

ANALYSIS 7 SABARMATI, YAMUNA: TALE OF TWO RIVERS

MONEY 8 INFLATION MAY FALL TO 5.2 % NEXT FISCAL ON NORMAL RAINS

SPORTS 11 SKY FIRES INDIA TO 237-3

VIJAYAWADA DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL RAIPUR CHANDIGARH BHUBANESWAR RANCHI DEHRADUN HYDERABAD

*LATE CITY VOL. 4 ISSUE 344 *Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

VIJAYAWADA, MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2022; PAGES 12 & 3



the pioneer

www.dailypioneer.com



'ACTING FOR ME IS CONTEXTUALISING THE EMOTIONAL DATA FILES' Page 12

CBI MAKES SOCIAL MEDIA DEBUT AHEAD OF INTERPOL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Social media shy CBI has made a maiden appearance on Twitter and Instagram ahead of the upcoming Interpol General Assembly in which 195 countries are likely to participate, officials said on Sunday. The agency created its accounts on both platforms with user ID CBI_CIO for the three-day-long 90th General Assembly starting October 18, they said. Unlike its peers, the Enforcement Directorate and the National Investigation Agency, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) had kept social media at an arm's length, sticking to the age-old practice of issuing press releases.

GANDHI STATUE MADE OF SCRAP INSTALLED AT ODISHA INSTITUTE

A six-foot-high statue of Mahatma Gandhi, made of scrap, was on Sunday installed on the campus of a government-run Industrial Training Institute (ITI) here. The statue, weighing around 105 kg, was erected as a tribute to the Father of the Nation on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti. The sculpture has been made of various scrap materials, including 1,600 electric fan bearings, car seat belts and iron rods among other items, the institute's principal Rajat Kumar Panigrahy said. Around 30 students from the fitter and welder wings along with some teaching faculties took around 15 days to complete the sculpture.

KASHMIRI APPLES MAKE AN APPEARANCE AT UAE SUPERMARKETS

UAE-based business conglomerate, which has more than 50 supermarkets in the GCC countries, is showcasing Kashmiri apples in its stores, giving a boost to the export of the superior quality apples from India to the international market. The flavoursome premium apples native to Kashmir are considered one of the best quality apples harvested mainly in the months of September-October. We are happy to announce the availability of freshly harvested apples at our supermarkets in the UAE, AI Maya Group Director and Partner Kamal Vachani said, noting that this is a peak apple harvesting season in Kashmir.

HC QUASHES FIR, ASKS WOMAN TO PROVIDE SANITARY NAPKINS

The Delhi High Court has directed a woman to provide sanitary napkins to a girls' school for two months as condition to quash an extortion case lodged against her. The high court also asked a lawyer, who was the complainant in the extortion case, to report to the office of Delhi High Court Legal Service Committee (DHCLSC) and undertake pro bono (done for public good free of cost) work to the best of his ability and capability for the next three months. It quashed the FIR after noting that no purpose would be served in prosecuting the complainant as the parties have arrived at a settlement and wish to put a quietus to the dispute between them.

125 die in stampede

Tear gas triggers crush at Indonesia soccer match



PNS ■ MALANG

Panic and a chaotic run for exits after police fired tear gas at an Indonesian soccer match to drive away fans upset with their team's loss left at least 125 dead, most of whom were trampled upon or suffocated, making it one of the deadliest sports events in the world.

Attention immediately focused on the police use of tear gas, and witnesses described police beat them with sticks and shields before shooting canisters directly into the crowds. The president of FIFA called the deaths at the stadium a dark day for all involved in football and a tragedy beyond comprehension, while President Joko Widodo ordered an investigation of security

procedures. While FIFA has no control over domestic games, it has advised against the use of tear gas at soccer stadiums.

Violence broke out after the game ended Saturday evening with host Arema FC of East Java's Malang city losing to Persebaya of Surabaya 3-2.

Disappointed with their team's loss, thousands of supporters of Arema, known as 'Aremania', reacted by throwing bottles and other objects at players and soccer officials. Witnesses said fans flooded the Kanjuruhan Stadium pitch and demanded that Arema management explain why, after 23 years of undefeated home matches against rival Persebaya, this one ended in a loss.

AP-TS rift widening?

Harish's comments trigger war of words between Telugu States

SNCN ACHARYULU ■ HYDERABAD

Allegations and counter allegations, criticism and counter-criticism between the TRS ministers of Telangana and the YSR Congress ministers of Andhra Pradesh have reached their peak.

The comments made by Telangana Finance Minister T. Harish Rao about the Andhra Pradesh government have led to a war of words between Andhra Pradesh and Telangana ministers.

Earlier, Telangana IT Minister KT Rama Rao had also made some comments about the Andhra Pradesh government. But when AP ministers reacted sharply KTR gave a clarification and said that he enjoyed his equation with AP CM Jagan Mohan Reddy.

Ten days ago KTR defended the Jagan Mohan Reddy government and praised Jagan as a man who administered Andhra Pradesh well in most difficult times. When TRS supreme Chief Minister K.



At a time when TRS supreme and TS Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao is planning to launch a national party, the comments made by Harish widen the gap between the two Telugu states.

Chandrasekhar Rao is planning to launch a national party the comments made by Harish widens the gap between the two Telugu states.

Harish said the AP government is harassing employees and teachers and sending them to jail also. Condemning these comments, AP Ministers Ambati Rambabu, Amarnath Reddy and others levelled

counter allegations. YSR Congress General Secretary Sajjala Rama Krishna Reddy said that he could not understand why Harish was so disturbed. He said, "Harish seems to be walking the path of the gang of four (Dusta Chathustayam) which conspired against the YSR Congress government. Reacting to this Telangana Minister Gangula Kamalakar made strong comments against Sajjala.

Kamalakar said that Sajjala entered the YSR family and created differences between the son and his mother, brother and sister and now he is trying to create differences in the KCR family. Gradually the ruling party leaders in both the Telugu states increased making allegations and counter allegations against each other.

There are several disputes between the two states regarding bifurcation issues. TRS leaders suspect that the Central Government is backing the Andhra Pradesh government against the Telangana government.

CM offers silk robes to Goddess Durga

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy offered the sacred silk robes on behalf of the Andhra Pradesh government to Goddess Kanaka Durga decorated as Sri Sarasvati Devi on the auspicious 'Moola Nakshatram' on the seventh day of the Dasara Sharannavaratri celebrations atop Indrakeeladri hill on Sunday.

Dressed in traditional attire, the CM was accorded a ceremonial 'poorna kumbha swagatam', a traditional welcome by Sri Durga Malleswara Swamyvarla Devasthanam priests and officials. The CM was adorned with traditional headgear by the temple priests. The CM carried the silk robes (Pattu Vastrams) on a platter over his head amidst Vedic chants with the accompaniment of 'Nadaswaram' (traditional classic instrument) to the temple. The CM offered prayers to the Goddess.

Home Minister Taneti Vanitha, Deputy CM and Endowments



Minister Kottu Satyanarayana, Housing Minister Jogi Ramesh, Chief Minister's Secretary Revu Mutyala Raju, Endowments Commissioner M Hari Jawahar Lal, MP Nandigam Suresh, Balashowry, Legislative Council Members Thalasila Raghuram, Monditoka Arun Kumar, Kalpalatha Reddy, Md Ruhulla, MLAs Kodali Srinivaswara Rao (Nani), Vellampalli Srinivasa Rao, Malladi Vishnu, K Anil Kumar, Women Commission Chairperson Vasireddy Padma and others were present.

'AP will be No 1 in power sector'

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

Minister for Energy, Environment, Forests, Science and Technology Peddireddi Ramachandra Reddy has said that the State government is committed to making Andhra Pradesh the number one state with abundant availability of cost-effective power supply to the consumers and future generations as well.

The Energy Minister in his message on the occasion of the Durga Ashtami festival said that the main objective of the government is to make available 24x7 power supply to consumers apart from nine hours of qualitative power supply to agriculture.



No political links: Daspalla family

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

Neither Daspalla family nor other purchasers have any affiliation with any political party or politicians, particularly with Vijayasai Reddy or his family members, according to a legal clarification issued on Sunday on behalf of Rani Kamala Devi and Digvijay Deo Bhanj, lawful and right owners of 'Daspalla Lands'.

Any transactions of the Daspalla family and other purchasers of the land are purely their personal transactions, a release on this matter noted. The lawful and rightful owners of the 'Daspalla Lands' were disturbed by the ongoing media circulations by various individuals and the allegations regarding their lands, the release stated.

Heavy rush at bus, railway stations

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

The bus stations and railway stations in major cities across Andhra Pradesh were flooded with passengers who were going to their native places and home towns to celebrate Dasara festival with their loved ones on October 5. In most of the bus and railway stations, the crowd was very huge and there was hardly any room for passengers to enter the platform and board the bus or train. On the other hand, most of the trains are running late due to heavy rush and the passengers travelling by special trains are clueless when the train will start and reach the destination.

After two years of Covid-induced restrictions by the health officials,



people are all set for the grand celebrations of Dasara festival. Apart from trains and RTC buses, private buses are also operating hundreds of services to take the passengers to their desired destinations. All the

vehicles are jam-packed and full to their capacity. The Railway Protection Force is having a tough time controlling the passengers.

Don't ignore info from NSA: PM

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has told all ministers and secretaries not to ignore background notes or other communication shared by National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) and National Security Advisor (NSA), and to take them seriously, sources said on Sunday.

Stressing that while framing any policy, there is a need to look at it from India's strategic point of view, Modi said there were instances when notes from the national security council were not given due importance.

Mulayam in ICU

PNS ■ GURUGRAM/LUCKNOW

Former Uttar Pradesh chief minister and Samajwadi Party patriarch Mulayam Singh Yadav was shifted to the ICU of Medanta Hospital in Gurugram on Sunday after his health deteriorated, the party said. Family members are reaching Gurugram to check up on his health. While his brother Shivpal Singh Yadav is already there, Samajwadi Party president and Mulayam's son Akhilesh Yadav has left Lucknow for Delhi, SP state unit spokesperson Rajendra Chaudhary said.

Veerraju dares YSRCP & TDP for debate on development

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

BJP state president Somu Veerraju came down heavily on the ruling YSRCP and the TDP on the final day of the 'Praja Poru' programme at Lenin Centre that concluded on Sunday.

He said that about 5,000 street-corner meetings were held across the state from September 17 to October 2.

On the occasion, Veerraju asked if the YSRCP and the TDP had the guts for an open debate on State development during the past eight

BJP'S 'PRAJA PORU' ENDS

years. He alleged that both parties are responsible for not having a capital city in the State.

The BJP leader said that AIMS was constructed with the funds of the central government to treat the poor patients while the state government was unable to provide water facility to the hospital and demanded to provide water by October 10.

Pointing out the renaming of NTR UHS after YSR, he said that it was a grave injustice.



TODAY

ALMANAC

Month & Paksham:
Tithi: Ashtami: Oct 02 06:47 PM
Oct 03 04:38 PM
Oct 03 04:38 PM
Navami: Oct 04 02:21 PM

Nakshatram:
Purva Ashadha: Oct 03 01:52 AM
to Oct 04 12:25 AM

Uttara Ashadha: Oct 04 12:25 AM
to Oct 04 10:51 PM

Rahukalam: 7:38 AM to 9:07 AM

Yamagandam: 10:36 AM to 12:05 PM

Variyam: 07:53 AM to 09:23 AM

Gulika: 1:33 PM to 3:02 PM

Amritakalam: 07:54 PM to 09:24 PM

VIJAYAWADA WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy

Temp: 33°C

Humidity: 71%

Sunrise: 5:58 AM

Sunset: 5:55 PM

Updated: OCTOBER 2, 2022 5:00 PM

Andhra witnesses slight dip in Kharif cropping

Farmers expect good quality yield as crop damage is marginal

C PRADEEP KUMAR ■ VIJAYAWADA

The total sown area in Andhra Pradesh during the Kharif season so far is 33.13 lakh hectares, which is 90 per cent of the normal area of 36.82 lakh hectares, according to the season crop coverage report of the State government. The total area sown during the present Kharif season is less when compared to the previous year in the corresponding time. The sowing across the State is about 20,000 hectares less compared to the previous year.

District-wise sowing: Srikakulam - 92 per cent, Vizianagaram - 87 per cent, Parvatipuram Manyam - 89 per

cent, Alluri Sitaramaraju - 80 per cent, Visakhapatnam - 93 per cent, Anakapalli - 81 per cent, Kakinada - 89 per cent, Dr BR Ambedkar Konaseema - 77 per cent, East Godavari - 95 per cent, West Godavari - 81 per cent, Eluru - 87 per cent, Krishna - 92 per cent, NTR - 92 per cent, Guntur - 85 per cent, Bapatla - 81 per cent, Palnadu - 75 per cent, Prakasam - 82 per cent, SPSR Nellore - 93 per cent, Chittoor - 71 per cent, Tirupati - 93 per cent, YSR Kadapa - 114 per cent, Annamaya - 52 per cent, Anantapur - 104 per cent, Sri Satyasai - 99 per cent, Kurnool - 99 per cent and Nandyal - 99 per cent. The State average is 90 per cent.

The highest sowing was carried out in Kadapa (114 per cent) while the district having the least sown



area is Chittoor (71 per cent), during the current Kharif season. Meanwhile, AP received average

rainfall during the current season. All the north coastal districts received normal rainfall as of date. Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Parvatipuram Manyam, Alluri Sitaramaraju, Visakhapatnam, Anakapalli, Kakinada, Dr BR Ambedkar Konaseema, East Godavari and West Godavari received normal rainfall while Bapatla received excess rainfall. The south coastal districts -- Eluru, Krishna, NTR, Guntur, Palnadu, Prakasam, and Nellore -- received normal rainfall while Bapatla received excess rainfall. Rayalaseema districts of Kurnool, Nandyal, YSR, Annamaya, Chittoor and Tirupati received normal rainfall while Ananthapur and Sri Satya Sai received excess rainfall.

AP Agriculture Mission Vice-Chairman MVS Nagi Reddy said

that during the current season, cotton and chili cultivation has increased while paddy and groundnut cultivation decreased marginally. He said that the good news for the farmers was that there had been very less crop damage during the season and if there were no calamities during the harvest season, the yield would be more with good quality and the farmers would get good profit.

He further said that the area under horticultural crops had increased during the past three years as the State government had been encouraging farmers to go for horticulture. During the past three years, horticultural crops were grown on a total of 17,80,000 hectares. Palm, sweet orange, pomegranate, and other crops are being cultivated, he added.

Monday Mirchi

A TOP GUN WHO LETS HIS WORK SPEAK

Few top guns in the Police Department manage to maintain the mystique about them. They either court or are sucked into controversies. Telangana Director-General of Police Mahender Reddy, whose tenure is about to end, continues to keep himself away from media glare. Unlike most of his peers who have been media-friendly, Mahender Reddy has surprised many circles by keeping a low profile. Media houses are hoping to get his time, but the DGP says, 'Let our work speak'. Bureaucratic circles are discussing how the senior IPS officer may be having political aspirations. They seem to know about the calm before the storm.

BLUE-EYED BOY AMONG BABUS

Nirmal district has faced floods and issues concerning IIIT Basara, with even District Collector Musharraf Faruqi being caught in controversies. Still, none of these issues seems to be a blot on his escutcheon. He continues to be in the good books of his political bosses. In fact, very rarely netas use epithets to describe in glowing terms bureaucrats mired in controversies. However, Minister K T Rama Rao, during his recent visit to IIIT, Basara described Musharraf as "sincere", a "sports person", and recalled that they had both worked together directly during the official's stint in the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation. Well Musharraf seems to be the blue-eyed boy among the Collectors. As reported in this column, he once got a rare opportunity to make a presentation at the Chief Minister's conference about his initiative viz. sports centers at villages, and earn brownie points.

RATIO, MAP AND REPRESENTATION

The map is never the territory; still, a map has to be truly representative of the state or union territory it is purported to be. Telangana Chief Minister's secretary Smita Sabharwal, who is active on social media, learned this the hard way. Aside from the negative comments on some of her posts, she recently drew flak for using a map that netizens found to be distorted. The searing condemnatory comments on social media prompted her to apologise and delete the map along with the related tweet. On the occasion of Dasara festival, Smita Sabharwal had posted the tweet with the map

in question to illustrate the male to female ratio in various states. She mentioned that Amma is worshipped with devotion in all the states; yet, the ratio of women to men is different in the states. In the offending map, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana and Delhi were shown as states where the population of women was less compared to that of men. Netizens went beyond that and saw red because Kashmir was not complete in the map posted by Smita.

EXTENDED FESTIVE SEASON WITH OFFICIATING CS

For bureaucrats in Telangana it is going to be an extended festive season. With Chief Secretary Somesh Kumar leaving for Kenya to participate in a meeting of the International Crops Research Institute for Semi-Arid Tropics, officers are elated like students who enjoy when the teacher is on a vacation. While officials are discussing the Chief Secretary's vacation in Kenya, festivities are around with officiating CS Arvind Kumar. Somesh Kumar has more than a year to retire; however, his locum tenens suggests who the front-runner is in the race for the next CS.

ANOTHER BABU IN LINE TO BECOME NETA

These days babus make no bones about their political ambitions. Andhra Pradesh Education Department advisor and IAS officer A Murali has resigned from his post professedly to mend matters in his native state Telangana. A Telangana cadre officer, he had quit in 2019 miffed at being transferred by the Telangana government while serving as a Collector. After that, he was appointed as advisor to the Education Department by the AP government. Murali started the Social Democratic Forum to fight for the development of education and health fields. In 2021 IPS officer RS Praveen Kumar also resigned and later joined BSP. Both Praveen Kumar and Murali, after their retirement, targeted the TRS government and made serious criticism. Now, Murali also is planning to enter politics. He may join BSP or Aam Admi Party, going by his aides' reading of the situation. In his latest resignation letter, Murali mentioned that his services were required to improve conditions relating to education and health fields in Telangana. -Yours truly

'How can KCR who failed to solve VRAs' problems lead the nation'

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

TPCC Star Campaigner Bhongir MP Komatireddy Venkat Reddy has congratulated Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao for buying a new plane costing Rs 80 crore. Venkat suggested that KCR must hold an Ayudha Pooja for the new plane.

Speaking to the media while participating in Mahatma Gandhi's birth anniversary celebrations at the Aleru Mandal Parishad Office on Sunday, Venkat said that a VRA tried to commit suicide as the government was not addressing their problems.

What can a leader who failed to solve VRAs' problems do for the nation, he asked, saying that KCR is trying to lead the nation by giving the impression that Telangana has already become golden.

KCR is behaving like this to divert attention from the problems of Telangana as well as to check the anti-incumbency trend among the public, he said.

Ministers defend CID notice to Chintakayala

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

Defending the CID police serving notices to Chintakayala Vijay for posting indecent posts against women on the ITDP website, Minister for Social Welfare Dr. Merugu Nagarjuna accused the TDP and its 'friendly media' of trying to defame the YSRCP government.

Addressing media persons at the YSRCP central office here on Sunday, Nagarjuna said that Chintakayala Vijay acted at the behest of TDP supremo N Chandrababu Naidu and his son Lokesh.

"Vijay made several tweets denigrating and disrespecting women," he said, adding that the CID police acted exactly as per the law in serving notices in response to his questionable actions. "What is wrong with serving notices to Chintakayala Vijay? He made nasty comments against women on the ITDP website and he deserves strict punishment for this," the minister averred.

"Are you defending his

"What is wrong with serving notices to Chintakayala Vijay? He made nasty comments against women on the ITDP website and he deserves strict punishment for this," the minister averred. "Are you defending his actions? The women in the State are seeking your response on this," the minister asked the TDP supremo.



actions? The women in the State are seeking your response on this," the minister asked the TDP supremo. Accusing Chandrababu Naidu and Lokesh of trying to defame the YSRCP government, he said the government would not allow that to happen.

