

ANALYSIS 7
PITY THAT WOMEN DON'T
UNDERSTAND MANPOWER**MONEY 8**
WORLD BANK DOWNGRADES INDIA'S
ECONOMIC GROWTH FORECAST TO 6.5%**SPORTS 12**
HAALAND NETS
BRACE IN CITY'S WIN

HYDERABAD, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2022; PAGES 12 ₹3



the pioneer

KAVYA HINTS HER
NEXT; SAYS
'DREAMS COME TRUE'

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**INDIA'S HEAVIEST ROCKET TO MAKE
GLOBAL FORAY ON OCTOBER 22**

India's heaviest rocket is getting ready to make its entry into the global commercial launch service market with the milestone expected on October 22. In its first dedicated commercial mission, GSVL-Mk III would launch British startup OneWeb's 36 broadband satellites from Sriharikota spaceport, as per a contract signed by Indian Space Research Organisation's commercial arm, NewSpace India Limited (NSIL). The newest rocket is capable of launching a four tonne class of satellite to Geosynchronous Transfer orbit (GTO). The launch is slated shortly after October 21 midnight.

**INDIAN-ORIGIN UNIVERSITY STUDENT KILLED
IN US, ROOMMATE ARRESTED**

A 20-year-old Indian-origin student has been killed in his dormitory in the US state of Indiana and his Korean roommate was taken into custody, according to media reports. Varun Manish Chheda from Indianapolis, who was studying at Purdue University, was found dead in McCutcheon Hall on the western edge of campus, police said on Wednesday. Another university student was arrested on a murder charge Wednesday. NBC News quoted the school's police chief as saying. Ji Min Jimmy Sha, a 22-year-old junior cybersecurity major and international student from Korea, called 911 around 12:45 am on Wednesday to alert police about the death.

**GIRL GANG-RAPED IN KVS SCHOOL
WASHROOM; ENQUIRY ORDERED**

An 11-year-old student was allegedly gang-raped by two seniors inside the washroom of a Kendriya Vidyalaya in the national capital following which a case has been registered, police officials said on Thursday. The Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan's regional office has also ordered an enquiry into the issue. The alleged incident had taken place in July but the victim approached the police on Tuesday only after the matter was highlighted by the Delhi Commission for Women (DCW). The DCW, which termed the incident as a "serious matter", issued a notice to Delhi Police and the school principal on the issue.

**ARMY'S NORTHERN COMMAND ADDS
KALYANI M4 TO ITS FLEET**

Army's northern command on Thursday inducted Kalyani M4, an indigenous all-terrain high mobility combat troop carrier with armour and mine protection, in Jammu and Kashmir. The Northern Command shared the information on official Twitter handle with several pictures of its General Officer Commanding-in-chief (GOC-in-C) Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi along with the vehicle. #NorthernComd inducts 4x4 Quick Reaction Force Vehicles, an indigenous initiative by @BharatForgeLtd; an all terrain high mobility combat troop carrier with Armour & Mine Protection, the tweet read.

**BRS to focus on
Dalits, conclave
soon in Hyd**

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao's BRS is focussed on Dalits. The Chief Minister said that a Dalit conclave will be held soon in Hyderabad under the BRS banner and Dalits from all over the country will be attending it. Tamil Nadu MP and Dalit leader-cum-VCK Chief Thirumavalavan and Dalit leaders from various states met KCR at the Pragathi Bhavan on Thursday. KCR said many schemes are being implemented for the development of Dalits in Telangana and that it is imperative to implement them all over the country. The VCK has four MLAs and an MP elected on its own symbol (and another MP on the DMK symbol). Tamil Nadu MP Thirumavalavan honoured KCR with a shawl. Speaking on the occasion, Thirumavalavan said that he came to know about the welfare schemes introduced by the Telangana government for Dalits.

Ball in EC's court

○ TRS informs the commission about changing its name to BRS

NAVEENA GHANATE
■ HYDERABAD

The Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) has informed the Election Commission of India about its decision to change its name to Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS).

A delegation of party leaders led by Planning Commission Vice Chairman B. Vinod Kumar met officials of the Election Commission of India (ECI) in New Delhi on Thursday and handed over a copy of the resolution adopted at the TRS general body meeting on Wednesday. Vinod told reporters that they had informed the Election Commission about the decision taken at the TRS meeting held in Hyderabad. He pointed out that as per the People's Representation Act Section 29A and sub-clause 9, political parties have to inform immediately the Election Commission about any change in name or address. "Without wasting time, we submitted a letter to the Election



Commission informing it about the resolution passed at the meeting," said Kumar, who is the deputy chairperson of the State Planning

Commission. Election Commission officials said they will take action after taking into consideration objections, if any. Replying to a query about the existence of some parties with the name BRS, Vinod said abbreviations may be the same. "Abbreviation is not at an issue. The name is different," he said. A general body meeting of the TRS presided over by party president K. Chandrasekhar Rao on Wednesday unanimously passed a resolution changing the name of the party to BRS.

BRS TO OPERATE FROM SARDAR PATEL MARG IN DELHI

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao will be directing BRS operations from the party's new office which will be inaugurated on Sardar Patel Marg in New Delhi.

**BRS HAS NO PLANS TO
CONTEST K'TAKA ASSEMBLY
POLLS: KUMARASWAMY**

PNS ■ BENGALURU

JD(S) leader H D Kumaraswamy on Thursday said the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS), led by Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao, has no intention to contest Assembly polls in Karnataka, but is thinking about fielding candidates in a couple of constituencies in border areas for the next Lok Sabha polls. The former Chief Minister said the BRS may support JD(S) in "15-20 Telugu-speaking" Assembly constituencies in the State bordering Telangana, where they may have influence. "They (BRS) will not contest the Assembly polls, by going with them, we want to join hands in their fight aimed at finding a permanent solution to issues faced by farmers, dalits and other weaker sections. Rather than building an alternative force against the party in power at the Centre (BJP) it is to find solutions to the issues faced by the nation," Kumaraswamy said.

**TRS loses chairmanship
of 2 Parliamentary panels**

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The TRS lost the chairmanship of the Parliamentary Committee on Industries and Library in the latest rejig on Tuesday.

Keshavarao and Nama Nageswarao lost their Chairmanship posts. Keshav Rao, who is the Chairman of the Industries Committee, will continue as a member of that committee. TRS leader Keshavarao has been replaced by DMK leader Tiruchi Siva as the chairperson of the panel on Industry.

Nama Nageshwar Rao, who is the Chairman of the Library Committee, will be recognized as a member of the Committee.

On the other hand, new entrant Vaddiraju Ravichandra has been made a member of the Petroleum and Natural Gas Committee.



The committees are allocated in accordance with the strength of the party in either House of Parliament. The TRS and the Samajwadi Party, the TMC and the Congress lost chairmanships.

The committees are allocated in accordance with the strength of the party in either House of Parliament. The TRS and the Samajwadi Party, the TMC and the Congress lost chairmanships. With the Congress losing the chairmanship of the Parliamentary Committee on Home Affairs in the rejig on Tuesday, all the key parliamentary panels on External Affairs, Defence, and Finance now is with the BJP.

Campaign to highlight KCR, car

○ KTR and Harish sharpen Munugode strategy

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Ministers KT Rama Rao and Harish Rao held a meeting on the Munugode by-election on Thursday. This meeting is a follow-up of the meeting held by Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao before Dussera.

The TRS considers victory in Munugode as a challenge in view of the Assembly elections next year. The party has not announced the name of its candidate but things point to Kuskuntla Prabhakar Reddy's candidature.

The campaign will focus on 'KCR' and 'Car' to avoid confusing voters with TRS and BRS. The focus is reportedly on reminding people on the situation before 2014 in the erstwhile united AP and after KCR took over.



MLAs Balka Suman, Arekapudi Gandhi, and Sunke Ravishankar shared details on social media with #MunugodeWithKCR.

Meanwhile, Telangana Planning Commission Vice President Vinod Kumar said that he will contest in the Munugode by-poll on a TRS ticket.

Vinod told reporters this after a meet-

ing with officials of the Election Commission of India. He revealed that it will take some time for the Central Election Commission to recognise the BRS. He said that as nominations for the Munugode by-poll will start from Friday, he will contest on a TRS ticket and that the election symbol of the party will be the same. There will be no change in that. The name of the party has been changed just like the names of persons are changed. Everything else will be the same. He said the TRS name will continue until the Election Commission recognises BRS. The date of issue of the Gazette notification is October 7, while the last date for nominations is October 14.

Scrutiny will be done on the next day. The last date for withdrawal of nominations is October 17.

**French writer
Annie gets Nobel
Prize in literature**

PNS ■ STOCKHOLM

French author Annie Ernaux, who has fearlessly mined her own biography to explore life in France since the 1940s, won this year's Nobel Prize in literature on Thursday for work that illuminates murky corners of memory, family and society. Ernaux's books probe deeply personal experiences and feelings love, sex, abortion, shame within a society split by gender and class divisions. The Swedish Academy said Ernaux, 82, was recognised for the courage and clinical acuity of books rooted in her background in a working-class family in the Normandy region of northwest France.

2

Rampage in Thai daycare Centre

○ 37, mostly preschoolers dead

PNS ■ BANGKOK

A former policeman burst into a day care centre in northeastern Thailand on Thursday, killing dozens of children and teachers and then firing on more people as he fled in the deadliest rampage in the nation's history.

The assailant, who authorities said was fired from the force earlier this year because of a drug offense, took his own life after killing his own wife

and child at home. A witness said staff at the day care locked the door when they saw the assailant approaching with a gun, but he shot his way in. In footage posted online after the attack, frantic family members could be heard weeping outside the day care, and one image showed the floor of one room smeared with blood and sleeping mats scattered about.

**FinMin releases Rs 7,183 cr
grant to 14 states**

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Finance Ministry on Thursday released the monthly instalment of revenue deficit grant of Rs 7,183 crore to 14 states. With the release of seventh instalment for the month of October, 2022, the total amount of Revenue Deficit Grants released to the states in current fiscal has gone up to Rs 50,282.92 crore, an official statement said.

2

Kejriwal asks Saxena to 'chill a bit'

○ 'Even my wife does not scold me as much as LG sahib'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

With his government at loggerheads with Delhi Lieutenant Governor V K Saxena over multiple issues, Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal on Thursday said even his wife does not "scold" him as much as the LG, and asked him to "chill".

The AAP supremo, tongue firmly in cheek, said in a tweet he has not received as many "love letters" from his wife "in the entire life" as he has from the LG in just six months.

"LG sahib, chill a bit!" Kejriwal said in his tweet in Hindi. "And ask your super boss also to chill a bit."

The BJP slammed Kejriwal for using "this puerile language", and said the LG "scolds" him only to mend his ways, "stop scams" and pay salaries of sanitation workers before Diwali.



Kejriwal's remarks came days after Saxena in a letter to him alleged he and AAP ministers showed "utter disregard" towards the commemoration of the birth anniversaries of Mahatma Gandhi and former prime minister Lal Bahadur Shastri by not attending events at Raj Ghat and Vijay Ghat.

Last week, Saxena had also written to Kejriwal to expedite permissions for

felling of trees, citing delay in infrastructure projects.

"Even my wife does not scold me as much as the LG sahib. My wife has not written me as many love letters in the entire life as LG sahib has in the past six months..." Kejriwal said in the tweet.

After Saxena took over as the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi in May, he has ordered probes into a host of initiatives of the Kejriwal government including the now withdrawn excise policy, construction of classrooms, and hospitals.

He also recently ordered a probe into Delhi's power subsidy scheme.

The Aam Aadmi Party has been alleging that the LG's actions were politically motivated and that he has been working at the behest of the BJP-led central government. Soon after the CM's tweet, BJP MP Manoj Tiwari attacked him over his language and said it showed his "mental level".

**2nd CONVOCATION
2022**
**THE LEADERS
OF TOMORROW
TAKE THEIR
FIRST LEAP**
October 8, 2022 | 03:00 PM
APJ Abdul Kalam Auditorium

**Chief Guest**
Dr K Radhakrishnan
Former Chairman, ISRO

**Guest of Honour**
Dr S Chandrasekhar
Chairperson, TDS & Secretary,
DST Ministry of Science & Technology,
Government of India

**Dr T R Paarivendhar**
Founder Chancellor, SRM Group of Institutions
Member of Parliament, Lok Sabha

**Dr P Sathyanarayanan**
Pro Chancellor,
SRM University-AP, Andhra Pradesh



Scan the QR code to watch the Convocation Live.

SRM University-AP, Andhra Pradesh, Neerukonda, Mangalagiri Mandal,
Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh - 522240

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TODAY
ALMANAC
Month & Paksam:
Tithi: Dwadashi: Oct 06 09:40 AM to Oct 07 07:26 AM
Trayodashi: Oct 07 07:27 AM to Oct 08 05:25 AM
Chaturdashi: Oct 08 05:26 AM to Oct 09 03:42 AM

Nakshatram:
Shatabhisha: Oct 06 07:42 PM to Oct 07 06:17 PM
Purva Bhadrapada: Oct 07 06:18 PM to Oct 08 05:08 PM

Rahukalam: 10:35 AM to 12:03 PM
Yamagandam: 3:00 PM to 4:28 PM
Variyam: 12:23 AM to 01:54 AM
Gulika: 7:39 AM to 9:07 AM
Amritakalam: 11:30 AM to 01:01 PM

HYDERABAD WEATHER
Forecast: Scattered thunderstorms
Temp: 27°C
Humidity: 89%
Sunrise: 6:07 AM
Sunset: 6:00 PM
Updated: OCTOBER 6, 2022 5:00 PM



KCR may focus on TDP leaders in AP

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Both KCR and Chandrababu had worked together in the TDP. During the Telangana movement, Chandrababu became a bitter enemy of KCR. He has some friends in Andhra Pradesh TDP. Recent surveys have revealed that the YSR Congress will retain power in the next Assembly elections. So in future, Jagan's support may be needed for KCR in national politics.

Moreover, YSR Congress leaders may not show interest to join the BRS.

TDP leaders who had good relations with KCR may join the BRS. But they are worried how the people of Andhra Pradesh will react to the BRS founded by KCR.

Some TDP leaders think that if they join the BRS they may get more financial support than from the TDP. Sources said KCR may concentrate on leaders other than from the YSR Congress in AP Operation Aakarsah.

If any YSR Congress leader wants to join the BRS, KCR may not object.

‘Bifurcation problems can be solved if minds meet’

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Haryana Governor Bandaru Dattatreya said that the CMs of the two Telugu states did not come this time too to the Alai-Balai programme held on Thursday although he has been inviting them after the division of Andhra Pradesh in 2014. Dattatreya said that there is a need to solve the problems between the two states irrespective of political affiliations. The problems can be solved if minds meet. They cannot be solved through political intervention alone.

Dattatreya said that Union Minister Bhagavanth Khuba came from a poor family but became a Union minister. Dattatreya said that he was happy that Kerala Governor Arif Khan attended the programme.

TPCC Senior Vice President Malli Ravi resigns

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Senior Telangana Congress leader Dr Malli Ravi resigned from the post of TPCC senior vice-president on Thursday.

Rampage in Thai...

Continued from page 1

Pictures of the alphabet and other colourful decorations adorned the walls.

At least 37 people were killed in the attack, according to police spokesman Archayon Kraithong. Another 12 people were wounded. At least 24 of the dead were children, mostly preschoolers.

