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 నాయకుల వార్తల్లోనూ
 ఎప్పుడూ...

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 వార్తలు అచ్చే ఛానల్
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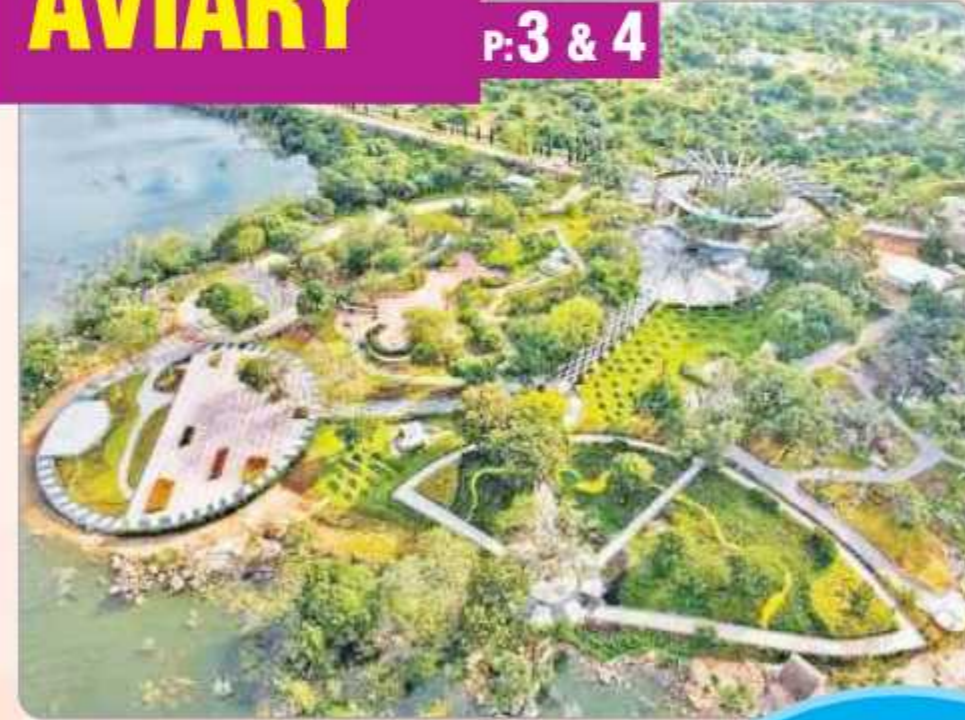
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HOSTING
 WORLD'S
 LARGEST
 AVIARY

P:3 & 4



SUNDAY 
 pioneer

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2023

ALTERNATIVE
 ASSET CLASSES IN
 INDIA: EXPLORING
 THRIVING PRIVATE
 MARKETS

P:12



Dil Se



'I want
 to be normal
 before my fans,
 without any
 entourage'

Chill,
 THIS DUDE
 IS HERE TO
 thrill!

P:8 & 9



P:5

PERSON

MOHAMMED SHAMI

Mohammed Shami created history during the India-New Zealand ICC Cricket World Cup 2023 semi-final clash at Mumbai's Wankhede stadium on November 15. Shami was India's destroyer in chief with the ball as he took a four-wicket haul amid New Zealand's brave attempt to chase down the total of 398. He created a history by competing 50 wickets in the history of the ODI World Cup. The star Indian pacer also set a massive World Cup record by becoming the fastest player in history to reach this milestone.



VIDEO

NANA PATEKAR SMACKS A FAN WHO TRIES TAKING SELFIE WITH HIM

A viral video captures actor Nana Patekar slapping a fan who attempted to take a selfie with him on the set of his film. This incident has stirred backlash on social media, especially considering Patekar's past association with the MeToo movement. In the video, Nana Patekar, donned in a brown blazer and a hat, is seen shooting for his upcoming film *Journey* on a street leading to the Dashashwamedh Ghat in Varanasi. As a boy approaches from behind to take a selfie, Patekar swiftly smacks the back of his head upon realizing the fan's intention. A crew member standing nearby intervenes, grabbing the boy by the neck and escorting him off the set. The video has sparked criticism online, with many expressing disapproval of Patekar's actions.



Patekar Slaps a Fan

SONG

SUPERHERO HANUMAN

The creators of the much-anticipated superhero film *HanuMan* have unveiled a superhero theme song named *Superhero HanuMan*. The song showcases Teja Sajja playing a superhero, who doesn't don a superhero suit, is desi at heart and is the most powerful superhero in the universe. Penned by Kumar of *Jawan* fame and set to tune by Anudeep Dev, *Superhero HanuMan* is a catchy and fun anthem sung by children. The song shows a young man who discovers that he has been bestowed with brute strength by kids favourite Lord Hanuman. It mentions iconic global superheroes and shows how they pale in comparison to the Superhero with the local touch, *HanuMan*.



MOVIE

MANGALAVARAM

Payal Rajput and Ajay Bhupathi have shivered down the audience's spine with their upcoming horror thriller, *Mangalavaram*, scheduled for a grand release on November 17, 2023. The dynamic duo, known for their impactful debut film *RX100*, have once again created a sensation with this film. *Mangalavaram* boasts an impressive ensemble cast, including Nanditha Swetha, Divya Pillai, Azmal, Ravindra Vijay, Krishna Chaitanya, and Ajay Gosh, with the musical brilliance of Ajaneesh Lokanath. Produced in collaboration between Mudra Media Works and A Creative Works, *Mangalavaram* promises to deliver a thrilling cinematic experience that will leave audiences on the edge of their seats.



PICTURE

CHICKEN BIRYANI AT ₹30

A wave of nostalgia has swept across social media as a snapshot of a restaurant's menu card from 2001 emerged, thrusting individuals who came of age in the 1990s into a contemplative journey reflecting on the strikingly disparate prices of once-affordable culinary delights. The shared menu, now making waves on Instagram, unveils prices that are a jaw-dropping six to seven times lower than contemporary rates. Picture this: Chicken Biryani, commanding a mere Rs 30, Mutton Biryani at Rs 32, and the creamy indulgence of Paneer Butter Masala priced at a modest Rs 24.

VEGETARIAN		NON-VEGETARIAN	
Egg Roll	1.00	Mutton Biryani	32.00
Chicken Roll	10.00	Mutton Kebab	30.00
Egg Chicken Roll	14.00	Chicken Mutton	30.00
Spiced Chicken Roll	14.00	Chicken Kebab in Plate	30.00
Waffle Roll	11.00	Chilli Chicken	25.00
Egg Waffle Roll	14.00	Waffle Egg Roll	25.00
Dinner Mutton Roll	20.00	Chicken Chilli	25.00
Vegetarian Roll	7.00	Chicken Kebab	22.00
Panipuri Roll	13.00	Paneer Fry	10.00
Roll Fry	12.00	Paneer Fry in Plate	10.00
Tea Fry	11.00	Paneer Fry in Plate	10.00
Tea Fry Plate 25 Piece	11.00	Paneer Fry in Plate	10.00
COMBOS		COMBOS	
Chicken Biryani	20.00	Chicken Biryani	32.00
Chicken Chilli	25.00	Chicken Chilli	30.00
Chicken Kebab	30.00	Chicken Kebab	30.00
Chicken Mutton	30.00	Chicken Mutton	30.00
Chicken Waffle	25.00	Chicken Waffle	25.00
Chicken Waffle 25 Piece	25.00	Chicken Waffle 25 Piece	25.00
COMBOS		COMBOS	
Chicken Biryani	20.00	Chicken Biryani	32.00
Chicken Chilli	25.00	Chicken Chilli	30.00
Chicken Kebab	30.00	Chicken Kebab	30.00
Chicken Mutton	30.00	Chicken Mutton	30.00
Chicken Waffle	25.00	Chicken Waffle	25.00
Chicken Waffle 25 Piece	25.00	Chicken Waffle 25 Piece	25.00

HOSTING WORLD'S LARGEST AVIARY

Is HMDA equipped to face global scrutiny?

As Hyderabad prepares to unveil the world's largest aviary under the aegis of the Hyderabad

Metropolitan Development Authority (HMDA), there is no doubt whatsoever that the city's tourism prospects are set to soar farther. This visionary project, alongside an expansive eco-park, is winning accolades for its innovative approach. But on the flip side there are certain concerns over the project's legal and conservation aspects. This week, **TANISHA SAXENA** presents the essence of conversations with experts and conservationists, shedding light on the intricacies and pitfalls of this grand endeavor.

Hyderabad is poised to enhance its tourist appeal manifold with the impending introduction of the HMDA's expansive eco-park in Kothwalguda, featuring, inter alia, a groundbreaking walk-through aviary. Billed to be

the world's largest, it scheduled for inauguration by March 2024. The eco-park complementing this aviary, spread across 5.5 acres and being built at an estimated cost of Rs 8 crore, will host India's most extensive aquarium. Boasting cutting-edge amenities, the aviary is designed to accommodate 5,000

birds spanning 40 diverse species, according to officials.