Meanwhile, addressing a separate press conference, Minister for Housing Jogi Ramesh took the TDP to task for defending Chintakayala Vijay, who posted obscene comments against women on the ITDP website.

"Why did he run away

escaping from the eyes of the CID police officials if he did not indulge in any crime? The police went to serve notices on him. What is wrong with it," he asked.

Calling the TDP-friendly print and electronic media anarchic, the minister warned that their instigating actions would one day boomerang on them. "How long will you continue to abet anarchy? You people have families and women. If you don't stop encouraging these anti-socials, it will one day boomerang on you," he warned.

Tension in Nalgonda as locals and migrants clash

PNS ■ NALGONDA

Two groups of labourers clashed near Bhaskar theatre here on Sunday. The clash triggered tension in Nalgonda town.

The two rival groups pelted stones at each other. The windshields of four vehicles were damaged as the stones fell on them. The police said local labourers staged a sit-in to protest against labourers from Bihar accepting low wages.

The labourers from Bihar have been depriving the livelihood of the local labourers. While the local labourers were demanding wages at the rate of Rs 600 a day, their counterparts from Bihar were accepting Rs 300 a day. The masons are hiring labourers from Bihar as they are available at a low price. It is alleged that the workers from Bihar pelted stones at the local labourers when they staged a sit-in and it triggered a clash between the rival groups. The police rushed to the police and dispersed the clashing groups. The police took 18 migrant workers into custody.

AP govt sanctions Rs 1 cr for treatment of girl

PNS ■ AMARAVATI

The Andhra Pradesh government has sanctioned Rs 1 crore for the treatment of a two-and-a-half-year-old girl suffering from the rare Gaucher's disease.

Dr. B R Ambedkar Konaseema district Collector Himanshu Shukla handed over the first set of 13 injections on Sunday to the girl's family for her treatment, an official press release said.

In all, at least 52 injections have to be administered to the girl, with each costing Rs 1.25 lakh.

Gaucher's disease affects a person's bones and liver due to the building up of fatty substances, causing enlargement of the organs.

As the family could not bear the high cost of treatment, it appealed to the



Chief Minister during his recent visit to Konaseema to come to its aid.

The Chief Minister promised not only to sanction funds for the girl's treatment but also for her education and well-being.

The district Collector sub-

mitted a proposal to the government on required funds and accordingly, a sum of Rs one crore was sanctioned for treatment of Gaucher's disease, an official release said. The government coordinated with the injection manufacturer and secured the first lot of 13 to commence the girl's treatment. Himanshu Shukla handed over the injections to doctors at the government area hospital in Amalapuram for the girl's treatment.

"This is a rare disease and there are 14 such children suffering from it in India. This is the first government hospital in the country where treatment for the disease is being provided," he said.

The Collector said a monthly pension would also be given to her family.

Veerraju dares, YSRCP & TDP for debate on development

Continued from Page 1

He said that for the past eight years the Modi-led government was developing the 13 districts in the state and further said that Rs 7,000 crore were given by PM Modi to the power sector for substations in AP.

He said that the BJP was against YSRC and the TDP which are family political parties.

He said that the Union government has been supplying rice to 1.6 crore people in the state by spending Rs 9,000 crores and alleged that the rice mafia was at its peak in the state.

Veerraju said that TIDCO houses were constructed with the funds of the central government and the YSRC and TDP are boasting that they have constructed the houses.

He said that even after three years the poor and homeless in the state did not get houses.

The BJP state president said that the central government has given Rs 15,000 crore for the construction of the Polavaram project.

He alleged that the state government has neglected the development of North Andhra and Rayalaseema region and the people are observing everything in the state. 24 hours of power will be given only after the BJP forms government in the state, said Somu Veerraju.

'AP will be No 1 in power sector'

Continued from Page 1

As the State's economic potential is incredibly exciting and the State government is looking at rapid industrialisation and development in all key sectors, the demand for power in Andhra Pradesh is going to increase manifold in the ensuing years.

The minister said, "The electricity growth is crucial for powering the State's future. Energy services are fundamental for fulfilling basic social needs, driving economic growth, and fueling human development. In view of this, the state government is very keen on supplying quality power without interruptions to the consumers."

Minister Peddireddy said that the availability of 24x7 quality and cost-effective power will spur the industrial and economic development of the state. This will also help for infrastructure develop-

ment, employment generation, and enhancement of the living standards of people.

The Minister "Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy was keen on providing reliable power supply to consumers and free power to agriculture. The government wants to see fulfillment/happiness in the eyes of farmers. The government entered into an agreement with Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) to procure 7000 MW of solar power to continue the 9 hours day time free power to agriculture for the next 30 years.

The government is strongly committed to making the power sector pro-public and consumer-centric. The Ultimate goal of the state government is to make the power sector vibrant for sustainable development of the State and assure 24x7 reliable power to each and every electricity consumer in the state in future".

Don't ignore info from NSA: PM

Continued from Page 1

In the presentation, Misri shared the details about changes taking place across the world, especially in Europe, Russia and the US, and their impact on India, the sources added.

According to sources, Misri's presentation was not originally scheduled and was added on the intervention of the prime minister, sources said.

Before Misri, Finance Secretary TV Somanathan and Commerce Secretary BVR Subrahmanyam also gave their presentations.

During the meeting, Modi also underlined that the policy-making process is dynamic and it needs to be modified with changing times.

Citing an example from his tenure as Gujarat chief minister, the prime minister said there were some rules related

to a ministry that were named after some other state and this was changed only after he pointed it out to officials, the sources said.

He told the meeting that there is a tendency of being complacent in framing and implementing policies and this should be avoided.

Policies should be customised with changing times, the sources quoted the prime minister as saying.

AP-TS rift widening?

Continued from Page 1

On the electricity dues issue, the Central Government's order has strengthened the doubts of TRS leaders. In Andhra Pradesh, there are some followers of Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao. On some occasions, they have performed 'Palabhishekam' on KCR's portrait in Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam. If KCR launches his national party he has to contest in Andhra Pradesh Assembly and Lok Sabha elections too.

CHICKEN RATES ₹/KG

Dressed/With Skin	₹205
Without Skin	₹215
Broiler at Farm	₹190

EGG RATES ₹/100

VIJAYAWADA	462
HYDERABAD	460
VISAKHAPATNAM	460
RETAIL PRICE	₹4.62

Mulayam Singh Yadav in ICU

Continued from Page 1

According to hospital sources, the 82-year-old leader is being treated under the supervision of oncologists Dr Nitin Sood and Dr Sushil Kataria. He has been under treatment in the hospital since August 22, the sources said. The SP leader was admitted in the hospital in July also.

In a tweet in Hindi, Congress leader Rahul Gandhi said, "Received the news of Mulayam Singh ji's ill health. I wish him a speedy recovery."

Congress general secretary Priyanka Gandhi Vadra said, "We all are concerned about the deteriorating health condition of Mulayam Singh Yadav and are praying for his health."

"Hope Shri Mulayam Singh ji is back to best health soon," RLD president Jayant Singh said on Twitter.

Heavy rush at bus, railway stations

Continued from Page 1

Dasara festival has its own importance in both the Telugu States and the people, who are settled in different parts of the country and even abroad, make it a point to visit their native villages during this festival.

The South Central Railway had also announced more than a dozen special trains, apart from regular trains, during

the festive season. The number of trains will be increased depending on the demand, according to the Railway officials.

Meanwhile, APSRTC has been operating 4,500 special bus services apart from the regular services during Dasara festival season from various places to important destinations to ease the passenger rush.

G Anil Kumar, a private

engineer, said that he got a reservation in a special train from Secunderabad to Vijayawada for Saturday 8 pm. But the train left Secunderabad four hours late. By the time the train reached Vijayawada, it was 8 am on Sunday, which was six hours late. The journey was horrible as general passengers boarded the reserved sleeper compartment making the journey hell. He said that even the railway police were

helpless as the situation was so bad.

Despite introduction of special trains during the festival season, short-distance travellers from Vijayawada to Khammam, Warangal, Rajahmundry, Chirala and Nellore are having a tough time even boarding the train and have to stand on the foot board on single leg risking their lives to reach their destinations.

'Notification for Munugode by-poll likely to be issued at any movement'

PNS ■ NALGONDA

BJP MLA from Huzurabad Eatala Rajender on Sunday said the Election Commission is likely to issue notification for the Munugode by-poll any moment. He expressed confidence that the BJP candidate Komatireddy Rajgopal Reddy would win in the by-poll. Speaking at a media conference at Munugode, the BJP MLA claimed that the people in the constituency had reposed faith in Rajgopal Reddy. The people believed that Rajgopal Reddy had quit as MLA to

give a fresh impetus to the progress of the constituency. He quit the Congress party and resigned as MLA because the TRS government had denied funds for the development of the constituency, the Rajender said. The government has delayed the sanction of new pensions for three months for people above 57 years. On knowing that a by-poll would be held, the government had sanctioned 10 lakh new pensions. The Chief Minister, the BJP MLA alleged, announced reservations for Scheduled Tribes as the tribal votes were crucial in the by-poll. He

demanding that the Girijan Bandhu pilot project be launched to help the tribal people. He demanded that the government resolve the podu land cultivation problem to help the tribal people.

He claimed that the leaders and the activists from various parties are migrating to the BJP in Munugode constituency.

He said 'dharma yuddham will be waged in the constituency.' BJP leader Komatireddy Rajgopal Reddy and others were present.

'MOOLA NAKSHATRAM'

2.5 LAKH HAVE DURGA DARSHAN

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

Around 2.50 lakh devotees had darshan of Goddess Kanaka Durga Devi atop Indrakeeladri shrine on the auspicious day of 'Moola Nakshatram' on Sunday. Thousands of devotees thronged the Sri Durga Malleswara Swamy Varla Devasthanam in the early hours of Sunday and stayed in the queue lines for taking early darshan of Durga Devi. The deity was adorned as Saraswati Devi, with a 'Veena' on her lap, on the seventh day of the 10-day Dasara Sarannavaratri celebrations. People consider 'Moola Nakshatram' auspicious as it is the birth star of the goddess.

Temple Executive Officer (EO) D Bramaramba welcomed the minister as per rituals. Later, Vedic scholars gave blessings to him and the EO presented Sheshavastram and Prasadam. Later, the temple authorities allowed darshan to all. Many VIPs had darshan along with their family members. The temple was thrown open to the general public in the early hours. The authorities cancelled a total of Rs.100, Rs.300 and Rs.500 tickets in view of the heavy rush. All queue lines were turned into general darshan lines for speedy movement of the devotees. About 2.50 lakh devotees had darshan as per the latest reports. Unlike in the past, devotees had darshan within an hour and all department officials made elaborate arrangements



Pics by Ch Vijaya Bhaskar

for that. The devotees had waited in queue lines since Saturday night. After taking bath in the showers arranged on the premises of River Krishna, they entered the queue lines at the Vinayaka temple. On the directions of Minister Kottu Satyanarayana, NTR District Collector S Dilli Rao, Police Commissioner Kanti Rana Tata and EO Bramaramba, the officials stopped operating special vehicles for the VIPs, media and others to the temple because of the heavy rush since early hours of the day. The Police Department posted additional forces at all important places to manage the large number of devotees visiting Vijayawada. Additional forces were deployed near queue lines and at all important entries to restrict unauthorised darshans. During the Dasara festivities, many 'Aksharabhyasams' were performed at the Trisakthi Peetham near Pandit Nehru Bus Station (PNBS) in Vijayawada. The devotees believe that if the alphabet is on the day of Moola Nakshatram, they will become well-educated.

Goddess appears as Saraswati Devi

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

Goddess Kanaka Durga was decorated as Sri Sarasvathi Devi on the seventh day of Dasara Navaratri celebrations atop Indrakeeladri hill on Sunday. Sarasvathi is the goddess of knowledge, music and arts, and also she is regarded as Vagdevi, goddess of sound, speech, consciousness and wisdom. Maa Sarasvathi appears in white attire, seated on a white lotus and with four hands -- one holding a book, one playing veena, one holding a japa mala (rosary)

representing the power of meditation and spirituality and one with Kamandalam (a pot with sacred water) representing creative and purificatory powers. Sarasvathi Devi is also referred as Sharda Devi. A white swan is her vehicle, so she is also known as Hamsa Vahini also. On this day, all students are traditionally required to study and also start studying something new. Small children under five years old start to write their first alphabet, which is called Vidyarambham. Gurus (teachers) are worshipped as embodiments

of Sarasvathi. Offering honey is very important in Sarasvathi pooja, as honey represents perfect knowledge. Payasam is offered as prasadam. It is with the help of Sarasvathi that the yudha tantra was designed and planned and Devi won the war against Mahishasura. Chintamani Sarasvathi, Gnyana Sarasvathi, Neela Sarasvathi, Ghata Sarasvathi, Kini Sarasvathi, Antariksha Sarasvathi and Maha Sarasvathi are the seven forms in which Sarasvathi is spread in the universe.

SRI DURGA DEVI



Goddess Kanaka Durga will be decorated as Sri Durga Devi on the eighth day of the Dasara festival at Durga Temple atop the Indrakeeladri in Vijayawada on Monday.



Women devotees pull 'Swarna Ratham'

PNS ■ TIRUMALA

Among the various 'Vahana Sevas' that are being observed as part of the ongoing annual 'Brahmotsavams' in Tirumala, the 'Swarna Ratham' is a unique carrier worn by the women devotees who play a prominent role in pulling the Chariot. On Sunday evening women devotees participated in pulling the Swarna Ratham with enthusiasm chanting 'Govinda...Govinda...'

Malayappa Swamy, along with His Consorts Sridevi and Bhudevi, seated elegantly on the platform inside the Chariot was pulled by the women devotees. The spouses of Chairman YV Subba Reddy, EO AV Dharma Reddy, board members, officials, JEO Sada Bhargavi, and other women employees, devotees pulled the chariot all along the four Mada streets on Sunday evening with utmost devotion.

'Hanumantha Vahana Seva' conducted

PNS ■ TIRUMALA

On the sixth day morning, as a part of the ongoing annual 'Brahmotsavams' in Tirumala on Monday morning, 'Hanumantha Vahana Seva' was held. Malayappa decked as Sri Ramachandramurthy took out celestial ride on His favourite and loyal Hanumantha Vahana to bless the devotees. The unique Sudarshana Salagrama Haram was adorned with Sri Rama. By riding this vehicle, the Lord sent a message to His devotees to learn how to render service with devotion, dedication, and loyalty like Hanuman which is the only way to get salvation.



Governor pays tributes to Gandhi, Shastri

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

Andhra Pradesh Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan paid rich tributes Mahatma Gandhi and former prime minister Lal Bahadur Shastri on the occasion of their birth 153rd and 118th birth anniversaries respectively by offering flowers to their portraits at a programme held at Durbar Hall in Raj Bhavan here on Sunday. Speaking on the occasion, Governor Harichandan said Gandhi fought against the British with the weapon of non-violence, which was a new experiment and the entire world was surprised. He said many leaders like Subhash Chandra Bose differed with the views of Mahatma Gandhi and felt that it was not possible to drive away such a powerful nation as the British, but Mahatma Gandhi believed that it was possible to achieve independence with the weapon of Non-violence. The Governor said that in 1942 when Mahatma Gandhi gave the ultimate call to the Britishers to quit India, many people were also surprised and did not believe Mahatma's call could have any effect on the mighty



British rulers. "But people from the Himalayas to Kanyakumari came on to the streets in huge numbers and participated in the movement, without caring for bullets, that ultimately led the country towards independence," said the Governor. He said after India got independence, leaders of other countries fighting for freedom, were greatly influenced by Mahatma Gandhi's Non-violence method and adopted the same in their movements and that Gandhiji is worshipped all over the world and his birth anniversary is also observed as 'International Day of Non-violence'. Governor Harichandan has said that Lal Bahadur Shastri,

another great man, whose 118th birth anniversary is also celebrated today, was a humble, soft-spoken but strong leader, whose call "Jai Jawan Jai Kisan" given during the Indo-Pak war of 1965, inspired the entire nation. "Lal Bahadur Shastri gave the call to jawans to secure the borders and the farmers to produce enough food grains needed for the country during the time of crisis, which led the country to win the war as well as become self-sufficient in food production, said the Governor. RP Sisodia, Special Chief Secretary to Governor, PS Suryaprakash, Joint Secretary, and other officials and staff members of Raj Bhavan were present on the occasion.

GANDHI LED AN EXEMPLARY LIFE: RAMPILLA

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

Founder of Mahatma Gandhi Temple Rampilla Jayaprakash has said that Mahatma Gandhi had led an exemplary life. Mahatma Gandhi Birth Anniversary celebrations and Gandhi initiation ceremony were held under the direction of Indian Civilization Gandhi Trust director Tammina Hanuma at the Mahatma Gandhi Temple on the premises of Syed Appala Swamy College at the milk factory in Vijayawada on Sunday. The statue of the Mahatma was sanctified with milk. An initiation ceremony was conducted for students who volunteered to propagate Gandhi's ideals. Speaking on the occasion, Jayaprakash said that they had started an initiative to propagate Gandhi's ideals all over the world. He said that he is very happy that Gandhi Diksha, which was started at Syed Appalaswamy College, is spreading across the country today. "Mahatma brought freedom to our country with weapons of peace, non-violence, and satyagraha," he added. He said that his parents Sardar Rampilla Suryanarayana and Narasayamma had made bombs on the top of the hill behind Syed Appala Swamy College to bomb the British in the past, and the idea was to develop the area as a freedom memorial.



TN, Punjab register second wins in BCCI U-19 women's tourney

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

Tamil Nadu and Punjab women's teams registered their second wins consecutively in the BCCI Women's Under-19 T20 Cricket Trophy (Elite-E group) being conducted at the Gokaraju Laila Ganga Raju Cricket Complex at Mulapadu near Vijayawada on Sunday. These two teams got eight points each and stood in the top position. Tamil Nadu won the match by two wickets against Puducherry at the Devineni Venkata Ramana Grounds of Andhra Cricket Association

(ACA) playfields. Tamil Nadu's women players exhibited their talents and helped the team win. Pujarani Das (39*) played a key role with her batting win for Odisha against Jammu & Kashmir. Also, in the match between Punjab and Gujarat, the Punjab team won the match by seven wickets. Punjab women cricketers Aishmane Kaur 37 (50 Balls, 2x4), and Manya Sharma 37 (43 Balls, 5x4) played a pivotal role in the team win. Meanwhile, in the other matches, Odisha won by 30 runs against Jammu Kashmir.

SCORES
TamilNadu - Puducherry: Puducherry Batting: 59/10 in 19.3 overs, Yuvashri 21 (40b, 1x4, 1x6), Tamil Nadu Bowling: B Jenitha 2 for 6, Tamil Nadu Batting: 60/8, NS Subhaharini 33 (27b, 4x4, 2x6), Puducherry Bowling: Amruta Saran 3 for 8, Result: Tamil Nadu won the match by 2 wickets Odisha - Jammu & Kashmir: Odisha Batting: 134/3 in 20 overs, Roshini Bagarty 30 (44b, 2x4), Suchismita Panda 29 (30b, 1x4), Tanamayee Behera 24*(19b, 3x4), Pujarani Das 39*(21b, 6x4), Jammu & Kashmir 104/7 in 20 overs, Afreen 29 (47b, 2x4), Odisha Bowling: Babhani Dhada 2 for 11, Jyothi K Prasad 2 for 17, Result: Odisha won by 30 Runs. Punjab - Gujarat: Gujarat Batting: 102/6 in 20 Overs, Zee! Mithaiwala 37(38b,7x4), Punjab Bowling: Amarjot Kaur 2 for 13, Punjab Batting: 104/3 in 19.1 Overs, Aishmane Kaur 37 (50b,2x4), Manya Sharma 37(43b,5x4), Result: Punjab Won by 7 Wickets.

