

ANALYSIS 7
CONTROL MINDSET HURTS
PRIVATISATION PROCESS**MONEY 8**
GOVT WILL REMOVE BARRIERS
IN CREDIT FLOW TO MSMEs: VERMA**SPORTS 12**
STOKES' ENG SET
SIGHTS ON INDIA

HYDERABAD, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 2022; PAGES 12 ₹3



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'WANTED TO
MAKE A FUN
MOVIE'

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LOK ADALAT REUNITES COUPLE AFTER 50 YEARS, SETTLES 7.65 LAKH CASES

A record 7,65,077 cases were settled in the Lok Adalats held across courts in the state, the Karnataka State Legal Services Authority (KSLSA) has said in a statement. The National Lok Adalat was conducted on June 25 in 20 benches of the High Court and 964 benches of the District Judiciary. These include the disposal of 2,64,464 pending cases and 5,00,613 pre-litigation cases. The highest single day disposal of cases by Lok Adalats was 6,16,715 on October 8, 2016. Among the success stories in the recent Lok Adalats was the the reconciliation of a couple who were living separately for 50 years.

G-7 PLEDGES \$4.5BN TO TACKLE FOOD INSECURITY

Group of Seven leaders have agreed to spend 4.5 billion on addressing food security issues around the globe exacerbated by rising grain and food costs following Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The White House said Tuesday that the United States is pitching in 2.76 billion toward the effort. The funding will be used to assist 47 countries and regional organizations dealing with food insecurity and malnutrition. The White House says the most immediate needs are in the Horn of Africa, where the Russian blockade of grain from Ukraine has worsened an already desperate situation.

DOG ENTERS HOSPITAL IN PANIPAT, KILLS NEWBORN

A stray dog entered a private hospital in Haryana's Panipat and mauled to death a newborn after dragging him out, police said on Tuesday. The incident took place on the intervening night of Monday and Tuesday when the two-day-old boy was sleeping next to his grandmother on the floor, they said. According to police, no one noticed the dog entering the hospital. Station House Officer (SHO), Sector 13-17 police station, Inspector Vijay Kumar said, "The dog entered the hospital, picked up the newborn sleeping on the floor with his grandmother with his mouth and took him out."

SHOWING MORE EMOTIONS AT WORK BOOSTS PRODUCTIVITY: REPORT

Majority of employees feel that showing more emotions at work makes them more productive and boosts their sense of belonging, according to a report by professional networking site LinkedIn. More than 3 in 4 (76 per cent) professionals in India feel more comfortable expressing their emotions at work post-pandemic, the report, based on a survey conducted among 2,188 professionals in India between May 25-31, said. As per the report, almost 9 in 10 (87 per cent) of the employees interviewed agreed that showing more emotions at work makes them more productive and boosts feelings of belonging.

**Girls outshine boys**

- 67.16% students pass Inter exams
- TSWREIS students record 93.23 per cent pass

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

In all, 67.16% of students cleared the second year Intermediate Public Examination, results of which were declared on Tuesday. Out of the 4,42,895 students who appeared for the second year examinations in general and vocational streams, 2,97,458 were successful.

5 SUICIDES IN TS, 3 FROM CITY

In just a few hours after the Intermediate Public Examination results were declared in Telangana, three students from Hyderabad and two from other districts died by suicide for either scoring low marks or failing in the exam. From Hyderabad, M Gautham Kumar (18), resident of Saifabad, committed suicide after scoring less marks in the exam. Another student, Tagore Hari (17) from Meerpet, ended life as he had failed. Kethavath Praveen (17) from Kadthal also ended life as he had failed in the exams. All the three students hanged themselves.

'Next big thing from TS'

○ Innovation in start-up culture will come from Hyd: KCR

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The day is not far when the next big breakthrough in start-up innovation will come from Hyderabad, said Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao while inaugurating the world's largest innovation center, T-Hub in Hyderabad on Tuesday. The chief minister said "The journey of T-Hub started as an idea 8 years ago when Telangana became the youngest state in India. At that time, we took a conscious decision that our state would consistently encourage innovation and entrepreneurship in a big way. We launched T-Hub in 2015, as a commitment to the decision. Today, 7 years later we are here to start our second phase of expansion, to build a resilient start-up ecosystem in India. We are only weeks away from celebrating the 75th anniversary of our country's independence, a major milestone in our history. At this juncture, it is very important for us to



provide a clear vision and a roadmap for our country about its future, especially to our youth." CM KCR addressed that young India is an aspirational India. It wants to be challenged and seeks to compete globally. The start-up policy of Telangana has impacted over 2000 entrepreneurs and seen 1.19 Billion USD raised in funding by start-ups from T-Hub. Phase-1 of T-Hub showed that there is a huge appetite for entrepreneurship among the youth in India. Three years ago, the government decided to invest in the 2nd phase of T-Hub. The new facility is five times

bigger compared to the predecessor.

"We want Telangans to be known as the start-up state of India. Our state's start-up ecosystem is valued as among the top 10 global ecosystems in affordable talent. It is among the top 15 startup ecosystems across Asia in attracting funds. In 2021, the startup ecosystem of Telangana was valued at 4.8 billion USD. Among cities in India, Hyderabad offers the best standard of living and we want Hyderabad to be known as the start-up capital of India" the chief minister added.

"The journey of T-Hub started as an idea 8 years ago when Telangana became the youngest state in India."

A CREDIBLE ICON FOR INNOVATION: KTR

T-Hub, which leads India's innovation ecosystem, on Tuesday announced the inauguration of world's largest innovation campus in Hyderabad. Celebrating the spirit of entrepreneurship with the launch of new campus, the inauguration witnessed the presence of eminent dignitaries such as Chief Minister of the state, K Chandrashekar Rao, Principal Secretary of Industries and Commerce, Jayesh Ranjan and Minister of IT, Industries KT Rama Rao. KT Rama Rao said 'over six years, T-Hub has become a credible icon from India across the world for entrepreneurship and innovation.'

ONGC chopper crashes into sea, 4 dead

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A brand new Pawan Hans' Sikorsky chopper with 9 people on board crashed into the Arabian Sea, about 50 nautical miles from the Mumbai coast on Tuesday, killing four people -- including three ONGC employees. The helicopter, which was part of the six Sikorsky S-76D helicopters that Pawan Hans had recently leased from Milestone Aviation Group, was about 4-5 minutes away from its destination - ONGC's Sagar Kiran rig - when the incident took place, company officials with direct knowledge of the matter said. The chopper went down around 1145 hrs, just 1 nautical mile away from Sagar Kiran, but managed to stay afloat with the help of the attached floaters, helping rescuers pull out all the nine, including two pilots, after ONGC and Navy/Coast Guard scrambled in one of the fastest rescue missions in the western offshore.

**Top Maoist Vanthala Ramakrishna held**

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

In a prized catch, Vizag police arrested top gun Maoist, Pedabayalu-Korukonda Area Committee Secretary (ACS) Vanthala Ramakrishna alias Prabhakar was arrested by Pedabayalu police while he was proceeding from Kondrum to Injari of Pedabayalu, in Alluri Sitharamaraju district on Tuesday. He was involved in the sensational killing of the then Araku MLA, Kidari Sarveswara Rao and former MLA Siviri Soma. He was also involved in more than 124 different incidents from the exchange of fire, land mine blasts and also killings both in Odisha and Andhra Odisha Border (AOB) region.

After the arrest of Ramakrishna's supporters who worked under his supervision, 33 party members and 27 militia members including eight women, surrendered before Vizag range DIG S Harikrishna, and district SP S Sathish Kumar.

KCR at Raj Bhavan after 9 monthsSNCN ACHARYULU
■ HYDERABAD

In a significant development, Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao went to the Raj Bhavan on Tuesday after around nine months. The last time KCR visited the Raj Bhavan was on October 11, 2021, to attend the swearing-in ceremony of the High Court Chief Justice. Now, KCR visited the Raj Bhavan to attend the swearing-in ceremony of High Court Chief Justice Ujjal Bhuyan. In the last nine months between the swearing-in of Chief Justices Satish Chandra and Ujjal Bhuyan there were conflicts between the Raj Bhavan and



Pragathi Bhavan. Due to this, the public was interested in knowing whether KCR will attend the swearing-in of the Chief Justice or not. Finally, KCR attended the swearing-in of the Chief Justice respecting conventions.

KCR HOLDS THE KEY IN RELATIONS WITH RAJ BHAVAN

Will the swearing-in ceremony of the High Court Chief Justice help to revive cordial relations between the Raj Bhavan and Pragathi Bhavan? The visit of Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao to the Raj Bhavan on Tuesday created hopes about this in TRS circles, particularly TRS MLAs. After differences cropped up between the Raj Bhavan and Pragathi Bhavan KCR had stopped visiting the Governor. TRS MLAs know that due to the tussle between Raj Bhavan and Pragathi Bhavan, KCR had postponed his Cabinet reshuffle.

Tight security for Modi in Hyd

○ Police to deploy 5,000 personnel

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Hyderabad police have been making huge security arrangements for Prime Minister Narendra Modi's July 3 public meeting and for the BJP National Executive Committee (NEC) meeting.

The police department is going to deploy around 5,000 personnel to ensure the PM's security. The PM is staying in Hyderabad on July 2 and 3. The police are making three-phase security arrangements at the HICC Novotel Hotel and



Parade Grounds. Central forces will provide security to the PM along with SPG commandos. Two DCP rank officials from Cyberabad and Hyderabad would communicate with the SPG on security matters. Already, PMO officials and senior SPG officials have spoken to the police and have been enquiring about security details. SPG teams would take over HICC, Parade Grounds and Raj Bhavan 48 hours before the PM's arrival.

Curd, paneer and honey to attract GST

PNS ■ CHANDIGARH

Pre-packed and labelled food items like meat, fish, curd, paneer and honey will now attract GST, a tax that will also be levied on the fee that banks charge for the issue of cheques. This after the GST Council - the highest decision-making body on the levy of goods and services tax - accepted most of the recommendations of a group of ministers from states on withdrawing exemptions with a view to rationalising the levy, officials said. The panel headed by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman and comprising representatives of all states and UTs, on the first day of the two-day meeting accepted the GoM's recommendation for reviewing the exemption from GST that packed and labelled food items currently get.

31 pc of RS MPs have criminal cases

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

About 31 per cent of sitting Rajya Sabha MPs have declared criminal cases against themselves while the average assets of the Upper House members are Rs 79.54 crore, according to a report released by ADR-National Election Watch.

Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) and National Election Watch have analyzed the criminal, financial and other background details of 226 out of 233 sitting MPs.

In the current Rajya Sabha, one seat is vacant. Two MPs have not been analysed as their affidavits were unavailable and four seats of Jammu and Kashmir are undefined, the report said.

Of the 226 sitting Rajya Sabha MPs,



197 (87 per cent) are crorepaties' and the average assets per Rajya Sabha MP are Rs 79.54 crore, the report said.

Of 226 Rajya Sabha members, 71 (31 per cent) have declared criminal cases against themselves and 37 (16 per cent) have declared serious criminal cases.

According to the report, two Rajya Sabha MPs have declared cases related to murder (IPC Section 302) and four MPs have declared cases related

to attempt to murder (IPC Section 307).

Four Rajya Sabha MPs have declared cases related to crimes against women and out of these four MPs, one namely K C Venugopal (Congress) from Rajasthan has declared case related to rape (IPC Section 376), the report said. According to the report, 20 (24 per cent) out of 85 Rajya Sabha MPs from BJP, 12 (39 per cent) out of 31 MPs from Congress, three (23 per cent) out of 13 from AITC, five (83 per cent) out of six from RJD, four (80 per cent) out of five from CPI(M), three (30 per cent) out of 10 from AAP, three (33 per cent) out of nine from YSRCP and two (50 per cent) out of four Rajya Sabha MPs from NCP have declared criminal cases against themselves in their affidavits.

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Results of by-polls do not mirror real mood of people

Whatever be the reason necessitating by-polls, the ruling party will usually have the last laugh. If the ruling party gets one lakh plus majority of votes over its nearest rival, it might be seen as a comfortable win.

The case of the Atmakur Assembly segment that went to by-poll following the sudden death of the sitting legislator and a Minister in the Andhra Pradesh government is a bit peculiar. These days, widows of deceased legislators are deemed to be political heirs. There have been many instances of opportunity being provided to the wives of deceased members in the Telugu states. On some occasions, sons and daughters are considered to be successors of departed leaders. After the sudden death of Mekapati Goutam Reddy (son of former MP M. Rajamohan Reddy),



Chief Minister YS Jaganmohan Reddy, during his visit to the deceased member's house, offered YSRC party ticket to the wife of Gowtham Reddy and assured her of a thumping victory. Both Jagan and his wife Bharati Reddy had jointly made this offer. But the family members of Gowtham Reddy had their way and chose to make the younger brother of Gowtham Reddy as YSRC candidate for the Atmakur by-poll. The family members showed their aversion to the party falling back on their daughter-in-law for taking forward the legacy of the family. Normally, the Chief Minister's word is final in such matters. The Mekapati family succeeded in having their way in the selection of candidate for the Atmakur by-poll. All went well and the candidate emerged victorious

The case of the Atmakur Assembly segment that went to by-poll following the sudden death of the sitting legislator and a Minister in the Andhra Pradesh government is a bit peculiar. These days, widows of deceased legislators are deemed to be political heirs. There have been many instances of opportunity being provided to the wives of deceased members in the Telugu states.

with a majority of 82,000 votes, though party leaders and cadre had been confident of getting a majority of one lakh votes. The Atmakur bypoll was held without the participation of the principal opposition party on the understanding that, in the case of death of a Member of Legislative Assembly, the resultant by-polls should be held unopposed as per the 'custom' followed by political parties. Some say this practice only helps destroy the spirit of

democracy. The Telugu Desam Party showed its reluctance to participate in the Atmakur by-polls. But the Bharatiya Janata Party came forward to try its luck and lost its deposit. Losing deposit in any election is considered as the most humiliating defeat. Still, the BJP is crowing that it got a better tally of votes this time! The larger question is: What would have happened had TDP participated? In fact, the ruling YSRC did not get votes like on previous occasions. Polling



M D RATNA KUMAR
Senior Journalist

was peaceful and completed by 5.00 pm sharp. The outcome of this by-poll would have been seen as a precursor to YSRCP retaining power in the 2024 General Election had the party won the seat by a majority of one lakh plus votes. The absence of TDP did not come in handy for the ruling party. Naturally the results of by-polls come in favour of the family of

deceased member. But on some rare occasions, there could be a tilt towards the Opposition. In March 1997, during the regime of N. Chandrababu Naidu in the combined state of Andhra Pradesh, Naidu's cabinet colleague Gottipati Hanumanta Rao, holding the Civil Supplies portfolio, died of illness. His son, G. Narasaiah, got elected from the Martur Assembly segment of Prakasam district, achieving one lakh plus majority. This victory had sent positive signals for the then government headed by Naidu.

The YSRC government is feeling the heat of its programme of bringing its achievements to every doorstep, with legislators being cornered by people over many grievances. Few members are exempted from this mass contact programme. This is causing a lot of uneasiness among leaders of the ruling party, some of whom are losing their

cool while facing irate members of the public. For example, a former minister (since dropped from the cabinet) recently reacted very seriously towards a youth for questioning him about the loans obtained by the AP government to the tune of Rs 8 lakh crores of rupees. The MLA issued a strong warning to that young man stating that it was unnecessary for the latter. He ordered the local inspector to file a criminal case against that youth for levelling corruption charges on him, after conducting an enquiry. This incident drew much criticism as questioning of the local MLA attracted such 'punishment' for a commoner. Pruning the list of beneficiaries of welfare schemes is also causing unrest among people. Continuous rise in prices of essential commodities is becoming unbearable for the poor and the middle class people. The by-polls for two Assembly segments of

Kaikalur (Krishna district) and Kovur(Nellore district) in 1993 had created a sensation in the politics of AP in those days with the Congress as the ruling party. These by-polls had given signals to possible 'Tsumami' to be created by Telugu Desam Party in subsequent elections of 1994 in which then ruling Congress could not even get the status of principal opposition in the Assembly.