The ecological park boasts a sprawling 2.5-kilometer boardwalk, averaging a width of 2.4 meters. Nestled near the entrance, it is complemented by pathways, access roads, charming gazebos, and pergolas. An open-air amphitheater,

butterfly havens, sensory parks, lush greenery, and carefully crafted landscaping add to its allure.

The HMDA envisions the integration of electric buggies within the Eco-hill Park, providing visitors with a convenient hop-on/hop-off option to swiftly access the enchanting aviary.



BEYOND ENCLOSURES FOR BIRDS

An aviary is a sprawling enclosure designed to house and care for birds, offering a departure from the confines of traditional cages. Its size and structure vary widely, ranging from small backyard installations to expansive zoo-scale habitats. Integral to its design is the use of mesh or netting, allowing for proper ventilation and sunlight exposure while preventing the birds from escaping.

Continued on Page 4...

THE ECO-PARK COMPLEMENTING THIS AVIARY, SPREAD ACROSS 5.5 ACRES AND BEING BUILT AT AN ESTIMATED COST OF RS 8 CRORE, WILL HOST INDIA'S MOST EXTENSIVE AQUARIUM. BOASTING CUTTING-EDGE AMENITIES, THE AVIARY IS DESIGNED TO ACCOMMODATE 5,000 BIRDS SPANNING 40 DIVERSE SPECIES.

Continued from Page 3

Chandrakanth Reddy, a researcher and founder of Chandu exotic pets, said, "A fundamental aspect of aviaries lies in the incorporation of natural elements such as trees, shrubs, and perches, creating an environment that mirrors the birds' native habitats. Environmental control systems ensure optimal conditions, addressing factors like temperature and humidity. Aviaries are intricately tailored to accommodate the specific needs of diverse bird species, acknowledging variations in space requirements, environmental preferences, and social behaviors. Beyond mere containment, these aviaries serve as pivotal tools in avian conservation efforts, acting as living laboratories for research, breeding, and rehabilitation."

Many also integrate educational components, enlightening the public about the significance of bird species, their ecosystems, and the imperative role in conservation. Ultimately, aviaries provide expansive and captivating space for both bird residents and human observers, fostering an appreciation for the beauty of avian life and contributing to broader conservation initiatives.

HUB OF LEARNING

Dhriti Banerjee, director of ZSI (The Zoological Survey of India), and Pratyush Mohapatra, share their insights. "Nowadays there is an increasing trend in people, specifically youngsters, to have a pet at home as a true companion, and people are keeping 'exotic pets' as they know that keeping wild animals of Indian origin is illegal as most of the species are protected under the Wild Life (Protection) Amendment Act, 2022. People also love to watch animals and interact with them, as they find pleasure and thrill in understanding the intricate creations of nature. Over the last 5-6 years, huge quantities of exotic species have been imported into India, including some that are illegal (as those species are protected under the Appendices of CITES and now all the CITES are protected under Schedule- IV of the WLPA). However, the initiative of HMDA to set up an aviary of exotic species of birds and other animals is a welcome step and can also be used as a 'hub of learning' to educate the public on various species of animals and biodiversity. It should also spread a message to the public by deterring people from keeping pets at home; rather, they can spend their leisure time interacting with animals in the aviary."

We asked experts about the roles aviaries play in educating the public about rare species, particularly reptiles like iguanas and ball pythons, and their conservation needs.

"The aviary will definitely be an important destination for the public, and with all the clearances from the state and central government, the selection of species, husbandry, public management, etc. also the authorities must have addressed some of the important components. Iguanas and ball pythons are not rare species but are exotic to India. Different groups



THE SUCCESS OF SUCH A VENTURE HINGES ON METICULOUS, ENDURING MANAGEMENT, WITH THE GENERATED REVENUE PRIORITISING THE WELL-BEING OF RESIDENT ANIMALS AND CARETAKERS.

of people have different choices. Some people love to watch birds, and some love reptiles. So, to cater to the needs of people, the authorities must have planned for a diverse array of species," Dr. Banerjee underscores.

BALANCING PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION

There are many such aviaries around the globe that are popular destinations for huge public gatherings. "But the real challenge will be handling the public, which HMDA must have thought of. An agency that strictly adheres to the laws and has experience handling animals should be chosen with a team of experts such as veterinarians, biologists, and caretakers. It will lead to a boom in the tourism sector if it can be managed successfully. It can be a hub for learning about different animals. There are many interesting animals with fascinating behavior: be it territorial or courtship behavior or their feeding habit, everything is interesting for animal lovers, and therefore, executed well, the project can be a huge step," observes doctor Pratyush Mohapatra, Scientist E and office-in-charge (Reptilia section) at The Zoological Survey of India.

From a conservationist's perspective, there must be certain measures to be implemented to strike a balance between promoting public engagement and ensuring the well-being of the animals within the aviary. Gopinathan Maheswaran, Ph. D Scientist-F and Officer-in-Charge, Bird Section, shares: "A threatened animal or a bird, be it exotic or native, both matter to any conservationist. But when your aim is to educate common people, especially children, it should be holistic and give more importance to local fauna (as you will not display any local fauna as such but education-



al mediums like signboards and audio-visual facilities) and their role in ecosystem functioning. When you talk about exotic species, you should know the biology of those species you are going to display, as this information is crucial as environmental factors play a major role in the well-being of the animals. If you keep a rainforest species in an aviary where you keep desert species, how will they survive? Therefore, when you select a person(s) who will look after the species, they should have a clear idea about the species biology and try to act accordingly. Keeping a bird or an animal in an enclosure that can no longer sustain that species because its environment is different sends out the wrong message to the public and at the same time jeopardizes the species' survival."

Constructing large-scale aviaries and eco-parks not only promises heightened economic prosperity and increased tourism for the region but also necessitates a substantial financial commitment for ongoing maintenance and development. The success of such a venture hinges on meticulous, enduring management, with the generated revenue prioritising the well-being of resident animals and caretakers. Furthermore, channeling funds towards local species conservation initiatives, particular-

ly in India, underscores a strategic approach to environmental stewardship. The promotion of sponsored conservation projects targeting endangered species amplifies the facility's significance, establishing a nexus between public engagement and wildlife preservation.

Kona Prabhavathi, Senior Scientist, PJTSAU, Hyderabad, points out: "In the face of industrial challenges surrounding Kothalguda, a robust strategy is essential. Prioritising the conservation of endangered native bird species, such as sparrows, stands as a critical imperative. Simultaneously, a cautious approach to the erection of cell phone towers is paramount to avoid inadvertent environmental consequences. Beyond this, safeguarding the micro-environment within the park takes precedence, creating a harmonious balance between public engagement, wildlife preservation, and addressing the impacts of industrial activities. This comprehensive plan not only ensures the longevity of the aviary and eco-park venture but also establishes a model for responsible environmental stewardship in the region."

LEGAL AND ETHICAL CONCERNS

Maneka Gandhi, an Indian politician, animal rights activist, and environmentalist, opines: "This is not just a

retrograde step; it is illegal. In order to make any enclosure for animals that is technically a zoo, no matter what it is called, permission has to be obtained from the Central Zoo Authority. This has not been asked for or given. No zoo can be set up without it. Secondly, keeping exotic species of birds is illegal because there is no CITES permission. Many of these birds are endangered species in their own countries. It is forbidden to bring them into India. Most of them die in the cold. They are of no educational value, as people can now learn much more about them on computers. They do not eat any local plants or trees. So, they have to be fed imported seed all the time, which will cost the taxpayers crores of rupees. No unique flora has been developed to sustain them as their trees are not available in India and it is illegal to bring in foreign plants (last experiment was done with Prosopis juliflora, eucalyptus, and silver oak; all these have been extremely destructive for India)."

A similar aviary was started two years ago in Chandigarh, with the same species of birds. She continues: "Over one crore rupees was spent on buying birds from illegal smugglers (which is how this government will be buying them as well as selling birds is illegal). Within one year, all the birds had died. The local officials did not feed them properly, and they were not capable of finding food. The same claims were made then in Chandigarh by the then Governor (from Rajasthan), whose pet project this was. Crores of rupees was spent. Now an inquiry has been set up against officials who encouraged him and made all sorts of nonsensical claims. Here, too, you will have massive deaths very quickly. And then, in order to keep it going, the government will be on a permanent cycle of buying illegal exotic birds to keep this illegal zoo going. Birds die when people with colds and other diseases come near them. If people spit, it is extremely dangerous. These birds have no immunity to India."

She also highlights that there are no bird doctors in India at all. So, when a bird falls sick, there is no treatment possible. If all of them get bird flu, which is very likely to happen, they will all die. "It is the most foolish and expensive idea, and the Telangana public is paying for this extravagant display of ego. Citizens have gone to court, and the only defense they have is that they will look after the birds. How can they when they are not experts, even in Indian birds, and these are all foreign birds? Vets are not taught bird anatomy, food, sickness, etc. (except chickens) in any veterinary college. This should be severely condemned," concludes Gandhi.

