

**ANALYSIS 7**  
MAINSTREAM CHANNELS  
ARE THE BIGGEST THREAT

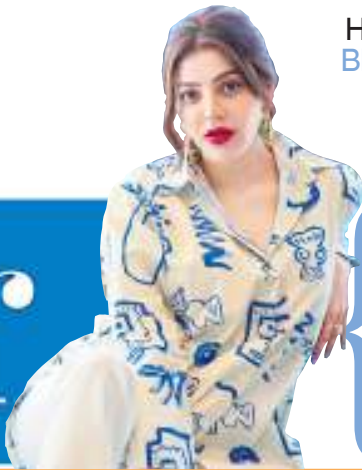
**MONEY 8**  
INDIA'S FY'23 GDP  
GROWTH PEGGED AT 7.3%

**SPORTS 12**  
ROHIT KEEPING FAITH  
IN BHUVI & HARSHAL

HYDERABAD, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2022; PAGES 12 ₹3



# the pioneer



KAJAL IS IN A  
MOOD TO RAISE AN  
ECOBABY

Page 11

www.dailypioneer.com

## 'ON EITHER SIDE OF THE POND' EARNS SPECIAL MENTION AT SEBASTIAN FEST

Filmmaker Parth Saurabh's debut film "On Either Sides of The Pond" has received a special mention at the 2022 San Sebastian International Film Festival. The movie, titled "Pokhar Ke Dunu Para" in Hindi, earned the special mention for the coveted Kutxabank-New Directors Award during the closing ceremony of the festival on September 24. The film follows Sumit and Priyanka, an eloped couple who return to their hometown due to the financial hardships caused by the coronavirus-induced lockdown. "As Priyanka seeks to leave Sumit and return to her conservative father's home, Sumit, oblivious, wastes his time away," the official description read.

## DRONE ATTACK HITS UKRAINE, US VOWS "CONSEQUENCES" OVER NUKES

An overnight drone strike near the Ukrainian port of Odesa sparked a massive fire and explosion, the military said on Monday, as Russia's leadership faced growing resistance to its efforts to call up hundreds of thousands of men to fight in Ukraine. The airstrike on Odesa was the latest in a series of drone attacks on the key southern city in recent days, and hit a military installation and detonated ammunition when it struck. Firefighters were struggling to contain the blaze, and civilians nearby were evacuated, the Ukrainian military's southern command said. It came hours after the United States vowed to take decisive action and promised catastrophic consequences if Russia uses nuclear weapons in Ukraine.

## NIGHT SAFARI IN FASHION AROUND THE WORLD: HIMANTA ON KAZIRANGA ROW

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma on Monday said that night safari at wildlife sanctuaries was in fashion globally as he sought to dismiss the controversy over his jeep ride along with Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev at the Kaziranga National Park (KNP) after dusk. Speaking to reporters at the end of the three-day 'Chintan Shivir', Sarma claimed that no law in the country, including those for the protection of wildlife, prohibit entry into forest areas after sunset. "Going to wildlife sanctuaries at night is in fashion across the world. Places like Singapore have been doing it," he said.

## EMPLOYEE SUPPRESSING OR GIVING FALSE INFORMATION CAN BE SACKED: SC

The Supreme Court Monday said that an employee can be terminated from the service for suppressing or giving false information concerning matters having a bearing on his fitness or suitability for the post. The top court laid down broad principles of law to be taken into account especially in the case of recruitment in police forces, saying their ability to inspire public confidence is a bulwark to society's security. The apex court said that even in a case where the employee has made a declaration truthfully and correctly of a concluded criminal case, the employer still has the right to consider the antecedents, and cannot be compelled to appoint the candidate.

# BJP upping its social media game

## Aims 10 lakh WhatsApp contacts in six months

NAVEENA GHANATE  
■ HYDERABAD

The BJP is upping its social media game in Telangana and is replicating the Uttar Pradesh Model.

The party aims to increase its contacts to 10 lakh on WhatsApp in the next six months and its is strengthening its social media team to achieve this target. The BJP which had only a single social media convener in TS so far appointed two more joint convenors for its social media cell – Sai Mittapelly and Anishetty Siddharth – on Monday. With this, the number of joint convenors in the party has gone up to four. "There was feedback from our Central team to improve our social media performance. State president Sanjay believes that the party needs to bring in young blood and so Sai and Anishetty were made joint convenors. This is like the Uttar Pradesh model where there was one social media convener and four joint social media convenors. The party will be reshuffling district con-



Anishetty Siddharth with Bandi Sanjay



A Venkat Ramana with Sai Mittapelly

WhatsApp. Sources said that currently, the organised reach is about 2 to 2.5 lakh people.

There may be unorganised groups about whom we don't have an estimate, BJP sources said.

Sources said that in the last fortnight nearly 60,000 to 65,000 people were contacted via WhatsApp and were added to party groups. Sources said the four joint convenors will be tasked to look after districts in the north, east, south and west.

It may be mentioned here that BJP has decided to create 10,000 WhatsApp groups in TS and this will be part of the initiative. Through the WhatsApp groups, the BJP will build the narrative, and share videos of BJP leaders' speeches and the party's messages in real-time.

Sources said that once everything is streamlined the party's national leadership will start conducting sessions and will motivate people about the development of Telangana under Prime Minister Modi and the need for the BJP to rule the state.



## Heavy rains lash Hyderabad

4-day yellow alert issued

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Indian Meteorological Department (IMD) on Monday issued a four-day yellow alert for the state. Thunderstorms accompanied with lightning are very likely to occur at isolated places over Telangana. For Hyderabad for the next 48 hours, there will be generally cloudy sky. Light rain or thunderstorms are very likely to occur in parts of the city. Surface winds are likely to be northerlies with wind speed around 4 to 6 kmph. Maximum and minimum temperatures are likely to be around 33 and 22 degree Celsius respectively.

2

# Crucial meet in Delhi today to resolve AP-TS disputes

## Centre lists 14-point agenda



PNS ■ AMARAVATI

Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla will chair a high-level meeting of secretaries of various Central departments in New Delhi on Tuesday to discuss pending (post-bifurcation) bilateral issues between Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

Chief Secretaries of AP and Telangana, Sameer Sharma and Somesh Kumar respectively, will also attend the meeting in the North Block, official sources here said. For the first time, the Centre has listed a 14-point agenda for the meeting, wherein the major contentious issues under the

AP Reorganisation Act, 2014 will be taken up, the sources said.

Issues that will come up for discussion, and possible resolution, include: Division of government corporations and companies listed under Schedule IX of the APRA, 2014, bifurcation of state institutions (under Schedule X), division of Singareni Collieries Company, AP Heavy Machinery Engineering Limited, division of cash and bank balances, funds under Centrally-Sponsored Schemes and public debt pertaining to Externally-Aided Projects.

2



## Azad launches Democratic Azad Party in J&K

PNS ■ JAMMU

Launching his Democratic Azad Party here on Monday, former Congress leader Ghulam Nabi Azad said he will not make the restoration of Article 370 an election issue in Jammu and Kashmir. Issues of roads, water supply and price rise are meant for elections. "I don't stop anybody from making any thing an election issue. I have a lot of things, why should I make it an election issue," he asked. Replying to a question about Kashmir-centric parties, particularly the PDP, criticising his remarks on Article 370, Azad said, "You just check Parliament records of who has spoken or who has not (on Article 370). Get the record of Parliament on any one's name. But my take is simple that I don't use such issues for elections."

Azad was addressing a press conference here after launching his party. "I am launching Democratic Azad Party (DAP) from here today. It symbolises democracy and freedom of speech and thought. Our ideology will be based on the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi," he said.

# Govt blocks 45 videos on 10 YouTube channels

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Government has ordered the blocking of 45 videos from 10 YouTube channels that contained fake news and morphed content with the intent to spread hatred amongst religious communities, Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur said on Monday.

The blocked videos had a cumulative viewership of over 1.30 crore and claimed that the government had taken away the religious rights of certain communities, an official statement said.



"These channels had content that spread fear and misconception among communities," Thakur said.

An official statement said the blocked content included fake news and morphed videos spread with the intent to spread hatred among religious communities.

2

## Govt issues orders setting up 13 new mandals

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The State government has issued orders establishing 13 new revenue mandals in the state.

The newly established revenue mandals are Endapalli, Bimaram in Jagtial district; Nizampet in Sangareddy district; Gattupalli in Nalgonda district; Sirolu, Inugurthi in Mahbubabad District; Akbar Pet, Bhumpalli, Kukururupalli in Siddipet District; Dongli in Kamareddy district; Kaukuntla in Mahbubnagar; and Alur, Donkeswar, and Salura in Nizamabad district.

# Bathukamma festival loses Kavitha's touch

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Telangana's widely popular floral festival Bathukamma no longer has MLC Kavitha's mark.

With the number of women politicians increasing politicians like Sharmila, DK Aruna and Governor Dr Tamilisai Soundararajan are giving tough competition in who is doing it better. TRS sources believe that imitation is the best form of flattery.

"Bathukamma has been a part of Telangana culture which was widely popularised during the Telangana agitation by Kavitha. She has been doing it for 15 years now. People who were never found lifting a Bathukamma are now organising



celebrations," a source said.

In the last couple of years, some female politicians are competing on celebrating these festivals. "It is good that the festival is being popularised," sources said.

Bathukamma is being celebrated grandly by women politicians. The Governor organised a series of Bathukamma events.

The BJP has been trying to inform people that the festival was always

celebrated. "Even before Kavitha started, the women of Telangana played Bathukamma. The TRS just cannot keep taking credit for a Hindu ritual followed by people for ages. It is with a political motive that the TRS politicises festivals. People should just celebrate the festival instead of linking it to a politician," BJP sources said. Sharmila said she was happy to celebrate Bathukamma with women. Sharmila who took part in the celebrations said, "Bathukamma is a flower festival that expresses the self-esteem, spirituality and attachment of women. We undertook the Praja Prasthanam Padayatra to change the lives of the poor. We promise to listen to your problems and solve everything."

# TS didn't submit social audit report on midday meal scheme

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Telangana has not submitted a social audit report on the midday meal scheme.

TS, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Uttarakhand, Punjab, Odisha, Haryana and Chhattisgarh have not submitted the report.

A social audit of the scheme is mandatory under the National Food Security Act, 2013.

Although officials from Telangana have not responded on whether a social audit was conducted the Centre has asked the state to carry out the audit by Nov. 30.

Many states have informed the Centre that social audits have been carried out but the reports were never submitted to the Department of School Education and Literacy working under the Union Ministry of Education.

The Ministry also said that the States which have not carried out social audits in 2021-22 are Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal, Uttarakhand, Telangana, Punjab, Odisha, Haryana, and Chhattisgarh.

In the UTs of Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Puducherry, Ladakh and Lakshadweep social audits have never been done.

# Majority of millennials planning to take family holiday

PNS ■ MUMBAI

As the country recovered from COVID-19-related disruptions, a report has revealed that a majority of millennial travellers are planning to take a family holiday this calendar year.

Travel is back and 82 per cent of Indian millennial travellers, which form the largest chunk of the travelling population, are planning to take a family holiday this year, according to the report by BOTT (Business of Travel Trade) Travel Sentiment Tracker. The report is based on an online survey with over 8,500 millennial travellers across the country from August 1 to September 15. Millennials, also known as Generation Y, are generally considered to be those born during the 1980s to mid-1990s. It was also revealed that after the

pandemic, millennials are quite enthusiastic about their vacation plans as 56 per cent of them are planning to go for an international holiday while 44 per cent are looking forward to taking a domestic holiday. "The fact that more than 82 per cent of the Millennials in India are keen to undertake a holiday in the coming holiday season is extremely encouraging news for the travel and tourism industry."

"The findings are motivating and will certainly generate more confidence in an industry which got severely impacted by the pandemic," TBO Group (Travel boutique online) co-founder Ankush Nijhawan said.

However, inbound and outbound are two verticals of travel that go hand in hand and the growth of one pushes the growth of the other sector too, he said.

"The findings reflect the pent-up travel demand among the Millennials. It is heartening to see that travellers are back and are open to new destinations, and determined to make the most of the opportunities that have opened up..." Jyoti Mayal, President, Travel Agents Association of India (TAAI) and Vice Chairperson, FAITH (Federation of associations in India tourism and hospitality), said. Meanwhile, the survey revealed that 42 per cent of millennials are open to spending Rs 2-5 lakhs for their holidays while 33 per cent would spend between Rs 5-10 lakhs.

Around 31 per cent of millennials would like to book luxury properties while 27 per cent would go for budget properties followed by 26 per cent for Boutique properties, it added.



**TODAY**

**ALMANAC**

**Month & Paksham:**  
Tithi: Dwitya: Sep 27 03:08 AM  
Tritya: Sep 28 02:28 AM  
Sep 28 02:28 AM  
Sep 29 01:27 AM

**Nakshatram:**  
Hasta: Sep 26 05:55 AM  
to Sep 27 06:16 AM

**Chitra:**  
Sep 27 06:16 AM  
to Sep 28 06:14 AM

**Rahukalam:**  
3:06 PM to 4:35 PM

**Yamagandam:**  
9:08 AM to 10:37 AM

**Variyam:**  
02:16 PM to 03:51 PM

**Gulika:**  
12:07 PM to 1:36 PM

**Amritakalam:**  
11:51 PM to 01:27 AM

**Abhijit Muhurtham:**  
11:43 AM to 12:30 PM

**HYDERABAD WEATHER**

**Forecast:** Scattered thunderstorms

**Temp:** 29°

**Humidity:** 83%

**Sunrise:** 6:06 AM

**Sunset:** 6:08 PM

**Updated:** SEPTEMBER 26, 2022 5:00 PM



# Corrupt oppn leaders forming front to save their skin

More than 18 months prior to the next General Election, opposition parties are sweating it out to float an alternative to the Bharatiya Janata Party. The efforts towards Opposition unity are akin to four blind men describing an elephant. While one calls the tail as broomstick, another describes its tusks as bamboo poles, and yet another holds the pachyderm's legs as tree trunk, while the last one equates its stomach with a huge rock.

At the end of the day, who all are making efforts at uniting the Opposition? Corrupt elements have been making these efforts to save their skin. It is they who are pooling their heads on who should head the Corrupted Parties' Alliance (CPA).

Janata Dal (United) supremo Nitish Kumar is an opportunist to the core. As and when his political career graph slumps, he shifts from

outfit to another outfit. In the last polls, JDU, compared to the BJP, won fewer seats, creating an identity crisis for the JDU. Therefore, he joined Lalu Prasad Yadav, whom he had backstabbed previously. Nitish finds a ray of hope in Lalu, who is out on bail in the fodder scam.

An 81-year-old political veteran Sharad Pawar is the supremo of Nationalist Congress Party, which is fast losing its political identity. Hands of TS Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao are tainted with corruption, irregularities, and family rule. Indian National Lok Dal (INLD) leader OM Prakash Chautala, 87, came out last year spending 10 years in jail for indulging in corruption in teachers' recruitment. Left Party leaders' presence is lost in the country, and they can be called mere paper tigers. Trinamool Congress supremo Mamata Banerjee, who

**An 81-year-old political veteran Sharad Pawar is the supremo of Nationalist Congress Party, which is fast losing its political identity. Hands of TS Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao are tainted with corruption, irregularities, and family rule. Indian National Lok Dal (INLD) leader OM Prakash Chautala, 87, came out last year spending 10 years in jail for indulging in corruption in teachers' recruitment.**

had eyed PM's chair in 2019 and tried to forge an alternative to Modi, is not talking much and not venturing out of Kolkata. Perhaps she feels it is time to set her house in order as people have seen through the corruption indulged in by her and her Cabinet colleagues. There is no doubt that a strong Opposition is needed for a healthy democracy. Developments over the last eight years suggest that time-barred leaders would have no power to forge an

alternative front to the BJP. During the past eight years, Modi, by virtue of his credibility among people, stretched the BJP far and wide in various states and is marching on the road to success, rendering all opposition leaders powerless. The BJP vote bank in the states ruled by opposition leaders is increasing. Also, people have rejected these opposition leaders. KCR raised the issue of Federal Front in 2018 and toured the nation, but later



**Y SATYA KUMAR**  
BJP National Secretary

it fizzled out, following the electoral victory of Modi-led BJP. For some time, he surrendered to the Centre. But over the past one year he has been critical of BJP. KCR, who failed to pay compensation to farmers who had committed suicide and flood victims, set out to pay compensation to Punjab farmers who had committed suicide during the famers' agitation. Setting aside his Federal Front idea, he started singing a new tune claim-

ing that his party was the real front. KCR later understood that no opposition leader is willing to accept him as their leader. It is now amply clear that neither KCR nor Nitish has the power to pull strings in Delhi; so, KCR has started singing different tune. Who will vote for KCR, who is not confident of winning at least five or six MP seats out of 17 in Telangana? In 2004, TRS won five MP seats and two in 2009. TRS has since lost its edge; it is now known as a family party, corrupt party, and a party of contractors and scams. Interestingly, KCR is harping on floating a national party, thus shelving his ideas of floating a Federal Front or the Third Front. Nitish, Lalu and some others called on Congress supremo Sonia Gandhi and pledged their support to the Congress. While taking

part in a rally convened by Om Prakash Chautala in Fatehpur, Nitish Kumar declared that no front would be successful without the Congress being part of it. Chautala did not extend invitation to Cong and Aam Admi Party. The TRS, DMK, Trinamool Congress, the National Front and the BJD leaders abstained from the rally. This episode bares the internal bickering among the alliance of corrupt leaders. KCR, who locked horns with the BJP and Congress, is averse to embracing the Congress now as it would send wrong feelers among the electorate. The Congress is no mood to think of floating an alternative front. Sonia sent home Lalu and Nitish saying that Congress would not be able to think along the lines of forming the third front unless the new

party president is in saddle. Ashok Gehlot, who had aspired to hold the PCC president as well as the CM post with the blessings of party high command, was shocked when his Godfather Rahul Gandhi asked him to strictly follow one man-one post policy. As a result, his followers have revolted and are preventing Sachin Pilot from becoming the Chief Minister. The party high command is confused on hearing the conditions put forward by Ashok Gehlot to quit the CM post. If this is the style of functioning of the Congress, who would believe its leaders boasting about forming a third front in alliance with the Congress. Why would anyone embrace an alliance of the corrupt when BJP, led by PM Modi, is playing a constructive role by working with development as its agenda from a national standpoint?