NATIONAL GAMES

AP bags 2 more medals

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

Andhra Pradesh maintained its medal-winning streak on Sunday, the fourth day of the ongoing 36th National Games in Ahmedabad. AP bagged two silver medals during the day. In the women's category, triple jumper Karthika won a silver medal, and in 64-kg Weightlifting S Pallavi lifted 199 kg (Snatch and Jerk) to win a silver medal. Meanwhile, there is a chance to win more medals in the National Games for Andhra Pradesh. The fastest runner in this event Yarraji Jyotika entered the 100 m Hurdles finals, after completing the heats clocking 13.30 seconds. Her chances of winning a medal are bright. In the Mixed Archery Compound event, Andhra Pradesh's Archers Kunderu Venkatadri, and K Sharanya



will fight for the bronze medal. However, international archer and Arjuna awardee Vennam Jyothi Surekha, who represented the Archer Federation of India, in the ongoing National Games, lost in the quarter-final round.

Expo showcases Gandhi's life events

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

Mandali Foundation, jointly organised an exhibition of artworks that display different incidents of Gandhi's life, Koluasu Foundation and CCVA, was inaugurated by former MP N Tulasi Reddy at the Cultural Centre of Vijayawada and Amaravathi (CCVA) on Sunday. Tulasi Reddy said that the artists captured the unstinting commitment of Gandhi in bringing the whole nation to fight against the British without any violence and so that his statues

are seen in 110 countries. Mandali Buddha Prasad, former Speaker, AP Legislative Assembly and Chairman, Mandali Foundation, who facilitated the expo, said Gandhi's mission was successfully conveyed by the artists through their artworks and stressed the need to revive Andhra style of art and sculpture. V Laxmana Reddy, Chairman, AP Prohibition Campaign Committee and the Distinguished Guest of the programme said that the artworks inspire the younger generation.



Puneet Sagar Abhiyaan: Beach clean-up drives by ENC

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

In line with the Gol initiative of 'Puneet Sagar Abhiyaan', beach clean-up drives were organised by the Eastern Naval Command (ENC) at Yarada Beach and Mangamaripeta at Visakhapatnam on Sunday. In pursuit of the theme "Swachh Sagar; Surakshit Sagar", over 100 naval personnel including ladies and children collected 80 kg of non-degradable wastes from Yarada beach for recycling. To mark Gandhi Jayanthi and in pursuance of his famous quote "Health is the real



wealth", the beach clean-up drive commenced with a Health Walk from Dolphin Cove to Yarada Beach which was flagged off by Rear

Admiral Manish Sharma, Chief Staff Officer(Operations), ENC and culminated with sports and games followed by an uphill trek.



At Mangamaripeta, ENC and INTACH Visakhapatnam Chapter jointly organised a beach cleanup drive at Mangamaripeta beach as part

of the International Geodiversity Day celebrations being observed on 06 Oct every year. INTACH Visakhapatnam Chapter

Convener Dr D Rajasekhara Reddy, Dr Surendra, Co-Convener, Life members AV Monish Roy, Edward Paul, N Chandrasekhar, K Mohan Rao, INTACH Visakhapatnam, Cdr V Ramakrishna (Retd.) and R Appala Naidu along with naval personnel of INS Kalinga and GVMC officials participated in the cleanup drive. 120 personnel cleaned the beach by removing all plastic and non-biodegradable matter and all waste was collected and deposited in GVMC vehicles for recycling and further disposal.

Growth mindset imperative to propel success in career

Success in life is influenced not only by cognitive abilities and knowledge, but also by non-cognitive factors, such as beliefs, attitude, and values. Thoughts determine decisions. Mindset is a series of self-perceptions or beliefs people hold about themselves. These determine behaviour, outlook and mental attitude. Achieving great success in life depends upon mindset. Our mindset affects how we see the world and the way people think directly affects the outcomes. Mindset is a fixed mental disposition that predetermines responses to and interpretations of situations. They require extra effort to change them and hence developing the right mindset is crucial to succeed. Mindset can be changed, but it takes a lot of time. A successful mindset triggers strategic thinking, builds self-confidence, and

empowers people to act accordingly when things go wrong.

FIXED MINDSET LIMITS PROGRESS
Attitude has a short-term impact and it is easy to correct but changing the mindset takes lot of time. People with fixed mindset believe that they are born in a certain way and cannot change. Hence, they tend to become disinterested and give up. Fixed mindset limits capacity for learning, whereas a growth mindset helps people to reach their full potential. A growth mindset believes that skills are built, and that new abilities can be developed through practice. According to mindset expert,

Angeline Zimmermann, 'the universe gives us gentle reminders of what we need to do. If we fail to understand the message from the universe, we will receive great life

Many people have their dreams in the corner of their head, but their daily routines take over. Human brain is like a horse that needs guidance to run in the right direction. Mindset predetermines interpretations and responses. It shapes relationship with internal (self) and external world. Choose mindset wisely and put efforts to create positive consequences instead of negative ones even in dire situation. Napoleon Hill said, 'There are no limitations to the mind except those we acknowledge. Both poverty and riches are the offspring of thought.'

lessons later.' She also asserted that people should surround themselves with positive influences that can help them live their best. The expert in mindset, Dr Carol S Dweck, says that those with a fixed mindset firmly believe that intellect is static whilst those with a growth mindset strongly affirm that intellect evolves.

GROWTH MINDSET HELP EXCEL IN LIFE

Growth mindset galvanises people to put extra time and efforts to reach zenith. This mindset allows people to think big and helps them think outside the box. As a result, people will learn to push themselves to new heights. People with growth mindset firmly believe in their own capacity to learn and grow. 'The growth mindset allows people to value what they're doing regardless



SRINIVAS VISSAPRAGADA

of the outcome.' Adopting a success mindset has many benefits that include high self-esteem, positive thinking, healthy relationships, harnessing internal spirit, facing adversities with confidence etc. People with a growth mindset view a setback as an opportunity to learn and propel in life. Once they start to change their mindset, they will immediately start to change their behaviour. If

people develop a growth mindset, setbacks can become learning opportunities. Many people have their dreams in the corner of their head, but their daily routines take over. Human brain is like a horse that needs guidance to run in the right direction. Mindset predetermines interpretations and responses. It shapes relationship with internal (self) and external world. Choose mindset wisely and put efforts to create positive consequences instead of negative ones even in dire situation. Napoleon Hill said, 'There are no limitations to the mind except those we acknowledge. Both poverty and riches are the offspring of thought.' Mindset can impact outcomes by determining the way people think, feel and emotional response to situations. Instead of judging experiences from failure, frame them in a positive light.

CHANGE THINKING PATTERN
People should know challenges and obstacles can help them grow. Unwilling to take risks stymie progress and will lead to failure. In this flux business world both successful and mediocre people face hurdles frequently. The subtle difference lies in their approach. Successful people overcome challenges by changing their mindset whereas some people blame the situation. Our behaviour, habits, and even mood are a reflection of our thinking patterns. A Harvard Business Study reveals that, how 3% of people who had written down their goals achieved more than the other 97%. Reading goals in the morning and before bed can help guiding both conscious and subconscious mind. People can't achieve even ordinary goals without changing their negative mindset.

CELEBRATE SUCCESS OF OTHERS

We often meet people who are full of negativity and scepticism, and always criticise others for their mistakes. This mindset will help shirk feelings of resentment and querulous on setbacks rather than focus on goals. Human mind is a flexible mirror through which people can see a better world. Read books on mindset and attend workshop to understand and adapt growth mindset. Integrate powerful habits into daily routine that help mindset change and reinforce thinking with action. Cultivate positive mindset to celebrate other people's achievements. Developing the right mindset is crucial to achieve success in life.

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

YSRCP regime entrenched in corruption: Sunil Deodhar

PNS ■ GUNTUR

BJP state affairs co-in-charge Sunil Deodhar HAS alleged that the Jagan Mohan Reddy government is stuck in corruption and development has come to a halt.

The BJP Traders Cell organised a 'Health Awareness seminar' here on Sunday as part of programmes being held on the occasion of the birthdays of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and former Prime Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri. A medical camp was also organised on the occasion at Eluru Bazar here today. Sunil Deodhar attended the programme as chief guest.

Speaking on the occasion, Sunil Deodhar slammed that the YSRCP leaders resorted to corrupt practices the regime struck in corruption. "The YSRCP has adopted an anti-



Hindu stand and it is encouraging anti-Hindu activities. Both the YSRCP and the TDP have corrupt tainted parties" he flayed.

He lashed out that like ex-Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu, Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy is using the Central government-spon-

sored schemes without giving due credit to the Centre. He praised Prime Minister Narendra Modi stating that is leading the country towards development.

"The Jinnah Tower should be renamed Abdul Kalam tower. Jinnah was a traitor and the name of the tower

should changed," he demanded. Those who love India should not support calling the tower Jinnah tower, he said.

Deodhar asked former chief minister Chandrababu Naidu to exert pressure on the government to change the name of the tower to Abdul Kalam tower.

If BJP is voted to power, the mafia gangs would be sent to jail and AP would witness a double engine growth, he assured.

BJP traders Cell convenor Thota Ramakrishna, Convener Malishetty Pawan Kumar, district president Patibandla Ramakrishna, state general secretary Maganti Sudhir Yadav and state official Spokesperson Chandu Sambashiva Rao, former minister S Aruna and Dr.S Umashankar were among those who were present.



Venkaiah Naidu accorded warm welcome in Nellore

PNS ■ NELLORE

The officials, including District Collector, accorded a warm welcome to the former Vice-President of India Muppavarapu Venkaiah Naidu, who arrived in Nellore for a three-day visit.

Venkaiah Naidu reached Venkatachalam Swarna Bharat Trust by road from Tirupati at around 4.20 pm on Sunday. Rajya Sabha Member Vemireddy Prabhakar Reddy, District Collector KVN Chakradhar Babu, Joint Collector Kurmanath, Commissioner of Nellore City Corporation Haritha, RDO Malola, and other dignitaries gave a warm welcome by offering bouquets. Venkaiah Naidu interacted with officials, dignitaries, and locals for a while.

CM fulfilled Gandhi's dream of 'Grama Swaraj': Minister Kakani

PNS ■ NELLORE

Minister for Agriculture Kakani Govardhan Reddy has said that Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy has realised the 'Grama Swarajya' dream of Mahatma Gandhi by launching the village and ward secretariat system in the State.

The minister paid rich tributes to the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi on his 153rd birth anniversary on Sunday. The minister, along with District Collector KVN Chakradhar Babu, Municipal Commissioner Harita, Joint Collector R Kurmanath and freedom fighter KV Chalamalaiah, paid tributes to Gandhi by garlanding his statue at Gandhi Bomma centre.

Speaking on the occasion, Minister Govardhan Reddy said that Gandhi who fought against the Britishers with great patience and skill as a weapon of non-violence and gained independence for India, deserves the honor of Pujya Bhapuji. The way of fighting he showed was an example for the world.

The minister reminded that Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy said that after taking charge as the Chief Minister, he was taking steps toward village swaraj that Bapuji had dreamed by laying the foundations for village and ward secretariat system and providing good governance to the people and working towards the achievement of Gandhiji's ambition.

Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy had given



a call that the villages should strive for development and remove inequalities among the people. The Chief Minister had given 50 percent of the nominated posts to the weaker sections, he claimed. Minister Govardhan Reddy said that all should follow in the footsteps of Mahatma Gandhi and take part in the development of the district.



Appireddy assured that all efforts would be made to install BP Mandal's statue in the city as early as possible. MLC Janga Krishna Murthy also spoke

Steps will be taken to install BP Mandal statue: Appireddy

PNS ■ GUNTUR

YSRCP State general secretary and MLC Lella Appireddy has said that steps will be taken to install the statue of BP Mandal who played a vital role to provide reservations to the Backward Classes.

Lella Appireddy, Mayor BP Mandal, statue committee convenor Janga Krishna Murthy, and other leaders held a meeting in the MLCs camp office at Brindavan gardens here on Saturday. Speaking on the occasion, the MLC said that they would visit the place where the pedestal,

which was constructed to install the statue of BP Manda, was demolished.

Lella Appireddy said that the YSRCP party always stands by the BCs. The Jagan Reddy-headed government is giving priority to the underprivileged and downtrodden sections.

The Chief Minister had made it clear that the people belonging to the BC communities no longer remain backward socially as they would become the backbone of the country. The Chief Minister is giving due importance to all sections.

Convicts told to reform themselves

PNS ■ GUNTUR

District Judge YVNBG Parthasarathi has asked the convicts to reform themselves and start a new life eschewing crimes.

On the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti on Sunday, the Prisoners Welfare Day programme was organised in the district prison. Addressing the convicts, the district Judge asked the prisoners to utilize the prison life to reform themselves, give up criminal tendencies, and lead respectable life after being freed from prison. He said that the convicts committed crimes in a fit of rage and they should lead a new life after being freed from prison.

Parthasarathi asked the prisoners to draw inspiration from the father of the nation



Mahatma Gandhi to overcome their inner defects. The District Judge told the prisoner: "In today's society if you work hard with a little intelligence, there are plenty of employment opportunities. Many people commit crimes at a young age and go to prison because of bad additions. If you reform yourself and try to live well in soci-

ety, you will rise to higher positions in the future".

Judge Parthasarathi informed the prisoners that free legal aid would be provided to the needy prisoners through the District Legal Service Organization. The government was implementing many programs in the prisons to reform the convicts.

13 have miraculous escape as MUV catches fire

PNS ■ ONGOLE

As many as 13 persons, including five children, had a miraculous escape as the Toofan vehicle in which they were travelling, caught fire at Venkatachalampalli village in Darsi mandal on Sunday.

Police said that a family engaged the Toofan vehicle to go to Narasaraopet from Kanigiri. When the 13-member family was going to Narasaraopet to

attend a programme, the driver noticed smoke emanating from the engine.

He stopped the vehicle and opened the bonnet. Flames erupted suddenly from the engine and engulfed the vehicle. The driver alerted the passengers and got them alighted immediately from the vehicle. A fire tender rushed them and put out the flames but by the time the vehicle was completely gutted in the mishap. No one was hurt in the mishap.



APIRIA takes up plantation drive

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

The members of the Andhra Pradesh chapter of the Indian Radiological and Imaging Association (APIRIA) organised a plantation drive to mark the 153rd birth anniversary celebration of Mahatma Gandhi on the premises of Sarvodaya Trust in Vijayawada on Sunday.

Vijayawada Central MLA and Vice Chairman State Planning Commission Malladi Vishnu was the chief guest of the programme. He paid floral tributes to the statue of Mahatma Gandhi on the premises of the trust. Vishnu started the plantation drive by distributing saplings to the people present on the occasion.

Speaking on the occasion, Malladi Vishnu said that it is the responsibility of everyone

to plant and grow at least one tree in the present scenario and protect the environment for future generations. He said that all children should be sensitized and encouraged to plant and protect trees right from their childhood. He further lauded the initiative taken by the Vijayawada chapter of the Indian Radiological and Imaging Association as part of their social responsibility.

Dr Rajakumar, President of the Vijayawada chapter of IRIA said that this simple act will be the signature of the Radiologists fraternity on this planet.

Dr VN VaraPrasad, chairman of ICR, Dr GV Mohan Prasad, programme in charge and central council member of IRIA, Dr T Rajeswara Rao, former president APIRIA, and other Radiologists in Vijayawada participated in this programme.

APIPMEA urges AP govt to solve problems of staff from TS

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

Andhra Pradesh Institute of Preventive Medicine Employees Association - Amaravati (APIPMEA) State president Vinukonda Raja Rao has urged the State government to resolve all problems of employees who came to work in Andhra Pradesh from Telangana after the State bifurcation. Salaries were not being paid to employees for the last three years, he said.

Raja Rao submitted a representation to Chief Secretary of Andhra Pradesh Sameer Sharma here on Sunday.

He appealed to the State government to give promotions to those who came to Andhra Pradesh from Telangana as Gazetted Officers immediately. He also urged the government to continue those employees who have been working as contract sample takers in the IPM for the past 19 years and provide job security to them. Mobile labs should be set up in the State and fill vacant posts

that came to AP as per GO MS No.106, he added.

He further said in his representation that food samples should be tested in the Andhra Pradesh State Food Laboratory instead of Hyderabad in Telangana. Seven assistant director of food posts were allotted to Andhra Pradesh after State bifurcation, and they should be filled with eligible candidates, he said. Gazetted food inspector promotions should be given to the eligible FSOs, and the deputy food controller, as well as

joint food controller posts, should be filled immediately, he said.

He requested Chief Secretary Sameer Sharma to recruit outsourcing employees sanctioned by the State government at headquarters. Raja Rao submitted a representation to Minister for Health, Medical and Family Welfare Vidadala Rajani, Principal Secretary MT Krishna Babu, Special Secretary M Ravi Chandra, Commissioner J Nivas, and In charge Director of IPM Dr K Jagadeeswari.

Pursue ideals of Gandhi: District Collector

PNS ■ ONGOLE

Collector AS Dinesh Kumar has called upon the people to pursue the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi who played a vital role in the freedom struggle.

On the occasion of the 153rd birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, the Collector, along with MP Magunta Srinivasa Reddy and ZP Chairperson Buchepali Venkayamma, paid tributes to Mahatma Gandhi by garlanding the statue of Mahatma Gandhi here on Sunday.

Speaking on the occasion, the Collector said that Gandhi had played an important



role in bringing freedom to India. He said that Gandhi fought by including people of all communities without any distinction of caste, religion, or region. Chief Minister

Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy was trying to make Gandhi's dream of village Swaraj true by establishing the village and ward secretariats and bringing self-governance to the people at the village level. The welfare and development schemes are being provided to all, he said.

MP Magunta Srinivasulu Reddy said that he wished that Gandhi Jayanti should be celebrated as a festival across the country and all should follow the ideology of Gandhi. The MP recalled that Gandhi had chosen the path of non-violence and fought with the Britishers to free India from the rule.

INDIA CORNER

Organs of AIIMS official's sister give life to four

Organs of a senior Delhi AIIMS official's sister who was declared brain dead a few days ago were donated, giving a fresh lease of life to four people and vision to two. Snehlata Choudhary, sister of Rabindra Agarwal, an IAS officer posted as the additional director of administration at AIIMS here, had sustained a severe head injury during her morning walk last month. The 63-year-old was initially operated for head injury in Jharkhand's Jamshedpur and then airlifted to AIIMS Trauma Centre for further treatment, a senior doctor said. Choudhary was health conscious and used to go for morning walks regularly for the last 25 years. "Despite best efforts, her condition did not improve and was declared brain dead on September 30," the doctor said. She was a home maker and a social worker. "She was a strong supporter of the eye donation campaign and supported the cause of organ donation throughout her life. She had also qualified for Kaun Banega Crorepati," the doctor added.



Gujarat: Campaigning heats up ahead of announcement of Assembly polls

Campaigning is heating up in Gujarat ahead of announcement of dates for the Assembly elections, with prominent political leaders like Narendra Modi, Arvind Kejriwal and Rahul Gandhi visiting the state. The elections are crucial for the ruling BJP which aims to retain power in the home state of Prime Minister Narendra Modi, while the Congress hopes for a win after remaining out of power for 27 years in the key state. For new entrant Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), the elections, scheduled to be held in two months, will be an opportunity to emerge as a pan-nation party. The state will see a three-cornered contest between BJP, Congress and AAP. Gujarat has seen frequent visits of top national leaders ahead of the elections, and parties are firming up their strategies. The roads of cities and villages of Gujarat are filled up with advertisement banners of political parties. Political parties have started high decibel campaigns for the elections, whose dates may be announced any time this month, political observer Hari Desai said.



Moosewala murder case: Accused gangster Tinu escapes from custody

Gangster Deepak Tinu, one of the accused in the Sidhu Moosewala murder case, escaped from police custody in Punjab's Mansa district, official sources said on Sunday. A manhunt has been launched to nab Tinu, who escaped on Saturday night when he was brought on a production warrant from Goidwal Sahib jail in another case by the Mansa police, they said. Police of neighbouring states, including Rajasthan and Haryana, have been alerted, the sources said. Tinu is a close aide of jailed gangster Lawrence Bishnoi, also an accused in the murder case of the Punjabi singer. When asked about the incident, Patiala Range Inspector General Mukhwinder Singh Chhina, who is currently holding additional charge as Bathinda Range IG, told PTI over the phone, "We are working on it, police parties are on the job and we will catch him soon." Shubdeep Singh Sidhu, popularly known as Sidhu Moosewala, was shot dead in Punjab's Mansa district on May 29.