The teacher who died, she had a child in her arms, a witness, whose name wasn't given, told Thailand's Kom Chad Luek television at the scene. I didn't think he would kill children, but he shot at the door and shot right through it.

CHICKEN RATES ₹/KG	
Dressed/With Skin	₹225
Without Skin	₹235
Broiler at Farm	₹200

EGG RATES ₹/100	
VIJAYAWADA	477
HYDERABAD	484
VISAKHAPATNAM	477
RETAIL PRICE	₹4.84
(IN VIGYANAGARA)	

FOR BRS AND ITS LEADER KCR Challenging days ahead

SNCN ACHARYULU ■ HYDERABAD

The name TRS has left a mark on the hearts of Telugus for more than two-and-a-half decades either for or against it.

The TRS (Telangana Rashtra Samithi) was born to create a Telangana state. Later, it changed into a political party and now it has become a national party by changing its name.

After changing to Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) after two decades, the popular name TRS will disappear from politics. TRS was founded on April 27, 2001, by K. Chandrasekhar Rao with a single-point agenda of creating a Telangana state.

Later, the TRS turned into a political party and it came to power in Telangana in the 2014 Assembly elections. In the beginning, the TRS started with one MLA and it came to power in Telangana after it was made a separate state.

In 2014 and 2018, the TRS

Threats to Ambani's family: one held

PNS ■ MUMBAI/DARBHANGA

Mumbai Police has arrested a man from Bihar's Darbhanga district in connection with anonymous calls threatening to target industrialist Mukesh Ambani and his family, officials said on Thursday. A police team picked up Rakesh Kumar Mishra from his village on the intervening night of Wednesday and Friday and was bringing him to Mumbai, an official said in the western metr Darbhanga.

Senior Superintendent of Police Awakash Kumar said, Rakesh Kumar Mishra was arrested by Mumbai Police from his residence in Brahmputra village with the help of the local police. The mobile phone of the accused was seized. Sir H N Reliance Foundation Hospital here had received two calls on Wednesday where the unidentified caller threatened to blow up the hospital along with Ambani's residence 'Antilia' in south Mumbai.

Ball in EC's...

Continued from page 1

KCR said that the general body had unanimously resolved to change the name of the TRS to BRS to expand its activities nationwide.

The meeting also amended the party's Constitution regarding this. KCR said the mission of the BRS is to defend weakened sections of society, including women, Dalits, farmers and tribals across the country.

The new party is likely to retain the pink flag and its election symbol, the car. However, the registration of BRS as a national party will depend on the number of votes it secures in the 2024 Lok Sabha elections. Till then, BRS will continue as a state party.

Meanwhile, Vinod declined to answer queries about the policies and programmes of the BRS. He said KCR will address the media and answer all queries.

A programme is likely to be organised in Maharashtra or

BRS will be as registered a national party. If in future, the BRS does not get recognition as a national party from the Election Commission it will lose some benefits which the TRS is getting now as a recognised regional party.

A senior TRS leader said that it will make no difference whether it is the registered party or the recognised party to people during elections. However, getting recognised as a national party will improve its status in political circles.

KCR ends speculations on handing over TS reins to KTR

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao has put an end to speculations on whether he will continue as CM or he will make his son KT Rama Rao the CM once he launches the BRS.

Some sections in TRS speculated that after launching the BRS, KCR make his son the

There will be no problem for the BRS in Telangana to get public support as in the last few months there were discussions in political circles and the public that KCR is going to launch a national party and for this, he is going to change the name of TRS to BRS.

But the question is how the people of other states will react to the BRS. In some states, the BRS may have an alliance with other political parties like with the Janata Dal (Secular) in Karnataka.

Cong to ensure huge participation of minorities in 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' in TS

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Elaborate arrangements have been made to ensure the huge participation of minorities in the Bharat Jodo Yatra of AICC leader Rahul Gandhi. TPCC Minorities Department Chairman Shaik Abdullah Sohail said on Thursday.

He was speaking to the media after conducting a preparatory meeting with the chairman of District Minority Departments and office bearers at the Gandhi Bhavan on Thursday. The meeting was also attended by AICC Minority Department Secretary Farhan Azmi and 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' Coordinator Shakeel Nawaz.

Abdullah Sohail said the Bharat Jodo Yatra would enter Telangana on October 24 and would continue for 14 days.

"While we are making arrangements to ensure the huge participation of minorities on the entire route from Makhtal to Jogipet on all the 14 days, we are also planning to

'Want Cong to be party of young India'

PNS ■ CHENNAI

Congress leader Shashi Tharoor, in the race for the top position in the party, on Thursday said he wanted to change Congress into the party of young India and that support for his presidential candidature is swelling by the day. The Thiruvananthapuram MP, on a brief campaign in Chennai, said how his party

KCR & Paul may have an alliance in future: Sanjay

K VENKATESHWARLU ■ HYDERABAD



Telangana BJP president Bandi Sanjay Kumar said that as per his information Prapancha Shanti party president KA Paul and BRS president K. Chandrasekhar Rao were the only two who have purchased their own planes and the two may have an alliance in future.

He said that KCR floated BRS to make his son KT Ramarao the Chief Minister state and to help his daughter Kavitha in the Delhi liquor scam. Sanjay said that KCR launched BRS to divert attention from his corruption during the Munugode by-poll.

Addressing the media at the BJP state office here on Thursday, Sanjay said that a discussion had been going on about TRS' funds earned illegally from across the nation.

Dissidence had started in the TRS. "KCR is enacting the BRS drama to protect his party and to make Twitter Tillu the CM and protect the liquor queen. KCR is conspiring to wreak havoc in the nation by winning 30 to 40 LS seats by contesting in places

where minorities are more after joining hands with AIMIM. KCR is going to contest after joining hands with small parties apart from AIMIM. He has become an invalid coin and nobody is minding him. KCR's game will get closed after Munugode by-poll results," he said.

"If you put lime on a buffalo, will it become a cow? The renaming of TRS as BRS is like that. KCR once said that he will forge a popular front and it must be probed whether it had any connection with the banned PFI," Sanjay said. The Telangana BJP president said the people of Telangana voted for the TRS, but KCR renamed TRS as BRS against public opinion.

WHO ALERT DCGA initiates probe; syrup samples sent to Kolkata lab

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India's drug regulator has initiated a probe and sought further details from the WHO after the global health body issued an alert that cough syrups manufactured by an Indian firm could potentially be linked to the death of children in Gambia. The World Health Organisation (WHO) on Wednesday warned that four "contaminated" and "sub-standard" cough syrups allegedly produced by Maiden Pharmaceuticals Limited based in Haryana's Sonapat could be the reason for the deaths in the West African nation. Haryana's Health Minister Anil Vij on Thursday said samples of four cough syrups manufactured by the firm have been sent to the Central Drugs Laboratory in Kolkata for examination.

FinMin releases...

Continued from page 1

The Post Devolution Revenue Deficit Grant is released based on the recommendation of the 15th Finance Commission to 14 states Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttarakhand and West Bengal.

"The Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance has on Thursday released the 7th monthly instalment of Post Devolution Revenue Deficit (PDRD) Grant of Rs 7,183.42 crore to 14 states," the ministry said.

The eligibility of states to receive this grant and the quantum of grant for the period from 2020-21 to 2025-26 was decided by the 15th Finance Commission based on the gap between assessment of revenue and expenditure of the state after taking into account the assessed devolution during this period.

BJP may pick...

Continued from page 1

There is a rumour in BJP circles that a Union Minister has submitted a report on the Secunderabad Parliament seat held by the BJP. It is learnt that the name of former Indian cricket captain VVS Laxman has been proposed as the Lok Sabha candidate of the BJP in Secunderabad in the next elections. Laxman's father Dr Santaram had a good image. It is believed that Laxman is the right candidate and was proposed by the Union Minister. It seems that the Union Minister said that if Laxman is the candidate, even the uncommitted will lean towards the party.

VVS Laxman has received the green signal from the central BJP leadership. The current Secunderabad MP Union Minister Gangapuram Kishan Reddy is likely to contest from the Amberpet Assembly seat which he had earlier represented, BJP sources said.

Kishan Reddy, who is the MP of Secunderabad, is currently not available to BJP

BRS to focus on Dalits...

Continued from page 1

The MP appreciated the Telangana government for introducing numerous schemes for Dalit empowerment and said that no state is implementing such a large number of programmes for Dalits in the country. The VCK chief commended the TS government for implementing the Dalit Bandhu scheme.

It may be mentioned here that former Karnataka Chief



journalists outside her home in Cergy, a town west of Paris that she has written about. French President Emmanuel Macron tweeted: Annie Ernaux has been writing for 50 years the novel of the collective and intimate memory of our country.

French writer Annie gets...

Continued from page 1

Anders Olsson, chairman of the Nobel literature committee, said Ernaux is an extremely honest writer who is not afraid to confront the hard truths.

She writes about things that no one else writes about, for instance her abortion, her jealousy, her experiences as an abandoned lover and so forth. I mean, really hard experiences, he told The Associated Press after the award announcement

in Stockholm.

"And she gives words for these experiences that are very simple and striking. They are short books, but they are really moving. One of France's most-garlanded authors and a prominent feminist voice, Ernaux said she was happy to have won the prize, which carries a cash award of 10 million Swedish kronor (nearly USD 900,000) but not bowled over. I am very happy, I am proud. Voila, that's all, Ernaux said in brief remarks to

SAFILGUDA-AOC CIRCLE

A long-stretch of road riddled with potholes, puddles

DEEPIKA PASHAM
■ HYDERABAD

The road between Safilguda and ARMY ORDANCE CORPS (AOC) circle has been hit with potholes. They welcome the commuters with deep sharp cuts. The road connects many places, such as Safilguda main road, Lalbazar, Maredpally and Trimulgherry. It is filled with puddles of rainwater, becoming a troublesome route to the travelling people.

"It is not a month or two, but almost nearing one year that we are crossing this road but it remains unrepaired until now. As we drive ahead, the whole road is filled with potholes," said a motorist.

Other regular office-going people said, "This area must be recognised by the authorities

The commuters also said that the AOC road which connects many places is not a short route as they want to avoid traffic on the main roads, but this is the road that leads to their houses situated in Safilguda and Malkajgiri

before any other because it has no streetlights also it being an Army centre. When it rains heavily the area turns into not less than a jungle.

We stop by in between to cross the road."

A motorist who takes the route often said, "I have witnessed and helped two people who used the route and unknowingly slipped into the potholes. This is leading to accidents as passersby cannot notice if they skid, as it is total-

ly dark."

The commuters also said that the AOC road which connects many places is not a short route as they want to avoid traffic on the main roads, but this is the road that leads to their houses situated in Safilguda and Malkajgiri.

Another concern reported was that women experience a severe back and neck pain as the road is filled with deep potholes. Sources asking for anonymity, said that com-



The AOC road filled with potholes

plaints on the road have been made several times, but works can be undertaken only after rains. Though they have been silent on the funds crunch,

even minimum repairs are not being carried out.

Earlier, there were many issues with garbage being thrown into heaps on the road.

Modi hails 'Alai-Balai,' says it unites all sections of people

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Showering praises on the 'Alai-Balai' programme organised by Haryana Governor Bandaru Dattatreya, Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed a letter to him on the programme.

In his letter, Modi said that programmes like 'Alai-Balai' will help to strengthen relations among people.

Modi also extended greetings to the people of Telangana on the occasion of Bathukamma and Dasara festivals.

He said that conducting programmes like Alai-Balai to unite all sections of people during a festival is a great thing.

Modi said in his letter that there is a tradition in India where people from all walks of life celebrate festivals together. It is great that Alai Balai is one of Telangana's traditions, he added. The Prime Minister, in his letter, appreciated that art forms presented by artists during the Alai-Balai pro-



Haryana Governor Bandaru Dattatreya plays the drums at the 'Alai-Balai' programme organised on Thursday

gramme were impressive.

Dattatreya has been conducting the Alai-Balai programme for many years and suggested continuing it in future as well. Modi expressed the hope that the Alai-Balai programme will contribute to the five principal missions and the country will develop by 2047. In fact, the Alai-Balai programme was held on a grand note at the Nampally Exhibition Grounds on Thursday. Dattatreya started the programme by beating the traditional 'Dolu' (drum).

Kerala Governor Arif Khan, Union Tourism Minister G Kishan Reddy, Union Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilizers, New and Renewable Energy Bhagavath Khuba, former Maharashtra Governor Ch. Vidyasagar Rao, TRS secretary general K. Keshava Rao, senior Congress leader V. Hanumantha Rao, cine actor Chiranjeevi, Rajya Sabha MP Dr K. Laxman, BJP MLA M. Raghunandan Rao, former MLA Chintala Ramachandra Reddy and others attended the programme.

IMD issues yellow alert for next four days

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Heavy rains lashed parts of Telangana from Wednesday night. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has issued a yellow alert for the next four days. As southwest monsoon was active over Telangana, heavy rainfall occurred at a few places in Wanaparthy district and at isolated places in Siddipet, Vikarabad, Mulugu, Nizamabad and Rangareddy districts of Telangana.

In Hyderabad, for the next 48 hours, there will be generally cloudy sky.

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers are very likely to occur in the city. Surface winds are likely to be easterlies/south-easterlies with wind speed around 6-10 kmph..



Maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be around 30 and 22 degree Celsius respectively.

The IMD notified that heavy rainfall is likely to occur in the districts of Nizamabad, Nalgonda, Suryapet, Vikarabad, Mahabubnagar,

Janagaon, Nagarkurnool, Siddipet, Yadadri Bhuvangiri, Rangareddy, Hyderabad, Medchal Malkajgiri, Sangareddy, Medak, Kamareddy, Wanaparthy, Narayanpet, Jogulamba Gadwal of Telangana on October 7 and 8.

Man ends life over financial problems

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

A man died by suicide at his house in Uppal reportedly after slipping into depression over financial problems.

According to the police, N Kameswar Rao (39), a businessman lived along with his family at Venkata Reddy Nagar in Uppal. On Thursday, the man hanged himself to the ceiling fan in a room in his house when the family was away.

After coming home, the family members noticed him hanging and informed the police about it. "The family members told us Kameswar was facing financial problems and slipped into depression over it. He might have ended his life," said Uppal police.

Rachakonda police seize 1,300 kg of ganja

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Rachakonda police has seized 1,300 kg of ganja worth about Rs 2.8 crore, in a major operation against inter-state transport and supply of the contraband.

Two Madhya Pradesh residents, Narendra Harijan (29) and Chandresh Saketh (32), who were transporting drugs in a truck from the Mareduilli in Andhra Pradesh's East Godavari district to parts of Telangana and Madhya Pradesh were arrested, police said. The accused were nabbed by officials of the Hayathnagar police station when they reached the Pedda Amberpet junction on Wednesday.



A truck carrying the contraband seized by Rachakonda police on Thursday

They seized 40 bags of cannabis from the truck. A case is registered under 8 (c) r/w 20 (b) (ii) (c) of NDPS Amendment Act 2001 at the police station.

