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**ONUS WITH** PRIVATE SECTOR TO LEAD COUNTRY ON GROWTH PATH: NITI AAYOG



Saiee Manjrekar: Dancing on the rocky terrains for *Skanda* was a



#### All set for Ganesh immersion

Minister for Animal Husbandry Talasani Srinivas Yadav held a media conference on Wednesday on the special arrangements for Ganesh immersion. He said, "This year, we have made special arrangements for Ganesh immersion and examined the routes of Shobha Yatra once again. According to the law, immersion in Hussain Sagar takes place." "After the formation of Telangana State, the immersions are being conducted by the government. Wherever Nimajjana...

-PAGE: 3

#### 70% of early cancer deaths in...

About 70 per cent of the 5.3 million premature deaths from cancer globally in 2020 were preventable, while the remaining 30 per cent were treatable, according to a new The Lancet Global Health research. Of the total deaths, 2.9 million were in men, while 2.3 million were in women. the study said, which had used the GLOBOCAN 2020 database on cancer mortality from the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) for analysis. The IARC conducts and coordinates research into the... -PAGE: 5

#### Depute doorstep executives to...

The Centre has asked all pension disbursing banks to depute doorstep executives to help bedridden and hospitalised nensioners submit their life certificates. An order issued by the Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW) also asked all banks to create awareness about the convenience of obtaining the life certificate digitally by using the face authentication technology by super senior pensioners (those aged 80 and above). All pensioners have to give a life certificate..

#### Australia beat India by 66 runs...

Australia avoided an unprecedented series whitewash after registering a 66-run victory over India in the third ODI here on Wednesday. Chasing a massive 353 to win, India were restricted by Australia to 286 in 49.4 overs. India however won the threematch series 2-1. The Aussies motored to 352 for 7 after Mitchell Marsh (96), Steve Smith (74), Marnus Labuschagne (72) and David Warner (56) made impact knocks. Jasprit Bumrah took three for 81 and emerged..

#### **POLAVARAM BACKWATER ISSUE**

# TS objections ignored

#### **ENC** writes letter to Chairman Central Water Commission

**NAVEENA GHANATE** HYDERABAD

Telangana's objections were not considered in the issue concerning Polavaram backwaters and the ground reality was ignored. Citing this, Engineer-in-Chief C Muralidhar wrote letter to Chairman Central Water Commission on the remedial measures to be taken due the effects of backwaters of the Polavaram project.

He wrote, "there is no action from the State of Andhra Pradesh and total lack of co-ordination on the part of PPA".

Telangana has taken strong objection to the compliance affidavit filed by the Union government as Concerns on Backwater (BW) & -Submergence effect due to the Polavaram project protection measures were sought in consonance with GWDTA concerns which are unaddressed till date in contrast to aver-



ments in Compliance Affidavit of the Ministry of Jal Shakti.

To focus the concerns of the State, Union of India (Uol) filed Compliance Affidavit on 01.09.2023 inter alia stating under para 12(i) that "The official(s) of the Governments of Andhra Pradesh and Telangana gave their consent for joint survey for issues pertaining to Telangana and based on survey

results necessary measure is to be taken by PPA and the Government of Andhra Pradesh as may be required and thus matter was resolved for taking further actions." Telangana said, "The stand of

Union of India is totally contrary to the ground reality as none of the activities have been undertaken and hence appears to be mere eyewash of the assurances made in various

meetings CWC/PPA". undertaken

Telangana raised concerns related to the submergence in Telangana territory when water is impounded at FRL+150 feet in Polavaram, backwater effect of the project in Telangana, drainage congestion and stagnation of local streams due to backwater, andeffect of the Manuguru Heavy Water Plant due to backwaters.

Sediment and silt, deviation in observed past flood events, mathematical study outcomes, need to ascertain backwater effect due to PMF and necessity for public hearing were highlighted.
"Under these circumstances, it is

once again requested to take immediate steps to resolve all the concerns raised by the State of Telangana in line with the submission made by the Union of India in the Compliance Affidavit before the Hon'ble Supreme Court", he said.

# BRS manifesto to cater to all sections: Harish

Telangana State Finance and Health Minister Harish Rao has clarified that Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao is going to release the BRS manifesto soon and it will be "good news that will make all sections happy".

Harish Rao unveiled a statue of Konda Laxman Bapuji on his birth anniversary in Toopran town of Medak district.

Sources in BRS said that the manifesto would outdo the 'six guarantees' of the Congress.

Responding to the Congress'massive campaign concerning the six-guarantee card, highly placed sources said that it was worth the wait. The Chief Minister would declare the manifesto in October at a massive meeting in

Warangal.
The Chief Ministerhas already announced that eventually they would consider increasing the Aasara pension amount.

He may also announce subsidy on fertilisers. Farmers and women being large voting segments, the BRS is reportedly assessing various

schemes

On the sidelines, Harish Rao said that he was very happy to unveil the statue of Konda Laxman Bapuji, a great leader who had willingly sacrificed his life for Telangana State.

Bapuji had fought many battles for the poor, he recalled.

The Telangana government had been officially organizing his birth anniversary and death celebrations. In recognition of Bapuji's services. the Telangana Horticulture University had been named after him. Toopranhad developed tremendously after Telangana State was formed.

**President Murmu** 

prorogues LS, RS

President Droupadi Murmu has

PNS ■ NEW DELHI



# Congress has no warranty but it is giving guarantees: KTR

IT Minister K T Rama Rao has remarked: "The Congress party's warranty is over; so, how can we believe their guarantees? It has been thrown into the dustbin". He was speaking after inaugurat-

ing 369 2BHK dignity houses in four villages of Gambhiraopet Mandal, in

KTR, also the Municipal Administration and Urban water crisis had been resolved in Sircilla with the Kaleshwaram water filling all the reservoirs in the region. He observed: "I feel happy and proud to interact with students of KG to PG campus of Gambhiraopet in English.

Attacking the Congress party, KTR said: "The ones who do not have a warranty are coming to the



State to give guarantees.'

The Congress, in its 65-year period, could not give water, electricity, and pension; nor help the poor

The Congress, in its 65-year period, could not give water, electricity, and pension; nor help the poor in any form. The utterly failed in doing their job, he added.

in any form. The utterly failed in doing their

## HC upholds single judge's order cancelling Group-1 Prelims

PNS HYDERBAD

In a setback to the state government, the High Court for the State of Telangana on Wednesday dismissed a petition challenging the single judge's order cancelling Group-1 Prelims examination conducted by the Telangana State Public Service Commission (TSPSC) on June 11

Abhinand Kumar Shavili and Anil Kumar Jukanti upheld the single conduct the exam again.

The TSPSC had filed the petition

challenging the September 23 order of Justice P Madhavi Devi cancelling the exam.

The division bench pulled up TSPSC for not taking due precautions though the first exam had been cancelled due to question paper leak. The court expressed dis-

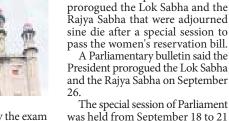


A division bench of Justices appointment over the way the exam was conducted.

The court asked the TSPSC why tem despite announcing the same through notification. The bench asked why the TSPSC violated its notification.



Observing that after a long wait of lakhs of unemployed had written the exam, the court remarked their hopes were dashed by the manner in which the exam was conducted.



was held from September 18 to 21 to pass the women's reservation bill and hold a discussion on the suc-

The Constitution (128th Amendment) Bill, also known as the Nari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam, was passed by the Lok Sabha on September 20 and the Rajya Sabha on September 21.

During the special session, the proceedings of Parliament also shifted to the new building, which was inaugurated on May 28.

# Record 91 Indian universities achieve world rankings

PNS NEW DELHI

A record 91 Indian universities have made it to the World University Rankings announced by the Times Higher Education (THE) magazine, with the top performing Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bangalore, returning to the global 250 for the first time since 2017.

Ninety-one Indian universities making it to the list this year is a significant increase from last year's 75 even though top Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) boycotted the best represented nation in the 2024 THE magazine on Wednesday, the rankings for the fourth consecutive rankings, up from the sixth last year.

India has also become the fourth announced by the London-based Millia Islamia, Mahatma Gandhi





second best performing universities According to the rankings in India are: Anna University, Jamia

University, Shoolini University of Biotechnology and Management Sciences. The are all in the 501-600

Two IITs -- the Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati and Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines) Dhanbad -- moved up two bands to join the world's top 800 universities, from 1001-1200 to 601-800.

While Anna University in Chennai moved up from 801-1000 band last year to the 501-600 band, Aligarh Muslim University moved up from the 801-1000 band last year to the 601-800.



The Chief Minister said that the

talent displayed by Telangana ath-

letes at national and internation-

al sports events was proof of the

success of the action plan of the

state government to promote

sportspersons will clinch a greater

number of medals in the coming

days and spread the message of

Telangana being a destination for

talented sports persons world-



# I don't own a house

#### O Made lakhs of daughters home-owners: PM

PNS BODELI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said he does not have a house in his name, but "lakhs of daughters" of the country became house-owners thanks to his government's initiative.

Crores of women belonging to tribal, Scheduled Caste and backward communities have now become 'lakhpati' as they own houses built under government schemes, he said.

PM Modi, who has been on a two-day visit to Gujarat starting Tuesday, was speaking at the launch of various development projects worth over Rs 5,000 crore in Bodeli town of tribal-dominated Chhotaudepur district in Gujarat.

Addressing a gathering on the occasion, he said, "Since I spent significant time with you, I know the issues faced by the poor and I have always tried to solve those issues. Today I am satisfied because my government has built four crore houses for people across the coun-



### India will soon emerge as economic powerhouse

Ahmedabad: Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Wednesday said his aim is to make India a global growth engine and expressed confidence that the country will soon emerge as an economic powerhouse of the world. Speaking at an event to mark 20 years of success of the Vibrant Gujarat Summit, Modi

## Indian trio shoots gold in women's 25m pistol event CM lauds Esha Singh's win at Asian Games

**PNS** ■ HANGZHOU

The triumvirate of Manu Bhaker, Esha Singh and Rhythm Sangwan fired in tandem to shoot the gold medal in the women's 25m pistol team event as Indian shooters dominated proceedings at the Asian Games here on Wednesday.

Manu, Esha and Rhythm totalled 1759 to finish on top of the podium and help the country clinch its fourth gold medal in the ongoing sporting extravaganza. This was the second gold medal for India in shooting in these Games. The sensational Manu also

topped the qualification after finishing the last rapid-fire series with 98.

The Chinese bagged the silver

medal with 1756, while the shooters from South Korea settled for the third position with a total score of



utes after another trio of Indian shooters dished out an excellent performance to win a silver medal in the women's 50m rifle 3 position

Ashi Chouksey, Manini Koushik and Sift Kaur Samra combined to shoot a total of 1764 points in the They claimed the top prize min-qualification to finish second on the Kaushik bowed out in the individ-

podium. Hosts China won the gold with an aggregate score of 1773, while South Korea bagged the bronze with a total score of 1756.

Samra and Chouksey qualified for the finals as well by finishing second and sixth respectively, while

#### Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao has expressed his delight

over the winning of gold medal by Telangana-born shooter Esha Singh in the Women's 25-meter sports. KCR hoped Telangana pistol team event (shooting) at the Asian Games -2023 in China. KCR said that Esha Singh's team displayed team spirit by winning gold medal for India with 1,759 points.

ual event by finishing 18th. Sift scored a total of 594 to create a joint new Asian record for

While Kaushik missed out on the final, Samra shot 100 in two series final. to finish with a total of 397 after

kneeling and prone positions. Samra and Chouksey were excellent in their three series, more so in standing section, to finish in the top 8 and qualify for the individual



said they sowed small seeds of a "Vibrant Gujarat" 20 years ago, and today it has developed into a big tree. Modi also said that Vibrant Gujarat became a success at such a time when the previous central government (UPA dispensation) was "indifferent" to the industrial progress of the state. "We organised Vibrant Gujarat to make the state a growth engine of India. The country has seen this imagination becoming a reality. In 2014, when I was given the opportunity to serve the country, my aim was to make India a global growth engine," Modi said addressing a gathering of industrialists





#### Safety first, **KCR** advises people

PNS HYDERABAD

Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao said that the Telangana State immersed in spirituality during Ganesh Navaratri festivities and every street is filled with fervour by performing special pujas at all Ganesh pandals.