In sum, the grand undertaking presents an intricate tapestry of potential benefits and challenges. Its success relies on a careful and holistic approach that addresses legal, conservation, and ethical considerations. Balancing the aspirations of tourism and education with the responsibility of environmental stewardship will determine the lasting impact of Hyderabad's ambitious aviary project.



RUKSHAAR DHILLON, one of the leading ladies of *Spark Life*, speaks with *The Pioneer's* **SHIKHA DUGGAL** about her role and experience working with newbie Vikranth.

'I want to be normal before my fans, without any entourage'

After entertaining the Telugu audiences with *Ashoka Vanamlo Arjuna Kalyanam*, Rushkaar Dhillon is all set to strike a chord with fans, this time with a romantic actioner. There's more to it, readers! Audiences are calling it a cinematic extravaganza already, and we were there with Rushkaar early in the morning, tapping into up-close and personal life alongside some excerpts from the movie.

She gets down to her early years of life for us: "I was a badly behaved child, oops! My mom always addressed me as a canon on fire. I was like a whipper-snapper. I ended up becoming a minx for my parents in a very entertaining way. More than being badly behaved, I would like to describe my personality as being rather carefree. I was okay being on my own. I never made best friends in school! During my childhood, the only thing that mattered to me was my food (she laughed out loud). Fruits and milk! Then I joined karate and football, as I was growing up gradually. I even dislocated my bone once! Nothing could stop me yet. I never cared if I had a fractured hand."

A blend of so many cities, the *Ram Antony* fame was all over the place. It was healthier for us to have the leading lady describe the details herself: "once my parents got married, they moved to London for better job opportunities. They had their own business in Goa! We had extended relatives in Goa, so it was obvious that my father joined them. Then my mother wanted us to move to a metropolitan area for even better opportunities, so she chose Bengaluru."

Coming to her latest release, we were curious to know the gladdening moment that led her to sign the script with a newbie instantaneously. She stated, "Vikranth saw my previous release; perhaps that worked out for him? Then he wanted to work with an established actress. I have seen him hustling for this film to come out well! This time I wasn't looking for my character arc; I was looking for the strong plot point." Mentioning a bit of hustle as a newcomer in the Telugu film industry, the actress suggested, "Some days in an actress' life do get very exhausting. My profession demands a lot! Besides looking appealing, which, thank God, is diluting in the industry

because we cannot always look prim and proper, I really want to be normal before my fans without any entourage. Sometimes we sacrifice our cheat meals to just look toned on screen! If given a choice, I would have eaten a burger right now. These are our efforts! Yes, I am setting an example, but I also want to be the girl who has the time and willingness to brush her teeth after breakfast."

Talking more about the time limitations actors are given in the industry, she spills the beans: "My meaning of hard work is no longer attributed to sacrifices — not even skipping my meal! Skipping lunches by an actor is glorified, but for what? I need my lunch on time because I have given most probably 10 precious days from my calendar for a shoot. These headlines punching leading to an actor shooting continuously need to stop being given praise too. Do not deprive your body of basic intakes; otherwise, how will you do your best on screen? We are crossing lines of hustle-culture nowadays; there is no end to hecatombs. I don't have to immolate my meals to come across the best hardworking actress in the industry. So I have started integrating this off late; I do take a few days off just to rejuvenate and not to show the industry that I am on a starry vacation."

How was it working with Mehreen Kaur Pirzada? Two heroines — always an exciting moment, or were there dull moments too? was our next question to the actress! The London-born clarified, "Mehreen and I hardly had any combination scenes together. I am past the feeling that there is also a second lead in the film. Then Mehreen and I got busy making Vikranth do a little bit of Bhangra. Then we shared some common friends too, so those were the conversations that were happening around us. The bubbly moment was that both of us could speak Punjabi, and that was our code language. We even included our actor and conversed a lot about how's north and stuff like that."

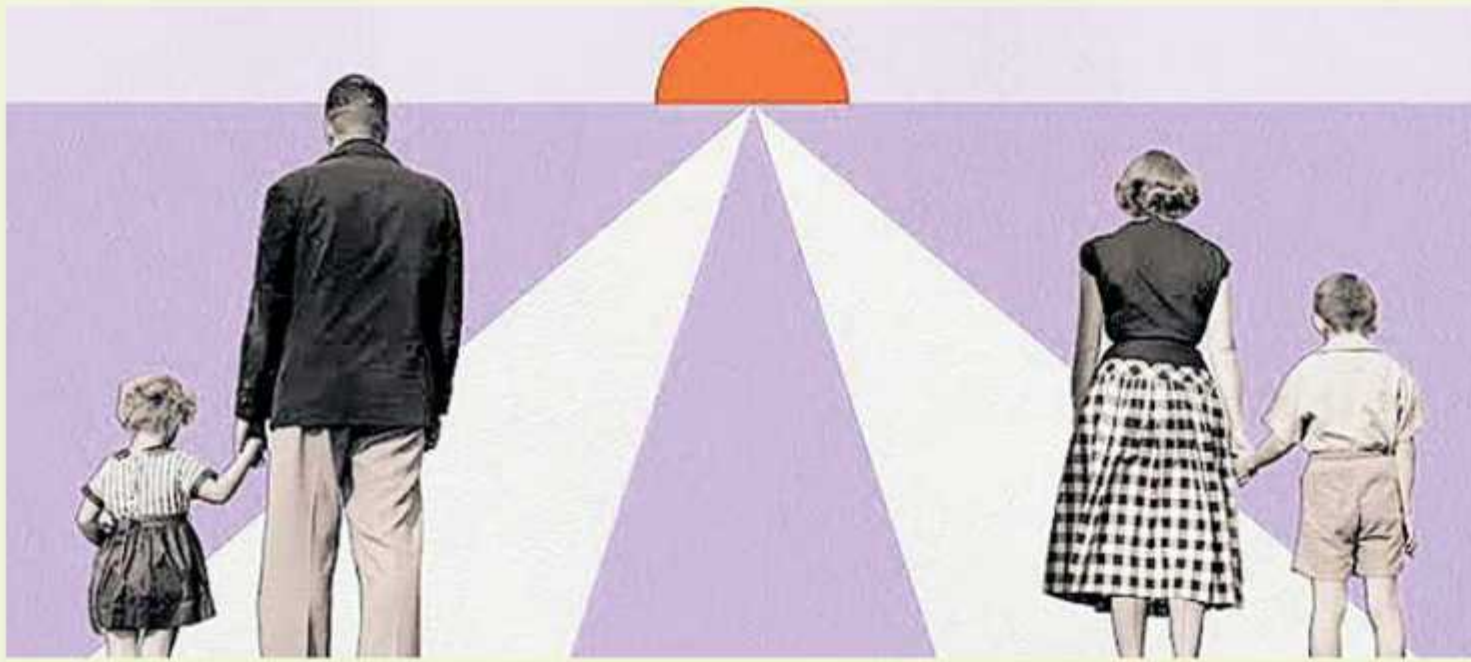
And no, she wasn't apprehensive of working with actor Vikranth as a director, now knowing, "The industry is aware that there was a director on board, but due to creative issues, Vikranth took the lead since he has written the story. It was the need of the hour! The co-director also helped him a lot while he was doing his scenes, because who would give the clap then? And despite being his directorial debut, there was never any chaos on sets! The director's seat was never left empty by our leading actor."

Living by the title of her film, Rukshaar narrated to us her spark moments from life, and that was, "My release should leave sparks in the sky. On a serious note, when I had my pet on board in my life, that was one of the most effervescent moments of my life. His name is Champ! My mother is always more concerned about him than we are. Another fizzy moment that I can recall that actually leaves me a little teary-eyed is when I was busy doing commercials and my grandmother had visited a saree showroom, and she spotted me hoarding. She took a pause, sat down, and broke down in tears. The crowd around her just couldn't understand what's happening, and she was unable to express that it's my granddaughter on the hoardings."

Her priceless memory! These were all the chitter chatter that makes her life worth living as an actress, and further in life, Rukshaar will continue to feel your heart and soul with path-breaking performances.



Do not question your existence if you belong to a 'blended family'



had a patient aged 8 years admitted with severe abdominal pain to the wards for supportive care. The child was accompanied only by the mother, and she was told her father was out of town and working in another city. The child was investigated for severe abdominal pain, and all results, including USG abdomen, surgical review, and blood and urine tests, were normal. The pain did not settle with high-dose analgesics. The pattern of abdominal pain was felt to be functional. Upon inquiry with the child and mother, it was identified that both parents were in a very stressful relationship and contemplating divorce after a period of separation. The child and family were referred to counseling. The parents underwent an amicable divorce with supportive co-parenting and ongoing counselling over the next 2 years. The mother is now married again, and the readiness was assessed for both the child, the mother, and the new father (stepdad). At the onset of planning the new relationship, the child, who was 13 years old, had some episodes of deliberate self-harm with cut marks on the wrists. This required additional counselling and anti-depressants! It took a few months of family counselling, and now the mother is married and the stepdad has maintained a friendly and stable relationship with the now-15-year-old girl.