## Konda Laxman Babuji a great Telangana leader, says KCR

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao said that Konda Laxman Babuji, who fought for the underprivileged and for Telangana throughout his life, is a great leader who made TS proud. KCR paid glorious tributes to Konda Laxman Babuji on his birth anniversary (September 27). The Chief Minister praised Konda Laxman Babuji's multifaceted life as an activist, a democrat, a strong supporter of oppressed communities and a disciplined leader. Babuji's life is a role model for future generations, KCR said. On the occasion of Telangana National Integration Diamond Jubilee celebrations, KCR remembered Konda Laxman Babuji's

selfless services during the Telangana armed struggle. The Chief Minister recollected that while participating in the struggle for Telangana, Laxman Babuji had served as a lawyer for many activists including Chakali Ailamma. KCR said that Laxman Babuji fought for the rights of the downtrodden and for strengthening the cooperative sector. The Chief Minister said that Konda Laxman Babuji was a Bahujan leader who united the Padmashali (weaver) community. Babuji, who resigned his ministerial post for Telangana, grabbed attention during the second phase of the Telangana struggle, he said. KCR said the state government is organising Konda Laxman Babuji's birth and death anniversary officially.



## Keshav Rao quits Press Council

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

TRS leader Rajya Sabha Member K. Keshav Rao has resigned from the Press Council of India. Kesava Rao said in his resignation letter that he resigned from the Press Council of India due to personal reasons. He said that he had already informed the Chairman of the Press Council of India that he was resigning his membership. However, it is believed that the Central Government's discrimination against the media and freedom of speech is the reason for KK's resignation. During his time as a member of the Press Council of India, KK conducted an important study on paid news and submitted a report.

CHICKEN RATES ₹/KG	
Dressed/With Skin	₹225
Without Skin	₹235
Broiler at Farm	₹200
EGG RATES ₹/100	
VIJAYAWADA	477
HYDERABAD	484
VISAKHAPATNAM	477
RETAIL PRICE	₹4.84

## Artistes to campaign for Komatireddy Rajagopal

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Artistes and activists who participated in the Telangana movement are getting ready to campaign for Komatireddy Rajagopal Reddy in Munugode. They are now chalking out campaign plans for Rajagopal. BJP National Executive Committee member Huzurabad MLA Eatala Rajender said in Munugode on Monday that Telangana activists are coming to Munugode to ensure the victory of Rajagopal. It is learnt that the artistes who did not get jobs in Telangana Samskruthika Sarathi although they participated in the Telangana movement and others who lost their jobs, are getting ready to

sing, dance and campaign for Rajagopal. BJP sources said the artistes are voluntarily calling leaders who joined the BJP recently and had participated in Telangana movement, saying that they are ready to campaign for Rajagopal. They are holding talks to decide strategies for campaigning for Rajagopal, it is learnt. Addressing the gathering after inducting leaders of other political parties from Gudimalkapur, Mallareddy Gudem and Sarvel villages into the BJP, Eatala said that people from RSU to RSS, who fought for Telangana state are now joining hands to defeat KCR now. Eatala said that even TRS leaders are hoping for the victory of Rajagopal to make KCR realise realities.

## BJP looking for ways to free Raja Singh

K VENKATESHWARLU ■ HYDERABAD

The BJP is looking for ways to free Goshamahal MLA T. Raja Singh from jail as pressure is mounting on the party from Hindu organisations. BJP cadres are also raising slogans supporting Raja Singh at every meeting organised by the BJP. It is learnt that the BJP, which suspended Raja Singh from the party and party posts, is trying to free Raja Singh from jail. Telangana BJP president Bandi Sanjay Kumar is trying everything possible to bring Raja Singh out and is holding talks with senior advocates and legal experts. Invoking the PD Act against

Raja Singh has affected Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao too as unrest is increasing by the day among Hindus, it is learnt. There is an impression gaining ground among Hindus that the TRS government invoked the PD Act against Raja Singh only to satisfy AIMIM. It is learnt that Intelligence has submitted a report to the Chief Minister that the Raja Singh issue may affect TRS in future. Intelligence warned in its report that the Raja Singh issue will help the BJP, it is learnt. Although there is a delay in taking steps to free Raja Singh from jail, the BJP has been holding talks with legal experts to approach the Supreme Court.

## Arrest proof of TRS' ruthlessness: Vijayashanthi

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Senior BJP leader Vijayashanti said that BJP MLA Raja Singh's arrest is an example of how Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao hounds those he does not like in Telangana. Vijayashanti said that BJP MLA T. Raja Singh who has been in Cherlapally jail for almost a month is facing a danger to his life and his wife has approached the High Court requesting to provide him special security. Even though Raja Singh is still in jail the fact that the government does not recognise that he is still an MLA is proof of TRS government's ruthlessness.

## Govt blocks...

Continued from page 1

Examples include false claims such as the government has taken away the religious rights of certain communities, violent threats against religious communities and a declaration of civil war in India, the ministry said. The ministry said the action was taken on the inputs from intelligence agencies. "Some of the videos blocked by the Ministry were being used to spread disinformation on issues related to Agnipath scheme, Indian Armed Forces, India's national security apparatus, Kashmir," it said. The content was observed to be false and sensitive from the perspective of national security and India's friendly relations with foreign nations, it added.

## KCR in no...

Continued from page 1

The BJP is a rival of the TRS and the Congress in the state and at the national level too. In Telangana, the TRS has no need of Congress help to retain power in the Assembly elections. The Congress will have to compromise with the TRS to take on the BJP in the Assembly elections. For the Congress leadership preventing the BJP from coming to power at the Centre is more important than coming to power in Telangana. For the TRS retaining power in Telangana is more important than preventing the BJP from coming to power at the Centre. If the TRS and the Congress join hands they can minimise the seats the BJP will win in the Assembly elections as well as in the LS polls. Coming to power in

## Jagga Reddy is KTR's agent, says Sharmila

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

YSRTP president YS Sharmila lashed out at TPCC Working President Sangareddy MLA T. Jagga Reddy on Monday saying that "Jagga Reddy is an agent of TRS Working President IT Minister KT Ramarao". Sharmila said that everyone in Gandhi Bhavan knows that Jagga Reddy is KTR's agent. Addressing a gathering in Sangareddy district during her Praja Prasthanam, Sharmila said that Jagga has been speaking nonsense by saying that YS Rajashekar Reddy had invited him to join the Congress. "Did YSR party change...when did it change party? The party led by YSR

merged with Congress. Jagga is talking without that knowledge. YSR did not change parties," she said. Sharmila said that YSR was not like Jagga Reddy who changes political parties and engages in political prostitution. She said that Jagga will be in the TRS in the morning, in the BJP by afternoon and in the Congress by evening. She said that YSR had no habit of changing parties like Jagga. "How many times did Jagga lose his political virginity by changing parties?" she asked. Did you ask whether irrigation water was supplied to even a single acre on any day? Did you fight for the people of Sangareddy even once? she asked.

## 'Tickets for 119 constituencies will be given only after I sign'

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

TPCC president Revanth Reddy said that Congress tickets for all the 119 constituencies in the state will be given only if he signs. He said that AICC chief Sonia Gandhi has given a great opportunity to the people of Kodangal. After inducting 60 members into the party from other parties from Kodangal constituency on Monday, Revanth accused KCR and Modi of stopping the Krishna-Vikarabad train from reaching Kodangal. He reminded that 21 sub-stations and 5,000 transformers were established in the constituency during his tenure. He said that he had bought a lot of respect to Kodangal

when he was an MLA. He asked them to think what would have happened if he had believed the words of Drama Rao and voted for the TRS. **'CHALO PRAGATHI BHAVAN' FOILED**  
PNS ■ HYDERABAD  
Police arrested AICC member Bakka Judson and took him to the Musheerabad police station on Monday to prevent him from organising the 'Chalo Pragathi Bhavan' programme demanding that Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao return assigned lands to Dalits in Nagarkurnool constituency.

## Heavy rains...

Continued from page 1

Meanwhile, heavy rains lashed parts of Hyderabad on Monday evening. The commuters who were returning from their work had to face a lot of problems due to water-logging at many places. The traffic in the city came to a standstill during the rains. The Hyderabad traffic police had to issue a traffic alert asking all the commuters to postpone their travel for 2 hours till 9 pm or else people might get stuck in severe traffic jams. The highest rainfall recorded in the state was 143.8 mm at Yadadri-Bhuvanagiri followed by 94.5 mm in Nampally area in Hyderabad.

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



HARVESTED HEART TRANSPORTED FROM NAGOLE TO JUBILEE HILLS TO SAVE LIFE

# Metro Rail creates green channel

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

L&T Hyderabad Metro Rail re-demonstrates its ability to rise to the occasion to help the citizens of Hyderabad in the quickest possible time.

Like the last time in February 2021, L&TMRHL received an SOS call from the Apollo Hospital, Jubilee Hills, for transport of a harvested heart to save a life. It activated a green channel in the wee hours of the morning on September 26 and facilitated a special train to transport the beating heart from Nagole to Jubilee Hills Check-Post metro station.

This activity coincided with the handling of special metro train services beyond the business hours of September 25, for the return



A panel of doctors, along with medicos, carry the harvested heart on the Metro Rail

journey of about 20,000 spectators who travelled to watch the T-20 Cricket Match at the Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium, Uppal, from the stadium and the adjoining two metro stations. A panel of doctors and

other medicos headed by Dr Gokhale from the Apollo Hospitals, Jubilee Hills, brought the harvested heart from the Kamineni Hospital at the Nagole Metro Station at around 1am.

The live heart was then

**It activated a green channel in the wee hours of the morning on September 26 and facilitated a special train to transport the beating heart from Nagole to Jubilee Hills Check-Post metro station**

immediately rushed inside the waiting metro train. In a span of about 25 minutes, the special train reached the Jubilee Hills Check-Post where the ambulance of Apollo Jubilee Hills was waiting to receive the live organ

and the medical team.

The entire activity was seamlessly handled by the metro and security officials on Line 3.KVB Reddy, MD & CEO, L&TMRHL, said, "The Hyderabad Metro Rail is committed to serving its passengers and is always ready to go the extra mile if help is needed. It is ingrained in our values and beliefs to rise to the occasion for those who need us the most.

This time again, we have activated a green channel in the quickest possible time to transport a harvested heart to save a precious life.

My sincere gratitude goes out to every doctor and member of the HMR staff who ensured this safe and seamless transport of the live organ."

# T-Hub supported startup launches smart calculator

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

A startup supported by T-Hub launched the world's first smart calculator on Monday at the T-Hub campus in Hyderabad. Tohands Private Limited is a startup initiative of four enthusiastic entrepreneurs which provides smart transaction tallying solutions for small and medium businesses.

The Tohands smart calculator was formally launched by Jayesh Ranjan, Telangana IT Principal Secretary, M Srinivas Rao, CEO, T-Hub and Shanta Thoutam, CIO, Telangana State Innovation Cell.

The calculator helps shopkeepers to keep a track of their in-store transactions, including income and expenses during a specific period through their mobile app. The device spares the shopkeepers the hassle of



Principal Secretary Jayesh Ranjan, CIO TSIC, Shanta Thoutam and M Srinivas Rao, CEO T-Hub, along with the founders of Tohands smart calculator at its launch on T-Hub campus on Monday

jotting down all the income and expenses made during the day and presents an updated statement at the click of a button. Tohands is supported by Startup India seed fund and T-Hub for developing the smart calculator and has raised Rs 50 lakh through them till date. Speaking on the occasion, Jayesh Ranjan said "We

know that the pace of digitisation is enormous, but we don't associate MSME owners and small traders as being very conversant with the digital world. In fact, these could be the last people to get into the digital bandwagon. I am happy that T-Hub startups are solving real-world problems in a focussed manner.

# Kacheguda station platform ticket hiked to Rs 20 for Dasara

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The South Central Railway has announced that it has increased the platform ticket price of Kacheguda railway station from Rs 10 to Rs 20 during the Dasara festival season to regulate the flow of the public. This will be applicable till October 9.

"In view of the ensuing Dasara festival season, it is anticipated that there will be a huge crowd of rail travellers as well as accompanying non-travellers at Kacheguda railway station."

"In order to regulate the



flow of public to enter on to the platforms and to avoid inconvenience to the bonafide passengers, the plat-

form ticket price at Kacheguda railway station has been enhanced," added the note.

# CCMB opens up for public after 2 years

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

CSIR Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB), Hyderabad, on Monday celebrated its open day on the occasion of CSIR's 80th foundation day.

Scientists at the institute put up their work in the form of model exhibits and posters. Hands-on activities, games and comics helped the visitors understand the scientific research.

More than 7,000 people, most of them school students, visited the institute on Monday.

VARIOUS HIGH-ENERGY FOODS SHOULD BE AVOIDED

# Too much stress on heart is not good: Docs

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Everyone is worried about why youngsters and middle-aged persons going to gyms are getting heart attacks now-a-days. Stressing the heart too much with target heart rates is not at all a good idea, say doctors.

Decent physical activity or exercise implies moderate exercise for about 150 minutes in a week. While these activities are necessary for maintaining good physical health, one must not stress their heart and lungs so much that they become breathless. The person must be able to speak sentences without becoming breathless. The latest



guidelines for a heart healthy diet from the American Heart Association says that the use of highly processed foods, including high protein drinks and protein bars should be limited. Dr Sivaranjani Santosh, Chief Pediatrician, Magnus

Centre and Rainbow Hospitals, said, "Carbohydrates should not be totally eliminated but instead people should find healthy sources of carbohydrates from whole grains and beans. People should avoid unhealthy sources that are rich in salt and sugar and instead focus on fruits and vegetables. People should continue eating the foods they regularly eat, the only change to be made is to keep the high-processed foods within limits. The preferred proteins should be legumes, nuts, fish, low-fat milk, unprocessed meat and poultry.

The doctor also said that the recent fad for protein bars and

high-protein drinks may also be the problem of young people getting heart strokes. Also, people should make sure that they don't get carried away by advertisements and market-driven influencers about various high-energy foods that are coming into the market. It is unfortunate to see that many youngsters are getting influenced through social media in the wrong way, Dr Sivaranjani added. Another doctor from the city pointed out that while exercise lowers the risk of cardiovascular diseases, extreme stress upon the heart can increase the risk of heart attacks.

# 'Fake video chanting Jai Sri Ram not from Hyd cricket stadium'

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Rachakonda Commissionerate has kept an eye on the likely outbreak of communal violence in Hyderabad. As the police expected, a video claiming to be from Uppal cricket stadium, is going viral on the social media where the song 'Bharat Ka Bacha Jai Sri Ram Bolega' can be heard and the crowd chanting the lyrics are seen.

Not one, but hundreds are sharing the video on the social media thinking that it is from the Uppal cricket stadium. However, Rachakonda police has clarified that it didn't happen at the India VS Australia match held at Uppal stadium. For every handle who is

sharing the video, the Rachakonda police is responding that, "This is incorrect. It didn't happen in Uppal stadium. Such false propaganda brings down the image of Hyderabad. Suitable action will be taken against the persons spreading such false propaganda and misleading the people." The video being shared seems to be from the Nagpur cricket stadium.

Meanwhile, a fake Whatsapp group in the name of Rachakonda CP Mahesh Bhagwat is seeking money from innocent public.

Though an FIR has been filed, CP Mahesh Bhagwat said, "Someone with my photo created a fake Whatsapp identity. Law will take its own course.

# WATER-LOGGED ROADS



Heavy rains lashed parts of Hyderabad on Monday evening. The commuters who were returning from their work had to face a lot of problems due to water-logging at many places

# Postpone CWSN training: Teachers

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The teachers of the government schools pleaded that they be given Dasara holidays as per schedule. Earlier, all the school teachers were permitted holidays along with students but later a few groups were forced to attend training of children with special needs (CWSN) on zoom application. The teachers said, "It is not fair. We must spend eight hours for five days amid the festival season. The women teachers have to stay away from the popular Bathukamma festival which is against the culture of Telangana. They all like to sing and dance to traditional music."

Telangana Progressive



Teachers Federation has written to officials with their demands that this virtual training must be stopped immediately and continue it when schools reopen. The teachers

also pointed out that due to training, there is a large change in the time table schedule and they are finding it difficult to spare timing during the festival season.

# GMR Hyd International Airport wins 2 CII national awards

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

GMR-led Hyderabad International Airport Limited (GHIAL) has won National Energy Leader and Excellent Energy-Efficient Unit awards at the 23rd National Award Ceremony for Excellence in Energy Management organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Godrej Green Business Centre (GBC) during the 21st edition of Energy Efficiency Summit. Over the last three years, GHIAL operations have led to a substantial energy saving of around 5.41 MU (4,426 tonnes of carbon emissions reduction) owing to its sustainable



GMR-led Hyderabad International Airport members receive the National Energy Leader and Excellent Energy Efficient Unit awards

initiatives towards energy efficiency measures. This has also led to a significant decrease in the GHG (Green House Gas) emissions at the city airport. It is worth noting that Hyderabad International Airport is also a carbon-neutral airport having Level-3 plus neutrality accreditation from Airports Council

International (ACI) under its Airport Carbon Accreditation (ACA) programme. Pradeep Panicker, CEO, GHIAL, said, "This award reaffirms our unwavering commitment towards sustainable initiatives and our efforts to improvise and render the best use of the natural energy resources.

# Sec. 144 at all SSC, Inter exam centres

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Hyderabad city police issued a notification for the implementation of Section 144 at all SSC and Intermediate open school public examination centres which are scheduled to be held from September 26 till October 4. The notification issued by Commissioner of Police, stated, "With a view to maintain public order and prevent obstruction of any lawfully employed person or causing disturbance of public tranquility in the areas covered by certain police stations in the twin cities, in exercise of powers vested in me under Section 144, I do hereby prohibit any assembly of four or more persons around 500 yards all examination centres."

# ICMR presents Tulpule Awards

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

In an award ceremony that was held on Monday on the occasion of the foundation day of ICMR National Institute of Nutrition (NIN), Hyderabad, Director Dr Hemalatha presented the second Tulpule awards in the senior and junior categories to Dr N Arlappa, Scientist, Division of Public Health Nutrition and Dr Mahesh Kumar, Scientist, Division of Clinical Epidemiology, for their contribution to nutritional and health sciences.

The awards were instituted by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) with the donation from Tulpule family in honour of Dr PG Tulpule, former director of



ICMR Director Dr Hemalatha presents the second Tulpule awards in the senior and junior categories to Dr N Arlappa, Scientist, Division of Public Health Nutrition and Dr Mahesh Kumar, Scientist, Division of Clinical Epidemiology

NIN (1980-83) and his late wife Malati Tulpule to encourage mid and senior-level scientists as well as young entrepreneurs, scholars and fellows. The award carried a silver plaque each and a citation,

along with a cash prize. Dr Arlappa, the recipient of senior category award, delivered the PG Tulpule oration on 'The Burden of Hidden Hunger in India - Perspectives from National Surveys.'

