to the people in the city, he said.

Mayor Rayana Bhagyalakshmi said that Vijayawada was neglected by the TDP government and now, YSRCP is taking up all development works on a war-footing. Swimmers could use the renovated KL Park's swimming pool, she said. Later, Minister Suresh, MLA Srinivas and Mayor Bhagyalakshmi distributed cloth bags to the people. They also distributed PPE kits to the UGD cleaning staff. Deputy Mayor Avuthi Sri Sailaja, Municipal Commissioner Swapnil Dinakar Pundkar, corporators, and others participated in the programme.

## Tributes paid to Gouthu Latchanna

**PNS ■ GUNTUR**

Telugu Desam Party (TDP) leaders paid tributes to freedom fighter Gouthu Latchanna here on Tuesday on his birth anniversary. TDP polit bureau member and former minister Nakka Ananda Babu, east constituency in-charge Nazir Ahmad and other leaders paid tributes to Gouthu Latchanna by garlanding the state at the bus stand area.

Speaking on the occasion, Nakka Ananda Babu said that Gouthu Latchanna was one of the political stalwarts in North Andhra Pradesh. He played a

vital role not only in the freedom struggle but also to protect the interest of farmers. He took part in many agitations for the cause of weaker sections and their uplift.

In politics also he had become a popular leader and was elected to the Assembly and Lok Sabha.

He played a significant role in the agitation demanding the creation of a separate Andhra Pradesh state. The Telugu Desam party led by Nara Chandrababu Naidu would continue to strive for the uplift of weaker sections and fulfil the aspirations of Gouthu Latchanna, he added.

# Scholarships given away to meritorious X Class students

**PNS ■ ONGOLE**

YSRCP leader Balineni Praneeth Reddy has given away scholarships to the students who scored over 500 marks in the 10th Class examinations at PVR Boys' High School.

Praneeth Reddy gave away scholarships to the meritorious students who secured over 500 marks here on Tuesday. The students studied at the PVR boys high school here. He gave Rs 5,000 to two students and Rs 3000 to four students.

Speaking on the occasion,

Praneeth Reddy said that he was happy to note that the students of the government schools excelled in the 10 th class examinations and obtained highest marks.

"The students achieved the feat because of Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy, who has brought many reforms in school education by providing many facilities.

The PVR Boys High School teachers have taught well to the students which helped them to secure the highest marks in the 10th Class examinations," Praneeth Reddy said.

Many parents come for-

ward to admit their children to the government schools after the renovation of schools under the 'Nadu-Nedu' scheme, Praneeth Reddy claimed.

He recalled that former minister Balineni Srinivasa Reddy laid the foundation stone for the construction of additional classrooms in the PVR Boys' High School, he added.

Mayor Gangada Sujata, deputy mayor Vemuri Suryanarayana, Corporator Gopireddy Gopal Reddy YSRCP leaders Peddireddy Bhaskar, M Madhu and other leaders were present.





INDIA CORNER

## Six-year-old girl raped, murdered in Panipat; accused held

A 40-year-old man has been arrested for allegedly abducting, raping and murdering a girl child in Haryana's Panipat, police said on Tuesday. Police said the incident took place Monday when the girl, 6, was playing in a park near her home in Panipat's Sector 29, with her brother two years younger than her. She was abducted from the park by the accused who raped and later killed her, said police. The accused has been identified as one Ishwar from Uttarakhand who was currently living in Panipat and worked at a dhaba, police said. The girl's body was handed over to her relatives after a post mortem in Panipat. The post mortem report revealed that after the sexual assault the child was strangled to death, police said. Police said that after receiving a complaint from the girl's family they scanned the CCTV footage of nearby factories which showed accused carrying the child after abducting her. He was identified on the basis of these footage, police said.



## History-sheeter shot dead outside court in UP's Hapur, constable hurt

A history-sheeter from Haryana was shot dead by three people and a police constable injured in the incident here outside the district and sessions court on Tuesday, an official said. Injured Constable Omprakash belonged to the Haryana Police. A spokesman of the Hapur police said the Kotwali Nagar police station SHO and the incharge of the police outpost at the court have been suspended. A senior police official said the Circle Officer (City) has been attached to the district police headquarters in Hapur. Lakhan, alias Yashpal (35), was brought from the Haryana's Faridabad jail in connection with a case registered against him at the Dhaulana police station in Hapur, Circle Officer (City) S N Vaibhav Pandey had earlier told PTL. Lakhan is a history-sheeter from Haryana and had a number of cases registered against him, he said. "The firing took place 25 to 30 metres outside the gate of the district and sessions court," Pandey added.



## Seven killed, 32 injured as bus carrying security personnel falls into gorge in J-K

Seven ITBP jawans died and 32 security personnel were injured when the bus in which they were returning from Amarnath Yatra duty fell into a deep gorge in the Pahalgam area of Jammu and Kashmir, a police official said. The bus, carrying 37 Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) personnel and two policemen, was on its way to the police control room here from Chandanwari, he said. While two ITBP personnel died on the spot, five others succumbed to their injuries later, the officials said. The condition of eight of the injured is stated to be critical. They have been evacuated to Srinagar for specialised treatment. The remaining injured are being treated at the Anantnag district hospital. Earlier, the official had said that one of the seven deceased was a policeman. However, later he said, "It was a case of mistaken identity. The two policemen are undergoing treatment." President Droupadi Murmu and Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar condoled the loss of lives in the accident.



### BOOSTING HEALTH SERVICES

# Ensure timely utilisation of funds

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya appealed to states and Union territories on Tuesday for timely utilisation of central funds to strengthen the healthcare infrastructure and expedite the implementation of people-centric health services at the grassroots.

He also urged states and Union territories to accelerate the coverage of precaution dose of COVID-19 vaccines by organising camps at public places under the Vaccination Amrit Mahotsav, the Health Ministry said in a statement.

Mandaviya also advised them to widely publicise the availability of heterologous precaution dose of Corbevax vaccine and to organise vaccination camps at public places such as bus stands, railway stations, airports, schools/colleges, pilgrimage routes and religious places to increase the uptake of precaution dose



among the eligible beneficiaries.

As on date, 12.36 crore precaution doses have been administered, according to the statement.

"Government of India has been working in the spirit of cooperative and collaborative federalism with states and UTs for creating, expanding and strengthening a multi-tier health infrastructure network across the country," Mandaviya said.

He was interacting virtual-

ly with the health ministers of states to review the implementation of various flagship schemes of the government, including National Health Mission and the Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission, and various projects under the Emergency COVID Response Package-II.

Mandaviya also reviewed the progress of the national COVID-19 vaccination campaign with specific focus on administration of precaution dose under the Vaccination Amrit Mahotsav.

This was part of a series of meetings chaired by Mandaviya to review progress and expedite utilisation of central funds allocated to states under various schemes and packages for upgrading and strengthening of critical care infrastructure, according to the statement.

Delhi Deputy Chief Minister and Health Minister Manish Sisodia attended the meeting.

## States asked to hold camps for booster vax dose at stations, religious sites

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With just 17 per cent of eligible people receiving the precaution dose of COVID-19 vaccines till August 15, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya appealed to states on Tuesday to organise vaccination camps at public places such as railway stations, airports and religious sites to boost the coverage.

Mandaviya, who interacted with the health ministers of states and Union territories virtually, advised them to widely publicise the availability of heterologous precaution dose of Corbevax vaccine. He also urged them to organise vaccination camps at public places such as bus stands, railway stations, airports, schools/colleges, pilgrimage routes and religious sites to increase the uptake of precaution dose among the eligible beneficiaries. The precaution

dose coverage among the 64,89,99,721 eligible population was eight per cent till July 14. On July 15, the government launched a 75-day special drive to administer precaution doses to all aged 18 years and above at government vaccination centres free of cost. Only 17 per cent -- 12,36,03,060 -- of the nearly 74.5 crore eligible individuals have been administered precaution dose of COVID-19 vaccines till August 15. The COVID Vaccination Amrit Mahotsava, aimed at boosting the uptake of precaution doses among the eligible population, is being held as part of the government's Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav to celebrate the 75th anniversary of India's Independence. States and Union territories were also advised to ensure that all vaccine doses are utilised on the basis of FEFO (first expiry, first out) principle to avoid expiry of the vaccines.

### FOCUS ON FIRST TWO YEARS OF A CHILD'S LIFE

# Union Minister launches mobile app on parenting

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Minister of State for Health Bharati Pravin Pawar on Tuesday launched a mobile application on parenting which focuses on cognitive developments of children in the first two years.

The first 1000 days establish a solid platform for a child's physical, mental, emotional, cognitive and social health, Pawar said.

India has taken rapid strides in reducing child mortality since 2014 from 45 per 1000 live births to 35 per 1000 live births in 2019, Pawar said after launching the Paalan 1000 National Campaign and Parenting App in Mumbai, according to a Health Ministry statement.

The app, which will provide caregivers with practical advice on what they can do in their everyday routine and will help resolving various doubts of



parents, was launched at the Early Childhood Development Conclave.

Accentuating the importance of the early phases of a child's life as its impact can last a lifetime, Pawar said, The process of a baby's brain development begins during pregnancy and is influenced by a pregnant woman's health, nutrition and environment. After birth, apart from the physical growth, a human baby's brain development paves the way for its future level of intelligence and quality of life."

"We need to understand that the child survival cannot be addressed in isolation as it is intricately linked to the health of the mother. Therefore, the concept of 'Continuum of Care', that emphasises on care during critical life stages in order to improve child survival, is being followed under the national programme.

She said the child health programme under the National Health Mission (NHM) comprehensively integrated interventions which improved child survival and addressed factors contributing to infant and under-five mortality. "Hence, our National Health Mission ensures that critical services are made available at home, through community outreach and through health facilities at various levels like primary, first referral units, tertiary health care facilities," she said.

# Lumpy skin disease: Union Minister Rupala assures help to Punjab

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Parshottam Rupala on Tuesday reviewed the vaccination of cattle in Punjab in the wake of lumpy skin disease affecting a large number of animals and assured help from the Centre.

Rupala held a meeting with Punjab Animal Husbandry Minister Laljit Singh Bhullar here to review the situation in the state.



Rupala held another meeting with Haryana Animal Husbandry Minister J P Dalal over the issue.

During Punjab visit took a review of the vaccination

process along with the available facilities for cows. Assured them the complete help from the Centre for the eradication of the disease, also encouraged them towards larger number of vaccinations," said Rupala here.

Punjab minister Bhullar raised the demand for arranging goat pox vaccine in adequate quantity for over 25 lakh livestock.

Bhullar said the state government has administered 2.05 lakh doses of vaccine to cattle till Monday evening.

# Maha Minister says not mandatory for govt officials

PNS ■ MUMBAI

Maharashtra Cultural Affairs Minister Sudhir Mungantiwar on Tuesday said it was not mandatory for state government officials to say "Vande Mataram while receiving phone calls.

Any equivalent words reflecting nationalism can be used during phone calls, he said after facing criticism from the opposition parties over the directive.

Mungantiwar had on Sunday said the country was celebrating the Amrit Mahotsav (75th anniversary of Independence) and hence all officials of the state government will have to say Vande Mataram instead of hello while receiving phone calls in offices till January 26 next year.

He had also said a formal government order will be out by August 18.

However, the minister on

Tuesday told a TV channel that, Saying Vande Mataram is not mandatory. Any word or words equivalent to Vande Mataram which infuse nationalism can be used while receiving phone call.

An organisation or individual has the right to oppose it. Saying Vande Mataram is a campaign of the state cultural ministry which started on the Independence Day (August 15) and will continue till January 26, he added.

# Education Minister urges people to participate in NCF

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Tuesday appealed the public to participate in a citizen survey being conducted by NCERT for development of a new National Curriculum Framework (NCF) for school education.

The NCF serves as a guideline for designing syllabus and textbooks and for teaching practices in the country.

There are total 10 questions in the digital survey with each of them having five options. The queries include how to make education futuristic and skill oriented and improve the dignity of teachers in the country.