According to police, the

main two accused Penta Rao alias Bapuji of Andhra Pradesh and Rajesh Kumar of Chhattisgarh, who have been arranging for the consignment are absconding. Narendra Harijan used to

transport goods to Raipur till a year ago, when he met Rajesh Kumar, who then offered huge money for transporting cannabis. Harijan used to earn Rs 50,000 per trip. Later, he quit his job as a driver and became a supervisor after employing Chandresh Saketh as a driver in Rajesh Kumar's truck. After a trip, Rajesh would pay Rs 1 lakh to Harijan and Rs 50,000 to Saketh, Rachakonda police commissioner Mahesh Bhagwat told the media.

The two arrested accused had picked up the consignment of 40 bags of cannabis and were on their way to Hyderabad via Vijayawada when they were arrested.

Two held for theft of 432 cell phones from showroom

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Rachakonda Police of Kushaiguda division arrested two offenders of Alam gang who robbed 432 cell phones worth Rs 70 lakh from Bajaj Electronics store, ECIL X Roads on September 20 night.

The accused are Sattar Shaikh (40), and Md Asidul Sheikh (20), residents of Mansingha village, Sahebganj, Narayanapur, Jharkhand state. A case has been registered under Cr No 975/2022 U/s 457,380 IPC.

After receiving information of the crime, Kushaiguda Division police have examined the footage from over 500 cameras by 10 police teams deployed by Kushaiguda division, the route taken by the accused from Jawahar Nagar area along with their facial description was acquired. The autos which they used for conveyance between ECIL and Amedkar Nagar were identified.

With the fingerprints evidence, it was discovered that the offenders are natives of Jharkhand state and consequently a special police team with DI Kushaiguda Guruvu Reddy and CCS Inspector Balu Chauhan and other officers was sent to Jharkhand to apprehend the offenders.

The autos which they used for conveyance between ECIL and Amedkar Nagar were identified.

The offenders are part of a notorious established gang of offenders called as Alam gang and they usually target large establishments like banks, jewellery shops and mobile phone shops during night hours in a specialised manner. Prior to the offence, they make a reconnaissance of the target location to identify possible entry and exit routes. One member hires shelter locations in the mass areas distant from the selected offence zone without revealing their identity to the owners and neighbours.

Then the whole gang arrives at the fixed location with specific instruments and rope and enters into the place of offence by breaking the grill of ventilators or making holes in the walls and roofs. Later, they disperse by dividing into two groups and reach their native place by bus and train to dispose of stolen property, where they keep receivers ready.

IMMERSION TIME



An idol of the Goddess Durga being immersed in Hussainsagar on Thursday, after the completion of the Navaratri festival
Photo SV Chary



68TH VANYA PRANI SAPTAH AND 59TH ZOO DAY

A pair of meerkats, marmoset released into Nehru Zoo

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

As 68th Vanya Prani Saptah and 59th Zoo Day was celebrated at Nehru Zoological Park in Hyderabad, a pair of meerkats and a pair of white-eared marmoset were released into the park. RM Dobriyal, Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, opened a new fish pond with variety of fishes.

Dobriyal, along with Vinay Kumar, Adl Prl Chief

Conservator of Forests, and Director of Zoo Parks, S Rajashekar, Curator, Nehru Zoological Park, Bucchi Rami Reddy and A Shankaran, OSD, Prl Chief Conservator of Forests participated.

An Asiatic Lioness named Saina gave birth to a young cub in April 2022. Dobriyal named her as Adhithi. It is six months old. Drawing, painting, elocution and photography competitions were conducted for



An Asiatic Lioness named Saina gave birth to a young cub in April 2022. It was named as Adhithi.

school students during the last week of September on the occasion of Vanya Prani Saptah celebrations. The winners were given prizes. KVS Babu award for excellent services rendered was given to S Ramchander, Mali, Jeelani Khan, animal keepers and Syed Babu, traffic controller of Nehru Zoological Park. The best enclosure award was awarded to Lion Safari Park, Nagi Reddy and his team. The

best employee's awards were also awarded to the zoo staff for rendering excellent services in their allotted duties.

Dobriyal said that the first week of the October is celebrated as Vanya Prani Saptah every year which also coincides with the Zoo Day, which falls on October 6. Nehru Zoological Park is known as one of the best zoos in Asia in all the aspects of wildlife conservation.

State spent Rs1,308 cr as part of free rice distribution

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

State Civil Supplies Minister Gangula Kamalakara said that another phase of free rice distribution was started on the orders of Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao. He said in a statement released on Thursday that free rice will be distributed at the rate of 10 kg per person. The minister said that there are 90.01 lakh cards and 283.42 lakh beneficiaries in the state, out of which the Centre has only 54.37 lakh cards and only 1.91 crore people are getting free ration at the rate of 5 kg. The remaining 35.64 lakh cards and 91.72 lakh people are being supplied free ration by the state at full cost.

Minister Kamalakara said that since the Central government has extended the PMGKAY scheme for another three months, the government is collecting an additional 19,057 lakh metric tonnes of rice to distribute to the state cardholders. He said that the state will spend an additional Rs 227.25 crore in three months at the rate of Rs 75.75 crore per month.

The minister said that the state government has spent an additional Rs.1,308 crore on rice since the inception of PMGKAY. Apart from this, Rs.500 per card and Rs.1,500 per card for two months have been given to the migrant workers, making the amount Rs 2,454 crore.

There, the cardiologists found that the right side of the baby's heart was poorly functioning, which caused a drop in the baby's oxygen levels.

Frequency Ventilator (HFOV) and inhaled Nitric Oxide. Her health was getting worse and she needed HFOV, along with Nitric Oxide gas to help her body get more oxygen.

As we received calls around 9 pm, air transport options were tried for. However, it couldn't be arranged due to logistics issues. A road transport ambulance facility with

HFOV and Nitric Oxide was initiated. Her condition was very critical (oxygen levels were very low). So, Nitric oxide gas was started at the referring hospital and the baby was transferred to Rainbow Children's Hospital.

The baby girl started improving with surfactant and Nitric oxide along with HFOV ventilator.



the baby's lungs and had to put in drains to release the extra air. PPHN is a common prob-

lem in neonates which makes the new-born baby very sick. Many times, they don't recov-

er with normal (conventional) ventilators, and need a special type of ventilator like High

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Not the first time in the state but for the first time in India, claim the city doctors who have done advanced high frequency ventilation with Nitric Oxide gas in an ambulance. A critically ill newborn with the High Frequency Ventilator (HFOV) was saved by Rainbow Children's Hospital.

Neonates sometimes have to be shifted from one hospital to a higher centre for advance care. To ensure that babies do not get sick or deteriorate during transport, Newborn Emergency Transport service - ICU on Wheels is needed, so that babies have access to doctors, nurses and all ICU equip-

ment, including ventilators in the ambulance.

In one such case, baby Mehreen Fatima was a healthy 2.7 kg when she was born at a district hospital, but she developed trouble breathing just a few hours after birth. The doctors suspected a heart problem in the baby and sent her right away to a Cardiac Centre in Hyderabad.

There, the cardiologists found that the right side of the baby's heart was poorly functioning, which caused a drop in the baby's oxygen levels. The baby was then found to have a serious condition called Persistent Pulmonary Hypertension of the Newborn (PPHN). Adding to it, doctors found holes in both of

BRS, Left parties plan no-holds-barred campaign for Munnugode by-election

PNS ■ MUNUGODE

Soon-to-be registered Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) is leaving no stone unturned to win in the Munnugode by-poll. Its leaders are set to launch a no-holds-barred campaign in the constituency. The by-poll was necessitated by the resignation of MLA Komatireddy Rajgopal Reddy who was elected on the Congress ticket. He is now the BJP candidate in the by-poll.

As part of the campaign, Minister for Energy G Jagadish Reddy held a coordination meeting with the representatives of the Left parties here on Thursday. The Left parties, both the CPI and the CPI-M, pledge their support to the BRS, formerly the TRS, to 'defeat the communal BJP'. The Left parties said the BJP, RSS and their allies are the real enemies of the people.

Speaking at the meeting, Jagadish Reddy accused the BJP government at the Centre of imposing an 'undeclared emergency' in the country.



Minister for Energy G Jagadish Reddy holding a coordination meeting with the representatives of Left parties in Nalgonda on Thursday

The Centre was 'misusing' the Central agencies to suppress dissent and gag the media.

Addressing a media conference later, the Minister, along with the leaders of the Left parties, stressed the need to prevent the BJP from grabbing the opportunity.

The Narendra Modi government, the Minister and the leaders of the Left parties said, has been creating hurdles

in the way of the progress of the states.

The Minister said the BJP leaders were feeling panicky with the people in the BJP-ruled State started demanding that their government, too, implement welfare schemes which have benefited the poor. He felt that Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao was determined to fight the BJP tooth and nail.

The representatives of the Left parties said that they had decided to pledge their support to the ruling party candidate to defeat the 'nefarious designs' of the saffron party. Jagadish Reddy said that the Chief Minister had sought the support of the Left party to defeat the communal forces. CPI-M former MLC Cherupalli Sitaramulu, former MLA Julakanti

The Narendra Modi government, the Minister and the leaders of the Left parties said, has been creating hurdles in the way of the progress of the States

Rangareddy, CPI former MLAs Palla Venkat Reddy, Ujjini Yadagiri Rao, along with CPI-M Nallagonda district unit secretary Mudireddy Sudhakar Reddy, Bhongiri Yadadri district secretary Jehangir, CPI Nalgonda, and Yadadri district secretaries Nellikanti Satyam and Goda Sriramulu, ruling party undivided Nalgonda district election in-charge, MLC Thakkellapalli Ravinder Rao, Nalgonda MLA Kancharla Bhupal Reddy, and others were present.

Minister promises permanent solution to floods in town

PNS ■ MAHABUB NAGAR

Minister for Prohibition and Excise V Srinivas Goud on Thursday directed the district administration to provide food and drinking water to the people who suffered heavy losses due to incessant rains. People from low-lying areas, such as Ramaiah Bowli, B K Reddy Colony and Saktinagar, were shifted to relief camps as water entered into some houses. The Minister was inspected the relief works being undertaken by the district administration in the rain-affected areas.

Interacting with the people in the low-lying areas, Srinivas Goud said the district administration had set up relief camps in function halls for those hit by the rain.

He assured them that the administration would provide food and clean drinking water for them.

He appealed to the people to make good use of the facilities provided for them.

The administration, he said, has been exploring ways to find a permanent solution



Minister for Excise V Srinivas Goud inspecting flood relief work in Mahabubnagar on Thursday

to the flood. He suggested that the existing drains be widened to ensure free flow of water. He advised those who encroached on drains to construct structures to come forward and cooperate with the authorities to remove such unauthorised constructions. He promised to see that those who voluntarily agreed to remove unauthorised structures on drains would get the government's help.

Some vested interests, he pointed out, had encroached

upon the drains and raised structure. It led to blockage of drains and rain water entering into houses. Such structures would be demolished, he warned.

District Collector S Venkata Rao, District Superintendent of Police R Venkateswarlu, Revenue Additional Collector K Seetharama Rao, Municipal Chairman K C Narasimulu, Municipal Commission Pradeep Kumar and councilors were present.

Underground Maoist's parents presented new clothes

PNS ■ JAYASHANKAR BHUPALA PALLY

Katram Deputy Superintendent of Police G Rammohan Reddy on Thursday visited the family of a Communist Party of India-Maoist (CPI-Maoist), who is underground, on the occasion of Dasara festival. The police described it as a good-will gesture.

The DSP called upon the parents of Maoists leaders, who hailed from Ankushapur village under Kataram mandal. Maoist leader Santosh has been underground for many years.

The DSP was accompanied by Kataram Circle Inspector Ranjit Rao and Sub-Inspector Srinivas.

The DSP presented new clothes and sweets to the parents of the Maoist leader. He appealed to the extremists to



Kataram DSP G Rammohan Reddy calling on the parents of an underground Maoist leader at Ankushapur village in Jayashankar Bhupalapally district on Wednesday

The DSP called upon the parents of Maoists leaders, who hailed from Ankushapur village under Kataram mandal. Maoist leader Santosh has been underground for many years.

join the mainstream of the society. He felt that it was not

good on their part to abandon their parents in their old age.

BRS to operate from Sardar Patel Marg in Delhi

PNS ■ VISAKHAPATNAM

Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao will be carrying out operations from the party office.

The office will be inaugurated at Sardar Patel Marg in Delhi. The BRS leaders will be meeting several prominent leaders of associations and parties here.

The Telangana Bhavan in Delhi is under construction. The works were launched in May 2022. Once the construction is completed by 2024 general elections, the building will be given an official name.



NATIONAL HERALD CASE

ED questions Geetha Reddy, Anil Kumar

K VENKATESHWARLU ■ HYDERABAD

Telangana Congress leaders, TPCC working president and former Minister J Geetha Reddy and Gali Anil Kumar, who unsuccessfully contested from Medak Parliament, appeared before the Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Thursday in Delhi in regard to the National Herald newspaper case.

The ED officials questioned them separately. The ED officials questioned Geetha Reddy for three hours and Anil Kumar for five hours.

The officials asked him about the details of the donations given by them to the Young India Limited.

Later speaking to the media, Geetha Reddy said that she had appeared before the ED as she was given a notice. The ED official did not ask her to appear once again before the officials.



Gali Anil Kumar said that he extended full cooperation to ED officials. The ED officials took his signatures on several papers and informed him that they would call him once again for a probe. Anil Kumar made it clear that he gave Rs 20 lakh donation to Young India Company. It may be recalled that the ED served notices to five Telangana Congress leaders, Geetha Reddy, Gali Anil



Kumar, Shabbir Ali, P Sudarshan Reddy, M Anjan Kumar Yadav in regard to donations to Young India Company. Shabbir Ali appeared before ED on October 3.

It may also be recalled that the ED officials questioned AICC interim president Sonia Gandhi and former president Rahul Gandhi for nearly 50 hours.

'BRS will usher in revolutionary changes'

PNS ■ ADILABAD

Minister for Endowments A Indrakaran Reddy on Thursday expressed the opinion that Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) would usher in revolutionary changes in the country. Speaking at a meeting, shortly after laying the foundation for the bitumen road, taken up at a cost of Rs 6.52 lakh at Dhanur village under Boath manda, the Minister said that there was overwhelming response to the BRS party from all corners of the country.

Indrakaran Reddy, along with the party leaders, anointed the portrait of the Chief Minister, K Chandrashekar Rao, with milk.

The Rythu Bandhu, Rythu Bheema, Aasara pensins, Dalit Bandhu, Kalayna Lakshmi and other welfare schemes stood as an example for the nation.

Three youths fatally struck by lightning

PNS ■ WARANGAOL

In a horrifying incident, three youngsters in the age group of 25-30 were killed when lightning struck them while they were having a party on a hillock near Sagaram village under Zaffergadh mandal in Jangaon district on Wednesday. The deceased were identified as Sambaraju, Sai and Shivakrishna.

The deceased belonged to Bandauphapur village under Wardhannapet mandal. The injured were shifted to the Government Hospital. According to the police, all the youngsters were working in Hyderabad and went to Jangaon on the occasion of the Dasara festival.

YADADRI POWER PLANT State to challenge NGT stay order in Supreme Court

PNS ■ SURYAPET

Minister for Energy G Jagadish Reddy on Thursday revealed that the government would file a review petition in the Supreme Court to challenge the orders of the National Green Tribunal (NGT) stalling the works on the Yadadri Thermal Power Station.