The ruling YSRC, having expressed its resolve to be in power for 30 years, should have focused on getting majority of one lakh votes in Atmakur for sending positive signals to people. Now people excluded from the lists of lists of beneficiaries of various schemes are sore. About 51,000 mothers are unhappy at being excluded from the prestigious 'Amma Vodi' scheme. Such incidents will have a negative impact on the government in the days to come.

Chiru gets invitation for PM's function in AP

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Union Minister of Culture, Tourism and Development of North Eastern Region, G. Kishan Reddy, invited Chiranjeevi to Prime Minister Modi's programme on July 4 in Andhra Pradesh.

Kishan said in invite that on July 4 the country will be commemorating the 125th birth anniversary of revolutionary freedom fighter Alluri Sitarama Raju.

Alluri is revered across Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Odisha and Karnataka as 'Manyam Veerudu' or 'Hero of Jungle' and is a household name in these states.

As part of the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, we have the opportunity to recognise the contributions of Alluri Sitarama Raju in uniting and training tribal communities of



the Madras Presidency to fight against colonial powers.

On July 4, Prime Minister Modi will be in Bhimavaram. The PM's schedule includes a public meeting at Pedamiram and unveiling the statue of Alluri Sitarama Raju in ASR Nagar, Bhimavaram.

Kishan requested Chiranjeevi to attend the programme at Bhimavaram on July 4.

Sanjay lashes out at KCR for ignoring PVN

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

BJP leader Bandi Sanjay lashed out at Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao for ignoring former Prime Minister PV Narasimha Rao after using the latter's legacy for political gains.

Speaking to reporters on Tuesday after paying tributes to PVN on his 101th birth anniversary, Sanjay said that KCR was known for his use and throw policy.

Describing PVN as a polyglot, Sanjay said that it is a matter of pride that PV Narasimha Rao belongs to Telangana. He also said that PVN introduced economic reforms and always thought of the poor.

Reminding how KCR sang praises to the former prime minister, Sanjay said that he wouldn't pay respects on the leader's birth anniversary as there were no elections now. KCR even



promised Rs 100 crore for PV Ghat but nothing has been done, he added.

KCR has even forgot about the development of PVN's birthplace Vangara and the construction of a memorial, the MP said. He said that it is an insult to PV Narasimha Rao and his family to use his legacy for political gains.

‘PV gave lands to poor but TRS taking back’

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Former Prime Minister, the late PV Narasimha Rao, introduced land reforms and the Land Ceiling Act and gave land to the poor, TPCC President Revanth Reddy said.

He said that PVN is the reason why India is strong economically today. PVN's liberal policies enabled Indians to secure employment worldwide. PVN is a person who must be remembered by everyone, Revanth said.

He said that works on the PVN memorial in Vangara village have not reached the expected phase and demanded that the government should complete them fast. He said that the Congress always respected PVN's family.

Senior Congress leader V. Hanumantha Rao said that PVN distributed lands to the poor, but the TRS government is taking back the lands from the poor.

BJP committees going slow

K VENKATESHWARLU
■ HYDERABAD

The BJP has been getting ready for its National Executive Committee meeting being held on July 2 and 3. As part of it, the party has appointed 34 committees. But the committees have not yet acquired momentum in executing their allotted jobs. Many committees are still confused about what to do.

A media committee member told 'The Pioneer' on condition of anonymity that they do not know what was happening to the 34 committees. There is no coordination between the committees, he said.

"I have to know as to what was happening in the committees as a media committee member but I do not know what I have to do. I am not in

a position to give any information to the media although things will start from Wednesday onwards. The Vistaraks are coming to Hyderabad on June 29 evening and June 30 morning and they will go to their allotted Assembly constituency," he said. In fact, the BJP office staff has been doing the job of the media committee as usual.

Another leader said that the committees have been doing their allotted work perfectly but the only problem is that there is no coordination between them.

That is because the party and the steering committee have been giving directions to the committees separately, he said. The arrangements will not be affected as the committees are doing their work as directed by the party, he said.

Refer Jubilee Hills rape to the CBI

○ KCR's niece urges Guv

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao's niece and former Congress leader Regulapati Ramya Rao has requested Governor Dr Tamilisai Sounderarajan to refer the Jubilee Hills rape case to the CBI. Ramya met the Governor on Tuesday at the Raj Bhavan and submitted a memorandum. In her memorandum, Ramya said that rapes have become common in the state as Telangana has become a hub of the drug and liquor mafia. She said that Telangana's income is about Rs 1,35,000 crore during the last eight years, while the income from the Telangana region in united Andhra Pradesh was just Rs 10,000 crore per annum. In the

latest budget the TS government has estimated an income of Rs 45,000 crore from liquor which indicates how high liquor sales are going to be in the current fiscal, she said. The increasing pub culture in the city has been a big concern since 2014. In Hyderabad, there were only 30 pubs before 2014, but now the number has reached 100, she said. The number of liquor stores increased substantially after the formation of TS. Before 2014, in united AP there were 2,216 liquor stores in the Telangana region, but now there were 2,620 liquor stores, catering to the public in Telangana opening as early as 9 am and selling up to 11 pm officially and beyond unofficially, she added.

Tight security...

Continued from page 1

The police have already discussed with PMO about the PM's minute-by-minute programme. The IMD has handed over its report for July 2 and 3 to the security team.

The police will also provide security to the 18 Chief Ministers and Union Ministers coming to Hyderabad to attend the NEC meeting. The police have kept additional forces ready for security.

It is learnt that the police have informed the BJP and the SPG that Raj Bhavan is not secure for the PM. It is also learnt that the police have asked the SPG to make the PM stay at the five-star Hotel Novotel.

TO MEET 5 MN TON GREEN HYDROGEN TARGET

‘India needs 115 GW RE power, 50 bn litre water

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India will need 115 GW of renewable power generation capacity and 50 billion litres of demineralised water supply to achieve the goal of five million tonnes of green hydrogen by 2030, as per the EY India-SED Fund report.

In this decade, industrial feedstock-based applications will drive the demand for green hydrogen, a statement said.

Price parity between green and grey hydrogen production will determine the speed and scale of transition, said the EY-

SED Fund report titled 'Accelerating Green Hydrogen Economy', released at the CII's conference on 'Green New Energy for a Net Zero India' in Bengaluru.

The report highlights that India's ambition to produce 5 million tonnes of green hydrogen by 2030 will need 115 GW of renewable power generation capacity and 50 billion litres of demineralised water supply.

To get a sense of this scale, the current all-India installed capacity of renewable power generation is 113 GW as of May 2022.

Tailor murdered over 'insult to Islam', tension in Udaipur

PNS ■ JAIPUR

Two men slit the throat of a tailor in Udaipur on Monday, saying in a video post on social media that they are avenging an insult to Islam and triggering communal tension in the Rajasthan city.

Additional police force was deployed in the city as Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot appealed for calm.

In a video clip posted online, one of the purported assailants declared that they had beheaded the man and then threatened Prime Minister Narendra Modi, saying their knife will get

him as well.

Indirectly, the assailants referred to Nupur Sharma, the BJP leader suspended from the party over a remark on Prophet Mohammad.

The tailor was recently arrested by the local police over some remarks made on social media by him.

The assailants entered his shop in the city's Dhan Mandi area posing as customers. As the tailor took the measurements of one of them -- who later identified himself as Riaz - attacked him with a cleaver. The other man shot the brutal murder with his mobile phone.

TS launches 'Rythu Bandhu'

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Telangana government on Tuesday launched 'Rythu Bandhu' investment support scheme for farmers, an official release said.

State Agriculture Minister S Niranjan Reddy said on the first day Rs 586.65 crore was deposited in the bank accounts of as many as 19.98 farmers across Telangana covering 11.73 lakh acres.

Telangana is the only state in the country that provides investment assistance to farmers while none of the national parties such as the BJP and Congress ever implemented it in states ruled by them, Reddy said.

Girls outshine...

Continued from page 1

This year's Telangana Intermediate examinations results were declared by Education Minister Sabita Indra Reddy. The results have been hosted on <https://tsbie.cgg.gov.in>, results.cgg.gov.in and examresults.ts.nic.in.

At 75.28, girls' pass percentage was far ahead of boys' pass percentage of 59.21. The pass percentage of first year stu-

dents stood at 63.32, including the general and vocational courses.

Minister for SCDD Koppula Eshwar and Ronald Rose, Secretary of the Social Welfare Residential Educational Institutions Society (TSWREIS), congratulated TSWREIS students for achieving outstanding results in the junior and senior Intermediate public exams. He also hailed the efforts put in by teachers.

Curd, paneer and honey...

So pre-packed and labelled meat (except frozen), fish, curd, paneer, honey, dried leguminous vegetables, dried makhana, wheat and other cereals, wheat or meslin flour, jaggery, puffed rice (muri), all goods and organic manure and coir pith compost will not be exempted from GST and will now attract a 5 per cent tax.

Similarly, an 18 per cent GST will be levied on fee charged by banks for the issue of cheques (loose or in book form). Maps and charts including atlases will attract a 12 per cent levy. Goods that are unpacked, unlabelled and unbranded will continue to remain exempt from GST.

Besides, a 12 per cent tax on hotel rooms below Rs 1,000/day will be levied, as against a tax exemption cur-

rently.

GST rate rationalisation is important to boost the weighted average GST rate that has fallen to 11.6 per cent, against 14.4 per cent at the time of launch. The GST Council also recommended a correction in the inverted duty structure for a host of items, including edible oil, coal, LED lamps, printing/drawing ink, finished leather and solar water heater.

KCR at Raj Bhavan...

Continued from page 1

The Governor, Dr Tamilisai Soundararajan, administered the oath of office to Ujjal Bhuyan as the Chief Justice of the High Court. KCR was seated to the left of the Governor on the dais.

Before the swearing-in, the Governor, Dr Tamilisai Soundararajan, Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar

Rao and the Chief Justice designate, Ujjal Bhuyan, had a chit-chat for a few minutes in the Raj Bhavan durbar hall. The picture released by the Raj Bhavan and the CMO shows Governor Dr Tamilisai Soundararajan and the Chief Justice designate, Ujjal Bhuyan, sitting close to each other and Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao sitting a little away from the Governor.

KCR HOLDS THE KEY...

Continued from page 1

The TRS MLAs who are hoping for Cabinet berths now hope that the gulf between the Raj Bhavan and Pragathi Bhavan may end and KCR will reshuffle his Cabinet. While those hoping for a Cabinet berth are happy with the latest development, the Ministers who may lose Cabinet berths are unhappy.

5 suicides...

Continued from page 1

The three cases were reported from the three Commissionerates in the city. In Khammam district, two Intermediate first year students died by suicide soon after the results were released on Tuesday. Srikonda Sai (17) of Kusumanch, Khammam was a student at JVR Junior College. Seeing that he had failed in three subjects, Sai jumped into an open well near the village and died. In a similar incident, K Sathi Babu of Kothagudem district hanged himself at his home after failing in the exam.

ONGC chopper...

Continued from page 1

Four of the nine pulled out were unconscious and airlifted in a Navy chopper to a hospital in Mumbai, where they were declared dead, an official said. Three of the dead are employees of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), the state-owned firm.

Top Maoist Vanthala...

Continued from page 1

Vanthala Ramakrishna, 35, a PTG was the resident of Kondrum village, Injari Panchayath, Pedabayalu mandal of Alluri Sitharamaraju District.

With the inspiration of CPI (Maoist) Party leader Bhupathi, he joined as a militia member for Kondrum village and since then he has worked as Dalam member, party member, Area Committee Member and Area

Committee Secretary.

He moved along with the Maoist party in Malkangiri, Koraput, East Godavari and Alluri Sitharamaraju districts which lie in the Andhra-Odisha Special Zonal Committee area (AOBSZC) and recruited many militia members. He conducted meetings in the name of 'Praja Courts' and frightened the local people by killing innocent tribals, branding them as police informers, said DIG Harikrishna.

60 Maoist Dalam members give up

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

After the arrest of Pedabayalu-Korukonda Area Committee Secretary (ACS) Vanthala Ramakrishna alias Prabhakar, his supporters who had worked under his supervision, 33 party members and 27 militia members, including eight women, sur-

rendered before Vizag range DIG S Harikrishna, and district SP S Sathish Kumar on Tuesday.

They belonged to the interior and Maoist-affected tribal villages Kondrum, Thagupadu, Jumadam, Nanubari and Jadiguda. All of them joined the ultras and worked as party members and militia members.

TRS, Congress tie-up certain in 2023 TS polls, says Arvind

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The BJP Lok Sabha member representing Nizamabad Dharmapuri Arvind has stated that he is waiting for the Bharath Rashtriya Samithi (BRS) to come on the scene as early as possible as that will end the TRS.

He said the presidential election is the first step in the coming alliance between the Congress and the TRS. He said that he was 100 per cent sure that the Congress and the TRS will contest elections together in 2023 and added that the leaders who join the Congress would face problems in future.

He alleged that the TRS



Working President KT Ramarao has been telling lies about Central funds supposed to come to Telangana. He said that the BJP's ideology is 100

per cent dangerous to the TRS and so TRS leaders have been trying to sling mud at the BJP.

Reacting to a question about the ED probe against Rahul

Gandhi, Arvind said that the CBI had probed Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Amit Shah too.

Speaking to the media on Tuesday at the BJP state office, Arvind asked KCR to tell about the condition of his BRS. He exuded confidence that the BJP is going to win with a two-thirds majority.

He asked TRS leaders, who have been describing the PM and other BJP leaders as political tourists if they visit Telangana to explain what will they call KCR if he goes to Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and other states. He addressed a letter to KCR asking him to appoint Poorna as the ambassador of Telangana. He said

that the BJP did not declare that it will field an ST woman as its presidential candidate but it did so. But KCR did not give a chance to a Dalit to become the Chief Minister although he had promised it.

He said that KCR is supporting non-ST candidates although the BJP has fielded a ST woman in the presidential polls. He said that KCR had ignored the state's SC, ST Commission.

Arvind said the Railway Coach Factory would have been completed years ago if the government had allotted land for it. It is shameful on the part of the TRS, which had failed to allot land, to speak about divisive issues, he added.

HC rejects Eshwar's plea to reject Laxman's petition

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Telangana High Court has dismissed the petition filed by the Minister of Welfare, Koppula Eshwar, urging the HC to reject the petition filed by Adluri Laxman challenging his election.

During the 2018 Assembly elections, Koppula Eshwar of the TRS and Adluri Laxman from the Congress contested from Dharmapuri constituency in Jagtial district.

Adluri Laxman approached the High Court in 2019 alleging that the election authorities had announced that Eshwar won the election without counting EVMs and VVPATs and that it is against the Public Representatives Act. Koppula Eshwar approached the High Court urging the HC to reject



Laxman's petition as the petition did not show valid reasons. After listening to the arguments of both sides, the High Court dismissed the petition of Koppula Eshwar. The High Court will take up the trial very soon.