The minister said that "development of a vibrant, dynamic, inclusive and futuristic National Curriculum Framework is essential for integrating cultural-rootedness along with global outlook, freeing education from colonial hangover and instilling a deeper sense of pride in our next generations". "I appeal to all citizens to participate in the Citizen Survey for NCF for develop-

ing #NayeBharatKa NayaCurriculum. A dynamic National Curriculum Framework in line with the NEP 2020 will play a major role in achieving the goal of Viksit Bharat," Pradhan said in a series of tweets.

The Digital Survey for National Curriculum (DiSaNC) is being conducted by the education ministry and the National Council of Education and Research Training (NCERT) as part of the public consultation process for the formulation of NCF.

The other questions in the survey are pertaining to the people's opinion on values that need to be imbibed in children in the course of school education, languages they should learn from class 1

onwards and parents' envision of teachers' role in the holistic development of children.

It has also sought the stakeholders' opinion on subject areas children need to study in classes 6 to 8 (secondary stage) and classes 3 to 5 (preparatory stage) besides their take on the focus of learning by children in the age group of 3-8 years (Foundational Stage).



## 4<sup>th</sup> phase of CUET today; nearly 3.6L to appear

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The fourth phase of Central University Entrance Test (CUET)-UG 2022 will begin from Wednesday with nearly 3.6 lakh candidates expected to appear in the exam.

The exam for additional 11,000 candidates, who were to appear in the fourth phase from August 17-20, has been postponed to August 30 to accommodate their choice of city for centre, officials said. According to the initial plan, all phases of the CUET-UG were scheduled to conclude on August 20. The National Testing Agency (NTA), which is responsible for conducting the exam, had later announced that all phases of the exam will conclude on August 28.

### DALIT BOY'S DEATH

# Twelve Baran Congress councillors put in papers

PNS ■ KOTA (RAJASTHAN)

Twelve Congress councillors in the Rajasthan's Baran Municipal Council on Tuesday sent their resignation letters to Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, expressing anguish over atrocities against the Dalits and backing party MLA Pana Chand Meghwal.

The Baran-Atru MLA on Monday had sent his resignation letter to Gehlot, two days after the death of a nine-year-old Dalit boy who was allegedly beaten up by his school-teacher for touching a drinking water pot in Jalore.

Congress leader and former state deputy chief minister Sachin Pilot on Tuesday headed to Jalore to meet the victim's

family and said a strong message needs to be given to win the Dalit community's trust.

Meanwhile, backing the MLA's move, 12 of the 25 Congress councillors in the Baran civic body expressed anguish over atrocities against the Dalits and deprived sections. Ward No.29 councillor Yogendra Mehta said they sent their resignation letters in support of the MLA and against the government's failure to protect the Dalits. The other councillors who sent their resignation letters are Rohitashva Saxena, Rajaram Meena, Rekha Meena, Leeladhar Nagar, Hariaraj Erwal, Piyush Soni, Urvashi Meghwal, Yashwant Yadav, Anwar Ali, Jyoti Jatav and Mayank Mathodia, he said.

## Taj Exp vacated, searched for 2 hrs after false bomb scare

PNS ■ AGRA

Passengers were asked to get off the Delhi-bound Taj Express at Mathura and the train was searched for two hours after a false bomb scare on Independence Day, officials said on Tuesday.

The train was coming from Jhansi Junction Railway Station and was heading to Nizamuddin Railway Station in Delhi. Rajeev Kumar Sub Inspector at Agra Cantt GRP Police Station said, on Monday, a man made a hoax call to a passenger regarding a bomb in Taj Express' D2 coach. He further said it will explode when the train will reach Delhi.

## IIT-Delhi's Public Systems Lab to bring efficiency in PDS: Goyal

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Public Systems Lab, inaugurated in IIT campus here, can contribute significantly in bringing efficiency in public food procurement and distribution, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Tuesday. He also said the lab is a perfect example of innovation that will contribute towards the development and rid the country of corruption by ushering efficiency in the public distribution system(PDS).

Goyal, who also holds consumer affairs, food and public distribution ministry portfolio, said through the government initiatives like PMGKAY (Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana), India has been a role model for the world in dealing with food security in the wake of the pandemic.

# Tiranga March for employment policy

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Representatives of several civil society organisations under the banner of Sanyukt Rojgar Andolan Samiti on Tuesday took out a Tiranga March from Nand Nagri in northeast Delhi demanding a national policy on employment.

The march, which started from near Gagan Cinema in Nand Nagri, was led by Delhi Cabinet minister and founder of Desh Ki Baat Foundation Gopal Rai. It was stopped by the police near Gokulpuri before it could reach Jantar Mantar, the planned site for the



agitation.

"This movement for implementation of National Employment Policy would continue in Nand Nagri till August 22. We appeal to all the citizen of the country to join

the movement," Delhi minister Rai said after the police stopped the Tiranga March.

The Rojgar Andolan was slated to be held at Jantar Mantar from August 16 to 22. Rai further said the march

was supposed to culminate at Jantar Mantar, but it was stopped by the police.

"Tiranga Yatra is being taken out all over the country, but if we are raising the issue of employment in our Tiranga padyatra (march), we are being stopped. It is not acceptable to us at all and this movement will continue," a statement issued by Sanyukt Rojgar Andolan Samiti said on Tuesday.

The statement said more than 2,000 representatives from 200 groups across the nation took part in the Tiranga March and after being stopped they sat on a fast.

# Test run of rlys' longest freight train

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Railways conducted a test run of the 3.5-km-long freight train, Super Vasuki, with 295 loaded wagons carrying over 27,000 tonnes of coal between Korba in Chhattisgarh and Rajnandgaon in Nagpur on August 15, as part of the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations.

The train run by the South East Central Railway left Korba at 13:50 and took 11.20 hours to cover the distance of 267 km.

This is the longest and heaviest freight train ever run



by the Railways, the national transporter said, adding the train takes about four minutes to cross a station.

The amount of coal carried by Super Vasuki is enough to fire 3000 MW of power plant for one full day, officials said.

This is three times the capacity of existing railway rakes (90 cars with 100 tonnes in each) which carries about 9,000 tonnes of coal in one journey.

The train was formed by amalgamating five rakes of goods trains as one unit.

The Railways plans to use this arrangement (longer freight trains) more frequently, especially to transport coal in peak demand season to prevent fuel shortages of power stations, the officials said.

Earlier this year, coal shortages had pushed the country into a severe power crisis.



# Complacent MEA

The arrival of a Chinese spy ship in Sri Lanka is part of its anti-India activities, but Jaishankar downplays it

Yuan Wang 5, a tracking and satellite support vessel, reaching Sri Lanka's Hambantota port should not surprise anyone. India had objected to such a ship in its proximity but if someone thought that such objections would sensitise the Chinese Communist Party to our concerns, they were living in a fool's paradise. On the face of it, there is nothing illegal about the trip, for it is to a port that the Chinese own; and it is in a country that is sovereign. It can be argued that if Sri Lanka is okay with the trip, we can't oppose it. But we can, because it is a hostile vessel with capabilities which are inimical to our interests. Expert opinion is that Yuan Wang 5 at the Hambantota port, which is strategically located in the Indian Ocean, can seriously compromise our missile and satellite programmes. That is the intention; this seems to be part of the encirclement of India. The exercise is also in tune with the multipronged action by



China to emerge as a, and then the, global hegemon. It believes that the world should begin adapting itself to the emerging reality, so on Saturday it asked India to reiterate its support for the One-China Policy against the backdrop of the crisis in the Taiwan Strait which was triggered by US House of Representatives Speaker Pelosi's trip to Taiwan. That is, New Delhi should assuage Beijing's bruised sensitivities, but expect no reciprocity. Hence the arrival of Yuan Wang 5.

The arrival also underlines the incompetence of our foreign office; if we couldn't pressure Colombo even at this point of time, in the wake of billions of dollars of aid to the crisis-hit nation, to do something that suits us, then we will never be able to that in future. The Ministry of External Affairs' incompetence seems monumental when viewed against the backdrop of the resistance that Yuan Wang 5 faced from several Sri Lankan politicians. Sri Lanka's Tamil Progressive Alliance leader and Colombo's Member of Parliament Mano Ganesan said in a statement the coming of the Chinese spy vessel to Lankan waters was "simply wrong." He went on to highlight India's concerns, pointing out that India is the country which has "provided near \$4 billion to us in our time of crisis." To be fair to the Sri Lanka Government, it did request China to defer the arrival of Yuan Wang 5 at the Hambantota port "until further consultations" on the matter. In typical diplomatese, External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar downplayed the incident. In an interview to a newspaper, he said, "We need to take care of our national interests but can't claim exclusivity in the region. To say that this [the permission to allow the Chinese vessel to dock at the Sri Lankan port] is a flashpoint between India and China would be inappropriate." An echo of the infamous statement by Nehru, "Not a blade of grass grows there..."?

## PICTALK



People from Parsi community greet one another on 'Navroz', the Parsi New Year, in Mumbai

# Pariwarvaad vs dostvaad !

The Prime Minister once again took a jibe at the Gandhis with pariwaarvaad. But is there a party free from it, the BJP included

The Prime Minister once again from the ramparts of Red Fort reminded the nation to root out dynasty and colonial mindset. The 'pariwarvaad' which the Prime Minister has talked about several times in his speeches once again figured in his speech on the 76th Independence Day. It was indeed a brilliant speech that hit all the right notes; from corruption to nepotism and doing away with the colonial mindset. While other messages were loud and clear for the people, his mentioning of the dynasty in his speech was indeed a veiled attack on the Nehru-Gandhi family. The Red Fort speech conventionally has been about what the Government has done and plans to do for the betterment of the people. The political messages have not been part of it and attacking the opponents from the ramparts of Red Fort does not augur well for a healthy democracy. For attacking the



Opposition, there are numerous platforms available to the Prime Minister including Parliament. But since the Prime Minister chose to speak about it the reaction also came from the Opposition, surprisingly not from the Congress (Rahul Gandhi refused to comment on it) but from Aam Aadmi Party.

Manish Sisodia was quick to retort and remind the Prime Minister about his defaulter friends. Manish Sisodia did not mince words in saying if 'pariwarvaad' is bad so is 'dostvaad'. Sisodia was categorical in pointing out how the Prime Minister waved off millions of loans his friends owed to Indian banks. 'Dostvaad' is the new word coined by him. Kejriwal also insisted that loans and taxes to the tune of ₹10 lakh crore of corporate friends are being written off. As they say, we choose our friends while family chooses us. We don't live in a perfect world. Dynasty and nepotism is bad for democracy, it is the way things are in India and outside. The Kennedys and Bush family in America, Yadavs and Reddys in India are a case in point. Even numerous instances of 'pariwarvaad' can be cited in the BJP itself. Piyush Goel, Anurag Thakur, Parvesh Verma would have a very different take. No matter how hard you try but still you cannot win elections in India on merit; caste and religion often are a better bet in elections merit. At the end of the day, what matters is how democratic a person is and how much he cares for the people who vote for him. Despots like Hitler, Mussolini and Stalin did not have a lineage. They weren't democratic either.

# New Panchsheel for India @ 75

PM Modi's thrust for five tenets is not only bold but timely as unshackling us from the colonial mindset is of utmost import



Of the five pledges that Prime Minister Modi set out for the country in his ninth Independence Day address to the nation, two stood out particularly, for their relative newness. The rest of the speech was on expected lines – his customary denunciation of corruption and the corrupt, nepotism, dynasticism and calls for development, self-reliance, pride in our legacy, unity, and cooperation, and equality for all across ethnic, regional, and religious diversities. As always, there were subtle nuances that hinted at things to come. But before that, the two standout points.

First, he alluded to the hundreds of years of servitude and dependence, Ghulami, that has distorted our mentality and emphasised forcefully that the last vestiges thereof must be removed from the recesses of our minds. India no longer needed, he said, certificates of validation from the world. It was a bold, unvarnished statement, one that no previous Indian PM had articulated, more so on such an occasion and venue. It was as if, the soul of a nation long suppressed was finding utterance, to borrow Nehru's mellifluous phrase, in Modi's compelling oratory. With the spare, somber ramparts of the Red Fort in the background and the forgettable, poignant medieval past of the country that it evokes in a majority of Indians, the moment was rich in historical irony.