The State government made elaborate arrangements for Ganesh idol immersion, including in Hyderabad for a large number of devotees to witness the grand immersion programme.

The Chief Minister advised people to follow proper selfprecautions in the wake of rains and participate in the immersion with joy and return home safely.

The Chief Minister said it is the will of God that Ganesh idol immersion and Milad-Un-Nabi are being celebrated on the same day on Thursday. He called upon people to spread the message of "Ganga Jamuni Tahzeeb" which is being practised in Telangana since decades and celebrate the festivals with gusto.

#### Indian trio...

Continued from page 1

Kaushik said after the event, "I'm happy for my teammates and that we got a silver in the team competition. I'm just focusing on the positives at the moment.

"At least I have a medal to show. I am not coming back empty-handed, so I am happy about that. I'm happy about my country, about my teammates, about my staff and all the people working with us.

On whether her tears after her competition were happy or sad tears, she said, "Both. I'm happy for my team and work on myself. There are mixed feelings but I'm just focusing on the positive sides at the moment.

In the women's 25m pistol, Manu (590) topped the qualification round, Esha (586) finishes fifth. Rhythm (583) ended seventh but since only two shooters per country are allowed in the final, she missed the cut.

Manu, especially, was at the top of her game as she shot nine 10s and 1 nine to get a total of 99 and maintain her hegemony in the qualification. The Youth Olympic and Commonwealth Games champion started with a brilliant 99/100 in her first rapid series to signal her intention.

TODAY

#### **ALMANAC** Month & Paksham: Sukla Paksha Tithi:Chaturdashi: Sep 27 10:19 PM to Sep 28 06:49 PM Sep 28 06:49 PM Purnima to Sep 29 03:27 PM Nakshatram: Sep 28 04:29 AM Purva Bhadrapada: to Sep 29 01:48 AM Uttara Bhadrapada: Sep 29 01:48 AM to Sep 29 11:18 PM 1:36 PM to 3:05 PM 6:09 AM to 7:38 AM 10:24 AM to 11:50 AM Varjyam: Gulika: 9:08 AM to 10:37 AM

06:42 PM to 08:07 PM Abhiiit Muhurtham: 11:43 AM to 12:30 PM HYDERABAD WEATHER

Forecast: Scattered Thunderstorms **Temp**: 30<sup>∞</sup> Humidity: 77% Sunrise: 6:06 AM Sunset: 6:08 PM

Updated: September 27, 2023 5:00 PM

# Political scene to be clear once **Cong announces candidates**

**SNCN ACHARYULU** ■ HYDERABAD

Political scenario in Telangana in the upcoming Assembly elections is not yet clear. With the announcement of candidates by the ruling BRS, only one side of the coin is seen. The other side of the coin will also be seen after the main opposition the Congress announces the list of its candidates. Then only the political picture in Telangana will be clear.

The BRS candidates' list led to discontentment among several party leaders who expected the Assembly tickets. Some discontented BRS leaders are jumping into other parties and some are still continuing in the party. Naturally, these developments are creating a problem to the ruling BRS and making the Congress happy.

But the real picture in the Congress will be known after the names of its candidates are announced. Like in the BRS, in the Congress also several leaders are aspiring for the party



ticket to contest in the next Assembly elections. To convince the discontented leaders, the BRS has a weapon of power. But the Congress does not have such a weapon.

To satisfy the discontented leaders the ruling BRS is giving nominated posts. When BRS MLC Patnam Mahendar Reddy planed to join the Congress, Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao has taken him into the Cabinet. As BRS MLA Chennamaneni Ramesh was denied the ticket, he also planned to leave the party. But KCR has appointed him as

a government advisor. In the same way, KCR is likely to appease some prominent leaders like former Deputy CM and BRS MLA T Rajaiah, who was

denied the Assembly ticket. But the Congress has no such power to convince the discontented leaders who will be denied the Assembly ticket. In the Congress discontentment will be more serious than in the other parties. The BRS is waiting for the Congress list to know the discontentment in that party. The next Assembly elections are very crucial to the BRS as well as the

The amount of discontentment in both the parties can be gauged only after the Congress announces its list of candidates. Some of the discontented leaders may jump into the other party and some may remain in

The main problem to the BRS or the Congress will be how many discontented leaders will remain in the party, because both parties have a threat of backstabbing by such leaders to the official candidates. Now the Congress is feeling happy with the discontented BRS leaders joining it. But there is no guarantee for the Congress that after announcing the candidates, the discontented leaders will not leave the party.

It is common that leaders jump from one party to the other during election time. Sometimes, more leaders joining a party will prove to detrimental to it as it may lead to discontentment in the seniors in the party.

#### **BANDI TO GO KCR'S WAY** To contest from 2 seats?

PNS HYDERABAD

Karimnagar MP Bandi Sanjay is likely to follow the foot-steps of Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao and contest from two seats in the Assembly elections of Telangana.

Highly placed sources said that Bandi seems to be favouring to contest from Karimnagar and Mudhole seats. Sources said that Bandi didn't want to contest as an MLA but the high command ordered him to pick whichever seat he wanted.

Bandi reportedly evaluated four assembly seats -Karimngar, Mudhole, Vemulawada and Husnabad. Sources said that surveys indicated that Bandi will win Mudhole due to his influence on Bhainsa. In Karimnagar, there is huge anti-incum-bency against Gangula Kamalakar.

In fact, independents were planning to contest opposite

Gangula in a large scale. Sources said that Bandi Sanjay, despite being National General Secretary, was visiting pandals and participating in immersion arrangements



Sources said that Karimnagar is to give a competition to the minister while Mudhole is going to be one-sided election. Meanwhile, Bandi has been spending lot of time in Karimnagar than in Hyderabad.

as part of the campaign itself. He reportedly visited 200odd pandals.

Sources said Karimnagar is to give a competition to the minister while Mudhole is going to be one-sided election. Meanwhile, Bandi has been spending lot of time in Karimnagar than in Hyderabad.

He is either in Delhi or Karimnagar largely. BRS chief KCR will contest from his home constituency Gajwel, which is spread across Siddipet and Medak districts, and Kamareddy in the district of the same name.

#### **Block road** roller symbol

BRS requests EC

PNS NEW DELHI

A three-member delegation of BRS led by General Secretary Soma Bharath Kumar called on a senior Election Commission official here and sought cancellation of allotted 'Road Roller' symbol to Yuga Thulasi Party in Telangana.

In the meeting, the Bharat Rashtra Samithi (BRS) leaders said the symbol 'Road Roller' is identical to the BRS party symbol 'Car' and this would create confusion in the minds of voters in the assembly election due in November.

They requested the EC to cancel the 'Road Roller' symbol and allot to the Yuga Thulasi Party any other free symbol not identical to the one given to the BRS.

Borlakunta Venkatesh and M Srinivas Reddy were two BRS MPs who were part of the delegation. "...non-cancellation of the Road Roller symbol for Yuga Thulasi Party would definitely impact prejudicially the results of BRS party...," the BRS General Secretary said in a representation made

# Malla Reddy's son-in-law bags Malkajgiri ticket



BRS ticket for Malkajgiri Assembly constituency has been given to Labour Minister Malla Reddy's son-in-law Marri Rajasekhar Reddy for the upcoming Assembly elections. Malla Reddy himself announced it during a show of strength rally in the constituency. He said, "It is like Dusshera today. CM KCR and KTR blessed Marri Rajashekar Reddy with Malkajgiri ticket. Lot of people came. He is going to every house since one week. He got huge response. Even we didn't understand why he was getting so much

they will vote for BRS, KCR, KTR and Rajashekar. Wherever we go, everyone wants Rajashekar.'

Mynampally Hanumantha Rao resigned from the BRS after his son Mynampally Rohit didn't get a ticket. He had hoped that the BRS would give his son a ticket from Medak constituency.

Malla Reddy and his son-inlaw held a rally from Anand Bagh in Malkajgiri followed by a public meeting.

Rajasekhar Reddy had also previously contested for a Lok Sabha ticket from the same constituency and lost.

# Chandrababu's arrest not limited to one state: Revanth

PNS HYDERABAD

Telangana Pradesh Congress Committeechief Revanth Reddy has reacted sharply to IT Minister KTRama Rao's comments on the arrest of Telugu Desam Party national president and former Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu. Interacting with media persons at Gandhi Bhavan on Wednesday, he said: "Minister KTR needs the votes of those who are protesting for deprived of their rights? People will slap them if they stop the protestors. Take a petition and give permission if necessary but it is wrong to refuse outrightly. Settlers will go against the BRS government in the elections. Their taxes are collected, their votes are asked, but their state problem is not our state. Is Hyderabad jagir of KTR to not accept when IT employees want to protest? CM KCR can go to Delhi and protest on Telangana issue. If the IT people here protest the decision taken by the AP government, what is stopping them? Chandrababu is a



national level person. People who have as much experience as Chandrababu can be count-

Revanth continued: "KTR is talking like an unknowledgeable person. We staged a dharna in front of the White House during the Telangana agitation. We will do different things during the protests. Everyone has the right to protest." The TPCC chief said that as

per the party's surveys, BRS would not cross 25 seats, while the tallies of BJP and MIM will be limited to single digits.

Revanth said KCR got fever after seeing the success of VijayaBheri meeting. CM is fearing that he should vacate Pragati Bhavan. "Our leader, unlike KCR and KTR, is not a

bluff master. Rahul Gandhi speaks facts and figures", he said. Revanth said that Asaduddin Owaisi had been saying that where there was no MIM and BRS, vote for BJP. He said, Kavita came to the court as she doesnot trust KCR. Her arrest was stopped due to the court's intervention. "The Congress is trying 100 percent to give 34 seats to BCs. We will give more seats to BCs than BRS. Many BCs in Congress have made the PCC chief of the BC president of BRS?", he asked.

Revanth said that if the 30% commission taken by the BRS leaders was controlled, the promises given by the Congress could be effectively implemented. "Mynampally will join the Congress on Thursday evening. The Congress has decided to give two tickets to the Mynampally family. Vemula Veeresham join soon", he said.

On Governor rejecting MLC candidature, Revanth observed: "Is KTR aware of the law, the selection of MLCs is done in many categories.

# Supreme Court to hear Naidu's plea on Oct 3

PNS VIJAYAWADA

The Supreme Court, on October from hearing the matter.

The Bench did not pass orders giving any fixed date in to mention the plea afresh before CJI DY Chandrachud for urgent listing.

Senior advocate Sidharth Luthra, appearing for the TDP the CJI for mentioning the plea seeking urgent hearing by a different Bench. However, a Bench headed by the CJI did not pass any directions for urgent hearing by a different relief, but said that the matter would be taken up for hearing on next Tuesday.

Before the CJI, Luthra said that Chandrababu was being "looped in FIRs after FIRs" only

because of the upcoming 2024 general polls. He added that the application moved by CID seeking police custody of the

3, will hear the plea filed by Telugu Desam Party supremo and former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Chandrababu Naidu against his arrest by the CID in connection with the Skill Development Corporation scam case, after Justice SV Bhatti on Wednesday recused himself

chief, went to the courtroom of bench or grant any interim

TDP chief after expiry of 15 days from arrest amounted to "mockery of the Criminal Procedure Code".

The CJI clarified that the top court would not pass any orders restraining the trial court from deciding the application seeking police custody or stay any other pending proceedings before the trial court. day the Vii court extended Chandrababu's judicial custody till October 5 after his two-day police custody came to an end on Sunday. On Tuesday, the ACB court adjourned hearing to September 27 on the bail petition of Chandrababu, as well as on a CID petition seeking his further custody.

Naidu has approached the Supreme Court by filing a Special Leave Petition after a single-judge Bench of Justice S Reddy of the Andhra Pradesh High Court on September 22 dismissed his petition to quash the FIR registered against him and to set aside his judicial

#### Record 91 **Indian** universities...

Continued from page 1

Bharathiar University Coimbatore moved up from the 801-1000 band last year to the 601-800 band, while Malaviya National Institute of Techn ology, Jaipur has entered the ranking for the first time, breaking into the 601-800 band

Seven IITs Bombay, Delhi, Guwahati, Kanpur, Kharagpur, Madras, and Roorkee opted out of THE World University Rankings in 2020, casting doubt on the rankings' transparency and standards.

