

ANALYSIS 7
DEEN DAYAL UPADHYAYA
HAD A VISION FOR WORLD**MONEY 8**
GOVERNMENT MAKING EFFORTS TO
KEEP INFLATION UNDER 4%: FM**SPORTS 11**
NOT WINNING WORLD CUP TITLE IS
RETIRING JHULAN'S ONLY REGRET

VIJAYAWADA, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2022; PAGES 12 ₹3



the pioneer

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IT WAS AFTER FEW
TELUGU FILMS THAT I
GOT MY TRUE CALL;
SAYS SHREYA
DHANAWANTHRY

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**UK HOME MINISTER VOWS FULL FORCE
OF LAW AGAINST LEICESTER 'THUGGERY'**

UK Home Secretary Suella Braverman has met with local police officers and Hindu and Muslim community leaders in Leicester and assured them that thugs behind recent violent clashes would face the full force of the law. During a visit to the eastern England city on Thursday, the Indian-origin Cabinet minister was briefed by the Leicestershire Police chief and also leaders from local temples and mosques on the serious disorder which has resulted in 47 arrests. The disorder came as tensions since an India-Pakistan cricket match at the end of last month continued to spill over into this weekend.

**HCA NOT AT FAULT IN STAMPEDE-LIKE
SITUATION DURING TICKET SALE: AZHAR**

Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA) president Mohammed Azharuddin on Friday said he was very disappointed over the stampede-like situation at the Gymkhana Ground here during the sale of tickets for the India-Australia T20 match on September 25 but said the association is not at fault in the unfortunate incident. He refused to blame anybody and said he was very disappointed with what had happened. "I don't want to blame anybody. Why should I blame anybody. Actually, I am very disappointed with what happened. My heart goes to the families. We are taking care of them," he told reporters here when asked whom he held responsible for the stampede-like situation on Thursday.

**K RAJA PRASAD REDDY ELECTED
INDIAN NEWSPAPER SOCIETY CHIEF**

K Raja Prasad Reddy from Telugu daily Sakshi was Friday elected as the president of the Indian Newspaper Society (INS), the media body said. Rakesh Sharma from Aaj Samaj, a Hindi language newspaper, was elected as the INS deputy president and Mathrubhumi Arogya Masika's M V Shreyams Kumar the society's vice president at its 83rd annual general meeting, a statement said. Tanimay Maheshwari from Hindi daily Amar Ujala was elected as the INS treasurer, the statement added. "The annual general meeting of the society was held through video conferencing and other audio-visual means today," the INS said.

**MICROPROCESSOR-CONTROLLED
SMART LIMBS DEVELOPED BY ISRO**

As a spin-off of space technology, Indian Space Research Organisation said on Friday that it has developed an intelligent artificial limb. It is likely to be commercialised soon and expected to be cheaper by up to 10 times, benefiting above-knee amputees to walk with a comfortable gait, ISRO said. These microprocessor-controlled knees (MPKs) offer extended capabilities for the amputee than those offered by the passive limbs that do not use the microprocessors, ISRO said in a statement. "Thus far, a 1.6 kg MPK has enabled an amputee to walk about 100 metres in the corridor with minimum support. Efforts to improvise the performance are underway," it said.

ANKABABU RELEASED

Court issues show-cause notice to CID

Arrest of journalists a dictatorial act: Pawan

PNS ■ AMARAVATI

In a setback to the State government, while releasing senior journalist Kollu Ankababu on Friday, the CID Court in Guntur issued a show-cause notice to the CID officials asking them to explain when they had issued 41(A) Cr.P.C. notice to him and in what circumstances. The Court also asked the officials to provide details of the period during which the CID tried to issue the notice to the accused. The CID was also instructed to produce details on how they tried to give notice to the said journalist and how he refused, within four days.



Earlier, the CID officials informed the court that they served the 41(A) notice to Ankababu, which was refused by him. Reacting to that, Ankababu said to the Court that, the CID did not give notice and arrested him illegally. Reacting on the allegations, the Court directed the CID to investigate the cases as per the legal procedure and released Ankababu.

Speaking on this occasion, Ankababu said that the CID police arrested him without serving notice or showing a warrant.

Thanking the journalist fraternity for supporting him, Ankababu said that he did not commit any crime by forwarding the alleged message in WhatsApp. Before that, the journalist unions like APJF, APUWJ and others condemned the arrest and staged a protest at the CID office in Guntur. From there, the police shifted the protesting journalists to Nagarampalem police station.

APJF General Secretary and Mahaa TV MD Marella Vamsi, APJF president Ch. Krishnanjaneyulu and others said that the arrest was undemocratic.

Meanwhile, in a press release, the CID said that based on a complaint lodged by Tirupati Ramesh, Manager, Chief Minister's Office, they lodged an FIR under sections 153(A), 505(2) R/W 120(B) IPC.

PNS ■ AMARAVATI

It appears that the YSRCP government is trying to control the journalists working with a professional commitment by arresting them and filing cases against them, observed Pawan Kalyan, president, Jana Sena, in a press release, on Friday.

It shows the dictatorial attitude of the government in the arrest of senior journalist Kollu Ankababu. The government did not follow the Supreme Court guidelines while taking him into custody. "When we observe the arrest of Ankababu on the charge of posting a piece of information in the journalists' Whatsapp group over a gold smuggling case at Gannavaram airport and filing a case, registering it under the Sections of conspiracy, it seems the government is shaking."

The journalists will gather information and bring this to the people in the form of news stories. They take the side of the people by giving information on contemporary issues.

"We condemn filing cases against journalist union leaders Marella Vamsikrishna, MD, Maha TV, Ch. Krishnanjaneyulu, president, Andhra Pradesh Journalists Forum (APJF) and others who expressed their protest over the arrest of their journalist colleague and shifting them to the police station," Pawan Kalyan said and added that it was heard that the policies of journalists like Vamsikrishna, who is trying to expose the developments in the State and to inform people about the government's failures through his debates are not liked by the rulers. So, they wanted to control it by making arrests, Pawan Kalyan added.

Pawan Kalyan wondered why the



Pawan Kalyan wondered why the CID is not responding against the ruling party leaders who are resorting to character assassination on social media platforms and placing objectionable posts?

CID is not responding against the ruling party leaders who are resorting to character assassination on social media platforms and placing objectionable posts?

The police would never respond to the cyberbullying and trolls though they were crossing limits against the common people, women,

and Opposition party leaders, even after complaining about these attacks. None has forgotten how the YSRCP workers and their beneficiaries insulted not only the common people but also the High Court and Supreme Court judges and their family members, the Jana Sena president observed.

We condemn filing cases against journalist union leaders Marella Vamsikrishna, MD, Maha TV, Ch. Krishnanjaneyulu, president, Andhra Pradesh Journalists Forum (APJF) and others who expressed their protest over the arrest of their journalist colleague and shifting them to the police station

-PAWAN KALYAN

Snake found in X-ray unit at Kurnool Govt Hospital

PNS ■ KURNOOL

A 6-foot snake was found in the Government General Hospital in Yemmiganur on Friday. The snake slithered into the X-ray unit room. The staff noticed the snake and fled with panic.

Later a snake catcher went to the GGH and caught the snake. The snake was poisonous and the doctors and officials heaved a sigh of relief as the snake was found before it has bitten anybody.

Over 300 patients rush to the OP ward daily for treatment and a large number of women are also admitted for deliveries. Heavy bushes have



grown beside the hospital and no official has taken steps to clear the bushes, the patients said. The patients urged the officials to take steps to remove the bushes and clean the area.

UP Legislature sets aside a day for women members to speak

PNS ■ LUCKNOW

Both Houses of the Uttar Pradesh Legislature set aside Thursday for women legislators to speak, an initiative lauded by the ruling and Opposition parties.

The women members spoke after Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath's opening remarks followed by an address by Leader of Opposition Akhilesh Yadav in the state Assembly.

Women doctors, MBA students, law graduates, and girls from educational institutes witnessed the proceedings from the gallery of the Assembly.

The Legislative Council too held the day-long sitting in which only women members spoke.

The 403-member Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly has 47 women MLAs, including 22 first-timers. There are six women MLCs in the 100-member Legislative Council.

Hailing the move, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath said suggestions from women members will help the government take concrete steps.

Speaking after him, Leader of the Opposition and Samajwadi Party chief Akhilesh Yadav stressed the need for checking crime against women.

"Today, the largest legislature of

the country is moving towards creating a new history. After 75 years of Independence, voices of half the population will reach 25 crore people of the state," Adityanath said, stressing that it should have been done long ago.

The chief minister said this is not the first time that an effort is being made to give equal status to women.

"After the Independence, a lot of good efforts were made in this direction. The Constitution makers had given the right to vote to men and women from the beginning.

"

Naidu non-local to Kuppam: Jagan

PNS ■ CHITTOOR

Launching the 'YSR Cheyutha' third tranche at Kuppam on Friday, Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy announced that the social security pension amount would be hiked to Rs 2,750 from January, on Friday.

The Chief Minister came down heavily on TDP president N Chandrababu Naidu and said that the Leader of Opposition is not local for Kuppam, but Hyderabad.

The Chief Minister said, unlike in the previous Chandrababu Naidu government, all sections of people in the present government are enjoying the fruits of development

which is all too palpable. He announced the hike in old-age pensions to Rs 2,750 from Rs 2,500 with effect from January and said it will later reach the promised figure of Rs 3,000.

Describing 'YSR Cheyutha' as a scheme that helps SC, ST, BC, and Minorities women in running their families and bringing in a major change with the empowerment, the Chief Minister said, a weeklong 'Cheyutha' festival would be held at Kuppam. Elected representatives will visit each house from the mandal level and share the happiness that comes with the scheme.



Modi leading from the front: Venkaiah Naidu
P2

TODAY	
ALMANAC	
Month & Paksham:	Sep 24 02:31 AM to Sep 25 03:12 AM
Tithi: Chaturdashi:	Sep 25 03:12 AM to Sep 26 03:24 AM
Amavasya:	
Nakshatram:	Sep 24 03:50 AM to Sep 25 05:07 AM
Purva Phalguni:	Sep 25 05:07 AM to Sep 26 05:55 AM
Uttara Phalguni:	
Rahukalam:	9:08 AM to 10:38 AM
Yamagandam:	1:37 PM to 3:07 PM
Variyam:	12:34 PM to 02:13 PM
Gulika:	6:08 AM to 7:38 AM
Amritakalam:	10:23 PM to 12:04 AM
Abhijit Muhurtham:	11:44 AM to 12:32 PM

VIJAYAWADA WEATHER	
Forecast: Partly cloudy	
Temp: 33°C	
Humidity: 72%	
Sunrise: 5:57 AM	
Sunset: 6:02 PM	
Updated: SEPTEMBER 23, 2022 5:00 PM	

Sharmila criticises Jagan for changing university's name

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

YSRTP president YS Sharmila on Friday criticised her brother Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy for changing the name of NTR Health University to Dr YSR Health University.

Sharmila made it clear that Jagan Mohan Reddy's decision was not right and said that demeaning a person like former Chief Minister, the late NT Ramarao, is nothing but insulting crores of people.

PNS ■ WASHINGTON

People infected with the SARS-CoV-2 virus are at increased risk of developing a range of neurological conditions in the first year after the infection, according to a large study conducted in the US.

Such complications include strokes, cognitive and memory problems, depression, anxiety and migraine headaches, the researchers said.

The researchers at Washington University School of Medicine also found that the post-COVID brain is associated with movement disorders, from tremors and involuntary muscle contractions to epileptic seizures,

hearing and vision abnormalities.

The infection is also associated with balance and coordination difficulties as well as other symptoms similar to what is experienced with Parkinson's disease, they said.

"Our study provides a comprehensive assessment of the long-term neurologic consequences of COVID-19," said Ziyad Al-Aly from Washington University.

"The results show the devastating long-term effects of COVID-19. These are part and parcel of long COVID. The virus is not always as benign as some people think it is," Al-Aly, senior author of the study published in the journal Nature Medicine.



The researchers noted that, overall, COVID-19 has contributed to more than 40 million new cases of neurological disorders worldwide. Other than having a COVID infection, specific risk factors for long-

"The results show the devastating long-term effects of COVID-19. These are part and parcel of long COVID. The virus is not always as benign as some people think it is," Al-Aly, senior author of the study published in the journal Nature Medicine.

term neurological problems are scarce.

"We are seeing brain problems in previously healthy individuals and those who have had mild infections," Al-Aly said.



Telugu doctor appointed AIIMS Director

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

M Srinivas, Dean of ESIC Hospital and Medical College in Hyderabad, has been appointed the Director of AIIMS-Delhi, according to an order issued by the Department of Personnel and Training on Friday.

Dr Srinivas will succeed Randeep Guleria who has been holding the post since March 2017. Srinivas was a professor in the Department of Pediatric Surgery at AIIMS-Delhi before he joined ESIC Hospital and Medical College in Hyderabad in 2016.

The order stated the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Srinivas to the post of Director, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), New Delhi.

Few people in the study were vaccinated for COVID-19 because the vaccines were not yet widely available during the period of the study, from March 2020 through early January 2021.

The data also predates Delta, Omicron and other COVID variants.

A previous study in Nature Medicine found that vaccines slightly reduce -- by about 20 per cent -- the risk of long-term brain problems.

"It is definitely important to get vaccinated but also important to understand that they do not offer complete protection against these long-term neurologic disorders, Al-Aly said.

What makes Modi the tallest feminist of our times

From dawn to dusk, Vimala, a mother of two kids, used to be very busy with household chores in her dilapidated rented shack. She had to get up early, much before people came on to streets, every morning to go to a distant open place to answer nature's call. The routine household tasks of the homemaker included gathering firewood, fetching water from a well, coping with soot while cooking and so on. She could not afford any medical assistance whenever she or her kids fell sick, which gave her stressful moments. Vimala wanted to find time to make papads to earn money on her own and she wished to catch up with her near and dear in the village. But it was impossible for her due to lack of time. By evening, she had to get her

kerosene lantern ready to light up her dwelling because there was no power supply to her village. Vimala had never stepped into a bank nor did she have a bank account. Even imagining that a bank could give her financial assistance to start her dream project, a papad-making unit was beyond her. Amidst this highly laborious drudgery and penury, her age was catching up to her. She had lived her life without much self-confidence, self-reliance or peace of mind. Her entire life she was in search for dignity. Vimala's daughter Sarala has a different story to tell you. She need not wake up early. Her house, constructed under PM Gramin Awas Yojana, has a toilet attached to it. A water tap, arranged with Central government

Vimala's daughter Sarala has a different story to tell you. She need not wake up early. Her house, constructed under PM Gramin Awas Yojana, has a toilet attached to it. A water tap, arranged with Central government funds, is connected to her house. She has a gas stove and electricity. As a result of these basic amenities, she has plenty of time to realise her mother's dream of having a papad-making unit with the help of a government scheme.

funds, is connected to her house. She has a gas stove and electricity. As a result of these basic amenities, she has plenty of time to realise her mother's dream of having a papad-making unit with the help of a government scheme. She maintains her bank account and she is fully self-reliant. Akin to Vimala, crores of Indian women turned out to be epitomes of Nari Shakti, thanks to a plethora of schemes launched by the Modi-government keep-

ing women's dignity and honour in mind in the last eight years. The mission is going on with a rapid pace and every effort is being made to ensure the last mile reach of all schemes. The Modi government has so far constructed more than 2.5 crore houses under PMAY-G, making 2/3 women as sole/joint owners. Soubhagya scheme ensured 99 per cent of eligible rural households got electricity. Besides, 9 crore poor families got LPG connections under Ujjwala Yojana. 'Beti



KISHORE POREDDY

to ensure health and dignity for women and provided tap water connections to over 6 crore families under the Jal Jeevan Mission. Soubhagya scheme ensured 99 per cent of eligible rural households got electricity. Besides, 9 crore poor families got LPG connections under Ujjwala Yojana. 'Beti

Bachao, Beti Padavo', launched by the Prime Minister on 22 January 2015, helps girls to take education seriously. This scheme, a tri-ministerial effort involving Ministries of Women and Child Development, Health & Family Welfare and Human Resource Development, addresses the declining Child Sex Ratio (CSR) and related issues of women empowerment over a life-cycle continuum. Another remarkable achievement of the Union government is to provide bank accounts for 25 crore women enabling financial inclusion and independence. Now, they need not depend on their male counterpart for their financial operations. Self-help groups were strengthened to lend support to the women to make money. Mudra Loans

have been a boon for women to invest and earn. In addition to 24,800 crore loans to women under Stand Up India, more than 8 lakh crores was disbursed to as many as 23 crore women under Mudra Yojana. While 3.1 crore women underwent free ante-natal check-ups under PM Surakshit Matritv Abhiyan, 2.6 crore women received assistance for nutrition under PM Matru Vandana Yojana. In addition to these astounding schemes, women are now eligible for 26 weeks' paid maternity leave. Permanent commission of women officers in the armed forces and appointment of women onboard warships and as fighter pilots is a progressive step in the right direction. The abolition of Tripe Talaa, a regressive practice

against women, is a very positive step. The grand success of various women-centric schemes notwithstanding, the so-called liberal elite is unwilling to appreciate the Modi government's unparalleled efforts. They turn a blind eye to the unprecedented march of Indian women along the development trajectory. Modi sincerely believes in the idea of women empowerment and he always argues that it is crucial for India's growth. He always considered women as nation builders. That's why India is experiencing true Nari Shakti. Modiji is undoubtedly the greatest feminist of this century. (The author is BJP Telangana unit's official spokesperson)

Modi leading from the front: Venkaiah Naidu

Unveils 'Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas Sabka Vishwas', collection of PM's speeches

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

Former Vice-President of India M Venkaiah Naidu unveiled the book 'Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas Sabka Vishwas', a collection of selected speeches of Prime Minister, along with Governor of Kerala Arif Mohammed Khan and Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting Anurag Thakur at a function organised by the Directorate of Publications Division on Friday. The book is a compilation of 86 speeches of the Prime Minister during the period from May 2019 to May 2020 on various subjects.