It was testimony to India's newfound confidence and the Narendra Modi government's resolute will to not play to the gallery, both foreign and domestic. It is this single-minded pursuit of India's national interest, oblivious to international bouquets or internal brickbats that have enabled the revocation of article 370, as also our balanced, nonpartisan approach to the Ukraine-Russia conflict. No more is India prepared to cave into international pressure as it did in July 1972 when it signed the Shimla agreement without settling the Kashmir dispute



even when our Army had brought Pakistan to its knees and 93,000 POWs were barricaded in our cantonments.

Secondly, the PM was categorical that everyone, including Chief ministers and even the Prime Minister himself, must follow the duties of citizenship. That his focus was on politicians is borne out by his mentioning "CMs and PM" to illustrate his point. This has wide ramifications for the Indian polity. Thus, it cautions the politician to be honest and law-abiding; to keep national interests paramount instead of compromising them in the pursuit of short-term electoral gains; to avoid the Revadi or freebies culture that he had spoken of recently and that had drawn adverse comments from the Supreme Court also; to rein in the hubris that makes for a wanton disregard of propriety, probity, and ethics in public life. It was a statesman's admonition to a delinquent lot known more for financial scams, mafia links, criminal background, nativist demagoguery, casteist manipulation, nepotism, and dynastic

THE PRIME MINISTER WAS CATEGORICAL THAT EVERYONE, INCLUDING CHIEF MINISTERS AND EVEN THE PRIME MINISTER HIMSELF, MUST FOLLOW THE DUTIES OF CITIZENSHIP

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### TALIBAN FAILED TO WIN HEARTS

Sir — The occupation of Afghanistan by the Taliban with Lightning speed triggered a political and humanitarian crisis. The Taliban made soothing statements about not victimizing women so long as their lifestyle is within the purview of Sharia Law inter alia men's slaves. They regard the Sharia as Divine Law but most are unaware it's a document imposed by Khalifas for selfish reasons replacing the Holy Quran.

The Quran decrees no earthly punishment for blasphemy or apostasy, nor does it anywhere command stoning for any crime, condone female circumcision, or support banning art and music. It does not endorse treating women as inferior or preventing them from going for higher education and even joining any profession. Taliban's misinterpretation of Sharia has become a synonym with a draconian and inhuman Islamic legal system. Even after one year of rule, the Taliban remains brutally subtle.

Seetharam B | Telangana

### LONG ROAD TO 'DEVELOPED' INDIA

Sir — It refers to "India, a developed nation". It is good to have an ambitious target to become a developed nation in the next 25 years. But there is a huge gulf that is to be bridged in this span of time. While India's per capita income is around \$ 2000 while our neighbour China has \$ 8700. Though the Prime Minister has outlined five pledges which need to be abided by one and all in letter and spirit but for that to happen a drastic shift in mindset is required. This pandemic has exposed the vulnerabilities of a developed nation like the USA, so we Indians must take pride in being Indian. It is not to suggest that we should not become a developed nation but we need to be mindful of our trajectory.

Besides that, there is a huge disparity between rich and poor and men and women which needs to be bridged systematically. And gradually we will have to reduce our dependence on imported items and start manufacturing them in India. Though we

## Takeaways from PM's I-Day speech



In his third longest 83 minutes speech, Prime Minister Narendra Modi from the ramparts of the Red Fort, clearly showed that he was not in a mood like the previous eight years to have painted castles in the air for Indian voters. Hence, he was not making any new announcements and even did not speak a word about his promises for 2022, and now next deadline is 2047... keep counting the years. Instead, PM Modi launched the political campaign for 2024 on these twin challenges of "corruption" and "nepotism" — something that he has used in the run-up to the 2014 general elections, and knows that it still has resonance among the electorate.

Is there bigger nepotism than a greenhorn like Anil Ambani, who has no prior experience

in manufacturing defence equipment or even hosted a manufacturing utility, getting priority over an experienced and reputed player in the field, namely HAL, a PSU to boot, in being co-opted as an offset partner for Rafale? Similarly, the Sri Lankan Official, Ferdinando, alleged that his country was put under tremendous pressure by PM Modi to award a 500 MW renewable energy project to industrialist Gautam Adani. These two are instances of creeping nepotism. So, this time the Modi government has to focus on 'Panchpran' (five promises) — First, to move forward with bigger resolves and resolve of developed India; second, to erase all traces of servitude; third, to be proud of our legacy; fourth, focus on our strength of unity; and fifth, fulfill the duties of citizens with honesty (talk is fine but what is the status of those who looted India and migrated to BJP like Hemant Biswa Sharma and others), which should be done by the Prime Minister and Chief Ministers as well. Depending upon this Modi in his speech gave a broad direction for the next quarter of a century, though it assumes that he will not be there.

Bidyut Kumar Chatterjee | Faridabad

attract a lot of medical tourism, in terms of Doctor to the Patient ratio we lack far behind WHO norms, so we need to seriously overhaul our healthcare infrastructure along with the education sector.

Bal Govind | Noida

### UNWORKABLE MARRIAGES

Sir — The Kerala High Court has held that the preservation of unworkable marriage causes great misery. The Court has observed that nothing is gained by trying to keep the parties tied forever to a marriage that in fact has ceased to exist. If the married couples cannot function as a cohesive unit, the dissolution of marriage becomes inevitable. Love and adjustability in married life should come from within and be spontaneous. Likewise, courts cannot make stub-

born couples mentally unite. Break-up in the marriage occurs more due to the lack of adjustability of a married girl with her in-laws, perpetration of the cruelty by in-laws and husband on the woman, greed for dowry, illicit relationships, etc. Courts must dispose of cases expeditiously when there is a unanimous decision between the husband and wife to avoid uncertainty in the future. The judgment of the Kerala High Court has come in the case 13 years after the marriage was consummated. It would have an adverse effect when both are hell-bent on securing a divorce. In any case, delayed disposal of cases is no better though it has both merits and demerits.

KV Seetharamaiah | Bengaluru

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

## SOUND BITE

I offer Central Govt to use our services. Keep politics aside. Use our services-you, we & 130 cr Indians will together improve all schools. All Govts (States) will do it together. And stop calling this a freebie.



Delhi CM —Arvind Kejriwal

Rushdie stood for universal rights of freedom of expression.

US Secretary of State —Tony Blinken

Our India stands tall with the strength of our relentless defense forces. There's so much and more to love, be proud of and celebrate. Here's to our Independence!! Jai Hind.



Actor —Hrithik Roshan

Anshu Jain was a friend and an avid cricket lover. Used to speak non-stop cricket on phone calls for hours.

Cricketer —Virender Sehwag

Tiranga is foremost a symbol of our independence from British rule and freedom from monarchy and feudalism. Deplorable that Scindia doesn't mention the British as 'foreign aggressors'.



AIMIM leader —Asaduddin Owaisi



FIRST COLUMN

DON'T RELY ON RATINGS FOR GOOD MF RETURNS

Mutual fund ratings are dynamic; opt for basket of investments



S KALYANASUNDARAM

Mr Anand works for a company and to reduce his income tax liability, he wanted to invest in the Equity Linked Savings Scheme (ELSS). Instead of investing through a Mutual Fund advisor, he did his own ground work based on the ratings available. During the beginning of this year he invested in Axis Long Term Equity Fund (G) and DSP Tax saver fund (G), as these had five star ratings from a reputed financial newspaper research team. But to his surprise now he has found out that the same research team has now reassigned three star rating to Axis Long Term Equity Fund (G) and four star rating to DSP Tax saver fund. As the schemes have a lock-in period of three years, there is no way that he can change his investment. Every mutual fund comes in two versions – direct version and regular version. One of the key distinctions between them is that regular mutual funds have a distribution commission unlike direct mutual funds. This makes the expense ratio higher for regular funds. Hence, the return to the investor on direct investment may be more.



Generally, many investors go by the rating provided to different mutual fund schemes and invest under direct schemes. While making investment under direct equity, it is possible for any individual to depend on the fundamental factors of the company and also technical analysis available and one can select the company based on risk perception and return expectation. But coming to mutual fund schemes, though broad investment philosophy and benchmarking are available, there is no definite way to know the contour of investment in future. Hence, individual investors depend on the ratings provided by different rating agencies. From the past experience, it seems that one can't decide solely based on the ratings available. Rating organisations like CRISIL, ICRA, CARE, and Value Research generally provide ratings for mutual fund schemes in India. There are business newspapers like the Hindu Business Line, which provide their own ratings based on their in-house research. Rating methodology Mutual funds are rated mostly on the performance of the funds over different periods. The ratings also take into account the fundamentals of the fund houses, asset allocation of a scheme, the experience and credentials of a fund manager, returns based on inflation, besides several other parameters. For example, CRISIL considers the following in its ranking methodology: Portfolio Concentration Analysis, Liquidity Analysis, Mean Return and Volatility Active Returns (the active returns are the percentage of loss or profits made by an investment portfolio as a result of active investment decisions by the fund manager). Scales of one to five stars are decided on the basis of percentile in which the funds are placed in the order. Generally, five-star is assigned to top 10 per cent funds and the bottom 10 per cent is given one-star rating. Any investment should be based on one's risk bearing capacity. Higher the risk, higher will be the potential return on investment. In turn, mutual fund schemes can have different investment philosophies and different asset allocation based on the investors' risk perception and return expectation. As the mutual fund investment spreads to different stocks and debt instruments, there is no easy way to predict future performance. Rating is not an impediment for any fund to perform and it is always possible that poor-rated funds may perform better. However, a poor rating may disturb the mobilisation for a particular Mutual fund scheme, and indirectly affect its working, as the mutual fund scheme may not have the advantage of size of investment and diversification.

(The author is a financial analyst.)

# Impart knowledge with holistic education

## Re-organisation of teachers' training is a must for the success of National Education Policy 2020



BKP SINHA

Nelson Mandela has rightly said that "education is the most powerful weapon we can use to change the world". It is a stairway to the growth and development of humankind. The right to education must be universal so that everyone can pursue prospects of a better future. However, the right to education is not only the right to access education. It's also about receiving a quality education.

Quality education is of paramount importance in today's complex and fast-changing environment. It fosters the knowledge, skills and values required to create a fairer and more sustainable world. According to 'Education International and the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development', quality education "is one that focuses on the child's overall development - social, emotional, mental, physical and cognitive, regardless of gender, race, ethnicity, socioeconomic status or geographic location". Its goal is to prepare students for the challenges they are likely to face later in their lives.

We now realize that education alone will not lead to a sustainable future, therefore, learning about sustainable development (SD) is necessary. Target 4.7 in the 2030 Agenda for SD emphasizes the importance of transformative education that promotes global citizenship, sustainable development, human rights, gender equality, peace and cultural diversity.

The Brundtland Report coined the term "Sustainable Development" and defined it as "development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs".

It is a holistic approach and is often depicted as three overlapping circles: ecological, social and economic. It demonstrates the interplay of all parts of life and the need for their equal consideration to find lasting prosperity. But we generally have a unidirectional approach towards sustainability based on our predisposition, for example from an ecological, economic or social viewpoint, which often results in trade-offs.

The interconnected nature of the challenges the world faces today cannot be understood in isolation. For instance, every year, climate change like extreme weather events and rising sea levels force millions of people to flee their homes. This results in climate refugees and a rise in poverty. As climate change and poverty are inextricably linked, one cannot be solved without addressing the other.

To comprehend basic principles of ecology, one must think holistically about relationships, connectedness and context to realize the intricate interdependence and often unpredictable dynamics of ecological, social, and economic systems. This shift of focus from analytical thinking (parts) to contextual thinking (whole) is a prerequisite for building a more resilient world, ensuring systemic decision and policy



SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF NEP 2020 LARGELY DEPENDS ON THE GOOD SPIRIT AND RIGHT INTENTIONS OF THE POLICY MAKERS WHICH WILL NOT ONLY DIVERSIFY INDIA'S GLOBAL IMAGE BUT ALSO MAKE THE EDUCATION SYSTEM AT PAR WITH THE BEST IN THE WORLD

(The author is a retired IFS officer.)



making. It is regarded as a critical ability in education, as it enables students to untangle and work within the complexities of life on Earth.