This was an indicator of adjustment and well-being. Hence, always try to promote positive adjustment of stepchildren over time. Don't try to be the ideal family but embrace the differences is all what we are trying to tell our readers from this week's health talk.

It seems like children act out their feelings through their behavior. They may not be able to talk about how they feel about their new situation, but they will show you through changes in their behavior. To corroborate this, we have a case study too. Dr. Sujatha Thyagrajan, from Aster RV Hospitals,



Have you ever thought of the challenges with the kind of circumstances one has to go through in these 'blended' families? Few have the time to reflect on it, and that. *The Pioneer's* SHIKHA DUGGAL speaks to experts about how parents and a child feel about it in such a family.

Stepfamilies have become so important, right? Nowadays, it's popularly known to be the "blended" families in the woke culture that we live in. But have we ever thought of the challenges with the kind of circumstances one has to go through in these "blended" families? Hardly anyone has had the time to reflect on it, and that made us tap into this juncture of trying to learn from experts about how parents and a child feel about it.

Dr. B. Sarathi Goud, a senior psychiatrist at Kamineni Hospitals, shared, "Building trust in stepfamilies is challenging due to the lingering effects of broken trust in the biological parents' relationship. Additionally, managing complex dynamics among step-siblings, influenced by age differences and baggage from prior family experiences, can lead to conflicts. Co-parenting with an ex-partner also introduces difficulties arising from conflicting parenting styles and unresolved issues."

She suggested that utilising family therapy for emotional support, involving children in decision-making processes, and establishing consistent routines can be pivotal for navigating the complexities of changing family dynamics. Fostering an environment where children can openly express their feelings without judgement promotes

emotional well-being and effective communication. Additionally, emphasising the unique qualities of each family member and celebrating their strengths contributes to a sense of unity and acceptance. "In blended families, children may test boundaries to understand their place and assess rule consistency. Some may cope through withdrawal or isolation, emphasising the importance of promptly addressing signs of emotional distress to foster open communication and provide necessary support," added the psychologist.

Relax; it takes time for a child or young person to adjust to all the changes that moving into a stepfamily brings. Mrs. Sonali Sarkar, a mom blogger, also added her input by making a statement: "On the positive side, a supportive stepparent can provide stability, love, and a sense of security. Open communication and empathy are crucial for stepparents to mitigate these difficulties and ensure a positive impact on the child's overall health. Children in stepfamilies also play a crucial role in fostering positive relationships with their stepparents, but not always vice versa. One way they can contribute is by expressing their needs and feelings openly, providing valuable insights into their emotional state. Offering patience to stepparents as they navigate the complexities of blending families is

Unmasking the hidden trauma of domestic violence

Despite global treaties, new legislation, and gender movement, women continue to face horrific abuse. Women's safety is threatened or violated not only during wars and crises. It is a menace in both the public and private realms, particularly in stable democracies and during times of peace.

In fact, according to the latest report by National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5) 29.3 percent married Indian women between the ages 18-49 have faced domestic and sexual violence, and 31 percentage women have experienced physical violence during their pregnancy. That's just a number of cases, which have been reported. But what about the ones not reported? There could be a shocking number. Domestic violence victims may feel isolated and alienated, and their abusers may isolate them from friends and family. Victims may also be financially dependent on their abusers, making it harder for them to leave the violent situation.

These situations lead to a psychological trauma called Battered Woman Syndrome. Battered woman syndrome (BWS) is a psychological trauma caused by chronic physical, psychological, and/or sexual abuse, most commonly by an intimate partner. This syndrome is one of several illnesses known as Intimate Partner Violence (IPV), and it can cause depression, anxiety, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), and even physical health concerns. BWS can also lead to the formation of a "survival personality" in which the person acts out of fear in order to escape additional trauma. Battered woman syndrome (BWS) is a set of indications and symptoms presented by a woman who has experienced recurrent intimate partner violence from her male partner, whether psychological, physical, or sexual.

To explain us more about the Battered Women Syndrome (BWS), *The Pioneer* connected to the Dr Purnima Nagaraja, Mental health professional and therapist, Dhriti Wellness Clinic shares, "Most people are battered women, men or someone today we have third gender. The women standing next to you might also get battered in their daily lives. The physical symptoms of Battered women include bruises, swollen face, their hair might be pulled out, or a broken bone which are pure physical signs of abuse. These people are psychologically afraid, try to hide their illness, sometimes they are extra extroverted and laugh a lot, and they try to portray themselves as a happier person. But, originally they will have low self-esteem. They are unable to take minor decisions and there are many lot. And behaviourally these might develop things were they tend to seem confused, they might have memory lapses, dropping things, seen were insecure they are some of the manifestations of a person is being abused."

But today too, on a regular basis, we see many women staying in these abusive relationships. What could be the reason, we wondered? And so Purnima further continues, "People still tend to stay in these abusive relationships because there is no societal support. Society normalises



One of the pervasive crimes against women, is domestic violence. The abuse leads to several traumas, and one amongst them is Battered Woman Syndrome. For this week's FYI, *The Pioneer* brings to you essential information about the trauma, connecting with experts.

es violence in an increasingly patriarchal world. There are many families that consider women being abused to be normal and woman is a man's property if he wants to beat her up he can. Then the thing is that women don't have financial support. Even if she is educated may be for years, she might have not worked. So that insecurity of 'what if I go away, how am I going to support my children'. We always believe that children need two parents and that is the biggest falsity of life. I completely endorse that children need two parents but two parents fighting and subjecting each other and children to trauma. The child would grow up to be abusive or tends to have self-esteem issues which will affect their life also."

Several researches claim that children who have experienced or observed violence as a child are more prone to accept this type of violence as normal. Witnessing interparental

violence, which can be either father-to-mother or mother-to-father, is a substantial predictor of later experiencing intimate partner violence (IPV).

Importantly, in a male-dominated culture, the incidence of father-to-mother maltreatment may be higher. And she agrees as she says, "These children have grown up with normalising the violence. When the man beats up the wife, she tries to act normal and covers up the whole story. They have a lot of suppressed anger for the person, but as they grow up they also tend to believe it's normal and start hitting his sisters or hitting their friend/girlfriend etc. Where as when a girl is subjected to this even she tend to normalise this but will echo to her mother's depression and might face anxiety issues because battered people feel unsafe and people feel they are victimised and there is no way out for this. This is called victimised

behaviour and when you are extremely depressed and not getting any kind of emotional support the sense of helplessness will also make you not take the right decision and that's the reason why these all happen. Gaslighting where a woman is abused in such a way that she starts doubting themselves, that even if they are abusive they start thinking that it is nothing that happened to them, and a lot of don't seek help. These a classic things in an abusive relationship. That Gaslighting makes them think staying in abusive relationships is completely normal. People who are battered can have many other personality disorders like narcissistic disorder or bipolar disorder etc."

CASE STUDY

Purnima Nagaraj quotes us a case study

A 32-year-old married woman from day one, the husband has been battering up. He couldn't marry someone whom he loved initially and would tend to take out all his anger out on this lady. For every small thing he would beat her and burn her, until one day she decided to run away. He caught her and locked in a room without food after that she became so depressed that she might even, if she goes to work and felt so helpless for her and her children that she couldn't get support from anywhere. She didn't have family support ultimately she attempted suicide by hanging, then her family and understood her mental health problem. But, while she was in pain and suffering, the family could have been her emotional support, but all the societal norms and even while her family asked to go back to her home. The mental health professional further highlights how establishing support, be it financial, legal, emotional or child support is important.

Treatment

So how do we help someone with BWS, or what could be the treatment for the same? Zubeda Shaik, Marriage and Family therapist highlights, "Treatment for BWS typically includes individual and group therapy, as well as support from family and friends. Treatment may focus on helping the victim to develop healthy coping mechanisms, identify triggers for abusive behavior, and build self-esteem."

Legal support

Telangana State High Court Advocate K. Harini states that the victim or someone you know, should approach the Protection Officer and file a complaint giving complete details of the abuse and the incident, and get relief of protection, maintenance, residential, and compensation under DV Act.

The advocate adds, "The abuser would be punished under Section 498a of the Indian Penal Code, 1860, which also deals with the offense of domestic violence that provides for the punishment i.e. imprisonment of three years or fine or both. Thus, an FIR for an offense under section 498a can be registered in the local police station of your area against the husband/his relative."