IIT Guwahati reentered the rankings last

### HC upholds...

Continued from page 1

It pulled up TSPSC for play-

ing with the lives of the

unemployed. The single judge had can-

celled the examination after petitions were filed by some of the candidates alleging gross violations in the conduct of the examination. They complained that biometric attendance was not implemented and OMR sheets did not carry hall ticket numbers and photographs of the can-

Over 2.32 lakh government job aspirants had appeared for the exam conducted on June 11 for recruitment to 503 Group-1 posts. This is the second time that

the exam has been cancelled. Earlier, the examination was held on October 16, 2022. Nearly 2.86 lakh candidates had appeared in the exam. However, TSPSC cancelled the examination in March due to question paper leak that had rocked the Commission.

### I don't own a house... Continued from page 1

Unlike the past governments, a house for the poor is not just a number for us.'

"We work towards providing dignity to the poor by building a house for him. We are building houses as per the needs of the tribals, that too without the presence of any middlemen. Lakhs of houses were built and registered in the names of women. Though I don't have a house in my name yet, my government made lakhs of daughters house-owners," he

"Crores of women from tribal, Scheduled Caste and backward communities have now become 'lakhpati didi' because these houses registered in their names are now worth nearly Rs 1.5 lakh to Rs 2 lakh," he

The PM said World Bank president Ajay Banga was so impressed with the Guiarat education department's command and control centre in

#### India will soon emerge as economic... world's top three economies. This

Continued from page 1

Gujarat Governor Acharya Devvrat, Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel and state BJP president C R Paatil were also present on the occasion.

"We are standing at such a phase that India will soon emerge as a global economic powerhouse. Modi said, adding that global agencies and experts are today talking on similar lines. "In a few years, India will be among the

Gandhinagar, called as Vidya Samiksha Kendra, that he urged him to start such centres across the country and said that the World Bank is ready to be a part of the project.

"The World Bank president recently visited the Vidya Samiksha Kendra. During our meeting, he urged me to start such centres in all districts of India and told me that the

He appealed to the country's industry to think of sectors where India can explore new possibilities or strengthen itself, and how Vibrant Gujartat can give momentum to this mission. Modi highlighted how from a humble beginning, the Vibrant

is Modi's guarantee," the PM said.

Gujarat events have turned into an institution and many states later followed it by organising their own investment summits. World Bank is ready to be a

part of this amazing project," Modi said. The projects launched by

PM Modi at Bodeli include those worth Rs 4,500 crore related to the education sector under the 'Mission of Schools of Excellence' project of the Gujarat government aimed at improving the quality of education in the state.

# **BRS** manifesto...

Continued from page 1

Harish Rao said that the Opposition wanted to taunt KCR, who had been working tirelessly for the welfare of poor people. "Do you want snarling Opposition? Or do you want KCR giving kits in the form of welfare?", he

asked. KCR, a supporter of women, was implementing many welfare schemes for

"If truth is not propagated,

lies will prevail. If you want to counter the lies of the Opposition, you all should talk about the welfare schemes and development provided by the government.

Telangana was the only state which had not stopped welfare schemes and development even if in the face of an epidemic like Corona.

Asara pension was not stopped even in Corona disaster", he said. Harish Rao made it clear that Kalvana Lakshmi had not stopped.

### Congress has...

Continued from page 1

KTR enumerated six things that he believes would happen in the state should the Congress come to power: farmers will have to suffer from power problems;people will fight for water in front of water tankers; farmers will have to stand in queue for fertilizers; every year CM will change;gram panchayats will become hamlets;and people will not have access to quality education and healthcare

"The Congress couldnot give Rs. 4,000 pensions in Kajasthan, Karnataka, or Chhattisgarh, but they promised to give Rs. 4,000 pensions in Telangana. They make these promises only for votes," KTR said.

"Congress leaders in Sircilla say I did not do any work and the Telangana Congress chief Revanth Reddy accuses me of taking all the funds to Sircilla. They speak to their advantage.

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**SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS REVIEWED** 

# **All set for Ganesh immersion**

PNS HYDERABAD

Minister for Animal Husbandry Talasani Srinivas Yadav held a media conference on Wednesday on the special arrangements for Ganesh immersion.

He said, "This year, we have made special arrangements for Ganesh immersion and examined the routes of Shobha Yatra once again. According to the law, immersion in Hussain Sagar takes place."

"After the formation of Telangana State, the immer-sions are being conducted by the government. Wherever Nimajjana Shobha Yatra takes place, we are providing uninterrupted power supply and drinking water supply, the Minister added.

He also appreciated the Bhagya Nagar Ganesh Utsava Committee for extending full cooperation. From the beginning of Ganesh Chaturthi till immersion, everything is performed by the committee members. They used to bring cranes at their own expense for immersion. After the formation of the State, the govern-



ment is making all the arrangements as per the decision of Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao.

Minister Srinivas Yadav said that special arrangements have been made at special baby ponds and ponds for the immersion of idols across the city without any hassle for the devotees. "No one need to worry. We will complete the immersion calmly. Do not spread fake news in the media. Khairatabad Bada Ganesh Nimajjanam will be com-

#### **TS State Disaster Response,** fire services ready

n view of Ganesh immersion on Thursday within the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) limits, Telangana State Disaster Response and fire services have made necessary arrangements to meet any emergency. Boats will be positioned in different lakes within the GHMC limits. Rescue teams and fire tenders will also be positioned in strategic locations within the GHMC and will be in coordination with the Police and other departments Senior Officers of the department will be monitoring and supervising the immersion process from the Control Room. Moreover, across 102 locations, various appliances such as water, ropes and boats are kept

party will be ready at 26 locations. In addition to this over 500 manpower will be deployed across all cadres, from pleted on Thursday at 1.30 Commissioner Ronald Rose, IVD Director Prakash Reddy, Hyderabad CP CV Home Minister Mahmood Anand were among those Ali, Mayor Gadwal Vijaya

who participated in the

media conference.

Multi-Purpose Tender will be

catered across 17 locations,

Water Tender will be catered

across 14 locations, Advance

Water Tender will be allocated

for one location, Water Bowser

will be allocated for two

be disposed across four

locations, Water-Cum-Foam

Tender will be given for one

location, Mini Water Tender will

locations, Bronto sky lift will be

disposed across one location.

boats will be kept ready across

six locations. Mist Bullet will be

and ropes and Lifebuoy Rescue

allocated across 30 locations

#### HMWSSB to set up drinking water camps

PNS HYDERABAD

Hyderabad Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board (HMWSSB) MD M Danakishore said that adequate arrangements are being made to satisfy the thirst of devotees who come for Ganesh immersion. He held a special review meeting with the higher officials at the head office in Khairatabad on Wednesday for the immersion on Thursday.

He said 122 special drink-

ing water camps are being set up for the immersion. Water camps are already being organised at 74 baby ponds (water pools) established for immersion across the city, he added. In addition to this, a total of 33.50 lakh water packets are being made available. Apart from this, fresh water will also be provided in drums. He said that staff has been appointed in three shifts to serve the devotees roundthe-clock. The quality of water in these camps would be tested by QAT teams from time to time and the chlorine percentage would be kept at the appropriate level.

# Moderate rains lash parts of TS; spell to last till Sept. 30

Parts of Hyderabad received moderate rains on Wednesday evening. The Indian Meteorological Department-Hyderabad (IMD-H) predicted that the city will experience rains till September 30.

As per the IMD report parts of Telangana received moderate rains on September 27; while thunderstorms are expected in isolated places in Telangana on September 28. Similar conditions are expected to prevail till September 30.

As per the Telangana State Planning and Development Society report, light to moderate rainfall is expected in parts of Telangana till September 30. The maximum temperature in the State is expected to remain 31-33 degrees Celsius while the minimum temperature is expected to remain 23-25 degrees

Areas under the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation are likely to have a maximum temperature of 31-33 degrees Celsius while the minimum temperature is expected to be 23-25 degrees



As per the IMD report parts of Telangana received moderate rains on September 27; while thunderstorms are expected in isolated places in Telangana on September 28. Similar conditions are expected to prevail till September 30

Celsius. Parts of Hyderabad, including Begumpet, Panjagutta, Khairatabad, Secunderabad, Alwal, Malkajgiri, Neredmet, Sainikpuri, Bowenpally, Balanagar, Kukatpally and

Quthbullapur received heavy

Areas including Begumpet, Panjagutta, Secunderabad (Tirumalgiri) among others experienced traffic conges-

# Traffic restrictions imposed ahead of *nimajjanam* in city

PNS HYDERABAD

In view of Ganesh immersion on September 28, the Rachakonda Police on Wednesday issued a traffic advisory. The traffic restrictions will remain in place from 6 am on September 28 to 8 pm on September 29.

Traffic going towards Hayathnagar and LB Nagar should proceed through LB Nagar Junction, Kothapet, Dilsukhnagar, Venkatadri Theatre. Drivers are requested to take left after JC Brothers showroom, Shiva Ganga Theatre and take left towards Saroornagar Tank from there.

Commuters moving towards Vanasthalipuram should proceed through Panama Godown X Road, LB Nagar Junction, Kothapet, Dilsukhnagar, Venkatadri Theatre. Drivers are requested to take left after JC Brothers showroom, Shiva Ganga Theatre and take left from there.



Saroornagar should proceed through Kothapet X Road, take left Dilsukhnagar, Venkatadri Theatre. Drivers are requested to take left after JC Brothers showroom, Shiva Ganga Theatre and take left towards Saroornagar Tank from there.

Commuters going towards Nagarjuna Sagar Road should proceed through LB Nagar Kothapet, Junction, Dilsukhnagar, Venkatadri Theatre. Drivers are requested to take a left after JC Ganga Theatre and take a Traffic moving towards left towards Saroornagar Tank ECIL - HB Colony - Lalapet.

pm," he added.

Lakshmi, Deputy Mayor Srilatha Shobhan Reddy,

Mettuguda T Junction-Heavy vehicles will not be allowed to proceed towards Malkajgiri X Road from Mettuguda, (Hyderabad city limits), and will be diverted toward Lalapet. The public can travel to Neredmet via Lalapet - ZTC - HB Colony -Ramadevi - ECIL.

Uttam Nagar RUB- General traffic from the AOC area will not be allowed towards Anand Bagh and will be diverted towards Goutham Nagar. The General Public who intend to go towards Malkajgiri may take the route via Goutham Nagar - Anutex - Malkajgiri X

Neredmet X Road- Heavy vehicles from Neredmet X Road will not be allowed towards Safilguda Junction and will be diverted towards RK Puram. The general public who intend to go towards the Mettuguda side (Hyderabad city limits) may - AOC area or Sainikpuri -

# TSFDC holds two-day meet on eco-tourism

PNS HYDERABAD

Wildlife Manjeera Sanctuary, Kanakagiri Hills, Khammam, Nandipet in Nizamabad and Kuntala water falls in

taken up as holistic ecotourism sites in the coming Telangana State Forest Development Corporation Limited

Adilabad will be

(TSFDC). The TSFDC has conducted a two-day conference on eco-tourism prospects and way forward in Telangana State on Thursday. The objectives ious states, to know about

eco-infrastructure designs that blend with nature, community involvement and employment.

The workshop went on for two days (September

26 and 27) with experts from hospitality management, eco-architects and ecotourism practitioners presented their experiences which can be replicated in the

The TSFDC has unveiled a brand and a logo for its upcoming projects "Deccan Woods and Trails," on the eve of World Tourism Day.

Experts from Kerala, Karnataka, Odisha, Raiasthan M know best practices in var- Andhra Pradesh participated in the conference.

#### TS govt will preserve Ganga Jamuni tehzeeb

**PNS** ■ HYDERABAD

Chief Minister K Chandra shekhar Rao extended greetings to Muslims on the occasion of Milad-un-Nabi festival on Thursday (September

28).
The Chief Minister made it clear that the government will continue efforts to preserve the spirit of Ganga Jamuni tehzeeb in Telangana. He said that Muslims consider Milad-un-Nabi, birthday of Prophet Muhammad, as the most auspicious day and the community believes Almighty Allah designated Muhammad as the last Prophet to spread the message of peace.

The Chief Minister wished that Prophet Mohammad's teachings - peace, compassion, religious thinking, charity, unity and equality of all human beings will spread all over the world.