# Gandhi statue to be unveiled near Gandhi Hospital

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The statue of Mahatma Gandhi which is being installed in front of Gandhi Hospital will be unveiled on October 2, said Animal Husbandry Minister Talasani Srinivas Yadav on Monday.

The minister, along with Special Chief Secretary Arvind Kumar, inspected the installation works of the statue and also the work being done at the stepwell in Bansilalpet. He ordered the officials to speed up the works and also gave many suggestions to them. He said that the government spent Rs 2 crore for the construction of the Gandhi statue.

# IIInvenTiv, mega fair of IITs in Oct

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

For the first time, all the 23 IITs in the country will come together for a mega Research and Development Fair to be held on October 14 and 15 at the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi.

The inaugural session will be attended by Union Minister for Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Dharmendra Pradhan. A Steering Committee headed by Dr Pawan Goenka, Chairman, BoG, IIT Madras, and Dr BVR Mohan Reddy, Chairman, BoG, IIT Hyderabad

and IIT Roorkee, has been assigned to conduct the event. It is named IIInvenTiv, aiming at creating holistic awareness around the research and innovation work being done by the IITs and seeking collaborative avenues among state universities and institutes, industry, and the IITs for better development and reach of the innovations at the grass-roots level.

The R&D Fair is being organised in commemoration of the 75th year of India's Independence in line with the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav initiative.

# Defense tactical training for police personnel begins

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Cyberabad Commissioner of Police Stephen Raveendra, along with Joint CP Avinash Mohanty, on Monday started defensive tactical training for 30 policemen at CTC parade grounds under the Cyberabad Commissionerate.

The training was started in the wake of an event where one woman, who was walking alone in Hyderabad's BHEL area on July 26, was the victim of chain-snatching by three thieves. Police personnel from Cyberabad, constables Yadaiah and Raju followed the thieves. The two personnel got hold of

the thieves at Ashok Nagar.

Immediately one of the thieves took out a knife and attacked Yadaiah. In this attack, Yadaiah resisted the assailant and fought heroically. Constable Yadaiah was stabbed 7 times brutally by the assailants.

The three thieves were finally arrested.

Stephen Raveendra said that police, who are providing security to the people, are losing their lives in the line of duty. The thugs are attacking police personnel to carry out their activities, which is leaving the family members of the personnel in grief. Keeping



Cyberabad Commissioner of Police Stephen Raveendra addressing the trainees at the police commissionerate

such incidents in mind, Cyberabad Police has organ-

ised the Defense Tactical Training.

The faith of people in the police will continue only when

they protect themselves. The Commissioner recalled that this tactical training course was designed when he worked as the Joint CP of Cyberabad five years ago.

At that time, the tactical training was not limited to the Cyberabad Police Commissionerate but also implemented across the state.

Through this training, frisking and defense techniques will be taught to the police personnel in a regular and scientific manner.

Some incidents are taken as case studies which will give a real-life understanding to the trainees.



# TS govt committed to promoting IT sector in tier-II cities: KTR

PNS ■ ADILABAD

Minister for Municipal Administration K T Rama Rao on Monday made it clear that the State government is committed to expanding the presence of the Information Technology (IT) sector in tier-II cities in the State.

The Minister was interacting with NTT Data Solutions and BDNT Labs here. He expressed his happiness over the promoters choosing the backward district to set up software companies. The district had been left high and dry in erstwhile Andhra Pradesh. The Adilabad district witnessed rapid strides towards progress after TRS under the leadership of Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao came to power. The Chief Minister's leadership has given a fresh impetus to the development of the district, he said.



Minister for Municipal Administration K T Rama Rao speaking at BNDT Labs in Adilabad on Monday

Rama Rao stressed the need to provide opportunities for the youth in districts to enable them compete without their counterparts from Bengaluru and Hyderabad. He advised entrepreneurs to set up companies in tier-II cities, such as Warangal, Kharimnagar,

Khammam, Nalgonda and Nizamabad. All these places were provided with infrastructure for setting up software companies.

Most of the employees in the NTT and BDNT hailed from Adilabad and surrounding areas. He promised to

**The Minister was interacting with NTT Data Solutions and BDNT Labs here. He expressed his happiness over the promoters choosing the backward district to set up software companies.**

ensure installation of a dedicated power transformer. He also promised a grant of Rs 1.5 crore for creating facilities.

The Minister assured Adilabad MA Jogu Ramanna that the government would make all efforts for revival of the sick unit of Cement Corporation of India in

Adilabad. He recalled that an action committee, under the leadership of Jogu Ramanna, was constituted to expert pressure on the Centre to revive the cement unit.

He announced that an Information Technology park would be set up on 5 acres in Adilabad. He asked Minister for Tourism V Srinivas Goud to promote tourist spots in Adilabad district. He directed the District Collector Sikta Patnaik to ensure that the buildings in which the two companies are functioning are renovated.

Ministers Indrakaran Reddy and P Sabita Indra Reddy, MLC Dande Vittal and Shambipur Raja, Zilla Parishad Chairperson Janardhan Rathod, MLAs Rathod Babu Rao, Ataram Saku and Durgam Chinniah and others were present.

## Centres 'copying' Telangana welfare schemes: Harish

PNS ■ SIDDIPET

Minister for Finance T Harish Rao on Monday accused the BJP-led government at the Centre of 'copying' the scheme being implemented in Telangana. The Centre, he said, has been projecting the scheme being implemented in the State as the 'Centre's own scheme.'

A good number of BJP and Congress leaders and activists joined the TRS in the presence of the Minister here. The Minister welcomed them into the TRS party.

Speaking on the occasion, Harish Rao said Mission Bhagiratha and Mission Kakatiya had become a role model for the entire nation. The unprecedented development in Siddipet district attracted the attention of everyone. The successive governments had in the past failed to make differences to the lives of the poor. The successive governments had in the past even



Minister for Finance T Harish Rao welcoming the Congress and BJP leaders and activists into TRS fold at a function in Siddipet on Monday

failed to provide potable water to the people. The TRS government under the leadership of Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao through Mission Bhagiratha was providing safe drinking water to all households in the State. Under Mission Kakatiya, he recalled that a total of 40,000 tanks were restored in the State. The Centre 'copied' the scheme by changing its name. The State government has introduced

veterinary mobile ambulances. The Centre had 'copied' this scheme, too. Harish Rao skewered the Centre for forcing the State government to fix meters to agricultural pumpsets. The Centre offered to provide Rs 35,000 crore aid to the State if the latter agreed to fix meters to the pumpsets. The BJP government at the Centre was conspiring to stall welfare schemes in the State, he pointed out.

## 'Solve issues of VRAs immediately'

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) state senior leader Gudur Narayana Reddy on Monday demanded Chief Minister K Chandrashekhara Rao to solve the issues of Village Revenue Assistants (VRAs) immediately.

In a media statement, he said that the VRAs are on strike since 64 days demanding resolution of their issues. He said that during this period, about 34 VRAs lost their lives due to suicides or due to heart break.

He said that they have taken their own lives and died due to mental stress with fear about their future. They were not paid honorarium for the past two months. Most of the VRAs were financially ruined and their families were in utter



distress. He said that the Chief Minister announced that the VRAs would be given pay scales on par with other government staff, promotions to eligible VRAs and job to their heirs who have crossed the age of 55 and retirement benefits, on the floor of the Assembly on September 9, 2020. The VRAs felt happy about the promise as

they would be treated on par with the government staff and their service would be protected should the promises be implemented.

Two years have gone by since then but so far no steps have been taken to issue required orders. The VRAs have been kept in suspense and their fate was hanging in balance,' Gudur said.

He said that the VRAs have tried to lay siege to the Assembly during the monsoon session. Several VRAs were injured during the lathi-charge by the police. Industries minister KT Rama Rao has held discussions with them in Assembly and promised to solve their issues and invited them for further discussions and urged them to end the strike.

## Chakali Ilamma is symbol of women empowerment

PNS ■ SIDDIPET

Chakali Ilamma is the symbol of self-respect and women empowerment, said Minister for Finance T Harish Rao on Monday. The revolutionary leader inspired the struggle for Telangana statehood, he observed.

The Minister was paying floral tributes at the statue of Chakali Ilamma on the occasion of her birth anniversary.

Speaking on the occasion, Harish Rao said that the Chief Minister, K Chandrashekar Rao, has taken a decision to ensure that the birth anniversary of Chakali Ilamma is officially organised.

## Call to restore freight services at Hyd airport

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Prior to the pandemic, Hyderabad Airport enjoyed good freight connectivity to major global hubs with operations by Lufthansa Cargo (to Frankfurt) and Cathay Pacific Cargo (Hong Kong).

These freight services allowed local industries to seamlessly integrate with the global supply chains at competitive rates and rapid connections.

The Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI) requested the airways to restore these services.

The city has a dominant position in the country's pharma sector, ranking first in manufacturing of bulk

drugs and third in formulations. It accounts for 40 per cent of the total Indian bulk drug production and 50 per cent of the bulk drug exports and is considered as the Bulk Drug Capital of India. Hyderabad region also accounts for over 30 per cent of all the vaccines produced globally.

However, we are given to understand that with the changes to rules enforced via DGCA AIC41/2020 dated December 31, 2020, the operations of freights were removed from the ambit of Open Skies policy in vogue and cargo operations were instead brought under Bilateral Air Services Agreements (BASAs) which were designed and intended to manage the operations of

passenger services on international routes.

Under these new rules, the Cathay Pacific flight previously operating Hong Kong to Delhi and Hyderabad to Hong Kong or the Lufthansa flight operating Frankfurt-Mumbai-Hyderabad-Frankfurt on a single journey was no longer permitted.

As highlighted previously, these were crucial trade links for local industries in Telangana, and these two carriers combined had carried a total of around 15,000 MT of cargo in FY 2019-20, accounting for around 17 per cent of the total international air cargo volumes handled at Hyderabad Airport during the period, says Anil Agarwal, President, FTCCI. He sought restoration of the services.

## 11-year-old girl suffering from Black Fungus needs funds

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

A 11-year-old girl Daania Sairish, who is suffering from Black Fungus is in need of financial assistance. The girl is currently undergoing treatment at Yashoda Hospital in Secunderabad.

The family has already spent Rs 10 lakh for her treatment and is in need of more funds of Rs 10 lakh. The doctors of the girl have advised the parents that the girl has to stay in the hospital until complete recovery from the disease.

The Googlepay and Phonepe number of the guardian is 9885401796.

# Niranjan assures all help to displaced persons

PNS ■ WANAPARTHY

Agriculture Minister S Niranjan Reddy on Monday took part in a series of development programmes held in the district.

The minister first inaugurated the Panchayat Office building in Gopalpet, laid the foundation stone for the community hall in Revalli, inaugurated the houses built in Veeranjaneva reservoir R and R colony at Yedula as part of the Palamuru-Rangareddy LI scheme and visited the R and R center at Konkalapalli and



Minister for Agriculture S Niranjan Reddy inaugurating new Panchayat office building at Gopalpet in Wanaparthi district on Monday

distributed house sites among the displaced persons.

Addressing gatherings, Niranjan Reddy said that the

government would come to the rescue of all displaced persons as per the law. The sacrifices made by the oustees are invaluable and compensation would be paid to them as per the rules, he said, assuring them that the government would always help them.

He lauded displaced persons for giving away their valuable lands for the Palamuru-Rangareddy LI scheme, which aims to irrigate at least one lakh acres. The compensation would be paid to them as per the relevant Act of 2013. All eligible persons

will be given house sites. The Relief and Rehabilitation colony will have a school, veterinary hospital, health sub-centre, drainage facilities, and drinking water amenities among other things.

He assured them of assistance on behalf of the government.

He asked the DPs in Konkalapalli village to commence construction of houses at the R and R Center after Dasara. He appealed to the fishermen to register their names with fishermen's cooperative societies.

## Collector warns 'negligent' doctors of serious action

PNS ■ NAGARKURNOOL

District Collector P Uday Kumar pulled up medical officers in the District Head Quarters Government Hospital, attached to the Government Medical College, for the death of six women after delivering babies for want of blood. He held a review meeting with medical and health authorities at the Collectorate here on Monday.

He asked doctors to work with dedication to prevent the death of mothers. He warned them of severe action

if found negligent in discharging duties. He asked the district hospital medical officers to admit expectant mothers having high hypertension 15 days prior to the delivery and provide treatment to prevent death of mothers in the post-delivery phase. He was angry at doctors. He said that such incidents should be regarded as failure at all levels.

He was pained at the fact that a 22-year-old woman was among the dead.

It was not proper on the part of medical officers not to identify the problem in time.

## Gangster Nayeemuddin's aide Sheshana arrested

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Six years after the death of gangster Nayeemuddin, the Hyderabad Police on Monday apprehended Sheshana alias Ramachandrudu. He is said to be the second in command of the gang and was also a close associate of Nayeemuddin. The Naxalite-turned-gangster died in August 2016 in a battle with police at Shadnagar. Sheshana is currently wanted in many cases across the state. When the police apprehended him, he was allegedly carrying a pistol.

## RFCL job scam victim attempts suicide

PNS ■ KARIMAGAR

One more victim of Ramagundam Fertilizer and Chemicals Limited (RFCL), named Aparaadhi Srinivas, attempted to commit suicide at Peddapalli on Monday. His condition is stated to be critical. A resident of Thilaknagar area in Peddapalli, Srinivas, according to police, consumed pesticide on the banks of the River Godavari. His family members rushed to the sport and shifted him to Godavarikhani hospital. As his condition turned critical, he was shifted to Hyderabad.

He left a purported suicide note in which he alleged that



he had paid Rs 8.20 lakh to six persons as they promised to secure him a job in RFCL. The names mentioned in the purported suicide notes are

## Knee replacement surgery now at Govt Hospital

PNS ■ MAHABUBNAGAR

High-end knee replacement surgery will now be performed at the Government General Hospital (GGH) in Mahabubnagar. People were forced to travel all the way from the district to Hyderabad for surgery in the past. Minister for Health T Harish Rao promised to ensure that knee replacement surgeries are performed at the Government Hospitals in districts, too. Minister for Prohibition and Excise V Srinivas Goud formally inaugurated the facility here.

Thumu Narsaiah, Thumu Thirupathi, Thota Santosh, Ch Upender, Pasupuleti Rama Swamy and Kashaveni Rajai. But, he did not get the job. They promised a job with a monthly salary of Rs 40,000. The alleged brokers, he said, had not even returned the money though they could not get him a permanent job.

He said he had paid the money to the alleged brokers by selling gold and borrowing from moneylenders. The moneylenders had started exerting pressure on his to repay the loans. That was why, he said, he had decided to end his life as he was unable to support his family.

# Dasoju praises Modi for taking bold decisions

PNS ■ KARIMAGAR

BJP leader Dasoju Sravan Kumar has described Prime Minister Narendra Modi as a great leader. The world leaders admired him for providing great leadership. He went on to become the top among the heads of world nations.

He was participating as the chief guest in the Seva Paksha of the BJP held at the TNGOs' hall here on Monday.

He inaugurated a photo exhibition on the achievements of Narendra Modi and also a meeting of the intelligentsia on the occasion.

The credit for taking historic decisions and ushering in reforms in various sectors, unheard of in the past 70 years, goes to the BJP govern-



BJP leader Dasoju Sravan Kumar inaugurating party's 'Seva Paksha' in Karimnagar on Monday

ment led by Modi, he claimed.

Modi put the nation on the high road to development with his bold decisions, which earned India special recogni-

tion among the comity of nations, like Swachh Bharat, demonetisation, annulment of Article 370, triple talaq, GST, Make-in-India, one nation-

one ration card, Atma Nirbhar Bharat, digital transactions, Building of Ram temple in Ayodhya and so on, he said. Modi government is leav-

ing no stone unturned for the security of the nation, the welfare and development of the people. It dealt with extremism and terrorism with an iron hand, giving a strong retort to enemy nations and not being cowed down by the threats hurled at India, he said, adding that Modi is unparalleled in this regard. For two years, the government of India provided free rations for two years during the pandemic situation, he said, giving credit to Modi government for this.

India emerged as a world guru with the historic decisions of Modi, he said, adding that the thinking of Modi threw a cordon of protection around the country. The country is emerging as a strong economic power under the direction of

Modi, he said. Modi is a great leader who always thinks in terms of the safety of the people and their development, he said. However, Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao is day-dreaming of taking a plunge into national politics. He had led the Telangana state into debts. He charged KCR with staging political histrionics as he was not able to resist the BJP efficiently as it emerged as a strong alternative to the TRS in Telangana. KCR is afraid of BJP victory in various past elections, he said.

BJP state secretary Papa Rao, executive body member Komati Reddy, Ramgopal Reddy, Ramakanti, BJP general secretary Tallapalli Srinivas Goud and others were present.

## NEWS FROM ANDHRA PRADESH



### POLAVARAM PROJECT WORKS

## Six components completed

SAMBASIVA RAO M  
■ AMARAVATI

Six out of the 17 major and sub-components of the Polavaram project, the lifeline of the State, have been completed.

The Polavaram project works have assumed significance following a discussion on the subject in the recently-concluded Assembly session. To shed light on the progress of the project works, The Pioneer visited the project site.

The construction of spillway concrete works of 18.935 lakh cubic metres (L. Cum) is one of the major components of the project. Out of the total targeted work in this component, 18.932 lakh cubic metres of concrete works were completed as of date, which is more than 99.98 per cent. The remaining part is only wearing a concrete coat to the spillway, which is in progress. When Megha Engineering and Infrastructure (MEIL) took up the project, the spillway was constructed up to 28 metres in height by the previous company during the TDP regime.

The MEIL completed up to 54.5 metres height from mean sea level, in the YSRCP government. Erection of 48 radial gates and 10 River Sluice Gates works were completed. The radial gates were fixed along with the hydraulic cylinders to operate the gates. It takes about one-and-a-half hours to lift each radial gate, which is 20 metres in height and 10 metres in width. All the gates can be operated simultaneously, making it convenient to lift all the radial gates in one-and-a-half hours. While radial gates are fixed to maintain a minimum level of 25 metres of depth water storage in the reservoir, the river sluice gates are fixed to extract water even below 17 metres. The ten sluice gates would serve the needs of the farmers and the drinking water of the locals, who have the legitimate right to enjoy till the last drop of the water in the Godavari river. The water released from these sluice gates would reach Sir Arthur Cotton Barrage, also known as Dowlaismaram barrage, from where all the canals have been providing water to the surrounding farmers.