Integration of education for sustainable development (ESD) into teaching and learning can help in the realization of quality education, which is critical to fulfilling many of the sustainable development goals (SDGs) such as breaking the cycle of poverty, reducing inequalities, achieving gender equality and improving agricultural productivity. It is also essential for addressing other key issues, including wasteful consumption, biodiversity conservation, natural resource use, climate change, energy, freshwater, health, sanitation and waste management.

ESD is an interdisciplinary field that integrates concepts from multiple disciplines to understand how natural and man-made processes interact with each other and ultimately affect the various biomes on the planet. Its goal is to discover novel and sustainable ways of living and managing natural resources to protect vital ecological systems and enhance long-term prospects for human prosperity.

Adopting a wide range of participatory methodologies in education, such as problem-based and project-based learning are essential to change the behaviours and equip the current and future generations with the knowledge and skills they need to shape a sustainable future. These methodologies will allow them to develop problem-solving, interdisciplinary and systemic thinking skills, which will help them learn 'how to think' rather than 'what to think' within the context of sustainability.

Our sustainable future requires societies and countries to work

together, hence, it advocates the use of collaborative learning at all stages of education. In collaborative learning, students in small groups work together on a common goal to seek understanding and solutions. It fulfills the primary purpose of education – nurturing responsible citizens who can work together to solve complex ecological, social and economic issues.

Thus, working on collaborative learning projects at an early age can boost confidence and help in developing critical thinking, positive interdependence, diverse understanding along with various other social skills such as leadership, decision-making, communication, trust-building, conflict management and a sense of ownership.

Educational institutions also need to partner with multiple stakeholders and various other sectors such as economics, environment, etc., to take up co-learning. It will facilitate students to engage with real-life issues and gain the practical knowledge and skills needed to build long-term sustainable solutions.

Conventionally, ESD has been considered a separate component within the educational systems. However, over the past few years, it has been argued that it should be integrated into mainstream disciplines at all levels, settings, and types (informal, formal, non-formal) of education. This requires a systemic change in all kinds of textbooks, including science, math, social sciences, humanities, etc. It also requires significant reforms in the educational system, including strengthening curricula, cognitive and non-cognitive elements, transforming learning environments, establishing diverse part-

nerships, providing teacher training, creating local learning opportunities, and implementing innovative pedagogies.

Teaching ESD requires knowledge of several disciplines that is generally beyond teachers' expertise. Reforms of this magnitude, however, will not be possible without effective policies, operational frameworks, political will, financial assistance and stakeholders' cooperation.

National Education Policy 2020 is the first education policy of the 21st century, which aims to align the education system with SDGs and make education holistic, inclusive, multidisciplinary, learner-centric, inquiry-driven and experiential which can transform India into a vibrant knowledge-based society and global knowledge superpower.

Our collective responsibility to improve the quality of education is essential for achieving the ambitions of 'Agenda 2030' and ensuring continuity in the quality of human life. Governments, teachers, educational institutions and stakeholders have a vanguard role to play, along with parents and students themselves. However, we stand now where two roads diverge. But unlike the roads in Robert Frost's familiar poem, they are not equally fair. The road we have long been traveling is deceptively easy, a smooth super-highway on which we progress with great speed, but at its end lies disaster. The other fork of the road – the one less traveled by – offers the last and our only chance to reach a destination that assures the preservation of the earth.

## POINT COUNTERPOINT

WE FACE THE CHALLENGES OF CORRUPTION AND 'PARIWARVAAD'... WE NEED TO RAISE AWARENESS AGAINST 'PARIVAARWAAD' —PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI



I WON'T MAKE A COMMENT ON THESE THINGS. (CORRUPTION & PARIWARVAAD OR NEPOTISM'), TODAY. —CONGRESS LEADER RAHUL GANDHI

# E-two wheelers can cut carbon emissions in a big way

Two-wheelers, which are prominent polluters, need to go electric to cut down on emissions substantially

Air pollution is harming the health of around 1.3 billion people in the vulnerable areas of India where an average particulate matter concentration was 73ug/m3, far-exceeding the WHO's standard prescribed limit of 5ug/m3, catalysing the levels of carbonization. India is witnessing rapid rise of two-wheelers, representing about 76 per cent of the total, which is over 210 million. Nearly 60,000 two-wheelers per day are being registered in India, consuming 61 per cent of total sale of petrol.

The two-wheelers account for almost 20 per cent of the total carbon dioxide emissions and 30 per cent of the particulate emissions in urban areas. The worst sufferers are the vulnerable sections of society such as growing children, expectant-



PRITHAM SINGH

(The author is a policy analyst.)

mothers, elderly people and patients having lung problems.

The latest research studies of Energy Policy Institute at the University of Chicago observed that "at the current pollution levels about 510 million people who live in northern India, representing nearly 40 per cent of India's population, are on-track to lose 7.6 years of their lives on an average".

However, by all out efforts like two wheelers e-mobility and gradual phasing out of 'Internal Combustion Engine (ICE) based tail pipe emitters' for mitigating the pollution levels to the WHO's prescribed levels would mean that an estimated 240 million people in the north Indian state - Uttar Pradesh - would gain about 10 years in life-expectancy.

Two wheelers pollute more,

having cascading impact in urban areas to an overall particulate matter concentration, observed to be the highest in the world.

On an average, each two-wheeler enriches greenhouse gases by adding around 300 gms/km of carbon dioxide, besides (as per Bharat Stage-IV standard prescribed limits under standardized conditions) remarkable quantities of pollutants like (1.50 gm/km) carbon monoxide (known as silent killer) and (1.50 gm/km) hydrocarbons plus oxide of nitrogen, etc.

These standard limits normally exceeded because of factors like driving in frequent traffic jams, road conditions, fuel quality, local environmental conditions, etc.

Assuming broadly, around

75 million two-wheelers, having an average of about 250 km/month pacing on the road, will collectively translate around 75m tonnes/year of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, entailing emission of dreaded particulate matter.

The world's fourth largest energy hungry India (yet behind China, US and the European Union), will according to IEA's forecast will become the third largest consumer, overlapping European Union by 2030. Though indeed it is a Herculean task to achieve the set goal of IPCC by 2030, it is certainly not impossible.

Realizing impending threat to economies, India's vehicular transportation scenario is set to have a 'sea change' as the Government's think tank – National Institute for

Transforming India – NITI Aayog is chalking out a slew of progressive set targets to mitigate and eliminate pollution by pushing the ambitious plans of electrifying two-wheelers and gradually phasing out the sale of 'ICE-based tail pipe emitters'.

The government's well set delineations with full support of corporates will undergo a sea change by 2030 with e-mobility as preferred mode of transport by having an ambitious plan of electrifying around 80 per cent, say close to 54.4 million two-wheelers with eco-friendly alluring all segments of e-two wheelers and setting up gigantic chain of about 6K-charging stations in the nook and corner, will certainly enable to get rid of routinely lining-up at petrol pumps.

Currently, to fill the gasoline

tank of a bike of 11 litre, it costs about Rs 1100. So, this means that a e-two wheeler owner can get a full charge for less than that of the cost of one-litre of gasoline, with no tail-pipe emission, no tormenting exhaust noise, i.e., noise pollution, comparatively at much less maintenance cost to govern mere 20-25 moving parts in the vehicle's assembly in comparison to about 2000 parts in the ICV gasoline based two-wheelers..

In the race of new technologies, India is not lagging behind and gradually unveiling its plans on the befitting occasions for widespread application of fuel-cell technology as 'new medium of energy', replacing fossil fuels in public and private transport systems, railways, power generation, data processing stations, etc.

It is high time not to miss an opportunity to preserve the environment and warrants more initiatives with individual approach too. An earlier census had reported that mere 30 per cent of the trips to work are made on foot and 17 per cent by bicycle. Besides the government initiatives, here the powerful media must shoulder its responsibility to play its more constructive role for mitigating vehicular pollution in cities and make aware the public about the grim picture of vehicular pollution in the years to come. Spreading the mission of greenery all around and prefer trips to work on foot in urban areas on the lines of smartly populated cities like Surat and Bangalore, will bear fruits for tomorrow-generations.



MONEY MATTERS

## Adani Logistics to acquire ICD Tumb from Navkar Corp for Rs 835 cr

Adani Logistics, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd, on Tuesday said it has signed a definitive agreement to acquire ICD Tumb (Vapi) from Navkar Corporation for Rs 835 crore. Adani Logistics Ltd (ALL) in a statement said the deal comprises the acquisition of the operational ICD (inland container depot) with a capacity to handle 0.5 million TEUs (twenty-foot equivalent unit). Associated 129 acres of land provides an additional expansion path to increase capacity and cargo in near future, as additional industrial corridors and logistic parks get added along these DFC (Dedicated Freight Corridor) routes, it noted. The company said the acquisition is in line with its strategy to build integrated transport utility and pan India logistics infrastructure, and Tumb adds to the existing seven multi-modal logistics parks in the Adani Logistics portfolio. According to the statement, ICD Tumb has a private freight terminal with four rail handling lines connected with Western DFC, custom notified land and bonded warehouse facilities.



## Payoda eyes over 1,000 employee base by 2025

Software development and technology firm Payoda has drawn up plans to double employee base across various verticals to over 1,000 during the next three years, a top company official said on Tuesday. The Coimbatore-headquartered firm has offices in Chennai, Hyderabad and also offshore workplace in Texas, United States, Dubai and Romania. "Technological advancements over the past couple of years have triggered a pertinent need for stakeholders to expand their horizon through robust infrastructure and skilled human resources," company co-founder Karunya Sampath said in a company statement here. "To keep pace with time, we have put in place a strategic hiring plan wherein the strength at all our centres would improve. Even as we would continue to have most team members from India, we foresee expansion in our global teams in the near future," she said.



## Rare Enterprises-backed Concord Biotech files IPO papers with Sebi

Rare Enterprises-backed Concord Biotech has filed draft papers with capital markets regulator Sebi to mop up funds through an initial public offering (IPO). The IPO is entirely an offer for sale of (OFS) of 2,09,25,652 equity shares by Helix Investment Holdings Pte Limited, which is backed by private equity firm Quadria Capital, according to the draft red herring prospectus (DRHP). The offer also includes a reservation for subscriptions by eligible employees. Concord is among the leading manufacturers of fermentation-based biopharmaceutical APIs, focused on niche segments such as immunosuppressant, oncology, anti-fungal and anti-bacterial. It has three manufacturing facilities -- Valthera, Dholka, and Limbasi -- in Gujarat. The company is backed by Quadria Capital Fund and Rare Enterprises, which was set up by billionaire investor Rakesh Jhunjhunwala, along with his wife Rekha. The veteran stock market investor passed away on Sunday.



# Centre unveils platform for industry-R&D linkages

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Government on Tuesday unveiled a platform to drive collaboration between the industry and research institutes to implement technology-based social impact innovations and solutions in the country. The launch of Manthan, a platform that promises to augment our efforts to build and nurture industry participation in R&D, is also a testimony of our commitment to the UN's SDG goals, the Principal Scientific Adviser (PSA) to the government, Ajay Kumar Sood, said in a statement here.



**Anantharaman Sreenivasan, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of NSEIT, said it will help new concepts, science-led ideas, and new technology outcomes find swifter adoption across the country.**

interventions, including those that make a social impact, an official statement said. The platform will provide the necessary fulcrum for transforming the nation through innovative ideas, inventive minds, and public-private-academia collaboration to achieve the country's sustainability goals, said Parvinder Maini, Scientific Secretary, Office of PSA. Led by the Office of PSA, Manthan will facilitate knowledge transfers and interactions through information exchange sessions, exhibitions, and events to develop a framework for future science, innovation, and technology-led growth, the official statement said. Anantharaman Sreenivasan, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of NSEIT, said it will help new concepts, science-led ideas, and new technology outcomes find swifter adoption across the country.