NEP aims at creating global citizens: Dharmendra Pradhan

PNS ■ PUDUCHERRY

Union Minister Dharmendra Pradhan on Sunday said the National Education Policy (NEP) is not meant only for the Indian society but its implementation would create global citizens for the 21st century. Inaugurating a three-day 12th International conference of Indian School Psychology Association at Pondicherry Central University, the Union Minister for Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, said India has a lot of responsibility to take and the NEP was framed to create global citizens for the 21st century.



"To implement NEP, we should understand psychology and NEP is a very crucial document and envisages the vision of such stalwarts like Aurobindo to nurture integral education, measure up to the principles laid down by the Mahatma and also the philo-

sophy promoted by Swami Vivekananda that education is a transformative catalyst of social changes," he added. Underscoring the need for understanding the psychology of children and also tapping their innate potential and aptitude, the Minister said psychology should be given importance in education. "Education and psychology are co-related,"

he added. "Learning, gaining knowledge and education are a life long experience and are not confined to limited stages," he said and stressed "we should cope up with the changing times and teachers should recognise the native talents and skill of the children." Pradhan released publications of the Indian School

Psychology Association authored by its president Panch Ramalingam. Puducherry Lt Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan said "the Atmanirbar Bharath initiative has been an effective vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and is most relevant." She said the country's performance in developing indigenous vaccines to combat coronavirus has gained global reputation. "The Prime Minister's sustained efforts have borne fruit and the vaccines developed in our country had been much sought after globally. We could supply the vaccines to more than 150 countries in the context of the crippling nature of Covid-19," the Lt Governor added. Vice Chancellor of Pondicherry University Gurmeet Singh was among those who spoke. The Minister declared open the Dr Ambedkar Centre of Excellence on the occasion.

CONGRESS PREZ POLL CANDIDATES

Open to public debate, say Tharoor; I only know how to work: Kharge

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Set for an electoral face-off with Congress veteran Mallikarjun Kharge for the party president's post, Lok Sabha MP Shashi Tharoor on Sunday said he would be open to the idea of a public debate between the candidates as it would evoke people's interest in the party similar to the recent British Conservative Party leadership race. Asked about Tharoor's remarks on holding a debate, Kharge, however, did not appear inclined towards having such an engagement, saying, "I don't want to get into that, I only know how to work, give me an opportunity to do that." In an interview with PTI, Tharoor also said the Nehru-Gandhi family has held and will always hold a special place in the hearts of Congress party members. He said the answer to the Congress' current challenges



lies in a combination of effective leadership and organisational reforms. Kharge and Tharoor were left in the fray in the Congress presidential poll after former Jharkhand minister K N Tripathi's nomination was rejected on Saturday. Talking about what he brings to the table, Tharoor has he has a "proven and credible track record in leading at the highest levels of organisations, whether it has been at the UN" or more recently for the Congress party as founder-

chairman of the All-India Professionals' Congress. At the UN, Tharoor said, "as the under-secretary-general in-charge of the body's public information department, I managed the communications of the UN's largest department comprising of over 800 staff in 77 offices worldwide, rationalised its structure, trimmed its budget and sharpened its efforts all of which prompted many to urge me to contest to lead the UN Organisation itself." Referring to the All-India

Professionals' Congress, he said, "I had to create from scratch and which in just five years since 2017 has over 10,000 fellows from across 20 states in the country." In terms of organisational reforms, the former Union minister said, he has outlined a set of priorities that he believes can help strengthen the Congress and take on the machinery of the BJP. "Since our current situation is widely deplored, it may be an advantage not to be burdened by the baggage of having spent too much time in the present party organisation and be able to approach it from a fresh perspective," the 66-year-old leader said. Asked if he would want a public debate between the party's presidential candidates as is seen in many western democracies and if such an exercise would help delegates make up their minds, Tharoor said, "I would be open to the idea."

'NATIONAL HERALD' CASE ED again summons Karnataka Congress chief D K Shivakumar

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate has summoned Karnataka Congress President D K Shivakumar for questioning in its ongoing money laundering probe into the operations of the Congress party-owned National Herald newspaper, official sources said. He has been asked to depose before the federal investigative agency on October 7 in Delhi, they said. The 60-year-old former cabinet minister was last questioned by the federal agency on September 19 in the national capital in another money laundering case linked to alleged possession of disproportionate assets. The latest summons comes

at a time when the 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' of the Congress party, led by its leader Rahul Gandhi, entered Karnataka on Friday, September 30, and will be in the state for 21 days. Shivakumar is involved in the conduct of this leg of the yatra. While exiting the ED office after his questioning last month, he had told the waiting mediapersons that he has been charge-sheeted by the agency in one money laundering case but he does not know what is the new case (disproportionate assets) against him. "Surprisingly, they (ED officials) have asked me about the payment from one of my trusts from me and my brother to Young Indian," he had told reporters.



HEALING WITH HUMOUR Medical 'clownselors' bring smiles now!

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Singing rhymes and dancing, they walk through the wards of a children's hospital in the national capital every week. Patients, their parents and caregivers cheer them. They are the 'medical clownselors', a group of volunteers who dress up as clowns, and they visit the wards of Chacha Nehru Bal Chikitsalaya in Geeta Colony every Saturday. Coming from different walks of life, they make all-out efforts to spread joy in the pensive and at times intimidating environs of the hospital.



They call themselves 'medical clownselors', a blend of clown and counsellor. They come to this pediatric hospital on Saturdays and engage with ailing kids, their loved ones and nursing staff through their humorous acts. Clownselors is the brainchild of Sheetal Agarwal, a native of Hisar in Haryana, who started medical clowning in July 2016 in the national capital. "My obsession with smiles led me on this journey. I met

Dhara in Ahmedabad in one of the retreats where she introduced herself as a medical clown. I was intrigued, came back and searched for what it is. "I found the whole concept fascinating and wanted to experience the joy of sharing smiles with the ones who need it the most. No one was doing this in Delhi and I really wanted to. That's how Clownselors Foundation (a not-for-profit organisation) was born," Agarwal told PTI.

Closing date of e-auction of mementos gifted to PM Modi extended till Oct 12

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The closing date of an online auction of over 1,200 items, including models of the upcoming Ram temple in Ayodhya and sporting memorabilia of Commonwealth Games medallists, gifted to Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has been extended to October 12. The e-auction that began on September 17 was earlier scheduled to end on October 2. "The last date for the e-auction of PM's gifts has been extended to October 12," a Culture Ministry official said. The ministry also tweeted to announce the extension of the last date.



"Feeling that you've missed out on the HYPERLINK https://mobile.twitter.com/hashtag/PMmementosAuction2022?src=hashtag_click #PMmementosAuction2022? We are delighted to announce that the auction has been extended till 12th October, 2022. Visit HYPER-

LINK "http://pmmementos.gov.in/pmmementos.gov.in now to participate #AmritMahotsav," it tweeted and also shared a poster on it. At a press conference here on Saturday 16, Reddy had said, a statue of Lord Ganesha, a trident, models of the upcoming Shri Ram Mandir at Ayodhya and the Kashi-Vishwanath Temple in Varanasi, will also be part of the e-auction of gifts and mementos given to PM Modi, proceeds of which will go the Namami Gange Mission. A black model statue of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, which was gifted to Modi in April by sculptor Arun Yogiraj, is also part of the auction.

Say 'Vande Mataram' on phone calls instead of 'Hello'

Maha govt launches campaign appealing to people

PNS ■ MUMBAI

The Maharashtra government on Sunday launched a campaign appealing to people to say "Vande Mataram" while receiving phone calls instead of Hello. Vande Mataram means we are bowing before our mother. Hence, it is our appeal to the people to say Vande Mataram instead of Hello, state Cultural Affairs Minister S u d h i r Mungantiwar said at a rally held in Wardha district on the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi. A Government Resolution (GR) issued on Saturday had appealed to Maharashtra government employees and officers to greet people by saying "Vande Mataram" instead of "Hello" during official or personal phone calls.

It is not mandatory, but the heads of departments should encourage their staff to do so, the GR said. It said Hello' depicted western culture and the word did not have any specific meaning. "The word is just a formality which does not arouse any emotion," the GR said. Greeting people by saying "Vande Mataram" will create a feeling of affection, it said, adding that an awareness campaign should be conducted to promote it. At the event in Wardha on Sunday, Mungantiwar said, If people want to say 'Jai Bhim' or 'Jai Shri Ram', or even mention their parents' names while answering a phone call all forms are ok with us. Our appeal is to avoid saying Hello while receiving a call.



Family remembers Sir Sultan Ahmed's participation in Round Table Conference

PNS ■ PATNA

Renowned barrister Sir Sultan Ahmed had taken part in the second Round Table Conference in 1931 along with Mahatma Gandhi and a host of other top leaders, a historic event that was held in London to consider the future government of India. On Gandhi's 153rd anniversary on Sunday, family members of Sir Sultan, as he was fondly known, recalled his association with the Mahatma during India's struggle for freedom and self-rule. They also heaved a sigh of relief after the Patna High Court recently granted a stay on the proposed demolition of the iconic 100-year-old Sultan Palace in Patna by the Bihar government for constructing a five-star hotel. The grand palace with Indo-Saracenic architecture, was built by Ahmed in 1922

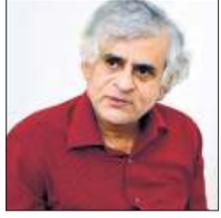


he was part of so many historic events till his death in 1960s. Today being Gandhi Jayanti, it reminds us of his participation in the Round Table Conference in London," his great-grandson Alamdar Hussain said. "We have old, black and white pictures of him sitting at the second Round Table Conference, and Gandhiji, Pt Madan Mohan Malviya and other leaders sitting across him during the conference," he said, with pride in his voice. Hussain, a lawyer at the Patna High Court where Ahmed had a stint as a judge before becoming a member of the Viceroy's Executive Council, said he brought his legal acumen and clarity of thinking to the table during the 1931 conference. Prior to that he was also the first Indian vice chancellor of Patna University from 1923-30.

'The Last Heroes': Author P Sainath to return with new book after two decades

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

After his immensely successful "Everybody Loves a Good Drought", a researched study of poverty in the rural districts of India, award-winning author-journalist P Sainath will soon come out with a new book on India's freedom struggle. The book, titled "The Last Heroes" and scheduled for release on November 21, celebrates little known fighters -- farmers, labourers, homemakers, forest produce gatherers, artisans and others -- from India's freedom struggle as it tracks the role of ordinary, everyday people in achieving Independence.



Published by Penguin Random House India (PRHI), it is touted to be an attempt to tell these freedom fighter stories, giving them a recognition they "truly deserve, but were never granted." "In the next five or six years,

there will not be a single person alive who fought for this country's freedom. Newer generations of young Indians will never get to meet, see, speak or listen to India's freedom fighters. That's why and for whom I wrote this book," said Sainath, whose last book is currently on its 56th-print run. "For quite a while now, we see young people being robbed of their history, denied any knowledge of what India's fight for freedom and Independence was about -- and who it was who spearheaded that struggle," he added. The book highlights the distinction between freedom and independence that these fight-

ers speak of. It also shows that Indian Independence was not the gift of a handful of 'Oxbridge elites', and does so by revealing the diversity of these foot soldiers who fought the great battles of freedom. According to the publishers, "The Last Heroes" goes beyond their fight for Independence only as many continued their battle for freedom long after 1947. "P Sainath's book, his first in more than two decades, captures a critically important slice of history by documenting the participation of ordinary people in India's freedom struggle."



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PAPER WITH PASSION

Loose talk

Kejriwal says that an 'Intelligence Bureau report' foresees his victory in Gujarat Assembly poll

If a political party frequently makes 'explosive' claims, over a period of time people get inured to its statements—especially when the claims seldom correspond with the objective reality. So, if Delhi Chief Minister and Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) boss Arvind Kejriwal thought that he would set the Yamuna on fire with a statement, based on an "Intelligence Bureau report," he may be in for an unpleasant surprise. This report, Kejriwal claimed, says that his party will win the Gujarat Assembly elections if these are held today. Apparently, he did not explain the small matter of how he got hold of the IB report. After all, the IB is an intelligence agency, not a ministry or department which posts its documents on its website. The casualness with which Kejriwal mentions an IB report to score political points is disconcerting; it is unbecoming for an incumbent Chief Minister to have disclosed the findings of an intelligence report (if he really saw it). A few weeks ago, while slamming Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the alleged Operation Lotus, he had said the Centre's recent action against Delhi Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia had increased the AAP's vote share in Gujarat by 4 per cent. And, for good measure, this increase would rise to 6 per cent if Sisodia was arrested. Nobody knows from where Kejriwal got these numbers—some pollster carrying out a survey, his own party doing it—but he said it nonetheless. The media too reported it faithfully.



Such loose talk doesn't cover Kejriwal in glory, but it has been quite useful for him and his party. Before coming to power in Delhi, he flooded the political arena in the national capital with all manner of accusations against Congress leaders (as the Congress-led United Progressive Alliance was in power) and some big industrialists. Former Delhi chief minister Sheila Dikshit, who died in 2019, was a favourite target. He pledged to throw all corrupt people behind bars if elected. He did get elected, but did nothing against those whom he had called corrupt. It's true that the Delhi Police is not under him, but he didn't even initiate any serious investigation or prosecution against the corrupt. If a private citizen Subramanian Swamy can get powerful people prosecuted and even jailed, why couldn't Kejriwal? Unfortunately, Kejriwal is not the only politician who has acquired the habit of hurling wild allegations against the people he doesn't like; Bharatiya Janata Party leaders have also said nasty things about Robert Vadra, without taking action against him if he did anything wrong. Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar said all kinds of things about Lalu Prasad Yadav in the past, though now they are allies. At the heart of the issue is politicians' belief that they will not be held accountable for their statements, so they say anything that suits their political purpose. But they must realize that there is something called the law of diminishing returns.

While we are keen on our rights we talk very rarely about our duties as citizens of free India. There is hardly any realisation that our fundamental rights entail responsibilities and fundamental duties. We also appear to be generally not aware of the dictum that a person's rights start from where others' rights end. In his 'Man Ki Baat' program from Akashvani on 29.1.20017, Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi spoke about rights and duties and the need to bridge the gulf between the two in our country. The concept of duties has not been new to India as these have been a part of our traditions in various spheres of human activity from times immemorial. A long spell of foreign rule for over a millennium in our coun-

Rights and duties are interrelated

Though fundamental duties are not enforceable constitutionally, they are as vital as fundamental rights enshrined in the constitution.

President of India Droupadi Murmu in her address to the nation on Independence Day eve said that the keyword for India today is compassion; for the downtrodden, for the needy, and those on the margins. Stating that some of our national values have been incorporated in our Constitution as the fundamental duties of the citizen, she appealed to every citizen to know about their fundamental duties and follow them in letter and spirit so that our nation reaches new heights. After independence in 1947, India has made tremendous progress in various spheres of activity more so in economic development. But despite welfare measures, the distribution aspect of this development has not percolated down properly to lower sections of society. After the political change that occurred in the country following the general elections in 2014, this aspect of development too has been taken care of more vigorously and the poverty line brought down but still much needs to be done to eliminate the evil of poverty. The President appealed to every citizen to know about their fundamental duties and follow them in letter and spirit. It is a common observation that in India a vast dichotomy exists between rights and duties.

Framers of the Constitution of free India were conscious of it when they finalised the Constitution of India. It guaranteed various fundamental rights to every citizen of India which are enumerated and defined in part III of the Constitution. These are enforceable by courts and broadly include the right to equality, freedom of religion, freedom of speech and expression, right against exploitation, cultural and educational rights, and right to constitutional remedies. In section IV, the Constitution has also laid down directive principles enunciating fundamental obligations of the State to its citizens. Though not enforceable by courts, these



JL KOULI JALALI

try had distorted our sense of rights and duties, drained us of most of our rich values, and left us bereft of any positive inculcation of the spirit of duties and responsibilities. Even the concept of Dharma assiduously evolved in Hinduism had got much distorted. The cumulative effect of this long foreign subjugation had been that despite our unique spiritual heritage we had turned into self-oriented individuals out to further our interests at any cost. Even our value of the correlation of means and ends had got mauled.

aim at making India a progressive and developed nation and welfare State. Apart from these fundamental rights and directive principles, the fundamental duties of the citizens of the country were incorporated into the Constitution of the country through the forty-second amendment to it in 1976. Like directive principles, these too are not enforceable by courts but constitute moral obligations of the citizens of the country.

February this year the Supreme Court asked Centre and State governments as to how they intend to sensitise citizens on the importance of knowing their fundamental duties enshrined in our constitution. It also agreed to examine a PIL seeking that moral obligations of duties be converted into legal commitment by enacting a law.

After decades and for many years now India has a working, stable central government poised yet again for faster socio-economic growth in a more corruption-free atmosphere. With this background as already pointed out by this writer in his article on "Rights and Duties" published on 24.2.2017 and with vast technological and other resources at their command, the government and people of India have to carry out this sustainable campaign with the same missionary spirit with which our leaders carried out successfully the freedom struggle. This has also to be done with the same zeal with which Ashoka erected his famous edicts in far-flung areas of his vast empire over two thousand years ago to instill discipline, a sense of duty, and moral values in the people.

The author a former IIS officer and producer. The views expressed are personal.



TIME HAS COME WHEN PEOPLE OF INDIA WILL HAVE TO BRIDGE THIS WIDE GULF BETWEEN OUR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS AND DUTIES VIGOROUSLY

PICTALK

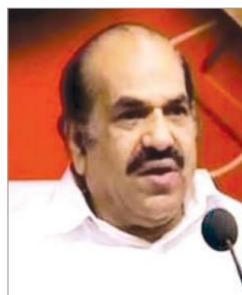


Devotees pull 'Swarna Ratham' during 'Navaratri Brahmotsavam' celebrations, at Tirumala in Tirupati district

Adieu comrade kodiyeeri

Unlike his fellow partymen Kodiyeeri Balakrishnan was civil, his death leaves a void in state politics of Kerala

A Communist and a Gentleman are two mismatched terms. To be precise, it is an oxymoron description. But Kodiyeeri Balakrishnan, CPI(M) leader and former home minister of Kerala who breathed his last on Saturday night stood out as an exception to this usage. Starting as an ordinary activist of the Kerala Students Federation (the predecessor to the Students Federation of India), Balakrishnan rose through the ranks with his organizational skills and leadership qualities to become the home minister of the State and then the party's Kerala secretary. Kodiyeeri, an innocuous village in the Kannur district figured in the national political landscape only because of Balakrishnan. For an average Keralite, whether he is the camp follower of the Congress or BJP or the Muslim League, Kodiyeeri meant Balakrishnan and vice versa. Balakrishnan, who was the home and tourism minister during the tenure of V S Achuthanandan as chief minister (2006-2011) is the only politician in the State to come out of that office without a blemish.