Speaking to the media at the Gandhi Bhavan on Tuesday, Laxman said that the then Collector had announced that he had lost the election by 400 votes without listening to his

plea that there was a mistake in counting three EVMs.

The Collector did not heed his appeal for recounting, he said. "Then I approached the High Court with the evidence I had," he said and asked Eshwar to explain why he did not accept the recounting plea.

Laxman said that he was hoping that the High Court will order recounting. He asked Eshwar to accept the recounting plea if he had any sincerity.

Two school-going students mowed down by tractor

PNS ■ MEDAK

Two school-going students were killed in a road accident at Rangampet village under Kulcharam mandal in the district on Tuesday. The accident happened when a tractor knocked them down. Another student suffered serious injuries in the accident.

The deceased were identified as Shivaipally Jaswanth (15), a ninth class student, and Turpatla Rajnikanth (13), an eighth-class student. Ram



Charan was injured in the accident. A tractor allegedly knocked the students down fatally when they were on their way to Social Welfare Residential Hostel from the Zilla Parishad High School at Rangampet. While Jaswanth died on the spot, Rajnikanth died while undergoing treatment in Area Hospital Medak an hour later. Meanwhile, Charan was battling for life. The Kulcharam Police have registered a case.

'Punish forest officials who hit Adivasi women'

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Bakka Judson alleged that on June 27, forest guards attacked Adivasi women Ravva Bhime, Sode Santhi, Ravva Jogi, Sodi Sukudi in the Bentalapadu village of Chandrugonda Mandal in the Bhadradi Kothagudem district.

AICC member Bakka Judson has appealed to the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) to take action against the forest guards who attacked Adivasi women and to inspect the podu lands as forest guards are attacking Adivasis when they till the lands.

He also appealed to the NCST to ask the Telangana Government to issue title deeds to the Podu farmers.

In his appeal, Judson said that when Adivasis took out a march to the Chief Minister's Office named 'Chalo Pragathi Bhavan' from Ramannagudem

village in the Ashwaraopet Mandal of Bhadradi Kothagudem district to get their long-standing problems regarding Podu lands solved, the police lathi-charged and took them into custody on June 27.

In another incident, forest guards rounded up Adivasi women and started beating

them while they were tilling the lands. The forest guards assaulted the Adivasi women using belts and they were injured in the attack, Judson said.

He alleged that on June 27, forest guards attacked Adivasi women Ravva Bhime, Sode Santhi, Ravva Jogi, Sodi Sukudi in the Bentalapadu village of

Chandrugonda Mandal in the Bhadradi Kothagudem district.

He said that in 2006, the then Congress Government had issued title deeds to the Adivasis for podu lands which they had been cultivating for 25 years. After the formation of Telangana the Adivasis are not being allowed to cultivate the lands.

On October 6, 2021, Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao said the state government will start receiving claims for the assignment of podu lands from October 3, 2021, but that was not done.

The NCST registered the appeal.

Yadadri temple nets Rs 68.55 lakh in a week

PNS ■ YADADRI-BHONGIR

Sri Yadadri Lakshmi nar-simha Swamy temple received Rs 68.55 lakh during the last seven days. The hundi counting was taken up by temple staff on the hill shrine on Tuesday. A total of Rs 68,55,927 lakh cash was received through hundi collections for the last seven days, according to the temple Executive Officer N Geetha. In addition to this, as much as 96 grams of gold and 1.2 kilograms of silver were also received. Foreign currency - 426 dollars, six Singapore pounds, 10 Australia dollars and 325 UAE dinars were among the hundi collection.

TS develops educational hub in Gajwel constituency

PNS ■ SANGAREDDY

The Telangana State Education Welfare Infrastructure Development Corporation (TSEWIDC) developed the Education Hub in Gajwel constituency. It is all set to emerge as a model project.

Under the State government's kindergarten to PG free education initiative, TSEWIDC has constructed several blocks and established sixth to post graduation institutes on the campus. Apart from government schools, KGBVs, Model School, government junior college, government degree college and postgraduate college came up on the campus.

The government made it very clear that the medium of instruction is English and only the State syllabus is adopted in the institutes. Such a vast com-

plex has come up only in Telangana State. The State government allocated Rs 146.28 crore to take up these works and TSEWIDC executed the project.

Following the success of Gajwel initiative, the State government is proposing to set up similar hubs in other districts. The various blocks which house classrooms, dining halls, libraries and labs have been constructed on a par with international standards with a total built-up area of over 4.58 lakh square feet.

A 1,200-student capacity auditorium has been built and students from different standards can avail themselves of the science labs established in these hubs. In addition to the regular course curriculum, coaching classes are conducted for students appearing for different competitive examinations.

People urged to celebrate Bakrid in peace

PNS ■ NALGONDA

District Collector Rahul Sharma on Tuesday appealed to the people to celebrate Bakrid festival in a peaceful atmosphere. The Collector was speaking at the peace committee meeting here. Speaking on the occasion, the Collector directed the Revenue and Municipal officials to make all arrangements for the devotees to celebrate the festival. He directed the authorities to provide drinking water, shelter, sanitation, electricity, and other infrastructure facilities. District Superintendent of Police Rema Rajeshwari said that security measures would be tightened to ensure peace. She warned of strong action against troublemakers.

Governor lauds AIIMS for providing quality healthcare

Tamilisai Soundararajan visited AIIMS, Bibinagar on Tuesday

PNS ■ BHONGIR

Of all the AIIMS, the AIIMS at Bibinagar, near Hyderabad, has occupied the number one position in providing better healthcare to the rural people, lauded Telangana Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan on Tuesday.

Addressing a meeting at the AIIMS-Bibinagar conference hall here, she felt very happy to have visited the AIIMS and said that she visited the healthcare facility treating it as her responsibility, immediately accepting the invitation from the college. She praised AIIMS for encouraging normal deliveries on a large scale, without giving importance to delivery through C-section, and giving priority to the Covid-19 vaccination programme. Earlier, she inaugurated a skill lab in



Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan speaking at the AIIMS in Bibinagar on Tuesday

the AIIMS. In connection with her visit, she released Operation Swasthya, the surgical journey and Anusandhaan.

AIIMS director Vikas Bhatia said that AIIMS is ahead of other institutions offering var-

ious treatment facilities and requisitioning various equipment needed by the institute. He sought the Governor's support for the same. Later, she planted saplings on the premises of the AIIMS and visited

some wards in the institute and expressed satisfaction. Bhongir District Collector Pamela Satpathy, DCP Narayana Reddy, AIIMS PRO Syamala, AIIMS students and staff took part in the event.

Condition of Minority Residential School students stable

PNS ■ SIDDIPET

The condition of Minority Residential School students, who took ill after having lunch on Sunday, remained stable, according to officials here on Tuesday. It is suspected that the students fell ill due to food poisoning.

Siddipet Government Hospital Superintendent Kishore Kumar, District Medical and Health Officer Kasinath and Medical Council member Sairam, told reporters that the food taken by the students was sent to the laboratory for analysis. Kishore Kumar said the condition of all

the students remained stable and they were out of danger. He told the parents of the students that there was nothing to worry. The students would be discharged within 24 hours.

Minister for Health T Harish Rao, who came to know of the incident, directed the hospital doctors to provide the best medical treatment to the students. He has been monitoring the situation, the officials said.

State Medical Council member Sairam called for stringent action against those responsible for the incident. An inquiry has been ordered into the incident, he said.

Plant 100 crore saplings: Collector to officials

PNS ■ SANGAREDDY

District Collector A Sharat on Tuesday made it clear that the district administration has set a target of planting one crore saplings during the Hariitha Haram programme.

Speaking at a review meeting here, the Collector directed the officials to ensure that the programme would achieve 100 per cent success. He was holding a review meeting with Mandal Parishad Development Officers, Mandal Parishad Officers and the officials concerned. He reviewed the progress of several programmes, including village sport complexes,



Sangareddy Collector A Sharat at a review meeting in Sangareddy on Tuesday

labour achievement and Palle Prakruti. Sharat asked the officials to ensure that green cover is increased in villages during the Hariitha Haram programme. More saplings should be planted in villages, he told the officials. The village must flourish with green-

ery, he observed. Avenue plantations should be at least 8 feet high. He wanted the officials to erect 'welcome' and 'thank you' boards in every village.

On Palle Prakruthi Vanalu, the Collector instructed the officials to complete the works by July 28. As for the village

sports complexes, he said the work on the project should be undertaken immediately and completed by July 20. Sharat asked the officials to achieve a 100 per cent target as far as the Mahatma Gandhi National Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGN-ERGS). He stressed the importance of ensuring that labourers get minimum wages. Each worker engaged in the MGNERGS should be paid Rs 175.

Additional Collector Rajarshi Shah, Zilla Parishad Chief Executive officer Ellaiah, DRDO Srinivas Rao, DPO Suresh Mohan and others were present.

Meghna secures 3rd rank, Sai Sravani 4th rank in Inter exams

PNS ■ WARANGAL

Gudikandulu Meghna secured third state rank in the intermediate first year examinations, the results of which were announced on Tuesday. She hailed from Koppuru village. She had earlier studied 10th class at Gurukul School. She scored 435 in the first year Intermediate examinations.

Meanwhile, Gunda Sai Sravani secured the state fourth rank in the Intermediate public examination.

She scored 987 out of 1000. In the first year, she



Meghna and Sravani

scored 466 marks out of 470 and ranked second at the state level. Sravani worked hard aiming to get the first rank but was disappointed upon scoring the fourth rank.

Floral tributes paid to P V Narasimha Rao

PNS ■ JAYASHANKAR BHUPALAPALLY

Former minister D Sridhar Babu has lauded P V Narasimha Rao for introducing economic reforms at a time when global economy was on the decline and paved the way for the growth of the country and described him as a great leader.

He paid floral tributes to PV at a meeting held at his camp office in Manthani on Tuesday in connection with the latter's birth anniversary. He garlanded the portrait of PV Narasimha Rao and paid tributes to the great leader.

Globally renowned PV Narasimha Rao, represented



Congress MLA D Sridhar Babu pays tributes to former prime minister P V Narasimha Rao in Manthani, Jayashankar Bhupalapally district on Tuesday

Manthani area in legislative Assembly four times. His growth as a minister in the

State Cabinet, then as the CM of undivided Andhra Pradesh, union minister and PM was a

great pride to the people of the area.

PV did not compromise on economic reforms, he said, pointing out how he started special residential school during his stint as Education Minister. He strengthened education system by providing better education to the poor, weaker sections and Backward Classes students of the residential schools. Similarly, PV was responsible for starting Navodaya Schools.

PV Narasimha Rao successfully implemented all aspects included in Rajiv Gandhi's election manifesto as PM of the country. Calling him as a visionary, Sridhar Babu said PV led the country

on the road to development with his economic reforms. In spite of his high status, he was always humble. In spite of a polyglot, he never stopped learning. Another notable achievement of his was introduction of the Land Ceiling Act and distribution of the surplus land among the landless poor and weaker sections. He appealed to the people to strive to implement his ideals and vowed to implement them.

Kisan Congress State coordinator Sasi Bhushan Kaache, Block Congress party president Tirupati Yadav, Manthani Congress party president Seggem Rajesh and others were present.

'PV is modern builder of India'

PNS ■ WARANGAL

Government Chief Whip Dasayam Vinay Bhaskar on Tuesday paid floral tributes to P V Narasimha Rao by garlanding his statue at Hanamkonda bus station junction in connection with PV's birth anniversary.

He described PV as the modern builder of the country and the proud son of Telangana soil for he introduced economic reforms when the country was passing through a difficult situation.

Besides the reforms in the economic sphere, he laid down the atomic policy and foreign policy of the country. He achieved qualitative devel-



Government Chief Whip Dasayam Vinay Bhaskar and TRS leaders paying tributes to former prime minister P V in Hanamkonda on Tuesday

opment in matters of internal security. Further, he was responsible for multiplying the country's wealth.

The action plan for development of Telangana, being implemented by Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao, set an example for the

whole country to emulate, he said. PV proved that the vision of the Telangana leadership will show a path to the nation, he said, adding that he and other TRS leaders will derive inspiration from PV and forge ahead under the leadership of KCR.

INDIA CORNER

Thirty-seven inmates of jail near Patna test Covid positive

Nearly 40 inmates of the Baur Central Prison on the outskirts of the Bihar capital have tested positive for COVID-19, an official said on Tuesday. According to jail superintendent Jitendra Kumar, mass testing was ordered after one of the inmates, a former MLA, tested positive for the infection last week. "Ex-MLA Ranveer Yadav had developed symptoms. Rapid antigen test report was positive. Subsequently, mass testing was ordered. More than 800 inmates underwent RT-PCR test on Saturday and Sunday. Reports came out yesterday with 37 of them testing positive", the jail superintendent told PTI-Bhusha. The former MLA has since been shifted to a hospital while the other inmates who have tested positive were kept in an isolation ward inside the jail, Kumar said. The state has been reporting more than 100 cases for the past few days, more than half of these in the capital district. The state's active caseload had on Monday reached 774, according to the health department.



78 pc of institutions to adopt hybrid exam model: Report

There is a high preference for a hybrid test format even after the Covid-19-related disruptions, with about 78 per cent of the institutions surveyed plan to adopt the model, according to a report. A higher number of educators (78 per cent) in India are willing to incorporate digital into their exam preferences in 2022, given that there is a balance between center-based exams and remote online assessments, according to Mercer | Metti annual 'The State of Online Examinations Report 2022'. The State of Online Examinations Report 2022 is based on data collected from over 150 deans, HODs, professors, and other important stakeholders across the country. The report further revealed that 75 per cent of the respondents prefer the ease of administration, scheduling and coordination offered by the online mode. According to the report, 72 per cent of respondents believe that online exams have improved their overall exam experience and 60 per cent would prefer the online model for semester exams, certifications and distance learning courses.



Edu Secretary calls for incorporating study of PM Gati Shakti scheme

Union Education Secretary Sanjay Murthy on Tuesday called for incorporating study of PM Gati Shakti scheme in academic programs. "The need of the hour is that academic institutions realise the importance of this Government of India initiative. Academic institutions have the power to play a significant role in bringing change through quality knowledge dissemination and relevant researches in logistics and infrastructure sectors," Murthy said. He was addressing an online workshop on "Leveraging Satellite communication, Geo-informatics, and Geospatial technology for urban planning and to promote multimodal logistics" organized by NITIE Mumbai in association with the Ministry of Education and Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics (BISAG-N).



Modi meets UAE Prez Sheikh Mohamed in Abu Dhabi

PNS ■ ABU DHABI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday met UAE President and Ruler of Abu Dhabi Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan here and conveyed his personal condolences on the demise of former president of the Gulf nation Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

"In a special gesture, UAE President and Ruler of Abu Dhabi Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, accompanied by senior members of the Royal Family, was at Abu Dhabi airport for the interaction with PM," Ministry of External Affairs Sokesperson Arindam Bagchi tweeted.

Modi arrived here on a brief visit after attending a productive G7 Summit in Germany where he interacted with several world leaders on the margins of the summit and discussed issues aimed at furthering global well-being and prosperity.

During his meeting with Sheikh Mohamed, Modi con-



veyed his personal condolences on the passing away of Sheikh Khalifa, who died on May 13 at the age of 73 after a long illness.

This is their first interaction after the UAE leader's election as the new president of the Gulf nation last month.

Modi had expressed grief over Sheikh Khalifa's death, calling him a great statesman and visionary leader under whom India-UAE relations prospered. India had announced one day of state mourning following the demise of Sheikh Khalifa.

Sheikh Khalifa was the eldest

son of UAE's founder President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan. He served as the President of the UAE and ruler of Abu Dhabi from November 3, 2004 till his death.

Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu last month visited the UAE and offered condolences to the UAE leadership on the demise of Sheikh Khalifa.

The last visit by Modi to the UAE was in August 2019 during which he received the UAE's highest award, 'Order of Zayed' conferred upon him by the UAE President.

The UAE was India's third-largest trading partner for the

year 2019-20 after China and US, according to the Ministry of External Affairs.

The UAE is the third-largest export destination of India (after the US and China) with an amount of nearly USD 16 billion for the year 2020-21.

For the UAE, India is the third-largest trading partner for the year 2020 with an amount of around USD 27.93 billion (non-oil trade).

Indian expatriate community of approximately 3.4 million is the largest ethnic community in UAE constituting roughly about 35 per cent of the country's population.

Mumbai Press Club condemns Mohammad Zubair's arrest

PNS ■ MUMBAI

The Mumbai Press Club on Tuesday condemned the arrest of Mohammad Zubair, journalist and co-founder of the fact-checking website Alt News, by the Delhi police.

Zubair was arrested on Monday over a tweet of 2018 for allegedly hurting religious sentiments.

In a statement, the Mumbai Press Club said, "Zubair should be released immediately. We also request Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah's immediate intervention in this matter." Many other journalists' organizations have also condemned Zubair's arrest by the police in the national capital.

Alt News co-founder Pratik Sinha has alleged that Zubair was arrested in a case for which no notice was given by the police, which is mandatory under law for the sections under which he has been held, the Mumbai Press Club noted in the statement.

States should ensure jobs for people joining mass gatherings

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Centre has asked states and Union territories to ensure that people taking part in mass gatherings and undertaking pilgrimage are asymptomatic and preferably fully vaccinated against COVID-19.

In a letter to states and UTs on Tuesday, Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan said mass gatherings in context of various festivities as well as yatras are likely to be held in different parts of the country in the coming months, and that such congregations may potentially facilitate transmission of infectious diseases, including COVID-19.

While the trajectory of COVID-19 cases has declined significantly from levels that were observed in earlier part of this year, a few states and UTs across the country are witnessing a sustained upswing in the cases currently.

"During many such events/yatras lakhs of individuals undertake intra- and inter-state journey spanning hundreds of kilometres with halting points arranged by volunteers and community-



based social/religious organisations. Such congregations may potentially facilitate transmission of infectious diseases, including COVID-19," Bhushan said.

"All states and UTs where such mass gatherings/yatras are proposed to be held should widely publicise that all individuals planning to participate in such gatherings/events are asymptomatic and preferably fully vaccinated against COVID-19. If need be a special drive for primary vaccination and precaution dose administration to all eligible people may be taken by the administration at least a fort-

night in advance for those planning to join," he said in the letter.

The Amarnath pilgrimage begins on June 30 and the Rath Yatra is scheduled for July 1.

Bhushan said it was essential that the gains made so far by collaborative efforts of central and state governments are not lost and timely necessary public health steps are taken to minimise the risk of increased COVID-19 transmission.

Accordingly, there is a need to enhance focus on five-fold strategy of test, track, treat, vaccination and adherence to COVID-19-appropriate behaviour, Bhushan stressed.

Tech-driven approach, digital university key to enhance NEP

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

A technology-driven approach and initiatives such as digital university in line with the new National Education Policy (NEP) will be key to enhance access to



quality education, Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said. "There is a need to adopt innovative and out-of-the-box methods to enhance access to quality and affordable education and to bring our vast population under the formal education and certified skills structure. Creating robust and resilient mechanisms for making education accessible to all is a priority for the government," Pradhan said in his address at India Today's Education Conclave.

"Technology-driven approach and initiatives like Digital University in line with the NEP-2020 will be key to enhance access to quality education. NEP sets the vision and path to cater to the

requirements of every learner right from Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE) and also for building a vibrant and equitable knowledge society. We are working to integrate skill education into school and higher education

to boost employability," he said.

Speaking about future of jobs and skilling, he said that the nature of jobs is changing, and Industrial Revolution (IR) 4.0 presents us with both challenge and opportunity of

skilling, up-skilling and re-

skilling the country's vast

demography.

"We must bring a paradigm shift in skilling and make it more aspirational to harness IR 4.0 as well as make our youth future-ready. NEP charts the course to develop our students and youth as global citizens with new-age ideas and skills and prioritises learning in Indian languages for establishing India as a knowledge economy of the 21st century," he added.

Registry not listing matters despite orders from SC benches

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court Tuesday expressed its dismay over the registry not listing matters despite orders from its vacation benches and said that cases will be listed as per the set procedure.

A vacation bench of Justices Surya Kant and JB Pardiwala said that it has on Monday directed a matter to be listed for Tuesday but the registry has said that it will not be listed.

We didn't want to say it in open court but it's a fact. Yesterday, we made an exception. We had directed a matter to be listed for today but the registry said that it will not list the case. We don't want to say anything more, the bench told senior advocate Abhishek Manu Singhvi, who was seeking urgent listing of a plea filed by Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (Adani) against the Bombay High Court order.

The bench said that there is a set procedure in place for the listing of matters during vacations and asked Singhvi to approach the mentioning registrar for urgent listing and if the request is denied then it could look into it.

Singhvi said that the court's discretion cannot be circumscribed by the registry and it can make an exception for urgent listing of the matter.

Significantly, the same vaca-



tion bench on Monday had ordered the listing of the Centre's petition for hearing on Tuesday against the Tripura High Court order passed on a PIL challenging the grant of security cover to industrialist Mukesh Ambani and his family members in Mumbai.

Despite the order of the bench passed after the matter was mentioned by Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, the matter was not listed for Tuesday. Singhvi urged the bench to list the matter saying the Bombay High Court order was given to them on Monday in which it had dismissed a plea filed by Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (Adani) challenging the disqualification of its bid in a tender issued by the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) for up-gradation of a container terminal in Navi Mumbai.

He said that counsel for JNPA is in caveat the bench may grant status quo and

restrain the authority from proceedings with the bids.

Singhvi said, I am India's leading port manager and cleared the port trust bid in December 2021 but I was disqualified four months after that. I had challenged the disqualification before the Bombay High Court which passed the order on Monday evening. Now the authority is proceeding ahead with other bids.

The bench asked Singhvi what is the nature of the contract. The senior counsel said that the nature of the contract is the operation and maintenance of the Jawaharlal Nehru Terminal through public bids.

The bench said, We have already told you our difficulty. There is a procedure prescribed. You mention the matter before the mentioning registrar, he will examine the urgency. If the request is not accepted for urgent listing, then you can mention it before us. Let's see what the registrar has to say on this.

The Bombay High Court has on Monday directed Adani to pay a cost of Rs five lakh for bringing to court an "unmeritorious case." Of this, Adani had already deposited Rs 4,24,800 with JNPA at the time of submitting its bid. The high court has asked the JNPA to retain the amount and directed Adani to deposit the remaining amount.

PREPARING FOR BAN ON SINGLE-USE PLASTIC

Gave enough time to industry, people

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav on Tuesday said the government has given enough time to the industry and the general public to prepare for the ban on single-use plastic (SUP) items and it hopes for everyone's cooperation in implementing it from July 1.

Environment ministry officials said the notification to phase out 19 SUP items was

issued under the Environment Protection Act (EPA) and any violation will invite punitive action, including a fine or a jail term, detailed under Section 15 of the Act.

"The notification to phase out the 19 identified SUP items by July 1, 2022 was issued in August 2021. We have given enough time (to prepare for the phasing out of SUP items). We gave them (those dealing in SUP items) certainty for the future, made them understand



and the majority of them support it," the minister said in response to a question on some industry representatives saying they are not ready for the ban.

"I have met the industry representatives and the government hopes for their cooperation in phasing out single-use plastic items," he said.

On August 12 last year, the ministry had issued a notification prohibiting manufacture, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of identified SUP

commodities, including polystyrene and expanded polystyrene from July 1, 2022.

The identified SUP items include earbuds, plastic sticks for balloons, flags, candy sticks, ice-cream sticks, polystyrene (thermocool), plates, cups, glasses, forks, spoons, knives, straws, trays, wrapping or packaging films around sweets boxes, invitation cards, cigarette packets, plastic or PVC banners of less than 100 micron, and stirrers.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA REVENUE (LAND ACQUISITION) DEPARTMENT DISTRICT COLLECTOR, JANGAON PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION FORM-VI (See Sub-rule (1) of rule-19 and Section -11 (1) of the Act-30/2013) Rc. No. A/41/2022 Dist.Collr. File No. G1/165-4/2022 Gazette No. JN/LA/93/2022										Date: 18.06.2022 Date: 11.06.2022 Date: 18.06.2022									
Whereas it appears to the District Collector, Jangaon that a total of Ac. 12.2475 gts of land is required in the Sagaram Village of Zaffargadh Mandal of Jangaon District for public purpose, namely acquisition of land for the purpose of excavation of 4L Distributory of Nashkal Main Canal from Km. 3.920 to 5.295 of Embankment of Canals under JCR DLP, Phase-II Package-VI.																			
As per the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act No. 30 of 2013 the District Collector (appropriate Government) declares that the proposed acquisition is comes under exempted category as defined under 6(2) & 10(4) of the said act and as such the provisions of Chapter-II and Chapter-III of the Act shall not apply to this case.																			
Total (Nil) families are likely to be displaced due to the land acquisition. The Addl. Collector is appointed as Administrator for the purpose of Rehabilitation and Resettlement of the affected families.																			
Therefore it is notified that for the above said project in Sagaram village of Zaffargadh Mandal of Jangaon District a piece of land measuring, more or less Ac. 12.2475 gts of standard measurement, whose detailed description is as following, is under acquisition.																			
SCHEDULE 4L Distributory of Nashkal Main Canal.																			
Village: Sagaram Mandal: Zaffargadh District: Jangaon																			
Sl. No.	Sy. No.	Nature of Land	Extent	Classification	Name of the Employer	Sl. No.	Sy. No.	Nature of Land	Extent	Classification	Name of the Employer	Sl. No.	Sy. No.	Nature of Land	Extent	Classification	Name of the Employer	Sl. No.	Sy. No.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
1	272	Patta	Dry	0.025	Swaray	48	227	Patta	Dry	0.03	Maranreddy Bhaskar Reddy S/o Chinnappa Reddy	1	268	Assigned Land	Dry	0.105	Alloju Venkat Narayana S/o Brahman	4	200
Total: 0.025						Total: 0.03						Total: 0.035							
2	274	Patta	Dry	0.0025	Kadaboina Elaiiah S/o Pedda Somaiah	49	227	Patta	Dry	0.19	Kommarreddy Anjali Devi W/o Praavan Reddy	2	253	Assigned Land	Dry	0.26	Pidugula Yakiah S/o Mallesh	5	200
Total: 0.0025						Total: 0.19						Total: 0.26							
3	271	Patta	Dry	0.25	Bhujika Ramulu S/o Boya	50	227	Patta	Dry	0.03	Maranreddy Bhaskar Reddy S/o Chinnappa Reddy	3	276	Assigned Land	Dry	0.065	Nallaballa Kumar S/o Venkataiah S/o Venkataiah	6	200
4	271	Patta	Dry	0.04	Lakavath Devendhar S/o Hanumanth	51	228	Patta	Dry	0.01	Kathula Kumar S/o Komuriah	4	233	Assigned Land	Dry	0.105	Alloju Venkat Narayana S/o Brahman	7	200
Total: 0.29						Total: 0.03						Total: 0.11							
5	271	Patta	Dry	0.10	Lakavath Mohan S/o Panthulu	52	228	Patta	Dry	0.145	Kathula Kumar S/o Komuriah	5	233	Assigned Land	Dry	0.06	Gabbeta Narsiah S/o Poshiah	8	200
Total: 0.39						Total: 0.145						Total: 0.06							
6	270	Patta	Dry	0.01	Lakavath Devendhar S/o Hanumanth	53	228	Patta	Dry	0.01	Kathula Kumar S/o Komuriah	6	233	Assigned Land	Dry	0.125	Gabbeta Sudhar S/o Sallu	9	200
Total: 0.01						Total: 0.01						Total: 0.125							
7	269	Patta	Dry	0.08	Lakavath Devendhar S/o Hanumanth	54	228	Patta	Dry	0.01	Kathula Kumar S/o Komuriah	7	233	Assigned Land	Dry	0.105	Gabbeta Chandrakh S/o Narsiah	10	200
Total: 0.08						Total: 0.01						Total: 0.105							
8	269	Patta	Dry	0.175	Lakavath Ravindhar S/o Hanumanth	55	228	Patta	Dry	0.01	Kathula Kumar S/o Komuriah	8	233	Assigned Land	Dry	0.105	Gabbeta Venkataiah S/o Narsiah	11	200
Total: 0.175						Total: 0.01						Total: 0.105							
9	269	Patta	Dry	0.15	Lakavath Devendhar, S/o Hanumanth	56	228	Patta	Dry	0.01	Kathula Kumar S/o Komuriah	9	233	Assigned Land	Dry	0.03	Omey	12	200
Total: 0.15						Total: 0.01						Total: 0.03							
10	269	Patta	Dry	0.015	Lakavath Ravindhar, S/o Hanumanth	57	228	Patta	Dry	0.01	Kathula Kumar S/o Komuriah	10	233	Assigned Land	Dry	0.03	Omey	13	200
Total: 0.015						Total: 0.01						Total: 0.03							
Total: 1.02						Total: 0.03						Total: 0.06							
11	268	Assigned Land	Dry	0.105	Alloju Venkat Narayana S/o Brahman	58	228	Patta	Dry	0.01	Kathula Kumar S/o Komuriah	11	233	Assigned Land	Dry	0.03	Omey	14	200
Total: 0.105						Total: 0.01						Total: 0.03							
12	268	Assigned Land	Dry	0.03	Omey	59	228	Patta	Dry	0.01	Kathula Kumar S/o Komuriah	12	233	Assigned Land	Dry	0.03	Omey	15	200
Total: 0.03						Total: 0.01						Total: 0.03							
13	268	Assigned Land	Dry	0.0125	Paraboina Lachumalla S/o Narsiah	60	228	Patta	Dry	0.01	Kathula Kumar S/o Komuriah	13	233	Assigned Land	Dry	0.03	Omey	16	200
Total: 0.0125						Total: 0.01						Total: 0.03							
14	268	Govt. Land	Dry	0.285	Government land	61	228	Patta	Dry	0.01	Kathula Kumar S/o Komuriah	14	233	Assigned Land	Dry	0.03	Omey	17	200
Total: 0.285						Total: 0.01						Total: 0.03							
15	268	Assigned Land	Dry	0.06	Gabbeta Narsiah S/o Poshiah	62	228	Patta	Dry	0.01	Kathula Kumar S/o Komuriah	15	233	Assigned Land	Dry	0.03	Omey	18	200
Total: 0.06						Total: 0.01						Total: 0.03							
16	268	Assigned Land	Dry	0.125	Gabbeta Sudhar S/o Sallu	63	228	Patta	Dry	0.01	Kathula Kumar S/o Komuriah	16	233	Assigned Land	Dry	0.03	Omey	19	200
Total: 0.125						Total: 0.01						Total: 0.03							
17	268	Assigned Land	Dry	0.105	Gabbeta Chandrakh S/o Narsiah	64	228	Patta	Dry	0.01	Kathula Kumar S/o Komuriah	17	233	Assigned Land	Dry	0.03	Omey	20	200
Total: 0.105						Total: 0.01						Total: 0.03							
18	268	Assigned Land	Dry	0.105	Gabbeta Venkataiah S/o Narsiah	65	228	Patta	Dry	0.01	Kathula Kumar S/o Komuriah	18	233	Assigned Land	Dry	0.03	Omey	21	200
Total: 0.105						Total: 0.01						Total: 0.03							
19	267	Patta	Dry	0.04	Kondru Raju S/o Mallesh	66	228	Patta	Dry	0.01	Kathula Kumar S/o Komuriah	19	233	Assigned Land	Dry	0.03	Omey	22	200
Total: 0.04						Total: 0.01						Total: 0.03							
20	267	Patta	Dry	0.09	Kondru Buchi Ramulu S/o Agash	67	228	Patta	Dry	0.01	Kathula Kumar S/o Komuriah	20	233	Assigned Land	Dry	0.03	Omey	23	200
Total: 0.09						Total: 0.01						Total: 0.03							
21	253	Patta	Dry	0.26	Pidugula Yakiah S/o Mallesh	68	228	Patta	Dry	0.01	Kathula Kumar S/o Komuriah	21	233	Assigned Land	Dry	0.03	Omey	24	200
Total: 0.26						Total: 0.01						Total: 0.03							
22	276	Patta	Dry	0.095	Nallaballa Kumar S/o Venkataiah S/o Venkataiah	69	228	Patta	Dry	0.01	Kathula Kumar S/o Komuriah	22	233	Assigned Land	Dry	0.03	Omey	25	200
Total: 0.095						Total: 0.01						Total: 0.03							
23	276	Patta	Dry	0.34	Nallaballa Kumar S/o Mallesh	70	228	Patta	Dry	0.01	Kathula Kumar S/o Komuriah	23	233	Assigned Land	Dry	0.03	Omey	26	200
Total: 0.34						Total: 0.01						Total: 0.03							
Total: 1.035						Total: 0.03						Total: 0.06							