Speaking to the media here, the Minister suspected that a conspiracy was hatched to obstruct the works on Yadadri power station. The State government has started to construct the power plant at Damaracherla in Nalgonda district. The work on the plan began only after the State government took environmental clearance. He wondered how far it was justified on the part of the NGT to issue stay order. The government had already spent huge money on the plant, he

The State government has started to construct the power plant at Damaracherla in Nalgonda district.

said.

He recalled that the Mumbai-based organisation had earlier filed a case in NGT. But, the NGT struck down the case. Now, NGT has issued orders in response to a complaint made by the same company. Making it clear that the State government would overcome all hurdles and commence generation of power at the Damaracherla power plant at the targeted time, the Minister said the State government would wage a legal fight against the NGT order.

Jagga fails to make 'sensational statement' on Dasara

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Everyone expected that TPCC Working President Sangareddy MLA T. Jagga Reddy would make a sensational statement on Dasara Day as he had been saying that he would make a sensational statement on that day for the last three months.

However, T Jagga Reddy made no sensational statement regarding politics on that day. Instead of sensational statements, Jagga Reddy stated that Ravanaasura was also great and that he did not touch Seethamma even though he took her to Lanka.

"Rama was number one great and Ravanaasura was number two great. Ravanaasura was a Shiva Bhakta. We hail only those who win wars and hit those who lose the war. We hit the losers with arrows. No one must underestimate Ravanaasura. Ravanaasura is Ravana Brahma," he said.



Addressing a gathering on Dasara, Jagga Reddy said that he has been celebrating Dasara, Srirama Navami, Maha Shivaratri, Bonalu, and Vinayaka Chavithi for the last 40 years. He said that he will continue celebrating festivals like this for another 40 years and that he has been spending huge money for celebrating festivals after becoming an MLA. He said that he does not believe in caste or religion-based discrimination and said that he is an heir of all castes and religions and a soldier of the masses.

KCR going to spend TS people's money in other states: VH

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Senior Congress leader V. Hanumantha Rao said that Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao is going to spend the money he earned illegally in Telangana across the nation.

VH said that KCR distributed Telangana people's money to the farmers of other states. He added that KCR is purchasing a plane with the money of the people of Telangana.

Addressing the media at the Gandhi Bhavan on Thursday, VH said nobody believes that KCR who did nothing for the state will do something for the country.

He said that KCR floated a national party for his personal political gains. "The claim of TRS leaders that the country is calling on KCR is ridiculous," VH said.

BRS cannot attain national status: Jeevan Reddy

PNS ■ JAGTIAL

The Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) and Telugu Desam Party (TDP) were launched under certain circumstances, according to Congress MLC T Jeevan Reddy.

Speaking to the media, Jeevan Reddy said the TDP leadership has been trying to attain the national party status. It did so to divert the attention of the people and cover up its 'shortcomings'. The TRS leadership, too, followed in the footsteps of the TDP by changing the name of TRS to BRS, he felt. The BRS cannot attain national status, he felt.

He predicted that the people in the State would 'get rid of the BJP'. The TRS government had pushed the State into a debt-trap. He accused Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao of failing to secure its rights on sharing of river

water. Telangana was denied of its share of Krishna river water and wondered whether it was due to failure on the part of the Chief Minister or if it was due to a secret pact AP Chief Minister Y S Jaganamohan Reddy had with the powers that be. He demanded that the government exert pressure on the Centre to transfer the seven mandals which were transferred to AP, be given back to Telangana. The power generation in Sileru power project was hit because of Polavaram backwaters.

The free power supply for farmers had been launched by the Congress government. It was not launched by the TRS government. The TRS government had done with interest subvention on crop loans. The government had withdrawn all subsidies and claimed to have been providing Rythu Bandhu, he pointed out.

Many challenges for BRS foray into AP

SAMBASIVA RAO M ■ AMARAVATI

Entering Andhra Pradesh politics is not a stroll in the park for Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao. Being the protagonist of the bifurcation, who took his fight to the logical end, he has many challenges to face in AP in convincing the AP electorate.

Political pundits have started talking about the KCR's foray into AP politics soon after he announced the renaming of the Telangana Rashtra Samithi as Bharat Rashtra Samithi with national political aspirations, on the auspicious Vijayadasami day.

The people of Andhra Pradesh are still unable to digest bifurcation blues and blame Chandrasekhar Rao for it. There are issues between newly-formed Telangana and residuary Andhra Pradesh states, related to the AP Reorganisation Act. The Andhra Pradesh people think



that all the assets of the united state were developed in and around Hyderabad and more than 90 per cent of them like the Public Sector Undertakings of both the State and Centre, institutions, and all others have gone to Telangana, in the name of the location of the headquarters of the respective organisations and institutions. Further, the Telangana government has been raising objections to the construction of the Polavaram irrigation project, and some of the cases were filed against the Andhra

Pradesh government in the courts on the project. There are many other issues that need to be addressed by KCR.

Welcoming the BRS, YSRCP general secretary Sajjala Ramakrishna Reddy said that they would not take it so seriously. He maintained that the YSRCP government, led by Jagan Mohan Reddy, has been providing the best governance in the State for the last three years and the people would favour the party in the ensuing General Elections. He said, "Anybody has the right to float a party, convince the public and contest in the elections. They can come in a constructive manner and fight for any public cause."

He further said YSRCP is not afraid of the emergence of a new political party in AP because the Jagan Mohan Reddy government is working for the development of the State and the welfare of the people. "We are not worried. It is their will

and wish to come and participate in politics. How best we satisfy the public is the only yardstick that will be considered by the voters in the elections. In this regard, we are confident that our government did its best for the welfare and well-being of the people in AP. We are confident of winning the elections again in 2024," Ramakrishna Reddy maintained.

Welcoming the BRS, Minister for Education Botsa Satyanarayana said that it would be another opposition political party in the State. He said that they would be in power and the rest of the political parties in opposition in Andhra Pradesh. BJP AP general secretary Vishnu Vardhan Reddy alleged that KCR had used the Telangana sentiment to become CM and ditched Telugu people for his ambitions to become PM. "A few days ago, he was blaming AP for power issues, irrigation projects, citing his care for Telangana.

STAMPS & REGISTRATIONS DEPT

Jagan forms panel to raise revenue

PNS ■ AMARAVATI

Aiming to increase revenue generation in the Stamps and Registrations Department and meet targets successfully, Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy has constituted a special committee with senior IAS officers and directed it to submit a report in two weeks.

The half-yearly revenue collection of Andhra Pradesh was encouraging at 94.47 per cent of the target, revealed the officials, in a review meeting with revenue-generating departments held here on Thursday.

The Special Committee, consisting of IAS officers MT Krishna Babu, Rajit Bhargava, Nirab Kumar Prasad, and Gulzar, will submit a report on steps to increase revenue gen-

eration while ensuring flexible and transparent policies for the benefit of people.

"Registration procedures should not be cumbersome. Taxpayers should feel that there is transparency and the policies are flexible," he said and told the officials to study the registration policies and methods in vogue in other states. Stressing the need to create an innovative atmosphere on registrations, he asked officials to create awareness through posters at village secretariats and sub-registrar offices to inform the taxpayers of the available services.

"Not only lands and other properties, people should also know the details of other services which can be registered," he directed the officials, adding the details of com-

plaints should be made available in the offices of sub-registrars.

Making a special mention of the mining activity in the state, the Chief Minister asked the officials to take steps to solve the problems of mining leaseholders. "All mines which are not in operation should become operational for enhancing the state revenues. For this, you need to work to solve their problems," he said.

Reviewing the Transport Department, the Chief Minister asked officials to ensure that more vehicles are sold in the state compared to other states. "There are incidents of dealers not delivering the vehicles after collecting the money. You must initiate all possible legal action against such dealers," he said.

INDIA CORNER

In a first, Kolkata ‘Bonedi’ Puja immerses idol in artificial tank

In a bid to curb pollution, the idol of a 190-year-old Durga Puja was immersed in an artificial tank instead of a water body, setting a new trend among the ‘Bonedi Baris’ of Kolkata. The ‘Bonedi Baris’ or erstwhile elite households in south Kolkata immerse their Durga idols in the Adi Ganga canal, which has been plagued by pollution. Anirban Mukherjee who spearheaded the environment-friendly move by his family home of Girish Bhawan said on Thursday that the idol was immersed in the water tank built in the portico of the mansion in Bhawanipur on Bijaya Dashami. “We decided to contribute to the Ganga rejuvenation project from this year onwards, that’s why we took this initiative,” he said. “Water jets were used for dissolving the idol, and the remnants were stored in sacks as those will be re-used next year for making the idol. We followed the vision of reduce, recycle and reuse,” he added.



Mumbai-Gandhinagar Vande Bharat train suffers damage after hitting buffaloes

The newly-launched Mumbai Central-Gandhinagar Vande Bharat Express train suffered minor damage after hitting a herd of buffaloes in Gujarat on late Thursday morning, officials said. No passenger was injured in the incident that occurred around 11.15 am near Ahmedabad when the train was on its way to Gandhinagar and it reached the final destination four minutes early, they said, adding three buffaloes perished. “The Vande Bharat express running between Mumbai Central and Gandhinagar Capital stations had left Mumbai this morning. The front portion of the train’s engine got damaged after it hit some buffaloes that came on track around 11.15 am. The incident took place between Vatva and Maninagar areas of Ahmedabad,” Western Railway (WR) spokesperson Jitendra Kumar Jayant said. “The damaged portion was repaired and the train left for Gandhinagar. The train departed for Mumbai from Gandhinagar Capital (on return journey) at its scheduled time (in the afternoon). No passenger was injured in the incident,” he said in Ahmedabad.



Heroin worth more than Rs 100 crore seized at Mumbai airport

The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) has seized 16 kilograms of heroin worth more than Rs 100 crore at the Mumbai Airport, and arrested a passenger and a woman from Ghana in this connection, an official said on Thursday. The Ghanaian woman was nabbed from a hotel in Delhi as part of the DRI’s follow-up action in the case, he said. The Mumbai unit of the DRI had laid a trap on Tuesday at the Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport on a specific tip-off that a passenger travelling from Malawi, an African country, to Mumbai via Qatar was trying to smuggle narcotic drugs into the country, he said. “As part of the trap, a surveillance and tracking team of DRI officers was positioned at the airport and intercepted a suspected passenger,” he said. During the search of his luggage, the DRI officers found 16 kg heroin that was concealed in cavities made in the trolley bags, the official added.



‘Hasten up visa process for Indian students’

■ Jaishankar urges New Zealand counterpart

PNS ■ AUCKLAND

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar on Thursday urged his New Zealand counterpart to hasten up the visa process for Indian students waiting come to this country for their studies and also sought a “fairer and more sympathetic treatment” towards those who have been impacted by the pandemic.

Jaishankar, who is here on his first visit to New Zealand as External Affairs Minister, held “warm and productive” talks with his New Zealand counterpart Nanaia Mahuta.

India is the second largest source of international students in New Zealand pursuing higher education in various disciplines such as information technology, hospitality, science, engineering and architecture.



“I also raised with the minister the concerns that some of our students have faced, students who had to leave New Zealand during the Covid period and who didn’t have the opportunity to get their visas renewed,” Jaishankar said. “I urged a fairer and more

sympathetic treatment for them, also students who are waiting to come to New Zealand to pursue their studies and whether the visa process for them could be hastened,” he said during a joint press interaction with his New Zealand counterpart.

The two ministers also touched upon the issue of skills demand in each society. “There are perhaps demands in New Zealand which could be met out of India, and we have a mobility understanding with many countries, so the possibility of those could serve as guidance for progress between us,” Jaishankar said. “So, all in all, I would say it has been, Minister, a very good day of discussions and exchange of views and I’m really very pleased today to find some way of contributing to the strengthening of our ties,” Jaishankar said. He also invited his counterpart Mahuta to visit India. “We would be very honoured if we have the privilege of receiving you, Minister, in India, I hope not in the very distant future,” he said.

President Wickremesinghe to visit New Delhi to discuss Sri Lanka’s crisis

PNS ■ COLOMBO

Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe announced in Parliament on Thursday that he hopes to visit New Delhi to discuss the island nation’s worst economic crisis. Briefing the House on his recent visits to Japan, Singapore, and the Philippines, the President said: We are continuing our talks with India. During my brief meeting with Prime Minister Modi in Japan, I conveyed my wish to visit New Delhi to brief them on our situation.”

The President, who took charge after then president Gotabaya Rajapaksa fled Colombo in the face of the country’s worst economic crisis since 1948, said: “Modi has always extended his support to us. I have always appreciated India’s assistance in our crisis. India will continue to extend their support in our rebuilding effort. India since January this year



has extended nearly USD 4 billion worth of assistance to Sri Lanka after the country in April this year announced itself bankrupt and expressed its inability to honour debts. The island nation has been scrambling for dollars, leading to a shortage of food, medicines as well as essential items. India’s credit lines to provide essential food and fuel proved a lifeline to Sri Lanka in the early stage of the crisis.

India stands as a key player in Sri Lanka’s debt restructuring process, a prerequisite to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) facility bailout. Having agreed to a staff-level agreement for a USD 2.9 billion facility over four years, the IMF has asked Sri Lanka to start debt restructuring with its creditors. India with 12 per cent is in the third position in the list of Sri Lanka’s bilateral creditors

behind China and Japan with 52 and 19 per cent. The President also said that Sri Lanka hoped to reach a common agreement with creditor nations including Japan, China, and India, adding that Japan was ready to assist the bankrupt nation in the reconciliation process. Wickremesinghe said that the island nation will only be able to secure an IMF assurance after reaching an agreement with the creditor nations and private lenders. The President said that Sri Lanka after signing an agreement with creditor nations will be able to access bridging finance with lenders like the World Bank and the Asian Development Bank. Sri Lanka hopes to access around USD 1 billion through bridging finance. The President further said that the Asian Development Bank has agreed to provide USD 500 million in loans to Sri Lanka.

‘We will continue to support NPP-led govt in Meghalaya’

PNS ■ SHILLONG

Meghalaya minister and BJP leader Sanbor Shullai asserted that his party will continue to support the NPP-led government in the state, amid speculations of the saffron camp withdrawing support to the coalition.

Shullai’s comments came almost a month after BJP’s Meghalaya in-charge M Chuba Ao said the party would soon take a call on whether to continue its support to the NPP-led government in the state, following allegations of corruption against the Conrad K Sangma dispensation.

The BJP will not withdraw from the alliance, and will complete its stipulated term in the coalition, Shullai told PTI.

The state minister on Wednesday said withdrawing support to the government at this juncture would create a wrong perception among BJP supporters.

Shullai was seconded by the party’s Meghalaya president Ernest Mawrie, who claimed that Ao had made the remark without consulting other state leaders. He (Ao) did not consult the

state leaders. I have informed our central leadership about the matter, Mawrie said.

BJP’s legislative party leader AL Hek could not be contacted for his comments.

The ruling Meghalaya Democratic Alliance has 48 MLAs, including 23 of the NPP, in the 60-member assembly.

The BJP, with two MLAs, is an ally of the National People’s Party-led coalition government in the state.

The assembly elections in the north-eastern state are expected to be held in the first half of the next year.

Referring to several corruption charges against the coalition government, Ao had said last month the saffron camp was examining the complaints.

Our workers have been instructed to collect evidence. If required, central agencies will probe the allegations, he had said.