Venkaiah Naidu said that the book was a significant contribution to widen the understanding of the challenges faced by the nation and the concerted efforts being made to overcome them. "The current government," he said, "is working under the broader philosophy of 'Sarve Jana Sukhino Bhawantu'. Good schemes have been launched earlier also, but only the current Prime Minister, leading from the front, is ensuring all programmes adhere to set timelines and targets. He is hands on and ensures continuous monitoring and eventual delivery. With his gift of

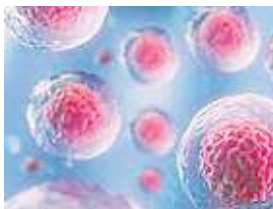


"The current government," he said, "is working under the broader philosophy of 'Sarve Jana Sukhino Bhawantu'. Good schemes have been launched earlier also, but only the current Prime Minister, leading from the front, is ensuring all programmes adhere to set timelines and targets. He is hands on and ensures continuous monitoring and eventual delivery. With his gift of enormous communication skills, PM Modi can connect with all the people of the country alike," Naidu said.

enormous communication skills, PM Modi can connect with all the people of the country alike," Naidu said. Naidu recalled the time from the vision of opening crores of bank accounts appeared unattainable, but under the able leadership of PM Modi, the

target was achieved very quickly. Counting Direct Benefit Transfer as the biggest achievement of the government, Naidu said it freed people from the shackles of middlemen, ensuring endpoint delivery of welfare measures. Previously, schemes were identified either

as government or political, but PM Modi understood that realisation of a goal depended hugely on the involvement of people. Swachha Bharat Abhiyan was thus envisioned by the Prime Minister as a Jan Andolan (people's movement), he said. Naidu summed up by commenting that, "for long people have said that India does not speak from a position of strength and stature. With the advent of PM Modi, India is now a force to reckon with and India's voice is heard by all." Kerala Governor Arif Mohammed Khan and Union Minister Anurag Thakur also spoke on the occasion.



Youth saves cancer patient by donating stem cells

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Rizwan, hailing from Hyderabad, donated his blood stem cells to save a patient suffering from blood cancer. He had registered as a blood stem cell donor in 2016 during a donor registration drive conducted in Hyderabad by the DKMS BMST foundation.

Narrating his experience, Rizwan said, "I felt good that my life can be of use to someone in need. Blood stem cell donation is similar to blood platelet donation. It was a simple process, and took about 4 hours to complete. As healthy individuals we should consider it as an opportunity to help those who aren't fortunate to have a healthy life."

Rizwan showed exemplary compassion towards blood cancer patients and readily agreed to donate his stem cells. Initially, there was resistance from his family, but ultimately his will prevailed and he convinced his family of the good cause.

People will throw YSRCP out of power: Dhulipala

PNS ■ AMARAVATI

TDP senior leader and former MLA Dhulipala Narendra said here on Friday that the day is not too far when the people will throw the YSRCP out of the State.

Talking to media persons at the party headquarters here now people are in doubt whether they are under a democratic rule or in a dictatorship. Wherever the Chief Minister, Jagan Mohan Reddy, visits, the locals are facing several hardships and a kind of repression, he said. Once people used to be scared of dacoits and thieves but now they are so afraid of the Chief Minister's visit to their area, he commented. The kind of security arrangements being made for Jagan's visits are mindboggling and even the local shops and other establishments are ordered to shut their doors, while holidays are being declared for the educational institutions, he remarked. The school buses are being utilised to transport the public to the Chief Minister's



meetings while the local transport is being stalled, he said and pointed out that the APSRTC buses are also being used to shift the people. "How much public money is being misutilised?" he asked. At least medical shops should remain open even during emergency times, but when Jagan visits the areas, these shops are also being shut, he maintained. If someone raises any questions on these, false cases are being foisted against such persons, he said. It is highly ridiculous that the YSRCP leaders are threatening to impose fines on the locals if they fail to attend the Chief Minister's meetings, he said and pointed out that Jagan Mohan

Reddy is visiting his home constituency amid tight security. N Chandrababu Naidu, during his tenure as the chief minister, used to visit Kuppam so freely and Jagan's style of functioning is much worse than Hitler's, he observed. Dhulipala Narendra said that the Backward Classes like Chandrababu Naidu and thus they elected him to power for so many times. He is the leader of the State and can contest to the Assembly from any Assembly segment, the TDP leader said and stated that the question of local and non-local does not arise concerning Chandrababu. The former MLA asked Jagan to spell out the names of the BC leaders of his party from Chittoor district and who is representing the district in his Cabinet. Dhulipala Narendra made it clear that the repressive attitude will only boomerang one day and the day is not too far when the people will throw the YSRCP in the Bay of Bengal, he remarked.

Telugu doctor...

Continued from Page 1

The appointment is "for a period of five years w.e.f the date of assumption of charge of the post, or till attaining the age of 65 years, or until further orders, whichever is the earliest." The order was initially dated September 9 but the government later issued a fresh one changing the date to September 23. It further stated the ACC had given "ex-post facto approval for continuation of Dr Randeep Guleria as Director AIIMS, New Delhi w.e.f. March 25, 2022 for six months, or till joining of the new Director, whichever is earlier." Guleria was appointed as director for a term of five years on March 28, 2017. His tenure was extended twice by three months each. Dr Guleria's second extended tenure as the Director of AIIMS-Delhi was scheduled to end on September 23. Earlier in March, names of three doctors -

- Nikhil Tandon, head of the department of endocrinology; Rajesh Malhotra, chief of AIIMS Trauma Centre and the head of the department of orthopaedics; and Pramod Garg, professor in the gastroenterology department in the institute -- shortlisted by a search-cum-selection committee and subsequently approved by the Institute Body, the top decision-making body of the AIIMS, were sent to the ACC for approval. The ACC headed by the prime minister on June 20 sought a wider panel of names for the post of director of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) here. Following this, names of MV Padma Srivastava, chief of Neurosciences Centre; Dr Balram Bhargava, former ICMR director general; and Dr Rakesh Aggarwal, director of Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education & Research, Puducherry were discussed.

Sharmila criticises Jagan for changing university's name

Continued from Page 1

She said that it is not proper for a government to change the name given by another government. "Now they have named NTR Health University after YSR. But the next government will change YSR's name and that means insulting YSR. No need to give another's fame to YSR. Around 700 people died of shock when YSR died as YSR has an image nobody has," Sharmila said.

IPAC, TRS no longer see eye...

Continued from Page 1

They may have shifted a few employees from here to Andhra Pradesh, but what happens within their organisation is not our prerogative. We are only bothered with reports. The way forward can only be decided by the Chief Minister and Prashant Kishor - whether to use IPAC for national politics or not". Many leaders in the TRS, who had imagined that IPAC would sweep them off their feet, were left disgruntled that the leaks were hampering their prospects. For a party that had expected 'Ravali Jagan kavali Jagan' to be the pith of the campaign, the work done by the consultancy so far was found to be largely counter-productive.

UP Legislature...


Continued from Page 1


In England and many other countries, women got this right later," he said.

In a lighter vein, he said on normal days, women members' voice gets buried in the din.

"If you come to know of any of your mistakes, apologise by holding both ears and help run the House better," he said addressing male members. Recalling the contribution of women during the Vedic period and their sacrifices during the freedom struggle, the chief minister highlighted his government's schemes for them.

"I request that women members should be allowed to discuss as long as they want and it should also be published," the chief minister added.

CHICKEN RATES ₹/KG	
	
Dressed/With Skin	₹213
Without Skin	₹243
Broiler at Farm	₹125

EGG RATES ₹/100		
VIJAYAWADA	403	
HYDERABAD	401	
VISAKHAPATNAM	399	
RETAIL PRICE	₹4.03	
(IN VIJAYAWADA)		

'Spandana' new feature makes govt...

Continued from Page 1

The reopened grievance would be automatically reported to the higher officials. For instance, if the grievance is raised at Village or Ward Secretariat and the citizen is not satisfied with the redressal, he would reopen it again. The second time, the problem will land in the portal of the mandal-level official and if not solved there then it will be forwarded to the District Collector. In this entire process, citizen satisfaction is the only benchmark, the CMO officials informed. Meanwhile, the dedicated 'Spandana' office at the CMO would monitor all the grievances across the State, from village level to State level, and instruct the district authorities concerned to redress them.

So far, the government has received a total of 5,28,876 grievances from the citizens. Out of them, at least 4,99,899 were redressed, which is around 95 per cent, 22,712 are in progress, that is, 4 per cent and 6,265 reopened, which is around one per cent of total grievances, official data revealed.

The grievances have been segregated based on their source. The government has

SOURCE	RECEIVED	TOTAL IN PROGRESS	TOTAL REDRESSED
SPANDANA-1902	261904	6250	255654
SPANDANA MONDAY	105389	7373	98016
SPANDANA COLLECTORATE	46601	4796	41805
ONLINE USER	33537	1377	32160
SPANDANA APP	24573	978	23595
SPANDANA-OTHER DAYS	19966	841	19125
SPANDANA-1907	8868	101	8767
SPANDANA-GSWS	8233	57	8176
SPANDANA-14500	6843	58	6785
SPANDANA-104	5541	48	5493
PRAJA DARBAR (CMO)	2468	185	2283
SPANDANA-14400	2066	362	1704
Spandana-14417	1893	207	1686
SC/ST GRIEVANCE	801	73	728
SPANDANA-EMAIL	140	4	136
APP-14400	53	2	51
Total	528876	22712	506164

been accepting grievances through Village and Ward Secretariats, collectorates, call centres, Spandana Monday, toll-free numbers 1902, agriculture grievances through 1907, citizen online, and Spandana mobile app. Based on the nature of the grievances,

said that grievance redressal is the only way to reach out to the public."

The government has developed technical backup, in which every grievance could be tracked, and preserved along with complete details.

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Passengers welcome normal fares for APSRTC special buses

C PRADEEP KUMAR
■ VIJAYAWADA

For the first time in the recent past, APSRTC is operating 4,500 special bus services during Dasara festival season without charging additional fares from the passengers, which is a welcome move. Operating special buses during festivals from various places across the State to 21 different destinations without additional fare will give a much-needed relief to the common people travelling from places during festival times who already have to bear festival expenses.

APSRTC MD Ch D Tirumala Rao said that in view of the devotees rush, RTC would operate special bus services from all important places to various places from outside AP like Telangana including Hyderabad, Chennai, and Bangalore. To deal with the rush RTC would operate about 4,500 bus services from September 29 to October 7. RTC has made arrangements to operate special bus services to Srikakulam, Vizianagaram, Visakhapatnam, Vijayawada, Bhimavaram, Amalapuram, Rajamahendravaram, Tuni, Kurnool, Anantapur, Tirupati, Kadapa, Srisailem, Markapuram, Ongole, Nellore, Hyderabad, Bhadrachalam, Chennai, and Bangalore. About 2,100 bus services would be operated before Dasara festival from September 29 to October 4 and post Dasara, from October 5 to 7.

RTC will implement the Unified Ticketing Solution (UTS) services in all buses.

There is a chance that the passengers would purchase bus tickets through Phone Pay, Google Pay, QR code scan, and swiping credit and debit cards to ease cashless transactions. A GPS tracking system was available on all buses and the passengers would contact the information call center by dialing 08662570005.

When asked how much revenue did the RTC lose by operating special bus service during Dasara festival, APSRTC Executive Director (Operations) KS Brahmananda Reddy told The Pioneer that they have revised bus ticket fares twice recently due to fuel price hike. The RTC does not want to impose an additional burden on the passengers by way of 50 per cent more through special bus services during festival season. He said that they are expecting a Revenue generation of Rs 6 crore and might forego Rs 1 crore by operating special services with normal fares.

G Rakesh Kumar, a software engineer from Guduvada working in Bengaluru, welcomed the decision of APSRTC to charge normal fares for special bus services. He said that earlier he has to run from pillar to post to get the ticket during important festivals and pay more to private bus operators.



10 lakh devotees expected during Dasara: EO

- 21L laddu prasadamams being prepared;
- 800 showers arranged



PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

About 10 lakh devotees are expected to visit the temple during Dasara Navaratri celebrations, said Sri Durga Mallikarjuna Swami Varla Devasthanam Executive Officer D Bramarambha.

Addressing media persons on Friday, the EO said arrangements were made considering the suggestions made by the coordination committee during the meeting. Except for a few small works, all arrangements were complete. A brochure was released on the occasion.

The EO said that the temple

gates, ghat road, and other places on the temple premises would be illuminated with special decorative lights for the upcoming nine-day festivities. She said that 21 lakh laddu prasadamams were being made available for the devotees visiting the temple during Navaratri. A sufficient number of rest sheds and washrooms were being set up for the convenience of the devotees.

The Executive Officer said that separate queue lines were being arranged for various categories of devotees to ensure hassle-free darshan. She said that earlier, only 300 showers had been arranged. But now, 800 showers were being arranged and special arrangements were made for darshan of elderly and disabled. About 250 staff were deployed to monitor sanitation arrangements.

She said that there would be no Antaralaya Darshan for devotees during Dasara. Annadanam won't be organised during Navaratri; instead food packets will be distributed to the devotees.

Chief priest Siva Prasad Sarma said that darshan of the presiding deity would be held from 3 am to 10.30 pm. On the first day of Dasara Navaratri celebrations, devotees will be allowed for darshan from 9 am, after the Snapanabhishekam of the goddess. Khadgamala Archanam is going to be held on the sixth floor, instead of Antaralaya darshan, he added.

AP ahead of other States in fish production: Minister

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

Dr Seediri Appala Raju, Minister of Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development and Fisheries, has stated that Andhra Pradesh has been contributing significantly to the fish basket of the country in the recent years through an effective strategy in both coastal and freshwater aquaculture and marketing. He said Andhra Pradesh has left other States far behind in fish production. The role of private sector becomes equally important right from pre- and post-harvest infrastructure like hatcheries and seed rearing farms, brood banks, Broodstock Multiplication Centres and Nuclear Breeding Centres, creation of adequate infrastructure to minimise post-harvest loss and increased value addition across the supply chain are of paramount importance.

The minister urged the industry to work along with the department to create a robust plan for infrastructure development to ensure higher income for fishers and fish farmers, safe and nutritious food to the consumer and minimise food loss. He also emphasised on the need to enhance value addition, processing, handling and the promotion of cleanliness in indigenous fish markets so that right value was gained by



the fishermen and quality was ensured for the consumer. He appreciated the work being done by CII as part of the Champion Sector initiative in helping position AP as the investment destination and export leader in this sector.

Arabind Das, Co-Chairman, CII National Committee on Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, stated: "CII with its National Committee on Fisheries is committed to work along with the State government and various agencies to achieve the vision setup for the sector and will work towards positioning Andhra Pradesh as an investment destination and export leader for marine products."

Dr M Lakshmi Prasad, Vice Chairman, CII Andhra Pradesh, expressed gratitude to Minister Dr Seediri Appala Raju for lending his full encouragement to India's fisheries sector. He said the minister's address outlined his deep thought process and strategic thinking for the sector, as well

as inspiring us to achieve our best efforts for livelihood, job creation especially for women and increasing fishermen's income. He said CII would work closely with the Fisheries Department and all the stakeholders in the sector.

Dr S Angeli, Additional Director, Department of Fisheries, Government of Andhra Pradesh, outlined the various initiatives the department has taken for the benefit of the farmers.

Lt Cdr Ravindranath Reddy, Deputy CEO, Andhra Pradesh Maritime Board, in his address spoke about the proposed fishing harbours, integrated sea parks and the creation of cold chain infrastructure to boost exports of the marine products from Andhra Pradesh.

Ramakanth V Akula, CEO, the Waterbase Ltd and Dr V Ramachandra Raju, president, Delta Fish Farmers Association & Society for Indian Fisheries & Aquaculture, also spoke in the conference.