While Communists, especially the Marxists in Kerala and elsewhere are strangers to civility and dignity, Balakrishnan, a hardcore Marxist, remained a pleasing personality. There were no instances in his career when he reportedly lost his cool and temper. He was dear to the public because he spoke their language and the Keralites saw in him a mirror image of themselves. Upcoming politicians should take a cue from Balakrishnan who rose from humble beginnings and became a member of the CPI(M)'s Polit bureau, the apex national body of the Marxists. Balakrishnan steered the CPI(M) for six years as its secretary. No other past secretaries had commanded the kind of popularity he had enjoyed among the masses cutting across party lines. The recent Party Congress (the triennial conclave of the CPI(M)) held at Kannur was a standing monument of his leadership qualities. At a time when people were skeptical about the move to hold such a massive event amidst the Covid-19 pandemic, Balakrishnan who was in semi-retirement due to illness, staged a comeback to make the event a grand success. The only blot on his five decades-long public life was caused by his two sons who faced charges ranging from narcotics trade and money laundering. But Balakrishnan was bold enough to declare that they themselves would face the charges while neither he nor the party had any role in it. Kodiyeeri Balakrishnan was a Communist and a Gentleman.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CONGRESS BASHING UNCALLED FOR

Sir — All the Congress bashing due to its elections to the president of the party is uncalled for. I have never heard of a contest for the position in any party so far. The BJP which prides itself on its democratic traditions may have had different presidents through the years. But why has there never been another contender for the post? The fact is a few men at the top decide who the president should be and nobody dares to dissent. Congress is the oldest party and ideally should have started the trend of having a contest for the president of the party. No party is going to take the challenge of having dissenters to the party diktat. Therefore to single out Congress for not having inner party democracy is not quite right.

Anthony Henriques | Mumbai

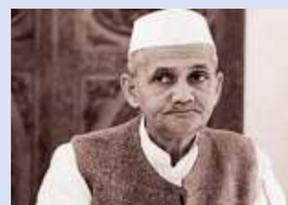
AN ERA ENDS WITH KODIYEERI

Sir — It was with deep sorrow that we learned the sad news of the demise of CPI(M) veteran Kodiyeeri Balakrishna, one of the tallest leaders of the CPI(M) and Kerala politics, an astute politician, who could combine organizational acumen and a rare ability to make friends across the political spectrum and ideological divides he was widely known for his organisational caliber and Parliamentary expertise.

His career graph is a manifestation of his vital role in Kerala politics, he had a deep and clear understanding of the issues of the day, and his contribution during his four-decade-long political career will always be remembered for a long time to come. When he was the home minister of Kerala, his role as a mediator to hold all factions of CPM together was praiseworthy. Many of his colleagues in party viewed him as a possible successor to the present chief minister Pinarayi Vijayan.

He fought his cruel illness with an indomitable spirit till the end, his passing is all the tragic as he was still young at 69, but his leaving us at this crucial juncture is all the more tragic, when he had so much

Remembering Shastriji on his B'day



While the nation celebrates Gandhi Jayanthi on October 2 every year, few remember that the day is also the birthday of Lal Bahadur Shastri, India's second Prime Minister, who played an important role in shaping a new India. He commanded a lot of respect from his peers and is remembered

for his great mind and extraordinary willpower. Shastri coined the popular slogan 'Jai Jawan Jai Kisan' which still resonates in the heart of every Indian. Shastri never misused the power of the office. For his personal use when he bought a Fiat worth Rs12000. Shastri had only Rs. 7,000 in his bank account. He took a loan from the bank for the balance amount and purchased the car. Even today the vehicle is kept at the Shastri Memorial in New Delhi. Lal Bahadur Shastri was deeply influenced by the political teachings of Mahatma Gandhi. "Hard work is equal to prayer", he once said, in accents profoundly reminiscent of his master. In the direct tradition of Mahatma Gandhi, Lal Bahadur Shastri represented the best in Indian culture.

Ranganathan Sivakumar | Chennai

to contribute to the political arena, he was a person who had friends and admirers across political spectrum demise of the late leader is an irreparable loss to the politics of Kerala and CPM which leaves a lasting impression in Kerala politics.

Ramesh G Jethwani | Bangalore

BAN ALL HATE MONGERS

Sir — The Centre has banned the Popular Front of India (PFI) and its eight frontal organizations over charges that includes terrorism, terror funding, Militancy, and Radicalisation of "a particular section of society. Despite its claim of working for the poor and the needy, the PFI had been for radicalism. It attained notoriety after its gracious attack on a professor in Kerala for allegedly inflammatory remarks on the Prophet. The ban on the PFI is justified but what about other organizations who are disturbing peace and Harmony in our country?

Then the Government should also ban the organizations who did numerous attacks in our country. The organizations that did

blasts in the samjhautha Express, the organizations that killed more than 2000 Muslims in the Godhra riots, the bombings in Malegaon, the attacks in Ajmer dargah and Macca Masjid should also be banned.

Lalu Prasad rightly said RSS should also be banned as it is more dangerous than PFI. He rightly asserted that all communal organizations needed to be banned and that probes and actions should be taken if any evidence is found against them.

It is a clear fact that Muslims in our country do not support any organization that in the name of service to Muslims and kills innocent people. They do not want an organization that believes in violence and takes recourse to religious slogans at the drop of a hat. So the crackdown on outfits inciting hatred and violence should not be confined to one community. Banning should be done to all organizations who are spoiling the peace and Harmony in our country

Zeeshaan | Kazipet

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

SOUND BITE

We are one of those few countries which have a wide range of defence options before us.



External Affairs Minister —S Jaishankar



We had to take urgent action (tax cuts) to get our economy growing, get Britain moving.

UK Prime Minister —Liz Truss



Salman sir should not venture into OTT. I'm happy to watch him on the big screen.

Actor —Varun Dhawan



Don't think India have a replacement for Bumrah. A vital cog, he'll be sorely missed.

India ex-batter —Wasim Jaffer



For the first time, our farmers have got regular, uninterrupted and surplus power.

Punjab Chief Minister —Bhagwant Mann



FIRST COLUMN

INDIAN ECONOMY RISES AS PHOENIX TO FLY HIGH

After going past UK, it should improve HDI ranking



KG SOFI DINESH & UTTAM CHAKRABORTY

Phenomenal march of India to become the fifth largest economy in the world after going past its colonial master the UK when the country is celebrating 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' is worth appreciating. Many economic accolades have revisited India. However, India has invited fresh challenges like high inflation rate, huge income disparity, unemployment and excessive taxation, which are likely to be difficult to tackle in the days to come.

Going past the colonial master, the UK, to become the fifth largest economy in the world is definitely not an easy feat for India. During the period ending March 2022, India's GDP stood at \$854.7 billion as compared to the UK at \$816 billion. This is just a speck of other achievements that India managed to garner during this period. India's weightage in the Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) rose to the second spot, just behind China. It has spread its exports to penetrate new markets, earlier monopolized by China.

Export orders have seen an uptick from both the US and Europe, especially for products from labour intensive sectors such as handicrafts, apparels, and non-electronic consumer goods. Economic projections from the World Economic Forum and management consulting firm Kearney point towards India owning the world's largest labour force with a probable contribution of more than \$500 billion to the global economy.

This rising tide of global impact in terms of economic growth can be sustained and multiplied by India if the economic benefits percolate deep down to touch the lives of the common man. Moreover, this is a subject which has been debated since India's independence also. A more humane and holistic society governance can do wonders to keep the momentum of the current trend of GDP and economic development in full swing.



It would be wise to ponder on this fact in the light of the United Nations Human Development Index for 2020-21. This report projects that India has moved down in its global rankings in Human Development Index (HDI) values from 130 to 132 in 2021. Also, in terms of the per capita income report of 2021, India was ranked 145th compared to the UK at the 22nd rank, which essentially translates to the fact that the average income of an Indian continues to remain low compared to the average income of a UK citizen.

It is required to contemplate whether India surpassing the UK as the fifth largest economy in the world also translates into higher productivity of an average Indian compared to a UK citizen. If the answer is negative, then India should look into ways and means to enhance the productivity and per capita income of an average Indian to become the biggest economy in the world, which we can easily achieve with the current governance.

When we critically encounter issues like high inflation rate, huge income disparity, unemployment and huge taxation, these need to be dealt carefully. India can be able to pull its economically weaker citizens from poverty by ensuring that policies and benefits reach them. Only through sustained poverty alleviation programmes and policies directed at benefitting the common man economically, India can sustain its economic bull run for over a period of time.

Yes, the phoenix is rising after a long slumber of ages, and this rise could be the dawn of India's march into its lost glory if supported by an equally economically strong common man who is, after all, the pillar on which this phoenix will finally rest on.

(Sofi and Chakraborty teach at Bharathidasan Institute of Management Tiruchirappalli)

Sabarmati, Yamuna: Tale of two rivers

The Sabarmati Riverfront is a story still unfolding that matches only with Singapore, while Yamuna in Delhi remains dead



SUMET BHASIN

Until 2005, washer men held forth on the banks of Sabarmati River in Ahmedabad, washing and drying clothes of the big city, while slums dotted its floodplains, with garbage sprawling around to present a nauseating look to the visitors to Gujarat's capital. The people covered their noses as they passed by the riverbanks of Sabarmati. The river was as dead in the city, as is Yamuna in the national capital. People in Ahmedabad faced long traffic jams, as the roads were clogged, because of massive encroachments of the floodplains and the adjoining public land. The scene filled one with despondency.

But by that time Narendra Modi had already chalked out the plan for the development of the Sabarmati Riverfront. The project would cost a total of Rs 1200 crores. The project would be a city level intervention, conceived and implemented as a pioneering multi-benefit project, with significant urban transformation potential to transform the historic, but neglected river Sabarmati into a vibrant urban space.

The vital focus was to return the river back to the citizens of Ahmedabad, and in the process also ensure that the city gains a major asset, which will improve the efficiency of its infrastructure and the quality of life. The aims also envisaged revitalizing the river, which in fact was carrying significant sewage flow and used as a dumping yard for disposal of garbage.

The project ensured that it would be financially self-sustainable, while entailing environmental improvement, along with cultural and social sustainability to transform the non-perennial river for better.

Now that Gujarat is hosting the 36th National Games at a short notice, the Paldi Sports Complex at the Sabarmati Riverfront is one of the sporting venues for the big sporting event. This turnaround is at a scale seen in Singapore only. The East Asian city-state is a major tourism destination. The city planner has aligned Singapore in such a way that a tourist would always see something new, thus finding something novel and innovative, which leaves the tourists with impressions that they should again come. This has been the model of Singapore for several decades. The city administrator will develop an amusement park and other attractions.

The Sabarmati Riverfront is on the same pattern. The visitors will always find that there is something new in line with the spirit of a lively city. This has been reflected in the development of green cover and Miyawaki plantation of 14.30 hectare of land on the banks of the Sabarmati River, which has seen over 23000 tree plantations in four public parks with a total area of 12.45 hectare, besides a biodiversity park of eight hectares.



DELHI CM HAD CLAIMED THAT HE WOULD REDUCE POLLUTION IN YAMUNA BY 90 PER CENT BY 2023. WE ARE JUST TWO MONTHS AWAY FROM KNOCKING THE DEADLINE, AND THE YAMUNA IN THE NATIONAL CAPITAL IS EXHALING FOAMS OF CHEMICALS

(The author is Director, Public Policy Research Centre)



Last month, over 100 Mayors and Deputy Mayors came visiting the Sabarmati Riverfront, and they were awed with the scale of development at the place. The urban administrations would be the next engine of the growth of the nation, and the mayors have to lead their corporations with innovative solutions to the challenges faced by the cities in the country. The leaders of the local bodies were thrilled as they walked on the Atal Bridge, which was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on August 27 this year. The bridge is now a major tourist attraction, and the people make a beeline to buy tickets to spend half an hour on the iconic place. This has not only boosted the tourism potential of Ahmedabad and Gujarat, but is also filling the coffers of the local municipal corporation to take up further development works, which would again scale up the attractions of the Sabarmati Riverfront.

This is not the end of the story, for it's just the beginning, as the next phases of development of the Sabarmati Riverfront would give new wings to the lives of the people in Ahmedabad. The masterplan for 'Riverfront Phase 2' will encourage development that is in harmony with nature, with a combination of high, medium and low density zones, carefully planned amidst green and open spaces, besides the masterplan also proposing an efficient and integrated mobility network. But it must be noted that the overall development will be sensitive, sustainable and will aim to promote wellness and mindfulness of the city-dwellers.

In the next five years, when people would visit Ahmedabad and the Sabarmati Riverfront, they may see a Singapore rising there with a similar or grander energy of the people, driving the economy of the city and Gujarat to greater heights, while at the same time being in full harmony with nature, sticking firmly to sustainability and setting the example for urban renewal and development worth replication across the country.

Cities in India for ages have developed on the riverbanks. The developments of riverbanks will only ensure the renewal of the cities. There should be no second opinion about this aspect. This explains why Delhi is regressing. The city is dying. The people are depressed. The population of Delhi, in place of taking pride in living in the national capital, finds themselves stuck in matchboxes, struggling to breathe and walk.

In Delhi, the people can neither breathe nor walk, and they each year spend more and more money on their health expenses. Yamuna gave life to Delhi, and the river is now reduced to gutters. The ruling politicians in the national capital have fooled the people with promises of reviving the Yamuna River to only fatten their purses with the looted money. The people are now resigned to their fate that there could be no progress for better in their lives.

First, Sheila Dikshit, chief minister of Delhi from 2003 to

2015, sold false promises of cleaning Yamuna. She was succeeded by Arvind Kejriwal who has filled the people with so much skepticism that no one is now hoping that they would ever walk on the banks of Yamuna in the evenings as they do on the Sabarmati Riverfront. In 2015, Kejriwal sold the dream to the people in Delhi that he would transform Yamuna into the Thames River of London. In 2020, he presented a 10-point guarantee card in the Delhi Assembly that Yamuna would not only be cleaned but one could even start swimming in the waters!

Delhi Chief Minister had also claimed that he would reduce pollution in Yamuna by 90 per cent by 2023. We are just two months away from knocking the deadline, and the Yamuna in the national capital is exhaling foams of chemicals. The Centre also made available the funds to the extent of Rs 2419 crores. But there was no will on the part of the city government. To make a change in the lives of the people, the city administrators need vision, but the Kejriwal-led Aam Aadmi Party believes in making quick gains by the politics of freebies. Thus, Yamuna remains dead in Delhi, while Sabarmati flows in Ahmedabad with all the youthful energy.

Now that Delhi is approaching another winter, the people may be condemned to inhale the toxic air, for there is no sink to absorb the carbon and the pollution. The Yamuna Riverfront could have taken shape if there was a vision and will to change the lives of the people for the better.

POINT COUNTERPOINT

IT'LL BE A GOOD THING TO HAVE MORE PEOPLE IN THE FRAME. THE MORE CANDIDATES (FOR CONGRESS CHIEF'S POST), THE BETTER.
—CONGRESS LEADER SHASHI THAROOR



I TOLD HIM (KHARGE) THAT I STAND BY HIM AND CAN'T EVEN THINK OF CONTESTING AGAINST HIM. I WILL BE HIS PROPOSER.
—CONGRESS LEADER DIGVIJAYA SINGH

The Great Indian identity chase for KYC updates

Aadhar occupies place of eminence in KYC update documents, but its anomalies give citizens a harrowing experience

There is only one thing that is more dangerous than doing something without fully knowing its implication. And that one thing is doing something without knowing fully the implications and yet defending it. In the second case, the danger is of half-baked competencies at work.

The job gets done, because with the apparatus and systems, all the superficial skills are there, and the implementation of the decision becomes a logical flow. In the chain reaction that is triggered, the doer himself knew only the techniques and operated it without understanding the full implications of the action. The others in the team only did their bit to keep it going.

Yet, as an upshot, undesirable results emerged. This



VINAYSHIL GAUTAM

(The author is a member of advisory committee of Ministry of Shipping)

happens very often in governance and in certain related domains. Any action should be undertaken only when the complete implications of that action are understood, to the extent possible.

When the Aadhar card was introduced into the system more than a decade ago, it was portrayed as a harmless and welcome intervention in the process of establishing identity. Gradually, the instrument grew larger and larger in its significance. It grew from being innocuous to becoming essential in many ways and acts. Gradually, not only did governmental circles and quasi-independent institutions start using it, but the interloper in the form of the private sector too appeared. In a distant way, Aadhar tended to become the

equivalent of a social security identity in certain countries. Matters reached a head where the courts had to intervene.

The rollercoaster ride of reference to and use of Aadhar was stymied. That may be another story. Closer to the narrative is the fact that, throughout, Aadhar found a critical pride of place in many situations, including KYC (Know Your Customer) efforts. Slowly, there was an attempt to sanitise various systems with KYC. Nothing wrong with that either. The problem, however, was elsewhere. KYC became a double-edged sword. The enterprising individuals reportedly found ways of having more than one Aadhar card. Predictably, this was both identified and tracked. The problem was contained. However, some



thought that some damage had been done. The magic of the instrument of the Aadhar card started to receive a shadow on the side.

However, along with the PAN card, 'establishment of identity' became a common requirement. And, as it happens often in the case of overkill, in certain cases, the claims of Aadhar and PAN cards as identity symbols still needed to be supplemented.

Here, the Voters cards surfaced. In some cases, even the Passport document was dug out from its usual recalcitrant position in domestic matters, and occupied the pride of place in identity documents.

Put simply, institutions such as the DGCA took a fancy to the Passport as an identity proof. So the citizen, with all his humility, was on the road to collecting identities: Aadhar, PAN, Passport, Voter cards, et al. The list continues to grow. Some agencies wanted the electricity bill as proof of identity and residence. Others wanted the Municipal Corporation Tax Receipt, and so the search for identity items grew larger, as the choices widened.

In fact, as the wise crack once said "there is nothing wrong with anything if you are

not affected". Like the story of Betal, the identity story of documents and evidence almost never ends. There were spelling errors in names and cases of mixed up identities of lanes with common house numbers. One could have the right block and number, but say the name South City in a town could become the 'Water Colony' of the same town. The error was innocent and unintended, but the citizen had to pay the price. He had to work very hard to get the system to get it right.

He was supposed to first identify the error and then track it to where it originated in the system. These efforts were stressful and none of them could be set right at one place. A number of people refused to help to sort it out, because they did not want to be 'dragged in.

Nevertheless, the system continued to chug along relentlessly. This kind of being 'protective' to the system needs a thorough review. It cannot be anybody's case that the ineligible should be pandered to. But equally it should not be anybody's case that harassment, endless at that, must be supported in the name of 'protecting' the system. There are many dangers which start surfacing when this happens.

Of them, the biggest is the impunity with which the non-descript misuses the confusing elements in a system to get 'away with the booty'; He would be pretending to be the aggrieved party, while he was actually exploiting the system. Few things are sadder than legitimate cases being lost because of the convolutions in the system.

MONEY MATTERS

Gehlot targets Pilot, says Rajasthan MLAs got agitated

In a veiled attack on party leader Sachin Pilot, Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot on Sunday said it was important to know why there was resentment among MLAs over the name of a new chief minister in the state. Several MLAs loyal to Gehlot, who was seen as the frontrunner for the post of the Congress national president, had last week submitted resignation letters over a possible move to appoint Pilot as the next chief minister. Gehlot later announced that he will not contest the Congress presidential polls as he took moral responsibility for the political crisis in his state. Referring to the crisis, he said 80-90 per cent MLAs switch sides when a new chief minister is going to be appointed but this did not happen in Rajasthan. "When a chief minister is changed, 80-90 percent (MLAs) leave him and switch sides. They turn to the new candidate. I too don't consider it wrong. But it was a new case in Rajasthan where the MLAs got agitated just in the name of the new chief minister," Gehlot said without naming Pilot.



Email threat to blow up IndiGo flight turns out to be hoax

A case was registered after an unidentified person sent an email to the Mumbai International Airport Limited (MIAL) threatening to blow up a flight of IndiGo airline, a Mumbai police official said on Sunday. The email threat, which was received on Saturday night, turned out to be a hoax after nothing suspicious was found post a thorough check of the aircraft, the Sahar police station official said. The email had a sentence that read "I will blow up flight 6E 6045", he said, adding that an FIR has been registered under Indian Penal Code section 506B (issuing death threat) and other offences. IndiGo, in a statement, said "due to a specific bomb threat, IndiGo flight from Mumbai to Ahmedabad was impacted on October 1, 2022." "The bomb threat protocol was initiated and the flight operated after all the checks were completed," the airline said in its statement, though it did not share details like the number of passengers on board, flight number and delay in departure due to the incident.