Ao had accused the NPP of “running the MDA government at the cost of the BJP”. The relation between the two parties has recently soured over various issues, including the arrest of BJP Meghalaya unit vice president Bernard N Marak.



Lalu slams RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat over self-employment

PNS ■ PATNA

RSS Chief Mohan Bhagwat’s pitch for self-employment, as against seeking jobs in public or private sectors, on Thursday received a retort from Sangh Parivar bete noire Lalu Prasad.

The RJD founder, who is set to be re-elected as the party’s national president in Delhi in a few days, took to Twitter to express his displeasure over Bhagwat’s statement at the Dussehra rally of the RSS.

Addressing the rally, Bhagwat had said that “in any society, only 10, 20 or 30 per cent people get jobs (naukri) in



public and private sectors” and asked “how many can be accommodated if there is such a mad scramble for jobs”.

Bhagwat’s statement is being seen as an indirect endorsement of the Narendra Modi government’s stance of making a distinction between “naukri” and “rozgar” (employment). Prasad, whose party has

caught the public imagination by the promise of 10 lakh government jobs, slammed Bhagwat with the remark “whenever the BJP-RSS find themselves in trouble, gentlemen (sajjan) engaged in spreading hatred start disseminating gyaan (wisdom)”. Indirectly referring to Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s electoral promise of 2014, the former Bihar chief minister remarked “RSS imparts training in deceit (thug vidya) at its schools and rhetorician (jumblebaaz) students garner votes with false promises of two crore jobs a year”.

BJP to hold mega events, tour programmes of key party leaders

PNS ■ BENGALURU

With an eye on the Karnataka Assembly elections that are just months away, top leaders of the BJP are set to take up statewide tours and hold a series of mega public meetings.

While BJP state chief Nalin Kumar Kateel and party national general secretary and Karnataka in-charge Arun Singh have already started touring the state, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai and party stalwart B S Yediyurappa will start their trips from October 11.

“These tours will continue till



December covering at least 165 assembly segments,” BJP state vice president Nirmal Kumar Surana told PTI on Thursday. According to him, Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Union Home Minister Amit Shah, BJP national president J P Nadda, and other senior Union ministers and leaders will also visit the

9 dead in bus accident in Kerala

PNS ■ THIRUVANANTHURAM / PALAKKAD, KOCHI

Nine people, including five students, were killed after a private tourist bus hit a state-run KSRTC bus from behind at Vadakkenchery in Palakkad district, Kerala Road Transport Minister Antony Raju said on Thursday.

The minister said the accident occurred around 11.30 PM on Wednesday when the private bus, which was travelling at a high speed, while attempting to overtake a car, hit the rear end of a Kerala State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) bus.

“Both the buses went off the road as a result. Nine people, including five students and a teacher, were killed in the accident,” he told the media.

The driver of the KSRTC bus told reporters that he was driving at a speed of around 40 km per hour when the private bus suddenly hit them from behind and he barely managed to control the vehicle and prevent it from falling into a ditch.

“The private bus hit us from behind, ripped off a piece of our bus from one side and then went past us at high speed and toppled over,” the KSRTC bus driver said. Visuals of the private bus showed a large piece of the state-transport vehicle inside the tourist bus.



Sonia joins Bharat Jodo Yatra in K’taka

PNS ■ PANDAVAPURA

Making a public appearance after a long gap, Congress president Sonia Gandhi on Thursday joined the Bharat Jodo Yatra in Karnataka with her presence at the march being viewed in party circles as a major morale booster.

Amid loud cheers and sloganeering by party workers, Sonia Gandhi, 75, walked besides her son Rahul Gandhi and other senior Congress leaders for a few kilometres in Mandya district of Karnataka on Thursday morning.

The top party brass of poll-bound Karnataka led by former chief minister Siddaramaiah and state unit chief D K Shivakumar were also part of the convoy that walked alongside the Gandhis.

The happy images of the mother and son walking together filled social media spaces.

“We have sailed through storms in the past and today too we will break the limits of

all challenges and will together unite India,” Rahul Gandhi tweeted as the Yatra continued to traverse Karnataka, where he will stay for another 15 days before moving into Telangana. “We have weathered many a storm and will overcome all challenges. Together we will unite India,” he said in another tweet in Hindi and posted a photograph of him walking with his mother, his arm around her. The Congress also posted a picture of the two on Twitter, and said, “Those shielded by love fear nothing! On the road, marching ahead”. Another post from the party simply said Ma with a heart and the photograph of Rahul Gandhi tying Sonia Gandhi’s shoelaces. The picture prompted Congress leader Shashi Tharoor to put out a post in Hindi, which said, “There are blessings even when she breathes, no one can replace a mother as mothers are mothers.”

BJP brass to meet in poll-bound K’taka

PNS ■ BENGALURU

The executive committee meeting of the BJP’s Karnataka unit will take place here on Friday with deliberations expected to revolve around the party’s strategy for the forthcoming state Assembly elections.

BJP national general secretary and party in-charge for Karnataka Arun Singh, Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha members from the state, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, former chief minister B S Yediyurappa and state BJP president Nalin Kumar Kateel are slated to take part.

BJP National General Secretary C T Ravi on Thursday said a total of 592 people who are the state executive committee members comprising sitting MPs, MLAs, state office-bearers, presidents of various wings of the BJP, secretaries, organisers of various cells, district BJP presidents and general secretaries will attend the meeting.

There will be day-long discussions about various schemes and projects of the state and central governments, and interactions with question and answer sessions on the Palace Grounds here, he said. “We will prepare an agenda

and the roadmap in the executive committee meeting highlighting the role of Karnataka in the light of ‘Azadi Ka’ Amrit Mahotsav and keeping in view the ‘Amrit Kaal’ for the next 25 years,” Ravi said.

There will be an exhibition near the meeting venue, Ravi said, adding that the Bengaluru BJP team has themed it around Hindutva ideologue Vinayak Damodar Savarkar.

In addition, the achievements of the state government and Centre will also be displayed at the exhibition that would feature a pictorial story showcasing the rise of the party over the years.

“We will prepare an agenda and the roadmap in the executive committee meeting highlighting the role of K’taka in the light of ‘Azadi ka’ Amrit Mahotsav and keeping in view the ‘Amrit Kaal’ for the next 25 years,” Ravi said.

SC directs states, UTs to submit info

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court has directed all States and Union Territories to submit information on welfare schemes for the elderly with respect to pension, old age homes in each district and level of geriatric care.

A bench of Justices Anirudhha Bose and Sudhanshu Dhulia said the report of the States shall also disclose the present status as regards implementation of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens

Act. “We direct that schemes operating for the welfare of the elderly with respect of (i) pension for the elderly, (ii) old age homes in each district and (iii) level of geriatric care ought to be produced before us.

“Let the respective States and Union Territories furnish the information on their existing schemes on the aforesaid three heads to the advocate-on-

record of the Union of India. After collecting information from all the respective States and the Union Territories within a period of two months, a revised status report shall be filed one month thereafter by the Union of India,” the bench said.

The apex court will take up the matter for hearing in January, 2023.

The top court was

hearing a plea filed by former Union Law Minister Ashwani Kumar seeking setting up of old age homes with basic healthcare facilities across the country. He had also sought effective implementation of the Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens Act, 2007. Kumar, in his PIL, had said there was a large number of aged people which has been increasing, with most of them living in poverty, without any roof over their heads or proper clothes and food.



FIRST COLUMN

COVID EFFECTS MAY BE RESULTING IN DEATHS

Covid after-effects could be the reason for spurt in sudden cardiac arrests



LK JHA

Doctors have reported seeing a significant surge in cases of heart attack and heart failure in the post-Covid period. Their incidence has gone up by more than one-fourth in the last one year, according to our experience at Sarvodaya Hospital, Faridabad.

After the pandemic, the incidence of heart attacks and heart failure has increased by 25-30 per cent in people who got infected with Covid. Patients who had to be hospitalized or put on a ventilator due to Covid are now much more vulnerable to heart complications, and we are seeing a considerable surge in such cases.

There are two ways by which Covid affects the heart. First is direct infection of the heart muscle, due to which it gets weakened, leading to heart failure. The second is that after Covid, a mild form of the infection persists in the body for many months. The arteries remain inflamed, leading to the tendency of clotting inside the heart. This results in heart attack and other complications. Many incidents have come to light in recent months of sudden heart attack in people after doing vigorous exercise. In these cases, the heart muscle may still be inflamed due to Long Covid, triggering a heart attack.

The social media platforms are abuzz these days with videos of artists on stage suddenly collapsing and dying, with the spectators watching the incidents with disbelief. Even some of the celebrities have succumbed to this phenomenon of becoming victims of cardiac arrests after exercise in gym or state performance. There are scopes for the people to speculate when incidents of similar nature appear on the social media platforms with short videos. There is a need to understand that we are still in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic.



The people who had a severe form of Covid need to take precautions. It is difficult to predict heart problems in recovered Covid patients. But there are blood tests that measure inflammatory markers like ESR and High-sensitivity C-reactive Protein (hs-CRP). These can tell whether any form of infection still exists in the body, and how much is the risk. It is advisable not to do any vigorous exercise for the next six months after getting Covid infection. Only light exercises in the form of brisk walking or mild jogging are OK. Don't indulge in any kind of strength training exercises like weight-lifting or extreme treadmill because your heart may still be weak.

We have seen an increase of 30 per cent over the last five years in the number of young patients with heart attacks coming to the hospital. They are also showing up with more extensive heart complications, with multiple blockages. Our advice is not to ignore any kind of symptoms, especially pain in the chest or upper part of the stomach. If you do activities like brisk walking or climbing the stairs and feel any kind of stiffness or heaviness in the chest, you should be very mindful. Many people attribute heart-related symptoms to acidity or arthritis, but any gastritis that persists for 2-3 days is unusual.

It is important in these cases to get tests done to rule out heart problems. Diabetes and tobacco are the top two risk factors for heart disease in India. Diabetic people have three times higher chances of having a heart attack than non-diabetic individuals. Smoking is also very dangerous for the heart, due to which we are seeing many young patients with heart attacks.

(The author is a cardiologist at Sarvodaya Hospital, Sector 8, Faridabad)

Pity that women don't understand manpower



MANOJE NATH

From behind the desktop, wife can be seen indulging her pleasure of doing much pointless work

After I have undertaken my mandatory walk or stint on the treadmill, I do not undertake any wasteful expeditions. My wife is no "mechanical bride". She is as complete a human being as ever there was, and inordinately humane at that, but she is tidying up this, minding that apart from the regular chores all the time. Like planets, she is in a state of perpetual motion. Her living room is her pride, her bedroom her work of art. Having done my quota of physical activity, why should I waste man-power on frivolous movements? Parked in front of my desktop or sprawled on the bed, it gives me the vertigo to watch my wife indulging her pleasure of doing such pointless work. But women, I guess, do not understand much about man-power!

I had told my wife very early during our marriage that it takes many to solve a problem and there are various steps to solving it. My job was to reflect on the nature of the problem, so she could do the solving. That is division of labour. My wife gave me that look which she perfected in a short time living with me. The translation would run in volumes but I get it in an instant. Ever since she has gone about doing her things; I have learnt to manage to cope up with my vertigo reasonably well. But now that domestic helps are becoming a little unpredictable she expects me to join her in these mad pursuits.

I have some rule of thumb excuses to dodge the draft. "Is it necessary, we will be leaving in a couple of days, anyway?" "Is it legal?" I escaped the edict to locate the source of a leak (my version of investigating the source of Oxus) from somewhere behind the geyser. I said the municipality will have to be notified, the power supply company will have to be informed. "So the government has now entered our bathroom? And in the next move they will be sprawled right in our bedroom?" She said facetiously. But she let it pass; she was just testing me. She knew that my intervention would have resulted in flooding the bathroom anyway and a call to the National Disaster Management Authority.

During the course of the same week I was asked to go up to the terrace to see whether the help was malingering or tending to the many plants and pots. I pleaded that I had lost my cap and standing in the sun for long made me feel giddy and nauseated. My Ray Ban aviator glasses were missing. Maybe this was also just a dry run and she let me get away with this one as well. Now I know why; she was laying a perfect ambush, she trapped me on an S-bend!

My books—poor me in my untidy environment of books—are her greatest eyesore. There was a time when we could dedicate one big hall to my books, neatly displayed, easily accessible. Even in the



MAYBE THIS WAS ALSO JUST A DRY RUN AND SHE LET ME GET AWAY WITH THIS ONE AS WELL. NOW I KNOW WHY; SHE WAS LAYING A PERFECT AMBUSH, SHE TRAPPED ME ON AN S-BEND!

(The author is a former IPS officer)



middle of the night if I was seized by an urge to look up a reference or browse a few pages it was no problem.

But gone are days and in the more frugal circumstances, in the brutal struggle for existence my books have lost out to the many shelves and almirahs which according to my wife contain objects of absolute necessity. The rest of my books have been dispatched to a room on the first floor. I argued with my wife that I and my books had co-evolved. It is like my environment for me, you can't destroy my habitat. "Don't you have any concern for the sole member of that rare species called husband?" My wife said that you could survive with your thousand books and the rest of it is an indulgence." I said these are not a thousand but only six hundred. She threatened to count each one of them so I climbed down and it was agreed that if I imported some books from upstairs an equal number would have to be deported.

Now my wife has a suspicion that some illegal immigrants from the first floor are hiding in the pile. Of course my children have sent me a few hundred in the last few years, but they are all legal. I told her, "I have papers from Amazon, even for the imported ones. Don't

husbands have human rights?" "So long as they don't create a pigsty in the bedroom," she said. The clutter and the pile are intruding into alien territory of her nicely curated corner. "Don't you quote all the time "I would rather be an unsatisfied Socrates than a satisfied pig?" "So, Mr. Socrates of the slums, don't be a pig."

My wife has served me notice that either I do the needful or she will take things in her own hand. And in matters like these she is an extremist. Either I find a way to somehow accommodate these books on the uppermost shelves by weeding out some for extinction or see them deported en masse. I am a human being not an uncaring cruel natural agency like evolution!

I have avoided the task so far by pointing out that the aluminium ladder has become a little unstable and by generally playing on her insecurity that her aging sixty six plus husband might take a bump. This has worked so far, but for how long? Aluminium ladders can be mended! Our departure from Patna has earned me a reprieve but how long can I be an exile?

I had asked my wife, sometime back, to buy me a pair of walking shoes and a couple of track pants. Normally I am pressured into

accompanying her on these missions because of size issues but over the years I have managed to find comprehensive strategies to evade the demand. But this time she did not say a word. I got my pair of shoes and track pants from Decathlon but the inventory included an un-indented trekking backpack, a pair of mountain trekking shoes, a rucksack, trekking gloves, trek zip off pants, a solid looking harness, and waterproof all weather multilayer peel off jacket. She sat down triumphantly. "When we get back to Patna you are going to go on your climbing expedition and plant the books in proper order, tidy up the clutter on the lower reaches and leave no waste on the top. You are equipped for every season and every eventuality, the activity is perfectly legal and does not violate any of your human rights. I checked up with our family lawyer."

It has steeled my resolution. I shall arise and go now and go to the Arctic tundra, report triumphantly for Facebook, wearing all that gear, petting a caribou or riding a sled. Chase the lions chasing antelopes and gazelles for lunch in the Serengeti Savannahs in the darkest Africa. At least I would earn some admiring oohs and aahs from known and unknown women friends!