Trees / Structures										Village: Sagaram Mandal: Zaffargadh District: Jangaon									
Sl. No.	Sy. No.	Extent	Name of the Employer	Trees	Structures	Sl. No.	Sy. No.	Extent	Name of the Employer	Trees	Structures	Sl. No.	Sy. No.	Extent	Name of the Employer	Trees	Structures		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		
1	268	0.105	Alloju Venkat Narayana S/o Brahman	4-Coconut, 5-Toddy 1-Sapota, 42- Teak		2	253	0.26	Pidugula Yakiah S/o Mallesh	1-Coconut, 4-Tamarind 20-Teak 1-Neredu 3- Mango	1-Bore Shed	3	276	0.065	Nallaballa Kumar S/o Venkataiah	1-Toddy			
4	233	0.30	Nallaballa Alish S/o Dhudiah	1-Coconut	Well	This notification is made under the provisions of section 11(1) of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation & Resettlement Act 2013 Act No.30/2013 to all whom it may concern.													
A plan of the land may be inspected in the office of the District Collector & Special Deputy Collector, L.A. R&R, Irrigation Projects, Unit-II Jangaon on any working day during the working hours. The Government of Telangana / Collector -cum-Appropriate Government is pleased to authorize officer Special Deputy Collector, L.A. R&R, Irrigation Projects, Unit-II Jangaon and his staff L.A. to enter upon and survey land take levels of any land dig or bore into the sub-soil & do all other acts required for the proper execution of their work as provided and specified in section 12 of the said Act.																			
Under section 11(4) of the Act no person shall make any transaction or cause any transaction of land / sale/purchase etc.																			
District 6/sector Jangaon Objection to the acquisition if any may be filed by the person interested with in 60 (sixty) days from the date of publication of this notification as provided U/s 15 of the Act before District Collector Special Deputy Collector, L.A. R&R, Irrigation Projects, Unit-II Jangaon.																			
Sd/- Special Deputy Collector, Sd/- Addl. Collector, Sd/- Dist. Collector, L.A. R&R Unit-II, (Revenue) Jangaon Jangaon Jangaon																			
DIPR No. 318/LA/PP-Pub/2022-23																			

FIRST COLUMN

LOT NEEDS TO BE DONE FOR EASE OF LIVING

Challenge of living is a superset of ease of living



VINAYSHIL GAUTAM

Life is in a continuous dynamic mode. Among the more significant elements in the dynamic flow, there is the physical and the cognitive system. The periodic changes inside and outside the body are obvious indicators of change. Simultaneously, the intellectual and the emotional systems undergo a change. As it happens, most communities have little or no formal systems in assisting people to transit through this change.

Thus, the role of an individual in their own growth is a critical aspect of their coping with reality. This they learn through informal processes and from the environment in which they are embedded. This is an important element to keep in mind in studying how formal education through schools and colleges and informal learning from the context and the environment mutually support each other.

Thus, it is that learning that becomes a very important attribute of the act of living. The changes which one goes through physically, intellectually, and emotionally are significant to the very art of survival. This process is embedded in other features.

One grows up and gets married. Children are born out of marriage and the unit of reference changes. Like everything else, this too is a passing phase; children grow up and parents become again a unit of two.

All this is enmeshed in a dynamic social environment. The external governance systems evolve. This raises two important questions in the creation of civil society. One is access to resources and the other is opportunities for growth.



If there are too many moving parts then the challenge of living becomes bigger.

The challenge of living is a superset of the ease of living. Ease of living has to do, among other things, about forms and formats, screenings and verifications. The challenge of living has to do with the very act of availability of inputs such as energy, water, and security. In all this, the act of healthcare is fundamental.

Once this distinction between the challenge of living and ease of living is recognised, progress becomes simpler and therefore amenable to solutions to a higher degree.

Both the above issues, the challenge and the ease of living, cannot be handled without understanding the unit of reference. The unit of reference is often undefined. It can vary from community to community.

Consider the basic act of garbage collection. It is so basic that most people take it for granted. This is an oversimplification. In an upmarket colony of New Delhi, a little over a decade ago it was found that the sewerage pipe was laid parallel to the water pipe and during the monsoons, contamination of the flow in the water pipe took place from the flow in the sewerage pipe. Illness flowed.

Then proper garbage collection was started. One was the segregation of garbage, between the biomass type and the non-biodegradable type. Disposal of segregated garbage was recommended. This practice is yet to take root in many colonies of even the more evolved cities.

This recognition has to go hand in hand with which agency is charged with the level of collection of what type of garbage.

Illustrations can be many. The solutions will have to do with the recognition of the unit of reference: How is the agency for garbage collection decided? Who will be responsible for ensuring the fair distribution of energy, say, electricity? How will water supply be ensured? Put simply, there is a need to focus on identifying the basic unit of reference of understanding and operation of all systems at a local level, just as much as at any other level. Some work has begun, much more is needed.

(The writer is a well-known management consultant of international repute. The views expressed are personal.)

Control mindset hurts privatisation process

The strategic sale of BPCL couldn't be carried out because the Government wants to regulate fuel prices



UTTAM GUPTA



PRIVATE PLAYERS CAN'T MATCH THE PRICES OFFERED BY HPCL, IOCL AND BPCL. EVEN THE LATTER WON'T BE ABLE TO ABSORB THE UNDER-RECOVERIES BEYOND A POINT, WHICH WILL MANIFEST IN REDUCED SUPPLIES FROM THEM SOONER RATHER THAN LATER

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around Rs 60,000 crore (prevailing share price multiplied by the number of shares corresponding to 53.29 per cent holding).

In that year, the market environment was favorable even as the international price of crude oil (fortunes of oil companies move in tandem with it) was hovering around \$70 per barrel. The Government could have got strategic investors willing to put the required sum for buying its entire stake. But the bureaucrats were not ready.

During 2020-21, thanks to the Covid pandemic causing large-scale destruction of demand globally, the average price of crude declined to just about \$40 per barrel (in April 2020, it had plummeted to a low of \$20 per barrel). This made the market environment highly unfavorable.

That apart, the entire Government machinery was too preoccupied with mitigating the consequences of the pandemic—protecting both lives and livelihoods of people.

During 2021-22, the price recovered and ruled above \$70 per barrel, most of the time leading to significant improvement in the market environment. But the officials were not ready yet again, leading to deferment of the sale to 2022-23.

During the current fiscal, the international crude price has zoomed because of the Ukraine war, economic sanctions imposed by the US and the European Union on Russia, and the resulting disruption in supplies of oil and gas. With crude price hovering around \$120 per barrel (at one point, it had even touched \$140 per barrel) and substantially higher valuations of oil

companies, this was a propitious time for carrying out the sale. But it was not to be.

The Government's decision to put BPCL sale on hold at this juncture—when market conditions are favorable and all procedures needed to conduct the sale already in place—may sound a bit puzzling. To unravel the puzzle, let us look at the following:

In theory, petrol and diesel prices were deregulated in June 2010 and November 2014, respectively, as the oil companies were given the freedom to fix their retail price, using a formula that combines their respective import parity price (IPP) and export parity price (EPP) in the ratio of 80:20.

But, in practice, political control over the retail prices of petroleum products is still there. The Government can do this because of the three oil marketing Central PSUs—Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL), Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL), and BPCL—which account for around 90 per cent of the domestic fuel retail network. Well, technically HPCL is a subsidiary of the Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), but then ONGC is itself a Central PSU.

The managements of ONGC/HPCL, IOCL, and BPCL receive tacit instructions from their bosses to maintain the prices at the desired levels—that is, the levels that top politicians desire. These are often unrelated to the market determined-prices. For instance, the current pump price of petrol in Delhi is Rs 97 per liter which corresponds to a crude benchmark of \$90 per barrel—as against the current crude price of \$115 per barrel for the Indian basket. If these

undertakings were really free to fix the price based on the formula (linked to \$115 per barrel), the pump price would have been Rs 110 per liter.

Against this backdrop, if one of these oil PSUs (that is, BPCL), accounting for about 25 per cent of the retail outlets, goes into private hands, the Government's ability to influence fuel prices will be diminished significantly.

In the current scenario, when the international oil price is projected to remain high, Prime Minister Narendra Modi can't afford to allow an unrestrained hike in the retail prices of fuels—especially in view of a number of impending state elections. He would like to keep the leverage to influence fuel prices. Hence the decision to put the sale of BPCL on the backburner.

But this is a patently unwise move. Already, an artificial cap on retail prices has led to a drastic cut in fuel supplies from private firms such as RIL and Nayara Energy. They can't match the prices offered by HPCL, IOCL, and BPCL. Even the latter won't be able to absorb the under-recoveries beyond a point, which will manifest in reduced supplies from them sooner rather than later.

Besides, it will impact the valuation of BPCL as and when it is taken up for strategic sale in the future.

A big bottleneck that comes in the way of strategic sales is the desire of the establishment to remain in the driver's seat eternally. Until there is a change in the mindset, privatisation of BPCL or, for that matter, of any other PSU won't happen. And if it happens, it won't fetch a good price.

POINT COUNTERPOINT

WE SHOULD NEVER FORGET THAT DREADFUL PERIOD OF EMERGENCY.... WE MOVE FORWARD, LEARNING FROM EVERY IMPORTANT STAGE OF HISTORY.
—PRIME MINISTER NARENDRA MODI



THERE'S COMPETITION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE RUPEE AS TO WHOSE VALUE IS FALLING FASTER? ATTENTION MUST BE PAID TO GOVERNANCE.
—CONGRESS LEADER RAHUL GANDHI

Agnipath good for modernisation but needs relook

The scheme is advantageous for youth and national defence but it should be changed with inputs from armed forces

The Government announced on June 14 that all soldiers below the officer ranks of the three wings of the military would be recruited through the Agnipath Scheme. The Government has taken this decision to keep the armed forces young, making the youth disciplined, and rendering them highly skilled after four years of service, besides of course saving money for the modernisation.

The Scheme has been praised by a large number of experts and veterans, but many in the defence community and also the Opposition parties and political observers have expressed their reservations about the scheme, resulting in protests and violent demonstrations all over the



PK VASUDEVA

(The author is a retired senior professor, International Trade.)

country. It is sad that the government property like railways, buses and cars have been burnt by the youth who should be debarred from the recruitment at one and made to pay for the damage to the public property. Nobody can be allowed to indulge in arson whatever the cause.

As opposed to the existing 15 plus years' service, followed by a lifelong pension, the new recruits, Agniveers, will have a four-year tenure, including six months' training. On completion of four years of service, 25 per cent of them will get the permanent cadre, while the rest will be given opportunities in other organisations at the national and state levels.

They will exit with a tax-free purse of approximately Rs

11.71 lakh and return to civil life. Excellent army training, food, clothing, boarding and lodging, a regimented life of four years, a disciplined lifestyle, and a matured mindset will be the hallmarks for the Agniveers.

Over the years, Agniveers would emerge as a strong second line of defence in the country.

The government has announced 10 per cent reservation packages for the retiree Agniveers in Police, Central Armed Police Forces (CARF), Ministry of Defence Undertakings, and Railways after the completion of four years term.

Overall, the scheme is excellent for nation building. It will help build a younger, healthier, and fitter defence military, high-

ly skilled in the changing technological environment. It will also inculcate military discipline, ethos and skilling as a value addition, improving the prospects for those who return to civil society. It will encourage youth to become entrepreneurs for the economic growth of the country.

Yet, it seems that the Centre was not thorough in its homework before launching this scheme. A study known as 'Tour of Duty' (TOD) was carried out about two years ago at the Training Command; all stakeholders gave their inputs.

The scheme needed to be launched as India is emerging as a major pivot in the global order, being a key nation in two security arrangements—one in the Indo-Pacific and another with the US, the UAE,

and Israel. The Indian military has to adapt to the changing strategic interests keeping in view the threat perception from across the borders.

The presentations were made at the Ministry of Defence (MoD) level; the blueprint of the Agnipath Scheme was drawn out for implementation at a suitable time. The army recruitment methodology of leading military nations was kept in mind while framing it. The main planners of this scheme were Training Command, the late CDS General Bipin Rawat, NSA Ajit Doval, Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh, and Defence Secretary Ajay Kumar, along with the Finance Ministry.

The three service Chiefs had a very limited role to play in formulating the scheme. The committee so constituted

was bureaucratic in nature, which gave the recommendations for a younger and leaner force with reduced financial liability for modernisation.

The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) approved this Scheme. However, it was not put up in Parliament. The NSA, who is highly capable in security issues may not be well-versed with the nuances of the armed forces, represented the three services and CDS.

The whole scheme needs to be refurbished by an expert committee which must have members from the armed forces too. The government is making amends to the scheme in a piecemeal manner. The youth of the country is completely confused.

Instead of strengthening the armed forces, the scheme

will weaken their strength if not implemented properly. The committee must go through the pensions of the defence civilians who get one-third of the total defence pensions. They need to be replaced by armed forces personnel.

Politician's pensions have a serious flaw. These also need to be looked into and pruned.

The violent reactions by the youth in the country could have been avoided and a number of lives saved if had been passed by Parliament and discussed at length at the Armed Forces Commanders Conference, before announcing it piecemeal.

The interest of the armed forces cannot be compromised at any cost.

MONEY MATTERS

DoT issues norms for captive private network licences

The telecom department has issued rules for enterprises setting up Captive Non Public Network (CNPN), stipulating a minimum network of Rs 100 crore for applicants seeking direct assignment of spectrum from the government. The applicant must be an Indian company registered under the Companies Act. Department of Telecom (DoT) said listing out the broad guidelines that would apply for CNPN licence, including rules for enterprises setting up such networks. The CNPN licensee would not be required to pay any entry fee or licence fee. "For seeking direct assignment of spectrum from the government, the network of the applicant shall not be less than Rs 100 crore," it said. On the scope of the CNPN licence for enterprises, it said such a licensee may establish indoor/within premise isolated captive non public network for own use within the areas of operation of licence.