CM Jagan's governance hailed by leaders: MLA Vishnu

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

State Planning Board Vice-Chairman Malladi Vishnu has said that under the leadership of Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy, Andhra Pradesh State was performing really well and that the comment made by Telangana IT Minister KT Rama Rao was proof of this fact. He said that during the Covid-19 pandemic, the CM stood by the people of the State while the Opposition leaders were hiding in Hyderabad.

As part of Gadapa Gadapaku Mana Prabuthvam programme, Malladi Vishnu, along with the Deputy Mayor and other party activists, visited houses in the 30th division of 250th ward secretariat on Friday.

Vishnu said that many prominent people in the country, including KT Rama Rao, had said they were supporting Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy's governance and his policies. He said that Chandrababu Naidu and the TDP leaders were hell-bent on



criticising the ruling party leaders and CM Jagan daily. Chandrababu backstabbed TDP founder and former CM NT Rama Rao, and was the cause of his death, the MLA alleged.

He further said CM Jagan Mohan Reddy had kept his promise and named the district after NTR to show his respect.

Vishnu stated that YSR was a person who remained in the hearts of people. He said that the reforms brought by YSR in the

medical and health sectors were the main reason why the poor people in the united Andhra Pradesh still remembered him. Thousands of underprivileged students were able to complete their medical education due to the efforts of YSR. Therefore, he reiterated that it was reasonable to name the Health University after YSR in honour of the golden rule of the leader, so that people could remember his services.

NTR CP inspects Dasara security arrangements

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

NTR District Police Commissioner Kanti Rana Tata on Friday inspected the security arrangements for lakhs of devotees visiting goddess Durga Temple during the upcoming Dasara Festival celebrations commencing from September 26 to October 5.

In this context, the Police Commissioner, East Zone DCP Vishal Gunni, Rural DCP Mary Prashanthi, and West Zone in-charge DCP Kolli Srinivas along with other officials inspected the queue line from Vinayaka Temple which is the starting point to visit the goddess Durga Temple. The CP gave instructions to the officials during the inspection of queue lines. He said that the iron rods installed

at the Prakasam Barrage should be fenced to prevent people from falling. After examining the Seethamma Vari Padalu the CP gave suitable suggestions to the police officials.

Similarly, security arrangements at parking lots, 'prasadam' counters, and other places were monitored and appropriate instructions and advice were given to police officers and officials of other departments. The CP also ordered to arrange of adequate staff and provide strict security to the devotees in crowded places to prevent crimes.

West ACP Dr. K Hanumantha Rao, South ACP Dr. B Ravikiran, traffic officers, temple officers, and staff of other departments were present.



Ticket-checking staff create awareness among public

PNS ■ VIJAYAWADA

Intensive ticket-checking drives started over Waltair Division to check ticketless travel. With the onset of the festive season, rush in trains and at ticket counters increased. To create awareness among the travelling public on the use of UTS-On-Mobile, YTSK facility, etc., the ticket-checking staff of Waltair Division is conducting awareness drives over the Division.

At Visakhapatnam railway station the awareness drive was organised under the leadership of Assistant Commercial Manager Shri GD Sarkar involving staff from RPF, accounts, etc. The awareness drive aimed to make the people aware of various facilities available for them to take unreserved and reserved tickets like UTS on Mobile, Yatri Ticket Suvidha Kendras (YTSKs), ATVM Smart Cards, Current reservation counters, etc. Similar drives are being organised over the Division.



The drives also focused on creating awareness among rail users about the penalties for ticketless travel, littering at railway premises, a ban on single-use plastic, etc.

Speaking on the occasion, DRM Anup Satpathy said that people should travel in trains with dignity and adopt safe travel so that railways can serve them better. He said pulling the alarm chain without proper reason, throwing garbage & making the coach filth are also punishable offences.

Garden opened at Tirumala Vaikuntam queue complex

PNS ■ TIRUMALA

TTD Chairman YV Subba Reddy, along with Executive Officer AV Dharma Reddy, inaugurated a garden set up in the Vaikuntam Queue Complex here on Friday. The garden, having a 1.5-acre green carpet, avenue plantation, seasonal flowers and 1,500 hanging pots, will provide a refreshing ambience and yet another divine experience for the devotees visiting Tirumala.

Among others, the garden comprises a 15-foot Krishna idol, 20-foot marble Govinda Namam, Shanku and Chakra icons, 40-foot Sri Venkateswara



Padalu and white roses and three pairs of Gomata and calf. Flute music is played in the garden 24x 7.



Speaking on the occasion, the TTD Chairman said that the garden, with music, idols, green carpets and flowers, was

expected to provide a unique visual treat to the devotees during their long wait.

The project was conceptualised, designed and executed in just 60 days. Laurence Labs and Sneha Nursery implemented the project for TTD.

V V Ravi Kumar, CFO of Laurence Labs, and L Narendar Rao, MD of Sneha Nursery, who were present on the occasion, said they were happy to present the garden for the devotees.

SE 2 Jagadeeshwar Reddy, EEs Jaganmohan Reddy, Srihari, DE Ravishankar Reddy and Garden Deputy Director Srinivasulu were also present.



YSRCP leader run over by lorry, Singarayakonda tense

Special teams formed to nab culprits; lorry seized

PNS ■ ONGOLE

Tension prevailed for some time in Singarayakonda on Friday when irate mobs observed a bandh in protest against an overnight incident of a YSRCP leader being run over by a lorry.

Additional forces were deployed in the town to ensure that the situation does not go out of control.

SP Malika Garg said that YSRCP leader Pasupuletti Raviteja (33) was going to Kusumalla village along with his friends on the night of Thursday on a motorcycle. A lorry knocked down his bike from the rear end. When he fell, the lorry ran over him killing him instantaneously.

The incident took place on the NH 16 at Kanumalla crossroad on the outskirts. Later, the



lorry sped fast from the scene. The friends of deceased Raviteja chased the lorry but

the lorry driver tried to hit them with the lorry.

The SP said that special

teams were formed to arrest the culprits.

Later, the police seized the lorry and brought it to the police station. Knowing this, the irate followers of the deceased Raviteja set fire to the lorry and a drinking water kiosk. As a tense situation prevailed in the town, all commercial establishments were closed.

According to police, the deceased Raviteja was an active leader in the ruling YSRCP in the area.

However, he had differences with an MPTC over the election of the MPP vice president which is suspected to be the reason for his murder.

Meanwhile, SP Malika Garg along with DSPs visited Singarayakonda and the scene of the offence. She reviewed the law and order situation and gave directions to the police.



Kidambi calls on Guntur DC

PNS ■ GUNTUR

Indian Badminton player Kidambi Srikanth called on district Collector M Venugopal Reddy in his chamber on Friday.

The Collector felicitated Srikanth. The Collector wished him to win more international matches and bring laurels to the country. DRO Chandrasekhar Rao, STEP CEO B Venkatanarayana, Special Deputy Collector Lalita and Kidambi Srikanth's father KVS Krishna, and chief coach Mahesh Babu were present.

JAGANANNA COLONIES

‘Complete works by Oct-end’

PNS ■ GUNTUR

Municipal Commissioner Keerthi Chekuri has directed the officials concerned to take steps to ensure that the beneficiaries would complete the construction of houses in their plots in Jagannanna colonies by the end of October.

Municipal Commissioner Keerthi Chekuri has directed the officials that every beneficiary should build a house in Jagannanna Colony under the Guntur Municipal Corporation limits by the end of October and the Secretaries and Nodal Officers should create awareness among the beneficiaries in this regard.

A special review meeting was held here on Friday with the city planning, engineering, and housing officials on the construction of houses in Jagannanna colonies in the city council meeting hall.

Speaking on the occasion, the Commissioner said that the government was providing support for the construction of houses in Jagannanna Colonies which had been ambitiously



undertaken by the state government, and the beneficiaries should complete the houses by the end of October.

She assured that the beneficiaries would get the necessary support for the construction of houses and full cooperation from the housing authorities and the municipal corporation. The contractors assigned to the construction of houses should do the work as per the target set for them every day and the amenity secretaries should process the bills accordingly.

Keerthi Chekuri directed the Housing EE to report to her

every day on the progress of the construction work. According to the layouts, DEEs would be appointed as special officers by the city administration. DEEs should take steps to provide basic facilities in the layouts and also coordinate with the officials of the department for setting up power lines.

RDO Prabhakar Reddy, Additional Commissioner (in-charge) B Srinivasa Rao, deputy commissioner T Venkata Krishnaiah and Housing PD (in-charge) Shankar Rao, and other officials were present.

Use technology in cracking criminal cases: DIG

PNS ■ BAPATLA

Deputy Inspector General Dr. CM Trivikram Varma asked the police officials to use the latest technology in cracking criminal cases and appreciated the officials for the efficient steps taken to prevent road accidents in the district.

The DIG inspected the Inkollu circle office as part of the annual inspection on Friday. The DIG inspected the premises of the office, cases diaries, registers and maintenance of the office.

He also inspected the progress of the grave cases and knew the progress of the investigation of criminal cases. The DIG told the police officials to use the technology, professional proficiency, and experience in carrying out investigations of criminal cases and crack the cases. He also directed them to enhance visible policing and patrolling.

Later talking to the media the DIG said that the steps being taken by the police offi-

cials in the district to curb road accidents are yielding results. He said that the road accident deaths had come down concededly during the last two months in the district.

The DIG appreciated SP Vakul Jindal for the effective steps taken to prevent road accidents. He informed that GPS was installed on the highway mobile teams to monitor which area they were patrolling.

The DIG directed the officials to lay special focus on the POCOS cases. The DIG said that he had also made some suggestions to the officials on the investigation of grave cases and property-related murders.

The DIG appreciated SP Vakul Jindal for successfully cracking the sensational double murders which took place at Pusapadu village using the latest technology. SP Vakul Jindal, DSPs P Srikanth, Inspectors A Srinivas, D Ranganath and Sk. Nayab Rasul were among those who were present.



97,750 beneficiaries get Rs 173.91 cr under ‘Cheyutha’

PNS ■ GUNTUR/ELURU

As many as 97,750 women belonging to the SC, ST, and the BC communities have got Rs 173.91 crore under the YSR Cheyutha scheme.

A programme was organised here on the occasion of crediting the amount into the bank accounts by Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy. Speaking on the occasion ZP chairperson Henry Christiana said that the eligible women in the district had got Rs 497.41 crore under the first, second, and third phase of the YSR Cheyutha scheme in the district.

As part of comprehensive development and economic empowerment of women,



Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy had introduced financial assistance to the women to improve their livelihoods, the ZP chairperson said.

She appealed to the women to utilise the money properly to improve their financial conditions. Collector M Venugopal Reddy said that in

the third phase 92,750 women belonging to the BC, SC, ST, and the minority community were extended Rs. 173.91 crore as part of their financial uplift under the YSR Cheyutha scheme today, adding that a total amount of Rs.497.41 crores had been disbursed through YSR Cheyutha scheme so far in the district in the three phases.

The Collector asked the women to start petty businesses with the financial assistance received through the YSR Cheyutha scheme to improve their financial position.

The Collector informed that multi-national companies like Hindustan Unilever Limited, ITC Limited, P&G would provide goods at

wholesale rates to those who want to start petty businesses. Joint Collector G Rajakumari, Madya Voochana Prachara Committee chairman Vallamreddy Lakshman Reddy, MLAs Md. Mustaf, M Giridhar Rao and Dr.Undavalli Sriidevi were among those who were present.

Meanwhile, in Eluru district, 1,17,826 eligible women were disbursed Rs 220.92 crore under the YSR Cheyutha scheme today in the third phase. A programme was organised here on Friday. Joint Collector P Arun Babu and MLA Dulam Nageswara Rao released a replica of a cheque on the occasion.

Collector stresses need for competitive spirit in sports

PNS ■ ONGOLE

Prakasam District Collector AS Dinesh Kumar has said that competitive spirit is imperative to excel in sports.

The Collector inaugurated the 35th Regional Level Cricket Selection Meet 2022-2023 at Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya at Tarlapadu village along with MP Magunta Srinivasulu Reddy and MLA K Nagarajuna Reddy on Friday.

Students from eight clusters in the states of Kerala, Karnataka, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, and Puducherry in the Hyderabad region are participating in these competitions.

Speaking on the occasion, the Collector exhorted the students to give priority to sports along with studies. He said that they should excel in sports and become winners. He advised the students to take



part in these competitions without getting injured. The Collector appreciated the Vidyalaya staff who made arrangements to organize these competitions efficiently.

MP Srinivasulu Reddy wished Hyderabad regions to be the winner in the national level competitions to be held in Himachal Pradesh after showing the best performance in these competitions.

The MP said that necessary assistance would be provided by the state government in the management of Navodaya

Vidyalayas in the district. MLA Nagarajuna Reddy said that physical and mental firmness could be obtained through sports. The MP asked people to make sports a part of life and participate in sports.

Markapuram RDO Lakshmi Siva Jyoti, Tarlapadu MPP S Bhulakshmi, Markapuram Municipal Chairman CH Bala Muralikrishna, Vidyalayam Principal BG Prasanna Kumar, Vice Principal Ravikumar, PET Prabhudas were among those who were present.

NOT REACHING TARGETS

Collector Vijaya Krishnan unhappy with officials

PNS ■ BAPATLA

District Collector Vijaya Krishnan has expressed anger over the indifference of officials in reaching targets in the construction of houses in jousting colonies.

The Collector here on Friday held a review meeting with the district officials in the Spandana hall in the Collectorate on housing construction, construction of government buildings, Spandana applications, and services being extended through the secretariats.

Speaking on the occasion the Collector vented her anger over the officials stating that their performance was not as expected and they should change their way of functioning. She warned of taking action against the delinquent officials.

Collector Vijaya Krishnan said that the officials were negligent in achieving the targets of housing construction in the dis-



trict. She directed the officials to prepare estimates about the proposals received for the development works under the Gadapa Gadapaku Mana Prabutwam programme in the district. The Collector told the officials to take up works worth less than Rs 5 lakh on a nomination basis and invite tenders for works worth more than Rs 5 lakh.

Joint Collector K Srinivasulu, DRDA PD Arjun, DWMA PD Shankar Naik, Agriculture AD Abdul Sattar, Civil Supplies Department DM Sriakashmi, and Housing Department PD Prasad were among those who were present.

Committees set up on podu lands unlawful: HC

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Telangana High Court has directed the TS government to work within the framework of the Constitution. The High Court also said that the committee constituted by the government to confirm the rights of tribal people on Podu Lands at the district level is not in accordance with the law. It may be recalled that the TRS government had constituted coordination committees on September 11 with MPs, MLAs and MLCs under district ministers and had issued GO No: 140 regarding this.

However, three persons, Tejawath Shankar Naik, Meekya Naik and L. Anji, from Bhadrathi Kothagudem district approached the High Court challenging GO No: 140 for providing a place to the district Minister, local MLAs, MPs and others. They argued that the court must dismiss GO No: 140 as the constitution of committees is not as per law.

The petitioners said the intervention of public representatives and local leaders in

confirming rights on Podu Lands is against the Constitution and will lead to discrimination.

Advocate Sanjeev Kumar who appeared for the government argued that the government issued the GO to provide rights to tribal people on Podu Lands measuring 25 lakh hectares.

The petition came up before the Bench of Judge Vijaysen Reddy. The petitioner's counsels Chikkudu Prabhakar and Ravi Kumar argued that the GO is not in accordance with the law.

The government filed a counter affidavit and argued defending GO No: 140. But the High Court considered the arguments of the petitioner's counsel and agreed with the petitioners.

The High Court directed the Coordination Committees not to conduct any meetings till further orders and posted the case to October 21. The High Court granted a stay saying that the Committees must not conduct meetings till further direction.

ED issues notices to TS Cong leaders in National Herald case

K VENKATESHWARLU ■ HYDERABAD

The National Herald case has touched Telangana too. The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has issued notices to Telangana Congress leaders asking them to come for interrogation on October 10 under the Money Laundering Act Section 50.

The ED issued notices to former Ministers Dr J. Geetha Reddy, Shabbir Ali, P. Sudarshan Reddy, former Union minister Renuka Choudhary and former MP M. Anjan Kumar Yadav.

ED sources said these leaders had transferred money to companies linked to the National Herald issue. But Telangana Congress leaders said that so far they have not received the ED notices.

The leaders said that it was true that they gave money through cheques as party donations. They also made it clear that giving party donations is no offence and that they will attend the interroga-



tion if they receive notices from the ED. Speaking to the media Anjan Kumar Yadav said they had helped the Congress newspaper 'National Herald' when it was in trouble.

"I was elected as an MP twice. I was born and brought up in Hyderabad but I have no land in Hyderabad. I am not afraid of the ED. Politicians who entered politics a few years ago have constructed houses on acres of land here. I

demand that the ED should probe them if it has guts. The BJP has started to tremble after Rahul Gandhi launched his Bharat Jodo Yatra. The BJP is also afraid of the Munugode by-poll and so it has started blackmail," he said.