PASSION FOR FILMMAKING

Right from my years as a teen, I have cultivated a passion for filmmaking and fixed a career in the film field as my goal. I used to watch a lot of movies during my childhood. Filmmaking is one of the toughest jobs in the film industry. Every director faces a lot of issues during this toughest journey. In my case, I have had issues like how to start a scene and where to end a scene. I am always confused when it comes to the beginning. On this, my guru RGV has given a bit of advice that if you are facing confusion in how to begin or open a scene or to end a scene, open a scene during the middle of the shot where the dialogue ends. While shooting that scene where a dialogue ends, you should go back and simultaneously shoot the scene thereby producing a striking shot. Whenever I get stuck or confused while shooting a particular scene, I sincerely follow his advice. I also asked advice or suggestions from cameramen regarding how to open a scene or end a scene.

HAVEN'T STUDIED MUCH...

As for my academic career, I have not studied much. I pursued my studies in my hometown. I did my schooling at Mahatma Gandhi High School, pursued my Intermediate in Mahatma Gandhi Junior College, and graduated from the Mahatma Gandhi Degree College.

EARLY DAYS...

My hometown is Athreyapuram, a rural area in Andhra Pradesh. My father, Ramaraju Vegesna, is a farmer and my mother Lakshmi Vegesna, is a homemaker. I do not know any other world except my hometown and Hyderabad. I have a sister, who is residing in America.



A FUNNY INCIDENT...

There have been many happy moments in my life. One of the funniest things in my life that I can recall is that I fell in love with a girl when I was in the sixth grade and I expressed my love to her. On knowing about my feelings, the girl tied a rakhi to me. Whenever I remember this particular incident, I laugh very hard. Though I do not know what love means, whenever I remember this incident, I burst into laughing.

RGV IS MY IDOL

My favourite director is Ram Gopal Verma. From his filmmaking style to his films, RGV showcases the process of filmmaking as 'easier' for young passionate filmmakers and technicians. Be it in Bollywood or Tollywood, there are many technicians and filmmakers who trained under him. I have worked under him as a chief co-director and associate director — co-director for *Killing Veerappan* and associate director for *Attack and Veera*. We admire RGV professionally as a director rather than personally. His professional skills and life are more striking than his personal life. I began my career by training under him and worked as an assistant director in his films.

EXPLORES VARIOUS GENRES, LOVES THRILLERS

If you have a good and clear idea of the filmmaking process, then filmmaking is not tough. You need to have clarity while creating a story. For instance, if you take my debut film *RX 100* and *Maha Samudram*, they come under the romantic action genre, while my latest film, *Mangalavaaram*, is a mysterious thriller genre which is completely different. I would love to shoot a film in different genres, unlike other directors and would love to explore other genres such as comedy, psycho-thriller, horror, etc. It is very difficult to shoot a film in different kinds of genres. Once you undertake shooting your story, especially thrillers, you feel like you don't want to leave it in the middle. I used to enjoy shooting thriller stories and while shooting such stories, I feel like a magician. I used to create stories based on the genres I loved or films I have watched since my childhood. I love to write my stories based on my ideas and imagination.



HAPPY MOMENT

I have secured the Best Debut Director SIIMA Awards for *RX 100*. In 2018, many directors of the Tollywood industry created many blockbuster hits, and getting an award for my debut film was very unexpected. I am very happy to have secured this award. These accomplishments encouraged me to create better films that resonated with the audience.

SAD MOMENT

My father expired five months after my debut film *RX100* was released. His demise is one of the saddest moments of my life.



MARRYING CHILDHOOD FRIEND...

It is good to share relationship stories before marriage but not after marriage. I married my childhood friend Sirisha on 25 August 2018. I had proposed to her two years back; however, her parents did not accept it as I then did not have any regular income. I then promised to my in-laws: "Give me two years' time, I will become a successful director." I kept that promise. Following the success of my debut film, I married her. My spouse is very understanding and supportive of me and my career.



MANGALAVAARAM IS NOT TELUGU KANTARA

Not even one per cent of *Mangalavaaram* is similar to Kannada blockbuster *Kantara*. It is a completely different film that captures the Telugu audience for its story.

DIRECTORS ARE VERY COMPETITIVE...

Without facing any challenges, no one becomes successful in life. During my journey, many people tried to copy or rob my stories. Moreover, directors are very competitive in various ways to create a film as per the audience's liking, to make it a blockbuster, etc. Every day is a challenge for a director as he or she has to create a story that is creative, engaging, and different from other stories to make the film hit.



**Chill,
THIS DUDE
IS HERE TO
thrill!**

With a passion for filmmaking ignited in his years as a teen, Director Ajay Bhupati has secured a prominent place in Tollywood with his debut film *RX 100*. A lover of thrillers, he infuses his magical touch while weaving stories in different genres and never fails to astound the audience with his films. Under the guidance of his favourite director-cum-mentor Ram Gopal Verma (RGV), his filmmaking journey became easier. *RX 100* has not only made him a successful director on debut, but also brought him many successes in his personal life. A romantic at heart, the director shares his happiest moments of falling in love with a girl while in sixth grade to marrying his childhood friend Sirisha. A self-proclaimed foodie, he loves Hyderabad chicken biryani and considers Hyderabad his second home after Athreyapuram. Despite facing many challenges during the beginning of his career, Ajay Bhupati secured the honours for the Best Debut Director in the 2018 SIIMA Awards. Director Ajay Bhupati shares with *The Pioneer's* **RASHMI BHUMI REDDY** his filmmaking journey, high points of working with actors like Siddharth and Sharwanand, and his immediate goal to shoot a web series for the OTT platform.

GOALS

I will definitely direct a web series for OTT as well in the near future. The writing style and content of films and web series are completely different. The web series is a totally different experience for me. I have a plan to direct my work and launch it on OTT platform.



INTELLIGENT ACTORS

Siddharth and Sharwanand are very intelligent actors. Their acting skills and the way they render dialogues are striking. In the case of Payal Rajput, her performance is very striking and her performance in the latest film *Mangalavaaram* amazes the audience.



QUICK BYTES

- Favourite colour:** Blue
- Favourite hobbies:** Smoking
- Favourite actor and actress:** Prabhas and Allu Arjun (Bunny)
- Rashi Khanna, Smita Patil
- Favourite destination:** Hampi
- Favourite food:** Fish curry, chicken biryani
- Favourite city:** Hyderabad
- Are you a calm kid or a mischievous kid?** I am a very mischievous kid
- Favorite books:** *Yandamuri Veerendranath's the success of secrets*
- Naa Isthamb* by Ram Gopal Verma

GLOBAL CAREER PROSPECTS

How early language skills enhance employability in India



In today's globally integrated world, language proficiency has become a valuable asset in the global employment market. India, with its diverse linguistic landscape, is no exception. Early language skills play a pivotal role in enhancing employability, and individuals who can communicate effectively in multiple languages have an evident advantage.

The multilingual advantage:

India is a linguistically diverse nation with hundreds of languages and dialects spoken across the country. However, when it comes to employability, knowing multiple languages, especially English, can be a game-changer. English is widely recognised as the global lingua franca, making it essential for Indians aiming for international job opportunities. Besides English, proficiency in languages such as Spanish, French, and Mandarin, amongst others, can be an added advantage when pursuing a global career.

Early language acquisition:

The foundation for strong language skills is laid in early childhood. Children are like sponges when it comes to language acquisition. Learning a language at a young age often leads to better pronunciation, comprehension, and fluency. The minds of young children are highly adaptable and receptive to different sounds and structures, making it easier for them to become multilingual. Hence, parents and the right educational institutions are crucial in promoting language learning from a tender age.

Improved cognitive abilities:

Early language skills are not just beneficial for communication but also for cognitive development. Multilingual individuals tend to have enhanced problem-solving abilities, better memory, and improved multitasking skills. These cognitive benefits can make a significant difference in the workplace. Employers often value individuals who can think critically, adapt quickly to new situations, and handle complex tasks,

which can be associated with multilingualism.

Competitive edge in the job market:

In India, where the job culture is highly competitive, possessing early language skills can set you apart from other candidates. Multilingual candidates are in high demand, not only in international companies but also in industries that require communication with a diverse customer base. With the advent of technology, remote work, and globalisation, companies are seeking employees who can communicate with a global clientele and navigate the complexities of international business.

Globalisation and international opportunities:

India's economic liberalisation and the rise of the technology sector have made it a hub for international companies and start-ups. With the Indian economy booming, the demand for individuals who can work seamlessly across borders is on the rise. Early language skills give individuals the edge to work with international teams, handle overseas clients, and

even pursue opportunities abroad. This globalisation of the job market has opened up numerous avenues for those with multilingual capabilities.

Language skills in specific industries:

Many industries, such as tourism, hospitality, export-import, and customer service, place a premium on language skills. Knowing a language can be a ticket to better opportunities and higher-paying jobs in these sectors. For instance, proficiency in German can open doors in the automobile and engineering industry, while proficiency in Spanish can be a boon for people wanting to work in the USA as it is the second most widely spoken language in the country. Early language skills specific to the industry of interest can be a key to unlocking the global job market.

Language learning resources:

In India, there is a growing emphasis on language learning from a young age. Educational institutions have started to offer

language programs and integrate them into their curriculum. Additionally, various online platforms and mobile applications provide convenient ways to learn and practice languages. These resources make it easier for individuals to acquire language skills from an early age, even if they do not have native speakers in their immediate environment.