POINT COUNTERPOINT

THERE ARE TWO MODELS: ONE OF PM MODI WHICH GIVES EMPLOYMENT AND PEACE; THE OTHER IS THE GUPKAR MODEL WHICH LED TO PULWAMA.

—UNION HOME MINISTER

AMIT SHAH



IF THE GUPKAR MODEL GAVE GUNS AND STONES TO KASHMIRI YOUTH, WHY IS THE PM INVITING THESE LEADERS TO MEETINGS IN DELHI?

—NATIONAL CONFERENCE VICE-PRESIDENT

OMAR ABDULLAH

Ukraine war: Grain trade disruption and India's role

Russia and Ukraine were breadbaskets of the world, but they have now created a global shortage of wheat

Since the war broke out in Ukraine, the international order of trading has experienced a severe jolt in terms of grain trade. Food production and export supply have rapidly decreased due to crop failures and supply chain disruptions which have failed to meet the growing global demand, further adding to global food insecurity, particularly in Africa and West Asia.

In recent years, Ukraine, along with Russia, have emerged as major players in the world grain market and are commonly considered the breadbasket of the world. Prior to the war, Ukraine and Russia accounted for 14 per cent of world wheat production and around 25 per cent of world export of wheat.



RITUPARNA KAUSHIK



ARPAN GANGULY



YASHOBANTA PARIDA

(Authors are Assistant Professors in Economics at FLAME University, Pune)

Prior to the Russian invasion of Ukraine on Feb 24, 2022, grain exports rose by 8.5 per cent between 2021 and 2022. Thereafter, grain exports are estimated (as of July 29, 2022) to have decreased by 53.2 per cent for 2022-23.

The ongoing war continues to reshape geo-political relations between nations, exposes fissures in the global supply chain, and the dominance of nations strategically situated to take advantage of the food crisis.

Continuous imposition of new Western sanction packages, blockade of Black Sea ports, loss of human life and destruction of Ukrainian agricultural fields have severely disrupted the global wheat supply.

Nations in Africa, West

Asia and Southeast Asia, sourcing their wheat from Ukraine or Russia, are facing dire shortages of grain and are in urgent need of finding alternative sources to meet their grain requirements.

On the other hand, grain shortages have also led to an increase in the price of wheat in the international market. Given this growing shortage in the world supply of wheat and rising prices (which further adds to food insecurity in developing countries), to what extent can India fill the growing void in grain trade?

India is the second largest producer of wheat in the world economy, with a share of around 13.5 per cent (107.59 MT) of total world production in 2020. However,

it accounts for a very small proportion of total world exports of wheat (1-2 per cent) with its share increasing from 0.14 per cent in 2016 to 0.54 per cent in 2020.

Nearly the bulk of wheat production is either for domestic consumption or for storage. More recently, based on a notification dated May 13, 2022, India imposed a temporary ban on wheat export due to the destruction of wheat crops caused by unprecedented heat waves in the country.

The ban was intended to ward off domestic farmers and consumers from the global grain shortage, enhance food security, and thwart inflationary pressures. This was met with criticisms from several advanced

nations who urged India to contribute to addressing growing food insecurity and fulfil its responsibility as a G20 nation. However, India has sought to maintain its trade ties with neighboring nations as it continues to export wheat to countries such as Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, the United Arab Emirates and Indonesia.

To export more wheat or not is a dual-edged sword. In terms of benefits, firstly, India can enter new and potential markets by filling the void left by Ukraine and Russia in Africa and West Asia. Secondly, greater wheat exports can potentially increase the prices wheat traders or farmers receive. Thirdly, wheat exports can help stem the

massive volume of grain wastage every year.

However, even if the Government seeks to fill the void, it should plan the move in such a way that it does not hamper local consumption but also, more importantly, ensure that wheat farmers are protected from the vagaries of global competition. The extent to which gains from wheat exports will trickle down to farmers in terms of higher MSP or higher profitability remains unclear.

Outcomes will significantly vary for farmers from richer agricultural states like Punjab (who benefited from access to large-scale production technologies during the Green Revolution) vis-à-vis those from poorer agricultural states where agricultural

networks (in terms of access to markets, input costs, irrigation facilities, or technology) remain disjointed and weak.

The equitable distribution of gains from wheat exports to the farming community will remain a potent challenge moving forward.

Moreover, the role and intervention of FCI (Food Corporation of India) add an additional layer of complication, as an increase in exports might end up drawing out stocks from the FCI (in the absence of a bumper season), which would lead to conflict with other developed nations at the World Trade Organisation stage (as FCI stocks are meant for domestic consumption and welfare programs only).

MONEY MATTERS

Solar player Orb Energy secures additional US\$ 20 mn loan from DFC

The United States International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) has doubled down its exposure to domestic solar energy player Orb Energy with an additional investment of USD 20 million (about Rs 163.73 crore) in a follow-on loan. Bengaluru-based Orb will use the money to support its in-house financing facility for rooftop and ground-mounted solar customers, the company said in a statement on Thursday. Orb Energy is a vertically integrated provider of solar energy solutions since 2006. It manufactures its own range of solar panels, designs, installs, and services solar systems, and also provides critical finance for up to five years to its commercial and industrial customers. The company had received its first loan of USD 10 million from the DFC to support its in-house finance to SME customers. We will be using the loan from the DFC to finance to our SME customers so as to enable them to gain quick and easy access to rooftop and ground-mounted solar systems from us, Damian Miller, Chief Executive and Co-Founder of Orb Energy, said.



Walkaroo ropes in Ajay Devgn as brand ambassador

Footwear brand Walkaroo International Ltd has roped in Bollywood actor Ajay Devgn as its brand ambassador, the company said on Thursday. The company would unveil a series of television commercials featuring the actor. Havas Creative Group has taken up the marketing campaign which includes three commercial films of the actor on the brand theme 'Walk with Walkaroo.' We are happy to have India's iconic film star Ajay Devgn as our new brand ambassador. He shares a lot of synergy with the brand and enjoys a high level of popularity and credibility," said managing director of Walkaroo International Pvt Ltd VKC Noushad. "We believe that this association will help us connect with consumers across all segments and will further strengthen the brand presence especially in tier-II and tier-III cities in north and west," he said. Walkaroo has over 200-plus designs for the festive season for men, women and kids.



Can Fin Homes mulls raising up to Rs 4,000 cr debt capital

Canara Bank promoted housing loan provider Can Fin Homes is planning to raise debt capital of up to Rs 4,000 crore and will seek board of directors' approval on this proposal later this month. The board of directors of the company is scheduled to meet on October 17, 2022 to approve financial results for the company's second quarter and first half ended September 2022-23. At the said meeting the proposal is being placed to the board seeking approval and authorisations for issuance of non-convertible redeemable debentures up to an amount of Rs 4,000 crore, on private placement basis," Can Fin Homes said in a regulatory filing on Thursday. The company said it will raise the funds in one or more tranches for a period up to the date of the annual general meeting of the current fiscal year. The home loan company said the shareholders approved the debt raise plan at the annual general meeting held on September 7, 2022.



World Bank downgrades India's economic growth forecast to 6.5%

PNS ■ WASHINGTON

The World Bank on Thursday projected a growth rate of 6.5 per cent for the Indian economy for the fiscal year 2022-23, a drop of one per cent from its previous June 2022 projections, citing deteriorating international environment.

In its latest South Asia Economic Focus released ahead of the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, the Bank, however, noted that India is recovering stronger than the rest of the world.

The Indian economy grew by 8.7 per cent in the previous year. The Indian economy has done well compared to the other countries in South Asia, with relatively strong growth performance... bounced back from the sharp contraction during the first phase of



COVID," Hans Timmer, World Bank Chief Economist for South Asia, told PTI in an interview.

India, he said, has done relatively well with the advantage that it doesn't have a large external debt, there are no problems coming from that side, and that there is prudent monetary policy, he observed.

The Indian economy has done especially well in the ser-

vices sector and especially service exports.

"But we have downgraded the forecast for the fiscal year that just started and that is largely because the international environment is deteriorating for India and for all countries. We see kind of an inflection point in the middle of this year, and first signs of slowing across the world," he said.

The second half of the calen-

dar year is weak in many countries and will be relatively weak also in India, he said.

Timmer said that's mainly because of two factors. One is the slowing of growth in the real economy of high-income countries.

The other one is the global tightening of monetary policy that tightens financial markets and not just that it leads to capital outflows in many developing countries, but it also increases interest rates and uncertainty in developing countries which has a negative impact on investment.

"So, it (India) has done relatively well. It is not as vulnerable as some of the other countries. But it's still in tough weather. It (India) has to navigate the higher commodity prices and there are more headwinds at the moment," he said in response to a question.

India is doing better than the rest of the world, he said, adding that there are more buffers in India, especially large reserves at the central bank. That's very helpful. "Then the government has very actively reacted to the COVID crisis," he said.

The Indian government has set an example for the rest of the world, like expanding social safety nets, using digital ideas. "I think it's almost up to a million people that they are reaching at the moment. It's a good response also," he said.

At the same time, he said that he does not agree with all the policies of the Indian government. "Especially their reaction to the high commodity prices might seem logical in the short run, but might backfire in the long run. For example, the export ban on wheat and the export ban or the very high tariffs on rice exports," he said.

Goyal asks industry to follow global quality standards

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union minister Piyush Goyal on Thursday asked the industry to ensure their products meet international quality standards and help build a 'Brand India' as the country aims to become a developed nation by 2047.

Addressing an event organised by the Quality Council of India (QCI), Commerce and Industry Minister Goyal also called for convergence of various quality certification related organisations whether it is FSSAI, the BIS, the Rail or Defense establishments.

"I would urge the ministry as well as QCI to work to bring in convergence... so that the investment environment that we have created can go from strength to strength and can help India achieve our mission of becoming a developed nation by 2047,"

Goyal expressed satisfaction at the global footprint of ICAI with over 168 branches, present in 47 countries with 77 centres in different cities of the world.



he said, and added quality will define 'Brand India'.

Speaking at another event organised by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) earlier in the day, the minister stressed that more women should take up the profession of chartered accountancy.

He called upon Chartered Accountants of India to strive in making India's Chartered Accountancy firms global

level companies.

Goyal expressed satisfaction at the global footprint of ICAI with over 168 branches, present in 47 countries with 77 centres in different cities of the world.

Congratulating ICAI for its efforts to establish 100 centres across the world, the minister asked the institute to expand its presence in the continent of South America as well.

Akasa Air to allow pets in cabin

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Akasa Air, which took to the skies two months ago, will allow domesticated dogs and cats in cabin as well as cargo from November and will also be starting new routes in the coming weeks.

The airline, which is "well capitalised", plans to start international services in the second half of 2023 once it has a fleet of 20 planes. Currently, the carrier has 6 aircraft and will have a total of 18 planes by the end of March next year.

Akasa Air Founder and CEO Vinay Dube on Thursday said the airline's performance has been "satisfying" in the first 60 days. "We are very happy, satisfied with... our performance". Currently, the carrier has 30 daily flights, will start services from Delhi on Friday. It started operations on August 7. The airline is progressively expanding its network and



connecting more cities, its Co-Founder and Chief Commercial Officer Praveen Iyer said. From November, domesticated dogs and cats can travel. The bookings in this regard will start from October 15, its Co-Founder, Chief Marketing & Experience Officer Belson Coutinho said while addressing a press meet here. Each pet will have to be in a cage. The weight limit, including the cage, will be 7 kilograms in the case of cabin and 32 kilograms in check-in. There will be

another option for heavier pets. The policy for pets will be "enhanced" later. "We did have a lot of pet lovers asking... we all believe that we need to have an inclusive environment for pets as well. It (the decision) comes out of our love for pets," Coutinho said.

The airline will be leveraging the expertise of an NGO with respect to carrying of pets such as how to be prepared and what all things pet owners should know as well as the dos and don'ts, he added.

Rupee falls 32 paise to close at all-time low of 81.94 against US\$

PNS ■ MUMBAI

The rupee plunged 32 paise to close at an all-time low of 81.94 (provisional) against the US dollar on Thursday amid high volatility as firm crude oil prices weighed on the local unit. At the inter-bank foreign exchange market, the local currency opened on a positive note at 81.52, then pared all the gains to settle at an all-time low of 81.94 against the American currency, registering a decline of 32 paise over its previous close. During the day, the local unit witnessed an intra-day high of 81.51 and a low of 81.94 against the greenback. On Tuesday, the rupee appreciated by 20 paise to end at 81.62 against the US dollar.

Vedanta's medical arm ties up with Anuva for cancer research in India

PNS ■ LONDON

Vedanta's BALCO Medical Centre (BMC), one of India's leading cancer hospitals, and Anuva, a genomics biotech company with a centre in India and backed by a UK-based hub, on Thursday jointly announced a strategic collaboration to build a Cancer Genomics Biobank for cancer research in India.

Anuva and BMC aim to use this cancer bio/data bank for clinical research to identify relevant insights for precision medicine application for cancer in India.

The companies said the collaboration leverages the strengths of both organisations the clinical expertise of BALCO Medical Centre and Anuva's biobanking and genomic expertise.



"This is another milestone in the journey of BALCO Medical Centre towards becoming India's cancer care destination, said Jyoti Agarwal, Chairperson of BALCO Medical Centre.

"Our collaboration with Anuva will bring together the best of knowledge, technology and research to serve the people of India better, through precision medicine and targeted

treatment, she said.

The memorandum of understanding (MoU) was signed by Dr Jonathan Picker, CEO of Anuva, and Dr Bhawna Sirohi, Medical Director of BMC, at the BALCO Medical Centre at Naya Raipur in Chhattisgarh.

"I am tremendously excited to embark on this endeavour with BALCO Medical Centre.

CBI books joint DGFT for receiving Rs 1 crore bribe

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The CBI has booked a joint director general of foreign trade for allegedly receiving a bribe of Rs 1 crore from a businessman in 2018 in a fraud case of Rs 118 crore, officials said Thursday.

Following the registration of the FIR against Joint Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) Sambhaji A Chavan and Deputy DGFT Prakash S Kamble, 2008 and 2013-batch Indian Trade Service officers respectively, and businessman Ramesh Manohar Chavan, among others, the CBI conducted searches at nine locations in Delhi, Daman, Mumbai and Pune, they said.

No loss of interest for EPF subscribers: FinMin

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Finance Ministry has said there is no loss of interest rate for EPFO subscribers and the delay in crediting interest for the last fiscal is due to software upgrade being conducted.

It further said that for all outgoing subscribers seeking settlement and also those withdrawing their deposits, the payments are being done inclusive of the interest.

"There is no loss of interest for any subscriber. The interest is being credited in the



accounts of all EPF subscribers. However, that is not visible in the statements in

view of a software upgrade being implemented by EPFO (Employees' Provident Fund

Organisation) to account for change in the tax incidence," the ministry tweeted late on Wednesday night.

The ministry said this on Twitter in reply to a tweet by IT industry veteran TV Mohandas Pai, who raised queries on interest in the Employees' Provident Fund deposits.

"For all outgoing subscribers seeking settlement and for subscribers seeking withdrawal, the payments are being done inclusive of the interest," the ministry noted.