## Inflation: Things might get 'better' towards Sept-end, says SBI Chairman

PNS ■ BENGALURU

State Bank of India's (SBI) Chairman Dinesh Khara on Tuesday said that things might get "better" on the inflation front towards the end of September. He said the supply side constraints getting addressed and crude oil prices trending low will help ease the situation. "Inflation...the recent numbers which came out was 6.7. Going forward the way things are - the supply side constraints which are there are getting addressed, so the situation should be improving going forward," he said in response to a question. Speaking to reporters here, he said one of the important factors of inflation is crude oil prices, and with them also trending lower, it will also support the inflation to be further tapered down.

## Govt seeks to amend PMKKKY for effective use of DMF funds

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The government plans to amend the Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana to ensure effective use of funds under the District Mineral Foundation for the welfare of people affected by mining-related operations. The government has invited suggestions until August 27 from the stakeholders on the amendment to policy guidelines. The government in 2015 launched the Pradhan Mantri Khanij Kshetra Kalyan Yojana (PMKKKY) scheme to provide for the welfare of areas and people affected by mining-related operations using the funds generated by District Mineral Foundation (DMF). The Centre has formed a panel, to be chaired by Mines Additional Secretary Sanjay Lohiya, "to revisit/amend the PMKKKY guidelines for effective utilisation of DMF funds



in the districts affected by mining-related operations," according to a government notice. The committee was also tasked with finding the gaps in the policy, monitoring and implementation of the scheme and making suggestions in the changes in PMKKKY Guidelines. A section of Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957 specifies setting up of District Mineral Foundation in any district affected by mining-related operations. DMFs work for the interest and benefit of people, and areas affected by mining-related operations. The purpose of PMKKKY scheme also includes implementation of different developmental and welfare programmes in mining affected areas, minimising the adverse impacts, during and after mining, on the environment, health and socio-economics of people in mining districts and to ensure long-term sustainable livelihoods for the affected people in mining areas.

## India's fuel demand continues to fall as monsoon advances

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Diesel demand in India fell for the second month in a row as the onset of monsoon chipped away consumption in key sectors like agriculture, preliminary industry data showed Tuesday. Petrol and diesel demand had fallen month-on-month in July. While petrol consumption is almost flat in the first half of August, diesel - the most widely used fuel in the country - saw demand drop 11.2 per cent during August 1-15 to 2.82 million tonnes from 3.17 million tonnes in the same period of the previous month. The arrival and intensity of monsoon weigh heavily on diesel demand in the country and consumption traditionally is lower in July-September than in April-June. Monsoon restricts mobility and demand from the farm sector, which



uses diesel in irrigation pumps and trucking, also drops with the onset of rains. Diesel demand was, however, 32.8 per cent higher year-on-year, supported by strong economic growth and a relatively low baseline for the same period in 2021 when the second wave of COVID-19 had impacted the economy. Consumption of diesel was

## Gold falls by Rs 764, silver tumbles Rs 1,592

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Gold prices declined by Rs 764 to Rs 52,347 per 10 grams in the national capital on Tuesday following weak global cues, according to HDFC Securities. The precious metal had closed at Rs 53,111 per 10 grams in the previous trade. Silver also tumbled by Rs 1,592 to Rs 58,277 per kg from Rs 59,869 per kg in the previous trade. "Gold prices at MCX witnessed lower openings reflecting overnight fall in COMEX prices," said Tapan Patel, Senior Analyst (Commodities) at HDFC Securities. In the international market, gold was lower at USD 1,775 per ounce while silver was flat at USD 20.13 per ounce.

## WPI inflation eases to 5-month low of 13.93 %

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The wholesale price-based inflation eased to a five-month low of 13.93 per cent in July on easing prices of food articles and manufactured products. The WPI-based inflation softened for the second consecutive month in July, raising hopes of further decline in wholesale prices in the months to come. The Wholesale Price Index-based inflation, after scaling a record high of 15.88 per cent in May, declined to 15.18 per cent in June. It was 13.43 per cent in February. It was 11.57 per cent in July last year. The WPI inflation continued its declining trend for the second month in July but remained in double-digits for the 16th consecutive month beginning April last year. Inflation in food articles in July eased to 10.77 per cent from 14.39 per cent in June. The rate of price rise in vegetables declined substantially

**The Wholesale Price Index-based inflation, after scaling a record high of 15.88 per cent in May, declined to 15.18 per cent in June. It was 13.43 per cent in February.**



to 18.25 per cent in July against 56.75 per cent in the previous month. In the fuel and power basket, inflation was 43.75 per cent in July compared to 40.38 per cent in the last month. Inflation in manufactured products and oil seeds was 8.16 per cent and (-) 4.06 per cent, respectively. CRCL LLP CEO and

Managing Partner DRE Reddy said higher crude oil prices and input costs still weigh on the producers and pass-through has resulted in pushing the retail inflation higher. "The global economy is recovering as we witness an increase in demand for metals, oils, crude and fertilisers. Moving forward, as the crude prices soften in the summer season and supply issues getting resolved will help ease WPI inflation in the next few months," Reddy added. The Reserve Bank of India mainly looks at retail inflation to frame monetary policy. Retail inflation remained above the Reserve Bank's comfort level for the seventh month in a row and was 6.71 per cent in July.

## Sensex rises 379 pts, Nifty closes above 17,800

PNS ■ MUMBAI

Benchmark BSE Sensex rose by over 379 points while Nifty closed above the 17,800 level following gains in oil & gas, banking and auto shares on easing inflation concerns. The 30-share BSE benchmark index advanced 379.43 points or 0.64 per cent to settle at 59,842.21, logging its third straight day of gains. During the day, it jumped 460.25 points or 0.77 per cent to 59,923.03.

Extending its gaining streak to a sixth session in a row, the broader NSE Nifty climbed 127.10 points or 0.72 per cent to close at 17,825.25 as 42 of its constituents advanced. Easing inflation concerns after the wholesale price-based inflation slowed down to a five-month low of 13.93 per cent in July and buying in index majors Reliance Industries and HDFC twins added to the momentum. "The easing of inflationary

pressures has encouraged domestic investors to remain optimistic about the pace of economic recovery. Better-than-expected CPI numbers, aided by slower increase in food and fuel prices, may limit the pace of rate hikes by the RBI," said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services. From the Sensex pack, Mahindra & Mahindra rose the most by 2.28 per cent. Mahindra Group on Monday

announced that it would launch five new electric sports utility vehicles for both domestic and international markets, with the first four expected to hit the road between 2024 and 2026. Maruti gained 2.19 per cent, Asian Paints by 2.09 per cent, and Hindustan Unilever by 1.9 per cent. UltraTech Cement, HDFC and HDFC Bank, Tech Mahindra and Reliance Industries were among the lead gainers.

## SpiceJet shares climb nearly 2 %

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Shares of SpiceJet on Tuesday climbed nearly 2 per cent after the company entered into a settlement with aircraft lessor Goshawk Aviation and its affiliated entities. The stock advanced 1.96 per cent to settle at Rs 46.75 apiece on the BSE. During the day, it climbed 4.14 per cent to Rs 47.75. On Tuesday, SpiceJet announced that it has entered into a settlement with aircraft lessor Goshawk Aviation and

its affiliated entities related to two Boeing 737 Max aircraft and one Boeing 737-800 NG aircraft. oshawk Aviation Limited is one of the main lessors of Max aircraft of SpiceJet, the airline's statement noted. "The settlement with Goshawk follows SpiceJet's successful settlements with De Havilland Aircraft of Canada Limited, Credit Suisse, Boeing, CDB Aviation, BOC Aviation and Avolon," it mentioned.



## Companies in India expected to give 10 % hike in 2023

PNS ■ MUMBAI

Companies in India are expected to give a salary hike of 10 per cent in 2023 as they struggle with rising attrition in the tight labour market, according to a report. Global advisory, broking and solutions company Willis Towers Watson's Salary Budget Planning report found that companies in India are budgeting an overall increase of 10 per cent for 2022-23, compared with the actual 9.5 per cent growth in the previous year. According to the report, more than half (58 per cent) of the employers in India have budgeted for higher salary increases for the ongoing fiscal year compared to last year, while a quarter of them (24.4

per cent) made no change in the budget. Only 5.4 per cent have reduced the budget as compared to 2021-22, it added. The report revealed that at 10 per cent, salary increases in India continue to be the highest in the Asia Pacific (APAC) region. China is projected to see an increase of 6 per cent, Hong Kong at 4 per cent and Singapore at 4 per cent for next year, it added. The report was based on a survey across 168 countries in April and May 2022, which includes 590 organisations in India. It further said around 42 per cent of companies in India have also projected a positive business revenue outlook for the next 12 months, while only 7.2 per cent have projected a negative outlook.

## Ratan invests in startup offering Sr citizen companionship as a service

PNS ■ MUMBAI

Industry leader Ratan Tata on Tuesday announced an undisclosed investment into startup Goodfellows that offers companionship to senior citizens as a service. The octogenarian industrialist has been an active backer of startups ever since retiring from the helm of the salt-to-software Tata Group and has invested in over 50 companies till now. The latest investee company is founded by Shantanu Naidu. Thirty-year-old Naidu, a Cornell University alumnus, is a general manager in Tata's office and has been assisting

him since 2018. He shares Tata's love for dogs and strays and this is his fourth outing as an entrepreneur, which includes a venture around pets. "You do not know what it is like to be lonely until you spend time alone wishing for companionship," the 84-year Tata, a bachelor, said, appreciating Naidu's ideation and also forgiving his mentee for the time he spends away from the office. Tata said no one minds getting old till you actually get old, and also added that getting good-natured companionship, which we take for granted, is a challenge.



Addressing the Tata Sons' Chairman Emeritus as a boss, a mentor and also a friend, Naidu said there are 15 million elders who are by themselves

right now, which represents the opportunity for his newest venture. The startup hires young graduates having the right

skills of empathy and emotional intelligence to 'work' as the senior citizen clients' companions, and ease the day for them with any tasks or just talk with them. Typically, a companion would visit a client three times a week, spending up to four hours per visit. The company charges Rs 5,000 as the base subscription fees for a month, after a month's free service. The company has been working with 20 elders for the last six months in its beta phase in the financial capital and is planning to offer services in Pune, Chennai and Bengaluru next.

Naidu told PTI that he has developed a model with the help of psychologists to select the right candidate to act as a companion for a senior citizen. He said it wants to scale up across the country but would prefer to go slow without compromising on the quality of the companions it hires. In a year's time, the company plans to have 100 registered companions serving about 350-400 senior citizens across the country, he said, stressing that unlike a conventional startup, which has milestones, Goodfellows will not be chasing business targets as hard till it is able to make the desired social impact.



## Ezra Miller Seeks Treatment For ‘Complex Mental Health Issues’



Actor Ezra Miller is finally acknowledging his mental health problems after displaying erratic behaviour. The actor has announced that they're seeking treatment for "complex mental health issues" following multiple arrests, reports aceshowbiz.com.

The *Flash* star broke their silence on their troubling behaviour in a statement provided to 'Variety' by a representative. "Having recently gone through a time of intense crisis, I now understand that I am suffering complex mental health issues and have begun ongoing treatment," Miller begins.

There's no word on where or how long Miller will be seeking treatment.

The 29-year-old further expresses remorse for their actions, "I want to apologize to everyone that I have alarmed and upset with my past behaviour. I am committed to doing the neces-

sary work to get back to a healthy, safe, and productive stage in my life."

Miller, who is non-binary and uses they/them pronouns, was arrested back in March for disorderly conduct following an alleged physical altercation with patrons after having hurled obscenities at clients at a karaoke bar in Hawaii.

In the following month, the *Justice League* star was again taken into custody in Hawaii for second-degree assault by Leilani Estates Subdivision police authorities in Pahoa for reportedly throwing a chair, which hit a 26-year-old woman and left a half-inch cut on her forehead, after being told to leave during a private get-together.

Earlier this month, Miller was charged with felony burglary in Vermont.

Miller is also accused by the parents of an 18-year-old activist of grooming and manipulating the teen.

## what's brewing?

### Viola Davis joins The Hunger Games prequel

Oscar winner Viola Davis is the latest addition to the star cast of *The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes*, the *The Hunger Games* prequel movie. According to entertainment website Deadline, Davis will play Head Gamemaker Volumnia Gaul in the upcoming Lionsgate film.