Early language skills have become indispensable for enhancing employability in India. The ability to communicate in multiple international languages opens doors to better career opportunities, improved cognitive abilities, and a competitive edge in the job market. To maximise the benefits of early language skills, it is crucial for parents, educators, and policymakers to emphasize language learning from a young age. By doing so, India can equip its vast workforce with the linguistic tools necessary to excel in the global job market and foster a new generation of international professionals.

(The author, Eshleen Jolly, is the founder of Learning Lingos)





GOSHT AWADH BIRYANI

WHAT YOU NEED

- 2 cup soaked basmati rice
- 1/2 cup fried onion
- 1 1/4 teaspoon powdered Kashmiri red chilli
- 2 tablespoon yoghurt (curd)
- 1/2 teaspoon turmeric
- 2 black cardamom
- 3 bay leaf
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 teaspoon rose water
- 1 teaspoon kewra water
- salt as required
- 500 gm washed & dried mutton , with bone (you can take without bone as per your preference)
- 1/2 tablespoon ginger paste
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic paste
- 1 teaspoon cumin powder
- 1 teaspoon biryani masala powder (equal amount of mace & green cardamom)
- Pinch saffron
- 2 1/2 tablespoon ghee
- 1/4 teaspoon nutmeg powder
- 1 large thinly sliced onion

HOW TO MAKE

- Step 1.** Make caramelized onions
Heat ghee in a pan, and add onions. Then add salt followed by sugar. Let the onions cook and get caramelized, stir occasionally. Once done, keep them aside. Meanwhile, soak saffron in milk.
- Step 2.** Cook the mutton pieces
In a copper heavy bottom lagan , heat ghee and then add deep-fried onions followed by mutton pieces into it. Cook it till the raw smell of the mutton disappears. Take a bowl and add yogurt, ginger paste garlic paste, turmeric powder, red chilli powder, cumin powder, and biryani masala. Mix everything well and then add this to the mutton pieces. Now, add 2 cups of water and Dum cook on low flame. It should be 3/4 cooked.
- Step 3.** Prepare rice
To prepare the rice, bring eight cups of salted water to a boil and then add black cardamom and other whole spices. Now add Soaked rice, and one . Cook it 50% . The rice should be half cooked.
- Step 4.** Layer up the biryani
In a handi, add Some of the whole spices to the bottom followed by half of the rice. Top it with some soaked saffron in milk and then add mutton pieces. Again add the remaining rice. Sprinkle little biryani masala and then add half of the caramelized onions. Sprinkle rose water & Kewra water on the top and then cover the lid. Dum (Seal the lid with dough)Cook it for at least 30 mins on low flame and keep an eye on the biryani.
- Step 5.** Your Awadhi mutton biryani is ready
Garnish your biryani with the rest caramelized onions. Your Awadhi Mutton Biryani is ready to serve.

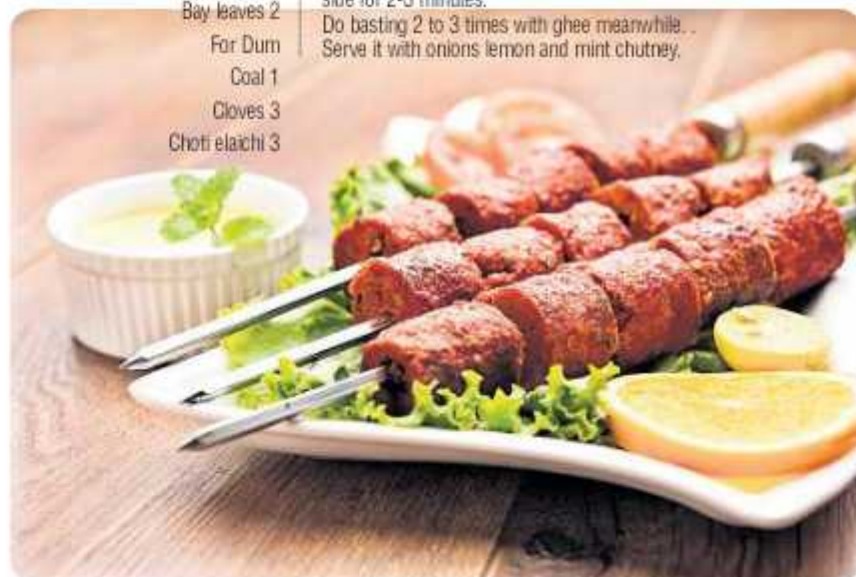
GOSHT MAKHMALI KEBAB

WHAT YOU NEED

- 3/4 Kg Mutton Chunks
- Mutton Kidney Fat : 40 gram
- Onions 50 gm
- Papaya 2 tbsp
- Ginger garlic paste 1 tbsp
- Red chilli powder 2 tbsp
- Roasted Chana Powder 2 tbsp
- Saffron 2 to 3 strands
- Rose water 1/2 tsp
- Milk powder 1 tbsp
- Salt to taste
- Desi Ghee for basting
- Coriander Roots 20 gram
- Spit Green Chillies 10 gram
- Mint Leaves 20 gram
- Kebab masala
- Jeera 1/2 tsp
- Cinnamon stick 1 inch
- Cloves 4-5
- Green cardamom 4
- Nutmeg one pinch
- Badi elaichi 2 to 3
- Mace (javitri) 1/4 tsp
- Poppy seed (khas khas) 1 tsp
- Kebab Chini 1tsp
- Bay leaves 2
- For Dum
- Coal 1
- Cloves 3
- Choti elaichi 3

HOW TO MAKE

- Step 1.** Make a Base Mixture
Clean the raw papaya and make a paste of the fruit and add it to in finely minced meat. Leave it for 2hrs. .
Dry roast the spices and let it cool down, then grind to a paste. Now cut the onions and sautee in ghee. After it cools down grind into a fine Powder.
Grind ginger and garlic to make a paste or use the readymade paste that you get. Soak saffron in 2 tablespoon milk around 15-20 minutes before use.
- Step 2.** Add the Masalas
Add roasted masala powder, onion paste, ginger garlic paste, Roasted Chana Powder, red chilli powder, saffron, rose water, milk powder and salt in meat.
Add Coriander roots, slit green chillies & Mint leaves and mince the mixture for 3 times with meat mincer machine.
Cover the meat and refrigerate for 4 -5 hrs.
- Step 3.** Smokes the Kebab
Heat a small piece of coal till it starts burning.
Put it in a metal bowl and keep it in the center of the vessel containing meat.
Add some ghee and put cloves and green cardamom in it. This will release pleasantly aromatic flavor and flavoured smoke into the meat.
Quickly cover the vessel with meat and burning coal with foil so that meat absorbs all very earthy flavour of ghee and coal. Leave it covered for about 20 minutes.
- Step 4.** Cook the Kebab
Meat is now ready for kebabs.
Skewer the meat on Sigdi seekh. Roast it on medium heat from all side for 2-3 minutes.
Do basting 2 to 3 times with ghee meanwhile. .
Serve it with onions lemon and mint chutney.



DUM KA MURGH

WHAT YOU NEED

- 2-3 tbsp Ghee
- 2 Green Cardamoms
- 6-8 Black Peppercorns
- 1 kg Chicken – curry cut
- 1 tbsp Ginger-Garlic Paste
- 1 fresh Green Chilli – split in half
- 3 tbsp Coriander Powder
- 2 tbsp Degi Red Chilli Powder
- 1 tsp Turmeric Powder
- 10 tbsp Brown Onion Paste
- 02 tbsp Cashewnut Paste
- 1 Chironji Paste
- 2 tbsp Coriander Leaves – chopped
- For Garnish
- Fresh Coriander Leaves Process
- For Dum
- Cloves 3
- 1 Bay leaf
- 2-3 Cloves
- Salt to taste
- 1 1/2 cups Curd
- Water
- Coal 1
- Choti elaichi 3

HOW TO MAKE

- Step 1.** In a kadai heat ghee then add bay leaf, cloves, green cardamom, black pepper corns and let them crackle.
- Step 2.** Then add the chicken and saute for a minute then add salt, ginger-garlic paste, green chilli and continue sauteing until the chicken is light brown.
- Step 3.** Now add coriander powder, degi red chilli powder, and turmeric powder and saute them until fragrant.
- Step 4.** Then add the curd, brown onion paste, cashew & chironji paste and mix it properly then add water, stir it once and cover it with a lid and cook until then chicken is cooked completely.
- Step 5.** Remove the lid then add chopped coriander leaves and cover it again for a minute and switch off the flames. Heat a small piece of coal till it starts burning.
- Step 6.** Put it in a metal bowl and keep it in the center of the vessel containing chicken.
- Step 7.** Add some ghee and put cloves and green cardamom in it. This will release pleasantly aromatic flavor and flavored smoke into the meat.
- Step 8.** Quickly cover the vessel with meat and burning coal with foil so that meat absorbs all very earthy flavour of ghee and coal. Serve hot in a serving bowl and garnish with coriander leaves.