Axis AMC eyes Rs 100 cr from Nasdaq 100 fund of fund

PNS ■ MUMBAI

Axis Mutual Fund is targeting to garner Rs 100 crore from its Nasdaq 100 fund of fund during the primary sales period, a company official said on Thursday. The open-ended fund of fund scheme, open for subscription from Friday through October 21, will invest in the overseas units of exchange traded funds (ETFs) focused on the Nasdaq 100 index, the fund house said on Thursday while announcing the NFO from Friday.

Stock markets rise for 2nd session, Sensex gains

PNS ■ MUMBAI

Benchmark BSE Sensex rose by 156 points while the Nifty closed above the 17,300 level on Thursday after gains in metal, IT and capital goods shares amid foreign capital inflows.

Rising for the second straight session, the 30-share BSE benchmark advanced 156.63 points or 0.27 per cent to settle at 58,222.10.

The index opened higher and later jumped 513.29 points or 0.88 per cent to a day's high of 58,578.76 on gains in metal,

FMCG, IT and oil stocks. However, profit booking in select banking and tech stocks in the closing session trimmed the gains. The broader NSE Nifty advanced 57.50 points or 0.33 per cent to end at 17,331.80 as 27 of its shares ended in the green. Among Sensex shares, Tata Steel, Larsen & Toubro, ICICI Bank, HCL Technologies, Infosys and Axis Bank were among the winners. However, Bharti Airtel, Hindustan Unilever, IndusInd Bank, HDFC and Bajaj Finance were among the laggards.

Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services said, "The Indian market is maintaining its resilience despite mixed cues from global equities and surging oil prices. Both domestic and foreign investors are supporting the rally." The market was also bolstered by expectations on Q2 results session, with improvement in sectors like metal, IT, and realty, Nair added. "Weakness in European indices and SGX Nifty slipping into the red prompted investors to cut their bullish bets.

Ecomm firms clock Rs 40K cr sales in festive season

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

E-commerce firms are estimated to have registered a 27 per cent growth, clocking sales worth Rs 40,000 crore, during the recently concluded seven-day festive season sale, a report said on Thursday.

Flipkart Group, including Myntra, Shopsy etc, maintains its leadership position, while Meesho is the second-largest contributor in order volume, the report by Redseer Strategy Consulting said.

"With the conclusion of Festive Sale 1, the online retail platforms have seen a robust 27 per cent year-on-year growth, clocking a sale of USD 5.7 billion or Rs 40,000 crore," the

report said.

The firm has done an analysis of Festive Sale week 1 including sale events conducted by all online retail platforms between September 22 and 30, and for platforms that did not run a sale during any of these dates, the report considered business as usual order volumes.

The growth in sales was driven by sales of mobile phones. "Mobile as a category continued to lead GMV (gross merchandise value) share, contributing to 41 per cent of the GMV, translating to 56,000 mobiles sold per hour. On the other hand, fashion contributed to 20 per cent of GMV, which grew 48 per cent



Y-o-Y from last festive season," Redseer Strategy Consultants, Associate Partner, Sanjay Kothari said.

When compared to BAU (business as usual), mobile saw the highest growth at around 7 times while elec-

tronics and large appliances saw about 5 times growth, fashion at about 3 times growth, and other categories at close to 2 times growth.

Flipkart Group maintains its leadership position, while Meesho is the second largest

Flipkart Group maintains its leadership position, while Meesho is the second largest contributor in order volume, according to Redseer.

contributor in order volume, according to Redseer.

Flipkart Group (Flipkart, Myntra and Shopsy) continues to maintain its leadership position with 62 per cent market

share in GMV during the Festive Sale Week 1. In terms of order volumes, Meesho, with its low average order value and high penetration in Tier-2 cities, emerged as the second largest player capturing around 21 per cent of the market share while Flipkart Group leads here as well, Kothari said. In terms of transacting shoppers, the number increased by 24 per cent Y-o-Y with around 65 per cent of shoppers coming from Tier 2 cities.

"A whopping 7.5-8 crore shoppers placed orders across all platforms in Festive Sale Week 1. Tier 2 and beyond cities witnessed the highest Y-o-Y growth in online shoppers.

NHIT files draft prospectus to raise Rs 1,500 crore via NCD

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

National Highways Infrastructure Trust (NHIT) on Thursday said it has filed draft papers with market regulator Sebi to raise up to Rs 1,500 crore by issuing non-convertible debentures.

NHIT currently owns, operates and maintains a portfolio of 5 initial toll roads, spanning 389 km in Gujarat, Rajasthan, Telangana and Karnataka.

"National Highways Infrastructure Trust, a registered infrastructure investment trust under the InvIT Regulations, sponsored by NHAI (an autonomous authority of the GoI) has filed

its draft prospectus for a public issue of secured, rated, listed, redeemable, non-convertible debentures," it said in a statement.

NHIT added that the issue will be for an amount aggregating up to Rs 1,500 crore.

Non-convertible debenture (NCD) is a financial instrument that is used by companies to raise long-term capital. This is done through a public issue. According to the statement, the lead managers for the issue are JM Financial Limited, AK Capital Services Limited, ICICI Securities Limited, SBI Capital Markets Limited, and Trust Investment Advisors Private Limited.

‘Labels frustrated me, BUT NOT ANYMORE’

One of the most celebrated jewellery designers in India, Maheep Kapoor, is all set to host the private preview of Karan Johar’s Tyaani’s new collection today in Hyderabad. *The Pioneer*, just before the event, connects with her, and we must say, she’s not only a celebrity wife but also an unstoppable businesswoman and a laudable mother.

SHIKHA DUGGAL

It makes no difference what the online demons have to say about Maheep Kapoor, who’s much more than a star wife. All we know from the show, *Fabulous Lives of Bollywood Wives*, is that she’s more of an effective mother, while at the same time lauding her career too. Talking about her business was our delightful inclination towards her because guess what? The jewellery designer is landing in the city of pearls in no time! Designed to cater to the modern Indian woman, Tyaani, an exquisite jewellery brand by Karan Johar, will be hosted by Maheep Kapoor for a private preview of the latest jewellery collection by Tyaani. Together with celebrated fashion designer Mrunalini Rao, both of them will be bringing glitz, glamour, and style. To know about these out-stepping

qualities of her, we enunciate a chat with Maheep, and she starts saying, “As years passed by, I adroitly realised that people are going to misjudge you no matter what may come by. But you know what? I have the privilege of seeing a lot of people’s characters before they see mine. I have surpassed that age now, where you’ll see me bothering about online trolling too much. The labels used to frustrate me, but not anymore. The ones who recognise the ‘real’ Maheep are my tribe; they don’t care a-hang about others. I am plain sailing this way!” Calling her ‘just’ a Bollywood wife is slightly disparaging to her achievements because she’s getting down to some real business with this man. She elaborated, “I have always been a working professional all my life — yes, I wasn’t out there for the paparazzi to know that I am an out-and-out professional, but does that take away from the illustrious career that I have built for myself despite being a ‘star wife’? I beg

to differ. I was sent to a boarding school at the age of ten, and since then I have been an independent girl, both financially and mentally. I moved to Bombay, as it was then known, and I never took a penny from my father. I solemnly swear by my statement. I became such a workaholic that when I was pregnant with Shanaya, sitting at home was intolerable for me. That’s when I indicated myself to a jewellery cause, and twenty years later, I am a

familiar jewellery designer across India. Not to forget, all on my own (she laughs).” Karan Johar stepped a foot into her life and today he’s a big part of it. She happily recalled, “I am prosperous and lucky to have Karan Johar in my life. Very few of us have the privilege to know his profundity. It was he who saw something in Bhavana, Neelam, Seema, and me that we were revealed to the public on an international platform in such a majestic and entertain-



ing manner. He opened many doors of opportunity for me! A man like Karan Johar can only pull off a stint like this, and what a stint it is. I never thought I’d be giving an interview to the media. It was an unfulfilled dream. I thought of only my husband as a star and his prolific family. Nevertheless, guess what — even I am a star now (she giggled). I say this with a very emotional perspective. Whenever my kids and I needed Karan, he was always there. Sanjay finds him an immensely good listener, even with such a busy schedule as a bountiful filmmaker. He always took out time for my family.” A perfect amalgamation of diamonds and gold craft, Maheep is all set to open doors to the new collection in Hyderabad, and it can’t be more euphoric.



THINK ABOUT FOOTWEAR FASHION, AND THE FIRST THING THAT POPS UP IS HIGH HEELS. EVEN THOUGH THEY LOOK GREAT WHEN WORN, ONE CANNOT IGNORE THE IMPORTANCE OF BONE HEALTH. TO UNDERSTAND THIS, *THE PIONEER* SPEAKS TO AN ORTHOPAEDIC EXPERT, WHO EXPLAINS TO US WHAT CAN BE DONE TO KEEP A HEALTHY BONE.

Beyond high heels: DON’T IGNORE BONE HEALTH

SHIKHA DUGGAL

When it comes to footwear, for some, the higher the heels, the better it is. On the other hand, for some, a pair of flats is much more appealing than some stilettos. But, it’s no fun to suffer for the sake of fashion. Dr. Manan Vora, who is an orthopaedic surgeon, tells the girls certain ways to do so without stumbling with calluses and sore arches. The bones that make up the skeleton appear hard and durable. But while the outer layer is just so, the inner tissue is spongy and riddled with small holes, akin to a honeycomb. That sometimes hurts when we wear heels.

“Building healthy bones is extremely important. Minerals are incorporated into your bones during childhood, adolescence, and early adulthood. Once you reach 30 years of age, you have achieved peak bone mass. How likely you are to develop osteoporosis, a condition that causes bones to become weak and brittle, depends on how much bone mass you attain by the time you reach age 30 and how rapidly you lose it after that. The higher your peak bone mass, the more bone you have in the bank and the less likely you are to develop osteoporosis as you age,” explains the sports medicine expert. This is not just it! There are heel fractures that usually result from great force, such as when people land on their feet after falling from a height. Other causes include car crashes and sports-related injuries. Since heel fractures require great force, the knees or spine are often also injured! So, the interventional orthopaedics says, “If not enough bone mass is created during this time or bone loss occurs later in life, you have an increased risk of developing fragile bones that break easily. As you age, your bones become thinner and lose their density. Over time, you become more prone to injury. Fortunately, you can take steps to halt the thinning of your bones, called osteopenia.” There are a number of factors that can affect bone health. For example, a diet low in calcium contributes to diminished bone density, early bone loss, and an increased risk of fractures. People who are physically inactive have a higher risk of osteoporosis than their more active counterparts. Research suggests that the use of tobacco, also contributes to weak bones. Similarly, having more than one alcoholic drink a day or two reg-



ularly, may increase the risk of osteoporosis. You are at greater risk of osteoporosis if you are a woman, because women have less bone tissue than men! You are at risk if you are extremely thin or have a small body frame because you might have less bone mass to draw from as you age. Your bones become thinner and weaker as you age. Too much thyroid hormone can cause bone loss. In women, bone loss increases dramatically at menopause due to dropping oestrogen levels. The prolonged absence of menstruation before menopause also increases the risk of osteoporosis. In men, low testosterone levels can cause a loss of bone mass. Severely restricting food intake and being underweight weakens bones in both men and women. In addition, weight loss surgery and conditions such as celiac disease can affect your body’s ability to absorb calcium and cause this too. And then come certain medications. Long-term use of corticosteroid medications, such as prednisone, cortisone, prednisolone, and dexamethasone, is damaging to bone. Other drugs that might increase the risk of osteoporosis include aromatase inhibitors to treat breast cancer, selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors, methotrexate, some anti-seizure medications, such as phenytoin and phenobarbital, and proton pump inhibitors. All these insights were given to us on an exclusive note by the Clinical Associate in Orthopaedics at Arogyanidhi Hospital. He also warned, “Early, detectable signs of bone loss are rare. Often, people don’t know they have weak bones until they have broken their hip, wrist, or some other bone. However, some signs and symptoms can point toward potential bone loss, such as receding gums and weaker grip strength. Other than changes in bone density, osteoporosis doesn’t usually cause a lot of initial symptoms. Once the bone mass has deteriorated further, you may start to experience more obvious symptoms, such as loss of height, and back or neck pain, because osteoporosis can cause compression fractures of the spine.” He further adds, “These fractures can be very painful because the collapsed vertebrae may pinch the nerves that radiate out from the spinal cord. The pain symptoms can range from minor tenderness to debilitating pain. Then a stooped posture or fracture. The compression of the vertebrae may also cause a slight curving of the upper back. A stooped back is known as

CURVES ARE BACK! in Interior Designing, WOODENSTREET



Basic sharp shapes have a classy appeal, and have considerably made their mark on the industry. On the other hand, curved lines are bubbling their way back to the trend, and its soothing magic is what we all need. Studies have proven that our brain finds soft curves more pleasurable to watch over the straight symmetric lines. It takes less cognitive effort to process curved surfaces visually than sharp ones. “They instigate a gentle flow and ease of aura for the area, helping us lose tension. Curves have an emotional impact on us, and who wouldn’t feel good about investing money in creating a space that actually influences your mood for the better?” said Sejal Parikh, Interior Designer, WoodenStreet. The pandemic lockdowns were one reason the curve appeal is back on the trend list. The dullness of those times needed a cozy ambience to feel nested and content. Hence, it is high time to understand why one should invest time in incorporating the curve appeal to the interiors. Here are a few ways to incorporate the curve appeal through furniture and décor, according to Sejal:

Curved platforms with textured décor

If you fear experimenting with your interior, then this tip of infusing the curve appeal would fit you the best. Go for curved platforms like tables and chairs paired with plain textured decor to make the curves stand out. This would bring a unique structural appeal to your space while keeping it subtle. Curves also make the seating more comfortable. Hence, tables and chairs with curves are a big yes!

Right pick of fabric

Like shapes, different fabrics also lend different vibes. Textured fabrics like velvet double the ease and softness of curves. Buying curvy furniture with velvet upholstery would surely double the calming view and impact of the curved lines. A wrong fabric choice can visually affect the softness of curved lines; therefore, a plush fabric would best fit along the sight of curves.

Soft edge statement décor

Using your interior high-light spots to showcase a curved statement decor is one smart way to



bring curves into focus. A mirror or circular wall art would be a fascinating pick to showcase the curve appeal. Embracing such a design would bring more importance to calmness and proportion in the view. Neat curves would keep the view crisp and engaging, and overdoing them will only create too many focal points, resulting in an imbalanced interior.

Curvalicious planters

Plants and Curves would be a combination made in heaven because it is one fantastic eye-catcher to remind us about relaxation. Curves boost the relaxing element of the space without making it look sloppy or disorganized. Go for soft rounded planters for your greenery to double the positivity of your ambience. The very sight of this combo can spark a sense of hope in you without a doubt. Straight lines on curved furniture are a way of mixing the mainstream with the uniqueness. With curves, you not only offer a complex yet relaxed view of the interiors but also incorporate an eye-catchy design. Who would not like a space that looks unique in a sound manner for it to be understood by all? The curve appeal is one trend that would still be a unique charm to your space even if it falls off the trend list.



● Smita



● Siddhi



● Anika Khara

Entrepreneurs Anika Khara and Deepika Maheshwari organised a women's business cult entrepreneurs meet, where women spoke about the importance of branding in business at Hotel Inner Circle, Raj Bhavan road in Hyderabad



● Neelima



● Ruchi and Deepika



● Lolly Modi

what's brewing?