The CM said the schemes launched by the State government for the socio-economic and spiritual devel the Muslim minority people are yielding the desired results.



#### Pak team arrive in city for **Cricket World Cup**

PNS HYDERABAD

Ahead of the Cricket World Cup 2023, the Pakistan Cricket team arrived in Hyderabad on Wednesday night at 9 pm.

Pakistan is set to face New Zealand in a warm-up match on September 29 at the Rajiv Gandĥi International Cricket Stadium.

On Wednesday, the team took a flight from Lahore Airport on a private plane. The players and 13 officials. The team flew to Dubai where there was a layover of nine hours before departing to

According to the schedule, the ODI World Cup warm-up match between the teams will

be held at Rajiv Gandhi Cricket Stadium.

However, due to festivals in Hyderabad, the match will be played behind closed doors based on the advice from local security agencies. In light of this decision, it has been announced that individuals who purchased tickets for the

match will receive a full refund. In Hyderabad, Pakistan is scheduled to play two warm-up matches in the ODI World Cup 2023. The first match will be against the Netherlands on October 6, followed by a match against Sri Lanka on October

India and Pakistan are set to face off in the main draw on October 14 at the Narendra Modi Stadium.

# Khairatabad Metro Station sees 30K footfalls these days

PNS ■ HYDERABAD

Huge footfalls of over 30,000 entries and 30,000 exits per day are being experienced at Khairatabad Metro Station for the last few

In order to facilitate the anticipated heavy rush on the last day of nimajjanam, HMRL MD NVS Reddy had a meeting with L&TMRHL MD KVB Reddy and other senior officers of both organisations and made the special arrangements. Trains will be operated beyond mid-night. The last trains in all directions will leave

at 1:00 am and reach their respective destinations at around 2:00 am i.e., early morning hours of Friday. Additional Police and private security personnel will be deployed at Khairatabad and Lakdikapul Metro Stations and security arrangements will be monitored by DSP rank police officers of

Additional ticket counters will be opened



at select Metro Stations to meet the demand. Additional trains will be operated on need basis. The MD appealed to the Metro commuters visiting Khairatabad to follow self-discipline and cooperate with the security personnel to avoid any stampede.

#### ADVANCING COMPUTATIONAL INTELLIGENCE

# Mahindra varsity successfully hosts ICETCI-2023

PNS HYDERABAD

The Third International Conference on Emerging Techniques Computational Intelligence (ICETCI 2023) concluded at Mahindra University.

Attracting a diverse congregation of leading experts, scholars and practitioners from across the globe, ICETCI 2023 served as a dynamic platform for the exchange of groundbreaking ideas and the presentation of cutting-edge research within the Computational Intelligence domain.

The conference commenced with a full day dedicated to tutorial sessions,



laying the groundwork for two more days filled with stimulating discussions, keynote addresses and technical paper presentations.

This year's lineup of luminaries featured distinguished figures such as the guest of honour, Prof Anil Sahasrabuddhe, Chairman of both the National Board aerospace and agriculture Accreditation and

National Assessment and Accreditation Council. Prof Sahasrabuddhe shared invaluable insights on the pivotal role of innovation in academia.

Adding to the status, Dr Kota Harinarayana, Former Director General of the Tejas Programme and former Vice-Chancellor of the University of Hyderabad, was the cief guest, delivering a keynote address that underscored the critical contribution of computational intelligence to the development of cutting-edge technologies in diverse domains, focusing particularly on the

#### Sd/- Superintending Engineer, Imigation Circle, G.V. Guden, Nalgonda. R.O.Ma: 7357-PP/CLIADVT/10023-34, Dt. 27.09.3023 🔞 GREATER HYDERABAD MUNICIPAL CORPORATION 🧀 E' PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

NIT No. 12/CTO/GHMC/2021-24

Name of the Work: Removal of unsuthorized hoardings/unipoles/bus shelters (Glow sign boards/other advertisement shuckurs and removal of unsuthorized flacts on various advertisement eliments (Package 1 to 4), Start Data Last Data & Time for Receipts of Bids: Start Data & Time 29.09.2023 (§ 02.00 PM onwords, End Data & Time: 05.10.2023 (§ 02.00 PM. Name & Address Officer Cell No.: Olio. Chief Transport Office, 4th Place GHMC, Head Office, Tark bund, Hyderstand, St. K. Ajay CTD, Griffict, Contact No: Mob.No. 7980380314. Address of the officer concerned Chief Transport Officer, GHMC. Mob. No. 7980380314. Further details can be seen at e-procurement (§ www.aprocurement stalangam.apoc.) R.O.Mo: T354-PP/CL/ADVTH/0023-24, Dt. 27.89.2023 Sdl- Chief Transport Officer, GHMI

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA IRRIGATION AND CAD DEPARTMENT

Name of the work: AMRSLBC Project - Operation and Maintenance estimate for

providing with PU Injection of MC - Inject GL - 95 TX/MC 2700 (Acrylic hydro structure

esin) to RCC Retaining wall wherever required to arrest leakage near columns of

Pump house at AMRP LIS/ Puttamgandi. Estimate cost: Rs. 44.15 lakhs. Submission

of Tender Documents last date: 13-10-2023 upto 5.00 PM. Further information visit

TENDER NOTICE

#### Office of the Director of Agricultural Marketing Government of Telangana, Hyderabad.

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE

E-procurement T. No. SE(AM)/TS/HYD/Ep/ 10 /2023-24, Dated: 26-09-2023 Conline Tenders are invited by Superintending Engineer (AM), Hydersbad from the Registered Civil Contractors for the following (.5.) Works at Yadadri Bhongiri, Nagarkurnool, Warangal, Nalgonda and Hanamkonda Districts costing of Rs. 1,46,71,739/. E-procurement sile opening Date on 29-09-2023 at 5,00 PM. The Non-refundable Processing fee shall be paid through online and counterfoil / receipt signed by the bankers with receipt journal number. J UTR number shall be scanned and uploaded along with bids, Any other information can be had from the https://tender.telangana.gov.in or office of the Superintending Engineer (AM), Hydersbad.

DIPR.R.O.No.: 72T-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2023-24

HYDERABAD METROPOLITAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY 4th Floor, Swarnajayanthi Commercial Complex, Ameerpet, Hyderaba

Public Notification U/s. 15(3) of HMDA Act. 2008 (Government Memo. No. 11640/Pig.I(1)/2023, dt: 17.08.2023) In exercise of powers conferred by Sub-Section (1) of Section 15 of HMDAAct 2008 (Act No. 8

f 2008), it is proposed to make the following draft variation to the land use envisaged in the notified Erstwhile HUDA Area Master Plan Budvel zone segment approved by the Governmen vide G.O.Ms.No.288, MA& UD dt:03.04.2008.

The site in Sy. No. 113/A, 113/A, 115/A, 115/A of Hyderguda (V), Rajendranagar (M), Rangareddy district, to an extent of 46134.16 sq. mtrs. or Ac. 11-16 gts, which is presently samarked as Public & Semi-public use as per the notified Erstwhile HUDA Area Master Plan udvel zone segment approved by the Government vide G.O.Ms.No.268, MA & UD dt 03.04.2006, is now proposed to be designated as Residential use zone.
The details of the above are available in websites https://gazette.telangana.gov.ini/l and

Objection / Suggestions would be considered from any person or body to the said proposals They can submit objections / suggestions in writing either to the M.C, HMDA or to Special Chief

Secretary, MA & UD Dept., Telangana Secretariat, Hyderabad within Fifteen (15) days from the date of publication of this Notice.

R.O. No.: 729-PP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2023-24

#### **ASSURED JOB PLACEMENTS**

# Special training launched in German

A Special Training programme organised by Telangana Overseas Manpower Company Ltd (TOMCOM) for students selected for the Germany Ausbildung (vocational training) programme was inaugurated on Wednesday by Special Chief Secretary (LET and F), Rani Kumidini, and Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany to South India, Michaela Kuchler at the National Academy of Construction (NAC),

Hyderabad. The initiative is part of the Telangana government's efforts to upskill and create overseas



the Telangana workforce in Goethe-Zentrum Institute, developed countries like the Hyderabad. UK, USA, Japan and Germany and is organised by TOM-COM (a State government entity under the Department of Labour, Employment and

Training), in collaboration with

The training will include German language classes and an introduction to German culture. It is designed to prepare candidates for a 2 to 3year apprenticeship pro-

gramme (Ausbildung) in Germany, followed by job placements. A total of 62 candidates have enrolled for the Ausbildung programme in addition to 16 nursing students who have obtained job offers in Germany. Rani Kumidini reiterated

the State government's commitment to take up more capacity-building initiatives and facilitate overseas employment opportunities for the youth of Telangana through safe and legal channels of migration. Dr Vishnu Reddy, Special Secretary and CEO of TOMCOM, highlighted the benefits of joining the Ausbildung programme.

#### **TS CID traces missing man** after nine years PNS HYDERABAD the investigation under the

The Telangana Crime Investigation Department (CID) on Wednesday traced a missing man nine years after he went missing.

The missing person was identified as Sabhyasachi Das, a goldsmith who went missing on July 26, 2014 when he left his residence to go for work. Das's employer Ganesh Mondal filed a missing complaint with the Charminar Police on August 2

The Charminar SHO registered a case under Section 363 of the Indian Penal Code and launched an investigation. On May 30, 2015, the case was transferred to Telangana CID. During

supervision of Superintendent of Police, Women Safety Wing, the investigation officer, K Muthyalu, Inspector, with the co-operation of P Hareesh, Sub-Inspector of Police, Cyber Analysis Module, made sustainable efforts to trace the missing boy and finally located Das in Cuttack city of Odisha. A special team comprising G Mallanna, Sub-Inspector of Police, K Jagadishwar Rao (Police Constable) of Anti Human Trafficking Unit (ATHU), Women Safety Wing, Telangana, were deputed and they successfully traced the missing boy at Cuttack through technology and reunited him with his family

# Telangana

#### AlMIM leader, son get bail in Shaik Bawazeer's murder case

PNS HYDERABAD

All India Majlis Ittehad-ul-Muslimeen (ÁIMIM) leader and Jalpally Municipal Chairman Abdullah Saadi and his father Ahmed Saadi, who are accused in Shaik Bawazeer murder case were on Wednesday granted bail by the Telangana High Court.

The court ordered the two accused to furnish two sureties of Rs 50,000 each. They were also directed to appear before the Station House Officer concerned at 10 am daily over the next two weeks. Thereafter, the accused may appear for investigation whenever required

G Anil Kumar, counsel for the accused, argued that the father-son duo were innocent and were falsely implicated in the murder case of Bawazeer, who was a rowdy-sheeter.

Kumar also contended that apart from Ahmed's confession, there was no other evidence collected by the investigating officer to implicate the petitioners. "The accused can't be put behind bars on the basis of a confession," Kumar argued.

#### CM LAUDS CHANDLAPUR. PEMBERTI GETTING TOURISM AWARDS

# TS emerging as a tourist destination, says KCR

PNS HYDERABAD

Chief Minister K Chandrashekar Rao expressed happiness over the awards of 'National Best Rural Tourism Centres' to the villages of Pemberti and Chandlapur in the State.

Janagama district 'Pemberti' is world famous for handicrafts and Siddipet district 'Chandlapur' is distinguished by the production of prestigious Gollabhama sarees and the natural beauty of the Ranganayak

On the occasion of World Tourism Day, CM KCR congrat-Tourism State Department Principal Secretary Shailaja Ramayar, Pembarti Sarpanch Ambala Anjaneyulu and Chandrapur Sarpanch Suragoni Chandrakala who received national awards at the hands of the Central Tourism Department on Wednesday in

On this occasion, CM KCR congratulated the State Tourism Minister Srinivas Goud, Director of Tourism Department, other higher officials and staff who are working for the development of the state's tourism sector.



On this occasion, CM KCR recalled the progress achieved by the Telangana tourism sector during the self-government. He reminded that Ramappa temple has already been recognised as 'World Heritage Site' by UNESCO, and the recognition of Pochampally village as 'UNWTO Best Rural Village' has increased the reputation of

If there was despair in the Telangana region due to the neglect of the erstwhile rulers, today Telangana is shining brightly with the development of water projects like reservoirs, ponds and other water resources, green forests, hills, bustling historical buildings, innovative buildings that proclaim humility and shrines that inspire spir-

Telangana, which is already maintaining a special position in the country with its historical wealth, has achieved further expansion with various development programmes including irrigation, greening, environ-mental and spiritual activities, prestigious structures and other strong measures.