Global Surfaces files IPO draft papers with Sebi

Global Surfaces Ltd, which is engaged in the business of processing natural stones and manufacturing engineered quartz, has filed preliminary papers with Sebi to mop up funds through an initial public offering (IPO). The IPO comprises fresh issuance of 85.20 lakh equity shares and an offer-for-sale (OFS) of up to 25.5 lakh equity shares by promoters ---- Mayank Shah and Sweta Shah, according to the draft red herring prospectus (DRHP). Funds raised through fresh issuance of equity shares will be used for setting up the company's proposed facility -- Global Surfaces FZE-- in Dubai. For FY22, the company posted a profit after tax of Rs 35.63 crore as compared to Rs 33.93 crore in FY21 and its total income was at Rs 198.35 crore as against Rs 179 crore in FY21. Unistone Capital is the sole book running lead manager to the issue. The equity shares of the company will be listed on the BSE and NSE.



Digital ads dominate FY22, ASCI takes help of AI-based tracking system

The Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) on Tuesday said the regulator has set up a digital tracking system and is using Artificial Intelligence-based monitoring system to monitor advertisements for misleading content in a digital-first world. ASCI while releasing its Annual Complaints Report for FY 2021-22 said, sectors such as education, healthcare and personal care were found as the top three violative categories, in the digital space. Ads are increasingly being served and consumed on personal screens, making it difficult for regulators to truly understand the scale and impact, ASCI said, adding that "the volume of advertising creative units has exploded, and it is estimated that an average person is exposed to 6,000-10,000 ads per day." Now the digital ecosystem has taken centre stage with crypto and gaming emerging in the top five violative categories in FY22.



Govt will remove barriers in credit flow to MSMEs: Verma

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Emphasising the MSME sector's important role in making India a USD 5-trillion economy, Union Minister Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma on Tuesday said the government will remove all the barriers in credit flow to this sector.

The Union Minister of State for MSME also said that the government was also committed to develop a better system of redressal and debt facilities.

Verma was addressing a session - Making Indian MSMEs Globally Competitive through Trade, Finance & Investment Facilitation - on the second day of Uttar Pradesh MSME Convention 2022.

It was organised by the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) in association with the central government and the MSME ministry.

The theme of this session was making the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises



Verma was addressing a session - Making Indian MSMEs Globally Competitive through Trade, Finance & Investment Facilitation - on the second day of Uttar Pradesh MSME Convention 2022.

(MSMEs) globally competitive through trade, finance and better investment facilities.

The minister said the MSME sector is being developed as a new engine of growth in the country and modernised through innovation and will be more competitive.

Verma said that the export business from the MSME sec-

tor is continuously increasing with the contribution to the country's exports now touching almost 50 per cent. "It also accounts for about 30 per cent of the country's GDP. In such a situation, the role of our MSME sector becomes important in strengthening India's position in the global trade," he said. The industry has to move with time and must focus on

adopting new-age technology, including digitising systems, processes and operations in all aspects of the business to save time and expenses, he said.

In his address at the session, Ravi Gupta, Co-Chairman of ASSOCHAM National Council on WTO Trade and Investment, stressed on MSMEs to keep their products eco-friendly and clean. He

said that the small-scale industries of the state can play an important role in the economic development of the country. Since Uttar Pradesh is renowned for its leather, carpets, handicrafts, milk, and milk products, which are produced on a large scale, the state can play an important role in making them self-reliant, he added.

SUCCESSION PLAN

Ambani hands over telecom biz to son Akash



PNS ■ NEW DELHI: In the first clear signs of a succession plan being charted out at India's most valuable company, billionaire Mukesh Ambani resigned from the board of his USD 217 billion group's telecom arm, Reliance Jio, and handed over the firm's reins to elder son Akash. In a stock exchange filing, Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd on Tuesday said the company's board at a meeting on June 27, "approved the appointment of Akash M Ambani, non-executive director, as chairman of the board of directors of the company." This comes after his father resigned with effect from the close of working hours on June 27, it said. Jio is a unit of Reliance Industries Ltd, whose business spans from oil refining and petrochemicals to retail, media and new energy. Ambani, 65, has three children - twins Akash and Isha and youngest son Anant. It is widely anticipated that he may hand over the reins of the retail business to Isha, 30, who is married to Anand Piramal (son of Piramal Group's Ajay and Swati Piramal).

Credit card spend crosses Rs 1.13 lakh cr in May: RBI data

PNS ■ MUMBAI

Credit card spending has crossed Rs 1.13 lakh crore in May compared to Rs 1.05 lakh crore in the previous month according to official data. The month-on-month rise in spending through cards indicates a pick-up in economic activity. The latest data from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) showed that 7.68 crore credit card holders spent about Rs 71,429 crore for buying online, while the amount was spent through swipes at Point of Sale (PoS) machines stood at Rs 42,266 crore in May. In terms of the number of transactions, credit card payments were marginally lower online at 11.5 crore against 12.2 crore off line or at PoS machines.



Sensex, Nifty end marginally up amid recovery in global markets



PNS ■ MUMBAI

Benchmark stock indices Sensex and Nifty rebounded from early lows to close marginally up on Tuesday following lag-end buying in energy, IT and auto stocks and a recovery in global equities.

Posting gains for a fourth session in a row, the 30-share BSE Sensex settled up 16.17 points or 0.03 per cent at 53,177.45. During the day, it had declined 389.75 points or 0.73 per cent to 52,771.53. The NSE Nifty gained 18.15 points or 0.11 per cent to 15,850.20.

In the Sensex pack, Mahindra & Mahindra, Reliance Industries, Dr Reddy's Laboratories, Tech Mahindra, Tata Steel and

Larsen & Toubro were among the gainers. Titan, Asian Paints, Bajaj Finserv, Kotak Mahindra Bank and ICICI Bank were among the major laggards. Elsewhere in Asia, markets in Tokyo, Shanghai, Seoul and Hong Kong bounced back after initial decline and ended with gains. European markets were trading in the green in mid-session deals. The US markets had ended lower on Monday. Meanwhile, international oil benchmark Brent crude jumped 1.58 per cent to USD 116.9 per barrel. Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) remained net sellers in the capital market, as they sold shares worth Rs 1,278.42 crore on Monday, as per exchange data.

Rupee tanks 46 paise to close at 78.83 against US dollar

PNS ■ MUMBAI

The rupee plunged by 46 paise to close at record low of 78.83 (provisional) against the US dollar on Tuesday, weighed down by persistent foreign capital outflows and a surge in crude oil prices.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the rupee opened lower at 78.53 against the greenback and finally settled at 78.83, down 46 paise over its previous close. During the session, the rupee touched an all-

time low of 78.85 against the American currency. "The Indian rupee touched an all-time low against the US Dollar amid weak domestic equities and a surge in crude oil prices. Sustained selling by foreign investors also put downside pressure on Rupee," Anuj Choudhary - Research Analyst at Sharekhan by BNP Paribas said. The rupee is expected to trade on a negative note on risk aversion in domestic markets and continued selling pressure from foreign institutional investors (FIIs).



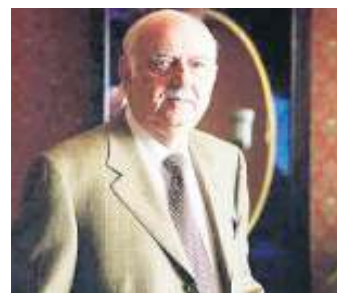
Billionaire Pallonji Mistry dies at 93; PM pays tribute

PNS ■ MUMBAI

Billionaire Pallonji Mistry, Chairman of diversified Shapoorji Pallonji (SP) Group, died in the wee hours of Tuesday here, company officials said.

Mistry, whose SP Group is the largest shareholder in the Tata Group with 18.37 per cent holding in the over USD 100 billion conglomerate, was 93.

India-born Mistry died mid-sleep at 0100 hrs at the family residence in South Mumbai, they said. He had acquired Irish citizenship.



Paying tribute to him, Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted that he is saddened by the passing

away of the billionaire. He made monumental contributions to the world of commerce and industry, Modi said.

Born in 1929, Mistry headed the privately held, over USD 5-billion SP Group having its roots in the construction business, which had diversified into other businesses like real estate, textiles, shipping and home appliances. The reclusive business icon, who was reportedly worth over USD 29 billion, was awarded with the Padma Bhushan, India's third highest civilian award, in 2016.

HOME TEXTILE MAKERS

Slowing exports, rising cost likely to limit profitability

PNS ■ MUMBAI

Lower export demand and a sharp increase in raw material and transportation costs are likely to result in moderate operating profitability for home textile makers at around 13 per cent in this financial year, according to a report.

Slowing exports growth and high cotton prices will hit the operating margins of home textile exporters by 150-200 bps or around 13 per cent this fiscal. The rupee's depreciation against the dollar and sustenance of the China+1 policy by global buyers will cushion the hit on profitability to some extent," Crisil Ratings Senior Director Mohit Makhija said.



The second half of this fiscal should gradually restore demand momentum and market share for Indian home

textile exporters as freight and raw cotton costs moderate, and ease pressure on profitability, he added. Exports

account for 60-70 per cent of the Indian home textile industry's revenue, of which over 58 per cent shipments are sent to

the US, according to the Crisil Ratings report. The report stated that global demand for home textiles is expected to be impacted in the near-term by inflationary headwinds, with big-box retailers pruning inventory and consumers cutting down on discretionary spends. A slowdown in the sales of key US retailers in the past 3-6 months has led to an on-year decline of 5-6 per cent in overall home textile exports from India between January and April 2022, it noted.

Adding to the demand challenge, the price of raw cotton, a key input in home textiles, has more than doubled year-on-year in May to Rs 1,00,000 per candy (about 356 kg), it said. This will

remain a challenge for exporters till the new cotton crop arrives starting October, the report said. Supply-chain disruptions leading to volatility in ocean freight rates will also impact profitability, it added. Overall, the report said that the Indian home textile industry's revenue is expected to grow 11-12 per cent this fiscal, primarily because of higher price realisations. Domestic demand (comprising 30-40 per cent of Indian home textile industry's revenue) is expected to grow at a healthy 13 per cent, driven by sharp demand recovery in the domestic hospitality industry and continued focus on health and hygiene, it said.

MANDAVIYA REVIEWS PREPARATIONS FOR INDIA-CHEM EVENT

Chemical and Fertiliser Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Tuesday reviewed the preparation for the upcoming 12th edition of India-Chem to be held in October. The three-day event beginning October 6, 2022 will be organised in association with industry body FICCI.

Government of Telangana Revenue (LA) Department Collectorate: MAHABUBNAGAR PRELIMINARY NOTIFICATION FORM - VI (See Sub-rule(1) of rule-19) and Section-11(1) of the Act-38/2013) No. Rev.GS/LA/0011/2022-23-Dated: 12/06/2022 Whereas it appears to the Government of Telangana / District Collector that a total of Ac.4.37Gts., of land is required in the Kouskurtla Village of Devarakadra Mandal, Mahabubnagar District for public purpose, namely for the purpose of Extension of Left Main Canal to Additional Aysat of Left Main Canal of D-78 under Kolsagar Lift Irrigation Scheme. The Government vide G.O.Ms. No.50, Irrigation & CAD (LA RER/22) Department dt.25.02.2017 exempted the Kolsagar Lift Irrigation Scheme from the application of the provisions of Chapter - II & III of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act of 2013. Therefore Social Impact Assessment study has not been carried out as required U/s 4 (1) of the said Act. No families are likely to be displaced due to the Land Acquisition. The Additional Collector (Revenue) is appointed as Project Administrator for the purpose of Rehabilitation and Resettlement of the affected families. Therefore it is notified that for the above said project in the Kouskurtla Village of Devarakadra Mandal of Mahabubnagar District a piece of land measuring, more or less Ac.4.37Gts of standard measurement, whose detailed description is as following, is under acquisition:

Village: Kouskurtla Mandal: Devarakadra District: Mahabubnagar											
Sl. No.	S. No.	Dy. No.	Type of Land	Area in Hectares (Ac. Gts.)	Name & Address of person interested	Boundaries					Total
						North	South	East	West	Width	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1	534	Dry	Patta	0.07	Thungani Maryemkonde S/o Peda Kurnanna	521	522	521	535		
2	534	Dry	Patta	0.10	Baleswamy S/o Savenash	521	522	521	535		
3	534	Dry	Patta	0.04	Anjaneyulu S/o Bhennanna	521	522	521	535		
4	533	Dry	Patta	0.22	Anjaneyulu S/o Bhennanna	535	524	534	532		
5	532	Dry	Patta	0.04	Gopamma W/o Anjaneyulu	542	528	533	531		
6	532	Dry	Patta	0.04	Maryemkonde S/o Hanasaiah	542	528	533	531		
7	32	Dry	Patta	0.04	Chinna Anjaneyulu S/o Hanasaiah	542	528	533	531		
8	32	Dry	Patta	0.32	Manamma W/o Kondanna	542	528	533	531		
9	531	Dry	Patta	0.23	Raju S/o Baleswamy	535	524	534	532		
10	529	Dry	Patta	0.08	Senu S/o Yellappa	531	--	528	530		
11	529	Dry	Patta	0.05	Thungani Sanny S/o Yellappa	531	--	528	530		
12	529	Dry	Patta	0.03	Thungani Shanbhanna S/o Yellappa	531	--	528	530		
13	530	Dry	Patta	0.16	Thungani Shanbhanna S/o Yellappa	544	--	529	546		
14	546	Dry	Patta	0.25	Thungani Kurnanna S/o Lennamma	545	--	530	546		
15	546	Dry	Patta	0.13	Thungani Hanash S/o Yellappa	545	--	530	546		
16	546	Dry	Patta	0.15	Thungani Bhuran S/o Hanasaiah	545	--	530	546		
17	547	Dry	Patta	0.02	Pottala Anjaneyulu S/o Savenash	550	--	545	548		
Total						4.37					

This notification is made under the provisions of Section 11 (1) of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act of 2013 (Act No.30 of 2013) to all whom it may concern. A plan of the land may be inspected in the office of the District Collector, Mahabubnagar & Special Deputy Collector LA R&R, Unit - II, Irrigation Project, Mahabubnagar on any working day during the working hours. The District Collector, Mahabubnagar / Collector - cum - appropriate Government is pleased to authorize the Special Deputy Collector LA R&R, Unit - II, Irrigation Project, Mahabubnagar and his staff to enter upon and survey land, take levels of any land, dig or bore into the sub-soil & do all other acts required for the proper execution of their work as provided and specified in section (12) of the said Act. Under section 11(4) of the Act, no person shall make any transactions or cause any transactions of land i.e. sale/purchase, etc., or create any encumbrances on such land from the date of publication of such notification without prior approval of the Collector. Objections to the acquisition, if any, may be filed by the person interested within 60 (sixty) days from the date of publication of this notification as provided under section (15) of the Act before District Collector, Mahabubnagar. LA R&R Unit-II, Irrigation Projects Mahabubnagar. Sd/- Special Deputy Collector Sd/- Adst. Collector (Rev) Sd/- Dist. Collector LA R&R Unit-II, Irrigation Projects Mahabubnagar. D.P.R. No. 304/LA/PP-Pub/2022-23

GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
'e' PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE
NIT No.16/EE-28/SB2/GHMC/2022-23
Name of the Work: Maintenance Works Others-11, Estimate amount: Rs. 160.10 Lakhs. Bid Submission Start Date & Time: 27-06-2022 & 4.30 PM. Closing Date & Time: 04-07-2022 & 4.30 PM. Name & Address officer Cell No.: Executive Engineer, Ph. 9154796465 For further details can be seen at e-procurement @ http://www.tender.telangana.gov.in/ Sd/- Executive Engineer R.O.No: 3886-PP/CAD/VT/1/2022-23, Dt. 28.06.2022 Division No. 28, GHMC

GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION
Quotation Notice No. 31/EE/SNDP-NGHMC/2022-23, Date: 27-06-2022
Item No. 1: Sealed Quotations are invited for the following items. The rates shall be quoted excluding all taxes: 1) Placement of Precast RCC planks/girders, of each weighing upto 20MT, in position over abutments & pier including loading at casting yard, transportation to and unloading at site with a lead up to 20Km. 2) Lifting and placing in position over abutments & pier using Telescopic cranes. The rate shall be quoted for each RCC plank/girder. 3) Placement of Precast RCC planks/girders (cast-in-situ casting yard with a lead up to 5Km), of each weighing upto 20MT, in position over abutments & pier including transportation to and unloading at site and placing in position over abutments & pier using Telescopic crane. The rate shall be quoted for each RCC plank/girder. 3) Ductile Iron (DI) Manhole covers - Manufacture, supply and delivery of following sizes of DI manhole covers at site. The rate shall be quoted for each DI cover: i) 0.75m x 0.75m, ii) 0.9m x 0.9m. 4) Form work for pre-cast RCC planks of size 1m width and 0.5m depth (1.0mx0.5m). The rate shall be quoted for 15Sq.m area for each side.
Events: 1) Start date for submission of sealed Quotations: Date & Time: 28-06-2022 05.00 PM 2) Last date for submission of sealed Quotations: Date & Time: 12-07-2022 05.00 PM
Note: Further details can be obtained through email id eesndp@gmail.com or can be downloaded from the website www.ghmc.gov.in and sealed quotations shall be submitted to the office of the Executive Engineer, SNDP-II, GHMC, 5th floor, Abids, Hyderabad. Address of the officer concerned Sd. S. Sreenivasulu, Executive Engineer (SNDP-II), Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation, Abids, Hyderabad. Further details can be seen at www.ghmc.gov.in Sd/- Executive Engineer SNDP-II, GHMC. R.O.No: 3866-PP/CAD/VT/1/2022-23, Dt. 28.06.2022



Mompreneurs in a battle to make a mark

A mompreneur is a common term used these days to address working mothers and women entrepreneurs. Women entrepreneurs often have the toughest time to create the right work life balance between the workplace, home responsibilities and time with their family, children and importantly themselves.

The couple of variables that help them tide over this smoothly are time management and the art to prioritize between work and family over the course of the day.

"Even though women entrepreneurs as well as mompreneurs are becoming more common, there are still stereotypes circulating about them. These stereotypes of women entrepreneurs, and mompreneurs specifically, are blemishes and doesn't not reflect what it's like actually to be a working mother in the business world.

Mompreneurs are repeatedly facing stereotypes such as the men must go out and earn money, while women stay at home and raise the children. While this may have been the way it was in the past, but in today's times, both parents are going out into the workforce. However, it's the moms who gets the criticism," adds Ekta Mohanani Kamra, a mompreneur at Hop and Bop. She highlights that another one of the social stereotypes for mompreneurs is that one has to have complete balance in every aspect of their life. Which means they should spend half their waking hours running

the household chores and caring for their children, and the other half working.

"Striking a perfect balance between all chores isn't always possible. Depending on the season of motherhood one is, one will dedicate different amounts of time to different areas like work, family, and health. It's a harmful assumption that balance exists, and when you are a mother, it does not. Instead of trying to fit everything in and feeling bad if one can't get it all done one must prioritize time and energy based on the season of motherhood," she mentioned.

There is this stereotype too that mompreneurs are just bored housewives who don't have anything better to do with their day, so they run an online business and don't really do much. As more and more successful moms make a living from the internet and other ventures, people are realizing that the stereotype is proving to be extremely wrong.

One of the ways in which mompreneurs can fight back against this gender stereotype is to build successful businesses and get their names out there. She further ends saying, "If one is a working mom, they enjoy what they do and work a lot, and not put their children's needs first. This stereotype only justifies that a mother is the only one responsible for raising the child and places too much emphasis on the mother having to do and be all of the things. It is important to break these stereotypes and not give into what society has to say."

'Storytelling and technology go hand-in-hand'

TEJAL SINHA

Storytelling is an art in itself. With the introduction of film, the form of storytelling evolved, as the use of various visuals and audio began to create a much bigger impact than ever before. This is what Kartikye Gupta believes in.

Born in India and based in Los Angeles, Kartikye had a strong interest in visual storytelling at an early age. His journey began by exploring foreign cinema with films like Cinema Paradiso and In the Mood for Love. The stylistic visual design of each frame took the storytelling to another level.

It is generally believed that short-form content films are easier to make. However, he denies this and says, "I started out directing short-form content including films, commercials, and music videos. Short-form content is always more challenging than a longer format in terms of telling your story in the shortest amount of time. Introducing your hero, goals, conflict, and creating a fulfilling journey for a viewer is very hard to achieve in 10-15 minutes, but having two hats, as a director and editor, always helped me keep my films engaging and captivating. One may think it's easier to engage someone for ten to fifteen minutes than to do a two-hour film, but you also have to think that the platform viewer watching short form content is mostly on their home or phone screens where they have easy access to change or quit the programme rather than visiting a theater, buying popcorn, and getting yourself ready for two hours of entertainment." He has also directed some high-profile projects like *Dr. Elevator* with major names, and not only getting recognition from major film festivals, including Cannes, but also from Oscar winning actress Viola Davis, made him continue following his



dreams of storytelling.

He says, "Having a passion for editing, I found it as the magic wand to present much more cinematic stories. Editing is the uttermost end of the filmmaking process and the closest thing to what is presented to the audience. It's almost like you are rewriting a film on the editing table with the video and sound clips you are given. I've seen films that were completely changed on an editing table to achieve success and I've seen films that were compelling in the writing stage, but the pace of the editing ruined them."

He shares an example from a film that he has edited, *Mirage*. He says, "Despite the fact that the film is set in contemporary Los Angeles, as the editor of the film, I took the creative liberty to set the rhythm of the film similar to the 90s, highlighting the intimacy between the characters and underlining the complex world they lived in. With only two words of dialogue in the entire film, it was the pacing that was established editorially that drew the line

between the present and the past of its cinematic world. Things like these ended up scooping the film a qualification in BAFTA while it received three other film awards, including a well-earned nod for Best Film Editing."

Coming from a South Asian background, his films revolve around the immigrant experience of South Asians in the United States. His upcoming projects include Time's Studios documentary series, *Right To Offend*, and Showtime's documentary series, *Supreme Team*, premiering at the upcoming Tribeca film festival.

He says, "Stereotypes about minorities have been prevalent throughout history, and their portrayals in popular media have mostly been reductive. I'm a native South Asian filmmaker, who is crafting compelling stories that aren't just there to serve as diversity tokens but actually,

but cinematic experience through *Dr. Elevator* was no easy task"

He further adds, "I'm a filmmaker who wants to fully transfer the audience into the story, freeing themselves from their problems, and leave them laughing and able to see things through a different perspective

The Pioneer connects with filmmaker Kartikye Gupta, known for his award-winning productions like *Dr. Elevator* (2016) and *Please Don't Call The Cops* (2017), who shares with us some exclusive details about his debut in the Metaverse.

wards. Most of the Indians frantically mugged up textbooks. So I trapped an Indian mathematician with Asperger's in an elevator with a strange woman going into labor, and he had to rise to the occasion and deliver the baby. Locking characters in a closed environment like an elevator was very challenging at every level, be it writing, cinematography, or editing. The script had to be so tightly put together with a skosh of humour coming every minute. I was almost rewriting the whole story, characters, and conflict again on the editing table by creating a rhythm and relationship between three unknown characters."

"He believes that storytelling and technology go hand in hand. A few years ago, films were only entertained on a two-dimensional screen, at a conventional movie theater. But now, there's content specially made for your 32-inch home TV, and there's been progress in curating content on your phone screens directly.

He was instrumental in creating and piecing together the visuals for the trending *Metaverse* film, which was brought to the world

for the first time by Facebook at the connect. The film highlights the next evolution of social connection that the company is bringing. The event was watched by 15 million people globally.

Telling us more about it, Kartikye shares, "Back in 2014, I used to follow Google Earth a lot to explore. I learned that Facebook had acquired Oculus. I couldn't wait to buy and try virtual reality myself for the first time when it came out in 2018. Those days, there wasn't much content, but it was such a gripping experience to come across characters and build such an intimacy between the audience and the story. I had to dive into virtual reality and start exploring the best ways to tell my story on that platform. Until a well-known commercial agency based in Los Angeles was hired to showcase a futuristic virtual reality experience. We were looking to highlight futuristic themes but also retro, which people can relate to easily. After a while, I was surprised to know that I was making it to the biggest technological advancement that Facebook was about to make in presenting virtual reality, the so-called *Metaverse*, to the world. The project was heavily based on visual effects to enhance and take the viewer on a futuristic journey that they can experience sitting in their living room."

This year, three of the films he has worked on are premiering at Tribeca. Time Studios' *Right to Offend: The Black Comedy Revolution* explores the progression of black comedy and the comedians who have used pointed humour to expose, challenge, and ridicule society's injustices. *The Supreme Team*, which takes an in-depth look at the notorious Queens, New York gang and tells the real story from the mouths of its two leaders and family members, Kenneth Supreme McGriff and Gerald Prince Miller, And third is a short film, *Malleable*, where he helped his close friend Mario Fierro with creating and editing visual effects.

"I have edited one of the Arjun Kanungo music videos, which was released and went viral with 3M views in ten days. I'm also working at an Oscar-winning post facility, *Rock Paper Scissors*, in Los Angeles, on exciting projects there as well. And to further contribute to VR, I've been developing a lot of immersive experiences and games for various global brands in the so-called *Metaverse*," signs off the filmmaker.

cers and a delusional maid to survive. Can they do it? Or do they fall victim to the madness of the night! Directed by Sunil Manchanda, the series stars Rajeev Khandelwal, Manjari Fadnnis, Rushad Rana, Ashmita Bakshi and Prasad Khandekar in pivotal roles and will premiere on July 1, exclusively on MX Player.

OSTEOARTHRITIS AT A YOUNG AGE? HERE'S ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW

Osteoarthritis is the most common type of arthritis. It strikes when the cartilage at the joint that cushions the bones from both ends begins to wear down.

With the deterioration of the cartilage, the bone begins to rub against the other end. This occurrence causes pain, stiffness, and difficulty in movement.

Although Osteoarthritis is prevalent among the elderly population, it has become common among the 25-40 demographic in the recent past. Patients of Osteoarthritis are commonly found complaining about the pain in joints of the hands, Knees, spine, and hip. According to the Indian Institute of Medical Sciences, Osteoarthritis can be attributed to Vitamin D deficiency. Several factors influence the development of this form of arthritis, such as gender, genetics, and obesity.

Dr. Veerendra Mudnoor, MBBS, MS, Orthopaedic Surgeon, Apollo Spectra Hyderabad-Kondapur says, "Symptoms of Osteoarthritis are identifiable with the onset of pain and stiffness in joints; it causes discomfort upon exertion. Usually, after rest, the joints may feel stiff, but this may resolve as movement resolves. Other common symptoms may include external swelling indicating inflammation in the joints, clicking sound upon movement, and hard lumps on the joints, which indicate the development of osteophytes. The condition also strains daily activities as it causes hindrances in the movement of the muscles freely due to a lack of flexibility."

The most common causes of Osteoarthritis include obesity leading to extra pressure on the weight-bearing joints, a sedentary lifestyle, practicing regular impact sports such as football or hockey, or a job that puts continued strain on the joints and bone injuries. It is also found that women face a greater risk of having the condition. Some patients might have the condition transferred to them genetically as well.

Mostly the effects of Osteoarthritis can be managed in the case of mild symptoms in the early stage by opting for a healthy lifestyle. But



if the symptoms are prevalent for a long time, then it's advised to visit a doctor soon.

The diagnosis of the condition is done through X-ray, MRI, blood test, and Joint fluid test. These tests are not direct indicators of Osteoarthritis but provide the basis to rule out the possibility of other causes of pain to conclude the condition.

The doctors will prescribe medications and treatments based on the level of the condition. Although it can't be reversed completely in severe cases, the treatments reduce the pain and enhance the movement in the affected joints.

The standard treatment for Osteoarthritis is Physical therapy, Occupational therapy, and Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (TENS).

Physical therapy: Exercising and an active lifestyle can go a long way in treating

Osteoarthritis. The physical therapist will suggest exercises to relieve pain and increase flexibility to strengthen the joint muscles. One can also engage in regular activities that increase body movement like walking, running, swimming, etc.

Occupational therapy: Occupational therapy can help in doing regular tasks, in a way benefiting the treatment. The therapists will suggest ways to alter the daily tasks to reduce strain on your affected joints.

Transcutaneous electrical nerve stimulation (TENS): This treatment is used for hip and knee osteoarthritis patients as a short-term pain-relieving technique. A low voltage electric current is passed through the affected joint for immediate pain relief.

The doctors might also prescribe surgery or other treatments like Cortisone injections, Lubrication injections, Realigning bones, and Joint replacement if the other treatments fail to show results.



Dr. Veerendra Mudnoor MBBS, MS, Orthopaedic Surgeon, Apollo Spectra Hyd Kondapur

Manjari Fadnnis reacts to the rumor of getting married to Rajeev Khandelwal

During the promotions of MX Player's Original Series, *Miya, Biwi Aur Murder*, Manjari Fadnnis revealed a weird rumor that had left her in shock. She revealed, "Someone randomly congratulated me on my wedding with Rajeev Khandelwal. And I was shocked to hear that. My instant reaction was like who, me, who got married and to who? I realized this much later that our names (mine and his wife is called Manjiri) are almost similar so the industry people got confused."

Talking about the bond between the two ladies with almost the same name, Rajeev Khandelwal said, "Manjari and Manjiri are both good friends now. I was apprehensive of what would media write as I was now working with Manjari Fadnnis and how would it be perceived as their names are so similar. But there was no stress. Manjiri is cool with me doing intimate scenes. Also, it was great fun to work with Manjari. It never felt like I met her for the first time."

The intriguing trailer of the show gives a sneak peek into the troubled married life of Priya and Jayesh and the strange events that unfold on one single night. As people are poisoned, shots get fired, and dead bodies keep piling on, the *Miya and Biwi* will have to stick together to take on devious thieves, dreaded gangsters, blackmailing police offi-





● Swathi



● Sneha Chowdary



● Archana



● Karuna



● Lavanya

RAIN RAIN COME AGAIN!

Creative global women queens lounge club hosted a fun get-together party in Hyderabad, welcoming the season of rains. Many socialites gathered at the venue and enjoyed the feast and the talks.

what's brewing?



Aliya Baig Academy of Makeup has made it big in the field of beauty and makeup. They are now affiliated with International Makeup Association which is situated in London. To celebrate this moment, they held a grand ceremony at De Surya Arena, Shamshabad. ABAM becomes the third makeup academy in Asia to get an IMA accreditation.



Sasakawa-India Leprosy Foundation (S-IILF), has initiated the creation of alumni networks of the youth from leprosy backgrounds. One such network has been formed in Delhi. The Youth Leadership Council is a diverse, youth-driven group that stands to uphold leadership, promote change, and will raise awareness about leprosy at local, state, and national levels.