● Mahmood Ali, Jaber Patel, and Ateeq Siddiqui



● Mohammed Mahboob Khan



● B B Patil and Farooq Hussain



● Jaffer Hussain Meraj



● Mumtaz Ahmed Khan

Minister of Home, Prisons, and Fire Services Mohammed Mahmood Ali, along with Member of Parliament BB Patil, and others graced the wedding ceremony of Mohammed Raziuddin Ali's daughter, and M.A Majeed Khan's son Mohammed Mahboob Khan, at H.F. Convention at Rajendranagar in Hyderabad.



● Prabhakar Rao and Khan Ather



● Khaig ur Rehman



● Kabeer Khan and Mehboob

PARTY

Celebrity Stylist Priyanka Sahajananda, graced the unveiling of Mia by Tanishq's festive collection, 'Festive Edit', here in Hyderabad. The event was also based on the theme of Dussehra.



Photos by SV Chary



Gudem Mahipal Reddy, Member of the Telangana Legislative Assembly from the Patancheru constituency, along with Dr. Krishna Prasad, Chairman and Managing Director of Granules India Limited (GIL), inaugurated overhead tanks to facilitate dedicated supply of potable water for residents of Bonthapally village in Telangana, as part of its CSR initiative. GIL will be inaugurating another overhead tank at Veeranagudam in the coming week.

FUN

ARCHIE



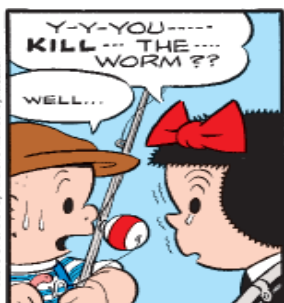
CALVIN AND HOBBS



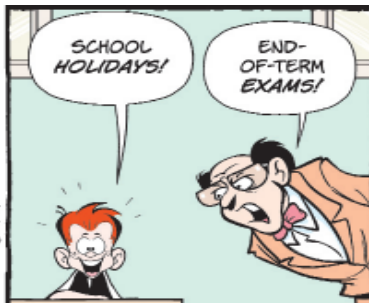
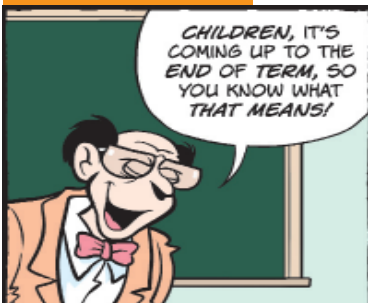
GARFIELD



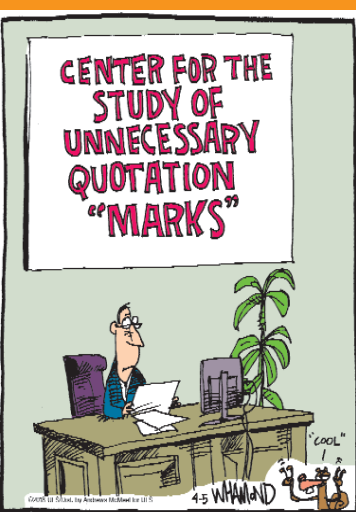
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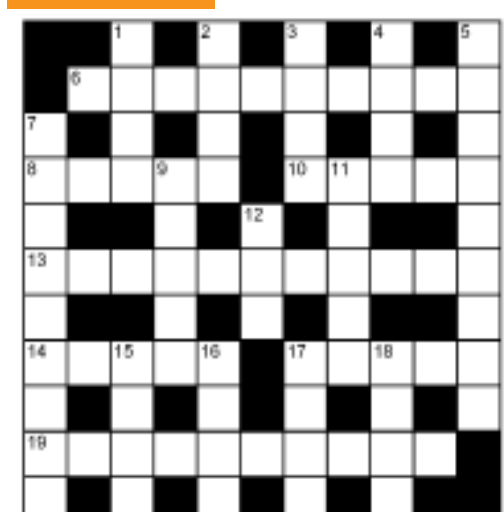
REALITY CHECK



SPEED BUMP



CROSSWORD



ACROSS

- 6 A railway engine
- 8 Wear these on fingers
- 10 An orchestra conductor's stick
- 13 Glass buildings for growing plants
- 14 Small cities
- 17 Nairobi is the capital of this country in Africa
- 19 In the middle of lots of people

- 5 A day of the week
- 7 Opposite of dull
- 9 The colour of grass
- 11 Make smile or laugh
- 12 Timid
- 15 This lives in soil
- 16 Cold winter flakes
- 17 He wears a crown
- 18 Require

DOWN

- 1 The middle of the day
- 2 Things to play with
- 3 A wartime explosive
- 4 Birthday present



SUDOKU

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

Yesterday's solution

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

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.

Rajamouli's *RRR* begins its Oscar journey



SS Rajamouli's *RRR*, starring Jr NTR and Ram Charan, was one of the biggest hits in his career. However, the film was not selected as India's official entry to Oscars 2023. However, the hope for an Oscar nomination is still alive, as the makers are pushing *RRR* in 14 categories under 'For your consideration' (FYC) campaign.

The film was not only lauded by critics and audiences in India, but even in the West.

According to the latest reports, director SS Rajamouli's *RRR* has submitted it in all major categories for next year's Oscars. *RRR*'s Oscar campaign was officially launched last Friday with a massive screening at Los Angeles' Chinese Theatre.

The makers on Thursday made the announcement and said, "We are honoured that *RRR*'s overwhelming success represented Indian Cinema on the global stage by creating milestones at the worldwide box-office and uniting film buffs across the world by transcending linguistic and cultural barriers. We're



grateful to each and every one who loved our film and cheered us over the past few months. You made this

journey possible. We applied to the Academy for Oscars consideration in the general category. We wish our

RRR family the best and thank them from the bottom of our hearts for making this possible. Here's to continuing to win hearts and entertain audiences worldwide."

The categories in which *RRR* has been submitted are Best Picture (DVV Danayya), Best Director (Rajamouli), Best Actor (Jr NTR and Ram Charan), Screenplay, Original Song, Score, Editing, Cinematography, Sound, Production Design, VFX to list a few. Alia Bhatt will compete in the Best Actress category, while Ajay Devgn will compete in the Best Supporting Actor category. *Naatu Naatu* has been submitted in the Best Original Song category.

Apart from the above-mentioned categories, the film will have a go at Best Original Screenplay, Best Cinematography, Best Production Design, Best Costume Design, Best Sound, Best Film Editing and Best Makeup and Hairstyling.



Prime Video's first original *Ammu* to stream from Oct 19

On Thursday, Prime Video announced the global premiere of its first Telugu Original Movie, *Ammu*, releasing on October 19.

With ace filmmaker Karthik Subbaraj as the Creative Producer, produced by Kalyan Subramanian and Kaarthekeyan Santhanam of Stone Bench Films, and written and directed by Charukesh Sekar, the film is a drama thriller that is an empowering story of a woman who rises like a phoenix in the face of adversity. *Ammu* traces the thrilling transformation of a woman from being a victim of domestic violence to overcoming her internal conflicts, discovering her inner strength and giving the big payback to her abusive husband.

Aishwarya Lekshmi plays the titular role in the movie alongside Naveen Chandra and

Simha in the lead. Prime members in India and over 240 countries and territories can stream *Ammu* in Telugu along with Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada and Hindi language dubs on the service.

The first look was revealed by top directors such as Karthik Subbaraj, Vineeth Sreenivasan, Kiranraj, Tharun Bhascker and championing *Ammu*'s message of empowerment actors Sai Pallavi, Manju Warrier, Samyuktha Hegde unveiled the launch date

"*Ammu* is special for us for several reasons. Not only is it our first Telugu original movie, a landmark we are thrilled to have crossed; but it is also an important and a relevant story that focuses on the strength and resilience of women. It also cements our next collaboration with Karthik Subbaraj, after Putham Pudhu Kaalai and Mahaan. *Ammu* features terrific

performances by our lead cast, Aishwarya Lekshmi, Naveen Chandra and Simha. We, at Prime Video, are excited and proud to bring this story to our audiences not just India, but across the world," said Aparna Purohit, head of India Originals, Prime Video.

Karthik Subbaraj, Creative Producer said, "*Ammu*, as a film, is more than just a revenge thriller. The movie is rooted in drama, laced with the unpredictability of life that will keep the viewers on the edge of their seats. It is fantastically performed by some of the industry's finest with Aishwarya, Naveen and Simha giving it their all. I applaud Charukesh Sekar for bringing this gripping and important narrative while keeping intact its emotional core and I am thrilled that with Prime Video we are able to take this movie to customers around 240 countries and territories."



K Vijaya Bhaskar teams up with Guntur Ramakrishna

KVijay Bhaskar, the director of blockbuster films like *Swayamvaram*, *Nuvve Vvalu*, *Nu Nak Nachhaav*, *Mammadhu* and *Mallishwari*, is taking the megaphone after some hiatus. Guntur Ramakrishna is producing this film under the banner of SRK, under his direction. The film stars Shivani Rajasekhar as the female lead in this film, whereas Sri Kamal is being intro-

duced as the hero.

This will mark the 13th film directed by Vijaya Bhaskar. Commemorating Vijayadashami, the launch of this film was held in a grand manner in the presence of film celebrities. Producer Sravanti Ravi Kishore provided the script while Dr. Rajasekhar switched on the camera. Director Trivikram Srinivas gave the clap and the first scene was directed by B Gopal.

Jetty to hit theatres on Oct 28



Nandita Shweta and Manyam Krishna, will next be seen playing the lead roles in their upcoming movie *Jetty*. This movie is being made in Telugu, Tamil, Kannada and Malayalam languages. Venu Madhav K is producing this film under Vardhin Productions banner. Directed by Subramaniam Picchuka. This movie which is in the final stages of preparation, and is getting ready to release on October 28.

Recently the film date announce-

ment press meet was held in Hyderabad.

On this occasion Nandita Shweta said, "My desire to act as a village girl in a village backdrop has been fulfilled with this movie. Talking about this movie doesn't make sense. You have to see it on the screen and feel it. The area has been brilliantly shot by the cinematographer in our film. Producer Venu garu has the same self-confidence from the beginning to the end of the film. The movie was produced in a grand way. All of us believe that we will achieve good success with *Jetty*."

Kavya hints her next; says 'dreams come true'

Kavya Thapar is not just a terrific dancer but a stunning performer as well. The actress's first film completely blew the audience away, and guess what? According to a close source, the actress would be seen romancing a Telugu superstar in another major production.

As per the source, the actress is all set to be seen opposite Ravi Teja in her next film. Kavya took to her social media and shared a picture of herself where she is seen signing papers with all smiles as her biggest dream has come true. The actress wrote, "#Newbeginnings #dreamcometrue Thankyou God, Jai Ram Ji Ki." The movie is touted to be a romantic thriller and an action-packed film. Many more exciting details are yet to be released from the makers of the film, so just stay tuned.

We are beyond happy for the actress as we watch her achieve her goals as a result of her unwavering commitment and perseverance. The actress most recently won the audience's hearts when she made her big Bollywood debut in *Middle-Class Love*, a film produced by Anubhav Sinha's Banaras Media Works and ZEE Studio.

Apart from that, on the work front, Kavya Thapar will also be seen alongside Sundeeep Kishan in her next Telugu film, *Ooru Peru Bhairavakona*. She also has a Tamil film with Vijay Anthony.



Like Share & Subscribe to release on Nov 4



Recently, the makers had announced roping in *Pelli SandaD* beauty Sree Leela, as the leading lady of the film, opposite Ram Pothineni. As the fans are super excited about the film, The Warrior actor hints of the schedule to begin.

On Thursday, the actor tweeted, "And it begins #BOY-APATIRAPO"

Handsomeness hunk Ram Pothineni has teamed up with maverick director Boyapati Srinu for the first time, in his upcoming film titled *BoyapatiRapo*.

As soon as he shared this tweet along with the picture of the title, fans began tweeting down their excitement to know more details on the same. Hopefully, the makers share more updates soon.



D Suresh Babu, and Rana Daggubati to collaborate for two films

DSuresh Babu's Suresh Productions has been in the filmmaking, distribution, and exhibition business for the last few decades. Asian Group, on the other hand, is the largest multiplex chain in the Telugu states. Handsome hunk Rana Daggubati has floated his own production banner Spirit Media to make films.

According to the latest updates, D Suresh Babu, Rana Daggubati, Suniel Narang, and Puskur Ram Mohan Rao announced their collaboration, on the occasion of Dussehra. They have also announced plans to make two upcoming films together.

"D.Suresh Babu, Rana Daggubati, Suniel Narang, and Puskur Ram Mohan Rao are excited to announce the collaboration of their respective production houses Suresh Productions Pvt. Ltd., Spirit Media and Sree Venkateshwara Cinemas LLP (SVCLLP - Asian Group) for the joint production of two upcoming films. Details regarding the films will be announced shortly. See you in the cinemas," read the announcement. The joint production from the leading production houses is going to be high on content, production values and technicalities.



Wishing everyone, on the occasion of Dussehra, the makers have announced the release date of the movie. *Like Share & Subscribe* will hit the theatres on November 4.

The film's teaser was recently released, and as it promised the movie is going to be an out-

and-out entertainer with romance and suspense as well as crime elements. Nellore Sudarshan played a hilarious role in the movie.

Praveen Lakkaraju scored the music, while Vassant is the cinematographer. Avinash Kolla is the production designer.

Behind Someone: Fresh with multiple thrilling elements

PNS | HYDERABAD

Behind Someone (What, Why, Who) is a bilingual film produced by Dr. Singavaram Sunil Kumar Singh under the banner of Coin Earth Creations starring Raaj Suriyan and Niviksha Naidu under the direction of Ajay Nali. The film, made in Telugu and Hindi languages, hit the screens on October 5.

The plot of the film revolves around how serial murders of young girls gets a city into a panic mode. Ashish (played by Raaj Suriyan), who loses his girlfriend, Siri (played by Niviksha Naidu), to this, starts investigating on his own to find the culprit. During the sequence, Ashish realises that there's a group of people who are behind these murders and manages to find a few clues. Meanwhile, Ajay joins the investigation and intensifies the

investigation process and it is simultaneously taken up by Suman. What happened to these murders? What did Ashish do to them? Are Suman and Ajay too linked to these murders? forms the crux of the story. Popular actor Ravi Babu plays another interesting role in this film and to know what he does in the film, you must watch Behind Someone.

Although the story is a routine, the way it was made by director Ajay, seems fresh and new. A crime subject with thrilling elements makes the film all the more eccentric. High production values by Dr. Singavaram Sunil Kumar makes it a good watch. All the actors impressed with their performances and Ravi Babu's surprise appearance will remain a special moment. Ajay's role is the main plot of the movie and his performance in the episode where he hunts and kills the killers impresses the audience. Suman's

role was small, yet remarkable. Cinematography by Venkat Anem and the camera work seemed interesting and locales chosen goes perfectly well with the story. The background music by Vijay Kurav too goes well with the pace of the film. RR has hit well as a crime thriller should. Rambabu Goshala's lyrics are good. Editing of Kranti. RK is neat, shot and cut well without lag. The film which is made on the current atrocities on girls, will make everyone re-think about the society's doings. This is a must watch movie for everyone. Audiences who want something new will definitely like this movie. There are many thrilling elements in this movie that the audience wants.

VERDICT: BEHIND SOMEONE WILL THRILL THE AUDIENCE.

RATING: 3/5