It may be recalled that AICC interim president Sonia Gandhi and former president Rahul Gandhi were interrogated by the ED regarding the National Herald newspaper.

H-NEW, OU cops arrest drug kingpin in Goa

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

The Hyderabad Narcotics Enforcement Wing (H-NEW) and the Osmania University Police nabbed a drug supplier in Goa on Friday.

The suspect, John Stephen Dsouza alias Steve, 60, is the owner of the Hill Top Restaurant and Bar at Vagator in Goa.

The H-NEW had apprehended drug peddler Priteesh Narayan Borkar in August when he was trying to sell drugs in Habsiguda. The police seized 20 Ecstasy pills, five LSB blots and four grams of MDMA from him.

He revealed that he has around 600 customers who regularly purchased drugs from him. He named Steve and five other people from whom he used to procure drugs.

After getting the information, an H-NEW team along with the OU Police went to Goa and with the assistance of the Goa Police apprehended Steve.

No price control if power sector is handed over to corporates: Jagadish

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Power Minister Jagdish Reddy said that handing over electricity companies to private firms is a betrayal of the public. He expressed concern that privatization of the power sector would seriously affect people.

He said that the BJP government is trying to hand over the power sector to corporate companies and called upon progressive forces to fight against the new electricity laws along with electricity

employees. KCR has been opposing the new electricity laws from the beginning.

Speaking at a media conference, he said that the new Electricity Act is like an axe hovering above the people. He expressed concern that privatization of the power sector would seriously affect people.

He said that the BJP government is trying to hand over the power sector to corporate companies and called upon progressive forces to fight against the new electricity laws along with electricity

employees. KCR has been opposing the new electricity laws from the beginning.

INDIA CORNER

BJP leader's brother-in-law held for murdering him over love marriage

A man was arrested by a special task force (STF) here for gunning down a local BJP leader for having a love marriage with his sister, police said on Friday. Identified as Chaman alias Pawan, the accused had joined a gang to take revenge. According to STF, the accused, also the brother-in-law of the slain BJP leader Sukhbir Khatana alias Sukhi, confessed that he took the extreme step owing to a rivalry that developed after Khatana's love marriage with his sister. "It was in 2008 when Sukhbir had a love marriage with my sister Pushpa after which I had developed a rivalry against him. To eliminate Sukhbir I came in touch with gangster Vikram alias Papla Gujjar in 2010-11 and started working for the gang" the accused told police. "I hatched a conspiracy to kill Sukhbir, along with gangster Papla and other associates and finally gunned down him", he added. Khatana (46) was gunned down by armed assailants at a Raymond showroom, located on Gurudwara road near Sadar bazaar on September 1.



Mukhtar Ansari gets five-year jail in Gangster Act case

The Lucknow Bench of the Allahabad High Court on Friday sentenced former MLA Mukhtar Ansari to five-year imprisonment in a 23-year-old case related to the Gangster Act. Justice D K Singh passed the order overturning the acquittal by a special MP-MLA court in 2020. The court also imposed a fine of Rs 50,000 on Ansari. State counsel Rao Narendra Singh said the FIR was lodged with the Lucknow's Hazratgani police in 1999 and a special court had acquitted Ansari in 2020. The state had filed an appeal against acquittal in 2021. The High Court on Friday allowed the state government's appeal and sentenced Ansari to five years in jail, he said. On Wednesday, Mukhtar Ansari was awarded seven-year jail in another case for threatening a jailer and pointing a pistol at him. In 2003, the then Lucknow district prison jailer SK Awasthi had lodged an FIR with the Alambagh police alleging that he was threatened for ordering a search of people who came to meet Ansari. A trial court had acquitted Ansari in this case also.



Mumbai man gets video call threatening bomb blast in country

The Mumbai police have registered an offence against unidentified persons after a man in suburban Santacruz allegedly received a video call threatening about a bomb blast in the country, an official said on Friday. Rafat Hussain (55) allegedly received a video call on Tuesday from unidentified persons who claimed that they would be carrying out a bomb blast in the country, he said. Hussain then approached Santacruz police station and informed officials about the threat call and lodged a complaint, he said. An FIR under sections 505 (statements conducing to public mischief) and 506 (2) (criminal intimidation) of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) has been registered against unidentified persons, the official said. The police were verifying the mobile number from which the man received a threat call, he said, adding that a probe is underway.



Urban Naxals had stalled Sardar Sarovar work: PM

PNS ■ AHMEDABAD

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday alleged that "urban Naxals and anti-development elements" with political backing had stalled the construction of Sardar Sarovar dam on the Narmada river in Gujarat for many years by running a campaign that it would harm the environment. Such "urban Naxals" are still active and getting support from various institutions to stall development projects in the name of environment protection, Modi said while urging environment ministers from different states to ensure that projects aimed at bringing 'ease of doing business' or 'ease of life' do not get stalled unnecessarily.

He also asked the state governments to adopt a balanced approach in granting environment clearances "to counter the conspiracy of such people".

The prime minister was addressing the environment ministers from states after vir-



tually inaugurating the National Conference of Environment Ministers at Ekta Nagar in Narmada district of Gujarat via video conference. "Urban Naxals and anti-development elements having political backing had stalled the construction of the Sardar Sarovar dam by running a campaign that the project will harm the environment. Huge

amount of money was wasted due to this delay. Now, when the dam is complete, you can very well judge how dubious their claims were," he said. Modi added that contrary to the claims that the project would harm the environment, the area surrounding the dam has now become a "teerth kshetra" or place of pilgrimage for environment lovers.

He was referring to the famous 'Statue of Unity' and many iconic tourist attractions, such as jungle safari, valley of flowers, and many gardens that came up near the 182-metre tall monument.

'Urban Naxal' term is often used by some segments of the political spectrum to describe sympathisers of the Naxalism cause as well as certain social activists.

Last month, Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel had also alleged that "urban Naxals" had opposed the Sardar Sarovar dam to deprive the state and arid Kutch region of water and development. He had labelled activist and Narmada Bachao Andolan leader Medha Patkar as an "urban Naxal".

Cautioning the ministers, PM Modi said that urban Naxals are still active and get support from various institutions as well as political parties to stall developmental projects in the name of environment protection.

Kerala HC takes suo motu case against PFI for declaring 'illegal' hartal

PNS ■ KOCHI

The Kerala High Court on Friday said the hartal called by the Popular Front of India today was prima facie contempt of court since it went against a 2019 order passed by it on such protests.

Justice A K Jayasankaran Nambiar said despite its 2019 order, a call for a flash hartal was made on Thursday by the PFI. It was an "illegal" hartal.

The court took suo motu case against PFI, the radical Islamic outfit, and its state general secretary over declaring hartal in the southern state today.

"The action of the aforementioned persons in calling for the hartal without following the procedure contemplated in our earlier order, prima facie, amounts to contempt of the directions of this Court in the order aforementioned," the judge observed.

Initiating suo motu case, the court issued directions to the police to ensure adequate measures to prevent any damage or destruction to public and private property of those who do

not support the call for hartal.

"In particular, police shall also take steps to monitor any such activity by the supporters of the illegal hartal and shall place before this Court a report giving details of such instances and the extent of damage, if any, caused to public/private property."



"The said details would be necessary for this Court to take remedial action to recover such losses from the perpetrators of the illegality," Justice Nambiar said.

The court also asked the police to grant adequate protection to all public utility services that apprehend violence, at the hands of those supporting the illegal hartal.

PFI activists beaten up by local people in Kannur

PNS ■ KANNUR (KERALA)

A group of Popular Front of India (PFI) activists were beaten up by local people when they tried to forcefully down the shutters of shops here as part of the hartal called by their outfit in the state on Friday. Angry local people reacted strongly when the protesters asked them to close the shops, beat them up and handed one of them to the police at the Central Bazar in Payyannur in this politically-volatile northern district. In the visuals aired by local television channels, it could be seen that one of the hartal supporters was beaten up by a group of local people, who chased him when he tried to run away and handed him over to the police later. A policeman could be seen taking him in an autorickshaw in the visuals. According to local people, the

incident happened when a group of PFI workers rushed to the bazaar area knowing that some of the shops were open. Besides the shoppers and local people, those belonging to other political parties also said to have joined in the bid to check the PFI workers' attempt to close the shops. At least four people were reportedly under the custody of Payyannur police in connection with the incident. Sporadic incidents of violence were reported in various parts of southern state during the hartal called by the radical Islamic outfit. The hartal was called by the PFI to protest against the raids in the offices and residences of its leaders and their subsequent arrests on Thursday by the National Investigation Agency (NIA) and other agencies for allegedly supporting terror activities in the country.

Wanting to become PM, Nitish Kumar backstabbed BJP: Amit

PNS ■ PURNEA

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Friday claimed that Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar backstabbed the BJP to join hands with RJD and Congress, in order to fulfil his prime ministerial ambitions.

Asserting that the BJP will form a government with full majority in the state, Shah alleged that Kumar does not have any ideology, so he gave up socialism in favour of caste-based politics.

"Nitish-ji, you did the same thing in 2014. In the 2024 Lok Sabha elections, the people of Bihar will rout this Mahagathbandhan. BJP will form a government with full



majority after the 2025 assembly polls," Shah claimed at his party's rally in Purnea.

"We believe in politics of service and development, instead of selfishness and power. Wanting to

become prime minister, Nitish Kumar backstabbed, and is now sitting in the lap of RJD and Congress," he added.

He said the Bihar chief minister has only one ideology -- "my chair should remain intact".

Shah, who is on his two-day visit to Seemanchal region of Bihar, is scheduled to hold a series of meetings with MPs, MLAs and leaders of different cells of the party.

'India is central to US' vision for a free, open Indo-Pacific'

PNS ■ WASHINGTON

The US views its partnership with India as central to its vision for a free and open Indo-Pacific, a senior Pentagon official has said, underlining that they are now focused on the "long game" which is building the partnership into the future and supporting India's ability to shape a "favourable balance of power" in the Indo-Pacific, amidst China's aggressive moves in the region.

Dr Ely S. Ratner, Assistant Secretary of Defence for Indo-Pacific Security Affairs also said the US is supporting India's military modernisation.

We view the US-India partnership as central to our vision



for a free and open Indo-Pacific. While there may be bumps in the road along the way, we are really focused on the long game which is building our partnership into the future and supporting India's ability to shape a favourable balance of power in the Indo-Pacific, Ratner told a group of reporters on Thursday and think-tank experts during a virtual round table. He said that External Affairs

Minister S Jaishankar is scheduled to meet Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin at the Pentagon on Monday. This comes on the heels of a lengthy telephonic conversation that Austin had with Defence Minister Rajnath Singh over the phone recently.

In the wake of a number of these engagements it has been really clear that the US and India today are more closely aligned in our relationship than we have ever been before in our history. What we see is converging strategic interests and a shared vision for the region, in particular, we've made a number of great strides in the past few years, building on our four foundational agreements, he asserted.

AYUSHMAN BHARAT-PRADHAN MANTRI JAN AROGYA YOJANA

Mandaviya to inaugurate 'Arogya Manthan' to mark 4th anniversary

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya will inaugurate 'Arogya Manthan' -- a two-day event to celebrate four years of the implementation of Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana and one year of the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission -- on September 25.

The event will see active participation of global and national experts from the healthcare sector along with representatives from the academia, think-tanks, industry and the media, according to a health ministry statement.

The health minister will interact with beneficiaries of AB-PMJAY from across the country on September 23.

Ashwini Vaishnav, Minister for Electronics and Information Technology, Bharati Pravin Pawar, Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, and Dr V K Paul, Member (Health), NITI Aayog will grace the event, the statement said.

Senior Government officials from states and Union territories will also be present.

The AB-PMJAY will complete four years of its implementation on September 23 and Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission (ABDM) will be



marking its first anniversary on September 27.

Fortnight-long celebrations in the form of 'Ayushman

Pakhwara' to mark the anniversary of AB-PMJAY is already underway in all states implementing the scheme, from September 15-30, the statement said.

Under the 'Ayushman Pakhwara', 33 states and UTs participating in AB-PMJAY are organising awareness programmes, health check-up camps and mass drives for Ayushman Card generation for beneficiaries of the scheme, the statement said.

New India prepared to deal with any threat in healthcare

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Friday underlined the need for de-politicising the discussions on health policy and infrastructure and adopting a more holistic approach across the whole spectrum of the populace. He also asserted that a new India is prepared to deal with any threat in the healthcare sector. "A healthy India will be a wealthy India," Mandaviya said speaking at the Public Affairs Forum of India's (PAFI) 9th Annual Forum 2022. He said the new India under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi is an empowered nation and is well pre-

pared to face any crisis. The difference has been made by the proactive planning of the prime minister, he said, adding health infrastructure is being propagated across the country via the PPP model with a microcosm of public hospitals mushrooming along with private medical colleges. Mandaviya said 22 AIIMS have been planned across the country to improve the tertiary level of health infrastructure. Elaborating on the country's management of COVID-19, he said the government had started efforts to understand the virus much before it came to India, and accordingly planned and prepared beforehand to face the pandemic.

'Some MLAs just fill attendance to get allowance'

PNS ■ KOLKATA

West Bengal Speaker Biman Banerjee expressed displeasure over legislators not attending meetings of the assembly standing committees. Banerjee, who had earlier criticised the MLAs for not being regular when the House is in session, said he has noticed that some legislators sign the attendance sheet of the standing committee meetings to avail the allowances but do not attend it. "This is unacceptable... The standing committee meetings are held to discuss and deliberate important issues and policies. But this is not being done. I request all legislators to attend these meetings," he said on Thursday. According to the norms of the assembly, a legislator is allotted membership in two committees -- a departmental standing committee and a committee of the House. Reacting to the speaker's comment, Parliamentary Affairs Minister Sovande Chattopadhyay said it is the opposition BJP MLAs who do not attend such meetings and leader of opposition Suwendu Adhikari must look into it.

Next Cong chief will be proxy of Gandhis: BJP

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The BJP on Friday claimed the new Congress president will be a "proxy" of the Gandhis family and will be remote-controlled by them "like" former prime minister "Manmohan Singh was".

BJP national spokesperson Shehzad Poonawalla cited the comment of Rajasthan Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot, seen as the likely next Congress president, that a call on his replacement will be taken by the party's interim chief Sonia Gandhi and its in-charge for the state Ajay Maken.



"What capacity will she have as she will become a former president? Shouldn't Congress MLAs decide? If Gandhis will have the remote control then why this sham election," he said, referring to the

ongoing poll process for the next president of the opposition party.

He noted that Congress leader P Chidambaram had said recently that whoever be the next president, Rahul Gandhi will have a preeminent position in the party.

"This was a proof that the next president of Congress will be a proxy of the Gandhis and will be remote controlled by Gandhis like Manmohan Singh was by Sonia Gandhi," he alleged in a statement.

These statements have made it clear that the ongoing poll process is nothing but an eyewash, Poonawalla claimed.

Indian envoy calls on Sri Lankan PM Gunawardena

PNS ■ COLOMBO

The Indian High Commissioner to Sri Lanka Gopal Baglay has called on Prime Minister Dinesh Gunawardena and discussed wide-ranging bilateral issues, including investments, shared heritage and capacity building in the crisis-hit island nation.

India has been the biggest provider of aid this year to its southern neighbour, which is fighting its worst economic crisis in more than seven decades and struggling to pay for imports.

The Indian High Commission last week held the first round of talks with the Sri Lankan Government on restructuring the bilateral official debt of the island nation.

The discussions symbolise India's support to early conclusion and approval of a suitable IMF Programme for Sri Lanka, for which financing assurances from creditors to make Sri Lanka's debt sustainable are required, it had said in a statement after the talks.

"High Commissioner called on H.E PM



@ D C R Gunawardena. Discussed broad ranging bilat-

eral issues of common interest including investments, shared heritage and capacity building," the Indian High Commission tweeted, sharing pictures of the meeting held on Thursday.

Sri Lanka and the International Monetary Fund reached a preliminary agreement in early September for a loan of about USD 2.9 billion, which is contingent on the country receiving financing assurances from official creditors and negotiations with private creditors.

The country of 22 million people has been battling shortages of essentials, including fuel, food and medicines, for months after its foreign exchange reserves dropped to record lows, stalling imports and stoking unprecedented public unrest.

The Indian government's assistance to crisis-hit Sri Lanka has reached almost USD 4 billion since January this year.

The Indian assistance has also helped Sri Lanka's second-largest export industry - the tea industry - to operate amidst adversity.

Around 400 pilgrims from Raj stranded in Uttarakashi

PNS ■ JAIPUR

Around 400 pilgrims from Rajasthan are stuck in Uttarakhand's Uttarkashi district due to landslides.

No casualty has been reported so far and all the passengers are safe, a senior official said here.