## LP defends renaming NTR Health University

PNS ■ AMARAVATI

Defending the change of the name of the Health University, late former CM NT Rama Rao's second wife and YSRCP State general secretary Lakshmi Parvati has maintained that she is more satisfied as Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has named a district after NTR. Addressing a press conference here on Monday, Lakshmi Parvati said, "I am happy as a district was named after NTR. When compared to

a university, the district is bigger. Jagan Mohan Reddy did not have any grudge against NTR. But, those who killed NTR were making hue and cry now." She criticised the TDP president N Chandrababu Naidu saying he was responsible for the death of NTR. She said NTR's children were supporting Chandrababu Naidu and others who had ignored NTR in the last days of his life. Lakshmi Parvati suggested to NTR family members and children not to believe Chandrababu Naidu.



INDIA CORNER

Apple now manufacturing iPhone 14 in India

Apple's newest phone iPhone 14 will be made in India as the global tech titan bets big on the manufacturing prowess of the world's second-biggest smartphone market after China. Cupertino, California-headquartered Apple started manufacturing iPhones in India in 2017 with iPhone SE. Today, Apple manufactures some of its most advanced iPhones in the country including iPhone SE, iPhone 12, iPhone 13 and, now, iPhone 14. Earlier this month, Apple Inc unveiled its latest iPhone series -- the iPhone 14 models - with an improved camera, powerful sensors and satellite messaging feature to send SOS texts in emergencies. The new lineup has four models: iPhone 14, Plus, Pro and ProMax. The Made-in-India iPhone 14 will begin to reach local customers soon. The phones will be both for the Indian market and exports.

JNU likely to launch portal for UG admission through CUET on Sept 27

Jawaharlal Nehru University is planning to launch the admission portal for the undergraduate admission 2020 through Common University Entrance Test (CUET) on September 27, a varsity official said on Monday. This year the university is taking admission to its various programmes based on scores on the CUET. "JNU is planning to launch the JNU portal for UG admissions by tomorrow, 27th September 2022," the official told PTI. The announcement comes days after the result of the debut edition of the CUET for undergraduate admissions was declared by the National Testing Agency (NTA). Soon after the result, the JNU deputy registrar - Admission, Jagdish Singh, issued a notice stating the admission branch is processing data and details of candidates provided by the NTA and portal will open shortly on its website.

7 killed as vehicle falls into gorge in Himachal's Kullu

Seven tourists were killed and 10 sustained injuries when a tempo traveller fell into a gorge in Himachal Pradesh's Kullu district, officials said on Monday. President Droupadi Murmu, Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur and Union minister Anurag Thakur, who hails from the state, expressed grief over the accident that took place at 8:30 pm on Sunday near Ghiyaghi in Banjar subdivision. Five tourists died on the spot while two others succumbed to injuries at the hospital, the officials said. The deceased were identified as Rishab Raj, Anshika Jain, Aditya and Ananmaya from Uttar Pradesh, and Saurabh, Priyanka Gupta and Kiran from Delhi, Kullu Superintendent of Police Gurdev Sharma said. Officials had earlier said three of the dead were from IIT Varanasi. However, it was clarified later that they were among the injured.

# India should be among global leaders in fourth industrial revolution: Prez

PNS ■ DHARWAD

The world is now moving towards the fourth industrial revolution, and India has to make relentless efforts to secure a leading position on the world stage in this connection, President Droupadi Murmu said on Monday. She was speaking at the inauguration of the new campus of the Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT)-Dharwad here. "The country and the world is changing rapidly. Through the Digital India Mission, our country is experiencing digital revolution, but to reap benefits of this revolution, we will have to further encourage our research and innovation," Murmu said. Highlighting that today's world belongs to 'metaverse', she said, on the strength of artificial intelligence (AI) and augmented reality, useful changes can be made. "The world is now moving towards the fourth industrial

revolution which has the potential to raise income levels and improve the quality of life for the world community. Therefore, we have to make relentless efforts to secure India's leading position on the world stage by contributing in this revolution," she added. The fourth industrial revolution is a term coined over the last few years and characterised by the convergence of emerging technology domains, including nanotechnology, biotechnology, and advanced digital technologies like 3D printing, artificial intelligence and the Internet of Things (IoT). Karnataka Governor Thaaawarchand Gehlot, Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, Union Minister Pralhad Joshi and IIIT-Dharwad Board of Governors Chairperson Sudha Murty were among those present. With IIIT and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), along with availability of technical human resources in the region, and the IT city Bengaluru too in the state, Murmu suggested for developing a knowledge network. "If companies, institutes together work on research and experiments, the success is assured," she added.

Possibility of opposition parties fighting 2024 polls together: Nitish

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

There is a strong possibility of opposition parties coming together to fight the 2024 Lok Sabha polls, Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar said on Monday, stressing that he has had good talks with them and many will join hands gradually. Speaking to reporters, the Janata Dal (United) leader also made light of the BJP's repeated swipe at the Opposition over its unity talks, saying the ruling party has many problems of its own. "All they can do is speak day and night," he said. "Many parties will join hands gradually and there is a strong possibility that they can fight the 2024 polls together," he said, adding that he has had good talks with leaders of different parties. Asked if the Trinamool Congress and the Aam Aadmi Party, both having strong reservations against the Congress, will also be a part of such a formation, he said once an agreement is reached about an alliance, only then something concrete can be said. Kumar had met AAP leader and Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal during his last visit to the national capital. TMC supremo and West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee had also said recently that she together with Kumar, RJD's Tejashwi Yadav and SP supremo Akhilesh Yadav will defeat the BJP.

Actor Sreenath held in verbal abuse case

PNS ■ KOCHI

Kerala police on Monday said they have arrested Malayalam actor Sreenath Bhasi for allegedly hurling abusive words at a woman journalist during an interview. The arrest was recorded after summoning him to the Maradu police station on the basis of a complaint from a journalist of an online media. "We have recorded his arrest. He will be taken for a medical examination," the police told PTI. The arrest was recorded under sections 354 A (1) (IV), 509 and 294 B of the Indian Penal Code (IPC)

Section 354 A (1) (IV) of IPC deals with the offence of making sexually coloured remarks. Section 509 deals with word, gesture or act intended to insult the modesty of a woman, while section 294 B deals with uttering any obscene song, ballad or words, in or near any public place.

BJP, Sangh Parivar indulging in 'dirty politics': Siddaramaiah

PNS ■ MYSURU

Senior Congress leader Siddaramaiah on Monday hit out at the ruling BJP and 'Sangh Parivar', accusing them of indulging in "dirty politics" and celebrating Mahatma Gandhi's assassin Nathuram Godse. The Leader of Opposition in the State Assembly, while speaking to people of his earlier constituency Varuna here, currently represented by son Yatindra, said he would contest the 2023 Assembly polls from wherever the party high command asks him to, but would always be available to serve them. "If anyone is indulging in dirty politics it is Sangh Parivar and BJP; Congress has never indulged in dirty politics in this country. Will a party that fought for the country's freedom and got it, indulge in dirty politics? These people carry the poster of Nathuram Godse, who killed Mahatma Gandhi, in Ganesh processions, is it not dirty politics," he said. Speaking to reporters, while hitting back at Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai, he said, "What morality do they have? What do they mean by dirty politics? Is pointing at their corruption dirty politics? Is highlighting their 40 per cent commission corruption dirty politics?" Slamming Congress leaders for their 'PayCM' campaign, Bommai had recently stated that it was the grand old party's dirty politics.

PFI raids: ATS custody of five accused extended

PNS ■ MUMBAI

A court here on Monday extended till October 3 the ATS custody of five people, arrested during the multi-agency raids conducted on the Popular Front of India (PFI) in Maharashtra last week. The five accused were among 20 people nabbed from the state by the Maharashtra Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) in multi-agency raids across the country spearheaded by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) last Thursday. The ATS produced the five accused before the court of additional sessions judge A M Patil on Monday on the expiry of their previous remand. They were booked on charges of engaging in unlawful activities, promoting enmity among communities, and waging a war against the country. In a massive crackdown on PFI, multi-agency teams had arrested 106 leaders and activists of the radical Islamic outfit in raids in 15 states for allegedly supporting terror activities. Maharashtra and Karnataka accounted for 20 arrests each, Tamil Nadu (10), Assam (9), Uttar Pradesh (8), Andhra Pradesh (5), Madhya Pradesh (4), Puducherry and Delhi (3 each) and Rajasthan (2).

## Take out 'Congress Jodo Yatra' first: AAP's dig over political crisis in Rajasthan

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) on Monday took a swipe at the Congress over the ongoing political crisis in Rajasthan and said it should first take out a 'Congress Jodo Yatra' instead of continuing with its 'Bharat Jodo Yatra'. The Arvind Kejriwal-led party also ridiculed Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot and Sachin Pilot over the ongoing political drama, saying the two Congress leaders in their 'struggle for power' have made "a mockery" of the people's mandate. "On one hand, the 'Bharat Jodo Yatra' of Congress is in progress, and on the other, the MLAs of the party in Rajasthan are running 'Vidhayak Todo Karyakram' (programme to divide legislators)," AAP's election in-charge for Rajasthan

Vinay Mishra told PTI. "Instead of 'Bharat Jodo Yatra', the Congress should first take out 'Congress Jodo Yatra' (a march to bring unity in party)," he added. In their struggle for power, the Rajasthan chief minister and Sachin Pilot have made a mockery of the mandate that people of the state gave to their party, the AAP leader charged. "The entire country is laughing at them," he added. The Congress in Rajasthan plunged into a crisis on Sunday

## Assembly polls may be over by Nov-end: Gujarat BJP

PNS ■ AHMEDABAD

Gujarat unit Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) chief CR Patil on Monday claimed the upcoming Assembly elections in the state are likely to get over by November-end, unlike the last two polls that went on till mid-December. Patil, who was addressing a "page samiti sammelan" in Anand city, some 80 kilometres away from Ahmedabad, however, was quick to add this was his "political estimation" and that he had not spoken to any poll authority. The opposition Congress latched onto Patil's statement with party leader Deepak Babaria claiming that it showed how the BJP-ruled Union government had "weakened and hijacked" constitutional authorities like the Election Commission. "I think the (Assembly) election will be over by November-end. During 2012 and 2017, polls were over by December 12. Nobody has told me this, nor have I talked to anyone regarding this," Patil said. The 2017 Assembly elections were held in two phases on December 9 and 14, and the votes were counted on December 18. The 2012 elections were also held in two phases on December 13 and 17, and the results were declared on December 20. The term of the current Gujarat Assembly is set to expire on February 18, 2023. Patil added he is not authorised to declare poll dates and called on workers to be alert and prepared. As Congress slammed BJP, Patil later clarified that his statement was merely based on activities of the ECI in poll-bound Gujarat and Himachal Pradesh.

## 23 IITs to showcase development projects at mega fair

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Twenty-three Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) will come together for mega research and development fair to be held from October 14-15 here, officials said on Monday. Called "InvenTiv", the event is aimed at creating holistic awareness around research and innovation work being done in the institution and seeking collaborative avenues among state universities and institutes, industry and the IITs for better development and reach of the innovations at the grass-roots level. The fair is being organised in commemoration of the 75th year of India's Independence in line with the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav initiative. Among the themes identified for the fair are--Defence and aerospace, Healthcare (including devices and digital health), Environment and Sustainability, Clean Energy and Renewables (including Hydrogen and EV), Artificial Intelligence (AI), Machine Learning (ML) Blockchain technologies (including quantum computing), Smart Cities and Infrastructure (including smart mobility), Communication Technologies (including education and 5G) among others. "As India is taking strides to scale new heights in research and innovations, the IITs are at the forefront supporting the nation in attaining self-reliance across sectors. InvenTiv aims to bring focus to key innovations from all the 23 IITs so that awareness regarding R&D at the IITs increases," Pawan Goenka, Chairman, BoG IIT Madras, said at a press conference here. "This would help develop more affordable technologies for the benefit of all. We are expecting active participation from industry, academic and R&D institutions, as well as government to seek more collaborative and multidisciplinary avenues for furthering the vision of Make in India," he added. At the fair, IITs will showcase projects on diverse areas covering climate change, sustainability, smart city architecture, rural agriculture, affordable healthcare, drone technology, and so on. Their objective is to promote innovations in line with the Make in India, and Digital India initiatives, and seek solutions for better reach and scalability of innovations that benefit the masses across regions. "The event would also host administrators and students from institutions from tier 2 and tier 3 cities for them to have a closer glimpse of the R&D ecosystem of IITs and in turn inculcate similar innovation-driven outlook towards developing projects of national interest," a senior IIT Delhi official said. "It would facilitate a comprehensive understanding of the requirements at the grass roots level in key areas such as agriculture, rural development, sanitation, resource management etc, and would engage them to develop innovations that make a positive impact on a larger section of society," the official added. A total of 75 projects brought out by 23 IITs have been selected for the event, along with six showcase projects. IIT Kanpur will lead a presentation on the ongoing R&D in drone technology and how diverse its utilities have become; IIT Bombay will lead a presentation on the Babubhaashak project, which enables speech-to-speech translation, NPTEL, SWAYAM, MOOCs videos in vernacular languages, in-line with the vision of National Education Policy 2020. The selected projects will be presented before the audience in designated booths during the two-day mega event.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA  
POLICE DEPARTMENT  
"e" PROCUREMENT NOTICE  
E-Tender No. 85/242/Serial/CYB/2022. Date: 26-09-2022  
Bids are invited from authorized Manufacturers/distributors/dealers/Channel partners for Design and Upgradation of Traffic E-Chalken Parking Room with 2-Bay and Rest Room with 4 Bay Optimiser plus Drive type compact storage systems in CP Office, Cyberabad. The first date for uploading the tender is 27-09-2022 at 10:30 AM and the last date of uploading the online tender is 11-10-2022 at 05:00 PM. The tender will be opened on 12-09-2022. Online tender upon the Government e-procurement portal tenders.telangana.gov.in.  
R.O.No: 755-OPCL-AGENCY/ADVT/11/2022-23 Sd/- Commissioner of Police, Cyberabad.

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA  
PUBLIC HEALTH & MUNICIPAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT  
"e" PROCUREMENT NOTICE (Notice Inviting Tender)  
1. e-procurement Notice No. SE/PHWGL/TU/FIDC/MNCL Dist/2022/2023/836. Dt: 24-09-2022  
1) Nirmal Municipality - Construction of BT Road from Bangalpet Crematorium Shower Block to Gangareddy farmhouse (1.07 Kms in Length with 5m Width) towards Dumping Yard in Nirmal Municipality under TU/FIDC Balance Grants 2022 for Rs: 100.00 Lakhs.  
2) Nirmal Municipality - Laying of BT Road on Dharmasagar Tank Stretch in Nirmal Municipality under TU/FIDC Balance Grants 2022 for Rs: 100.00 Lakhs.  
The Bid Down Load Start Date: 27-09-2022 and End Date: 04-10-2022.  
Further details can be seen @ e-procurement market place i.e., www.tender.telangana.gov.in and for any further clarification required, please contact office of the Superintending Engineer (PH) Circle Warangal.  
Sd/- Superintending Engineer, P.H. Circle Warangal.  
R.O.No: 752-OPCL-AGENCY/ADVT/11/2022-23

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA  
Revenue (LA) Department  
Collector/Joint Collector/ Special Collector (LA)/ SDC (LA)  
(See Sub-Rule(1) of rule-25 and Section-19(1) of the Act-30/2013)  
Gazette No: GHMC - 60 FORM-VII Declaration Dated: 22-09-2022  
No. A/41/SRDP/2022 Declaration Dated: 21-09-2022  
Whereas it appears to the Government of Telangana/Special Collector, LA & Commissioner, GHMC, Hyderabad that a total of 262.26 Sq.Yards of land is required in Proposed 45 m Road widening from Miralank Tank to Zoo Park situated at Attapur Village, Rajendranagar Mandal, Range Reddy District under SRDP.  
Therefore Declaration is made that a piece of land measuring, more or less 262.26 Sq.Yards, standard measurement under acquisition for the above said project in Attapur Village, Rajendranagar Mandal, Range Reddy District, whose detail description is as following.

Sl. No.	Survey No.	Type of Title	Type of Land	Area under Acquisition in Sq.Yards as per R.O.	Name & Address of person interested	Boundaries	Trees	Structures					
						North	South	East	West	Variety	Number	Type	Area
1	252/2	Owner	Patna Land	83.71	Moolchand Solanki 19-2-226/G	19-2-222	Road	19-2-178/1 to 4	Part of Owner's Land	Road	-	Open Land	-
2	253/323	Owner	Patna Land	178.55	P.Sangetha 19-2-178	19-2-178/A	Part of Owner's Land	Part of Owner's Land	Road	Road	-	Open Land	-
Total					262.26								

This Declaration is made since no objections have received on the proposed acquisition from the affected owners or interested persons U/s. 15 of the LA Act No. 30/2013. The number of families likely to be resettled due to Land Acquisition is - Nil.  
Mines of coal, iron-ore, slate or other minerals lying under the said land or any particular portion of the said land, except such parts of the mines and minerals which may be required to be dug or removed or used during the construction phase of the project for the purpose of which the land is being acquired, are not needed.  
Sd/- Special Deputy Collector (FAC), LA, GHMC Hyderabad. Sd/- Special Collector (LA), & Commissioner, GHMC, Hyderabad.  
DIPR R.O. No.: 689/LA/PP/AGENCY/ADVT/1/2022-23



www.dailypioneer.com  
facebook.com/dailypioneer | @TheDailyPioneer | instagram.com/dailypioneer/  
PAPER WITH PASSION

## Gehlot's gambit

Congress leadership failed to comprehend that he is unwilling to quit the top office in Rajasthan

The presidential election in the Congress and Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot's candidature have once again proved the gross ineptitude of the party leadership—that is, of the Gandhis. It is quite evident that, for the umpteenth time, they failed to assess the situation. It looked like, and we editorially commented, that the intra-party election may provide the Gandhis an opportunity to kill two birds with a stone: get a non-family party president, thus blunting the Bharatiya Janata Party's attacks of the GOP being a family-run party; and putting an end to the Gehlot-Pilot tussle in Rajasthan. But that was not to be. For one, Gehlot was reluctant right from the beginning to give up the top office in Rajasthan for a national role. Apparently, he believes that it is better to rule in Jaipur than to serve in New Delhi, for becoming party president with the Gandhi family's blessings means working under their supervision. But reluctance to leave the chief ministerial office is much



different from stubbornly sticking to the demand to have a loyalist in that office at any cost. The rebellion by over 90 Congress MLAs supporting him has not only displeased the Gandhis but also put his candidature for the president's post in the grand old party at risk. On Sunday, the 90 MLAs had threatened to resign if his arch rival Sachin Pilot was made chief minister.