Crystal methamphetamine, cocaine worth Rs 1,476 cr seized

Revenue intelligence officers have seized 198 kg high purity crystal methamphetamine (ice) and 9 kg cocaine worth Rs 1,476 crore, the finance ministry said. In one of the biggest seizures of amphetamine and cocaine in the country, Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) officers intercepted and seized a truck in Mumbai on October 1. The DRI recovered 198 kg high purity crystal methamphetamine (ice) and 9 kg high purity cocaine worth Rs 1,476 crore in Navi Mumbai, the ministry said in a statement. The team of DRI Mumbai officers intercepted a truck in Vashi, carrying imported oranges. On thorough checking and examination, large quantity of drugs were found concealed in the cartons carrying oranges. "This is a new kind of modus operandi involving concealment of drugs in the boxes of 'Valentia Oranges' imported from South Africa. After clearance of such oranges from Customs area, the goods used to get stored in some cold storages located in Vashi," the ministry said.



Inflation may fall to 5.2 % next fiscal on normal rains

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Persistently high inflation remains a key policy concern for the Reserve Bank, which has raised rates aggressively so far this year, but the pressure might ease next fiscal assuming normal rains and further normalisation of global supply chains without any exogenous shocks, according to an RBI report.

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) expects retail inflation to come under control at 5.2 per cent in the next financial year beginning April, down from 6.7 per cent it has forecast for the current year.

"For 2023-24, assuming a normal monsoon, a progressive



normalisation of supply chains, and no further exogenous or policy shocks, structural model estimates indicate that inflation will average 5.2 per cent," RBI said in its 'Monetary Policy Report September 2022'.

The central bank is mandated to keep retail inflation in a

range of 2-6 per cent.

However, inflation has been above the RBI's upper tolerance level since January 2022 mainly due to adverse supply shocks amid geopolitical tensions arising out of the Russia-Ukraine war since late February.

Both the countries are key

suppliers of foodgrains, edible oil, fertilisers and energy resources such as crude oil and natural gas.

Even as inflation has eased from its April peak of 7.8 per cent, it remains at unacceptably high levels, the central bank said in the report.

On Friday, the Reserve Bank hiked the key repo rate by 0.50 per cent to 5.90 per cent to bring inflation under control. During the May-August period of this fiscal, it raised the policy repo rate by 140 basis points or 1.4 per cent.

The six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the RBI met four times during April-September 2022, including an off-cycle meeting in

May, in the backdrop of a sharp jump in global commodity prices and uncertainties around the pace of monetary policy normalisation globally.

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das, while announcing the policy, said the world already witnessed two major shocks of the pandemic and the Ukrainian situation over the last two-and-a-half years and a third shock comes in the form of aggressive monetary policy actions by central banks globally.

The RBI projects the inflation to remain above the upper tolerance level of 6 per cent through the first three quarters of 2022-23 (till December) and expects it to come under control from January 2023 onwards.

Suzlon Energy founder Tuli passes away



PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Tuli Tanti, the founder chairman and managing director of Suzlon Energy and a renowned expert on renewable energy, died due to cardiac arrest on Saturday evening. Tanti, 64, who was also the chairman of the Indian Wind Turbine Manufacturers Association, was on his way to Pune from Ahmedabad when he suffered a cardiac arrest, a company official said.

He is survived by his daughter Nidhi and son Pranav. In a regulatory filing, the company said, "With profound sadness, we inform you of the untimely demise of Tuli R. Tanti, the Founder, the Chairman & Managing Director, and one of the promoters of Suzlon Energy Limited... on 1st October 2022. Tanti suffered a cardiac arrest and passed away the same day."

In this difficult time, the company continues to be supported by its highly experienced board of directors and senior management who are both able and committed to take Tanti's legacy forward and realise his vision for the firm, it added. Suzlon Energy is in the process of raising Rs 1,200 crore through a rights issue. The official said Tanti was on his way home in Pune after holding a series of meetings in Ahmedabad regarding the rights issue.



India makes strong pitch to major US firms

PNS ■ HOUSTON

Favourable geology, open data access, supporting policy regime and ease of doing business were the major drivers to attract potential US players to invest in India's energy and petroleum growth wave during a two-day investors meet held here. The investors met from September 28-29, showcasing the lucrative fiscal policies and conducive environment of energy and petroleum (E&P) sector, that has seen a paradigm shift in policies aimed at attracting investors for investment was organised by Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH) under the aegis of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG) and facilitated by Houston Consulate General of India.

MoPNG Secretary Pankaj Jain, in his keynote address to potential investors from over 50 companies; oil and gas majors, financial institutions, private equity firms, service providers and academicians, made a strong pitch to investors interested in doing business with India.

He discussed India's strength and role in the global energy ecosystem and highlighted India as the destination of energy opportunities.

Jain spoke on the latest offering of discovered fields, ease of doing business for bidding and

assured an open-door policy to resolve any issue faced by the industry as he sought foreign and private investments to boost domestic oil and gas production.

India is the world's 4th largest oil importer and the demand is expected to rise driven by an increase in India's per capita consumption of energy which currently stands at one-third of the global average. India wants to be the new destination for global energy players. Oil producers worldwide are eager to gain a foothold in India, where fuel demand is expected to keep rising as the country's economy grows," he said.

India is exploring the multiple attractive opportunities in the energy sector as it seeks to ensure reliable, affordable and sustainable energy to its growing population, 40 per cent of the working age population is aged between 15-35 years. It is the large growing economy and will be the main driver of rising demand for energy over the next two decades, accounting for 25 per cent of global growth. Being the 2nd largest oil consumer, its oil consumption or demand is expected to rise to 450 MMT by 2040 from about 220MT in 2022. India, also being the 2nd largest refiner in Asia with 23 refineries, will increase its refining capacity to 400 MMTPA by 2030 from current 251.2 MMTPA," he said.

Cycle Pure Agarbathies to set up 100 stores across India

PNS ■ CHENNAI

NR Group, manufacturers of Cycle Pure Agarbathies, has drawn up aggressive expansion plans that includes opening 100 stores by 2024 besides tapping the online market to boost sales, according to a top company official.

The Mysuru-based NR Group is known for the popular Cycle brand of agarbathies (incense sticks) and also diversified into other products like sambrani, turmeric, kumkum among others, company Managing Director Arjun Ranga said here.

"Cycle - as a brand is known

for agarbathies (incense sticks) but we are into other products also. We want to be known as a prayer-and-fragrance brand and not just an agarbathi brand," he told PTI.

Elaborating, he said, "We are into sambrani segment and have also launched 'nai vaidhya' under spiritual products category, it is one of the fastest growing segments for us...we also have pooja oil, camphor, kumkum and turmeric," he said. To a query, he said revenue from Agarbathi business accounts for more than 90 per cent and his company wants to increase the sales of other products as well.

Housing sales up 87 % in 7 cities

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Housing sales rose 87 per cent in January-September across seven cities to 2,72,709 units and breached the transactions clocked in entire 2019 pre-COVID year on strong demand, according to Anarock.

Sales stood at 1,45,651 units in the January-September period of 2021.

Property consultant Anarock, which is one of the leading housing brokerage firms, tracks primary sales of seven major cities -- Delhi-NCR, Mumbai Metropolitan Region (MMR), Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Pune.



As per the data, housing sales in these seven cities increased to 2,72,709 units during January-September this year from 1,45,651 units in the corresponding period of the previous year.

The January-September figure of this calendar year is higher than the 2,61,358 units sold during entire 2019.

Sales plunged to 1,38,344 units in 2020 due to the

adverse impact of the COVID-19 induced lockdowns.

India's primary housing market revived last year on pent up demand coupled with incentives offered by some state governments like Maharashtra in the form of lower stamp duty.

As a result, sales rose to 2,36,516 units in 2021 and the momentum has continued so far this year.

The impact of rise in interest rates on home loans -- from a decade low of around 6.5 per cent to over 8 per cent now -- has not been felt so far on the housing market. The RBI has increased the repo rate by 190 basis points since May this year to contain inflation.

FPIs turn net sellers again; withdraw Rs 7,600 cr from equities

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

After infusing funds in the last two months, foreign investors turned net sellers again in September and pulled out over Rs 7,600 crore from the Indian equity markets amid hawkish stance by the US Fed and sharp depreciation in rupee.

With this, the total outflow by Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) from the Indian equity markets has reached Rs 1.68 lakh crore so far in 2022, data with depositories showed.

FPI flows are expected to remain volatile in the coming months on slew of global and domestic factors, experts said. "The UK government's expansionary fiscal policies amid elevated global inflation roiled the global currency markets and resulted in risk-off sentiment in equities," said



Shrikant Chouhan, Head - Equity Research (Retail), Kotak Securities.

On the domestic front, there is some fuel related concerns, besides marginal drop in GDP estimates, he added.

According to the data, FPIs have sold equities worth a net Rs 7,624 crore in September. This came following a net investment of Rs 51,200 crore in August and nearly Rs 5,000 crore in July.

Prior to that, FPIs were net sellers in Indian equity markets

for nine months in a row beginning October 2021.

Although FPIs started the month of September on a positive note, the pace of net flows was lower compared to August on the back of enhanced global uncertainty.

"Concerns over the aggressive rate hike by US Fed to control rising inflation, sharp depreciation in rupee, surge in US bond yields and fear of a global recession, fuelled pessimism among investors.

"Continuing Russia-Ukraine war also dented sentiments," said Himanshu Srivastava, Associate Director - Manager Research, Morningstar India.

The scenario turned adverse after hotter-than-expected inflation report dashed hopes that the US Federal Reserve would scale down its rate hikes in the coming months.

Concessional import duties on edible oils

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Concessional import duties on specified edible oils are in place till March 2023, the food ministry said on Sunday.

This decision was taken on August 31, 2022 by the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) in order to boost domestic supply and keeping retail prices under control.

The food ministry in its latest statement said that the CBIC's decision of extending existing concessional import duties on specified edible oils is in place till March 2023.

"The concessional customs duty on edible oil import has been extended by another 6 months, which means that the new deadline will now be March 2023," the statement said.



The ministry also said that domestic edible oil prices have been on a declining trend driven by a fall in global prices. With falling global rates and lower import duties, retail prices of edible oils have fallen considerably in India.

According to the statement, the current duty structure on crude palm oil, RBD Palmolein, RBD palm oil, crude soybean oil, refined soybean oil, crude sunflower oil and refined sunflower oil remains unchanged till March 31, 2023.

Govt issues draft guidelines for listing of RRBs

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In a bid to enable regional rural banks (RRBs) to raise resources by listing on stock exchanges, the government has issued draft guidelines that set certain basic criteria, including net worth of at least Rs 300 crore during the previous three years.

They should also have capital adequacy above the regulatory minimum level of 9 per cent in each of the preceding three years.

The RRBs should have a track record of profitability and earned operating profit of minimum Rs 15 crore for at least three out of the previous five years, according to the draft guidelines issued by the finance ministry recently.

Besides, there should not be



any accumulated loss and the lender should have given return on equity of minimum 10 per cent in three out of the preceding five years, it said.

As per the draft norms, the responsibility of identifying suitable lenders for issuing initial public offering (IPO) has been left with the respective sponsor banks.

The sponsor bank would take into account the relevant norms and regulations of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) and Reserve Bank of India (RBI) regarding capital raising and disclosure requirements while identifying RRBs for IPO, it said.

RRBs, which play an important role in agriculture credit, are sponsored by Public Sector Banks (PSBs).

Currently, the Centre holds 50 per cent in RRBs, while 35 per cent and 15 per cent are with the concerned sponsor banks and state governments, respectively.

These banks were formed under the RRB Act, 1976 with an objective to provide credit and other facilities to small farmers, agricultural labourers and artisans in rural areas.

Power consumption grows 13.31 % to 127 bn

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

India's power consumption grew 13.31 per cent on an annual basis to 127.39 billion units (BU) in September 2022 and 11.65 per cent during the first six months of this fiscal, as per government data.

The double-digit growth highlights recovery in economic activities following the pandemic-induced lockdown, experts said.

They are also of the view that demand as well as consumption of electricity will increase due to the festive season and improvement in economic activity.

Power consumption in



September last year was recorded at 112.43 BU, higher than 112.24 BU in the same month of 2020, power ministry data showed.

Electricity consumption during April-September 2022 grew by 11.65 per cent to 786.5 BU compared to 740.40 BU in the same period in 2021. It was 625.33 BU in April-September 2020.

Maldivian blues or Rajasthan's sand dunes? Keen on both, Rakesh Mandavaya had a budget for none. That's when he learnt of the travel now pay later' option offered by banks and fintech companies. And the rest, as they say, is his Maldives travel history he can't stop gushing about.

The 37-year-old, who managed a memorable holiday and that too a foreign one, said his six-month interest free loan for Rs 1.5 lakh was approved in just a day.

"Since my trip was an impromptu one, I didn't have enough time to plan it or money to fund it. Then a

friend told me about travel loans. The process was super easy," the Delhi-based IT professional told PTI.

"I think the demand for such a loan category was always there. It is useful for everyone, especially salaried employees. It will encourage people to see new places and make holiday memories," he added.

The TNPL acronym for the travel now pay later' trend has caught on, a variation of the buy now pay later' (BNPL) segment where customers buy products without paying for them immediately.

Be it a foreign or a domestic destination, leisure or adventurous getaways, TNPL options available with leading

GONE WITH THE LOAN

Indian hodophiles bank big on 'travel now, pay later'



travel agencies, including SOTC, Thomas Cook India and MakeMy Trip (MMT), make it all within reach for India's growing tribe of travel-philes' busy ticking off their bucket lists. The trend has picked up pace after the pandemic.

"You walk into a leading electronics store to buy a refrigerator or a mobile. You will see 10 options to pay over an EMI or pay for later programmes. But you walk into a leading travel agency and you won't

find any option available whatsoever. This is what we fundamentally want to change," said Akash Dahiya, founder of SanKash, a travel aggregator with a network of more than 6,000 merchants.

"We allow customers to pay for their travel or holiday over a period of time," Dahiya told PTI.

Like any other EMI scheme, TNPL travellers take loans to book their tickets and hotel expenses and pay it back in installments later over several months. Aspiring travellers are provided short-term credit by partner NBFCs and banks through an underwriting platform that evaluates the customer's creditworthiness using

data science models.

Loans are available on online travel aggregators -- which have both travel merchants and fintech partners on their platforms -- or travel agencies that either have tied up with banks, fintech companies, or offer credit through their own fintech arms.

With the world opening up after more than two years of Covid and thousands of revenge travellers on the move, business is soaring.

SOTC, one of India's leading tour operators, has witnessed a 7X surge in queries among customers opting for travel now, pay later, said Daniel D'Souza, president and country head, Holidays, SOTC Travel.

Adele has a fangirl moment when she meets her idol Gabrielle

British singer Adele had an emotional moment when she met her idol, Gabrielle, who is best remembered for her *Bridget Jones's Diary* sound track. The *Rolling In The Deep* hit-maker cried her heart out upon meeting the senior singer and UK chart-topper, reports *Mirror.co.uk*. She rushed over to Gabrielle's dressing room in hair rollers. Gabrielle, 53, whose 1993 debut single *Dreams* was a global hit, was supporting Adele at two sold-out Hyde Park summer gigs.

Dreams, which includes the line "dreams can come true", was released and the youngster growing up in Tottenham, North London, longed to emulate the singer.

Speaking at Jog-On to Cancer, a charity event in London, Gabrielle said, "We were star struck around each other but I was more star struck." Gabrielle, who has a drooping eyelid and covers it in public with shades, an eyepatch or hair, is getting ready to embark on her '30 Years of Dreaming Tour' in 2023.

According to *Mirror.co.uk*, Adele chose *Dreams* when she appeared on *Desert Island Discs*. She said, "It's the very first song I remember in my life. I was four or five and I think the lyric *dreams can come true* is so infectious. I remember being mesmerised by her, so pure and so delicate and gentle with her voice in the way she moved."



Adele, 34, was five when

Actor Priyanka Chopra has shared several pictures and videos from her recent discussion with US Vice President Kamala Harris. Taking to Instagram, Priyanka also penned a long note in which she talked about voting rights in the US. She said that while she doesn't 'vote in this country - my husband can and one day, my daughter will'. Priyanka is married to singer Nick Jonas and they have a daughter, Malti Marie Chopra Jonas.

Priyanka spoke about how in India, women have held 'highest elected offices' from Indira Gandhi as Prime Minister to current President Droupadi Murmu. She added that in the US, people have not yet seen that 'final glass ceiling shattered'. For the event, Priyanka wore a long yellow dress and white heels. The duo spoke at the Democratic National Committee (DMC) Women's Leadership Forum in Washington DC.

Priyanka captioned the post, "To quote Ruth Bader Ginsburg - 'Women belong in all places where decisions are being made. It shouldn't be that women are the exception.' Since the very beginning, the world has undermined the power of women. We've been shunned and silenced, but thanks to the scarifies and tenacity of so many selfless women, we are in a place today where we can come together and work collectively to right the wrongs. This was a key take away from the conversation I had the honour to moderate with @vp, Kamala Harris at the Women's Leadership Forum conference in Washington DC last night."

She added, "Over the last two years, humanity has experienced some of the biggest challenges that we will see in our lifetime. We are faced with an urgent need for stability and progress, and for America that starts at the polls on November 8. Everyone has a role to play

towards that... to be part of the civic process and to exercise the right to vote, especially women because we need to be actively involved in ensuring our rights are being taken care of."

While I don't vote in this country - my husband can



PC: I can't vote here, but one day my daughter will

there weren't many women, let alone South Asians, in positions of power across mediums. Lucky for me, my parents and grandmother were a part of the civil service in India, which gave me an ounce of hope, but I was never sure if I'd ever see the day when we got a seat at every table. Representation opens the doors of opportunity for others to follow."

She also expressed her excitement to be 'in the room with this collective of accomplished individuals making strides at the highest levels in politics, government, and policy, because it's not just about us filling a chair in the President's cabinet'. Priyanka added the names of the officials she met. Priyanka also posted several pictures and clips on her Instagram Stories as she took a walk inside the White House and also visited the Vice President's office.

Priyanka has several projects in the pipeline like *Ending Things* and *It's All Coming Back To Me*. She will also be seen in the Prime Video series *Citadel*, produced by Russo Brothers, alongside Richard Madden. The upcoming sci-fi drama series is being directed by Patrick Morgan. She also has Farhan Akhtar's *Jee Le Zaraa* along with Alia Bhatt and Katrina Kaif.

and one day, my daughter will. My conversation with VP Harris centred around the most pressing issues, that, in order to be addressed, needs to have a clear vision and plan. Thank you to the WLF and Secretary Hillary Clinton, a founding force in establishing this organization, and for including me in these important conversations, among an incredible collection of accomplished women," she concluded.

Saturday Night Live flagged off its 48th Season by poking fun at both frequent target former US President Donald Trump, and its own rebuilding period after a summer filled with cast exits and goodbyes, reports.



The sketch starred the premiere's host Miles Teller and cast member Andrew Dismukes as sports stars and brother's Peyton and Eli Manning, in a parody of their 'Monday Night Football' commentary show *Manningcast*.

Instead of analysing a football game, the two turned their insight into the opening sketch of the new season of *Saturday Night Live*.

According to reports, at the top of the sketch, Teller as Peyton addressed the shake ups that the series has gone through other the summer, which saw

SNL opens 48th season with Manning Bros sketch, John Hamm cameo

eight cast members - Chris Redd, Alex Moffat, Aristotle Athari, Melissa Villasebor, Pete Davidson, Kate McKinnon, Aidy Bryant and Kyle Mooney - announce their departures from the long-running sketch comedy series. "Let's see what they came up with," Teller said, quoted by *Variety*.

Although Johnson was joined by Mikey Day, Chloe Fineman, Heidi Gardner and Bowen Yang, the focus was on the Mannings' commentary, with Teller proclaiming that the sketch served "14 attempted jokes, one mild laugh and three chuckles."