About 400 passengers from Rajasthan's Bhilwara, Ajmer and other places were returning from Gangotri Dham when they got trapped due to a landslide near Gabnani in Uttarkashi, he said.

State Disaster Response Force

(SDRF) Commandant Rajkumar Gupta said pilgrims from Rajasthan were reported stranded on Thursday night.

The senior official said after talking to the local administration there, passengers were taken to safer places and arrangements for lodging and food were made for them.

According to the Uttarakhand administration, the road between Uttarkashi and Harshil (Halgu Guard and Gabnani) has been blocked due to landslides since last evening due to excessive rainfall in the area, Gupta said.

FIRST COLUMN

REMOVE CODIFIED BIAS ON WAQF PROPERTIES

The Waqf Act is the outcome of politics of appeasement



SHSHANK SAURAV

The Waqf Board in Tamil Nadu has claimed ownership of an entire village. Media reports claimed that Muslim resettlement in this area happened in 1927-28 and the Wakf Board has claimed its stake on the property of village temple also. There have been many such instances where people who were dwelling the property were unaware of the fact that it has been claimed as Wakf property by the board.

The Wakf Act was initially passed by Parliament in 1954 and subsequently Wakf Act, 1995, was enacted for the purpose of better administration of Aukaf (i.e., assets donated for religious or charitable causes).

However, this law has become a tool to grab the assets and innocent people are harassed due to its draconian provisions. The Act empowers the Waqf Board to declare any property as Waqf property based on the survey carried out by its team. If this is not enough, Section 6 specifies that the aggrieved party has to appeal to the Tribunal constituted under the Act and there is a limitation period of one year for raising the dispute.



This legislation is drafted in such a way that it is not necessary for the Board to give a notice to the person whose property is sought to be declared as Waqf property and if the aggrieved party has not litigated within a period of one year, then he has no legal recourse!

Section 40 of the Act reiterates this power of Waqf Board and any property shall remain vested with it until revoked by the Tribunal. Section 83 read along with 85 gives exclusive powers to the Tribunal and parties aggrieved by the decision of the Tribunal can approach the High Court. Plight of the common man can be understood when his property is declared as Waqf asset without his knowledge and then he is expected to litigate it within a period of one year, otherwise it is gone forever. Even if he litigates it with the Tribunal then the next recourse is at High Court level, which is out of reach for most of the Indians.

It is pertinent to note that in a matter related to Wakf Act, 1954, the Supreme Court had decided that the limitation of one year for initiating the litigation is not applicable for non-Muslims (Board of Muslim Wakf, Rajasthan versus Radha Kishan and Others, 1978), but in order to appease the Muslims, section 6 was amended in 2013 and now there is a uniform time limit of one year for all the aggrieved parties.

Rajindar Sachar, chairman of the Sachhar Committee, in his 2006 report estimated the value of Wakf property at Rs 1.2 lakh crore. The Wakf Board owns around six lakh acres of land. Sachhar suggested survey of Wakf properties and amendments to the Wakf Act which were duly incorporated in the law by way of amendment in 2013.

Indian history is full of partiality against the Hindus and nothing changed even after Independence. Jawaharlal Nehru got Hindu Code Bills passed by Parliament but he didn't dare to touch the practices of other religions. Dr. BR Ambedkar was in favour of a uniform civil code, but Nehru insisted on changing the Hindu laws only and gave liberty to the others. Charitable & Endowment Acts were enacted by state governments in the 1950s to manage the Hindu temples but a central legislation was passed in 1954 to protect the Wakf properties.

The Congress government at the Centre implemented the Places of Worship Act, 1991, which intends to bar the Hindu's claims on other holy shrines.

(The author is a policy analyst)

The SCO has a long-term regional agenda

The outcome of the SCO in Samarkand shows that the members are bracing for a larger role on the world stage



PK VASUDEVA

The Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit of the eight-nation influential grouping took place amid the growing geopolitical turmoil largely triggered by the Russian invasion of Ukraine and China's aggressive military posturing in the Taiwan Strait. Launched in Shanghai in June 2001, the SCO has eight full members, including its six founding members—China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. India and Pakistan joined as full members in 2017.

Leaders of Russia, China, India, and other SCO member states attended high-level meetings in Uzbekistan's historic city of Samarkand,

focusing on regional and global stability, security, and economy. In the run-up to the main event, Uzbekistan, which held the SCO chairmanship this year, has hosted a total of more than 80 SCO-related events, with more than 40 documents signed, including the leaders' summit declaration.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi held separate bilateral meetings with Russian President Vladimir Putin, Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi, Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan. However, there was no bilateral meeting between Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping.

Modi began his comments by telling Putin that the

"era of war" is over, indicating India's discomfort with Russia's attack on Ukraine for the first time in public, although New Delhi has not criticised Russia for its action thus far. "I know that today's era is not of war and we have spoken to you many times on the phone that democracy, diplomacy and dialogue are such things that touch the world," Modi said. His remarks on Ukraine have been widely appreciated by the Western and European countries.

Modi during his speech at the summit said, Covid-19 and Ukraine situation resulted in hurdles in the global supply chain, resulting in a food and energy security crisis. In April 2022, WHO inaugurated its Global Centre for Traditional Medicines in Gujarat. This was the first and only global center by WHO for traditional treatment. India will take an initiative for a new SCO working group on traditional medicines, said Modi.

"India's economy is expected to grow at the rate of 7.5 per cent this year. I'm glad that ours is one of the fastest growing economies among the largest economies of the world," he added.

Security, Iran's nuclear programme, Afghanistan, and reforms of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) were discussed at the summit. The SCO's growth is probably one of the key features of this year's summit. A memorandum on Iran joining the SCO as full-time member has been

adopted with Minsk of Belarus starting its accession as well. The organization also accepted Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and Qatar as dialogue partners, with an agreement being reached on the Maldives, Bahrain, the UAE, Kuwait, and Myanmar becoming new dialogue partners.

There were a number of important statements coming from SCO leaders on the second day of their work in Samarkand. Xi spoke against colour revolutions, while Putin pointed at the fundamental transformations which have taken place in world politics and the economy, calling them irreversible.

Being part of the SCO founders' pool, Russia and China communicated actively in Samarkand, with Putin

and Xi meeting one-on-one, as well as in trilateral format with Mongolian leader Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh.

The summit's final declaration focused on members' confirmation that the organization is not directed against other countries, with SCO nations agreeing not to interfere in the internal affairs of states. There were several important security-related issues in the declaration, such as the need to implement a plan on Iran's nuclear programme, a call to create an inclusive government in Afghanistan, and an affirmation of the need to observe the Chemical Weapons Convention.

Besides being successful in organizing a productive summit, Uzbekistan's offi-

cials also managed to draw the organization's attention to an issue that is of particular importance for Tashkent itself, namely the need for Afghanistan to be accepted by the SCO family, with the topic being mentioned in the final declaration of the summit. Uzbekistan's leader Shavkat Mirziyoyev also pointed at the need to lay out a long-term plan for the SCO's development.

"The President of Uzbekistan [Shavkat] Mirziyoyev actually mentioned that we need to develop the strategy for the SCO's future to 2040," said Marat Aitov, who is the head of the department of the Institute for Strategic and Regional Studies under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

Deen Dayal Upadhyaya had a vision for world



SUMEET BHASIN

His philosophy of integral humanism gave centre-stage to the poorest of the poor in statecraft; so much so that it is the ideological philosophy in India

Rank communism and capitalism are now dead. But integral humanism of Deen Dayal Upadhyaya is not only alive, but is the ideological philosophy in India. The post-Independent Indian politics has found a deep ideological anchor in the thoughts of Deen Dayal Upadhyaya.

In the philosophy of Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, which requires wider debate and discussion among academicians, there is a balance of human life with nature. Now that the 77th United Nations General Assembly is taking place, the world leaders among others face the grave challenge of climate change and deepening social inequity. The developed world, both led by capitalism and communism, wrecked the environment with their reckless exploitation of the natural resources.

The Covid-19 pandemic exposed the self-centeredness of the developed world, as they stock-piled vaccines, while the poor in the least developed countries waited for the life-saving medicines and vaccines. It's the time of crisis when the depth of an ideology is tested, and the integral humanism of Deen Dayal Upadhyaya shone brightly on the world stage, as India delivered vaccines, medicines, food, Covid-19 kits to small and big nations alike, making no difference, with sole abiding ideal that each life be saved and nurtured.

In the Modi government, the integral humanism of Deen Dayal Upadhyaya has found the finest expressions in the statecraft, while the BJP has embarked on the path of social democracy to execute the words of the top ideologue of the party in action.

When a child is born, he or she first becomes aware about himself or herself, and with the passage of time starts knowing about the family, society, state and nation. The human entity lives a life in a give and take with the surroundings, including nature. Thus, human beings, animals and vegetation strike a balance of co-existence, which was underlined by Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya. If one stops caring for another, there will be imbalance, which will have consequences for all. Climate change is a consequence of the developed world being unkind to the basic principle of coexistence.

But the Modi government, while rolling out the Ujjwala scheme not only thought of the wellbeing of the poorest of the poor in the country, but also of the environment. Women were exposed to smoke, becoming unwell with several diseases when they grew old, while trees were felled to burn the kitchen fire. The Ujjwala scheme thought of the wellbeing of women and nature in line with the core mantra of the philosophy of Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya.

The greater significance of the ideals of Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya is that one should exemplify the life principle, and that should be the abiding duty of the



UNDER THE JAM TRINITY, THE MODI GOVERNMENT HAS BROUGHT TO LIFE THE POLITICAL PHILOSOPHY OF DEEN DAYAL UPADHYAYA, AS MASSIVE SCALING UP OF THE FINANCIAL INCLUSION OF THE WEAKER SECTIONS OF SOCIETY WAS CARRIED OUT

(The author is Director, Public Policy Research Centre)



person for the self, family, society, state and the nation. Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya was once travelling in a bus, and it so happened that he requested the person sitting next to him to play news on his transistor set. But the person saw that Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya was carrying a transistor set himself. So, he enquired if there is any issue with his transistor set to which Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya replied that he couldn't renew the license of his radio set. Such a commitment to align the laws of the land with the life practices is central to the idea of a state and the people being in a symbiotic relationship.

Rajpath has been renamed Kartavyapath to remind all, including the people, the politicians, the officials and the ministers, that they have duties for the nation, society and citizens and that must be their life principles. This is the mantra being conveyed by PM Modi, which he has spoken of on several occasions, including from the ramparts of the Red Fort as recently as this year's Independence Day.

Probity in life is the basic minimum for a healthy society and a great nation. No society can take care of its people if there is no probity. The people have to be honest, and they should be seen often being honest. Honesty cannot be a hidden jewel. Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya lived his ideals. The BJP workers and others who read about him greatly benefit from the scale of probity in his life.

Once Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya was travelling in a train, he got to know that Guruji (MS Golwalkar) was also in the train in the first compartment. Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya went to the first compartment and after a while he got down at his destination station. There he straightaway went to the office of the station master, and paid the fine for travelling a part of the journey while he had the ticket for the second class.

Such individual attributes when shared at mass level in the society can help shape the character of a great nation. The political class, the officials, the judiciary, and other members of the civil society have to demonstrate the credible attribute of probity in personal and public life.

Such was the significance of Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya that when he passed away the late Atal Bihari Vajpayee said that the "sun of our life has gone, and now we have to seek guidance with the earthen lamp". Vajpayee had succeeded Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya as the president of Jansangh, and when he became Prime Minister of India, the government conceived Pradhan Mantri Grameen Sadak Yojna (PMGSY) to help the rural parts of the country access the urban amenities. Vajpayee further embedded the philosophy of Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya in his statecraft, as he spearheaded connectivity at a scale that was never seen in the country in roads,

telecommunication, infrastructure, amenities and services. Besides, a nation that has self-belief can take care of the national interests also while being unafraid of others, which was demonstrated in Vajpayee carrying out the Pokharan II nuclear tests and Modi delivering body blow to the terror infrastructure in Pakistan through the Balakot and the surgical strikes in the wake of the Pulwama terror attack.

On September 25, we all will commemorate the birth anniversary of Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya to reaffirm to live by his ideals, the philosophy of integral humanism, and further accelerate the welfare of the poorest of the poor in the country so that they are not only taken care of but also made to stand on their feet.

Under the JAM trinity, the Modi government has brought to life the political philosophy of Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, as massive scaling up of the financial inclusion of the weaker sections of the society was carried out in the recent few years, which again was an extension of the work done under the Vajpayee administration when India was given the affordable tools to communicate with mobile phones.

The Mudra, Suraksha Bima, Sukanya Yojna and others are all aimed to fulfil the political ideology of Deen Dayal Upadhyaya, which again is being scaled up with the target of 100 per cent saturation of all schemes, including the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna.

POINT COUNTERPOINT

I'M NOT HAPPY WITH THE ATMOSPHERE OF DISHARMONY; IT'S COMPLETELY WRONG. ONLY THEN THE COUNTRY CAN MOVE AHEAD.
—RSS CHIEF MOHAN BHAGWAT



THEY ARE SUSPICIOUS OF MUSLIMS' LOYALTY AND WANT THEM TO PROVE THEIR PATRIOTISM AT EVERY TURN. MUSLIMS ARE ALSO INDIANS.
—FORMER CHIEF ELECTION COMMISSIONER SY QURAISHI

Government making efforts to keep inflation under 4%: FM

PNS ■ PUNE

Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on Thursday said the government was making efforts to keep inflation under 4 per cent and steps were being taken to ensure people get essential goods at fair price and on time.

Addressing a press conference near Pune city on the sidelines of a programme, she said steps were being taken to keep inflation at a certain level.Replying to a question on rising prices, the minister said, "As far as inflation is concerned, I have been answering questions (on the issue) in Parliament every time they have been raised. Steps were being taken to keep inflation at one level, for example, duty on imported edible oil is being removed so that affordable oil comes into the country." She said the issue of inflation should be understood in global context."America is experiencing the kind of high inflation which was not witnessed in the last 40 years. Germany



is facing high inflation which was not experienced in the last 38 years. We are taking efforts to keep inflation under 4 per cent and efforts were being taken to ensure that people get all goods at fair price and on time," Sitharaman added.

Asked about the rupee hitting a record low against the US dollar, Sitharaman said the government looks at every aspect of the economy.

"Be it inflation, exchange rate...we are looking at everything," the minister said.

Earlier, speaking at the programme, Sitharaman said Mudra loans are given to eligible people without any security."While launching the Mudra loan scheme (in 2015), Prime Minister Narendra Modi asked banks to offer loans without any security...

he asked banks to treat his word as security," she said.Pradhan Mantri MUDRA Yojana (PMMY) was launched for providing loans up to 10 lakh to non-corporate, non-farm small/micro enterpris-

"They chest thump that they brought this scheme, but as per the CAG report, the scheme was misused and money was given to bogus people," she alleged.

es."Mudra loan is for whom? I would like to ask the Congress, whether this loan is for Ambani and Adani. Mudra Loan is given to small businesses. The Congress, which constantly levels allegations taking names of Ambani and Adani, had given thousands of acres of land in Rajasthan to Adanis for business. I do not have objections if the land is given for business ventures. Let businesses come as employment will get generated," Sitharaman stated.

Glenmark Pharma gets approval from Health Canada for nasal spray Ryaltris

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Glenmark Pharmaceuticals on Friday announced approval by Health Canada for its nasal spray Ryaltris used in symptomatic treatment of moderate to severe seasonal allergic rhinitis and associated ocular symptoms.

Health Canada granted approval to partner Bausch Health Companies Inc and Glenmark Specialty SA, a subsidiary of the company, for Ryaltris (olopatadine hydrochloride and mometasone furoate nasal spray). Glenmark Pharmaceuticals said in a statement.

"This Health Canada approval will allow Bausch Health to soon make Ryaltris available to Canadians, providing an innovative therapy option for seasonal allergic rhinitis," Bausch Health Senior Vice-President, Europe and Canada, Cees Heiman said.

Ryaltris is a fixed-dose combination therapy that provides relief from the symptoms of SAR, both nasal and ocular, in one easy-to-use nasal spray.

Tatas to merge seven metal companies into Tata Steel

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Tata Group will merge seven of its metal companies into Tata Steel to drive efficiencies and reduce costs. The amalgamation will be through a share swap, Tata Steel said.

The board of Tata Steel approved the amalgamation of subsidiaries -- Tata Steel Long Products, Tata Metaliks, The Tinplate Company of India, TRF Ltd, Indian Steel & Wire Products, Tata Steel Mining and S&T Mining into itself.

Meanwhile, the company has withdrawn from the earlier merger scheme of Tata Metaliks and Tata Steel Long Products (TSPIL).

Explaining the rationale behind the merger scheme, Tata Steel in a statement said the resources of the merged entities can be pooled to unlock the opportunity for creating shareholder value.

Besides citing other synergies, it also said the mergers will result in utilisation of each other's facilities in a more efficient manner. Marketing and distribution network of both entities can be collaborat-



ed, it said.The salt-to-software conglomerate under N Chandrasekaran has been consolidating businesses that share common synergies. Earlier this year, the group had announced the merger of Tata Consumer and Tata Coffee.