Reportedly feeling "upset and humiliated," the Gandhis are looking for alternatives to Gehlot for the Congress top post. Senior Congress leader Kamal Nath is said to have arrived in the national capital for a meeting with Sonia Gandhi. All this doesn't

seem to have deterred Gehlot or his MLAs. They refused to talk to Ajay Maken and Mallikarjun Kharge, the high command's emissaries. They wanted the new chief minister to be decided after the next Congress president is elected, Maken told the media, adding that this would be "conflict of interest" as the resolution would be passed when "Gehlot may already be party chief. So, he empowers himself to decide on his own successor in Rajasthan." That's a valid point, but Gehlot and his MLAs have dug their heels in over the issue of the next chief minister. That there is rivalry between the 71-year-old Rajasthan Chief Minister and his young challenger is a well-known fact; the rivalry became intense after his unsuccessful rebellion in 2020. But few—and certainly not the Gandhi family—knew that the intensity had crossed the limits within which it could be managed. Is the enmity no more political? Has it become personal? Only Gehlot and Pilot can answer these questions, but it is indisputable that this episode has put yet another question mark over the competence of the Gandhis. How could Rahul Gandhi unite the nation or the Opposition if he can't unite his own leaders? It is time the top Congress leadership focused on putting its house in order.

### PICTALK



A young devotee pays obeisance at Durgiana Temple on the first day of 'Navratri' festival, in Amritsar

## Food Security Dwindles

Increasing foodgrain prices will be a big blow to country's food security which is already strained

Food security has been a major challenge as we have a sizable population that earns its living on daily basis and do not have the reserve to buy food in advance.

According to the UN, there are nearly 195 million undernourished people in India, which is a quarter of the world's total. Also, roughly 43% of children in India are chronically undernourished. India has constantly moved down various indexes dealing with food security, well-being, and human development at an alarming rate. It slipped to the 101st position out of 116 countries in the Global Hunger Index 2021 from its 2020 position of 94. All that ministry of Women and Child Development Ministry did about it was to raise "methodological issues" and claim that the FAO's methodology was unscientific. The 'State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World report, published by UN agencies in 2022, estimated that a whopping 40 per cent of people in India suffered from food insecurity in 2019-2021 which puts India into the category of countries with severely food-insecure populations. India ranked 71 out of 113 major countries in terms of the food security index 2020.



In this scenario, the government is said to be considering an increase in the prices of rice, wheat, and cereals sold through the National Food Security Act (NFSA) by ₹.7 per kg for Priority Households. Moreover, NITI Aayog has even recommended that the price for sale to the poorest of the poor through Antyodaya Anna Yojana be increased by ₹ 1 per kg. The Ministry is reportedly brought it to consideration by the Union Cabinet. Should the cabinet approve it, it would be a big blow to the food security in the country which is already under severe stress due to the rise in inflation. This would also negate the National Food Security Act, 2013 or right to food act as it is popularly called which sought to provide subsidised food grains to two third of the Indian population. It is time to strengthen the right to food security rather than diluting it. The central government must help states who are doing their bit to provide food security. Karnataka launched the 'Indira Canteen', which serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner at a very low price. Tamil Nadu has an 'Amma' canteen. But the situation in Bihar, UP, and Orissa remains grim. Now is the time to do it on the pan India level so that no one goes to bed with a hungry stomach.

# Polluting a river is a sin against it!

Immersion of idols laced with harmful chemicals does an irreparable damage to a river, time to stop sinning against salvator



SANJIB POHIT ANUPMA MEHTA



It is that time of the year again, when the devout prepare fancy and exotic idols of gods and goddesses, venerate them for a few days and then consign them to the waters of our rivers. The immersion ritual, as witnessed during the recently concluded Ganesh festival and also anticipated during the forthcoming Durga Puja celebrations, has been a regular annual feature of the festival season across the nation. This is because our rivers are perceived as divine, almost supernatural, entities that have the power of salvation and exculpation of human sins. But while immersing idols signifies a sort of religious atonement for the 'sinners', unfortunately, the rivers that function as the sites for this redemption become the ones 'sinned against'; for this paradoxical coalescence of divinity and desecration not only leads to surface pollution in the rivers but also damages their biodiversity and causes extensive and often irreversible contamination of the groundwater. Several of the idols immersed in the rivers are made from Plaster of Paris, which takes countless years to dissolve, and paint comprising heavy metals like mercury, cadmium, and lead.

River pollution is, in fact, a persistent area of concern across the country. Other research documents the high level of pollution and contamination in the Ganga river, which increases notably during the Hindu festive season. A study by the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) examines the state of Ganga river water quality at selected stretches of the river in recent years. For ensuring a detailed analysis of the polluting constituents in the Ganga, the NCAER team moved beyond conventional laboratory examination of water samples and used in-situ mobile sensor platforms equipped with GPS capability to pinpoint the pollution sources and hotspots in the river, and capture water quality data at high geospatial resolution. Noting a significant deterioration in the river water quality due to pollu-

nants, the NCAER study points out that despite being among the top ten water-rich countries of the world, and home to both perennial and non-perennial rivers, India has become a water-stressed region.

Albeit, a large proportion of the pollution in rivers is the result of anthropogenic activities and the release of raw sewage, untreated industrial effluents, pesticides, and debris into the river. However, this does not diminish the polluting impact of visarjan or submergence into the river of idols made with non-biodegradable and toxic materials. So, wherein lies the solution? While seeking to purify ourselves through religious rituals, how can we ensure the purification of our rivers too?

For the last few years, the Central Pollution Control Board has been issuing advisories to prevent riverine pollution by prohibiting the immersion of idols, puja material, and religious offerings in rivers. Recently, the Delhi Pollution Control Committee (DPCC) too urged all urban local bodies in the city to set up temporary ponds in residential areas for the immersion of idols. The

DPCC's guidelines mandate the removal of worship materials like flowers and paper decorations, and of collection of biodegradable material used in the idols for recycling and composting, before the immersion.

However, while the advisory is clear on the 'do's' and 'don'ts' about idol immersion, it is silent regarding the enforcers who would ensure diligent implementation. What is the guarantee that the harmful chemicals released from the idols after immersion would not percolate underground through the multiple water bodies earmarked for the immersion? The larger, more serious implications of this could be contamination of the groundwater. Further, decentralisation of idol immersion away from the Yamuna necessitates the redoubling of efforts to monitor the ground pollution level.

It is thus imperative for the authorities to follow a somewhat centralised approach for monitoring the pollutant load arising due to immersion. Both the authorities in Delhi and the Namami Ganga Clean-up Campaign being undertaken to cleanse

the Ganga river can also draw lessons from the Kolkata Municipal Corporation which has been following the 'no pollution' principle during the Durga Puja rituals in Kolkata, wherein vats are placed alongside rivers for collection of decorative items removed from idols before their immersion. Thereafter, any residual debris in the rivers is extracted with the help of cranes to minimise the pollutant load in the river. This approach is certainly worth emulating.

The NCAER study also revealed that a large section of the people living in the Ganga river basin depends on the river for their daily needs and livelihood. Similarly, the Yamuna river is the aquatic lifeline for Delhi and its surrounding areas. Hence, even as the Yamuna, Ganga, and all our holy rivers ostensibly absolve us of our moral sins, the least we can do in return is to keep them free of physical and human waste.

(Sanjib Pohit is Professor and Anupma Mehta is Editor at the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER). The views expressed are personal.)



A LARGE PROPORTION OF THE POLLUTION IN RIVERS IS THE RESULT OF ANTHROPOGENIC ACTIVITIES AND THE RELEASE OF RAW SEWAGE, UNTREATED INDUSTRIAL EFFLUENTS, PESTICIDES, AND DEBRIS INTO THE RIVER

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### ANTI BJP ALLIANCE NOT EASY

Sir — in a major step towards forging a United anti-BJP front, Nitish Kumar and Sharad Pawar attempted to forge a united front to upset BJP in the 2024 elections. Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar and Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) supremo Lalu Prasad Yadav on Sunday met Congress president Sonia Gandhi here in a bid to unite Opposition parties to take on the BJP in the 2024 general elections.

The meeting at Ms Gandhi's 10 Janpath residence is considered very crucial in forging an Opposition unity as efforts are on to reconcile differences between Nitish and the first meeting with Ms. Gandhi since he severed ties with the BJP. But it is not so easy. Already, we have seen how coalition government fell in a heap at the state and central levels. The coalition forging ahead should become a laughing stock in the wake of the increasing popularity of PM Modi internationally.

CKR Nathan | Chennai

### BAN ON NON-VEG ADS

Sir — The Bombay High Court on September 26 dismissed as withdrawn a plea seeking a restriction or ban on the advertisement for non-vegetarian food in print and electronic media. The high court asked the petitioners why they were seeking to encroach on others' rights. After the Jain community petitioners sought to withdraw the plea in view of the past Supreme Court decisions, the division bench of Chief Justice Dipankar Datta and Justice Madhav J Jamdar allowed them to file a fresh petition with better particulars and dismissed the present PIL as withdrawn.

The high court said that the issue falls within the issue of the legislature, and it cannot frame rules and laws imposing bans. As soon as the petition came up for hearing, the bench clarified that the court can intervene only when rights are infringed. The petition, filed by Religious

## Scintillating Series Win



Team India learned the art of winning after losing the first match. This is possible in home matches where pitch conditions are known to the team very well. Despite our bowlers being hit all over the ground by the tail-enders and by the openers slogging. However, the batters phased their innings after losing

openers early.

Both Kohli and Suryakumar Yadav combined well to script a century stand and sealed the series from World Champion Australia. In the end, Hardik Pandya played his part to perfection to achieve an incredible win with a ball to spare. This win boosted the team's confidence before embarking on a tour of Australia with those practice games. Though it is just a game and someone loses and someone wins, winning a series is great for team's morale and uplift the spirit of its wellwishers. It was indeed a Scintillating series win for Team India. It was special because it happened outside India which is indeed very heartening. Well done boys in the blue just keep your focus and keep winning for the country.

CK Ramani | Coimbatore

and Charitable Trust and stated that such promotions are a violation of the right to live in peace and the right to privacy. The court said: "What about violation of Article 19 of the Constitution? Why are you encroaching on others' rights? There are two ways of looking at it. An ordinary man would say switch off the TV. But we would look at it from the point of law. What you are asking has to be provided by law. Here there is no such law, which is why you are asking us to frame the law. The court allowed the petitioner to withdraw the plea stating that the petitioners can file a fresh petition if they so desire.

Bhagwan Thadani | Mumbai

### MURDER MOST FOUL

Sir — Your editorial "Himalayas burning" was very apt. There is no end to rapes and murder of innocent women under the BJP's rule. The murder of Ankita Bhandari, a 19-year-old female receptionist is another example that women are not safe under BJP's rule. Ankita who worked in a BJP leader-owned resort was murdered just because she didn't oblige the

dirty proposal of the BJP leader and she was killed because the son of a politician thought he could do whatever he wished to. According to a media report the culprits wanted to push her into prostitution and she was pushed into a canal when she resisted molestation.

The police only arrested the culprits after immense public pressure and the culprits allegedly confessed to the murder in custody. In BJP's rule, we are seeing that remission is given to culprits who raped Bilkis Banu and killed her three years daughter. BJP gives remission to rape convicts, rallies in support of rapists in Unnao, Hathras, and Kathua. It felicitates the rape convicts. Smriti Irani whose duty is only to criticise Rahul Gandhi is always maintaining a stoic silence whenever a lady is raped by BJP leaders. Narendra Modi, who swears "Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao" now should break his silence and take swift action against predators.

Zakir Hussain | Kazipet

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

## SOUND BITE

My son is a seedhasadhabalak and is only concerned about his work. I want justice for both my son Pulkit and the murdered girl.



BJP leader —Vinod Arya

Though there is a right-wing extremism asserting [itself in Canada], I don't think there is any threat to any minorities here.

Professor, Carleton University —Chinniah Jangam

It was a secret that I will be contesting 2024 elections. This news Modiji and Amit Shahji were supposed to announce, but it is my good fortune that HemaMaliniji announced it.



Actor —Rakhi Sawant

It's good that he (Pant) has not set the world on fire in white ball cricket, there is plenty to come.

Indian skipper —Rohit Sharma

How often do you hear people talking about it; pronouncing it, in fact, look at the media coverage. What does the media cover, what does the media not cover?



S Jaishankar —External Affairs Minister



FIRST COLUMN

SOCIAL MEDIA SPURS SUICIDAL TENDENCIES

Excessive usage of social media could harm mental health of kids



JYOTI KAPOOR

With suicide cases being the second leading cause of death in the young population (10-24 years), influence of social media/internet is immense. Digital interventions among teenaged kids and young adults are significantly affecting their mental health and well-being, making them more susceptible to self-harm, suicidal ideation and later suicide attempts.

A study published in 2015 highlighted teens who reported using social media sites more than two hours a day are much more likely to report poor mental health outcomes. Besides, the suicidal thoughts, excessive social media usage results in a low self-esteem and poor body image are quite a frequent behaviour.

An addiction is identified from mild to severe using 11 criteria of addiction outlined in the 'Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM)-5'. A child can be termed as a social media addict if he/she meets two or fewer criteria.

The 11 criteria of addiction are more social media usage than wished for; having frequent urge or desire of checking social networking sites; usage of social media started conflicts in their immediate relationships with others; hampering his/her ability to function, work, or complete tasks; focussing more on social media and cutting back on activities which they previously used to enjoy; experiencing physical or emotional discomfort when you stop or cut back; stopping or cutting back on social media making them irritable; negative impacts to physical or mental health; continued use of social media despite



problems, consequences, or impairments; using in situations that are risky or hazardous (i.e. while driving or working); reduced real-world social interaction; needing more time/likes/follows to get the same amount of pleasure or enjoyment from social media.

Parents play an important role in the de-addiction regime of social media in their kids. Though it's a tough job, if done in a friendly way then it can strengthen a parent and child bond. They need to build a positive and family environment at their home so that the child doesn't get the urge of the virtual world. Parents should also take part in their social media usage by learning about the programs/apps, their child is using. Ask the child to teach you about the nuances of these platforms. Parents need to show interest in such activities and ask questions.

In order to monitor children's online activities, the tablets and computers are placed in common areas, while a tab on child's online accounts be kept. This will make them understand that monitoring their online activity would help keep them to stay protected from cyber bullying.

But be attentive as some children or teens may create a fake second account for their parents to follow. You can ask them in a friendly gesture about the people they are friends with online.

Showing genuine interest will help them feel comfortable talking about it. Explain that it's easy for someone on the Internet to pretend to be someone they're not. Talk about the importance of keeping online friendships in the online world. Make it clear that if your child wants to meet an online friend in person, it must be in a public place and with a trusted adult. Talk in detail about what's okay and safe to post online, and what isn't.

People do not always have control over what others post about them. Explain how information and photos found on the internet can resurface years later. Explain how autocorrect can sometimes result in misunderstandings and hurt feelings.

(The author is Founder & Senior Psychiatrist, Manasthali)

Mainstream channels are the biggest threat



ANURAG THAKUR

Edited version of speech by Information & Broadcasting Minister Anurag Thakur at the Asia Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development (AIBD) on Sep 20

I am extremely delighted to be amidst you at the AIBD (Asia-Pacific Institute for Broadcasting Development) general conference meeting 2022 and address this prestigious assembly of the broadcasters from the Asia-Pacific region...

Firstly, I would like to congratulate AIBD for creating a desirable platform for broadcasters to put forward their opinions and comments to build a strong future for themselves.

I have been told that even during the difficult Covid period, when the world was facing fear and gloom, lockdowns had slowed the pace of life, economies were under severe stress, AIBD leadership kept the member countries connected online and maintained a constant dialogue on how media can mitigate the impact of the pandemic.

The member countries were immensely benefitted through sharing of information on the latest developments in the medical field, positive stories of Covid warriors and more importantly in countering fake news which was spreading faster than the pandemic.

If we talk about the theme of the event, it highlights the need for creating a stronger future for broadcasting in a post-pandemic era...

It is media which brought the world on one platform during this difficult phase and reinforced the spirit of one global family.

We have also seen the extensive use of media—both mainstream as well as new digital platforms—by our Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his government during this exceptionally difficult phase of Covid-19.

Information was shared in a timely and transparent manner, ensuring a quick response, mitigating myths and spreading awareness about a pandemic that was both evolving as well as ever expanding.

Together with our media friends, we ensured saving millions of lives the world over, which otherwise could be lost, had timely information not flowed to the people about safety measures and protection from Covid-19 virus.

I would specially appreciate India's Public Service Broadcaster, Doordarshan and All India Radio, as they very satisfactorily delivered on their mandate of public service and stood strong with the people during the testing times of the pandemic.

Even the other Indian broadcasters and Indian media in general ensured that Covid-19 awareness messages, important government guidelines and free online consultations with doctors reached everyone in nook and corner of the country.

Expert opinions through programmes like Doctors Speak and campaigns such as Mask-up India by the public broadcaster Doordarshan played a very significant role at the time when fake news on the epidemic became a menace.



IF YOU [NEWS BROADCASTER S] DECIDE TO INVITE GUESTS WHO ARE POLARISING, WHO SPREAD FALSE NARRATIVES AND WHO SHOUT AT THE TOP OF THEIR LUNGS, THE CREDIBILITY OF YOUR CHANNEL GOES DOWN

(The author is Information & Broadcasting Minister)



The media the world over played a very significant role in educating the people of the country about the vaccine availability and the benefits of being vaccinated against coronavirus.

It helped the health system in fighting the vaccine hesitancy...

The Covid-19 crisis has thrown up challenges as well as provided an opportunity not just to re-invent journalism, but to redefine the media as a trusted source of news and information.

Our mainstream media organisations have a great challenge to provide truthful accurate and reliable news faster, while preserving media ethics and values.

Real journalism is about facing the facts, presenting the truth and letting all sides the platform to present their views.

In my personal opinion the biggest threat to mainstream media is not from new age digital platforms, but rather the mainstream media channel itself.

If you decide to invite guests who are polarising, who spread false narratives and who shout at the top of their lungs, the credibility of your channel goes down. Your decisions regarding the guest, the tone and visuals define your credibility in the eyes of the audience.

The viewer may stop for a minute to watch your show, but will never trust your anchor, your channel or brand as a trusted and transparent source of news.

So my question to broadcasters present here today is this:

Are you going to watch the narrative be defined by soundbites, or redefine yourself and set

the terms for your guests and channel?

Are you going to watch as the younger audience switches and sweeps through the shrill on TV news, or are you going to bring back the neutrality in news and discussion in debates to stay ahead of the game?

Are you going to show visuals that grab eyeballs and inflame anger, or show restraint and project visuals in context to showcase the full picture?

And finally, how will you re-define and innovate your TV news content, presentation and dissemination to reach the new-age audience who is constantly being fed information via social media platforms?

Instead of compromising our values in this fierce competition, we must work hard to preserve professionalism.