Variety adds that the sketch also acknowledged the cast changes that mark the season by having Teller - following a purposefully weak impression from Heidi Gardner as South Dakota Governor Kristi Noem - bemoan the lack of memorable political figures in the sketch, "What about a fun impression like Anthony Fauci or Lindsey Graham or Rudy Giuliani?"

"Those were all Kate McKinnon," Dismukes replied, referencing the now-departed long running cast member.

Stopping by for surprise appearances were three-time SNL host - and Teller's *Top Gun* co-star - Jon Hamm as a guest commentator with the Mannings, and a somewhat inexplicable appearance from Shaun White in the sketch-within-a-sketch.

'Someone told Kareena that I'll only do TV shows'

Saif Ali Khan has recently revealed that his wife, actor Kareena Kapoor Khan, was once told that he will only do TV, when he took upon the Netflix web show *Sacred Games*. He added that an open mindset regarding platforms and genre has helped him stay relevant over the years. Saif has been in the business for more than three decades.

Saif made his digital debut with *Sacred Games* in 2018. After receiving widespread appreciation for the show, Saif also featured in its second season and Ali Abbas Zafar's 2021 political thriller *Tandav*. Saif essayed the role of a cop in *Sacred Games* while he played a politician in *Tandav*. Talking to *Dainik Bhaskar* in an inter-



view, Saif said, "Shah Rukh Khan often tells me that people are not old, their thinking turns old. You can stay relevant

as a person if you keep your thoughts new and updated. For example, when I accepted *Sacred Games*, someone told my wife 'Oh, Saif will only do TV now'. That when *Sacred Games* was not even a TV show, it was for an OTT platform." "So, I have made sure not to have such a mind set and that is the approach that has helped me stay relevant," Saif added. Saif is currently seen in the Hindi remake of R Madhavan-starrer Tamil film *Vikram Vedha* that released on Friday. The film also stars Hrithik Roshan and earned Rs 10.58 crore in India on its opening day. After *Vikram Vedha*, Saif will soon be seen in another film. Titled *Adipurush*, it also stars Prabhas, and Kriti Sanon in lead roles.

FUN

ARCHIE



GARFIELD



NANCY



GINGER MEGGS



CALVIN AND HOBBS



REALITY CHECK



SPEED BUMP



CROSSWORD



SUDOKU



Yesterday's solution

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

Rules

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

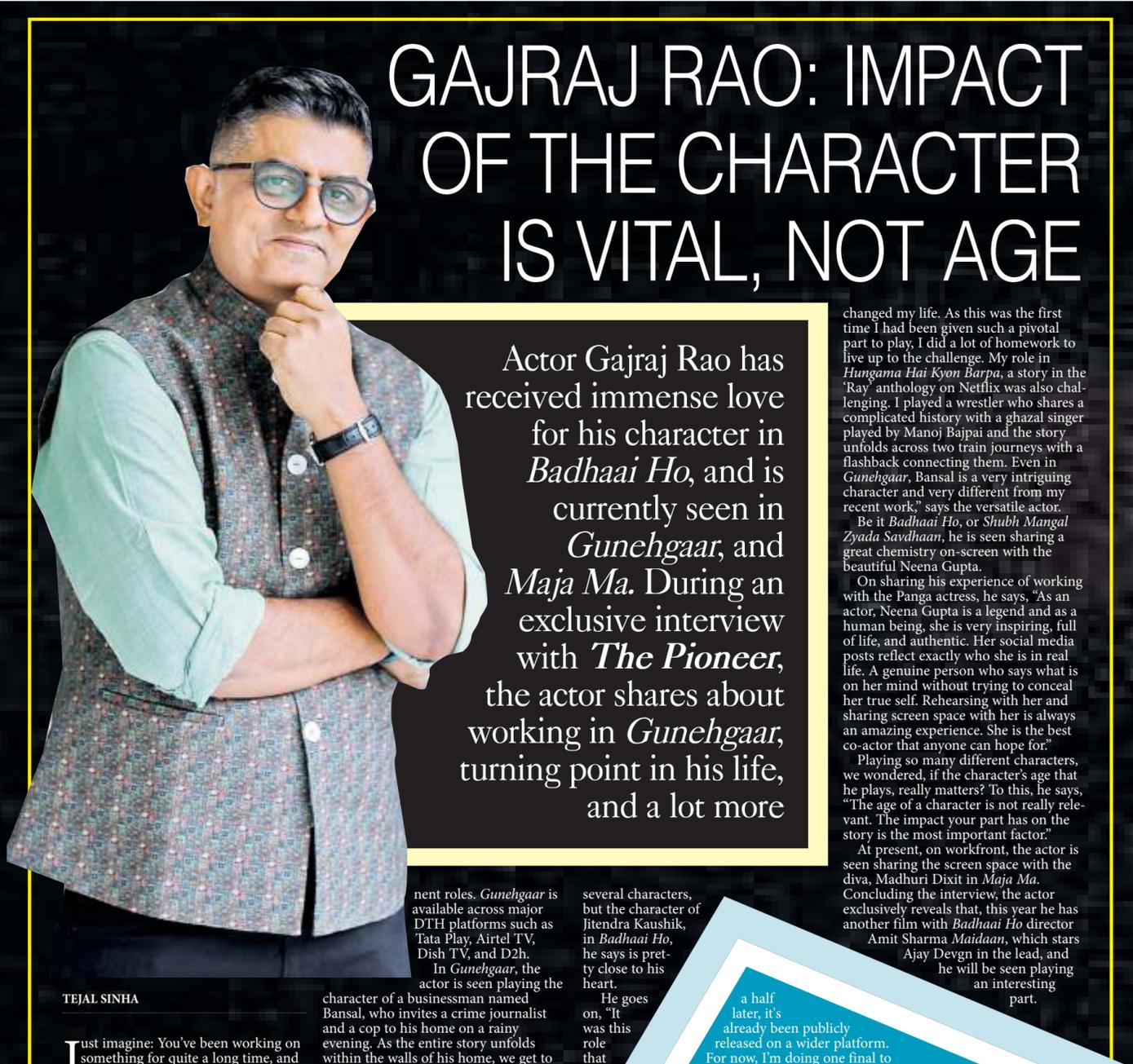
ACROSS

- Gets better after illness
- An item of furniture
- Move
- Painter or sculptor
- People unknown to you
- Made longer by pulling
- Ring shape
- Not asleep
- Gets closer to
- Closed

DOWN

- A mechanical person
- A mark from a fold
- A holder for cut flowers
- Lift up





GAJRAJ RAO: IMPACT OF THE CHARACTER IS VITAL, NOT AGE

Actor Gajraj Rao has received immense love for his character in *Badhaai Ho*, and is currently seen in *Gunehgaar*, and *Maja Ma*. During an exclusive interview with *The Pioneer*, the actor shares about working in *Gunehgaar*, turning point in his life, and a lot more

nent roles. *Gunehgaar* is available across major DTH platforms such as Tata Play, Airtel TV, Dish TV, and D2h. In *Gunehgaar*, the actor is seen playing the

character of a businessman named Bansal, who invites a crime journalist and a cop to his home on a rainy evening. As the entire story unfolds within the walls of his home, we get to figure out who among them is a victim and who is the real *Gunehgaar*.

On working for the first time in a teleplay, the actor shares, "It has been a very interesting experience. I have done a lot of theatre in Delhi, but in recent years, a distance was developed between the stage and me, due to other commitments. So when Akarsh Khurana offered me this role, it seemed like a good opportunity to reconnect with my roots. When I saw the teleplay, I was glad to have done it as it is exceedingly well-made. My co-actors Sumeet Vyas and Shweta Basu Prasad are brilliant in their craft and I am glad that Zee Theatre brought us together for this project."

Ever since his debut, he has got to play

several characters, but the character of Jitendra Kaushik, in *Badhaai Ho*, he says is pretty close to his heart.

He goes on, "It was this role that a half later, it's already been publicly released on a wider platform. For now, I'm doing one final to cross India. I have a bunch of ideas in my head that I put on stage. If I find there's something that isn't working, I remove them. It takes around a good year for a one-hour special to come into its form," said Fernandes.

If you have seen the latest edition of The Academy Awards, comedian Chris Rock found himself in a very uncomfortable position after cracking a joke on Jada Pinkett Smith. Will Smith (Jada's husband), the biggest superstar in Hollywood walked on the stage and slapped Chris Rock. Ya! Just like how your Dad woke you up to send you to school. That shocked the entire world and there's been a lot of criticism over the incident ever since. Cancel him and cancel Chris for the joke and it went on like that forever.

Speaking of the growing intolerance of the cancel culture on the internet, the witty comic quipped, "I think it's a case of self-importance. I think people pay unnecessary attention to their feelings in relation to the rest of the world. Cancel culture is all about 'Me! Me! Me!' It primarily comes from a very selfish place where people are just trying to make everything about them. I'm not really a fan of all of that. There's no direct physical impact to a joke. There are far worse things that are happening in this world today. Politicians are bringing policies that have real consequences. I think people need to get over themselves, take a joke for what it is and move on."

Some of the comedians like Rodney Dangerfield and Don Rickles, have made their careers out of their personalities. We asked the young performer who his favourite comics are and he replied swiftly, "Dave Chappell because he's at a level where people just want to see him speak whether his material is funny or not, he's a master. I love Bill Burr, he's one of the best comics that I've seen. His ability to tackle both sides of an argument is amazing. Kevin Hart for the sheer scale at which he likes doing the craft. Trevor Noah is another comic that I like for his history and what he represents as a person of colour in the industry. Finally, Andrew Schulz is someone I really respect for how he carved an independent path for himself. That's pretty much what I do as a comic."

changed my life. As this was the first time I had been given such a pivotal part to play, I did a lot of homework to live up to the challenge. My role in *Hungama Hai Kyon Barpa*, a story in the 'Ray' anthology on Netflix was also challenging. I played a wrestler who shares a complicated history with a ghazal singer played by Manoj Bajpai and the story unfolds across two train journeys with a flashback connecting them. Even in *Gunehgaar*, Bansal is a very intriguing character and very different from my recent work," says the versatile actor.

Be it *Badhaai Ho*, or *Shubh Mangal Zyada Savdhaan*, he is seen sharing a great chemistry on-screen with the beautiful Neena Gupta. On sharing his experience of working with the Panga actress, he says, "As an actor, Neena Gupta is a legend and as a human being, she is very inspiring, full of life, and authentic. Her social media posts reflect exactly who she is in real life. A genuine person who says what is on her mind without trying to conceal her true self. Rehearsing with her and sharing screen space with her is always an amazing experience. She is the best co-actor that anyone can hope for."

Playing so many different characters, we wondered, if the character's age that he plays, really matters? To this, he says, "The age of a character is not really relevant. The impact your part has on the story is the most important factor."

At present, on workfront, the actor is seen sharing the screen space with the diva, Madhuri Dixit in *Maja Ma*. Concluding the interview, the actor exclusively reveals that, this year he has another film with *Badhaai Ho* director Amit Sharma *Maidaan*, which stars Ajay Devgn in the lead, and he will be seen playing an interesting part.



Revamping business leaders via education

The nature of business is ever evolving. New business models are constantly being created and innovated, while more established ones are reassessed, modified, and oftentimes outright discarded.

Businesses of course do not operate in a vacuum. They are inherently plugged into a moving and fast developing ecosystem, marked by revolutionary transformation and lightning speed change. At its core, business is the key driver for economic, social, and societal change and development. In fact, it is of such pivotal interest that every stakeholder, including local and state/provincial governments, are deeply engaged in the on-going discussion and debate about what constitutes good, ethical, fair, and sustainable business practice.

Business education with its primary purpose of "developing business leaders", must be in total alignment with trends in global business and commerce. The primary challenge for business school leaders is not to be blinded by a myopic view of trends and changes. But to have a significantly longer-term perspective with a missional lens to prepare business students for a future that is yet to unfold.

Employers are watching closely. They want and expect graduating students with all the

requisite knowledge, skills, and attributes to utilize them productively from the moment they join the firm. From an individual's perspective, employability rates are seen as a key metric in the selection and choice of a business school apart from ranking, accreditation, and general perception of the "quality" of an institution of higher learning.

Dr. Franco Gandolfi, Dean, D-School of Business powered by Pearl Academy and LSBF, shares, "A myriad of perspectives exists and the notion of best pedagogy is widely debated in academic and non-academic circles. Even the Top of the Top Business schools typically struggle with that. Harvard University with its pre-eminent business school and the inventor of the Harvard Case Study pedagogy continues to examine its own practices as voices of more "high-impact" graduate and executive education have become loud."

The most critical part of business education is neither the knowing nor the doing part. The most critically important part of the development of a business leader is the being part of business education. True business leadership is neither about knowing nor doing but being. Leaders are not defined by what they know or do but by their very essence of who they are and their deeply held values and principles to the business equation.

Finally, the failure of large companies has been frequently attributed to the moral failure of senior leaders.

Daniel Fernandes, who is touring India as part of his second stand-up special, will next be seen in the following cities: Delhi (Oct 8), Gurgaon (Oct 9), Pune (Oct 16), Bangalore (Oct 29), Vizag (Oct 30) and will follow through in other cities in the month of November as well.

'It takes around a good one year for a one-hour special'



Stand-up comedian Daniel Fernandes, who is currently touring India, and was in the 'city of pearls' on Sunday, gets candid with *The Pioneer* about his unorthodox joke writing process, intolerance of cancel culture, and much more.

That's not the case with Stand-up Comedian Daniel Fernandes. He's been in the business for over a decade, and is well aware of what the business demands of him. He's currently touring India for his second stand-up special, *Alive & Vaccinated*.

On Sunday, the comedian was in the city for a comedy event, hosted by Sakshi Chaturvedi, founder of Buzz kya Entertainment, at Heart Cup Coffee, Jubilee Hills.

Explaining about the show, in a crisp and concise manner, he says, "It's like a summary of life during the pandemic, and what I experienced. It's something that's relatable to everybody else as well. So it's a mix of dark jokes, dark, intelligent, and dirty."

Jerry Seinfeld, one of the greatest comics of all time, religiously writes all his jokes on a yellow notepad before hitting the stage. Other comics have their own process of coming up with their material. The comedian gave us a sneak peek into his unorthodox joke writing process, "I don't really have a process as such. This show is peculiar in a way that I developed the entire show on stage. The whole show was all in my mind. So, I haven't written it down anywhere. I just went on as soon as the lockdown was done away with. I kept working on these jokes on stage, and now, a year and

Sky fires India to 237-3

PTI ■ GUWAHATI

The Indian top-four batters once again put up a superlative show to post a massive 237 for 3 in the second T20 International against South Africa here on Sunday.

A sellout crowd witnessed raining boundaries at the small ACA Barsapara Stadium as the Indian batters smashed 25 fours and 13 sixes. They scored 178 runs in boundaries.

Rohit Sharma (43 off 37 balls) and KL Rahul (57 off 28 balls) started it before Suryakumar Yadav (61 off 22 balls), Virat Kohli (49 not out) and Dinesh Karthik (17 not out) finished it off in style.

Replying to his critics, Rahul (57) was back at his aggressive best, slamming a 24-ball fifty, his second in a row, as he and Rohit put on 96 runs for the opening wicket that came off just 59 balls.

Yadav then continued to raise his standards higher with a third successive half-century that came off just 18 deliveries and India crossed the 200-mark in the 18th over.

With the top-four doing the bulk of the scoring, India's designated finisher Karthik got just seven balls but he made the most of the opportunity, smashing two sixes and one four in his quickfire 17 not out.

The South African pacers looked lacklustre and bowled full and the Indians feasted on them.



Rohit first began the onslaught and Rahul followed it up in style after Temba Bavuma put them in.

After being hit on his hand from Wayne Parnell in the second over, Rohit came out all guns blazing while Rahul was a mute spectator with nine from five balls.

It was then the turn of

Rahul who whipped the ball over square leg with perfect demonstration of his wrist work.

It was a shot that summed up his dominating innings as he took on Nortje in a similar fashion, this time whipping the bowler a little deep.

There was no signs of tentativeness in Rahul's batting that

had copped much criticism as he raced to his fifty in just 24 balls, stepping down to Aiden Markram for a six over long-on.

India were 57 for no loss inside the power play and there was no stopping the duo when a snake gave South Africans a bit of a breather.

In a rare sight, the snake slithered out onto the field

from the extra cover region to stop play for about five minutes before the groundsmen captured it in a bucket.

MISMANAGEMENT

Trust Assam Cricket Association (ACA) to mess it up every time.

Chaos once again reigned supreme at the ACA Barsapara

Stadium here during the India-South Africa second T20I on Sunday.

If a snake slithering onto the field during India's innings was not enough, the worst was in store when the stadium went into partial darkness during South Africa's chase of the massive target of 238, causing a second interruption in the match.

Just after the first ball of Deepak Chahar in the third over when South Africa were reeling at 5/2, play came to halt after one of the four floodlight towers went off, halting play for 18 minutes.

All the players went back to the dressing room and it took about six minutes for the lights to slowly turn on one by one before play resumed.

Blaming it on a "technical glitch", Assam Cricket Association secretary Devajit Saikia told PTI: "We have three parties handling the power aspect - our own 25-member team, a third (outsourced) party and the state power department. It was perhaps a voltage problem, some technical glitch."

Saikia said the ACA has used generator sets to power the match and not depended on electricity supply from the power department.

The media contingent also faced similar problem before the match as there were no lights till a few overs into the match as the officials took hours to find out the fault.



India take on Malaysia in Asia Cup T20

PTI ■ SYLHET

Shafali Verma couldn't have asked for an easier opponent to regain her mojo as a confident India get ready to maul Malaysia in their second T20 match of the women's Asia Cup here on Monday.

The game should serve as net session for Harmanpreet Kaur and Co against a Malaysian side that was thrashed by Pakistan by nine wickets in its opener.

After a comfortable win against Sri Lanka, scripted by Jemimah Rodrigues, the less experienced Indian players are expected to get some game time as the team prepares for the T20 World Cup in South Africa early next year.

Shafali, who has endured a dismal run, would want to come out all guns blazing and may take this opportunity to try an alternate batting approach as her natural game has not been yielding success off late.

The 18-year-old has not scored a T20I half-century since March last year but played a couple of good knocks at the Commonwealth Games. She then had a woeful England tour, where she had single digit scores four times across formats.

The big-hitting opener needs to find consistency after three years in international cricket. Her lack of footwork was the main cause of her undoing as English bowlers capitalised on her weakness.

With the quality of the Malaysian bowlers no where close to their English counterparts, it is important that Shafali uses this opportunity to be fullest to gain her confidence.

For vice-captain Smriti Mandhana, who failed to get going against Sri Lanka, the game will be about quality hitting time in the middle against an attack that is sure to feel intimidated.

Rodrigues, who came off a wrist injury, made instant impact with a sensational career-best performance while Harmanpreet has also been in imperious touch.

The tournament provided Indian with the perfect platform to experiment and several new players like Kiran Navgire could be seen in the playing XI come Monday.

Finding the right combination with the ball is also high on India's priority list.

With the pitch here producing knee length bounce on the opening day of the competition itself, India are expected to field a spin heavy attack with Renuka Singh being the sole specialist pacer.

THE TEAMS (FROM)

India: Harmanpreet Kaur (c), Smriti Mandhana, Deepti Sharma, Shafali Verma, Jemimah Rodrigues, Sabbini Meghana, Richa Ghosh (wk), Sneha Rana, Dayalan Hemalatha, Meghna Singh, Renuka Thakur, Pooja Vastrakar, Rajeshwari Gayakwad, Radha Yadav, KP Navgire.

Malaysia: Winifred Duraisingam (c), Mas Elysa, Aina Najwa, Aina Hamizah Hashim, Aisya Eleesa, Dhanusi Muhunan, Jamahidaya Intan, Mahirah Izzati Ismail, Noor Hayati Zakaria, Nur Arianna Natsya, Nur Dania Syuhada, Nuriyala Natasya, Sasha Azmi, Elsa Hunter, Wan Julia.