The *Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes* is the latest project in the dystopian young-adult franchise based on Suzanne Collins' novels.

The film follows a young Coriolanus Snow (Tom Blyth), years before he would become the tyrannical President of the fictional nation Panem, as he is chosen to be the mentor of the 10th Hunger Games, a televised event in which teenagers are chosen via lot-

tery to fight to the death. Francis Lawrence, who helmed three of the four *The Hunger Games* films, is returning to direct the new movie.

"Dr. Gaul is as cruel as she is creative and as fearsome as she is formidable. Snow's savvy as a political operator develops in no small part due to his experiences with her as the games' most commanding figure," the director said in a statement.

Besides Blyth, Davis joins already announced cast members Rachel Zegler, Hunter Schafer, Josh Andres Rivera, Jerome Lance, Ashley Liao, Aamer Husain, Hiroki Berreclough, and Peter Dinklage.

Nathan Kahane, Lionsgate Motion Picture Group President, said the team is elated to have the acclaimed



actor board the highly anticipated prequel film. The *Hunger Games* films have always been elevated by their exceptional casting, and we are thrilled to be continuing that tradition with Viola Davis as Volumnia Gaul. Her

formidable and powerful presence will add layers of complexity and menace to this story, added Kahane.

The film is backed by franchise producer Nina Jacobson and her producing partner Brad Simpson, along with Lawrence.

"From the beginning, Viola has been our dream for Dr. Gaul because of the finely layered intelligence and emotion she brings to every role. A brilliant and eccentric strategist, Gaul is instrumental in shaping a young Coriolanus Snow into the man he will become. We are incredibly fortunate to have an actor with Viola's extraordinary range and presence to play this pivotal role, said Jacobson.

Davis will next be seen in *The Woman King*, directed by Gina Prince-Bythewood.

## Subhash Ghai Launches His Latest Patriotic Track *Tiranga*

Filmmaker Subhash Ghai has released a patriotic song, titled *Tiranga* which is composed and written by him. He shared that it was an enriching experience to compose and to pen a song for the motherland

The song is not only a tribute to freedom fighters but it also remembers legendary personalities of the film industry like Raj Kapoor, B.R. Chopra and many more. On the contemporary beats, the track tries to capture the essence of brotherhood and unity of the nation.

He says, "The glory of our magnificent motherland is indescribable. This year we complete 75 years of Independence. *Tiranga* is an ode to my India, a country known for its incomparable cultural diversity and illustrious history. Kids, faculty at Whistling Woods were very pumped up



when I first read out a couplet from the song." The veteran director further talks about the hard work and contribution by the students of his institute Whistling Woods International.

"It is an enriching experience to compose and to write a song for your motherland. They encouraged me to com-

pose it. We, thus, decided on celebrating the country's 75th year of Independence in a spectacular, musical way. It is essential for students to learn, get hands-on experience in the business and the students have worked really hard on the entire song, making it even more special for me," he concludes.

## Gurmeet and Debina announce their second pregnancy

It was in April, when the power couple, Gurmeet Choudhary and Debina Bonerjee welcomed their daughter Lianna. On Tuesday, the couple had announced their second pregnancy.

Sharing the adorable photo in which Debina and Gurmeet can be seen hugging each other while he also holds Lianna, Debina wrote, "Few decisions are divinely timed and nothing can change that...this is one

such blessing..coming soon to complete us." Soon their friends and family extended their wishes in the comments section. Rashami Desai, Romanch Mehta, Mahhi Vij, Tina Datta, Yuvika Chaudhary, and Priyanka Kalantri are some of the celebrities who congratulated the couple. Their fans had also wished the couple with many heart emojis and eyes filled with heart emojis in the comments section.



## KJo feels protective for Ayan Mukerji as much as his twins Roohi, Yash

Bollywood producer-director-actor Karan Johar recently shared a heart-warming message for director Ayan Mukerji, who has been his mentee for more than a decade and half.

Karan has produced 3 of Ayan's films including the upcoming mythological fantasy adventure film *Brahmastra*.

Taking to his Instagram, KJo posted a picture of himself with Ayan having a nap beside him. He wrote in the caption, "Love is such a strong feeling and emotion... it can be divided and yet felt in abundance."

The multi-hyphenate KJo, who is often regarded as the most powerful man in the Hindi film industry, also shared that he feels very protective about Ayan, "I love you Ayan and feel protective about you as much as I do for my twins. I know the decade (a whole decade) of work you have put into your film *Brahmastra*."

He praised Ayan for his dedication and the hard work that he has always put in his films be it



*Wake Up Sid*, *Yeh Jawaani Hai Deewani* and *Brahmastra*.

The Dharma Productions head-honcho further mentioned in his caption, "I have never seen anyone dedicate most of their professional lives to one project the way you have. What tomorrow or rather the September 9 holds for us we can't predict at this moment! But your commitment and hard

work is already a victory! You just fly! Just soar! Just keep aiming high!"

He also wrote about the sentiment that he harbours for Ayan – that of a father figure, "Dreams are a reality if you truly believe them and I know you do! Your dream is your labour of love the world will see soon! Love you my child! And oh ya! Happy birthday!!!!!! (sic)."

### FUN

#### ARCHIE



#### CALVIN AND HOBBS



#### GARFIELD



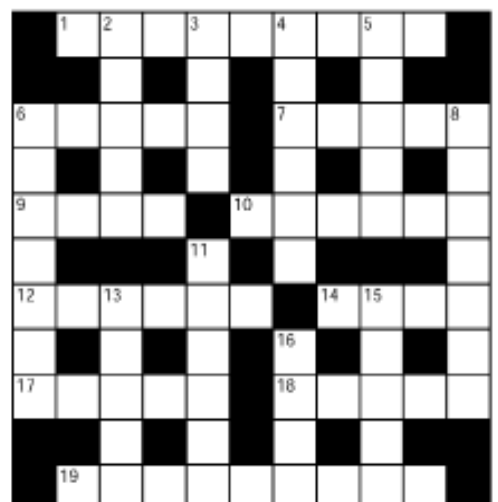
#### REALITY CHECK



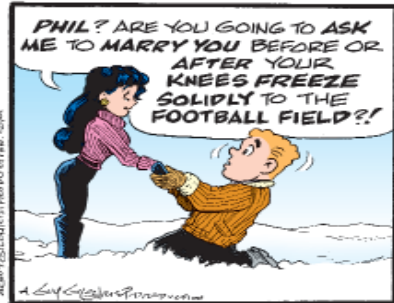
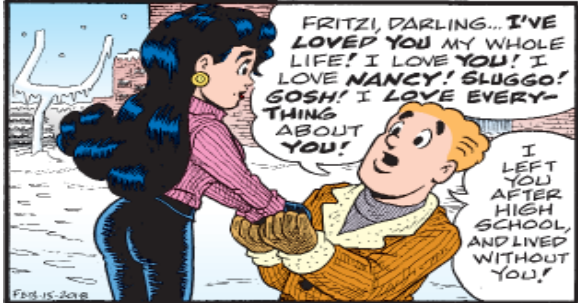
#### SPEED BUMP



#### CROSSWORD



#### NANCY



#### GINGER MEGGS



#### SUDOKU

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

Yesterday's solution								
7	2	1	3	5	6	4	9	8
8	5	9	7	4	2	1	6	3
3	6	4	9	8	1	2	7	5
9	1	6	4	2	5	8	3	7
2	3	8	1	6	7	5	4	9
5	4	7	8	3	9	6	2	1
4	8	5	6	7	3	9	1	2
1	7	2	5	9	4	3	8	6
6	9	3	2	1	8	7	5	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

- The person next door
- Ships tie up here
- Someone in a play
- A drawer for money in a shop
- Precious stones
- A hard safety hat
- A stopper for a bath or sink
- A thick soft quilt used as a cover for a bed
- A sheep's babies
- A country in South America

#### DOWN

- A letter sent from one computer to another
- Birthday present
- These stop a vehicle
- Unlace
- Observed
- Quits from a job
- Boil water in this
- A body organ
- A pale yellow colour
- Apartment

SOLUTION												
SMALLEST						LARGEST						
A	H	O	G	A		T	O	I	T	R	O	
E	A	T	I	N	G							
P	I	S										
T	I	S										
E	X	A	C	T								
D	A	N	A	L								
F	O	R	T	H								



# Because it's so funny: Tatiana on why she came onboard *She-Hulk*



K. RAMYA SREE

For the first time since 2008, the Marvel Cinematic Universe (MCU) is turning green once more with *She-Hulk: Attorney at Law* on Disney+. Marvel Studios is back in the live-action business.

The last episodic series of Phase 4 features Tatiana Maslany as Jennifer Walters, AKA *She-Hulk: Attorney at Law*, in her first assignment and demonstrates how she manages her newly acquired abilities after unintentionally ingesting Bruce Banner's blood. This will be realised in a distinctive nine-episode courtroom drama that taps into the humorous aspect of the MCU while enhancing the Hulk's long-missing solo presence inside the Marvel story.

Over the past few weeks, the promotion for the series has picked up steam, and *The Pioneer* attended the Global Press Conference for *She-Hulk*, where actress Tatiana gave some interesting information about the series.

An excited Tatiana expressed to the media how happy she was to be a part of *She-Hulk*. "Going to the courtroom was really exciting. It was fun. It was fun to, like, step into, like, what's so great about the show is that it has all those, like, huge, like, Marvel elements to it. Like, there are big set pieces. However, we also deal with, like, *She-Hulk*, or like, swipe dating. And we deal with her, like helping her dad carry stuff into the garage. So, it's like, those little sweet moments that really make me excited to do this show."

Speaking of the memories she has of her time in Hall H during San Diego Comicon, Tatiana humorously replied saying she "blackened out." "I was like, shaking before we got out there. But I do remember being like, 'I don't know.' First off, I remember, like, the feeling that we all had, which was, like, just buzzy, giggly, excited. You know? I am just so, so thrilled that we got to do this. But then, also, just, like, this very warm crowd, you know, who does really, like, they know everything about this universe. way more than some of us do."

Also sharing what she loved the most about Mark Ruffalo, she continued, "Mark was so open to like what-

ever my process was with, you know, coming to *She-Hulk*, he was never prescriptive. But one thing I did witness him do was when he was lying down on the ground. Do you remember this, when he was like lying down outside as Bruce and he got up as Hulk? From a laying down position, he's suddenly standing. It looked completely inhuman. And I was like, 'Oh, that is like 10 years of playing this character and like physically embodying him and like being so inside of him,' like you get to do cool stuff like that."

*She-Hulk* is better equipped than most to accept her new superhero lifestyle. But what did Tatiana find most relatable about Jennifer Walters that convinced her to join the project, Tatiana informed, "It was actually her conflict with it that I found most interesting, was like her resistance to it and her kind of like she's built this life for herself that she does not wanna let go of, she's worked so hard to be a lawyer and she has to constantly prove herself. So she's in this path. And then when this thing happens to her, she has to contend with a whole other perception being placed on top of her and expectations societally of like how she should be and who she should be. And so to navigate those two versions, like you were talking about, like the outside perception of her, that to me was super interesting and that's why I was like... And honestly, when I read the pilot, I want so badly to audition for this 'cause it's so funny and it's so like mundane and small, you know, in a way that I've always dreamed of watching a superhero show that had that like the between moments, the moments where you're like, you know, checking your phone, whatever, like that to me is engaging cinema, like that I like."

TEJAL SINHA

It's not wrong to say a woman is a synonym for strength and courage. From being able to handle all the house chores and family to now following their passions, women have come a long way, inspiring many people out there.

Today, we have with us one such inspirational woman, who's climbing the heights of those mountains not only to inspire people but also to be an active member working towards a social cause.

Kamal Kaur, known as 'the Kam Lady', a motivational speaker, life coach, and trained mountaineer, has been a sports enthusiast ever since her childhood. However, she never knew she would end up here while she was young.