PARTY

Photos by SV Chary

Advance Auto Parts India signs MoU with two prestigious colleges

Global Capability Center of Advance Auto Parts, a leading automotive aftermarket parts provider and a Fortune 500 company, in Hyderabad has signed a Memorandum of

Understanding (MoU) with two prestigious universities in Hyderabad, including Vardhman College Of Engineering and VNR Vignana Jyothi Institute of Engineering & Technology, to launch

a comprehensive skills development program with the goal of bridging the talent availability gap between academia and industry and producing workforce-ready graduates. The multi-year collaboration, which

will begin in the second half of 2022, will include the development of a bespoke and innovative curriculum focused on innovative technologies, training programs, guest lectures among other things.

LISTINGS

Anant National University invites entries for its entrepreneurs in residence programme 2023

The Centre for Sustainability, Anant National University, is inviting entrepreneurs for their one-year, full-time Entrepreneurs in Residence (EiR) pro-

gramme. AnantU's EiR programme is envisioned to help chosen entrepreneurs with either a well-fleshed out business idea or an existing business in the field

of sustainability, affordable housing, building construction, real estate, climate change, design and prop-tech. The entrepreneurs will have the unique

opportunity to leverage AnantU's physical infrastructure in its Ahmedabad based campus, expertise and partnerships to scale up their business.

FUN

ARCHIE



CALVIN AND HOBBS



GARFIELD



NANCY



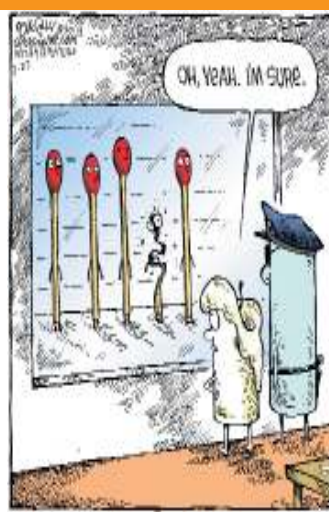
GINGER MEGGS



REALITY CHECK



SPEED BUMP



CROSSWORD



ACROSS

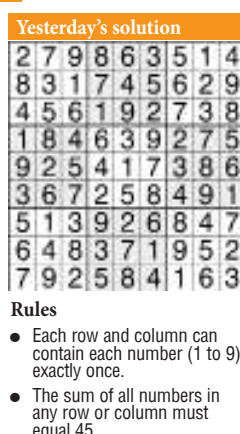
- 1 Altering
- 7 To cook something in an oven
- 8 Last
- 9 Failed to remember
- 10 Injured by a bullet
- 12 Stink
- 14 An award for a successful university student
- 17 One of the planets
- 18 Lift up
- 19 Tree limbs

DOWN

- 4 Follows eighth
- 5 Favoured, liked better
- 6 Squashed
- 11 Look very carefully for something
- 13 Mistake
- 15 Straps controlling a horse
- 16 Part of the face



SUDOKU



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.

'Wanted to make a fun movie'

Gopinath Reddy, who made his directorial debut with *Sammathame*, talks about his upcoming films, how he's all excited about *Sammathame*'s response and more

K. RAMYA SREE

Sammathame, a musical romantic entertainer directed by Gopinath Reddy and bankrolled by Kankanala Praveena under UG Productions banner, starring Kiran Abbavaram and Chandni Chaudhary opened in theatres worldwide on June 24 to positive

reviews. According to the traders report, *Sammathame* has collected Rs 2.10 Cr shares at the Worldwide box office in 3 days.

Gopinath Reddy who made his debut as a director with this film is all excited over the film's success and is already planning his next hit.

In the film, set in the urban backdrop, the director talks about the importance of consent in relationships and the director shares that it was important for him to mention a strong point while telling any story. Although people called it a flat narration because of the concept, the director says that is his style for this particular film to feel the emotions of the actor.

An MBA graduate, Gopinath did a three month film crash course after his intermediate and wrote this story of *Sammathame*, which he started filming after completing his MBA and he's happy that he took the right decision to get into filmmaking as his film fared pretty well at the box office.

He says, "It's good if the character says something. Highlighting it forcibly is like rubbing. I already knew that some dialogues would be strong. But casually it has an impact. That is the reason we are talking about it today."

When asked why he chose this film for his debut, he

said, "Basically, movie stories revolve mostly around money, murders, conspiracies, daydreaming, scams and what not. I wanted to make a fun movie that's like the cool breeze before it rains. Every person has lighter veins and I want to ease them with my story. My story had some strong dialogues, but those too I wanted to say in an easy way instead of rubbing them on the audience."

"Kiran and I are like brothers. We have been travelling with each other for a long time. Kiran was supposed to do this film after Raja Varu, Rani Varu but the script was not completely done then so he went ahead, with SR Kalyanamandapam," said the director adding he respects Kiran as a writer.

For this film, a song was made on a huge scale but the director removed it from the film because he felt the song didn't go with the flow of the film and it seemed the song was placed forcefully in the film.

Speaking about the response for the film, Gopinath who is on cloud 9 said, "There is a good response from the youth. There is also an overwhelming response from the family audience that was a surprise. I also received praise from the industry. I got two to three offers for other

films too."

Meanwhile, the director has a few subjects ready. "There is a female oriented story coming up. All the heroes in my mind are currently busy with their other projects. There is a lot to be said through stories and I want to do family-oriented movies that everyone can enjoy," he concluded.



Surreal experience working with Rana & Venkatesh: Mukul Chadda

Mukul Chadda, best known for his role of Jagdeep Chadda in the official Indian adaptation of *The Office* is gearing up for his next big release.

The actor recently shot with the real-life nephew and uncle duo, Rana and Venkatesh Daggubati, for the official

will be directed jointly by Karan Anshuman and Suparn Verma.

Talking about the experience, Mukul said, "I'm really excited about my character in Rana Naidu. It's very different from the kind of roles that audiences have seen me in, and I hope this leads to even more diverse roles for me in future. Kudos to Karan and Suparn for trusting me with something so different."

On working with big names like Rana and Venkatesh, Mukul added, "Both Rana and Venkatesh Daggubati are extremely professional and down-to-earth stars. It was very relaxed and comfortable to

work with them. Especially with Venkatesh Sir, whom I had a lot more scenes with - I even went to Hyderabad to rehearse with him before we started shooting. I've grown up watching him in movies over the years. And here we were on set together, bonding over the fact that we both studied in Chennai, and tried our hands at something else before getting involved in cinema. It was surreal. But he was incredibly warm and friendly."

Interestingly, *Rana Naidu* will mark Mukul Chadda's first release on Netflix. The actor has had several shows and films on other leading platforms like Hotstar, Amazon Prime, and Zee5.

Indian adaptation of the popular American TV series *Ray Donovan*. The crime drama show, named *Rana Naidu* has been backed by Locomotive Global Inc, and

Entrepreneurship is a very courageous task: Rana Daggubati

PNS | HYDERABAD

T-Hub on Tuesday announced the inauguration of the world's largest innovation campus in Hyderabad.

Actor, producer and entrepreneur Rana Daggubati gave the keynote address during the inauguration.

He said, "Any city is known sometimes by the political leaders of the state, sometimes by celebrities when their movie becomes a success or sportsmen when they make it big but Hyderabad is exclusively known for its entrepreneurs. The entrepreneurs are the ambassadors of the city."

Rana congratulated Urban Development Minister KT Rama Rao and all the people from

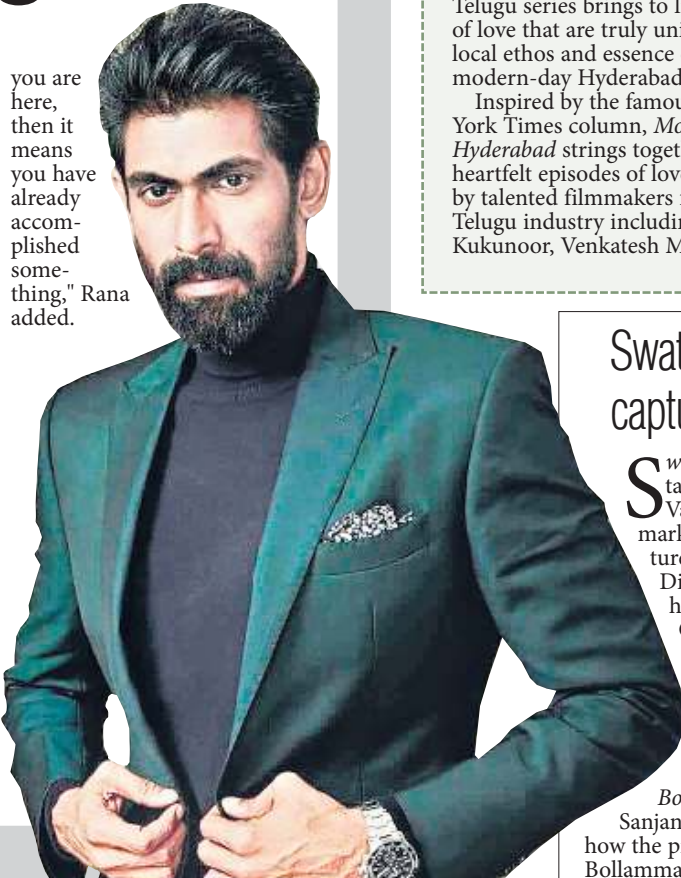
T-Hub Phase-1 for bringing in 4 billion dollar worth of investment.

Rana Daggubati during his address recalled his job where he worked at a desk for about 15 years in the media and entertainment industry.

While advising the entrepreneurs, he said, "Keep questioning yourself and keep doubting yourself again and again so that nobody doubts you in the future. Have patience, create great things and put Hyderabad on the map"

"It's considered as a proud moment when a person keeps working at the same company for 20 years but at the same time when one wants to spend 2-3 years on themselves, they are not given much support. People should know that entrepreneurship is a very courageous task. If

you are here, then it means you have already accomplished something," Rana added.



Love has the power to charm, to excite, to hurt, but more than anything, it has the ability to heal. Presenting a beautiful bouquet of love, exploring various emotions and relationships set in the culturally vibrant city of Hyderabad.

The heart-warming trailer for *Modern Love Hyderabad*, the second Indian adaptation in the series of three localised versions of *Modern Love*. A SIC Productions, produced by Elahe Hiptoola with Nagesh Kukunoor as the showrunner, the new Telugu series brings to life stories of love that are truly unique to the local ethos and essence of the modern-day Hyderabad.

Inspired by the famous New York Times column, *Modern Love Hyderabad* strings together six heartfelt episodes of love, directed by talented filmmakers from the Telugu industry including Nagesh Kukunoor, Venkatesh Maha, Uday

Gurralla and Devika Buhadhaman and features an eclectic cast including Nithya Menen, Revathy, Aadhi Pinisetty, Ritu Varma, Abijeet Duddala,



Malavika Nair, Suhasini Maniratnam, Naresh Agastya,

Hyderabad chapter of *Modern Love* brings six positive stories of love

Ulka Gupta, Naresh and Komalee Prasad.

Producer and director Nagesh Kukunoor, who has also directed three episodes said, "Love is an emotion which had infinite expressions. For *Modern Love Hyderabad*, I have tried to focus

on how love helps us grow, learn to trust and forgive. Along with

being a love letter to love itself, it is also giving a peek into the extraordinary city of Hyderabad, which is steeped in culture and history yet pulsating with the vibrancy of youth. The city is the omnipotent character in all the stories of love of this incredible series. We have tried to capture the beating heart of Hyderabad through the myriad of people who call it home. I hope audiences relate to these stories and find themselves in the characters we have created for them."

Swathi Muthyam's first single captures the bliss of first love

Swathi Muthyam, a feel-good family entertainer produced by Suryadevara Naga Vamsi under Sithara Entertainments, marks the acting debut of Ganesh and features Varsha Bollamma as the female lead. Directed by Lakshman K Krishna, the film has music by Mahathi Swara Sagar. Nee Charedu Kalle, the first single from the film, was launched on Monday.

Nee Charedu Kalle is a musical journey through the bliss of first love and the many moments that make it a magical experience. Lyricised by Krishna Kanth (KK) and sung by Butta Bomma sensation Armaan Malik and Sanjana Kalmanje, the breezy number captures how the protagonists Ganesh and Varsha Bollamma are gradually smitten by one another.

The melody is easy on the ears and brims with a universal appeal that could resonate with music buffs across all age groups. Director Lakshman K Krishna says *Nee Charedu Kalle* has been the cynosure of all eyes on social media after the launch and that listeners just can't have enough of it.

Swathi Muthyam releases in theatres on August 13. The shoot is complete and the post-production formalities are progressing at a brisk pace. The supporting cast includes senior actors Naresh, Rao Ramesh, Subbaraju, Vennela Kishore, Harshavardhan, Pammi Sai, Sapthagiri, Goparaju Ramana, Siva Narayana, Pragathi, Surekha Vani, Sunaina, Divya Sripada.



Sobhita Dhulipala, who was most recently seen in the Adivi Sesh movie *Major*, shows her middle finger in a viral video ostensibly at those who are linking her up with Telugu star Naga Chaitanya.

Her detractors on social

media have accused Sobhita of being responsible for the much-publicised breakup between Naga Chaitanya and Samantha Ruth Prabhu, who's herself a popular actress.

The video clip of Sobhita showing her middle finger while on a flight has gone viral on social media.

Even though the video footage obscures the target of her gesture, netizens claim it is Sobhita's

response to the rumours of her link-up with Naga Chaitanya. The upload time and date haven't been made public, though.

Incidentally, Sobhita has denied the rumors, calling them 'baseless', whereas Naga Chaitanya has not responded at all. His PR team, however, has blamed the Samantha camp for the rumour.

Sobhita Dhulipala's middle finger gesture on video goes viral

There have been rumours about Prabhas working with director Maruthi Dasari for months. The curiosity has increased since Maruthi offered a clari-



fication on the film. It was reported that Maruthi had written a horror comedy just for Prabhas and that regular filming will start at the end of August or the first week of September.

Despite the rumours about the movie's genre being

untrue, Maruthi, who recently spoke with the media, insisted that he will reveal the details regarding his movie with Prabhas, soon.

"Please refrain from believing any rumours

about the type of movie I'll be directing with Prabhas. The specifics will be revealed by me, but there is a timing and order involved," explained Maruthi Dasari. The tentative title for Prabhas-Maruthi's movie is *Raja Deluxe*, and is said to have three heroines, among whom is Pelli Sarda

fame Sreeleela, while Uppena heroine Krithi Shetty is considered as another female lead opposite Prabhas. Malavika Mohanan is said to be one of the women who will romance the *Radhe Shyam* actor.

Don't believe any rumours about my movie with Prabhas: Maruthi

Prithviraj's *Kaduva* release postponed

The release of director Shaji Kailas's upcoming mass commercial entertainer *Kaduva*, featuring actors Prithviraj, Samyuktha Menon, and Vivek Oberoi in the lead roles, has been postponed to July 7. The film was to be released in Tamil, Telugu, Hindi, Kannada and Malayalam.

The film, which has cinematography by Abhinandhan Ramanujam and music by Jakes Bejoy, was supposed to originally release on June 30. Taking to Instagram, actor Prithviraj, who is on a whirlwind tour to different cities to promote his film, made the announcement.

Hours before this announcement,

Prithviraj had attended a promotional event in Chennai, where he said that his film, *Kaduva* will be a refreshing change. The actor had said that the only genre that the Malayalam film industry had slightly forgotten was the mass action entertainer genre and that his upcoming film *Kaduva* was a step in that direction.