Saurabh's all-round show puts ROI in firm control

PTI ■ RAJKOT

All-rounder Saurabh Kumar hit a strokeful fifty before returning to snap two wickets as Rest of India tightened the noose around Saurashtra on day 2 of the Irani Cup match here on Sunday.

Saurabh smashed 10 boundaries in his 78-ball 55 and added 71 with Jayant Yadav (37) for the seventh wicket to take ROI close to the 350-mark after Sarfaraz Khan dominated the opening day with a century.

It was Saurabh's innings which helped ROI grab a solid 276-run first-innings lead over Saurashtra.

The 29-year-old from Uttar Pradesh then returned to dismiss both the Saurashtra open-

ers -- Harvik Desai (20) and Snell Patel (16) -- as ROI gained further ascendancy in the match.

At stumps, Chirag Jani (3 batting) and Dharmendrasinh Jadeja (8 batting) were at the crease with Saurashtra, the 2019-20 Ranji Trophy Champions, at 49 for two in 17 overs, still trailing by 227 runs.

Earlier, left-arm fast bowler Chetan Sakariya gave Saurashtra a glimmer of hope with a five-wicket haul as they dismissed ROI for 374 in 110 overs.

The 24-year-old (5/93) snapped four wickets to go with the one scalp he took on the opening day after Chirag Jani removed the overnight batters Hanuma Vihari (82) and Sarfaraz (138) in the first

sessions.

After dominating the opening day, ROI resumed day two at 205 for three with skipper Vihari and centurion Sarfaraz batting for more than an hour, adding another 33 runs to their overnight partnership.

However, both departed in quick succession with Jani producing the breakthroughs.

Jani first had Hanuma caught by Harvik Desai before trapping Sarfaraz in front of wicket in his opening spell to reduce ROI to 239 for 5 in the 65th over.

It was a Sakariya show after that as he drew Srikr Bharat (12 off 44) with a full delivery after coming round the wicket and induced an edge which was caught by Harvik Desai.



Mukesh, Rajat earn maiden India call-up for SA ODIs

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Uncapped Bengal seamer Mukesh Kumar and prolific domestic performer Rajat Patidar on Sunday earned their maiden India call-up for the upcoming three-match ODI series against South Africa, starting October 6 in Lucknow.

Mukesh, a prolific red ball bowler for Bengal, had performed just at the right time, emerging as top wicket taker in first class games against New Zealand 'A' and followed that up with another stupendous show in the Irani Cup.

The 28-year-old quick had taken nine wickets in the three matches against New Zealand 'A', besides snapping 20 wickets for Bengal in the Ranji Trophy this year.

He also emerged as the wrecker-in-chief for Rest of India in the ongoing Irani Cup with a four-wicket haul which broke the back of the Saurashtra batting in Rajkot on Saturday.

Patidar, a stylish hitter, on the other hand, has scored centuries in IPL play offs, in the Ranji Trophy final and in 'Tests' against New Zealand 'A' in the last three months.

The 29-year-old from Indore gained prominence after slamming a sizzling 112 not out for Royal Challengers Bangalore against Lucknow Super Giants in the IPL eliminator. He also scored a 58 against Rajasthan Royals in the next match.

Switching to red-ball cricket, Patidar came up with scores of 85 and 79 against Punjab and Bengal respectively in knockout matches in the Ranji Trophy before slamming a decisive hundred in the Ranji Trophy final to guide Madhya Pradesh to the title.

His performance earned him a place in India A squad and Patidar grabbed the opportunity by producing two hundreds in the three four-day matches against New Zealand A. He also fired a quick unbeaten 45 to help India A beat New Zealand A in the first one-dayer.

While Mukesh and Patidar will be the new faces, the Indian team would once again be led by ODI specialist Shikhar Dhawan, while Shreyas Iyer will be his deputy this time.

Shreyas and Deepak Chahar will link up with the T20 World Cup squad in Brisbane after the ODI series. They were named as stand-by players for the ICC flagship event. The team will train in Perth in first week.

The second and third ODIs of the South Africa series will be played on October 9 and 11 in Ranchi and Delhi respectively.

The Squad: Shikhar Dhawan (captain), Ruturaj Gaikwad, Shubman Gill, Shreyas Iyer (vice-captain), Rajat Patidar, Rahul Tripathi, Ishan Kishan (wicket-keeper), Sanju Samson (wicket-keeper), Shahbaz Ahmed, Shardul Thakur, Kuldeep Yadav, Ravi Bishnoi, Mukesh Kumar, Avesh Khan, Mohd. Siraj, Deepak Chahar.

KL bats at his best when he has 'nothing to lose': Watson

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

KL Rahul bats at his best when he has "nothing to lose" approach and that is how former Australia all-rounder Shane Watson wants the opener to play at the T20 World Cup beginning later this month.

Rahul's strike rate came under scanner during the Asia Cup and the ongoing home series against South Africa.

Though India had to chase down only 107 in the first T20 against the Proteas, questions were raised over Rahul's intent as he ended with 51 not out off 56 balls.

Speaking to PTI, Watson said Rahul needs to be aggressive from ball one in the World Cup Down Under.

"KL Rahul is one of my favourite batters. To me when he is batting at his best, when he is aggressive, he takes the game on and is not trying to control the

game." He has got that skill, when he is just reacting to the ball coming down, he has all the shots all around the ground against the best bowlers in the world.

"I love seeing him when he feels like he's got nothing to lose, then he can even strike at 180 without taking too much risk. If he is able to do that (in Australia), there will be a lot of bowlers in trouble," said one of the best all-rounders to have played for Australia.

With serious question marks over the availability of the injured Jasprit Bumrah for the ICC event, India's pace attack seems like their weakest link.

Watson thinks on similar lines and wants Mohammad Siraj to take Bumrah's place if the latter is deemed unfit for the World Cup.

"India have certainly got the batting to do incredibly well in Australian conditions but the biggest question mark is around their fast bowling.



"The spinners, Axar Patel and Yuzi Chahal, are as good as anyone in the world in all conditions but the fast bowling without Bumrah in particular, whether they can execute skills under pressure at the back end of the game. That is where teams will be trying to expose India." India need a bowler who can bowl in excess of 140kmph in the absence of Bumrah, said Watson.

"It is a genuine concern (lack of express pace), that is why Siraj will be a good option if Bumrah isn't there.

"The pace at which he bowls and the skills he has got, swinging it away and pushing towards 150 kmph with the brand new ball and he can execute well in the end as well.

"He provides that element that other Indian bowlers don't necessarily have," said the 41-year-old adding that he would pick Siraj over Mohammad Shami in the squad.

Perez wins Singapore Grand Prix

PTI ■ SINGAPORE

Sergio Perez won a rain-affected Singapore Grand Prix on Sunday meaning his Red Bull teammate Max Verstappen, who finished seventh, must wait at least another week to retain his Formula One world championship.

The Mexican took the chequered flag 7.5sec ahead of the Ferrari of Charles Leclerc, whose teammate Carlos Sainz was third in the night race that started more than an hour late because of a storm.

Verstappen had a mathematical chance to clinch a second world title in Singapore, but needed to win and have other results go his way.

The Dutchman was always going to struggle after starting eighth on the grid at the

Marina Bay Street Circuit but he battled back from a slow start where he dropped to 13th to finish seventh.

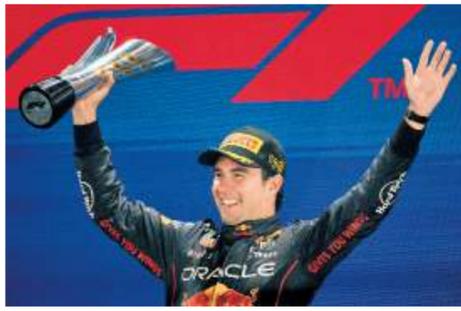
It means his world championship lead over Leclerc has been cut to 104 points ahead of next week's Japanese Grand Prix. Perez is two points behind Leclerc.

Verstappen will need to be 112 points ahead at the end of next Sunday's race in Suzuka to retain his title.

It means a win will be enough for Verstappen if Leclerc fails to finish second.

"It was certainly my best performance," Perez said. "I controlled the race. The last three laps were so intense. When I got out of the car, I felt it. I gave everything today."

Perez was under investigation for an infringement under



one of numerous safety car periods during the race, and potentially faces a time penalty that could hand the victory to Ferrari.

"I have no idea what's going on, they just told me I was under investigation and to

increase the gap," Perez said. Leclerc started on pole but had a sluggish getaway on intermediate tyres in the slippery conditions allowing Perez to reach the first corner in the lead.

"I pushed all the way," said

Leclerc. "The bad start put us on the back foot and it was a really difficult race after that."

"I need a good night's sleep and to get ready for Japan."

Sainz said he felt he could never threaten the front two after he crossed the line 7.7sec behind his teammate.

"It was very tough out there," Sainz said. "I never really got into a rhythm in the wet and then couldn't challenge the top two guys."

"I had to settle for P3, but the good thing is I didn't do any mistakes and could bring the car home and be quick towards the end of the race."

Lewis Hamilton started third in his Mercedes and lost a place at the start before later slithering into a barrier and finishing ninth.

Kenya's Kipruto and Yehualaw triumph at London Marathon

AP ■ LONDON

Kenyan Amos Kipruto marked his London Marathon debut with a decisive victory in the men's race on Sunday as Ethiopian 23-year-old Yalemzerf Yehualaw became the youngest winner of the women's race.

It was a maiden London victory for Yehualaw in what was just the second marathon of her career.

The 30-year-old Kipruto, a world bronze medalist in Doha in 2019, crossed the line in London in two hours, four minutes and 39 seconds after breaking away late on.

Leul Gebresilase of Ethiopia finished second in 2:05:12, with Bashir Abdi of



Belgium third in 2:05:19.

Ethiopian distance great Kenenisa Bekele was fifth with compatriot Sisay Lemma, last year's London Marathon winner, seventh.

Yehualaw's winning time of 2:17:26 was just three seconds outside the personal best she set at Hamburg in April when making the fastest debut in any women's marathon.

'Acting for me is contextualising the emotional data files'

AMARTYA SMARAN

Actress Gul Panag needs no introduction, whatsoever. After her last venture *Paatal Lok*, opened to critical acclaim, she is all ready to light the screens on fire with her latest release, *The Ghost* starring Nagarjuna Akkineni directed by Praveen Sattaru.

Ahead of her Tollywood debut with *The Ghost*, actress Gul Panag known for her films like *Ab Tak Chhappan 2*, *420 IPC*, *The Family Man*, and *Paatal Lok*, opens up about her experience working in the Telugu film industry and takes us through her acting process.

Being adventurous is second nature to this Former Miss India. However, this time around, acting in Nagarjuna's *The Ghost* wasn't a cakewalk for the actress.

The *Dhoop* actress will be seen playing King Nagarjuna's sister in the film. She plays a businesswoman who is not on talking terms with her sibling for around two long decades, but quite naturally reaches out to him for help when in trouble.

Actors work on a project for various reasons, known only to them. The versatile actor that she is, she shares her reason for giving the nod to *The Ghost*. She says, First of all, the opportunity to work with Praveen Sir itself was great. He is a director who's known for his clarity of vision. To work with someone with the stature of Nagarjuna Sir was something that I was looking forward to. I have never acted in a Telugu film before, so, it was like going on an adventure. I feel like one grows in life when they put themselves in uncomfortable situations and makes an attempt to adapt to

them."

There are so many permutations and combinations for actors to say yes to a script. Some have the audience in their mind while reading the script while others simply go by their gut feeling. The *Paatal Lok* actress explained, "There is no formula to speak when it comes to saying yes to a script. After a while, you go by your gut instinct and the experience you have gathered over the years. I tend to work with people whom I enjoy working with. It is not about the screen time or the number of shots that you get to be in. It is all about how relevant the character is. You know, if the story is incomplete without my character, chances are that I will say no to that film. In the case of *Ghost*, I play a crucial character that serves as one of the important pieces in the film."

She further elaborated, "This film has the most challenging role that I have played till date. To sort of act in a different language was tough. I would say, the first day of the shoot was the hardest of my professional life. I am not someone who likes to mug up lines and say them out loud. It is just not about saying the dialogue, it is about emoting in the right way. I was really concerned about how it would come out on the screen, but Nag Sir really made me comfortable on the sets."

Actors like Hrithik Roshan, Vidya Balan, and Thovino Thomas use a distinct perfume for every character they play to get into the character. Ranveer Singh listens to a customised playlist while doing his part to get the emotion right. What does Gul Panag do? In conversation with *The Pioneer*, the vivacious actress gives a rare

insight into her acting process. "It totally depends on what the part needs. There are multiple approaches that one can use, but as you live your life, you accumulate all the experiences and events over a period of time. What I do is contextualise the emotional data files that are stored in my memory. Now that I am more experienced, it takes half the time that it'd take some 20 years ago. For me, acting is all about contextualizing the emotional data files that are relevant for the character that I am playing."

When asked about her acting idols, the talented actress replied with quite a unique answer, "Who wouldn't idolize an actress like Meryl Streep? After a point, you become your own idol. You'll have to outperform yourself in every endeavor that you embark on as an actor."

You must've seen Tom Cruise cruising a Formula One at Southern California's 2.5-mile (4km) Willow Springs circuit. Did you know that *The Ghost* actress is one of the few people in the world who's had the honour of driving Formula One and

Formula E cars? "I am very cool that way. I got the opportunity to drive a retired 2007 Renault F1 car. They said they needed someone from Bollywood. The brief was, 'We need someone like a Miss Universe or someone as an opinion maker', others have been approached too, but they all went like we're not going to go all the way to Prague to drive an F1 car if we're not getting paid. I was like, 'Can I pay you to drive the car?' (she laughs)," enthused Gul.

Currently, she is busy promoting *The Ghost* alongside her upcoming Sony Liv OTT release *Good Bad Girl* which is up for its release on 14 October.

She ended the interview by saying, "I am still figuring out what to do next and something exciting is brewing for sure. I will keep you'll be informed about my upcoming projects."

Actress Gul Panag, who is all set to make her Tollywood debut with Nagarjuna starrer *The Ghost*, gets candid with *The Pioneer*, about working with the megastar, the film, saying yes to a film, and much more.



Venkaiah Naidu unveils book on Allu Arjun's grandfather

Telugu star Allu Arjun inaugurated the Allu Studio along with megastar Chiranjeevi to commemorate the 100th birth anniversary of his grandfather, Telugu cinema's celebrated comedian, Allu Ramalingaiah.

The centenary was also marked by the unveiling of a book on Ramalingaiah, who was awarded a Padma Shri and the Filmfare Lifetime Achievement Award-South.

Taking to his social media, Allu Arjun shared a picture of himself along with close relatives and the country's former Vice President, Venkaiah Naidu. He wrote in the caption, "Book launch

of my Grandfather Shri Allu Ramalingaiah garu on his centenary birthday. I would like to thank Shri Venkaiah Naidu garu for gracing the occasion. #AlluARG100"

Recently, Arjun visited Amritsar with his family to celebrate his wife Sneha Reddy's birthday. The actor visited the Golden Temple, Attari border and spent time with BSF jawans. Allu Arjun fans, meanwhile, are eagerly waiting for the sequel to *Pushpa: The Rise*. The film's makers of *Pushpa* recently shared the progress of the sequel, marking the start of their work with a puja they organised in the presence of team members.

Vijay Sethupathi to star in the silent film *Gandhi Talks*



Zee Studios on Sunday announced a silent film, titled *Gandhi Talks* with actor Vijay Sethupathi. An AR Rahman musical, the dark comedy will be directed by Kishore P Belekar and also feature actors Aditi Rao Hydari and Arvind Swami, a press release by Zee Studios stated. Rahman will provide the background score and music for the film, which will be produced by Zee Studios. "Silent film is not a gim-

mick. It is a form of storytelling. Conveying emotions by switching off the device of dialogue is not only scary but also interesting and challenging," Belekar said in a statement. Shariq Patel, CBO of Zee Studios, said the film has a unique, relatable, and incredibly funny, and entertaining story. *Gandhi Talks*, co-produced by Kyoorous Digital Pvt. Ltd. and Movie Mill Entertainment, will be released worldwide in 2023.

Sudheer Babu's *Hunt* begins

Sudheer Babu is creating a forte for himself, expanding his horizons. The actor is currently gearing up for his upcoming film titled *Hunt*. The film directed by Mahesh Surapaneni is currently under post-production and they are getting ready to finalise the film's release date. The makers are getting ready to release the film's teaser.

The makers locked the time and date for the film's teaser launch. The teaser will be launched today at 11.06 AM. Sharing the details, the makers released a new and intense poster of Sudheer Babu in which he sported a serious expression. The film is a thriller and comes with a tagline 'Guns Don't Lie' and features Srikanth, Premisthe fame Bharat, Mime

Gopi, Kabir Duhhan Singh, Mounika Reddy, Goparaju Ramana, Manjula, Chitra Shukla, Supoorna Malkar, Sanjay Swaroop, Ravi Varma, 'Gemini' Suresh, Abhijit Poondla, Kotes Mannava, Satya Krishnan in crucial roles.

Gibhran is scoring music while the film is produced by Anand Prasad under Bhavya Creations banner.



Dulquer Salmaan all set for *King of Kotha*

The makers of director Abhilash Joshi's *King of Kotha*, featuring Dulquer Salmaan in the lead, have released the first look of the film, much to the delight of the Malayalam superstar's fans.

The poster depicts Dulquer, in a blazing hot never-before-seen avatar, promising a visual treat to all his fans.

The much-awaited high-octane action drama will be produced by Wayfarer Films and

Zee Studios. The first schedule of the shoot is proceeding at a brisk pace in Karaikudi, Tamil Nadu.

Speaking about the association, Dulquer Salmaan said, "Wayfarer Films is proud to associate with Zee Studios for their maiden venture into the Malayalam film industry with our film *King Of Kotha!*"

Zee Studios has been associated with some of the biggest industry hits across languages nation-

wide and it's a privilege to partner with them to produce some of the best content we wish to bring to all of you.

From pre-production to now beginning principal photography, we feel we have found the best team with aligned interests to achieve our vision to the best of our abilities."

Speaking about the association, Akshay Kejriwal, Head - South Movies at Zee Studios, noted, "We are extremely delighted and proud to collaborate with Dulquer and Wayfarer Films on this exciting film. KOK also marks our entry into the Malayalam film industry and we couldn't be happier that the journey begins with this association."

Talking about the cast and crew, Kejriwal added, "Dulquer has consistently entertained audiences across the globe with his versatile performances and it is our absolute honour and privilege to present this film helmed by the supremely talented, Abhilash Joshi."

The first look promises a visual treat for the audiences as Dulquer is set to repeat his victory after blockbusters across languages like *Sita Ramam*, *Chupp*, *Kannum Kannum Kollayadithal* and *Kurup*.



Prabhas aces as Lord Rama

Ever since the makers had officially announced, *Adipurush* has garnered massive attention from the audience. It is touted to be one of the most expensive films made in Indian cinema. After a long wait, the makers had unveiled the teaser and the poster of the Om Raut directorial on Sunday on the bank of Sarayu in the holy land of Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh. This religious town in UP is also the birthplace of Lord Ram, making the location much more relevant for this event. The grand event was graced with the presence of the cast of the film including superstar Prabhas, Kriti Sanon along with the director Om Raut and the producer Bhushan Kumar.

Adipurush,

which is the modern-day retelling of Ramayana, features actor Prabhas as Lord Rama while Sunny will be seen as Lakshman. Kriti is set to essay the role of Sita in the forthcoming film and Saif will portray the role of Raavan.

Adipurush is a multilingual period saga, which is being touted as a film celebrating "the victory of good over evil". It is an on-screen adaptation of the Hindu epic Ramayana. The film will be released in 3D and IMAX in multiple languages. It was shot for over 100 days and then went into post-production earlier this year. Though the teaser had impressed the fans with the looks and other aspects in the teaser, the makers failed to impress the audience with its VFX.