I strongly believe that journalists are duty bound to report news without fabrication, despite temptations to compete with those who propagate false news.

The AIBD as a regional inter-governmental organisation must continue to train and equip media practitioners with the best professional skills to gain broader freedom for our media. India stands ready to support your efforts.

Another important area of cooperation is good quality content exchange among the member countries.

Prasar Bharati has been sharing DD India channel in the OTT platform of South Korea on reciprocal basis including exchange of several coproduction programmes.

Prasar Bharati is also unlinking

Bangladesh TV on its Freedish platform. We have also partnered with Australia in the field of broadcasting in March 2022 through programme sharing.

The broadcasters of the two countries are also exploring opportunities in co-production and joint broadcasting of programmes spanning multiple genres.

I am happy to state that DD India with the objective to become Global Public Broadcaster channel is now available on OTT platforms.

Dear delegates, you have come to India at a time when we are celebrating the 75th anniversary of Independence. It is the time for us to pay tribute to hundreds of freedom fighters who sacrificed their lives and freed the country from the shackles of foreign rule.

This is the festival time for us which we call 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'. It has taken the form of a mass movement where people from all walks of life are participating in different programmes across the country.

Before concluding, I truly believe that media, in all its forms, has immense ability to shape public perceptions and perspectives as an effective tool of empowerment.

It is imperative to create an enabling environment for our journalists and broadcasters friends for making the space of media more vibrant and rewarding.

I wish the delegates from the member countries of the AIBD a very happy stay in India. I am sure that the deliberations which you are going to hold over the two days will be meaningful and bring new insights to the media industry.

POINTCOUNTERPOINT

TODAY'S ACTORS ARE INSECURE TO SHARE SCREEN SPACE WITH EACH OTHER AS COMPARED TO 80S-90S ACTORS.

—ACTOR SANJAY DUTT



I THINK THEY ARE STILL DOING THREE-HERO FILMS AND TWO-HERO FILMS. AS FOR INSECURITY, SOME PEOPLE HAVE IT FOR SURE, SOME PEOPLE DON'T CARE.

—ACTOR JACKIE SHROFF



Release of cheetahs significant in various ways

But there are as usual naysayers and armchair environmental critics who argue that bringing African cheetah is a bad idea

After 70 years since the killing of the last surviving cheetah by Maharaja Ramanuj Pratap Singh Deo of Koriya estate in Madhya Pradesh (now in Chhattisgarh), the Centre re-introduced cheetahs in the country. Prime Minister Narendra Modi soon after returning from the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation Summit released the first batch of eight cheetahs on September 17, 2022 in Kuno National Park of Madhya Pradesh.

The cheetahs will first be quarantined for a few days in an enclosure and gradually released in a larger fenced area and into the forests ultimately. The release of cheetahs is significant not only from the point of view of conservation of wildlife but also for the



VK BAHUGUNA

(The author is former Director-General, ICFRE, Ministry of Environment & Forest)

civilisational message to bring back the lost heritage of biodiversity and celebrate the co-existence of all life forms on earth.

It is also a proud moment for the much maligned Indian Forest Service (IFS) which has been using the acronym IFS for over more than a century for getting back a priceless species it conserved against all odds before it went extinct due to the false notion of bravery by hunting with guns by the misguided Royals. Cheetah is the most charismatic, beautiful and fastest animal in the world.

Cheetah is capable of accelerating up to 120 kilometres per hour in just over three seconds. At top speed, their stride is 23 feet long which makes them fearsome hunters. The male and female cheetahs live

differently. The male siblings move in a group of two to three or even more and this is called a coalition which lasts for life and protects their territory well, while the female cheetah lives alone and meets the male only during mating time.

Cheetahs do not pose much challenge for humans and many royals and others used to rear them and used them for hunting. Unlike other cats they do not roar but meow or purr.

However, after this release of cheetahs in the Kuno National Park, the real challenge to the foresters has begun in order to see if we can replicate the success of tiger conservation for cheetah also.

The cheetah became extinct due to indiscriminate hunting and shrinking of its



natural habitat. It thrives in grassland and in India the saddest part is that we have never given focus on grassland conservation.

Now there are as usual naysayers and armchair environmental critics who argue that bringing African cheetah is a bad idea. Today, if cheetah can find a new home akin to their home territory there is nothing wrong in it from the

point of view of biodiversity conservation. After all, the migration of animals and plants from one geographic area to another had routinely happened during the evolutionary process.

The real test of re-introduction will happen when these eight cheetahs adapt to their new home and start hunting and live in a natural style of their own so that the next batch of cheetah can be brought here. The good thing about Kuno is that it has a good prey base for them to survive. The second issue is how the local people will see this introduction in future in terms of protection of their habitats.

The Madhya Pradesh government had already relocated 24 villages and the forest department though had made

adequate precautions for their protection and movements and had made arrangements for 24 hours vigilance but they will have to see that the tree climbing leopard do not enter their territory.

The leopard hunts by ambush but cheetah do not have retractable claws and hunt for a particular type of prey like medium sized antelopes, hares, calves of herd animals, birds with their speed and sudden galloping gait. Thirdly, the local people and scientific community from the Wild Life Institute and Universities need to be involved in the conservation process with liberal research and training grants.

Fourthly, the poachers must be kept at bay and for this forest department at field level must possess the best of the

equipment. The Central as well as the Madhya Pradesh Governments, therefore, will have to plan a long term strategy for the cheetah conservation in India so that in next few years the population of the cheetahs can grow.

The situation of manpower from forest guard to ranger level and infrastructure needs a review. We must understand that the manpower of the forest department and infrastructure like superior weapons and other modern gadgets are no match for the superior equipment of the poachers.

It will be a special challenge for the Park Director, because cheetah breeding requires proper attention and resources. A "Project Cheetah Scheme" needs to be started on the pattern of Project Tiger.



MONEY MATTERS

## Sebi penalises 19 persons for fraudulent trading

Capital markets regulator Sebi has imposed a penalty of Rs 95 lakh on 19 individuals for indulging in manipulative trading in the shares of Global Infratech and Finance Limited. They have been directed to pay the penalty within 45 days, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) said in its order on Friday. The regulator conducted an investigation in the scrip of Global Infratech and Finance Ltd (GIFL) for the period December 2017 to February 2018 to ascertain any violations of PFUTP (Prohibition of Fraudulent and Unfair Trade Practices) norms. In its probe, Sebi found that 19 persons have followed a uniform strategy of executing 3,266 trades in a substantial quantity of shares, constituting 12.86 per cent of total market volume in a synchronised manner through a large number of trades ranging from 87 to 458 trades on each day for 39 days. "Such a repeated and uniform strategy of synchronised trades involving substantial quantity of shares was followed by notices in order to create a misleading appearance of trading, without any change of beneficial ownership, and thus was a fraudulent activity resorted to by notices in order to mislead investors," Sebi said.



## OPPI elects Suresh Pattathil as its new president

The Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India on Monday said it has elected Suresh Pattathil as its next president for a two-year term. Pattathil takes over from S Sridhar, who is the MD of Pfizer India. The Organisation of Pharmaceutical Producers of India (OPPI) represents research-based pharmaceutical companies. Pattathil is the Managing Director and General Manager of Allergan, an AbbVie Company. He is responsible for commercial operations in India & South Asia markets. With more than 30 years of experience in the pharmaceutical industry, Pattathil has held several senior positions in companies such as Pfizer, Schering Plough, MSD and Ferring. "Health today has become a priority for the government, and OPPI, as an association, focused on research and innovation, is working towards solving some of the most pressing healthcare needs. I look forward to making a difference to patients and the industry as OPPI works with the government to enable healthcare access," he said in a statement.



## Cement cos profitability seen dipping 15 pc on input costs

Despite a high double-digit demand growth, the profitability of cement companies is set to fall by 15 per cent because price hikes lag increase in production cost, according to a report. The report by rating agency Crisil, however, said that higher demand will cushion the credit outlook for the sector. Operating profitability of cement makers will decline 15 per cent year-on-year to Rs 900-925 per tonne this fiscal, adding to the pain of a 9 per cent decline last fiscal, as an increase in realisations will not be enough to offset the increase in prices of coal, petcoke and diesel that has pushed the average cost of production higher, the agency said in a report on Monday. However, the 17 per cent demand growth in cement demand during the first quarter, albeit on the low base last fiscal, offers a silver lining, the report noted, saying though growth may taper in subsequent quarters, and print in at 8-10 per cent for the full fiscal, it will still be the highest since fiscal 2019.



# India's FY'23 GDP growth pegged at 7.3%

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

S&P Global Ratings on Monday retained its projection of India's economic growth at 7.3 per cent for the current fiscal and said inflation is likely to remain above the upper tolerance limit of 6 per cent till the end of 2022.

In its Economic Outlook for Asia Pacific, S&P said the external environment has soured for economies in the region and higher global interest rates will continue to exert pressure on central banks in the form of capital outflows and currency depreciation.

S&P Global Ratings Asia-Pacific Chief Economist Louis Kuijs said a pronounced slowdown in China was offset by a strong rebound in India as consumption, especially of services, continued to recover and investment grew rapidly.

"We have retained our India growth outlook at 7.3 per cent for the fiscal year 2022-2023 and 6.5 per cent for the next fiscal year, although we see the risks tilted to the downside,"



Kuijs said. The Reserve Bank expects the Indian economy to grow 7.2 per cent in the current fiscal (April-March). The growth last year (2021-22) was 8.7 per cent.

Indian economy expanded 13.5 per cent in the April-June quarter, sequentially higher than the 4.10 per cent growth clocked in the January-March period.

Several other agencies, including ADB, Fitch Ratings and Citigroup, have already slashed India's growth projections to either 7 per cent or

below. ADB and Fitch pegged India's growth estimate at 7 per cent, while Ind-Ra, SBI and Citigroup expect it to be 6.9 per cent, 6.8 per cent and 6.7 per cent, respectively.

S&P Economist Vishrut Rana said the rupee may continue to see volatility in the coming days, but India has 'substantial buffer' to withstand foreign fund outflows.

There have been increased capital flow pressures globally as the US Fed briskly tightens monetary policy. This has led to significant US dollar

strength, and global currencies are down against the greenback.

On Monday, the rupee touched a record low of 81.52 to a dollar. The local currency has depreciated 9.4 per cent against the greenback so far this year.

"The Indian rupee has depreciated less than the basket of global currencies over the past month. There is likely to be more currency volatility as global monetary policy is still tightening. The IMF estimated that the ratio of India's foreign reserves to short-term external debt is greater than 2, which indicates a substantial buffer against capital outflows," Rana said. With regard to inflation, S&P Global Ratings pegged the average rate in the current fiscal at 6.8 per cent and projected it to fall to 5 per cent in the next financial year beginning April 2023.

"India headline Consumer Price Inflation (CPI) is likely to remain outside the Reserve Bank of India's upper tolerance limit of 6 per cent until the end

of 2022. That's amid substantial weather-induced wheat and rice price increases as well as sticky core inflation. And food inflation may rise again," Kuijs said.

Retail or consumer price inflation has remained above the RBI's upper tolerance threshold of 6 per cent for eight months in a row and stood at 7 per cent in August. Wholesale price inflation remained in double digits for the 17th straight month at 57,145.22. During the day, it plummeted 1,060.68 points or 1.82 per cent to 57,038.24.

In four days, the BSE benchmark has slumped 2,574.52 points or 4.31 per cent. The market capitalisation of BSE-listed firms tumbled Rs 13,30,753.42 crore in four sessions to reach Rs 2,70,11,460.11 crore.

"Domestic equities have corrected by more than 4 per cent over the last four trading sessions as global uncertainties dominate market sentiments. A short bounce or reversal can be seen following this intense

## Investors lose Rs 13.30 lakh cr in four days of market crash

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Equity investors' wealth has tumbled by over Rs 13.30 lakh crore in four days of market plunge amid a sharp sell-off in global markets.

Falling for the fourth straight day, the 30-share BSE Sensex tanked 953.70 points or 1.64 per cent to settle at 57,145.22. During the day, it plummeted 1,060.68 points or 1.82 per cent to 57,038.24.

In four days, the BSE benchmark has slumped 2,574.52 points or 4.31 per cent. The market capitalisation of BSE-listed firms tumbled Rs 13,30,753.42 crore in four sessions to reach Rs 2,70,11,460.11 crore.

"Domestic equities have corrected by more than 4 per cent over the last four trading sessions as global uncertainties dominate market sentiments. A short bounce or reversal can be seen following this intense



selling. "However, the overall narrative of the market remains weak, especially following the cautiousness ahead of the RBI MPC due later this week," said Siddhartha Khemka, Head - Retail Research, Motilal Oswal Financial Services Ltd.

On Monday, Maruti, Tata Steel, ITC, Axis Bank, NTPC, Bajaj Finance, IndusInd Bank and Mahindra & Mahindra were the major laggards among the 30-share Sensex pack

HCL Technologies, Asian

Paints, Infosys, UltraTech Cement, TCS, Nestle and Wipro were the gainers.

In the broader market, the BSE smallcap gauge tumbled 3.33 per cent and midcap index fell by 2.84 per cent.

All the BSE sectoral indices, except IT, ended lower, with realty falling 4.29 per cent, auto (3.86 per cent), utilities (3.72 per cent), power (3.71 per cent), commodities (3.32 per cent), energy (3.17 per cent), oil & gas (3.10 per cent) and telecommunication (2.97 per cent).

## Telecom bill may not solve insolvency cases

PNS ■ MUMBAI

The draft Indian Telecommunication Bill may not help accelerate the resolution process for insolvent companies in the sector, a domestic rating agency said. The bill stipulates that the ownership of spectrum remains with the government, and so implies that the value of spectrum cannot be sold by creditors under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code.

The draft law also says that the government reserves the right to take back the spectrum if the ailing operator fails to clear dues.

## Salaries in India likely to rise by 10.4 pc in 2023: Aon Survey

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Corporate India is bullish about its strong business performance and expected to dole out a double-digit salary hike of as much as 10.4 per cent in 2023, a survey said on Monday.

According to leading global professional services firm Aon Plc's latest Salary Increase Survey in India, remunerations in India are expected to increase by 10.4 per cent in 2023, compared to an actual increase of 10.6 per cent to date in 2022, which is slightly higher than the 9.9 per cent increase projected in February. The study



that analysed data across 1,300 companies from more than 40 industries in India noted that the attrition rate for the first half of 2022 continued to be high at 20.3 per cent, marginally lower than the 21 per cent recorded in 2021, thus retaining the pressure on salaries.

This trend is expected to continue for the next few months, the survey noted.

"Despite the global recessionary headwinds and volatile domestic inflation, salary increases projected in India for 2023 are in the double digits," Roopank Chaudhary, partner, Human Capital Solutions at Aon in India, said.

This increase is a reflection of the confidence that corporate India has in its strong business performance. "Business leaders, however, must make decisions that ensure their workforce remains resilient today as well as into the future.

## HCL Technologies launches new brand identity

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

IT services company HCL Technologies on Monday unveiled its new brand identity and logo, which it said is underpinned by the distinct positioning of 'Supercharging Progress', reflecting its commitment to clients, people, and communities.

The new 'HCLTech' brand and logo will be at the heart of its go-to-market strategy and represent its differentiated portfolio of services and products that enable digital transformation for enterprises at scale, according to a company statement.

## Survey sees housing prices rising in coming months

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Nearly 50 per cent of prospective buyers are expecting housing prices to rise in coming months amid revival in demand, according to a joint survey conducted by Housing.com and industry body NAREDCO.

As per the survey findings, 47 per cent of respondents prefer to invest in real estate, while 21 per cent prefer to invest in the stock market, 16 per cent in fixed deposits and 15 per cent in gold. Realty portal Housing.com and NAREDCO (National Real Estate Development Council) on Monday released the Residential



Realty Consumer Sentiment Survey H2 2022' report. They conducted a joint survey with over 1,000 participants to gauge consumer sentiment.

In the survey, 48 per cent of respondents anticipate prices to rise further in the coming months, while 58 per cent of homebuyers who are primarily end-users are looking for ready-to-move-in property, Housing.com said in a statement.

## Sebi nod to Gold Plus Glass Industry, Uniparts India

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Float glass maker Gold Plus Glass Industry and engineering solutions provider Uniparts India have received capital markets regulator Sebi's approval to raise funds through initial public offerings (IPOs).

The two companies, which had filed preliminary IPO papers with the Securities Exchange Board of India (Sebi) in April, obtained observation letters from the regulator during September 22-23, an update with the markets watchdog showed on Monday.

## Epsilon Carbon to invest Rs 500 cr to expand

PNS ■ MUMBAI

Carbon black producer Epsilon Carbon is investing Rs 500 crore to add 1 lakh tonne more capacity at its Karnataka plant, which will make it the third largest producer of the material when completed.

The proposed capex plan also includes an additional Rs 50 crore investment to set up a 25-mw captive power plant that will be fired by the waste gas generated by the carbon black plant, the company said.

Currently, the company has an installed annual capacity of 1.15 lakh metric tonne in the Vijayanagar, Karnataka plant, which was commissioned at an investment of Rs 500 crore in FY2019 and this gives it a market share of 7 per cent in the 1-million tonne industry (Rs 10,000 crore industry), Epsilon MD Vikram Handa, who is the son-in-law of the



JSW group chairman Sajjan Jindal, told PTI on Monday.

He said once the new capacity goes on stream it will have 2.15 lakh tonne annual capacity, which will put the company in the third position in terms of capacity and it will have a market share of 14 per cent. On revenue, Handa said the company had closed FY22 with Rs 1,800 crore, of which 20 per cent came from exports across 25 markets and this year, the revenue is likely to touch Rs 3,500 crore on price rise, (a tonne of carbon black fetches USD 1,300 now) and next year the top line should be Rs 5,000 crore.

## 'Black money: No coercion on Anil Ambani'

PNS ■ MUMBAI

The Bombay High Court on Monday directed the Income Tax department not to take any coercive action against Reliance Group Chairman Anil Ambani till November 17 on a show cause notice issued to him seeking to prosecute him under the Black Money Act. The I-T department had issued the notice to Ambani on August 8, 2022 for allegedly evading Rs 420 crore in taxes on undisclosed funds worth more than Rs 814 crore held in two Swiss bank accounts.

The department has charged Ambani (63) with "wilful" evasion, saying he "intentionally" did not disclose his foreign bank account details and financial interests to Indian tax authorities.

## Rupee plunges 58 paise to close at 81.67 against \$

PNS ■ MUMBAI

The rupee plunged 58 paise to close at an all-time low of 81.67 (provisional) against the US dollar on Monday as the strengthening of the American currency overseas and risk-averse sentiment among investors weighed on the local unit.