"While I was young, I just tried different sports and people would ask whether I would like to run, take part in charity events or fundraise to help a school. Back then, I was interested in a variety of sports, including tennis, weight lifting, high-intensity training, swimming, and a lot of yoga. I came across a question about whether I would climb. And I was like, 'Yes. It was for a charity.' My mountaineering inspiration came from the first time I stepped on the mountain, the top of the mountain," she says, adding that it was 11 years ago, was Mount Kilimanjaro.

Her list of conquered challenges and climbed mountains include some of the highest continental points in the world, like Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa; Aconcagua in South America; Mount Meru in Africa; Elbrus in Russia; and Denali in North

America. Sharing with us her experience so far, she says it has been exhilarating. "I had an abundance of energy. There were some amazing people I met on my trip. I can only say it was fun and I never had any real issues that were too challenging. The biggest or nicest memory I have is going to the bottom of the stellar point of Kilimanjaro. I got to watch the sunrise, which was the most beautiful sport, it is important to be physically fit and have the required amount of strength. However, Kamal shares that it is equally important to have the right mindset.

"Doing any sort of sport like cycling, yoga, or meditation can help you get that strength in your legs and feet for a long time. I think you need to give a lot of time and dedication. It is also important to have the right mindset. As much as physical strength is required, you also need mental strength and fitness before and after your journey," she says, adding that she doesn't have any specific success mantra, but she always

social causes, charity, believe in sports and support people with mental health and any disabilities, whether it is physical or mental. I believe everyone needs second chances in life; sometimes they just need help and direction. This has been very close to my life and I know how important it is to address and deal with this. It is also important to understand that unless you have support, enabling people to get the support and love that they need is difficult. As humans, we need to work together, and it's very difficult to do things on our own," she says.

For any mountaineer, climbing Kanchenjunga is the most difficult

# No mountain is tall enough for her



thing. Yes, it is tiring at that point to see night going today was magical."

Before she began her journey of climbing the mountains, she was quite active in Crossfit and played quite a lot of tennis and also yoga. Apart from being into sports, she's an active believer in doing good for people in need. "I really try to get involved in

task, and even Kamal believes the same. "It is definitely difficult to climb Kanchenjunga. It's probably more technical and the weather conditions push it for a very long day and an intimidating mountain and one can easily complete it," she signs off, adding that she's going to be a part of the world's highest obstacle race, which will be held around November 11.

*The Pioneer* brings to you the story of Kamal Kaur, an international mountaineer, an inspiring individual, and a multitasker. Apart from just climbing the mountains, she's always ever-ready for any social cause that she could be a part of.

# ENJOY MONSOON WITH FRAGRANCE

PNS | HYDERABAD

As we enjoy the monsoon season, on the other side, stifling musty odour is a chronic monsoon problem. Adding humidity to the mix, it only gets worse.

It is high time we should start embracing ourselves with fresh home aromas.

Although the season has a soothing effect, giving a mesmerising makeover to your home, energetic aromas can work wonders to give an additional boost leaving you feeling refreshed and in high spirits. After all, aromas fill our space and sway our emotions.



Ridhima Kansal, Director, Rosemoore shares a list of the ideal aromas that will lend the perfect tone to your interiors and help you enjoy the spirit of the season to the fullest.

**Blue Oud:** This exotic masterpiece from Rosemoore is a timeless classic that immediately makes its presence known with its rich and sophisticated tenor. This soothing fragrance exudes nuanced woody notes that create a serene and calming effect. In addition to creating a cheerful disposition, the warmth of spice combined with a rich base of patchouli & tonka creates a relaxed vibe to match the atmosphere of a relaxed rainy evening.

**Lemongrass:** Known for its

repertoire to give a shot of zingy exuberance, the aroma of lemongrass is a perfect choice to get rid of the weariness that comes with the monsoon. To beat the lethargy, fragrance embodying enthusiasm in every drop will keep you charged at every moment. So gear up to bid adieu to the stress & fatigue & bring in the brilliance of natural bounty indoors. In order to mask the overwhelming effect, it is advisable to use aromas in tandem with lime and other floral accords which can lend a subtle touch. This can also turn out to be a wonderful way to experience the myriad facets of the upcoming season.

**Driftwood:** This distinct musky aroma combined with floral tones is a must-have in your home to welcome the monsoon & enjoy its magnificence. The aroma's earthy tone creates an experience of being in the lap of nature. As the name suggests, driftwood evokes images of lightness and water - a portrayal of everything that the rainy season characterizes. In this backdrop, this enrapturing fragrance has a mystical appeal that is perfect to give your ambience a makeover well-suited to the monsoon & is definitely worth a try. The versatility of this fragrance means that it can be used in any space in your home.

So, this monsoon, kick back and relax in your favourite spot enveloped by a blanket of musky and floral magnificence.

PNS | HYDERABAD

The Russian-Ukraine war presented to us the violent world we are living in. Right from bombs exploding to missiles striking down cities and people dying, are the events that were all around the news. While some felt indignant others sympathised with the people in Ukraine.

While most of us feel helpless, artists are not so vulnerable. Marina Abramovic, one of the greatest performing artists of our times, has decided to redesign her legendary performance of 2010, *The Artist is Present* as a response to this crisis.

In this performance, she sits silently on a chair with another empty chair across the wooden table and invites people to sit across her and lock eyes with her for any duration.

Sharing about Marina Abramovic, and her performances, Abhishek Kumar, Associate Professor at Anant National University, Ahmedabad, who teaches philosophy of art and architecture shares, "Her performances pioneered a new idea of art that invited observers to become a part of the performance. Through her performances, she focused on confronting the limits of the body. Her performances have delightful names like,

'Cleaning the Mirror' (1995), Imponderabilia (1977), In Relation in Space (1976), In Relation in Time (1977),



In Relation in Movement (1977), etc'. Each performance stretches the body differently."

*The Pioneer* connects with the professor, who shares with us how Marina Abramovic has pushed the boundaries of art, his interest in art, and much more.

Sharing his interest in Art, he says, "As a teacher of marketing, I began teaching and researching product design which led me to a deeper study of aesthetics. After that art was a natural port of call. My interest in art is more in understanding the principles of art, the role of art in giving direction to the society, and in being the defining feature of being human. I am also interested in the minds of artists who create masterpieces. Towards that purpose, I am currently engaged in writing my next book titled, *Of Newtons and*

*Apples*. In it, I delve into deeper recesses of artists' minds."

Before joining academia, Abhishek served in leadership positions across media (ABP), banking (Yes Bank), and telecom (Bharti Airtel Ltd) businesses for nearly a decade. Abhishek's current research work examines how theories of space, material imagination, and design processes shape design discipline. He offers them as a course titled design dialectics.

Explaining to us a little more about his course title, he says, "Design Dialectics is a course that unravels the roots of the design discipline. It delves into constituting segments of art, science, and technology along with situating design in between anthropology and cosmology. This course includes a module on western theories of aesthetics and a critical analysis of the beautiful and the sublime. The course ends with a module on spatial dialectics and the profound role of intimate spaces in giving shape to our childhood imagination."

He believes that Marina Abramovic has pushed the boundaries of art.

"While she may be accused of sensationalism, her argument remains that the body and mind of the artist and audience are intimately connected. From this perspective, she is a pioneer and no matter how disturbing her work cannot be ignored," he signs off.

The 'Love for Art'



# Dhawan always ready to help youngsters

PTI ■ HARARE

He might have been relegated to vice-captaincy after KL Rahul's late inclusion but team's senior-most player is always ready to lend a helping hand to the youngsters who seek out for him.

Dhawan was all set to lead the team in a three-match ODI series here but now that he will be performing the duties of a deputy, he is ready to to put his best foot forward.

"I quite enjoy sharing my experience with the youngsters in the team. I first came here in 2014 (actually 2013), when Duncan Fletcher was the Indian coach. If they (youngsters) reach out to me for any suggestions, I am (always) there to answer them," Dhawan told reporters at a media conference here.

The 36-year-old southpaw is rather happy that skipper Rahul will get the much-needed game time ahead of the all-important Asia Cup.

"It is a very good news that KL (Rahul) is back and will be leading the side as well. He is one of the main players of this Indian team. It will be a good outing for him before the Asia Cup gets underway. I am sure he will gain a lot from this tour," Dhawan said.

All-rounder Washington Sundar who was a sure-shot starter against Zimbabwe was ruled out after he injured his left shoulder in the Royal London One Day Cup.

The 22-year-old Chennai lad last donned the Indian colours during the West Indies series in February 2021.

"It's sad that Washington is out. He is quite an important player for the side. But it's part and parcel...Injuries happen. Hope, he will recover soon. He will be missed him as a spinner but we have got a good back-up through Kuldeep Yadav and Deepak Hooda, who also bowls off-spin," the Indian vice captain said.

While India is back in the southern African nation for the first time since 2016 and haven't played much against them in the last few years, Dhawan was of the opinion that should not take Zimbabwe, especially after their recent series win against Bangladesh.

"They have won against Bangladesh. They are playing good cricket. It's good for us and we cannot take anything for granted. It's about the process.

"Regardless of the team we are facing, we always make sure we do things right so that we end up getting the right results. That will once again be our focus



## Shahbaz Ahmed gets maiden India call-up

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

All-rounder Shahbaz Ahmed on Tuesday received his maiden India call-up as he replaced an injured Washington Sundar for the three-match ODI series against Zimbabwe starting this week.

The 27-year-old Shahbaz has been rewarded for his stellar performance in the 2022 IPL season,

where he turned out for Royal Challengers Bangalore.

The Bengal left-arm spinner collected 219 runs and four wickets in 16 matches, leaving a mark.

The Southpaw has a batting average of 41.64 and a bowling average of 19.47 from 18 first class games.

"The All-India Senior Selection Committee named Shahbaz Ahmed

as the replacement for Washington Sundar for the three-match ODI series against Zimbabwe," the BCCI said in a statement.

Washington had injured his shoulder while playing a County game in England, ruling him out of the Zimbabwe tour.

India are scheduled to play three ODIs starting in Harare on Thursday.

as a team," Dhawan said.

Dhawan praised senior Zimbabwean batter Sikandar Raza and said that the Indian bowlers will have to bowl smart against the latter to contain him in the right time.

"He is a very good player. He has been playing for Zimbabwe for a long time. He is a quality player. I am sure our bowlers with come up with nice plans against him," he said.

Dhawan went on to add that the series against Zimbabwe will be

crucial for a number of youngsters in the squad like Shubman Gill, Avesh Khan, Ishan Kishan, and the exposure they are getting will be extremely beneficial to them in the coming days.

"The youngsters, these days,

## New Zealand A to tour India in August & Sept, Oz likely in Nov

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The India 'A' side is set to get its first assignment in over eight months with New Zealand and, in all likelihood, Australia touring the country.

The India A program will be "helmed by VVS Laxman and his NCA support staff group of Sairaj Bahutule and Sitanshu Kotak," according to a report in 'ESPNcricinfo'.

India A was previously in action in November-December last year, when it played three unofficial Tests in Bloemfontein, South Africa.

The New Zealand 'A' side is slated to arrive in India by the end of this month. It will play three four-day games and as many List A matches with all fixtures expected to be held in Bengaluru.

A pink-ball fixture is also being mulled upon by the BCCI, but final approval is pending.

Even in their previous tour in 2017-18, the New Zealand 'A' side had played a pink-ball match at Vijayawada, although it was a day game.

The tour of New Zealand is likely to coincide with the Duleep Trophy, scheduled from September 8 to 25. The BCCI is also in talks with Cricket Australia for a possible tour.

"The BCCI is also understood to be in negotiations with Cricket Australia for a tour towards the end of the year - most likely in November - prior to the start of the Ranji Trophy and India's next Test assignment, which will be in Bangladesh," the report said.

have got more exposure. They are confident and they have got good technique. Their confidence level is quite high because of domestic and IPL. We feel that we have got so many options. It is a healthy sign for the team," Dhawan said.



## India Women's to play 2 Tests in next 3 years

### Women's in Blue to play 2 Tests, 27 ODIs and 36 T20Is in FTP 2022-2025

PTI ■ DUBAI

The Indian women's team will play as many as 65 international games in the inaugural Future Tours & Programmes (FTP) set by the ICC during the three-year-cycle between May, 2022 to April, 2025.