The CM said that crores of domestic and foreign tourists have visited the Telangana region since the formation of the State till date due to the measures taken by the government for the development of the tourism sector. He said that apart from imparting knowledge and enter-tainment to the tourists, thousands of people are directly and indirectly employed. CM KCR said that Telangana

is emerging as a unique tourist destination in the country with the strong measures taken by the State government in self-governance. He has made it clear that the government will improve employment opportunities for the youth by implementing activities towards achieving further development of the tourism sec-

# Konda Laxman statue soon at Suryapet

PNS ■ SURYAPET

Minister for Energy G Jagadish Reddy on Wednesday paid tributes to Konda Laxman Bapuji on the occasion of his birth

Speaking at a meeting, shortly after paying floral tributes to Bapuji's portrait, the Minister described Bapuji as a humanist. Bapuji was a democrat and fought on behalf of the poor. He fought for the welfare of the downtrodden.

The state government distributed awards constituted in his name for talented weavers. The Minister said that his statue would be installed in the town after identifying a suitable site. MP Badugula Lingaiah

Yadav, Collector Venkat Rao, Additional Collectors Priyanka and Venkat Reddy and others were present on the occasion. Chinta Prabhakar lauds

Konda Lakshman Bapuji In sangareddy, Telangana State Handloom Develop Corporation

Prabhakar garlanded the statue of Konda Lakshman Bapuji along with additional collector Chandrasekhar



Minister for Energy G Jagadish Reddy offering floral tributes to Konda Laxman Bapuji in Suryapet on Wednesday

and paid floral tributes to the great leader.

CEO Yellaiah appealed to one and all to remember the significant role that Konda Lakshman Bapujihad played during the movement for statehood to Telangana.

In 1969, when the first phase of the movement for Telangana was held he undertook fast unto death and quit his ministerial berth in the state cabinet of DRO Nagesh spoke. BC Welfare Officer Jagadish, district Padmasahli association president Mallesam and others took part. Follow in the footsteps of

Bapuji: ZP chief In Siddipet, ZP chairperson Roja Sarma, paying floral tributes to the veteran leader, appealed to the people to sustain his ideals and follow in his footsteps.

She appreciated Konda Lakshman Bapuji who resisted the atrocities per- ment for Telangana.

rulers. He took an active part in the second phase of the agitation for statehood Telangana at the advanced age of 96 years and observed fast at

Zantar-Mantar in Delhi. She recalled how the then TDP government demolished the Jaladrussyam – the resi-dence of Konda Lakshman Bapuji on the banks of Hussain Sagar when he let the TRS (now the BRS) run its activities from

She felicitated five handloom workers on the occa-

Police Commissioner N Sweta on Wednesday paid floral tributes to Telangana protagonist Konda Lakshman Bapuji in connection with his 108th birth anniversary. Chief Whip pays tributes to Bapuji

In a programme held at Hanamkonda Collectorate, Government Chief Whip Vinay Bhaskar paid tributes to Konda Lakshman Bapuji and hailed him as the leader who motivated the participants of the first and second phases of the move-

### Union Minister presents best tourism village award to Chandlapur sarpanch

**PNS** SIDDIPET

Union Minister Ajay Bhat on Wednesday presented award to Chandlapur village sarpanch Chandrakala Ravi and to District Additional Collector Srinivas Reddy in Delhi for adjudging Chandlapur as the best tourism village.

Chandlapur village was chosen at the best village at

perspective.

Besides Chandlapur in
Chinnakoduru mandal of
Siddipet district, Pembarti village in Janagoan district also adjudged as the best

tourism village.
Out of 795 villages that vied with each other for the coveted award, Pembarti was chosen as the village pays attention to safeguarding the activities of metal arti-



Chandlapur sarpanch Chandrakla Ravi in New Delhi recently

### Kamareddy Police arrest murder case accused, four persons

**PNS** ■ KAMAREDDY

The Kamareddy Police on Wednesday arrested five persons, including ringleader Julfi Singh who were allegedly involved in several robbery and two-wheeler theft cases. Julfil Singh, the police said, had been evading the police for long after being released from jail in Amravati on parole. He was convicted in a murder case and he was released on parole during the Covid-19 pandemic. He had been evading police

since his release, the police.
The arrested included Julfi Singh, Shaik Yunas, Shaik Shohal, Shoal Ali and Ch Anjappa. Jufli Singh has also been facing charges of committing two robberies.

Kamareddy Superintendent of Police Srinivas told the media that Jufli Singh, along with his accomplices, had stolen two-wheelers. Julfi Singh, who hailed from Maharashtra, married a woman from Banswada. He of murdering an



Police parading the alleged inter-state gang of criminals in Kamareddy on Wednesday

employee during a robbery in a jewellery shop under Amravati police station limits in Maharashtra. After spending two years in jail, he was released on parole at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic in 2013. He had been evading police since then,

The Superintendent of police said that Julfi Singh had committed several crimes in Kamareddy, Nizamabad, Karimnagar, Hyderabad and Medak districts.

The police took all five sus-

vehicle check at the Kasturba Hospital area. The accused spilled beans during interrogation. The police recovered 51 motorcycles from them, he

Four more persons, who were found helping the gang, are still at large. A manhunt was launched for them, he

The Superintendent of Police said that he would recommend rewards and certificates to the police personnel who apprehended the alleged

# Congress calls upon people to drive out BRS

PNS MAHABUBNAGAR

Former MLA Yennem Srinivas Reddy has alleged that the present regime of the BRS is ruling the state against the wishes of the people and appealed to all parties to join hands to unseat the present regime.

Addressing media at the Congress office here on Wednesday, along with DCC president G Madhusudhan Reddy, he alleged that the BRS and BJP are the two sides of the same coin. He claimed to have joined the BJP thinking that it would fight against the BRS. But, there is no such a situation, he said explaining the reason for him to join the Congress.

The Congress only can ful-fil the aspirations of people, he said. He vowed to work for the Congress party's victory in the next elections. He underlined the need for driving away the anarchic forces in the



Former MLA Yennem Srinivas Reddy speaking to the media in Mahabubnagar on

The DCC president claimed that the Congress party getting overwhelming response from the people with each passing day. At the Congress public meeting addressed by Sonia Gandhi recently at Tukkuguda, Sonia Gandhi

the state after the elections, the Congress would implement

Earlier, the Congress activists felicitated Srinivas Reddy on his arrival at the Congress office. TPCC general secretary Vinod Kumar, leaders CJ Benhar Radha Amar and other functionaries were present. Congress office. TPCC gener-

# Higher compensation Vattem Reservoir outstees demanded

PNS NAGARKURNOOL

Huzurabad BJP MLA Etala Rajender has alleged that inadequate compensation of Rs 2.04 lakh per acre was fixed to Vattem Reservoir displaced farmer Jangaiah and it led to two members of his family taking the extreme step of committing suicide.

Eatala on Wednesday visited the bereaved family members of Alloji in Kummera vil-

lage.
Later talking to media, the MLA said that it was not proper to acquire land by paying inadequate compensation. It was necessary to acquire land for the project, but it was not proper not to give adequate compensation to landowners.

A total of 19 acres of land



Huzurabad BJP MLA Etala Raiender interacting with Vattem Reservoir displaced persons in Nagarkurnool district on Wednesday

belonging to Jangaiah's family was not acquired for the project. A part of the land was meant for the project and the remaining was acquired for other purposes, he said.
On one hand, the govern-

ment fixed Rs 10 lakh per acre to the agricultural land in some cases, but fixed a very low amount towards compensation to Jangaiah's family, he said and blamed the government for the two farmers committing suicide.

Etala demanded payment of Rs 25 lakh compensation to each who committed suicide and a government job for one of the family members.

The government promised a compensation of Rs 10 lakh, he said, adding that suicide deaths were being reported from vil-

He threatened to launch a State-wide agitation if justice is not done to the deceased's National BC Commission Member Talloji Achary criticised the government alleging that the Kalwakurthy LI Scheme project displaced faremrs are yet to get the compensation.



### BSP leader buys Nalgonda Ganesh laddu for 36 lakh

BSP leader Perika Karan Iaiayari on Wednesday bought Nalgonda Ganesh laddu for Rs 36 lakh in an auction at Ganesh Idol pandal number one here.

An auction was held for Laddu after performing puja before the immersion procession started. There was stiff competi-

**BIGGEST IN THE STATE** 

tion with Congress MP Komatireddy Venkat Reddy, Nalgonda BRS MLA Kacherla Bhupal Reddy, BJP leader Nagam Varshit Reddy, eighth war councillor Pilli Ramaraju and BSP leader Perika Karan Jayaraj and few others participated in the auction. At last, Jayaraj succeeded in buying the Laddu. The laddu at the number one Ganesh pandal fetched Rs 10 lakh last year.

#### Baby crocodile at Chintal Basti PNS HYDERABAD

A baby crocodile was spotted Chintal Basti of Khairatabad. Locals are worried about the crocodile coming near Balkapur. A baby crocodile was seen by children where the construction of Nala bridge is going on.

A baby crocodile washed onto the road due to the rush of water in the background of rain. A team of anti-poaching squad of the Forest Department was rushed to the spot to catch the crocodile and shift it to it to zoo park.



offer an extensive range of

fresh produce and groceries

and have separate sections for

fashion, home appliances, elec-

tronics, mobiles, IT, and

lifestyle products under the

brand names 'Lulu Fashion

Store' and 'Lulu Connect. The

mall extends an array of infi-

nite choices in retail, food

international multiplex expe-

rience, a relaxing spa, careful-

ly handpicked delicacies at the food court, exciting fun

games zone and the latest in

fashion and lifestyle to make it

Its offerings include an

and entertainment.

#### election on October 28 PNS HYDERABAD

Singareni recognised union

Election to identify recognised trade union in Singareni Collieries to be held on Oct.28. The Deputy CLC announced that the election date on Wednesday. Nominations will be received on October 6 and 7. After that scrutiny and withdrawal will be given. While polling will be held on 28th, counting will be done on the same day. However, the Central Labor Union has issued a notifica-

tion to hold Singareni elections on May 22. However, the management of Singareni asked for postponement due to consecutive festivals. Rejecting the request of Singareni organization, the High Court ordered that elec-

tions be held by October. Release of draft voters list is on Sept.30, display of final voters list is on Oct.5, filing of nominations on Oct.6-7, last date for withdrawal of nominations on October 9, scrutiny is on October 10.

## HMDA collected Rs 6,944 cr from 21 plots

PNS HYDERABAD

Development Authority (HMDA) has held e-auctions for a number of plots in Kokapet, Budvel etc following recent successful e-auctions as an agent of Government of Telangana and fetched Rs6944.33crore.

The various-sized acres of the land parcels were divided into plots for multipurpose use zones with permission for high rise buildings and unlimited FSI. The overwhelming results of bids for multiple land parcels of various sizes in prime locations have been recorded with the highest response registered to be as high as Rs. 100.75 Cr per acre in Kokapet. Budvel layout have received as higher



Hyderabad Metropolitan

as Rs. 41.75 crore per acre. Seven plots totaling 45-33 acres were offered for e-auction in Kokapet on 03.08.2023. The size of these plots varied from 3.60 acres to 9.71 acres. Here, the entire offered area was sold for a total of Rs. 3319.60 crores,

which is an average of Rs. 73.23 crore per acre. Similar to this, the complete

at the Budvel auction on 10.08.2023 was sold for a total of Rs. 3625.73 crores at an average of Rs. 36.25 crores. For Kokapet and Budvel, the

acreage i.e., 100-01 acres offered

H1 bidders have made their payments on time and in accordance with the payment sched-

However, in the Mokila layout, where modest plots were put up for auction and bought by members of the middle class specifically as individual purchases, the payment is a little tardy and not receiving within the stipulated time because of different factors, including the delay in loan sanctioning. The HMDA is pursuing the same and considering as per their requests.

#### Rs 12 lakh **looted from ATM**

PNS NIZANAD

Unidentified persons fled with about Rs 12 lakh after breaking open an automated teller machine (ATM) at Pachampad X road in the early hours of Wednesday.