Tata Group is said to be considering consolidation of airline companies - Air Asia India and Vistara - under the Air India brand by 2024.

Share swap ratios under the merger scheme would be 17:10 for TRF (17 shares of Tata Steel for every 10 shares of TRF), 67:10 for TSPIL (67 shares of Tata Steel for every 10 shares of TSPIL), 33:10 for Tinplate

(33 shares of Tata Steel for every 10 shares of Tinplate), 79:10 for Tata Metaliks (79 shares of Tata Steel for every 10 shares of Tata Metaliks).

The subsidiaries are all majority owned by Tata Steel and include Tata Steel Long Products Ltd (74.91 per cent equity holding), The Tinplate Company of India Ltd (74.96 per cent equity holding), Tata Metaliks Ltd (60.03 per cent equity holding), The Indian Steel & Wire Products Ltd (95.01 per cent equity holding), Tata Steel Mining Limited and S & T Mining Company Limited (both wholly-owned subsidiaries).

Gold falls Rs 139; silver declines Rs 363

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Gold price in the national capital fell by Rs 139 to Rs 50,326 per 10 grams on Friday amid a fall in international precious metal prices, according to HDFC Securities.

In the previous trade, the yellow metal had finished at Rs 50,465 per 10 grams.

Silver also fell sharply by Rs 363 to Rs 58,366 per kilogram from Rs 58,729 per kg in the previous trade.

In the international market, gold was quoting lower at USD 1,665 per ounce, while silver was flat at USD 19.50 per ounce.

"Gold prices have capped downside despite of stronger dollar over recession worries as the US Federal Reserve committed to raise interest rates," said Tapan Patel, Senior Analyst (Commodities) at HDFC Securities.

Rupee falls 19 paise to close at lifetime low of 80.98 against US\$

PNS ■ MUMBAI

The rupee slumped 19 paise to close at a fresh lifetime low of 80.98 against the US dollar on Friday, weighed down by the strong American currency overseas and risk-off sentiment among investors.

At the interbank foreign exchange market, the local currency breached the 81-mark for the first time ever and slumped to 81.23 against the American currency.It finally ended at 80.98, down 19 paise over its previous close.On Thursday, the rupee plunged by 83 paise -- its biggest single-day loss in nearly seven months -- to close at 80.79, its previous record low.

This is the third straight session of loss for the American currency during which it has lost 124 paise against the American currency. Forex traders said escalation of geopolitical risk in Ukraine and rate hikes by the US Fed and Bank of England in a bid to contain inflation sapped risk appetite.Further, the strength of

the American currency in the overseas market, a negative trend in domestic equities, and risk-off mood amid escalation of geopolitical risk in Ukraine weighed on the local unit."Rupee fell to fresh all-time lows against the US dollar after the Fed raised rates earlier this week. Most of the currencies are under pressure as the dollar continues to strengthen," said Gaurang Somaiya, Forex & Bullion Analyst, Motilal Oswal Financial Services.

Somaiya further noted that volatility in Yen remained elevated after the Bank of Japan intervened to curb sharp depreciation. The Bank of England raised rates by 50 bps.

"We expect the USD-INR (Spot) to trade sideways and quote in the range of 80.40 and 81.20," Somaiya said.

On the domestic equity market front, the 30-share BSE Sensex dropped 1,020.80 points or 1.73 per cent to end at 58,098.92, while the broader NSE Nifty fell 302.45 points or 1.72 per cent to 17,327.35.

Defence Ministry, BrahMos Aerospace sign deal for dual-role missiles

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

In a further impetus to self-reliance in defence production, the Defence Ministry has signed a contract with BrahMos Aerospace for acquisition of additional dual-role capable surface-to-surface BrahMos missiles at an approximate cost of Rs 1,700 crore under the 'Buy-Indian' category.

In a statement issued on Thursday, the ministry said the induction of these dual-role capable missiles is going to "significantly enhance" the operational capability of Indian Navy fleet assets.BrahMos Aerospace Pvt. Ltd. (BAPL) is a joint venture between India and Russia, making crucial contribution to augment the new generation surface-to-surface missiles (SSMs) with enhanced range and dual role capability for land as well as anti-ship attacks, it said."Providing further impetus to Aatmanirbharta in defence production, the Ministry of Defence (MOD) signed a con-



In a statement issued on Thursday, the ministry said the induction of these dual-role capable missiles is going to "significantly enhance" the operational capability of Indian Navy fleet assets.

tract today with M/s BrahMos Aerospace Pvt. Ltd. (BAPL) for acquisition of additional dual-role capable Surface to Surface BrahMos missiles at an overall approximate cost of Rs 1,700 Crore under 'Buy-Indian

Category,'" the statement said.

This contract is going to give further boost to indigenous production of critical weapon system and ammunition with active participation of indigenous industry, it added.

Kharif sowing almost over; paddy acreage down by 5.51%

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

As sowing of kharif (summer) crops almost comes to an end, paddy planting continued to lag behind as sown area under this crop fell 5.51 per cent from last year to 401.56 lakh hectare so far, according to the agriculture ministry.

Besides paddy, there is marginal lag in sowing of pulses, oilseeds and jute/mesta. Consequently, the total sown area under kharif crops declined 1.24 per cent to 1,097.57 lakh hectares so



far this kharif season, as against 1,111.36 lakh hectares in the year-ago period, it

said. Sowing of kharif crops had begun with the onset of

southwest monsoon from June. Harvesting of some kharif crops has started and will be in full swing from October.Releasing the latest sowing update, the agriculture ministry said area planted to paddy remained lower by 5.51 per cent at 401.56 lakh hectares (ha) so far this kharif season of the 2022-23 crop year (July-June), as against 425 lakh hectares in the year-ago period.

Less coverage in paddy area was reported from Jharkhand (9.32 lakh ha),

Madhya Pradesh (6.32 lakh ha), West Bengal (3.65 lakh ha), Uttar Pradesh (2.48 lakh ha) and Bihar (1.97 lakh ha), it said.Paddy coverage remained less even in these states: Assam (0.95 lakh ha), Andhra Pradesh (0.75 lakh ha), Chhattisgarh (0.63 lakh ha), Tripura (0.27 lakh ha), Meghalaya (0.21 lakh ha), Odisha (0.21 lakh ha), Nagaland (0.21 lakh ha), Punjab (0.12 lakh ha), Goa (0.03 lakh ha), Mizoram (0.03 lakh ha), Sikkim (0.02 lakh ha) and Kerala (0.02 lakh ha).

Dip in office space leasing for buildings

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The total leasing of office space for all grades of buildings fell 25 per cent in August across seven major cities to 3.9 million square feet as against same month last year on lower demand, according to property consultant JLL India.

The aggregate office market leasing activities refer to transactions for all grades or types of buildings in the top 7 cities



(Delhi-NCR, Mumbai, Bengaluru, Chennai, Hyderabad, Pune and Kolkata). The data includes

confirmed pre-commitments and term renewals. Deals in the discussion stage are not included.

Total office leasing activities stood at 5.2 million square feet in August 2021.

"Overall market traction was slower in the month of August 2022, down by 25 per cent y-o-y (year-on-year) at 3.9 million square feet, mostly due to lower pre-commitments," JLL said in a report.

TVS Motor rolls out celebratory edition of Jupiter Classic

PNS ■ CHENNAI

Two- and three-wheeler major TVS Motor has rolled out a celebratory edition of its scooter TVS Jupiter Classic, commemorating the 'fastest five million vehicles on road milestone, the company said on Friday.

The TVS Jupiter Classic has been introduced at a price of Rs 85,866 (ex-showroom New

Delhi).The scooter gets a premium rendition with black theme across its mirror, fender garnish, tinted visor and a 3D black premium logo.

In a statement, the company said diamond cut alloy wheels, premium leatherette seats with backrest are also provided in the scooter which is available in two colours -- Mystic Grey and Regal Purple.

BSE, NSE, MSE to provide market data of listed securities as early as possible

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Leading bourses -- BSE, National Stock Exchange (NSE) and Metropolitan Stock Exchange (MSE) -- on Friday decided to provide daily price related information of the listed securities on their websites as early as possible after the markets close.The decision has been taken in view of the larger interest of investors and various market participants who use the daily price related information like open price, day's high, day's low, closing price etc. of securities for their downstream processes, the exchanges have jointly decided to provide such information on their website as early as possible after the close of markets," BSE, NSE and MSE said in a joint statement. The three exchanges provide platform for trading in capital market, Futures & Options (F&O), interest rate derivatives, currency derivatives and exchange traded funds (ETFs).

Sensex, Nifty tumble nearly 2% pc amid bearish global trends



Equity indices fell sharply by nearly 2 per cent each, extending their decline for the third day running on Friday, amid an overall bearish trend in global markets. The 30-share BSE Sensex tanked 1,020.80 points or 1.73 per cent to settle at 58,098.92. During the day, it tumbled 1,137.77 points or 1.92 per cent to 57,981.95.The NSE Nifty plummeted 302.45 points or 1.72 per cent to end at 17,327.35.Among the 30-share Sensex pack, Power Grid slumped 7.93 per cent. The other major laggards were Mahindra & Mahindra, State Bank of India, Bajaj Finserv, Bajaj Finance, NTPC, HDFC and IndusInd Bank.Sun Pharma, Tata Steel and ITC were the only gainers.Elsewhere in Asia, markets in Seoul, Tokyo, Shanghai and Hong Kong ended lower.European bourses were trading in the red in mid-session deals. The US markets ended in the negative territory on Thursday.Meanwhile, the international oil benchmark Brent crude declined 1.87 per cent to USD 88.77 per barrel. Foreign institutional investors (FIIs) offloaded shares worth a net Rs 2,509.55 crore on Thursday, according to data available with the BSE.

Nestle plans to invest Rs 5,000 cr in India by 2025



Global food & beverage conglomerate Nestle SA plans to invest Rs 5,000 crore in India in the next three-and-a-half years by 2025, its CEO Mark Schneider said on Friday. The move will help the company to accelerate its core business in the

country and leverage new opportunities for growth.The investment would be on capex (capital expenditure), setting up new plants, acquisitions and expansion of the product portfolio of the company. Nestle, which currently operates 9 plants across India is also looking at new locations to set up manufacturing capacity.The investment, which would be subject to clearances and approvals, will also help in creating more job opportunities in the domestic market.Sharing the investment plans of the Indian market, which is among Nestle's top ten markets, Schneider in a media round table said the Swiss food & beverage company has an investment plan of Rs 5,000 crore through 2025."When you look into the investment in this country and the investment plan through 2025, we are talking about Rs 5,000 crore and that compares to Rs 8,000 crore over the last 60 years when we started manufacturing in this country," he said.Nestle is present in India for over 110 years but started its manufacturing activity in the early 1960s, he added."In 1961, we started our first manufacturing site and so in that whole time period it has been Rs 8,000 crore and now in the next three years, it will be Rs 5,000 crore," he said.

Storytelling answer to today's business challenges

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

Storytelling can be the answer to many of today's business challenges, says a new book by executive coach Jyoti Gupta who provides practical tips to master this business skill.

Published by Pippa Rann Books & Media and distributed by Penguin Random House India, "Business Storytelling From Hype to Hack: Unlock the Software of the Mind" tells how stories can work for different individuals.

"Despite being a professional novelist, I did not appreciate the value of storytelling in

business until I was a fellow at a United Nations partner organisation. There, I realised that some of the best content came after and between presentations, informally - when people told stories," Gupta says.

He then applied his experience with fiction to developing and applying strategy, to executive education, and to helping business leaders find their own best stories and tell them more effectively in talks, in pitching ideas, influencing meetings, and steering organisations.

"When you have an impor-

tant message, you need to communicate it so that it 'clicks' (makes immediate sense) and 'sticks' (is memorable, repeatable, and consistently acted upon). You can hack this communications challenge with stories," the author says.

According to him, storytelling has become a buzzword in business, especially in marketing. There is corresponding scepticism by non-believers as well as disillusionment by people who have either tried and not been satisfied with their own performance, or have tried and not been satisfac-

fied with the results.

Gupta says his book is about taking people beyond the hype. "Telling stories is a brain hack. This is your hacker's guide."

He says in business, we tell stories to get results, not to entertain. Even if the intended result is to build a genuine connection.

"Yes, stories hack the brain, but what you're really hacking is what gets in the way of a human connection. Think of it like shedding unnecessary baggage and cutting to the chase," he writes.Stories, Gupta feels, are not merely for content

creators and marketing departments.

"Storytelling in a broader sense - giving clarity, meaning and motivation - is something that is relevant to every department in every industry, at every level. It is mission critical."He says CEOs don't need to work out all of the organisation's stories, but they do need a working understanding of how stories operate and where they need deploying. They must have the important business skill: narrative competence.

This booklet, he says, is the "hack to understanding your

ultimate communications hack".Readers can explore the power of storytelling for seven key areas of life and business, from becoming a more interesting conversationalist to getting buy-in for an idea.

Gupta argues that storytelling is the quickest, cheapest and deepest way to more influence.

"Mastering storytelling can make you more successful, but perhaps more importantly, it will help you reconnect your life and business with your humanity and make you happier. It will help you hack yourself," he writes.



She told Harper's Bazaar, "I will say, back

Tabu reveals buying age- reversal cream worth Rs 50K

Bhola is the official Hindi remake of the Tamil hit *Kaithi*.

Back in March of this year, the multiple credit actor expressed sorrow at what he had done. "In the face of something so horrible, saying sorry seems so pointless. But from every fiber of my being, I am sorry." Grantham told the Vancouver court and Justice Ker, reading from a sheet of paper.

Madhuri further opined on how the female actors from the 90s are getting much more evolved roles nowadays than her male counterparts. "It is always the case na. Women mature more than men (laughs). You have to go to your higher intelligence and think about it. I cannot blame the heroes also because the kind of commercial films that are made, they need to do songs, dances and all. So, they are always looking for something that keeps them young, which is not bad," she said.

SOLUTION:

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Ira Khan engaged to beau Nupur Shikhare

Bollywood superstar Aamir Khan's daughter Ira Khan got engaged to her boyfriend Nupur Shikhare. Ira, who has been dating Nupur for over two years now, took to Instagram where she shared a video from a cycling event. In the clip, Ira is seen standing at the stands. Nupur, dressed in

cycling gear, comes up to her, goes down on his knees and pulls out a ring. Nupur Shikhare asks Ira Khan, "Will you marry me?", to which she happily responds "Yes!". Ira Khan took to her Instagram and shared the video with the caption, "Popeye: She said yes. Ira: Hehe I said yes."

Revving up the ramp with a passion for fashion

TEJAL SINHA

Modelling and acting are definitely the most glamorous job one can think of. Today, many young minds aspire to try their luck on the platform, and dream to win beauty pageants. But there's a lack of professional help that is being provided to them.

With a similar aim to help out the young girls, aspiring to become models, Nikita Tanwani, former Femina Miss India A.P. started her own pageant training academy called 'Conquer'.

An engineer-turned-beauty queen was one of those people who was always interested in the entertainment field. Taking us through how it all started, she says, "Engineering just happened to me, because that's usually the root that a lot of people do take. I wanted to be a model since I was 16, as early as I can remember. Once I got financially dependent I think that helped me to take my own decisions. I took my first step towards my journey into modelling in 2017. That was the year that I graduated and had a job in a metro city because before that I was never in a metro city."

Nikita fulfilled her dream of being in front of the camera by starting her own YouTube channel. After winning the pageant, she started sharing her experience on YouTube to help out many other girls out there.

This was all an organic process. In fact, even the academy was not a pre-planned thing for Nikita. She goes on, "I didn't really plan to have a coaching academy ever. People started asking me to do workshops. There are things I can't really teach on a video. The first workshop that I did was in 2020. Back then I had to make two batches instead of one. The response was way better than what I was expecting. I never thought people would actually pay to learn from me. In June 2020 when I resigned from my job in between the pandemic, this is the only option that I had in front of me, I launched my academy in April 2021."

As things have now gone digital, many models have actually learned the ramp walk, how to be confident on stage, and everything that goes on in a pageant

through different online platforms. However, not everything can be learned online. So, does the glamour industry lack professional help for the newbies? To this, she says, "I don't think there's a lack of professional help. There are coaching centres across the country, but not as prevalent as any other coaching center. I feel it was all offline. For like decades, it has been run by very limited people, and they have been just stuck to it for like 10 years."

Starting something new always brings many challenges too. And, as Nikita wanted to get into a different space, she had her own concern, which was, "Getting into the space where success stories were coming out of just one or two places per year was the concern that I had. It wasn't like a challenge, but when you start out with something you are just not sure if you will be able to get the result that you dream of at the national and international levels. I just have a lot of faith in my coaching style. I know that my experiences are very different from any other person doing the same thing."