Alternative asset classes in India: EXPLORING THRIVING PRIVATE MARKETS

Ever since the real estate sector started to exhibit a continuous growth pattern, the investment horizon expanded across emerging asset classes or non-traditional forms of asset classes. As core sectors like office and residential continue to perform, driven by increasing demand, varied subsets of these segments emerge as high-performing alternate asset classes.

The office segment regained its most preferred asset class status by attracting almost 65% of the total quarterly PE flows, primarily driven by operational asset acquisitions across Delhi NCR, Mumbai, and Hyderabad. However, institutional investors, traditionally concentrated on core asset classes, have been diversifying into non-core assets.

Interestingly, alternative asset classes or non-traditional forms like senior living, co-living, co-working spaces, data centres, and warehousing are fast emerging as alternatives to the core real estate segment. These alternative asset classes not only attract the thriving

private market but also provide newer markets and avenue segments to diversify portfolios while enhancing risk-adjusted returns.

So much so that the cumulative investments of around \$2 billion flowed into India's alternative assets over the past five years, with foreign investors taking the lead and high-net-worth individuals displaying a greater interest in such holdings, stated a Colliers report. Foreign investments constituted 78% of the aggregate investments in this sector, as investors persistently pursued newer markets and avenues to diversify their asset portfolios while enhancing risk-adjusted returns.

Macroeconomic drivers such as urban growth, the adoption of the Internet and smartphones, and an ageing population contribute to the need for these alternative assets. Additionally, various investment options in real estate for

a private investor, both in the form of equity and debt investment perspectives through technology-led platforms, have made these asset classes more attractive.

In recent years, these asset classes have seen HNIs and UHNIs shift from traditional investment avenues to options that are high-yielding but also regulated and transparent. Alternative asset investments are offering these investors the right platform through which they can not only leverage their dollar-to-money value but can also expect robust returns in the long run through investments in alternative real estate like co-working, data centres, warehousing and logistics, co-living, and student-living.

Further, accessibility via fractional ownership, structured debt, and thorough due diligence have made the asset class more attractive to private investors. New investment structures like the proposed

mini REITs for alternative assets through fractional ownership are also in a great spot for exploring new possibilities to diversify and attract private investment.

According to various industry estimates, the fractional ownership industry, which is expected to reach USD 8.9 billion by 2025 and to grow at a compound annual growth rate of 10.5%, comprising a portfolio of high-income-yielding alternate assets, is allowing retail investors to diversify their investments amidst a relatively volatile stock and commodities market.

According to the IMF, foreign investors maintained their confidence in the Indian real estate market, with the country being the fastest-growing econ-

omy globally, with a projected GDP growth of 6.6% in 2023. The business case for alternative investments will only strengthen in the coming years, with India's economic outlook remaining sturdy amidst global challenges. The sub-segment of the core real estate sectors is likely to allocate more private and institutional capital, enabling investors to enter new markets and achieve economies of scale.

(The author, Pradhvi Reddy, is the founder and chief operating officer at Assetmonk.)





Change in the buying patterns of consumers based on technology in the real estate sector

In the realm of real estate, technology is orchestrating a transformative symphony. These technological marvels are altering the preferences of discerning consumers, ushering in a refined era of affluence.

The most striking transformation is the digitization of the industry. Gone are the days of neighborhood strolls and heavy property catalogs. Instead, real estate aficionados luxuriate in the opulent experience of exploring digital listings. Online platforms, mobile apps, and meticulously designed real estate websites present a wealth of listings, adorned with high-definition photos, immersive virtual tours, and comprehensive information. This digital revolution has not only elevated the elegance of property searches but also captivated prospective buyers with the allure of limitless geographical exploration.

Amidst this technological ballet, artificial intelligence takes center stage. Smart algorithms, finely attuned to individual preferences, budgets, and lifestyles, attract buyers with personalized property recommendations. This algorithmic dance streamlines decision-making, orchestrating a harmonious crescendo of well-informed choices.

The advent of blockchain, a luminary in the world of innovation, adds an aura of trust to real estate trans-

actions. Smart contracts, securely enconced within the blockchain, ensure the automatic execution of agreements upon predetermined conditions. This mechanism liberates consumers from intermediaries, creating an ambiance of trust and security fit for royalty. Moreover, thanks to the seamless online capabilities afforded by blockchain, housing loans can now be orchestrated without the need for physical presence, further enhancing the convenience and accessibility of the entire process.

Further enriching this opulent tapestry is the Internet of Things (IoT). A constellation of devices adorns smart homes, ushering in an age of aristocratic living. Remote control over security, lighting, and climate settings weaves a narrative of convenience, perfectly suited to the tastes of modern aristocrats.

The COVID-19 pandemic, with its unique challenges, acted as a catalyst for innovation. Virtual tools, including exquisite video tours and remote consultations, unfurled their luxurious drapery, allowing buyers to embark on property explorations from the comfort of their regal abodes. This luxurious convenience has become a hallmark, a testament

to the resilience of technology in meeting the discerning demands of the elite.

These tools have not only revolutionized the real estate industry but have also provided a clear window into the progress of development. One can easily view how far development has reached just because of these tools. Through high-definition virtual tours and

interactive consultations, potential buyers and investors can scrutinize every detail of a property, from the layout of the rooms to the quality of finishes, all without leaving their homes. This level of transparency and accessibility has become a defining feature of modern real estate, catering to the desires of those seeking the utmost in convenience and information.

In sumptuous conclusion, technology has not merely streamlined real estate

but has bonded with the discerning consumer. From virtual odysseys and AI-imbued recommendations to the regal security of blockchain and the opulence of IoT integration, technology has bestowed upon buyers an opulent mantle of access, information, and convenience. As the opulent symphony of technology continues to ascend, one can only anticipate further evolution in the buying patterns of these patrons of luxury, further elevating the resplendent real estate arena.

(The author, D. Kishore Reddy, is the founder and CMD of MANA Projects Private Limited)



Ancient wisdom that has survived the ravages of time

Nadi Astrology, a venerable branch of astrological knowledge, finds its origins deeply embedded in the cultural history of southern India. Rooted in centuries of tradition and mysticism, this captivating practice revolves around the profound notion that each human being harbors within them a singular Nadi, a channel of energy that meanders through their physical form, intricately linking them to the celestial cosmos. It is this mystical connection that Nadi Astrology seeks to unveil, allowing individuals to gain profound insights into the intricacies of their lives and destinies.

In this blog, we will delve into the world of Nadi Astrology, exploring its types, fascinating history, and the intriguing process of making predictions.

TYPES OF NADI ASTROLOGY

Bhrigu Nadi: Bhrigu Nadi, named after the venerable sage Bhrigu, is a profound system within Nadi Astrology that proclaims the predestination of an individual's life. It posits that the intricate details of one's existence, encompassing their past, present, and future, are encoded in their birth chart. Through careful examination of this celestial roadmap, Bhrigu Nadi astrologers unlock the secrets of a person's life, offering glimpses into their destiny.

Dhruva Nadi: Dhruva Nadi, deriving its name from the celestial pole star Dhruva, represents a distinctive facet of Nadi Astrology. This system intricately weaves predictions about an individual's future by examining the positions of fixed stars in the night sky. It operates on the profound belief that the cosmic arrangement of these unchanging celestial luminaries at the time of one's birth holds profound significance in shaping their life path. Dhruva Nadi astrology, steeped in ancient wisdom, offers seekers a unique perspective into their destiny through the cosmic dance of stars.

Kaushika Nadi: Kaushika Nadi, bearing the name of the legendary sage Kaushika, delves into the profound realm of Karma within Nadi Astrology. This unique system asserts that an individual's current existence is intrinsically linked to the deeds and actions of their past lifetimes. It postulates that the consequences of one's past Karma shape their present circumstances and future trajectory. Kaushika Nadi thus serves as a spiritual compass, guiding seekers towards understanding the intricate web of cause and effect that governs their life's journey, offering profound insights into the eternal cycle of reincarnation and cosmic justice.

Agastya Nadi: Agastya Nadi, bearing the name of the venerable sage Agastya, stands as one of the earliest and most revered forms of Nadi Astrology. Rooted in the profound concept of Karma, it asserts that an individual's future is inextricably woven into the tapestry of their past actions. It firmly believes that one's present circumstances and future destiny are shaped by the repercussions of their past karma, creating an intricate web of cause and effect. Agastya Nadi thus serves as a spiritual guide.

Shiva Nadi: Shiva Nadi, steeped in profound philosophy, places Lord Shiva as the supreme astrologer, possessing omniscient knowledge about every facet of a person's life. This unique approach, often referred to as the "Jeeva Nadi" or "book of life," holds that Lord Shiva alone comprehends the intricate details of an individual's destiny. Seekers believe that through the divine connection with Lord Shiva, they can access unparalleled insights into their life's journey, making Shiva Nadi a spiritually enriching and deeply revered aspect of Nadi Astrology.