According to police, a gang of unidentified thieves, who came by an Andhra Pradeshregistered vehicle, barged into the ATM cabin, broke it open and fled with the money. The ATM belongs to the State Bank of India. The police pressed into service the Clues Team and sniffer dog.



#### KTR inaugurates Lulu Mall in Hyderabad investments that Lulu com-Hypermarket to be the highlight of the mall, which will

PNS HYDERABAD

Lulu Group International on Wednesday launched its first hypermarket in Hyderabad. Telangana IT and Industries Minister KT Rama Rao inaugurated the mall in the presence of Yusuff Ali, Chairman of Lulu Group.

The launch of the Lulu Mall and Lulu Hypermarket in Hyderabad underlines the group's progressive growth in the southern states, and it is considered the biggest hypermarket in the State with an amazing shopping experience.

This is the first venture of the Lulu Group in Telangana, and this first project in Hyderabad is part of the Rs 500 crore

mitted to the State. It is the outcome of several discussions and an MoU signed with the Government of Telangana during Industry Minister KT Rama Rao's visit to the World Economic Forum last year in Davos. The Rs 500 crore investment Yusuff Ali promised to the Telangana government was fulfilled within a short period

of time. "Several rounds of fruitful discussions were done with the Government of Telangana, and the speed at which they approved the project is commendable. Also, it'll ensure a world-class shopping experience in Hyderabad. Also, planned multiple investments Telangana IT Minister KT Rama Raop and Lulu Group Chairman MA Yussuf Ali inaugurate Lulu Mall in Hyderabad on Wednesday

national brands, a 5-screen

cinema with a seating capacity

in the State, including a Food of 1,400, a multi-cuisine food Sourcing and Exporting centres," Yusuff Ali. said. This Mega Mall hosts a global standard Lulu Hypermarket, over hundred local and inter-

court, a children's entertainment centre, etc. The mall is located at Kukatpally, near JNTU and will generate employment for more than 2,000 personnel.

The global standard Lulu

Hyderabad's most preferred

#### **Madras High Court frowns over Railways'** use of plastic water bottles

he Madras High Court has expressed dissatisfaction over Railways' usage of plastic water bottles and said it was perpetuating plastic development and its manufacture. A bench of the HC has directed the Railways to file a report on the steps taken to exterminate the use of plastic in trains, even as it wanted the transporter to be a "model employer" in this regard. A division bench comprising Justices S Vaidyanathan and P T

Asha gave the directive recently while passing further interim orders on a review petition filed by Tamil Nadu Pondy Plastic Association against the ban on use of plastics. "We express our deep dissatisfaction over the usage of plastic water bottles by Railways, and Railways are perpetuating plastic development and manufacture of more plastics. We are informed that even in the newly introduced Vande Bharat Express trains, the use of plastics is on the higher side.



#### **Bengal Guv launches Durga Puja** awards; nominations invited

West Bengal Governor Dr C V Ananda Bose on Wednesday announced the launch of the annual 'Governor's Durga Bharat Samman' to recognise the contribution of people in different fields from across the country, an official said. The awards will be presented in three categories, 'Durga Bharat Param Samman', 'Durga Bharat Samman' and 'Durga Bharat Puraskar', the official said, adding Raj Bhavan has started

inviting nominations for the awards. "This will be an annual programme. The governor will give these awards this year during Durga Pujas. We have already started inviting nominations from people excelling in different fields," the official said. The awards will be conferred to people for their contribution in art, social



#### **Villagers help free cyber fraudster** from CID's custody in Rajasthan

group of villagers got an alleged cyber fraudster freed from the custody of a CID Ateam in a village in Alwar, police said on Wednesday. The Criminal Investigation Department (CID) team had caught the man, Mubeen, on Monday in Loharwadi village, they said. According to police, when the police reached the village, Mubeen and his two accomplices Shahrukh and Akhtar tried to run away. The team chased and

caught Mubeen while Shahrukh and Akhtar fled away, Sadar SHO Dinesh Chandra said on Wednesday. After catching Mubeen, a group of villagers surrounded the CID team, freed Mubeen and later fled away, the SHO said. The team has recovered a bag with Rs 6.93 lakh, he added. The SHO said that the CID team had received information that Mubeen was involved in cyber fraud, had formed his own gang, and would blackmail people

to cheat them.



#### Assam party seeks separate Barak Valley state

PNS ■ KOLKATA/GUWAHATI

A political party of Assam on Wednesday demanded separation of Bengali-speaking people majority Barak Valley region, alleging that they are deprived of linguistic and cultural security and development.

The outfit, Barak Democratic Front (BDF), sought a new Purbachal' state, home to around 42 lakh people who live in Cachar, Hailakandi and Karimganj districts. "Our demand for separation of Barak Valley is not a demand for establishing a Bengali state. Although Bengalis are the majority in the valley, there are many other communities such as tea tribes, Dimasa, Manipuri, Bishnupriya, Khasi and Kuki and all of them are victims of socio-economic deprivation," BDF chief convener Pradip Dutta Roy told a press conference in Kolkata.

The BDF claimed all 15 MLAs of the region, including those of the ruling BJP, are in favour of a separate state.

# **India-China ties abnormal** since Galwan clash: EAM

PNS NEW YORK

India-China relations have been in an "abnormal state" since the 2020 Galwan Valley clash and it is a "possibly longer than medium-term issue", External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has said, emphasising that none of the explanations given by Beijing for amassing its troops along the LAC are really tenable.

India has been consistently maintaining that the situation at the border in eastern Ladakh is not normal and that peace and tranquillity along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) were key for the normalisation of overall bilateral ties.

If the two biggest countries of the world have that degree of tension between them, "it has consequences for everybody else", Jaishankar asserted during a conversation at the Council on Foreign Relations to a question about India-China relations.



"You know, one of the pleasures of dealing with China is that they never quite tell you why they do things. So you often end up trying to figure it out. And it's always, there's a certain ambiguity out there,' Jaishankar, who was India's Ambassador to China from 2009 to 2013, said.

"At various points in time, the Chinese have given us different explanations, and none of them are really tenable,'

Jaishankar said. Indian and Chinese troops are locked in an over three-year

confrontation in certain friction points in eastern Ladakh

diplomatic and military talks. "It is very hard to try to be normal with a country which has broken agreements and which has done what it has done. So if you look at the last three years, it's a very abnormal state," the minister said.

even as the two sides complet-

ed disengagement from sever-

al areas following extensive

"Contacts have been disrupted, visits are not taking place. We have of course this high level of military tension.

#### **US** 'is adjusting to a multipolar world

External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has said that the United States "is adjusting to a multipolar world" although it may not use that term. The United States is actively seeking to shape what would be the poles and what would be the weight of the poles and the manner in which it would benefit the US, Jaishankar said during a conversation at the Council on Foreign Relations here on Tuesday. His remarks came ahead of his visit to Washington from September 27 to 30 for bilateral meetings with US interlocutors. Jaishankar's programme includes discussions with his counterpart Antony Blinken, senior members of the Biden administration, US business leaders and think tanks

## Corruption is killer of democracy, development: V-P Dhankhar **PNS** ■ JAIPUR

Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar on Wednesday termed corruption the "killer of democracy and development" and said significant progress has been made over the last few years in clearing the corridors of influence of power brokers.

He also underlined the importance of education to accelerate India's development and improve people's lives.

Dhankhar was speaking at Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS), Pilani.

Corruption is the "killer of democracy and development". But in recent years, significant progress has been made in making the corridors of influence free from power brokers, he said.

The vice president called on citizens to actively counter any "anti-India rhetoric that tarnishes, defames and weakens our institutions".

Dhankhar described education as the most "effective

and efficient" mechanism to improve people's lives and accelerate India's development.

He said society cannot progress unless justice is ensured for the half of humanity and hailed the passing of the women's reservation bill in Parliament as a "historic development".

The legislation is a recognition of women's rights and an affirmation of their empowerment, he said.

On India successfully hosting the G20 Summit, Dhankhar said the role played by the country under the lead-

ership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has put the Global South on the world

He said the inclusion of the African Union as a member of the grouping deeply resonates with India's civilisational ethos and that the proposed India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) would prove to be a global "game changer".

Later, Dhankhar inaugurated the Regional Groundnut Research Centre of the Central Institute of Arid Horticulture in Bikaner. He also inaugurated a trainee house at the institute.

Citing the PM-Kisan Samman Nidhi scheme, Dhankhar said the government has taken many steps to empower farmers.

Through this scheme, money is sent directly to farmers' accounts, he said.

"Today our farmers are connected with technology. There is no middleman," the vice president said.

#### **AFSPA** extended in Manipur hills for 6 months: Valley areas kept out

PNS IMPHAL

The Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act or AFSPA was extended by another six months in Manipur on Wednesday barring 19 police stations falling under the Imphal valley and an area that shares its boundary with

the state govern-

ment is of the opinion after analysing the prevailing law-andorder situation that it is not expedient to have detailed assessment on the ground as security agencies are

preoccupied in maintenance of law and order.

Now, therefore in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 3 of Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act... the Governor of Manipur hereby declare the entire state of Manipur excluding the areas falling under the jurisdiction of 19 police stations...as disturbed Area for a period of six months with effect from October 1, 2023," the notification said.

The police station areas where the Disturbed Areas Act has not been imposed are base i Imphal, Lamphel, City, state.

Singjamei, Sekmai, Lamsang, Pastol, Wangoi, Porompat, Heingagng, Lamlai, Iribung, Leimakhong, Thoubal, Bishnupur, Nambol, Moirang, Kakchin and Jirbam.

Significantly, the areas that have been kept out of the purview of AFSPA are dominated by the majority Meitei An official notification said Jiribam, adjacent to Silchar

valley of Assam. With the extension of AFSPA, the Army and Assam Rifles cannot operate inside the areas under the 19 police stations without the consent of the state

Security officials have been advocating bringing the entire state under AFSPA so that they could easily ensure that the presence of terror groups within the valley is reduced or eliminated,

sources said. The security agencies have been warning that banned terror groups United National Liberation Front (UNLF) and People's Liberation Army (PLA), Kanglei Yawol Kanba Lup (KYKL), People's Revolutionary Party of Kangleipak (PREPAK) and KCP have been forming their base in the Imphal valley of the

#### Kejriwal bungalow controversy: CBI registers probe; AAP dubs it vendetta

PNS NEW DELHI

The CBI has registered a Wednesday.

The ruling Aam Admi Party in Delhi rejected the

ernment, the officials said. allegations have prima facie

material to proceed with a regular FIR.

preliminary enquiry into alleged "irregularities and misconduct" with respect to official residence for Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, officials said on

allegation of any wrongdoing and accused the BJP of "using all its power to finish AAP" The CBI has registered the PE against unidentified pub-

lic servants of the Delhi gov-The preliminary enquiry is the first step to ascertain if the

The anti-corruption branch of the CBI has demanded from the PWD records related to the approval and recommendation of its officials related to alteration, tender documents, bids submitted by contractors, approval of building plans and requests from the client for superior specifications like modular kitchen, marble flooring and other

ornamental work, they said.

# Officials on alert as dengue cases rise: Health Minister

PNS NEW DELHI

In view of the recent rise in dengue cases across the country, Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya on Wednesday directed the officials to be fully geared up and strengthen prevention, containment and management measures for the vector-borne

Mandaviya, who chaired a high-level review meeting, was briefed on the nationwide dengue situation, the Health Ministry said in a statement.

He reviewed the preparedness of public health system for prevention, containment and management of dengue in view of the recent spike in its cases across the country. Underlining the challenge

posed by the increasing number of dengue cases, Mandaviya stressed the need for being prepared against the viral infection, the statement He directed the officials to

be fully geared up and strengthen prevention, containment and management measures for dengue, it

Mandaviya highlighted that the Union government has provided all necessary sup-



Mandaviya highlighted that the Union government has provided all necessary support to the states for screening kits and has provided financial support for fogging and Information, Education and communication (IEC) activities as well

port to the states for screening kits and has provided financial support for fogging and Information, Education and communication (IEC) activities as well.

Healthcare workers have also been trained. He urged states to adhere to the guidelines issued by the Centre for prevention and containment of dengue.