For some time now, we have seen many beauties from South India who have not only made it to the pageant but also won titles. Recently, Pragnya Ayyagari of Telangana was declared LIVA Miss Diva Supranational 2022. We wondered what the actual scenario of the glamour industry and the professional help in the south is. Nikita who initially shifted to

Hyderabad from Jaipur and also made the city of pearls her base for the academy, shares, "Most of these coaching centres are in Delhi or Mumbai or Pune, but then there's nothing in South India. If you look at the participants, the number of members in South India is very small as compared to the others. People are still a little hesitant to go to beauty pageants, but at the same time, for the last four-five years, a lot of winners have been from South India. I realised there was a lot of potential; there's just a need to push them a little. Initially, I thought Hyderabad would be a challenge and people would actually tell me that there would be a handful of people who would be participating or interested in learning in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. People from other states would not come to Hyderabad to learn, and I took up that challenge as a challenge. Hyderabad as a city has its own perks as well. Conducting a similar thing in Delhi would be more expensive. I didn't want to go with numbers but with brand and value."

The beauty queen, who has trained more than 250 girls through her academy, signs off by sharing with us

what Hyderabad means to her. "Hyderabad has been the best thing that has happened to me. My dad used to work in Hyderabad when I was in school. In the summers, I used to visit Hyderabad, but I never knew I would be working in the city. The city has been kind to my family in general, and we have an emotional connection with the city. It is where I got my first job. It is where I participated in my first pageant. I'm exploring how we can expand a little bit. But I feel very homesick every time I am away from Hyderabad. I have not been able to adapt to other cities."

This week for *The Pioneer's* weekly edition of Hyderabad, we bring to you how Nikita Tanwani, former Femina Miss India A.P. is on a mission to help young girls aspiring to become models, conquer their dreams of getting into the pageant.



Improving lives of those affected by PCOS

PNS | HYDERABAD

Stein and Leventhal are regarded to have been the first investigators of polycystic ovary syndrome however, in 1721, an Italian scientist, described a married, infertile woman with shiny ovaries with a white surface, and the size of pigeon eggs. It was not until the early 1990s at a National Institute of Health sponsored conference on PCOS that formal diagnostic criteria were proposed and afterwards largely utilized. Many scientists tried to explain the pathophysiology of PCOS and many studies were made. It is now accepted that it is multifactorial, partly genetic however, a number of candidate genes have been postulated. Insulin resistance has been noted consistently among many women with PCOS, especially in those with hyperandrogenism. Now there is strong evidence that cardiovascular disease risk factors and disturbances in carbohydrate metabolism are all increased in patients with PCOS compared to the healthy population.

Here we are with a clinical nutritionist and a diabetic expert Shikha Dwivedi, who educates us on how PCOS is a complex hormonal imbalance affecting 1 out of 5 Indian women in the reproductive age group. Experts believe that there could be a connection of PCOS with genetics and poor lifestyle choices. Women suffering from PCOS often witness severe symptoms like diabetes, obesity, hair growth, acne and irregular periods. Although there is no cure for PCOS, it can be managed and eased through lifestyle changes and dietary supplements. To be precise, health conditions like PCOS can't be reversed overnight. Maintaining a balanced diet that includes clean, plant-based nutrition, PCOS management supplements and lifestyle amendments can somewhat ease the impact of PCOS.

Clean, plant-based nutrition: One cannot stress enough on the benefits of consuming

clean and plant-based food. They are easily absorbed and digested by the body. And following a clean, plant-based diet rich in whole grains, leafy greens and vegetables can do wonders in PCOS management. Women with PCOS face various issues like insulin resistance, difficulty losing weight and poor skin health. Hence, it is important to choose food items that help manage these issues. Low Glycemic Index foods like whole grains, legumes and vegetables are known to help control insulin spikes in the body. Avoid highly processed foods and sugary drinks that add empty calories. Another important macronutrient you should consume is Protein. Clean Protein helps manage weight and improve metabolism, thereby supporting weight management. Intake of herbs like Ashwagandha, Tulsi and Shatavari is also highly beneficial as it supports hormonal balance.

Exercise: Regular exercise can help in reducing weight and managing PCOS symptoms. Exercising daily for about 30 minutes can help regulate the menstrual cycle, insulin resistance and manage hormone levels. Research has found that exercise can be highly beneficial for women with PCOS. Any form of exercise, including high-intensity exercises, cardio, yoga, or strength training, can help deal with PCOS.

Supplements: There are natural supplements available in the market that help manage PCOS symptoms. Such supplements are made from plant-based ingredients, completely natural and help holistic wellness in

women who are suffering from PCOS. While choosing a PCOS management aid, ensure that it contains ingredients like Myo-Inositol (member of B-Complex) as it helps regulate ovarian function along with Ayurvedic Herbs. Another important supplement to add to the daily diet is protein. At times, the food we consume is not enough to meet the nutrient requirements of our bodies. In such cases, consuming dietary, espe-

cially protein-rich supplements made with plant-based or natural ingredients can help in balancing the nutrients.

Stress management: Women with PCOS are often subjected to mental stress due to the judgments they face and the symptoms of the condition. Unfortunately stress makes PCOS symptoms worse due to its impact on adrenaline and cortisol levels in the body. Hence try to keep a calm state of mind by practising yoga, journaling, listening to music or even seeking professional help. Remember that a healthy state of mind can do wonders to your physical wellness.

Sleep well: Sticking to a sleep schedule helps in controlling stress levels and regulating cortisol to balance hormones. Disturbance in sleeping cycles is common among women with PCOS. To address it, women should aim to sleep at least 8 hours daily. Try to maintain healthy sleep habits like avoiding caffeine at least 4 hours prior to sleep, reducing mobile screen time and heavy dinners with fatty foods. You can also try listening to sleep meditation or soothing music to help you sleep.

So, we live in a time where following a healthy lifestyle has become difficult with a busy life. However, it is time to bring positive changes in our overall lifestyle, food habits and physical activities to manage health conditions like PCOS!

TANISHA SAXENA

With time, love stories are getting repetitive, cliched and freaked out in the Indian cinema. But with the time, director Hardik Gujjar found a new template for romance!

Atithi Bhoota Bhava is the story of Srikant Shirodkar (played by Pratik Gandhi) and his girlfriend Netra Bannerjee (played by Segal), who have been in a live-in relationship for four years now. Srikant, a stand up comedian takes his relationships for granted and doesn't believe in expressionism. It is when a ghost named Makhan Singh (played by Jackie

Shroff) enters their lives that things take a turn. Funnily enough, the ghost claims to be Srikant's grandson from previous birth. Singh then asks Srikant to fulfill a promise made by him to reunite him and his love, Manju. As the story unfolds, we see how Srikant and Netra embark on a beautiful journey in order to help Makhan meet his Manju.

Two love stories; one set in 1975 Uttar Pradesh, other in the present moment in Mumbai crossing paths, interestingly drawing wisdom from the past, one story guides the future course of the other. Cinematically, Hardik Gajjar has set the two stories at significant junctures. The film is like a moral compass for those who take relationships for granted in their lives. While the subject is familiar, it is the compelling storytelling that sets the film apart. *Atithi Bhoota Bhava* also highlights the innocence of love that is often forgotten amidst too many expectations and ego clashes in a relationship. Laced with a gamut of emotions and hope, the romantic-comedy is bound to melt your heart.

There's nothing overdone in the film. Every aspect is in equal measures wrapped up in a light comedy. The dialogues are moving enough to let the young generation understand the value of relationships and above all remind them of the child-

A new template for 'Romance'



like innocence of love. Also, rewriting in bold hues that pure love can transcend mortal barriers. As one can expect, Jackie Shroff is the backbone of the film. He is an innocent, childish and charming man, who wants to meet his lover, Manju. It is a wonderful experience to see Shroff donning the hat of a sweet lover, who is super excited to reunite with the love of his life. Pratik Gandhi, also addressed as Daarji by the ghost, does a fine job in delivering the performance. Other than Gandhi and Shroff, the cast includes Sharmin Segal, Divina Thakur and Simran Sharma are also outstanding. The climax of the film is undoubtedly going to make the audience overwhelmed by emotions.

It is unexpected, beautiful and touching. Another arc to the story is the little messages hidden inside the narrative. For instance, when Makhan Singh is asked by the duo as to how it is possible that a sardar believes in lord Krishna and hails from Uttar Pradesh. Clearly, the writer wants to convey a simple fact that God is one, no matter which religion one practices. Most significantly, it is commendable how seamlessly these little things are woven that the otherwise intense love stories today fails to address.

Set in the backdrop of Mathura-Vrindavan, the landscape will excite you too for a road trip to the birthplace of lord Krishna. And if we talk about the songs in the film, it sets the mood and binds everything together. Infact, Arijit Singh's *Dil Pakhi Hua Re* song is going to be placed on the top in the play list for the next few days. All in all, *Atithi Bhoota Bhava* promises you a beautiful and light hearted weekend with your family.

Review

NOT WINNING WORLD CUP TITLE IS RETIRING JHULAN’S ONLY REGRET

PTI ■ LONDON

Not winning an ODI World Cup will be her "only regret" in an otherwise distinguished two-decade career, India's fast bowling great Jhulan Goswami said on Friday as she gears up for her final international game.

Goswami will retire after the third ODI against England at the iconic Lord's on Saturday.

An emotional Goswami said she is grateful to the game for giving her name and fame but not having a World Cup trophy in her cabinet will remain an unticked box.

The Indian team had ended second-best during the 2005 and 2017 editions of 50-over World Cup.

"I have played two World Cup finals, if we had won at least one, then it would have been very nice for me and the team. Every individual works for that goal. We played 2-3 finals, but we were not able to win, that remains my only regret," the 39-year-old pacer said ahead of third and final clash.

"You prepare for a World Cup for four years. There is a lot of hardwork. For every cricketer, it is a dream-come-true moment to win a World Cup. But from where I am looking, the graph of women's cricket has only gone up.

"When I started I never thought of playing for such a long time. It was great experience. I am fortunate to play the sport.

"Honestly, coming from a humble background and a small town like Chakdah (in West Bengal's Nadia district), I did not have any idea about women's cricket and how professional setup works. I am fortunate enough, thanks to my family and parents, they always supported me," she said.

Goswami said receiving the India cap was the most memorable moment of her cricketing journey.

"My best memory is when I got the India cap from my captain and bowled the first over because I never imagined (that I will play for India). The journey was difficult as I had to travel for two-and-half hours by local train one way everyday for training."



She recollected how the 1997 Women's World Cup final between Australia and New Zealand at the Eden Gardens, watched by close to 90,000 people, fuelled her ambitions.

"In 1997, I was a ball girl at the Eden Gardens where I saw my first women's World Cup final between Australia and New Zealand. From that day, my dream was to represent India," she said.

As Goswami walks into the sunset, the BCCI is set to launch the women's IPL sometime next year, but the stalwart hasn't made up her mind whether she will be a part of T20 tournament.

"As of now, I haven't decided because so far, the Women's IPL has not been officially announced. We are hopeful that it might come in the coming season. Let's wait for the official announcement and then I will decide. At this moment, I am ending my career in international cricket. I have enjoyed every time," she said.

Plagued by injuries after the 2017 World Cup, Goswami said she had been contemplating retirement for quite some years now.

"Well, after the World Cup

(2017), in the last 2 years I was always thinking each and every series could be my last. I was going through a lot of injuries and it was not easy. I was taking series by series.

"After World Cup, I thought Sri Lanka tour (in July) would be my last series but I got injured. So England tour was the last option for me. So I went back to NCA, got fit enough and thought of playing my last series in England," she said.

With India taking an unsailable 2-0 lead in the series, Goswami now just wants to end her illustrious career on a high note.

"It is very much important to finish the tour on a high note and continue the way we have been playing in the last 2 matches."

Goswami said she would miss singing the national anthem and the Indian jersey.

"The best moment for me was coming out of dressing room and singing the national anthem and wearing the India jersey. I will miss those things.

But everything in life has to end somewhere. I am happy that I have served the country with honesty and dedication for 20 years."

Goswami said Indian fast bowling is in safe hands now.

"At this moment India has one of the best seam bowling attacks. We are improving. Indian cricket now gives a lot of importance to fast bowling. Seam bowling is an art, it is a long process."

Goswami also spoke highly about her long-standing association with retired Mithali Raj.

"Obviously, Mithali and I have played together since U19 days, we had a great relation both on and off the field. But it was just bringing Team India to a different length on what it was and today it is completely different."

"That is a journey, we believed that we can change the face of women's cricket, we believed that we can be in the top three-four teams in the world and it was not a one-day process, it was a long-time process," she said.



Rohit guides India to six-wicket win

PTI ■ NAGPUR

Skipper Rohit Sharma blazed away to an unbeaten 46 as India registered a series-levelling six-wicket win over Australia in the second T20I here on Friday.

Chasing 91, Rohit scored 46 off 20 balls which included four boundaries and as many sixes to take India over the line with four balls to spare in the rain-affected game.

Earlier, Matthew Wade smacked an unbeaten 20-ball 43 to fire Australia to a challenging 90 for five.

Wade hit four boundaries and three towering sixes -- all in the final over off Harshal Patel (0/32) -- while skipper Aaron Finch hit 31 off 15 after wet outfield due to overnight rain reduced the match to a 8 overs-a-side contest.

Australia looked to put up a show for the capacity crowd at the VCA stadium but Axar Patel (2/13 in 2 overs) snapped two wickets in an impressive spell to leave them at 31 for 3.

However, Wade ensured the visitors ended things in a flourish as he along with Steve Smith (8) added 44 runs in the final 18 balls.

Earlier, Finch scooped one over the keeper's head for a boundary and then sent one across the point area to accumulate 10 runs off Hardik Pandya (0/10 in 1 over), who opened the bowling for India.

Axar was then introduced and Cameron Green (5) tried to lift him over long-on but a running Virat Kohli couldn't hold on to the ball.

Kohli, however, redeemed himself in the next delivery

when his quick throw helped Axar to dislodge the stumps and end Green's stay.

The spinner was again in action when he cleaned up the dangerous Glenn Maxwell for a duck as Australia slumped to 19 for 2 in two overs.

Once the two-over power-play ended, Yuzvendra Chahal (0/12 in 1 over) came on to bowl but Finch danced down the track and smoked him for a maximum as 12 runs came of the third over.

However, Axar was once again in his element as he pegged back Tim David's middle stumps with an arm ball when he looked to go for a slog.

His length balls kept new man Wade in check before the left-hander nailed a reverse sweep to get a boundary.

At the halfway mark, skipper Rohit Sharma handed the ball to comeback man Jasprit Bumrah (1/23 in 2 overs) and the India pace spearhead produced his trademark yorker to castle Finch.

In-form Wade then took the onus as he cracked two fours off Harshal -- one across backward point and the other through extra cover.

Bumrah could have had Steve Smith too as his sensational yorker had the batter on all fours. However, Smith and Wade managed to put him away for two fours as Australia reached 71 for 4 in 7 overs.

Wade then went berseck as the final over produced 19 runs. **Brief Score:** Australia: 90 for 5 (Matthew Wade 43 not out, Aaron Finch 31; Axar Patel 2/13). India: 92 for 4 in 7.2 overs (Rohit 46; Adam Zampa 3/16).



Dilip Tirkey becomes first player-president of Hockey India

PTI ■ NEW DELHI

Former India captain Dilip Tirkey on Friday became Hockey India's first player-president after his unopposed election to the top post as yet another sports person has grabbed the top job in a National Sports Federation (NSF).

Hockey India elections were scheduled to be held on October 1 but the results were declared in advance as there were no contestants for any post.

Tirkey, who filed his nomination as President of Hockey Odisha, was elected after Uttar Pradesh Hockey chief Rakesh Katyal and Hockey Jharkhand's Bhola Nath Singh withdrew their nominations on Friday.

Tirkey, 44, is the latest addition to the list of players who have grabbed the top job in a sports body. Recently, former player Kalyan Chaubey became the All India Football federation (AIFF) boss.

Tirkey says sports persons can contribute as administrators too. "I believe former players should come into sports administration because they know where to focus. Like Sourav Ganguly was in the CAB first and then went to BCCI and is performing brilliantly," Tirkey said.

"I am happy that Hockey India has also elected a former player like me as its president for

the first time. Players go through many phases in their career and they get better experience," the former full back added.

Adille Sumariwalla, who is also a former players, is president of Athletics Federation of India (AFI).

Bhola Nath has been elected unopposed as secretary general.

The International Hockey Federation (FIH) has approved Tirkey and his team's appointments.

Tirkey, who is the country's most capped player with 412 international caps, said there is a need to prepare the next generation of players.

"There is a need for a specific training program for junior players such as the need to prepare the next generation of drag-flickers and goalkeepers and the focus will also be on team fitness," he said.

"We have seen how important the role of our drag flicker and goalkeeper PR Sreejesh was in the Olympics, but after that the next generation players will also have to be produced."

He also said that there is also a plan to restart the Hockey League.