Moreover, escalation of geopolitical risks due to conflict in Ukraine, a negative trend in domestic equities and significant foreign fund outflows sapped investor appetite, forex traders said.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local currency opened at 81.47, then fell further to close at an all-time low of 81.67 against the American currency, registering a decline of 58 paise over its previous close.

On Friday, the rupee



slumped 30 paise to close at 81.09, its previous record low.

This is the fourth consecutive session of loss for the domestic unit, during which it has lost 193 paise against the American currency.

"Another day of large gains for the dollar versus the rupee as it fell for the fourth day in a trot amid risk-averse sentiments and unprecedented strength in the greenback following Fed tightening and recession worries," said Dilip Parmar, Research Analyst, HDFC Securities.

## BPCL to incur gross marketing losses in current fiscal: Fitch

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

State-owned Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) is likely to incur gross marketing losses in the current fiscal as it is unable to pass cost to consumers, Fitch Ratings said Monday.

The rating agency affirmed 'BBB-' rating on BPCL with stable outlook.

"Fitch expects BPCL to generate gross marketing losses in FY23, as the Indian oil marketing companies (OMCs) bear the largest burden of surging crude oil prices, with only limited increases being passed on to consumers despite cuts in taxes on retail sales.

"We believe near-term prices will remain a function of the government's efforts to balance OMCs' financial health with inflationary and



fiscal pressures," it said.

The marketing segment, however, should turn profitable from FY24 (April 2023 to March 2024) as crude oil prices fall.

"We expect marketing margins to remain aligned with crude oil prices over the long term," Fitch said.

The government previously allowed OMCs to recoup losses from the temporary suspension of daily price resets in subsequent periods.

However, prolonged state interference in auto-fuel retail prices and marketing losses could be negative for BPCL's rating, Fitch said.

# Drones to keep an eye on transmission towers in MP

PNS ■ JABALPUR

Madhya Pradesh will deploy drones from October 1 to monitor 10,000 high voltage electricity towers to strengthen the power transmission system with better checking of defects and inspection which is so far done manually, an official said on Monday.

"This is for the first time in the country that drones will be used to check tall towers by smooth power supply," MP Power Transmission Company Limited (MPPTCL) Managing Director Sunil Tiwari claimed

while talking to PTI.

Drones will take videos and close range pictures of the towers and will come handy in saving time and labour as currently, the inspection of towers is being done manually, he said.

Employees climb the towers to check the equipment and this process is very time consuming and laborious. Now, drones would do this work, he said.

Most importantly, drones will pinpoint a defect in the system. Its usage will ensure accuracy (in identifying a defect) and strengthen power



transmission, the official said. The benefit of using the drone technology is that we

can take photographs and video of the equipment installed on the towers close-

ly from all sides, he said.

Tiwari said they decided to deploy drones after their use for inspection on an experimental basis for some months showed encouraging results.

The drones will be used for the inspection of 10,000 out of the 80,000 extra high voltage power transmission line towers installed across Madhya Pradesh from next month, he said.

We are taking 10,000 towers in the first phase. The drone monitoring of the rest 70,000 towers will be taken up later, he said, adding that the

inspection of towers was done periodically under maintenance work.

"Our engineers are going to supervise the drone monitoring of towers for which a private firm has been hired," he said.

Asked whether the use of drones would be cost effective, the official said this aspect has not been worked out yet.

The MPPTCL wheels power from the electricity generation units to distribution companies, which in-turn supply electricity to households and for business purposes.





## Expanding your business digitally

If you want your company to expand, you need to put more effort into advertising. The growing number of internet users also suggests expanding your marketing efforts to include the web. With a group of people, though, it's much easier to figure out how to handle online marketing. In spite of your hopes, you will not reap any rewards without first acquiring the necessary expertise. Adding the cost of a house team to your company's annual marketing budget is a risky move. Because of this, it is essential that you acquire the services of digital marketing consulting firms to assist you with your online advertising efforts. In order to increase sales, you need to hire a digital marketing expert that is well-versed in all forms of internet advertising. It's important to shop around for an online marketing consultant who's a good fit for your business, as some focus on one certain type of marketing. Additionally, other advisors can view your complete marketing plan. If you hire a consultant, they will make sure you apply the proper campaign to achieve your business objectives. If you hire an internet marketing expert, they will also help you select the most effective medium for advertising your goods and services to your intended demographic. You can boost brand awareness and product sales by doing so. A consultant has extensive expertise in areas such as graphic design, PR, and writing. Consultants are experts in the latest marketing strategies, methods, and technology. A consultant's knowledge of consumer behavior is essential for engaging potential clients.

### Marketing Strategy

The first step in achieving any goal is formulating a plan, and a marketing strategy is a blueprint for all the initiatives you want to launch to strengthen your brand's online presence. The marketing plan details the business's objectives, objectives, available resources, time, and marketing channels. The marketing plan

also specifies who they want to reach, what they need to hear, and how they may hear it. A marketing expert will be in charge of this. The goal of this process is to map out a strategy that takes into account the company's goals, its customers, and the efficacy of its current marketing efforts.

### Branding

Company logos, slogans, and color schemes are only the beginning when it comes to branding. It's all about how you want your target audience to perceive your brand, and it includes things like your USP, business culture, and values. If you hire a reputable digital marketing consultant, you can use the internet to boost your company's reputation. An advisor can assist you in identifying the driving force behind your company's offerings.

### Improving brand value through digital audience participation.

Consultants in this field plays a crucial role in a company's success by helping them develop and implement a comprehensive content marketing strategy. Products and services can't be promoted effectively without content. A consultant ensures that only high-quality material is produced, which in turn increases site visitors. And so does a consultant.

### Project Management

Project management calls for a wide range of expertise, information, and methods to accomplish the required duties. If you hire a marketing consultant, you can rest assured that they will have the knowledge to help your approach succeed. The internet marketing consultant also offers search engine optimization services and other tools to boost your company's visibility on the web. Every day, more and more people join the global community of online dwellers. As long as the organization invests in a competent consultant, it may reap the benefits to its fullest potential.

(The writer, Aarti Samant, is a digital consultant, business coach and co-founder of Sorted, Masala Tokri)

## The List should be India's official entry to Oscars; says Angad Bedi

SHIKHA DUGGAL

The versatile actor Angad Bedi's new venture called *The List*, shows us how emotions play a crucial role in our lives. As much as he wanted to be in tune with his emotions, for most of the time we could witness he wasn't. But, when in conversation with the actor, he really felt that these are the emotions that lead to deeper connections, and more awareness overall.

So, why is *The List* different? Here, you get to see how these emotions started to control him, affecting his ability to perform. He was into robotics and we mean it. And, he just couldn't get rid of his emotions completely.

Talking more about this unique short-film, he spills the beans, and says, "Life is happening to us, we are not happening to life. We need to acknowledge this first. This dependency on phones has impacted humans negatively, we are losing our personality. In fact, there is even a term to describe, called nomophobia which is when a person has an actual fear of losing their phone. That's how we are showing the contradiction here in the short-film. From causing stiff necks to heightened anxiety, technology has seeped through all aspects of our lives. Both me and Kirti have portrayed such deep emotions that we are coming across as emotionless, an irony. Technology has led to an increase in instances like cyber-bullying too, which is one of the many dangers of technology among young people."

Analysing the marvelous show, he says, "Short films these days are fulfilling young filmmakers' dreams, to bring inspiring stories out. I am seeing how senior producers are backing young filmmakers. Amid social unrest, financial turbulence and instability, short films like ours come as a breather. These are the youthful directors who then go onto make big banner fea-

ture films too, only if we recognise their talent now. This was one script, one can't even visualise it! Even while the narration was being given to me, I understood nothing out of it. I am glad Siddharth Roy Kapur understood the concept and got ready to invest in it. We are bringing you a futuristic concept, and that says a lot about the successful cinema being explored now." To some extent, he was slightly taken back by the notion that he's probably being typecasted, but with this short-film, he confirmed that he has flipped the coin truly! "We began with miming workshops, the director strictly asked us not to blink our eyes even. Even though Kirti got conjunctivitis, I was okay to continue to be in

this uncomfortable or a disinterested space. During the shoot, I was completely isolated! It was tough to be in the same zone back at home because our home is a bloody noisy place to be at. I am no robot in reality, I enjoy doing my daily chores. Since, I had been a professional cricket player too — there is a certain discipline that's still imbibed in me. My wife needs a variety to be placed on the table, but I can go on with a simple platter everyday and that's just me. As soon as Neha entered my life: there is a checklist and an additional staff now to take care other to-do things." Apart from it, on a different note, the Gujarati film *Chello Show* is India's official entry to the Best International Feature

Film category of the 95th Academy Awards. This brings down the curtain on the recent media hype about *RRR* and *The Kashmir Files* being the top contenders for the honour. Nonetheless, Angad Bedi has hit another distinctive note which is, "*The List* should be selected as India's Oscar Entry and there should be no debate about it. Ask me why? It's a futuristic film and have we ever touched upon this notch? So why not *The List* as a unanimous choice!"

During an exclusive interview with *The Pioneer*, the versatile actor Angad Bedi shares some insights about his recently released short film, *The List*.



## PUMPING JOY & LAUGHTER INTO LIVES

After making the video, he asked us to meet him and we sat for like 30 minutes, laughed, chilled. Now, its become like the celebrities have become our friends," shares Dhruv. Aside of content creation, the duo also creates music videos. Their 2019 *Gardi* is one of the duo's most watched videos which garnered popularity almost as instantaneously as it was uploaded as it narrated an exhilarating

The content-creator duo, Shyam Sharma and Dhruv Shah, founders of Funcho, have been one of the top influencers, making you burst out into laughter through their funny content. Over an exclusive interview with *The Pioneer*, the duo, gets candid about their journey, some unexpected moments, collaborating with the celebs, and their upcoming projects.

TEJAL SINHA

Over the past few years, the content creation industry has been growing in a rapid pace. With several different types of content available online, comedy is something that is in everyone's list to watch. There is nothing in the world, irresistibly contagious than laughter and good humour. Today, we have with us one such content creator duo, known for making their audience laugh out loud, with their hilarious content. We are talking about the Funcho duo, Shyam Sharma and Dhruv Shah, who have over 2.3M followers on Instagram. The duo are known as the comedy kings of the content creator world. *The Pioneer* connects with the engineers-turned-content creators, who take us through their journey of how it all began. Shyam Sharma, who pursued acting since his early childhood, and has acted in a bunch of films like *Mujhse Shaadi Karogi*, and *Dev*, to name a few, shares, "Funcho is basically what we are, what Shyam and Dhruv are together. We just relate to the video and make our version of it. I and Dhruv met in our engineering college. There was a culture fest that was happening and there was a drama going on in the auditorium. Dhruv and his colleagues used to do it but they wanted someone from the other branch. So I reached out to them. During this, I got to know that Dhruv stays nearby to where I was residing. So we began going and coming from college together. I think that's how it happened. We used to meet on a regular basis at around 7 pm and just play around with videos, when Snapchat was the trend. We used to make videos on Snapchat and our

friends used to really like it. So on Snapchat you had this around 7 seconds video so we compiled these videos and posted it on Facebook and somehow that just got viral, and today we are giving this interview (he laughs)" Looking back at their journey that started in 2017, one word that the duo would call is; Adventurous. Sharing with us an emotional instance, Shyam shares, "The journey doesn't stop surprising us. A few days back, I was traveling when I met a fan and he was like 'Funcho Funcho, Shyam Shyam' and I was like 'Haan'. He just said something that really touched my heart. His mom was admitted due to some serious health issue, I do not remember the name of it. He said, 'I used to show her your videos and we used to sit together and laugh so much, when she was on the hospital bed' and I was like 'Whaaattttt???' I just couldn't believe it and he was like 'my mom came out of it because somehow you guys really helped her out'. I couldn't even react to this at all." No journey goes

smooth as butter. You face several ups and downs, and so did the Funcho duo. "There was a time when we ran out of content, there were times where our videos were a flop, but we have just evolved through it. We've had an adventurous journey. We are also trying to learn and experiment new things and it's also really nice. You just never know what's gonna happen.

There are times when a platform might just shut down or some new platform comes. We just have to be well aware of it, the situations to mold ourselves to be ready for the change that's about to come but not forget our roots where we come from."

Wondering what made them choose comedy? It was the fun- entertaining persons within them, that they came up with such entertaining content. Dhruv Shah, who began his career in digital marketing, before getting into the content creation industry, says, "I think it's just us when we were in college. People in our class knew us as the last benchers, the fun crazy people. Infact, our entire friend circle was like that." And, Shyam continues, "Tomorrow if someone asks us to make an emotional video that'll be really challenging for us, because that is not us comedy comes naturally to us. It's relatable and we can do it." The duo have collaborated with various celebs like Kartik Aryan, Tiger Shroff, Rajpal Yadav, Mumbai Indians and make relatable reels, jokes and puns. They are the first content creators to collaborate with the Indian cricket team while on national duty for the 2022 T20i series. Infact, the duo was also invited by cricketer Hardik Pandya, for his family vacation in Greece. Recently the duo had also met actor Rajpal Yadav. "We were done with making our video and people were standing in queues.

account of the peculiar ongoing in the city's local trains. In 2019, they celebrated their one million milestone with their fan community with a play *Natak the Drama* that they performed in front of a live audience. At present, the duo are currently not working on a music project. However, they hint about them working in a few web series. As the nation begins the celebration of Navratri, the duo have collaborated with the iconic singer Falguni Pathak for a giveaway. They will be giving around 250 garba tickets, for the Navratri event on September 28 at Borivali West in Mumbai.





*what's brewing?*



## Photos by SV Chary

FUN

NO, I MEAN IF YOU SUBSCRIBE, I'LL DELIVER IT ON MY BICYCLE.

I DON'T FEEL GOOD.

YOU SOUND AWFUL. YOU'VE GOT A FROG IN YOUR THROAT.

WHY IS A MOUSE TEXTING YOU SAD-FACED EMOJIS?

WE'RE OUT OF CHEESE

JIM DAVIS 3-27

LOOKING AT YOUR PHONE BEFORE BED IS BAD FOR YOUR EYES!

WHAT MAKES YOU SAY THAT?

A 19x19 crossword puzzle grid. The grid consists of white squares for letters and black squares for empty space. The numbering is as follows:

- Row 1: 1 (down), 2 (down), 3 (down), 4 (down), 6 (right)
- Row 2: 5 (right), 8 (right)
- Row 3: 7 (right), 10 (right)
- Row 4: 9 (right), 11 (right)
- Row 5: 12 (right), 13 (right), 14 (right), 15 (right)
- Row 6: 16 (right), 18 (right)
- Row 7: 17 (right), 10 (right)
- Row 8: 19 (right)

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

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

- 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.

1 Expecting a baby	5 A skydiver wears this
7 Similar	6 Without clothing
8 Eat soup with this	11 Honolulu is the capital of this American island state
9 Reply	13 Say something
10 A large furry animal	12 A wasp's weapon
12 A snake's noise	16 Cut with an axe
14 Overtakes	

- 1 Sets of two
- 2 The number of players in a cricket team
- 3 Smell with this
- 4 A rope loop





# Kajal is in a mood to raise an EcoBaby

As the Tollywood actress enters a new entrepreneurial journey, *The Pioneer* connects with the actress, who is all excited abosut her new milestone, shares her feelings and challenges of working during this phase of life.

SHIKHA DUGGAL

Motherhood is a beautiful phase for a woman. But at the same time, it can be tiresome, difficult, challenging, and at times, heart-breaking too. Like every woman, even Tollywood actress Kajal Aggarwal's life has changed, after she entered motherhood. Addressing these affairs, the actress has introduced, Kare & Karess, in partnership with Sustainkart which is an e-commerce marketplace for sustainable products. Something that she was more attached to was; conscious parenting. The *Hey Simamika* actress is rather interested in a mindful approach, of raising her child and stepping into green parenting. In an exclusive conversation with us, she says, "Initially I was nervous because there are changes to your logistics, your identity and your emotions. But,

no existential crisis occurred to me at all! I was filled with gratitude thereafter, one soon understands when they join the 'mom club,' and what a club to belong to. It's an unreal feeling." The baby care brand has products that cater to the needs of the newborn category, as well as for growing kids. "When I was looking for products for my nephew Ishaan, it was then, when I realised there was a gap in the market for Indian made, sustainable and premier quality baby and mommy care products. I didn't want Neil to go through this because babies require a lot of stuff. With the help of Shilpa, I understood there is a sustainable alternative too." The actress is on a mission to make other mommies realise the possibility to live a sustainable life. She continued, "Nurturing qualities and maternal instincts began to overflow as soon as I conceived. My heart was bursting with love! I am so much more confident in my abilities, in who I am as a mother. I am marching to beat my own drum of parenting because my Neil is unique to me." Kajal and Shilpa, shared a good rapport, even before venturing into the entrepreneurial side. Kajal heartily admits, "I have watched her grow as a mother, especially in immense difficult scenarios. She doesn't give two cents about mom guilt because she's not a pushover. In all our bonding sessions, we exchanged mommy notes which was sort of helpful to me (Kajal laughs). Her child is her world and his needs trumps over hers." Further in the chat, she confirms this phase of her life to be slightly demanding. And, she continues, "I am back on the

sets. Even during my postpartum phase I continued to shoot. Besides that, I was catering to Neil's needs too. Working full time was so strenuous for me. Becoming a mother, also, created a major shift in my views and how I experience things. Waking up through the night, nursing and pumping milk between shots to send back to my baby are just a few of the physical challenges that I am letting my readers know. Mom guilt and separation anxiety were the feelings that I had to talk myself through along with work pressure. And, let me just tell you, the film that I am doing is quite hectic. It demanded all my cells to be present there. On a lighter note, it's all for my baby boy." An expressive entrepreneur is on board too, the younger one named Kanthi Dutt and Kajal expressed her admiration towards him too saying, "Leave about being a young entrepreneur, you know what? He's the smartest of all! I witnessed the correct expertise and zero ego to learn, coming from him. It's not easy for a boy to build business-es like this collaborating with

celebrities one by one. His inclusiveness, respect for consumers and investors alike, accurate knowledge of what's available in his brand space and a keen eye for market trends is what makes him so good at what he does."