The Union Health Minister also stated that adequate fund is provided by the central government to the states Programme under Implementation Plan (PIP) for several activities such as surveillance, laboratory diagnosis, cases management and capacity building among others to prevent and control

### ISRO excels as no individual penalised for failures: Somanath

said.

PNS NEW DELHI

Failures are a very natural part of the space sector but no individual is penalised for it at ISRO which encourages scientists to take novel approaches in decision-making, the space agency's chairman Š Somanath aid on Wednesday

Speaking at the 50th anniversary of the All India Management Association (AIMA), Somanath, who

played a key role in the soft-landing of a spacecraft on the moon, noted that even he had faced failures several times, but never got criticised for it by his seniors.

"We make sure that no single individual is penalised for failures because no decision is made by a single individual. All these decisions are taken by collective wisdom," he said in an interactive session here.

Somanath said in the space sector, there is a clear understanding that one person cannot understand everything which leads to collective deci-

sion-making.
"So, collective decision means that you own the responsibility of failures as well. Management owns the responsibility, it is not fixed on

an individual. This is the first,"

he said. "So, people are courageous enough to take a novel approach or decisions. Otherwise, everybody will move away from taking any risks," the space agency chief

agement was very clear that failures are a natural part of a process when work is being done and the approach has always been to iden-

tify the reasons for the setback and make the necessary corrections. "You have to give confidence to the

people who have the courage to propose new things and sup-

port them. Once you do that, you can do wonders in any organisation," he said.

On identifying talent for the space programme, Somanath said he found that the commitment levels to excel in life of persons coming from a humble background were very high when compared with city dwellers.

"If you get a person from a tier-3 institution and put him in the task, the growth rate of the person in terms of his ability, knowledge is substantially higher than I could see from a city dweller," he said.

### K'taka to challenge rider to release Cauvery water to TN before SC: CM Siddaramaiah

PNS CHAMARAJANAGAR

The direction of the Cauvery Water Regulation Committee to Karnataka to release water at the rate of 3,000 cubic feet per second (cusecs) to Tamil Nadu from Thursday to October 15 will be challenged before the Supreme Court, the Chief Minister Siddaramaiah

said on Wednesday. Siddaramaiah said he has spoken to the State's legal team which opined that it should be challenged in the

apex court.
"We are challenging the order of the Regulation Committee before the Supreme Court. We don't have water to give," the CM told reporters at Male Mahadeshwara Hills in this Male



district

Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar had on Tuesday expressed satisfaction over the CWRC rejecting the request of Tamil Nadu, which wanted Karnataka to release 12,000

Karnataka submitted before

CWRC at its meeting in New Delhi on Tuesday that the shortfall in cumulative inflows to its four reservoirs in the Cauvery basin up to September 25 is 53.04 per

According to Karnataka officials, due to the failure of the south-west monsoon (from June to September) this year, there is no sufficient storage in the four reservoirs and the State is facing such a grave situation that it is finding it extremely difficult even to cater to the drinking water requirements let alone supply-

The rainfall received in Karnataka this year in the months of August and September is the lowest in the last 123 years, they said.

ing for irrigation.

# 70% of early cancer deaths in 2020 preventable

PNS NEW DELHI

About 70 per cent of the 5.3 million premature deaths from cancer globally in 2020 were preventable, while the remaining 30 per cent were treatable, according to a new The Lancet Global Health research.

Of the total deaths, 2.9 million were in men, while 2.3 million were in women, the study said, which had used the GLÓBOCAN 2020 database on cancer mortality from the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC) for analysis.

The IARC conducts and coordinates research into the causes of cancer and is an intergovernmental agency under the World Health Organization of the United Nations.

roughly 1.3 million deaths in women across all age groups in 2020, the study reported, acknowledging that the burden of cancer in women due to these risk factors was widely under-recognised.

Further, the study suggested that 1.5 million premature cancer deaths in women could be prevented each year through the elimination of exposures to key risk factors or via early detection and diagnosis, while a further 0.8 million lives could be saved each year if all women had access to optimal cancer

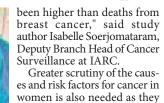
This study is a global estimation of the burden of premature, preventable, and treatable deaths from 36 cancer types in 2020 in 185 countries, by world region and Human

Tobacco, alcohol, obesity, Development Index (HDI). and infections accounted for "Discussion about cancer in



women often focus on 'women's cancers', such as breast and cervical cancer, but about 3,00,000 women under 70 die each year from lung cancer, and 1,60,000 from colorectal cancer: two of the top three causes of cancer death among women, globally.

"Furthermore, for the last few decades in many high income countries, deaths from lung cancer in women have



are less well understood compared with cancer risk factors for men, the study said. Further, it said, growing evidence suggests links between commercial products predominantly used by women, includ-

ing breast implants, skin light-

eners and hair relaxers, and an

enhanced cancer risk. According to a new Lancet Commission report, gender inequality and discrimination influence women's rights and opportunities to avoid cancer risk factors and impede their ability to seek and obtain timely diagnosis and quality cancer

Further, gender inequalities have resulted in an unpaid caregiver workforce that is predominantly female, and hinder women's professional advancement as leaders in cancer research, practice, and policymaking, which in turn perpetuate the lack of women-centred cancer prevention and care, the report said.

The impact of a patriarchal society on women's experiences of cancer has gone largely unrecognised. Globally, women's health is often focused on reproductive and maternal health, aligned with narrow anti-feminist definitions of women's value and roles in society, while cancer remains wholly under-represented," said study author Ophira Ginsburg, co-Chair of the Commission.

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-PAPER WITH PASSION-

# Taking a stand

S Jaishankar gives a befitting reply to the Canadian tirade at a world forum meeting

epeated verbal volleys by Canada Prime Minister Justin Trudeau without putting forth any tangible proof on the table have finally forced India to indulge in some hard, plainspeak. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar took diplomacy to another nuanced level when he forcefully articulated his reply to Trudeau's allegation that India was behind the killing of Hardeep Singh Nijjar, a pro-Khalistan Canadian citizen of Indian descent. Already making a name for himself in some straight talk, Jaishankar's measured statement charged Trudeau's Government with harbouring extremists in Canada and not taking any action against them. Speaking at a Council on Foreign Relations event in New York, the Minister said: "Canada has seen a lot of organised crime relating to secessionist forces, organised crime and violent extremism." However, Jaishankar declined to reveal if Canada had handed over any intelligence linking Indian officials to Nijjar's death in a firing incident. After the killing and Trudeau's statement in Canadian



Parliament about India's involvement, their bilateral relations are at an all-time low. The Canadian Government, in a kneejerk reaction, identified and expelled an Indian diplomat. Without giving any name, India also sent back a Canadian diplomat. But then Jaishankar said in unequivocal terms that Indian diplomats in Canada were being threatened. Obviously, it is a matter of grave concern for India and political expediency should be the criterion to deal with such situations. "Our concern is that the Trudeau Government has been very permissive because of political reasons. So we have a situation where our diplomats are threatened," he said in New York.

Jaishankar has employed a multipronged approach to deal with the crisis in which India has to come clean on the alleged extrajudicial killing. He made it known that India does not have such a policy and, two, if Canada has any intel, it should be shared with Indian authorities. He has also tried to rope in the United Nations, talking about India's position at length and asking the world body to be more broad-based so the countries could effectively use it to air their grievances. He also warned nations (read Canada) that "political convenience" must not determine responses to terror or violence. "Respect for territorial integrity and non-interference in internal affairs cannot be exercised in cherry-picking," Jaishankar told the UNGA. "When reality departs from the rhetoric, we must have the courage to call it out.... This is very much the sentiment of the Global South," he added. Indeed, Jaishankar is the best person to plead India's case. It is time to do some plain talking with Canada, which has harboured anti-India elements for long and ignored all Indian requests to act against them. Nijjar's case, though unfortunate, presents an opportunity to air India's concerns about the anti-India campaigns being carried out in Europe and America by rogue elements while the Governments there look the other way on the pretext of supporting human rights and freedom.

#### PICTALK



Tourists enjoy a shikara ride in Srinagar

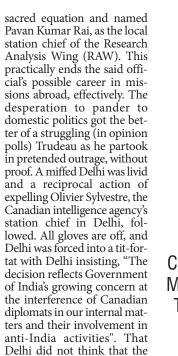
Compromising the 'normalcy' of secrecy



The double standards of Canadian morality are evident as it is the same country that celebrated the neutralising of the likes of Ayman al-Zawahiri

ll countries, including moral democracies, have spy agencies and their infrastructure embedded in officialdom. These are vital towards ensuring the safety, security and mitigation of increasingly asymmetric threats. India has some like the Research Analysis Wing (RAW), and Canada, its Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS), and there is nothing abnormal or extraordinary about the same. Their mandate entails the collection, analysis, and timely warning with data to support the larger national security outlook, and therefore the means to achieve the same could be both, overt and covert. Part of the mandate also includes counterintelligence (defence against spy agencies from other countries, including 'friendly' countries), countertrrorism and conducting operations, across seas. It is par for the course and there are certain unsaid and inviolable 'redlines' and tolerances afforded on the same, especially amongst 'friend-

Beyond the one-upmanship and naivety postured by Ottawa, it is the unprecedented compromise of the established (though unsaid) norms of reciprocal secrecy between 'friendly' nations, that is simply unwarranted. Under this accepted and respected norm between two 'friendly' nations, certain officials of various security backgrounds knowingly operate in the official Embassies/Consulates, as part of the overall diplomatic mission. While there could be topical issues of bilateral disagreement, but never is the lid on such specialist security personnel, never blown. It is the nature of the said diplomat was interfering domain that mutual confidentialin 'our internal matters' till the ity is always maintained as one inadvertent leak on the identity of time the Canadians unthinkthe personnel is professional ingly escalated the war of invalidation, forever. While this words, suggests the breakreciprocal accommodation may down of a traditional arrangenot be tolerated between tradiment between the two countionally 'enemy' countries e.g. Pakistan and India, it is certainly to be expected between Canada and India, whose strategic interests ought to (and did) converge, naturally. In one stroke of misplaced bravado, Canadian Prime



It is particularly peculiar that Trudeau felt compelled to take the recklessly revelatory step of naming the official, given the relatively seamless Indo-Canadian relationship, and more importantly, the



IN ONE STROKE OF MISPLACED BRAVADO. CANADIAN PRIME MINISTER JUSTIN TRUDEAU UNDID THE SACRED **EQUATION AND** NAMED THE LOCAL STATION CHIEF OF RESEARCH

wounded history of the bombing of Air India Flight 182, in June 1985. A public inquiry conducted by the retired judge of the Canadian Supreme Court, John Major, had held Ottawa's security infrastructure lacking the requisite urgency about a threat perception, that it did not purportedly understand. Canada's security apparatus had bungled the case of the principal terror accused, Talwinder Singh Parmar.

Even now, the fringe elements in Canada had not only upped the ante of civil protests but had gone as far as releasing photos of Indian Embassy staffers, in a 'wanted' style optic that had compromised on safety of the Indian Embassy staffers. This should have been reason enough for Trudeau to understand the Indian concern, as opposed to indulging in grandstanding, as he chose. The pressures and backdrop of a faltering election re-bid was playing on Trudeau's mind when he took the hastily

Canadian citizen – the double standards of Canadian morality when it came to celebrating the neutralising of the likes of Osama Bin Laden or even Ayman al-Zawahiri, is brazen. Trudeau had tweeted following the killing of Ayman al-Zawahiri in Kabul by a US drone, "The death of Ayman al-Zawahiri is a step toward a safer world. Canada will keep working with our global partners to counter terrorist threats, promote peace and security, and keep people here at home and around the world safe". Trudeau had not fully comprehended the concept of respecting sovereignty, as what was seemingly good for the goose was not good for the

gander. The inconsistency of stand and moralising is glaring, especially since Trudeau had the necessary heft to make direct calls with the powers-that-be in Delhi to manage the situation, instead of divulging the unnecessary, that too, without proof. While Delhi's diplomacy has been increasingly driven by its own electoral and partisan agenda for some time, it too got a taste of the same from the Canadian side. It is now beyond the vanilla issue of 'involvement', as it now Irrespective of the truth entails violating and derailing behind Trudeau's accusations the hitherto norms of 'normalof India in the killing of a cv'. This time, Trudeau started the unnecessary and avoid-

> (The writer, a military veteran, is a former Lt Governor of Åndaman & Nicobar Islands and Puducherry. The views expressed are personal)

# Empowering women through concerted effort



Minister Justin Trudeau undid the

Women in Bundelkhand are being liberated; they are not only becoming self-reliant but also getting freedom from the drudgery of fetching water

The land of Bundelkhand district, especially south-eastern Bundelkhand, is full of hills, plateaus, slopes, high and low, rocky, rocky, rocky and dry forests. Rain water does not stagnate on the land of this region, due to which there was always a shortage of water in Bundelkhand. In Bundelkhand, which has a population of around 1.25 crores, getting drinking water is a daily struggle for many people, especially women. Dhanwantari, a resident of Mahoba district of the district, gets emotional while saying this and says that the hand pump installed near the house did not work, even though water came after a lot of hard work, it was dirty. Therefore, she used to go about one and a half kilometres away from home to fetch water.