"We also have plans to restart the hockey league. It will be discussed with the committee and after discussion with the executive board it will be taken forward."

Women in Blue look to whitewash Eng

PTI ■ LONDON

Jhulan Goswami, a name synonymous with 'fast bowling' in women's cricket, will walk into her cricketing sunset at the Lord's on Saturday and the Indian team will strive to make it a memorable swansong for her by completing a historic ODI series clean sweep on English soil, here.

Playing one game at Lord's is an ultimate dream for a cricketer.

Scoring a hundred or taking a five-for is a different high but bidding adieu to the game following an illustrious career at the 'Mecca of Cricket' is only reserved for a few chosen ones.

Sunil Gavaskar (although he played his last first-class game there) didn't get that opportunity. Neither did a Sachin Tendulkar or a Brian Lara or a Glenn McGrath got that opportunity to step down the stairs of the hallowed Long Room on their final playing day.

Even Goswami's colleague for nearly 20 years, Mithali Raj,



couldn't retire from a cricket field.

But call it destiny or design, Goswami's last hurrah is happening at Lord's.

There couldn't have been a more iconic setting as the strapping 5 feet 11 inch lady walks her way through that Long Room where the MCC's 'suits' will stand up and her teammates will give her a 'Guard of Honour' when she will enter the ground.

A series already won with an unassailable 2-0 lead,

been Shafali Verma's patchy form throughout the tour.

Harleen Deol has done well to establish herself as a dependable middle-order batter but with Goswami's retirement, the seam attack comprising Meghna Singh, Renuka Thakur and Pooja Vastrakar would need to step-up a lot more.

As far as England is concerned, the absence of skipper Heather Knight (due to injury) and star all-rounder Nat Sciver (mental health break) impacted the team's balance hugely.

The last time Indian women won an ODI series in England was way back in 1999 when Goswami hadn't made her international debut.

So as she appears for her 204th and last game, Indian team's revered 'Jhulu Di' would know that she is a contented soul.

When she had first played for India, Shafali Verma and Richa Ghosh were not even born and Jemimah Rodrigues was perhaps in her nappies.

Pant with his 'dare & courage' is must in India XI: Gilchrist

PTI ■ DUBAI

For his sheer "courage and dare", Rishabh Pant should be a part of India's starting XI during the T20 World Cup, feels former Australian great Adam Gilchrist.

There has been a debate if it should be Pant or Dinesh Karthik in India's playing XI and it seemed that Gilchrist's vote of confidence is in favour of the much younger Delhi cricketer.

"The dare of Rishabh Pant and the courage in him, the way in which he takes on bowling attacks, I think he's got to be a must in that Indian line-up," Gilchrist was quoted as saying in an ICC release. "They can play together, but I think Rishabh Pant has definitely got to be in there."

India included both Pant and Karthik in the 15-member squad for the upcoming T20 World Cup in Australia but the former's underwhelming record in T20Is might go against him.



Pant has 934 runs in 58 T20Is at an average of 23.94 and a strike-rate of 126.21. But he hasn't quite enjoyed the success what was expected of him in this format unlike Test cricket where he is already an established star.

Add to it, Karthik has of late blossomed as a finisher, which could work

in his favour.

But just like his former skipper Ricky Ponting, Gilchrist too feels that both the stumper batters can play together in the eleven.

"It'll be interesting to see if they can both play in the same team. I think they can. What they bring to a

team ... the versatility of Dinesh Karthik, he can play at the top of the order, he can, as he has done more so later in his career, be in the middle and late overs to finish. He has a really nice touch game," the former Australia wicketkeeper batter signed off.

'HCA NOT AT FAULT'

Hyderabad: Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA) president Mohammed Azharuddin on Friday said he was very disappointed over the stampede-like situation at the Gymkhana Ground here during the sale of tickets for the India-Australia T20 match on September 25 but said the association is not at fault in the unfortunate incident.

He refused to blame anybody and said he was very disappointed with what had happened. "I don't want to blame anybody. Why should I blame anybody. Actually, I am very disappointed with what happened. My heart goes to the families. We are taking care of them," he told reporters.

Jaiswal 209 not out brings West back in game

PTI ■ COIMBATORE

Young opener Yashasvi Jaiswal smashed his way to a double hundred in just about two-and-half sessions as West Zone took control of proceedings despite South's 57-run first innings lead on the third day of the Duleep Trophy final here.

At the end of third day's play, West Zone were 376 for 3, courtesy Jaiswal's unbeaten 209 off 244 balls that had 23 boundaries and three sixes.

West now have a lead of 319 runs and even if they declare at lunch on Day four, they will have five full sessions to force an outright victory although the track is getting easier for batting with no considerable wear and tear.

For South, it will be about batting out in the fourth innings and winning the trophy by virtue of first innings lead.

Jaiswal had a 169-run third wicket stand with Shreyas Iyer (71) and another 58 for the unbroken fourth wicket with Sarfaraz Khan (30 batting).

It was a day that will be best

remembered for the duel between two powerhouse performers in this year's domestic cricket -- left-handed opener Jaiswal and left-arm spinner Ravishrinivasan Sai Kishore.

While Jaiswal had failed in the first innings, he came out with a lot more positive intent in the second essay after South were dismissed for 327 with an addition of only nine runs to their overnight score of 318/7.

Once West came out, Jaiswal was severe on South pacers Basil Thampi (0/67 in 9 overs) and CV Stephen (0/27 in 6 overs) as he and Priyank Panchal (40) added 110 runs at little under five per over for the opening stand.

South skipper Hanuma Vihari missed the trick when he introduced Sai Kishore (27-5-100-2) only as second change after the opening stand yielded 80 plus runs.

Panchal was caught off Sai Kishore's bowling and Ajinkya Rahane was then trapped leg before by the off-spinner Gowtham (33-1-139-1).

But the joy of two wickets was short-lived once Jaiswal started using his feet to good effect with two spinners in their combined 60 overs went



for 239 runs, which was nearly four runs per over.

He got good support from Iyer, who did make amends and hit four fours and two sixes before getting dismissed while going for a glory shot off Sai Kishore's bowling. Iyer, thus missed a half-century in the first innings and didn't show enough patience to score a hundred in the second.

Jaiswal hit off-spinner Gowtham with the turn for a six and didn't let Sai Kishore settle to one line as he repeatedly came down the track to disturb his line. He also had a six off seamer Stephen's bowling.

There were many boundaries between cover and extra-cover region and one such shot off Gowtham brought up his double hundred.

It was like a release of emotions as he let out a war-cry as he got a standing ovation from the West dressing room.

Brief Scores: West 270 and 376/3 (Yashasvi Jaiswal 209 batting, Shreyas Iyer 71, R Sai Kishore 2/100, K Gowtham 1/139). South Zone 327 (Baba Indrajith 118, Jaydev Unadkat 4/52).



GodFather bestowed with U/A censor certificate

Two biggest Megastars of India-Chiranjeevi and Salman Khan will be seen sharing screen space, in the highly anticipated action entertainer *GodFather*, directed by Mohan Raja. The film that will be high on action, is scheduled for a grand release in Telugu and Hindi during Dasara.

Interim, the film's

censor formalities have been completed. *GodFather* had been bestowed with U/A certificate from the officials, and with that all the pre release hurdles were cleared.

The censor poster presents Chiranjeevi as a mass leader with a huge following. The megastar who sports salt and pepper looks, appears in white panche in the poster. The film also

stars Nayanthara, Satya Dev, Sunil and Samuthirakani as the prominent cast.

RB Choudary and NV Prasad are mounting the movie grandly under Konidela Productions and Super Good Films banners, while Konidela Surekha presents it. Nirav Shah has cranked the camera, while Suresh Selvarajan is the art director.

R. Balki's directorial *Chup: Revenge of the artist*, has recently hit the theatres. The film garnered appreciation, prior to its release. *The Pioneer* connects with the lead actress, Shreya Dhanwanthary, who shares with us some exclusive insights about the film.

SHIKHA DUGGAL

For the first time ever, R Balki's directorial *Chup: Revenge of the Artist*, has been holding fan screenings in ten cities across India, and early reviews of the film have also been out now.

The lead actress Shreya Dhanwanthary, who has also been associated with the Telugu film industry, seen in films like *Josh*, and *Sneha Geetha*, has been showered with lavish praises, for this project. Her step into the thriller genre has found a new worthy entrant, it seems!

This film is only made for a sole

addicted to it! For him, the set was a playground and we were allowed to play as much as we want."

Everyone knows that the actress became an overnight sensation. It was not just Pratik Gandhi, but Shreya too who was in the list of *Scam 1992*, giving her exemplary performance. As funny as it may sound, "The psychopath nature of the movie started seeming hilarious to us. It didn't come heavy on us! I was raised in the middle-east, as my father, who is into finance, worked there. And though I loved cinema since I can remember, I only studied dance, drama and music along with maths and science, and also did Shakespearean and other theater. After doing a couple of Telugu films, I never dreamed that I would ever find a cinema coming near me."

It was her volcanic talent that sealed the deal for the director. Balki had seen her in *The Family Man*, and she floored him. Not shying away from the truth to our amuse, she also did write a love letter to her director saying if he had anything

cholia in films. I am a fan of *Kaagaz ke Phool*. Many of his films entered the cult category and we hope the same for our film as a tribute to him. The kind of portrayals he sensitisised is hard to find even now in the industry."

The admiration is such in her home that her mother even cut-pastes every single thing she sees if it includes the actress' name, trolling and compliments included. While, was it traumatic to shoot such a vengeful movie? She replies, "The trauma for me wasn't pulling the role, the trauma is that I am a leading actress now (she laughs) It's my perseverance that brought me here! I know I am not extra-talented, extra-fit or extra good-looking. But, When I left Balki sir's office, I screamed a little louder than normal and some rickshaws stopped

thought it was someone playing a prank, and calling himself by the name and gave a rude reply; for the message stated that she could have a bright future in films and that look where she's now. "For the first ten days, I thought I knew nothing in front of all the veterans, and will get fired! I have grown up on their films, so there was a 'tandav' going on in my head. Nevertheless, gradually it's Sunny Deol and Pooja Bhatt's humility that eased me on the sets of *Chup: Revenge of the Artist*."



It was after few Telugu films that I got my true call; says Shreya Dhanawanthry

reason; when the film *Kaagaz Ke Phool* released, critics destroyed it so much that Guru Dutt was heartbroken and never directed a film again. He never got to know how the film was ranked as a classic after his demise. We couldn't hold our excitement either and just rang up the leading lady, and she with equal admiration said, "My director is a genius person. It was Ilaiyaraaja's music that got him interested in cinema in the first place. Not just movies, he is the brainchild to some of the most novel advertisements that none can think of. He is

ever for her, please let her know. Hysterical! Since, the whole movie is an ode to legendary Guru Dutt, his film *Baazi* was a tribute to the 1940s film noir genre of Hollywood, and defined the noir genre for the following decade in Bollywood. We asked the actress, what does she knew about him? She retorted, "The Middle-east played a huge role in my life, very coincidentally in knowing who Guru Dutt was. He was one of the connections to India for us! He was lauded for his artistry, notably his usage of close-up shots, lighting, and depictions of melan-

(she laughs again). But the best part of all this was something I came to know later from one of his assistants."

Recalling when six years ago, she had got a message from Salim Khan, on the basis of a thirty-second commercial she did for Amazon. She naturally



Allu Sirish's next to compete with Sam's Shaakuntalam

Allu Sirish has made around just six movies in his nine-year-long career. Well, there has been no release from the actor since 2019. *ABCD: American Born Confused Desi* was the last release from the actor. Allu Sirish wanted to make a strong comeback again

and so he took his time. The actor was working on a couple of movies with two young and talented directors, as known from the

sources. One of them, under the direction of Rakesh Sashii, is now getting ready to be released.

As per the latest update, the film's production was completed and the makers are looking forward to the release. The makers of Allu Sirish's movie today gave an announcement on the release of this film.

Allu Sirish's movie with Rakesh Sashii is going to be released on November 4, 2022. This film is going to compete with Samantha's *Shaakuntalam* at the box office. Allu Sirish's movie has the title *Prema Kadanta* under consideration, but the official announcement has not been made yet. The makers will be announcing all the official updates very soon. They are looking to kickstart the promotion of the film by Dasara.

So far as is known from the film unit, Anu Emmanuel played the lead actress in the film. Anup Rubens composed the music. The film was made under the banner of Geetha Arts.

Nikhil has a different take on Oscars

Nikhil who captured the imagination of all with his film *Karthikeya 2* across the nation, came up with a completely different take on the prestigious Oscars. Speaking to scribes he said "I am sorry, but I am of a different opinion. Everybody loves the Oscars, but the biggest achievement of the film is the love and appreciation they have received from people. That is the biggest award."

Nikhil went on to elaborate "People have showered love on *RRR* and that is a big win for the film. So, why do we need the Oscars? When we have Filmfare and when we have our own awards, the National awards, I do not give that much importance to the Oscars, I am sorry. Why do we need a certificate from the



Oscars? Our films are amazing. Indian films are rocking. I was watching *RRR* in Spain. I was shooting there and the theatre was housefull. Spanish people were there, watching the film and coming back again. So,

we don't need any certificates from the Oscars." Ever since Rajamouli's *RRR* was not selected for Oscars by the Indian jury, fans and movie lovers are blasting them on social media.

Did Rajamouli sign his next with CAA?

Entertainment and sports agency Creative Artists Agency (CAA) has signed Indian filmmaker S.S. Rajamouli.

Rajamouli's *RRR*, starring NTR Jr and Ram Charan, has been making waves around the world since it released in March and has collected some \$150 million, making it the fourth highest grossing Indian film of all time.

The Hindi-language dubbed version of *RRR*, a film originally made in the Telugu-language, is the only non-English-language film to trend globally for 10 consecutive weeks on Netflix.

Another film by Rajamouli, 2017's *Baahubali 2: The Conclusion* is the second highest grossing film of all time in India with \$278 million. Next up for Rajamouli is an as-yet-untitled film starring Mahesh Babu, which he has described as a globe-trotting action-adventure. The film will commence production in the spring of 2023.

Rajamouli's credits also include *Magadheera*, *Eega* and *Maryada Ramanna*. *RRR* was recently snubbed as India's entry in the Oscars' international feature category in favor of Pan Nalin's *Last Film Show*.

An action-drama set



in the 1920s, the historical fiction story by Vijayendra Prasad and Rajamouli imagines real-life Indian freedom fighters Alluri Sitarama Raju (Ram Charan) and Komaram Bheem (NTR Jr) meeting and becoming fast friends. The occupying colonial British are their common enemy.

Variance Films, the film's U.S. distributor, will launch a full awards campaign for *RRR* and is calling on the 10,000 Academy members to consider voting for the film in all categories.

RRR will be submitted for best picture, director (Rajamouli), original screenplay (Rajamouli and Vijayendra Prasad), lead actor (for both NTR Jr and Ram Charan),

supporting actor (Ajay Devgn), supporting actress (Alia Bhatt), original song (*Naatu Naatu*), original score (M.M. Keeravaani), cinematography, production design, film editing, costume design, makeup and hairstyling, sound and visual effects.

"Over the last six months, we have seen the joy that S.S. Rajamouli's *RRR* has brought to global audiences," said the president of Variance Films, Dylan Marchetti. "We have heard fans from around the world tell us that they believe this is one of the best films of the year from any nation. We agree. We proudly invite the Academy to consider *RRR* in all categories."

Gautham Menon to play villain in Ajith-Vignesh Shivan film?



Vignesh Shivan-Ajith-Nayanthara trio has teamed up for their next venture, *AK62*. The film has set high expectations right from its announcement. As far as the cast is concerned, there's an immense buzz that renowned actor and director, Gautham Vasudev Menon will essay the role of antagonist in the film. During his recent chat with Pinkvilla, Gautham clarified the speculations about him being in *AK62*.

He said, "Vignesh is a very close friend of mine but nothing has come up to me as of now. If there's anything such, I would love to play an antagonist as it is a kind of role that always excites me." For the unversed,

Gautham helmed Ajith starrer *Yennai Arindhaal*, which also had Trisha Krishnan, Anushka Shetty and Arun Vijay.

Gautham also expressed his wish to team up with Thalapathy Vijay soon. "Have been planning to team up with Vijay for a very long time but there's nothing on cards as of now. If there's anything that comes from his side, I would love to," said Gautham who is currently in talks for *Thalapathy67*.

On a related note, during the interview, the filmmaker also confirmed he is working on Nayanthara's documentary that will chart her childhood to her journey in the industry. "Many initially thought that I'm directing their wedding movie, but it is a documentary with Netflix that will be all about Nayanthara. She is called Lady Superstar for a reason and we are living up to it. Right from her childhood journey to now, we have included everything. You will get to see a lot of childhood photos and moments of her also. Vignesh is also a part of it. We are still working on it," revealed *Vendhu Thandindhathu Kaadu* director.