## Varalaxmi Sarathkumar completes key schedule in Kodaikanal

Varalaxmi Sarathkumar will be seen in a never before role in *Sabari*, produced by Mahendra Nath Kondla on Maha Movies banner and is being directed by Anil Katz. The film is being presented by Maharshi Kondla. *Sabari* is being shot at a rapid pace. Makers recently completed a crucial schedule. During this schedule, key scenes were shot for two weeks in Kodaikanal. "The Kodaikanal schedule involved Varalaxmi Sarathkumar and the main cast. We shot a song and climax in addition to important scenes for 14 days in the

picturesque locations. We also filmed action episodes with fight masters Nandu - Noor. Suchitra Chandra Bose choreographed the song. The Visakhapatnam schedule will begin soon. We recorded all of the songs for the film. The songs were sung by Chitra Garu, Anurag Kulkarni, Ramya Behara, and Amrita Suresh," said producer Mahendra Nath Kondla. "Varalaxmi Sarath Kumar has played a multi-layered emotional character, that she has never played in any of her previous films. It's a gripping psychological thriller with a criminal undertone. The team is

working hard to bring the best from every department, and the makers are confident that this film will thrill the audience. With powerful actors and brilliant technicians, the film has everyone intrigued," said producer Mahendra Nath Kondla. The multilingual project to be made in Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam and Hindi. Ganesh Venkatraman, Shashank, Mime Gopi are playing the other main roles. Gopi Sundar's music is another major attraction. Nani Chamidishetty is the director of photography, Asish Teja Pulala is the art director and Dharmendra Kakarala is the editor.

## Mani Ratnam: Tech advances alone have made *Ponniyin Selvan* today



Mani Ratnam, the maestro who is bringing his epic film *Ponniyin Selvan: I* to the theatres this week, had earlier attempted to adapt Kalki Krishnamurthy's eponymous novel into a film not once, but twice. The first time, it was in the 1990s, and the second time, in the 2010s, but somehow neither effort materialised into a film. The filmmaker is happy that the film wasn't made back then. In a conversation with IANS, Ratnam said, "In a

way, I am glad this film didn't materialise back then because I feel today we are far more equipped to handle such a subject on screen given the technological advances. This film is made for the big screen as it has an expansive set design, action, costumes, photography and pretty much everything." *Ponniyin Selvan* is "one of the earliest books" that the auteur had read even before he thought of becoming a filmmaker. When asked what



## Chiranjeevi sheds light on what made him choose Mohan Raja's directorial

The fans of Chiranjeevi are waiting with bated breath to witness the Megastar on the big screens yet again with *GodFather*. The *Acharya* actor will be donning a salt and pepper look in Mohan

Raja's directorial for the first time in his career. Recently, the makers announced that the grand pre-release event for the political suspense drama will take place on September 28 this year at Ananthapur, Andhra Pradesh. During an interview, Chiranjeevi was asked why he chose this film which does not have any heroines or songs. Reacting to this, the *Bhola* *Shankar* star said that the story of the movie is so gripping with political and family drama that there is no need for songs and heroines. He further said that these emotions will keep on escalating with every scene and the audience will not realize what will hit them. He concluded by saying that

with all these gut feelings he selected this film, and after seeing the trailer and all, he feels he is right. Besides Chiranjeevi, the cast of the movie also includes Nayanthara, Salman Khan, director Puri Jagannadh and Satya Dev along with others. *GodFather* follows the life of a mass leader, played by Chiranjeevi. Exiled from his hometown for two decades, he decides to make a comeback. While some people are elated with the news, others go out of their way to keep him out of their lives.



## Makers of *Adipurush* to launch its teaser on Oct 02

All eyes are on Prabhas' first straight Bollywood and first mythological project *Adipurush*. The film is slated for a spectacular release on January 12, 2023. Expectations are soaring as Prabhas is playing the role of Lord Ram while Kriti Sanon and Saif Ali Khan are playing the roles of Goddess Sita and Ravan. For quite some time, rumours increased about the film's teaser. Earlier reports came that the makers would be releasing the teaser during Dasara and Prabhas will be firing the effigies of Ravan, Indrajit and Meghnath in Delhi. Reports also came that the teaser would be launched by UP CM Yogi Adityanath. But doubts increased as Prabhas suffered a personal loss when his uncle Krishnam Raju passed away recently.



But it is now coming out that the *Adipurush* teaser will be launched in style on October 2nd in the holy shrine of Ayodhya, the birthplace of Lord Ram. Even Prabhas will be attending the teaser launch along with the entire film unit and the launch event will be done in

## "THERE IS NOBODY BETTER THAN JANI MASTER", SAYS AAYUSH SHARMA

Aayush Sharma who has stirred up the excitement of his upcoming projects with interesting sneak peeks, recently held an Ask Me Anything session on his Instagram account. Flooded with questions on fans being curious about what's next for the Antim actor, Aayush Sharma revealed a small piece of interesting information. When asked about when would Jani Master choreograph the actor, Aayush responded that the audiences are in for a treat and "Something is going to come up soon". Fulfilling fans' wishes and giving them a surprise, Aayush dropped a hint of a song coming out soon where he teamed up with choreographer Jani Master. Sharing his experience on working with him, Aayush says, "There is nobody better than Jani Master! What an experience it was working with him. Got to learn a lot from him. He is a lovely human being and can't wait for all of you to see it." Well, that's quite a lot of beans spilled to make the audience go restless for the further details of the song.

After impressing everyone with his remarkable transformation and evolution as an actor in his second film *Antim: The Final Truth*, the audience has been loving Aayush's performances in his music videos. The actor's last two songs, *Pehli Pehli Baarish*, has crossed over 1.7 crore views while the latest one *Chumma Chumma* is going strong with over 1.2 crore views.



# ROHIT KEEPING FAITH IN BHUVI & HARSHAL

PTI ■ HYDERABAD

India skipper Rohit Sharma has backed pacers Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Harshal Patel to hit form ahead of the T20 World Cup.

Following a disappointing Asia Cup campaign, the Indian team had something to cheer as it won the three-match series against Australia 2-1 after clinching a six-wicket win in the third game here on Sunday.

However, both Bhuvneshwar and Harshal, who made a comeback from injury, leaked runs in the series, ending with an economy rate of 12 plus.

"It's important that we give him (Bhuv) that space because when you have a guy like him in the team and the quality that he brings, we know that he's had more good days than the bad days in the last so many years."

"We've been working on some plans, and hopefully, we can give him more options to bowl in the death. And then he'll be as good as he was before," said Rohit in the post match media interaction.

Despite the woeful run, Rohit said Bhuvneshwar is not short on confidence.

"I don't see that he is short in confidence. It's time for us to show that faith in him and keep backing his skillset



"From our side, we are trying to work out what are the things we can do because when you're bowling in the death you can't be predictable. You need to have options to bowl on both sides of the ground and set the field accordingly."

"And someone with that experience it'll be easy for him to grasp all that knowledge."

Harshal, who is coming off a long injury layoff, also struggled, giving away 99 runs in eight overs in the three games but Rohit said the death overs specialist is not being judged on

this series.

"Harshal is an important player for us without a doubt. Coming back after an injury is never easy. He missed cricket for close to two months. It's not easy (to come back), so we've not judged him on how he is performing in these three games, because we know his quality."

"He has bowled some really tough overs for us in the past and also for his franchise. It's important to keep showing that faith and I'm sure that you know he's also trying to rectify

those mistakes and he's not too far from his best."

Assessing the team's performance in the series, Rohit said "We want to tighten in all departments. I know our batting has been brilliant in the last eight or nine games that we played since Asia Cup."

"But we still want us to be more clinical, more aggressive, you know and play with that aggression. We want to keep doing that."

While the batting unit performed well, the bowlers struggled and the fielding from the

side was also substandard.

"Bowling is the main focus. Fielding is one aspect which will never stop. We want to keep improving as a fielding unit all the time."

Suryakumar Yadav played a special 69-run knock to pave the way for India's victory alongside Virat Kohli, who also scored a half-century in the third game.

"When it comes to Surya we all know his quality. He can play the shots all over the ground. And that is what makes him special."

## 'Want to give DK more game time ahead of T20 World Cup'

PTI ■ HYDERABAD

India skipper Rohit Sharma wants to give wicketkeeper batter Dinesh Karthik more time in the middle before the team heads Down Under for the T20 World Cup next month.

India have been alternating between Karthik and Rishabh Pant in their playing XI.

While the young keeper was given the nod ahead of the veteran player in the Asia Cup, Karthik was picked for all three matches against Australia.

"I wanted both of these guys to have a number of games under their belt before the World Cup. When we went to the Asia Cup both of these guys were in the fray to play all games," Rohit said at the post-match press conference after India clinched the three-match series against Australia on Sunday.

"But I just feel that



Dinesh needs a little more game time. He hardly got to bat (this series). Just maybe three balls. So that's not enough time," Rohit added.

Karthik faced seven balls in total against Australia, while Pant played only one game where he did not get a chance to bat.

"Pant also needs game time obviously. But looking at how this series was it was important for me to just stick to that consistent bat-

ting lineup."

India take on South Africa for a three-match T20I series, starting Wednesday and Rohit said Karthik and Pant's inclusion in the playing xi will depend upon the situation.

"I don't know what we're gonna do against South Africa. We just need to go and see their bowling, what sort of bowling lineup they'll play with, and who are the best guys for us who can handle that bowling lineup. It all depends on that."

"We want to be flexible in our batting. So if the situation or if the thing demands that we need a left-hander, we will bring in a left-hander if we need a right-hander, we will continue to do that."

"But we'll try and manage those guys pretty carefully. I do understand that they need game time before the World Cup but there are only 11 players you can play, unfortunately."



## T20I Rankings: India go 7 points clear at top

PTI ■ DUBAI

India went seven points clear of England at the top of the ICC T20 rankings following their narrow series win over Australia in Hyderabad.

Down 0-1 against the touring Australia, the Rohit Sharma-led India bounced back in style to level the series in Nagpur before Virat Kohli and Suryakumar Yadav's fifties in the deciding rubber on

Sunday sealed a 2-1 win.

The six-wicket final over win improved their ranking by one point to 268 points, a seven-point lead over their closest rival in England in the ICC T20 rankings released on

Monday.

The upcoming three-match series against South Africa will give India a chance to consolidate their lead at the top ahead of the World Cup in Australia.

The Proteas occupy third place on the team rankings with 258 points, but could stake their claim when they in the upcoming series commencing at Thiruvananthapuram on Wednesday.

Incidentally it was Pakistan's narrow three-run win over England in the fourth game in Karachi on Sunday that helped India increase their lead.

That series remains tied at two games apiece, with plenty of rankings points still to play for during the final three matches in Lahore.

## Shahbaz & Shreyas in T20I squad vs SA

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Yet to recover from COVID-19, Mohammed Shami has been ruled out of India's three-match T20I series against South Africa, while Bengal all-rounder Shahbaz Ahmed came in place of the rested Hardik Pandya. The series is starting on Wednesday in Thiruvananthapuram.

With all-rounder Deepak Hooda also out of the series due to back spasms, the national selection committee is set to recall middle-order batter Shreyas Iyer for the series.

"Shami hasn't recovered from his bout of COVID-19. He needs more time, and hence, will be out of the South Africa series. Umesh Yadav will continue as Shami's replacement for

the South Africa series," a senior BCCI source said.

However, when asked why Shahbaz has been picked in place of Pandya, the source said, "Is there any seam bowling all-rounder, who can replace Hardik? Raj Bawa is too raw and that's why we kept him in India A for exposure. He will need time to blossom. Tell me another name?"

With Hooda also out of the series, the selectors may have thought that a batting all-rounder would help serve the purpose. "Shahbaz is more of a batting all-rounder, who is more than a handy left-arm spinner. He is there just as back-up in case, Axar needs to be rested for a match with six T20I games in 10 days, including travel across the country," the source said.



## We warned her multiple times: Deepti Sharma on controversial run out

PTI ■ KOLKATA

India all-rounder Deepti Sharma on Monday revealed that Charlie Dean was warned against backing up multiple times before she effected a controversial run out of the England batter in the third and final ODI.

The dismissal reignited an intense debate over the 'spirit of the game'.

"Woh plan tha hum logon ka, kyunki woh baar baar... Hum warn bhi kar chuke the usko. Jo rules mein hain, jo guidelines hain, uske according hi humne kiya (We had planned this as she was not paying heed to our repeated warnings. We acted according to the rules and the guidelines)," Deepti told reporters upon her arrival here.

Reduced to 118 for nine in their pursuit of 170 in the third ODI, England's chase was led by their No 9 batter Dean who revived their hopes with her last wicket partnership with Freya Davies. With 17 needed to win, Dean was run out for 47 with the veteran Indian off-spinner deciding to clip the bails during her delivery stride to put an end to their 35-run partnership that gave India 3-0 sweep. It was also Jhulan Goswami's swansong game.

The run-out is currently listed in the 'Unfair Play' section of the laws but is set to be moved to the 'Run Out' section at the start of next month when an update in the ICC Playing Conditions comes into effect.

Deepti further pointed out that they had informed the umpires before running out Dean.

"Umpires ko bola tha hum logon ne, but still woh wahin par thi. Hum log kuchh nahin kar sakte the. (We did inform the umpires, but she continued to do it. There was nothing we could do)," the 25-year-old added.

The 39-year-old Jhulan, who has a record 355 wickets across formats, retired from international cricket in the final ODI as India secured their first-ever 3-0 sweep on English soil to give the legendary Indian pacer a fitting farewell.

Having made her debut in 2002, Jhulan ended up playing 12 Tests, 204 ODIs and 68 T20Is.

"Har team ko jeetna hota hai, aur last match mein hum chahte the ki hum jitke unko (Jhulan) acha farewell de, toh uske hisaab se, as a team, jo effort daal sakte the woh humne diya. (Every team wants to win and we as a team gave our best effort to win it for Jhulan Goswami)," she said.

Jhulan and Deepti, who also plays for Bengal in domestic cricket, landed in the city to a rousing welcome at the airport by several women's cricketers.



## Assam Cricket Association 'rain-ready' for India-SA T20I

PTI ■ GUWAHATI

The Assam Cricket Association has put in place elaborate arrangements to minimise time-loss in the event of rain, including importing pitch covers, for the T20 International between India and South Africa on October 2, a senior official said.

The last cricket match at Barsapara Stadium here between India and Sri Lanka in January 2020 was abandoned following heavy rainfall.

"Guwahati had experienced unprecedented rainfall in

the middle of winter, and that is why the match in 2020 had to be eventually called off."

"The weather forecast for October 2 is clear, but the weather is not within the control of anyone. We have all arrangements in place in case there is rain on October 2," ACA secretary Devajit Saikia said.

The ACA has imported two "extremely lightweight" pitch covers from the US, he said. It already has around 20 covers at its disposal.

"These imported covers ensure that water or moisture

does not seep into the pitch," Saikia said.

He said the ground had been handed over to the BCCI chief curator on September 16, and its staff is now in charge of the entire field, including the pitch.

Saikia said a capacity crowd is expected for the India-South Africa encounter, with the first phase of online ticket sales garnering good response.

"The first batch of online tickets has been sold out. We will open another batch on September 26," he said.

PTI ■ HYDERABAD

Ravindra Jadeja's absence from the T20 series was expected to weaken India but the hosts found an able replacement in 'outstanding' Axar Patel, said Australia coach Andrew McDonald.

Left-arm spinner Axar, who was shoed in as a like-for-like replacement for the injured Jadeja, impressed everyone with his bowling, ending as the leading wicket-taker in the three-match series.

"Axar, in particular, had an outstanding series. With Jaddu out everyone thought that it might become a bit of a weakness for India, but they've found another one again, which tends to happen," McDonald said at the post-match press conference after India clinched the series.

The Australian bowling attack, comprising the pace duo of Pat Cummins and Josh Hazlewood, was taken to the cleaners by the Indian batters.

Asked if it's a concern heading to the World Cup, McDonald said: "Across the series the run rate was high, it was entertaining cricket from the get-go. Bat dominated the ball, so there was really no place to hide for bowling units, in particular death."

"We worked our way through some plans. We saw some good results with some of the plans that we implemented that might be able to transition to the World Cup."

McDonald added that Australia will have reinforcements in the form of Mitchell Starc when they begin the defense of their World Cup title at home next month.

"Suryakumar Yadav was

## Oz head coach reserves big praise for 'outstanding' Axar



"The connection between here (India) and Australia might be slightly different, a little bit more bounce, different tactics. Mitchell Starc comes back into the picture being one of our best death bowlers. So, we feel like we'll get reinforcements there," McDonald feels most of the bowling attack is "under the pump" due to the skills of the batters.

"The conversations always going to be can you get better at your death bowling? The answer to that is yes."

"We encourage our guys to make good decisions and execute them. Sometimes the batter out-executes you and we've seen that with Hardik (Pandya) across the series."

"Suryakumar Yadav was

outstanding today and he's gonna be dangerous in the World Cup but he showed what he can do."

Australia were without a few of their World Cup-bound players due to injuries but the head coach feels the defending champions have enough depth to overcome the situation.

"It's fortuitous that some of the guys got the opportunity here. We got a couple of injuries which are concerning leading into a World Cup. You don't like to see some of your mainstay players out of the team leading in but we feel as though we've got some good options in depth."

In the absence of David Warner, who was rested, Cameron Green "embraced the

challenge of opening."

The all-rounder amassed 118 runs, including two beligerent half-centuries to give Australia great starts.

"I've asked him to show great intent on top of the order and everything that we're seeing so far shows that he's doing that."

"It's probably opportunistic the way that he's come into the opening position with obviously David Warner not being here and a couple of other players from our World Cup 15."

"And that's all you can do, given an opportunity... Before we came over here we thought he had the skill sets to be able to succeed there, and he's taken on some of the best bowlers in world cricket."

## Rizwan, Rauf help Pak win 4th T20I

AP ■ KARACHI

Pakistan halted England with three wickets in six balls to take a sensational three-run win in the last over of the fourth T20I in Karachi on Sunday.

Haris Rauf grabbed three wickets as the hosts tied the seven-match series.

Earlier in-form opener Mohammad Rizwan struck a brilliant 88 as Pakistan made 166-4.

With England needing five for victory from 10 balls, Rauf dismissed Liam Dawson (34) and Olly Stone off successive deliveries in the 19th over.

Last man Reece Topley was then run out as Pakistan rescued victory from almost certain defeat at a packed National stadium in Karachi.

Dawson had silenced a 32,000 holiday crowd by cracking four fours and a six off pacer Mohammad Hasnain's 18th over.

When Topley was run out off the second ball of the last over it sent Pakistan players and



home fans into raptures.

The win made the occasion of Pakistan's 200th T20I more memorable. They are the first team to reach the milestone.

England were rocked by Hasnain (2-40) and Nawaz (3-35) and were staring at defeat at 130-7 before Dawson added 32 with Adil Rashid (three not out) to bring England back in the game.

But Rauf's two wickets, he finished 3-32, sealed the match for Pakistan.

The remaining matches are in Lahore (September 28, 30 and October 2).

England, who are on their first tour of Pakistan for 17 years, won the first and third games while the home team won the second and fourth -- all in Karachi.