The ICC on Tuesday announced the the structured calender that includes a total of 301 matches (seven Tests, 135 ODIs and 159 T20Is) over a period of three years.

India's share of matches will be two Tests against England and Australia along with 27 ODIs and 36 T20 Internationals during the said duration.

Since the FTP has started from May, 2022, India have already played 3 WODIs and 3 WT20Is against Sri Lanka.

As per the list, India hosts New Zealand, South Africa, West Indies and Ireland at home, the away series are against Australia, England, Sri Lanka (already played) and Bangladesh.

One of the marquee events in this phase will be India's five-match T20I series against the 'Southern Stars' later this year.

While the Australians will be visiting India once again during the summer of 2023-24

for a multi-format series (one Test, three ODIs, and three T20Is), the Indians will return the favour when they tour Down Under in the winter of 2025-26 (one Test, three ODIs, and three T20Is).

Of the seven Tests inked during the phase, England will play the most Tests - five, followed by Australia (four), South Africa (three) and India (two).

"This is a huge moment for the women's game," ICC general manager of cricket, Wasim Khan, said in a statement.

"This FTP not only lends certainty to future cricket tours but also sets the base for a structure that is sure to grow in the coming years," Khan added.

According to ICC, the 2022-25 Women's Championship, teams will generally play three-match bilateral ODI series before the 2025 World Cup.

Many of these series will also be accompanied by T20 international matches, with some teams also giving its consent for five-match WT20I series.

"All bilateral T20I matches count towards respective team rankings, which in turn serves as a primary mechanism for determining the teams that qualify for ICC global events," ICC said in its statement.

## Praggnanandhaa beats Firouzja in FTX Crypto Cup chess

PTI ■ MIAMI

Teenage Indian Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa on Tuesday opened his campaign in the FTX Crypto Cup, the American finale of Champions Chess Tour, with a 2.5-1.5 win over the world's top junior player Alireza Firouzja.

The 17-year old, who was part of the Bronze medal-winning India 'B' team at the recent chess Olympiad in Mamallapuram near Chennai, opened with a win in the first of the four-game match.

He lost the second game before winning the third and drawing the fourth to beat Firouzja in the first round match on Tuesday.

The Indian GM picked up three points for beating the highly-rated Firouzja and faces Dutch No.1 Anish Giri in the second round.

Meanwhile, world No.1 Magnus Carlsen of Norway stormed to a 3-1 win over Giri. In other matches in the first round, Poland's Jan-Krzysztof Duda beat Hans Niemann 3-0 while Lev Aronian defeated China's Le Liem 2.5-1.5.

The eight-player all-play-all tournament is the American finale of Champions Chess Tour. There is \$7,500 at stake for each match win at the event.

## Ireland great Kevin O'Brien bids goodbye to int'l cricket



AP ■ DUBLIN

Ireland all-rounder Kevin O'Brien on Tuesday announced his retirement from international cricket after falling out of contention for this year's T20 World Cup in Australia.

O'Brien played three Tests, 153 ODIs and 110 T20Is during a 16-year international career and had spells with a number of English county clubs and T20 franchise sides around the world.

The 38-year-old famously blasted the Irish to victory over England in a 2011 World Cup group match in India with a 50-ball century — still the tournament's quickest.

The Dubliner scored 9,048 runs in total for Ireland, including the country's first Test

hundred, a second-innings knock of 118 against Pakistan in 2018, and took 276 wickets.

In a statement on Twitter, O'Brien, who for many years played alongside older brother Niall, said: "Today I announce my retirement from international cricket after 16 years and 389 caps for my country.

"I had hoped to finish my career at the T20 World Cup in Australia, but having not been picked for the Irish squad since last year's World Cup, I feel the selectors and management are looking elsewhere.

"I have enjoyed every minute playing for Ireland, have made many friends off the pitch and I have so many happy memories to remember from my time playing for the national side." Ireland captain Andrew Balbirnie said he was "lucky" to

## Ex- BCCI secretary Amitabh no more

RANCHI: Amitabh Chaudhary, the former BCCI secretary and president of Jharkhand State Cricket Association (JSCA) died of heart attack on Tuesday morning. He was 62. An IIT Kharagpur alumnus, Chaudhary was instrumental in getting the first-class status for Jharkhand after BCCI disbanded the Bihar Cricket Association during the late Jagmohan Dalmiya's tenure in the early part of the new millennium.

Chaudhary also played a major role in building one of the finest cricket stadiums in Ranchi and should be considered instrumental in bringing international cricket and IPL to the industrial town.

He had also served as a BCCI joint secretary and was an administrative manager with the Indian team on a few occasions. PTI

have played with O'Brien.

"Cricket in this country owes a lot to what Kev achieved on and off the field and he has left the game in a better place," he said.



## Sultan Azlan Shah Cup to return after two years in Nov

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

The Sultan Azlan Shah Cup, an annual invitational international men's hockey tournament, is set to make a comeback after a two-year break in November this year.

The prestigious tournament didn't take place in the last two years due to COVID-19. The last time it was held in 2019, South Korea had emerged champions by beating India in the summit clash.

"We are all set to host the Premier Azlan Shah Cup in November this year. We have invited six teams including India and Australia and we hope our invitation will be accepted," an AHF official said.

India has been invited alongside Australia, Germany and England for the tournament scheduled to be held from November 16 to 25 in Ipoh, Malaysia.

While Australia are the most successful team in the tournament with 10 titles, India have won it five times.

## Suryakumar is a bit like ABD, No. 4 is his best spot: Ponting

PTI ■ DUBAI

Suryakumar Yadav has received high praise from the great Ricky Ponting, who compared the batter with AB de Villiers, saying the Indian possesses a 360 degree game like the South African genius.

Ponting suggested that Yadav should bat at number four in the Indian line-up.

"Surya (Yadav) scores 360 degrees around the ground, a bit like an AB de Villiers did when he was in his actual prime. The lap shots, the late cuts, you know, the ramps over the keeper's head. He can hit down the ground," Ponting said on the latest episode of The ICC Review.

"He hits really well over the leg side, flicks to deep backward square particularly well, and he's a good player of fast bowling and is a good player of spin bowling."

Yadav, 31, has scored 672 runs at an average of 37.33 and a strike rate of 175.45 in 23 T20 matches and now sits at No.2 in the ICC T20 Batter Ranking.

"He's a very, very exciting player and I'm sure someone that's going to find himself in their team, not just their squad," Ponting, who has seen Yadav up close in his early years at Mumbai Indians, said.

"I think you'd find him in their team for the T20 World



Cup. And if he's in that team, then I think all the fans in Australia are going to see a very, very good player.

"He's quite a confident person. He backs himself and he's never going to step down from a challenge or any situation that arises in a game. I feel he thinks he can win that situation and therefore go on and win the game for his team."

Asked whether Yadav would make India's best XI, the former Australian skipper said he has "played better than anybody else in the Indian team for the last couple of series" and should be slotted at the top order.

"It's got to be in the top four,

I think. I said stick with him (Virat Kohli) in his traditional spot, which has been number three," Ponting, a two-time World Cup-winning captain, said.

"For Surya, it's one, two or four. I think he can open, but I think he's probably, you know, if you could probably just keep him away from the new ball, let him control the middle part of the game outside the Powerplay, through in the middle, and if he's in at the end, you know what can happen."

Ponting said: "I think in the top four is, well, actually I'll go out on a limb: I don't want him to open. I think number four is his best spot."

# South Africa keen to wreck England's 'Bazball' party

AP ■ LONDON

South Africa captain Dean Elgar says he does not fear "Bazball" as the Proteas seek to inflict England's first Test defeat of their swashbuckling new era under the leadership of Ben Stokes and Brendon McCullum.

After a dismal run of just one victory in 17 Tests, England have won four from four under new skipper Stokes and coach McCullum heading into their series opener against South Africa at Lord's on Wednesday.

That includes a 3-0 series win over world champions New Zealand, with England hunting down challenging targets on each occasion.

Stokes's men then made light of a seemingly stiff target of 378 in the Covid-delayed fifth Test against India at Edgbaston, romping to victory by seven wickets.

"Bazball" -- a reference to



McCullum's nickname -- has revitalised England's red-ball fortunes at a time of renewed debate about the future of the five-day game.

But there are questions over whether the ultra-aggressive approach can work in all circumstances, particularly against a strong

South Africa pace attack.

"I've got absolutely no interest in the style that they've played," Elgar told the Guardian. "I think it can go

## Poms recall fit-again Foakes

AP ■ LONDON

England have recalled fit-again wicketkeeper Ben Foakes for the first Test against South Africa at Lord's starting on Wednesday.

Ben Stokes, the England captain, announced the return of Surrey wicketkeeper Foakes to the

XI during a media conference on Tuesday.

Foakes is the only change from the team that defeated India in the postponed fifth Test at Edgbaston last month after missing the match following a case of coronavirus. Foakes reclaims the gloves from Kent's Sam Billings.

one of two ways for them and it can go south very quickly...I'd like to see them do it against our seamers."

But England bowling great James Anderson, speaking at Lord's on Monday, is confident that sticking with a positive mindset will prove the right thing for the team.

"I don't think it has to come unstuck at all," he said. "We now know we've got the ability to chase

anything down and we've got the ability to take wickets in any conditions.

"If we keep playing with that entertaining sort of mindset and also be smart with it as well... there may be times when we can't go hell for leather with the bat and maybe we have to soak up a bit of pressure at times and just be smart about when we put pressure back on

the opposition.

Both teams appear to be stronger in bowling rather than batting although, with resilient opener Elgar leading from the front, the Proteas have won seven out of nine Tests under his captaincy, while the form of Keegan Petersen has helped compensate for the red-ball retirement of gifted shotmaker Quinton de Kock.

England will hope in-form batsmen Joe Root and Jonny Bairstow maintain their eye-catching form of earlier in the season.

South Africa spearhead bowler Kagiso Rabada is doubtful for the first game of the three-Test series with an ankle injury.

"I'm hoping that he pulls through," said Proteas coach Mark Boucher. "Rabada is a massive player for us as we all know so for him to be part of the final XI would be very special for us."







The story of *Midnight Runners* has global appeal and the content will connect to Telugu audiences. Richard Prasad cranks the camera, while Mikey McCleary scores music and Viprav Nvshadam is the editor.

Director  
Suku Purvaj,  
who is all set for his  
upcoming  
*Maataraani*  
*Mounamidi* talks  
about the project,  
making multi-  
genre and much  
more.

will judge the movie in 10 minutes. But in movies like this, the genres change, so the interest continues. Ever since the film was launched, the makers of it have been coming up with

"Her character is set in both 1986 and the present day. Words don't come in flashbacks, they come in the present. The story has five or six turns. All these are related to a scientific aspect. Soni Srivastava is pleasing in the lead role. She is a Vizag girl and lives in Bangalore. Hero Mahesh Dutta is a student of Annappurna Film School. These two made it as the main pair. Except for Archana Ananth and Sunil Shetty, all the other actors are newcomers," added the director.

The film has background music by Ashir Luke and Ashirwad, who also gave mesmerizing music for Shukra. They worked for films like *Om Shanti Om* in Bollywood, *Baahubali* and *Zombie Reddy* in Telugu.



Written and directed by Lokesh Kanagaraj, the Kamal Haasan-Vijay Sethupathi-Fahadh Faasil-Suriya-starrer had its worldwide theatrical release on June 3.



All eyes are on Mega Star Chiranjeevi's upcoming action entertainer Godfather. The film which is the remake of Malayalam hit *Lucifer* is progressing at a brisk pace under the direction of Mohan Raja of *Thani Oruvan* fame. According to the latest, it is coming out that Chiranjeevi already started dubbing for his role in the film. This is exciting for all

The film stars Bollywood superstar Salman Khan in a powerful cameo. Apart from it, Chiranjeevi and Salman also dance to a peppy tune for which movements are choreographed by dancing sensation Prabhu Deva. The

Music for the film is scored by Thaman and Nirav Shah is the cinematographer and Marthand K Venkatesh is the editor. The film is bankrolled by Konidela Production Company and Super Good Films in a lavish manner.