You are healthy and robust. Work is your source of excitement and you will not give your body a rest. If you find it difficult to commit, you tend to withdraw.

Tenacity and endurance will prove to be a winning combination. You love new projects. But it is easier to find success in the current project you are dealing with.



You will find everything in favor of you. You have your philosophies to guide you while making decisions. Make sure others find logic in your deeds.



Think twice before speaking your mind to the person you are attracted to. You will be seen as reliable and sincere. Marriage may become dreadfully boring.



A situation may arise which will down your confidence. You will win wide acceptance as a friend or a colleague. You will come out of the problems successfully.

Over-criticism will turn your children away from you. Remain silent when it is not needed to air your views. Good intentions may be misunderstood by others.



YOUR WEEK AHEAD



You will love the people you work with. Keep going with what your mind says while considering others' opinions. Put your analyzing power into use.

Your physical health is in excellent condition. Try to be more reasonable when you present yourself. A mood of enjoyment may prompt you to take a few days off.



Your daily schedules will prevent you from having romantic moments with your spouse. You make bold decisions. It will prove to be a better prospect for you.



Suspicious can ruin any relationship. The world may be stressing you and testing you. You will feel ready to accept new challenges relating to your work.

Your sense of insecurity may make you depressed. Others may find you to be a strong personality. Your colleagues will help you to achieve your goal.

Your ability to stay cautious while dealing with personal relationships will benefit you. Be more communicative with others. Avoid journeys as there may be mishaps.



The origin

The origins of Nadi Astrology are deeply rooted in the mystical lands of Tamil Nadu, India, where it is believed to have flourished over millennia. According to ancient lore, the esteemed Hindu sage Agastya is credited as the author of the sacred Nadi Shastra predictions. Legend has it that Agastya possessed an elevated state of consciousness that allowed him to perceive not only the present but also the past and future of all human beings on Earth.

These profound insights into the destinies of individuals were meticulously recorded in Vattezhuthu, an ancient poetic Tamil language that served as the conduit for preserving this celestial wisdom. Initially, these precious predictions were safeguarded within the hallowed halls of the Thanjavur Saraswathi Mahal Library. However, the passage of time and the tumultuous era of British rule saw some of these invaluable leaves tragically lost to history. Yet, the legacy of Nadi

Astrology endured. Families of astrologers in Vaitheeswaran Temple safeguarded and cherished the remaining Nadi leaves, ensuring that this age-old wisdom would not fade away.

Process of making Nadi Astrology predictions

1) Thumbprints categorisation: The journey begins with the seeker providing their thumbprint, a unique imprint that carries their spiritual identity. Men traditionally use their right thumb, while women use their left. These thumbprints are then meticulously categorised based on their distinct patterns.

2) Matching with Nadi palm leaves: Each category of thumbprints corresponds to specific bundles of Nadi palm leaves, which are ancient manuscripts bearing the encoded destinies of countless individuals. An expert Nadi astrologer, often with years of training, carefully sifts through these bundles to find the one that

precisely matches the seeker's thumbprint.

3) Deciphering the Nadi leaves: Once the correct bundle is identified, the Nadi reader embarks on the sacred task of leaf decipherment. Remarkably, the Nadi reader is typically provided with no prior information about the seeker. With divine guidance, they decode the intricate messages inscribed on the palm leaves, which may include details about the seeker's past, present, and future.

4) Verification by the seeker: As the Nadi reader unfolds the revelations contained within the leaves, the seeker plays a pivotal role. They are asked to verify the details presented on the leaf, such as their date of birth, parents' names, and other key life events. The seeker's responses are limited to a simple "Yes" or "No."

5) Confirmation or further search: If the details on the leaf align perfectly with the seeker's life, it is considered a profound

and deeply personal revelation, and the leaf is recognized as belonging to the seeker. However, if discrepancies arise or the leaf does not resonate, the search may extend to the main center in Tamil Nadu, where further investigations are conducted to ensure the seeker connects with their rightful Nadi.

This process forms the cornerstone of Nadi Astrology, providing seekers with a profound journey into the intricate tapestry of their life's purpose and destiny. It is a testament to the enduring mysticism and spiritual depth.

In conclusion, Nadi Astrology stands as a captivating and enigmatic field that beckons seekers to explore the depths of their destinies. It is a practice deeply rooted in tradition, with its origins tracing back to the mystical lands of Tamil Nadu, India. The belief in the existence of a unique Nadi, intricately connected to each individual's life journey, adds a layer of profound spirituality to this ancient art.

GLOBE TROT

Man orders 240 incense sticks to 'Manifest' India's World Cup win

In the ICC Men's Cricket World Cup 2023 semi-finals, India defeated New Zealand on Wednesday by a score of 70 runs. The explosive game took place in Mumbai's Wankhede Stadium. There were nervous moments for millions of spectators watching the match on television, even when India scored a high 397. To "manifest" India's victory, one of them, from Thane, which is close to Mumbai, ordered 240 incense sticks. Swiggy posted the information on X (formerly Twitter). Swiggy operates a rapid delivery company called Instamart.

It's interesting to note that the order-placer acknowledged placing such a large order in response to Swiggy's now-viral tweet.



What's your next shopping destination?

Most of the topics I wrote about in this column were the result of synchronicity. So, when I found myself in a handcrafted bazaar in Ameerpet with a friend, I knew what the next topic for the column was to be: conscious shopping. No, it doesn't imply that one dresses modestly and does not splurge while buying. It means shopping with the intention of adding value to the environment around us. For the last few months, I have been buying mostly from street carts to add my bit to keep their businesses going. I try to skip the online shopping apps and opt for colony markets like the Saturday market or vegetable carts by the roadside. Lately, I have made it a point to pick fashion jewellery from these carts. There is at least one piece of jewellery in such carts that is so mall-like. The last time I gifted a finger ring that I bought from a cart to a family member, she thought I had brought it from a country abroad! Going a step further to keep street businesses running up and about, my online conscious store has included a section wherein stuff curated from the streets is on display.

General Bazaar is a treasure trove of South Indian fabric and Indian fashion accessories. The sarees that one of the popular brands houses are for a steal here. Then there is Shilpamam, which includes some stuff one may not easily find elsewhere, like garden decor and a wide range of ceramic-based kitchen utensils for almost all purposes. Our Charminar shopping bazaar is popular for ittar (new bottles as well as refills of the old ones) and articles for wedding preparations. Shopping in these lanes is much different from shopping at the malls. Along with sunlight flooding in, I am constantly moving and chatting up with the shop owners, trying to gather deeper insight into the make of the product. And finally, there isn't a long queue to stand in while making the payment.

The most recent finding is that Upcycleluxe makes shopping sustainable. It houses all things upcycled. Say there is a used keyboard or old cassette turned into a pen stand, unused left-over fabric turned into rakhis, upcycled bags from plastic wrappers, wallets made of tender coconut, and more. Shopping on this avenue would be both conscious and sustainable.

Besides small businesses, the one avenue that deserves a special mention when speaking of conscious shopping is Mouth & Foot Painting Artists (MFPA). It's an online collection of stuff painted by the specially-abled (read those with no hands). As heartbreaking as it may sound, the collection is equally enamoring. There are bags, fashion accessories, clothes for both men and women, and home decor elements. If the website hadn't concealed the information about the makers, not for a second would one guess that the products were painted by those without hands. While all that is on display is not made of eco-friendly material, my next buy is definitely from MFPA.

(The author, Suhani Dewra, runs an online conscious store.)

US restaurant uses pizza boxes to promote a social cause

A restaurant in New York City has devised a novel method of matching adoptable animals from shel-

ters with possible homes. Just Pizza & Wing Co. has been converting its pizza boxes into endearing words of hope for cute puppies looking for loving homes since March.

The proprietor of Just Pizza & Wing Co., Mary Alloy, was the creative force behind it. Ms. Alloy was inspired by her experience helping at the Niagara SPCA, where she saw firsthand the difficulties in matching adoptive families for the animals in the shelter. According to CNN, Ms. Alloy collaborated with SPCA event coordinator Kimberly LaRussa to devise strategies for assisting more animals in shelters to find permanent homes.

She made the decision to support the animals in shelters by donating and using her pizza business as a platform.



Bengaluru man wears a paper bag as helmet

Bengaluru, India's startup capital, has recently been the focus of a number of online memes that highlight unique events that could only occur in the city. The term "peak Bengaluru moments," which refers to the eye-catching events occurring in India's IT center, is overflowing with incidents from this city. In a related occurrence, a man was observed sitting as the pillion rider on a bike in Bengaluru, with a paper bag covering his head in place of a helmet.

X user @3rdEyeDude alerted the internet to the funny situation. As they

wait to cross the street, the man in the black t-shirt is seen in the photo sitting on the bike with a paper bag snugly covering his head.

"Helmet, what's that?" the caption of the post read.