Whereas in ancient times, the Chandelas, Bundelas, Gond kings and Marathas along with the British had constructed more than 4,000 ponds in total in this waterscarce Bundelkhand region. Most of the ponds have dried up. However, the remaining water sources are proving to be a boon for this area today. children's education along for clean drinking water. In

The Jal Jeevan Mission Scheme of the Uttar Pradesh Government, whose objective is to provide clean drinking water by tap to every rural

family is changing lives. The Har Ghar Jal Yojana of the Government of India was implemented on priority by the Yogi government in those districts of the state where the problem of water was a cause of concern for many years. Under Har Ghar Jal Yojana, 55 litres of water is to be supplied to every villager per day. Bundelkhand women have gotten a big relief due to pure drinking water reaching their homes. Especially in Bundelkhand and Vindhya, women had to fetch water from miles away, but since the launch of the Jal Jeevan Mission scheme, they are now devoting time to their

are becoming self-reliant by setting up their employment. There was a time when there were thousands of such villages in Mahoba, Lalitpur, Hamirpur, Jalaun, Chitrakoot, Banda, and Jhansi of Bundelkhand where people did not marry their daughters due to the water crisis. Anurag Srivastava, Principal Secretary, Uttar Pradesh Government, believes that the Jal Jeevan Mission is not only ensuring the supply of clean drinking water from taps in rural areas but is also providing employment to promising and needy people. In such a situation, 13 youths are being given training for this in a gram panchayat. For their skill development, 1,16,366 youth are being given training in plumbing, new story of Bundelkhand 1,16,366 electricians, 1,16,366 motor mechanics, 1,16,366 fitters, 1,74,549 masons, 1,16,366 pump operators across UP. In the direction of making rural women selfreliant, along with making rural women self-reliant in UP, 5 women from every village are being given training

in water testing (water test kit)

with household chores. They such a situation, women are testing water in the village with field test kits. And making the local administration

> In such a situation, till now more than 4,87,955 women have been given training in water testing. And in every village, women are doing 11 types of tests for the purity of water. Due to this, the quality of water from taps, wells, hand pumps and tube wells is also being test-

Jal Jeevan Mission has changed the picture of Bundelkhand and Vindhya region which has been suffering from every drop of water for years. Namami Gange and Rural Water Supply Department's Har Ghar Nal Se Jal Yojana has become a and Vindhya region. Jal Jeevan Mission's Har Ghar Jal Yojana has saved large areas of the state from the major drinking water crisis. The supply of drinking water from the tap to every home in thousands of villages is living proof of this.

(The writer is a senior journalist; views are personal)

#### **STRAIN IN NDA-ADMK RELATIONSHIP**

Sir — I trust this letter finds you well. I am writing to discuss the evolving dynamics within the NDA-ADMK relationship, which appears to be undergoing a significant transformation, marking the end of what some may call a "honeymoon" peri-

Historically, the ADMK has enjoyed a favourable relationship with the BJP, benefiting from the synergy between the two parties. This camaraderie was particularly pronounced during the tenure of Jayalalithaa, where the partnership flourished. However, in recent times, the relationship has faced strains, exacerbated by the change in leadership within the BJP, with Annamalai taking the helm.

Over the past year, the BJP has been engaged in a campaign that the ADMK perceives as "deliberate, planned, and motivated defamation" of key party figures like CN Annadurai and Jayalalithaa, along with criticism of party policies. These actions have not been well-received and have added to the friction between the two

With the 2024 general elections on the horizon, both parties are reassessing their strategies and alliances. While the current state of affairs may seem like an upset, there is a possibility of a post-poll alliance between the two parties after the election results are revealed. Various tactics, including potential name changes, are being considered to ensure that both parties secure a larger vote share and make significant strides in Tamil Nadu politics, with Annamalai potentially bolstering the BJP's

A Jayanthi Subramaniam | Chennai

#### **NIPAH VIRUS ALERT**

Sir — The resurgence of the Nipah virus in Kerala is a cause of concern. This development demands swift and proactive measures from both the government and the public to prevent a potential crisis. The Nipah virus has resurfaced, and if not contained promptly, it could pose significant challenges for both the government and the Jahangir

#### **UP in the fast lane of development**



(RAW)

wish to draw attention to a remarkable transformation occurring in Uttar Pradesh, often regarded as one of the BIMARU states. The state has succeeded in attracting substantial investments from prominent corporate entities, marking a significant achievement for the most pop ulous state in our nation.

able theatrics.

The improvement in law and order and the extensive development of road infrastructure have played pivotal roles in enticing investors to Uttar Pradesh. The state has always had the advantage of abundant and cost-effective manpower. However, it is crucial to acknowledge that these are still early days, and sustained efforts from the state government will be required to build upon this newfound optimism and bring about a genuine transformation

The economic progress of Uttar Pradesh not only benefits the state itself but also bodes well for our country's overall economic growth and development.

Sir — Recently, BJP MP and one of the

primary accused in the case, Pragya

Singh Thakur, along with five other co-

accused, appeared before a special

National Investigation Agency (NIA)

court in Mumbai. They were sum-

moned to record their statements under

section 313 of the Criminal Procedure

Code (CrPC). This development follows

the prosecution's announcement on

September 14 that the process of record-

ing evidence in the case had been com-

pleted, and there was no further need to

examine prosecution witnesses in this 15-

near a mosque in Malegaon on September

29, 2008, resulted in nine fatalities and over

100 injuries, sparking panic in the minor-

ity-dominated town in Maharashtra's

Nashik district. The investigation has

seen involvement from multiple law

enforcement agencies over the years, with

The case, which involved a bomb blast

year-old terror strike case.

**MALEGAON BOMB BLAST CASE** 

Bal Govind | Noida

populace. ICMR DG has stated that the government is procuring 20 additional doses of monoclonal antibodies from Australia for treatment. Although this medicine has not yet been administered in India, it is crucial to provide it at the early stages of infection. Notably, 14 patients infected with the Nipah virus outside India have been treated with monoclonal antibodies, and all have survived. Nipah virus primarily spreads from bats to humans through intermediate hosts, such as pigs or other animals. Efforts to combat Nipah virus outbreaks involve rapid detection, isolation of infected individuals, and strict infection control measures. There is no specific antiviral treatment for the Nipah virus, but supportive care can improve the chances of survival.

Preventive measures include avoiding contact with sick animals, refraining from consuming raw date palm sap (a common source of infection), and using personal protective equipment when caring for infected patients. Vigilance, public health measures, and ongoing research are essential to managing and preventing future out-

Jahangir Ali | Mumbai

the NIA taking over in 2011. Bhagwan Thadani | Mumbai

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## **FIRST COLUMN**

### **HOW TO GET HELP** FROM GOD?

To begin with, accept the 'Karmaphala' principal' — "what we sow we reap"



AJIT KUMAR BISHNOI

e have to make suitable efforts to do that. God is unlike our parents, who are obliged to help, especially when we are quite young. In the case of God, we have to deserve His help. If it wasn't so, God would be obliged to help everyone. Even parents stop helping as children become self-supporting, except to guide, as required. Therefore, we have to get rid of this false impression that God will help no matter what. Yes, He will if we become deserving. In this article, I will detail some thirty ways we can successfully do that, and which

The first one has to be following dharma because it is most dear to God. God even incarnates to re-establish dharma. (The Bhagavad-Geeta 4.7) Dharma is the bedrock upon which the creation is based. Don't we know what social and other norms are? Then, we must not cross their 'Maryada' (limits). The second one is to be dutiful because this is the only right given to us. (2.47) Goodness must follow in our behaviour. We must be headed towards purity, as practised by yogis. (5.11) We should try to remember God because He is everything. (7.19) This will lead to 'dhyan' – the process of meditation.

Now I take up processes involving others. The first one has to be charity. All of us have something to spare, whether material objects or personal time. Human birth demands that we become useful to others. How else can the creation go on? We must help/serve others and others will do likewise.

The next group of acts are when we directly address God. The first one has to be praying, which comes to us naturally, whenever we are in trouble; even children pray when fearful. We should express our thanks if God responds. Shouldn't we be highly obliged? If God still does not respond, it is time to seek forgiveness and begin repenting for sins done in the past. Shouldn't we wonder about God's non-response and what we must do to deserve His help? Gradually, we must begin giving our minds and intelligence to God. What does this mean? Simply stated, God must be brought into our psyche; we must begin to think



By now we would have become numble enough to do 'namaskar to God giving up our highly bloated ego; visit a nearby temple to have 'darshan' of God. These places are generally highly charged with spiritual energy, which will help us to become God-conscious. We can begin worshipping God in our homes. We can begin by choosing a photo of God in whatever form attracts us the most; God has multiple forms. Similarly, we can start chanting God's name or mantra, whatever appeals to us. All these will lead to our becoming inquisitive about God's instructions, as detailed in bona fide scriptures like the Geeta. We can try to do whatever God wishes us to do (16.24), which will ensure God's pleasure. By now, we would have become highly deserving of God's help, because we in effect would have taken God's shelter.

This takes us to another level. God takes charge of our lives; He begins to use us as His 'nimitta' (instrument). Our lives will begin to become greatly fulfilling. God will get everything done and we will get credit. We will become very useful and highly satisfied. 'Tapasya' will begin to come naturally, which will qualify us for more gains, because in the spiritual domain also, the 'karmaphala principle' works, the only difference being: in this case our acts are spiritual. The word 'yogi' will no longer be a distant concept, we will become one. Sky is the limit then, as Sanjaya of the Mahabharata fame has described, "Where there is the yogeshwar Shri Krishna and where there is the archer Arjuna (in our case us), there will be 'saubhagya' (opulence), victory, wealth and definite principles (morality)".

(The writer is an educator, views are personal)

# Punjab is reeling under socio-economic distress



Without sustainable economic growth, local employment generation, and selfreliance, Punjab's well-being will continue to be a challenge



It's worrisome that Punjab only receives 45 paise for every rupee it contributes to the Centre's tax kitty. This is especially concerning when comparing it to states like UP and Bihar, which receive Rs 1.80 and Rs 1.20, respectively. This revenue-sharing disparity is a significant contributor to the socio-economic distress experienced by Punjab. As a landlocked border state, it's even more crucial for Punjab to overcome this fiscal distress since India's and Pakistan's bilateral trade also halted through the Wagah-Attari route majorly affected Punjab's economy only. The said cost-effective cross-border route can directly short-connect to Europe, a big potential to catalyse the Punjab economy as strong as the economy of Southern-Western States, because of near to seaports.

Being far away from the seaports is one of the major disadvantages that Punjab is struggling with, and has a crippling impact on industrial growth. Secondly, adjoining the sensitive Pakistan border not only halted the trade but Pakistan led to illegal arms supply and drug terror scuffed the social fabric and law and order of Punjab. Keeping these two major geographical disadvantages centre stage till any central government has not compensated Punjab as it faces odd challenges in comparison to other states. Not even a fair share of tax kitty given, the Rural Development Fund(RDF) and Mandi Fee of Rs 5337 crore have not been released for long. Thus, how long does a fiscally distressed state government alone take forward the most development and welfare-oriented expenditure?

When a state's economy weakens, its people and progress suffer together. This is evident in the current crisis in India-Canada relations, as Punjab's economic distress has led to a migration of its human resources to Canada. Unfortunately, this migration has created a breeding ground for radicals and anti-Indian khalistan extremist activities on Canadian soil, a globalised challenge that has gone unaddressed. The Canadian connection to khalistani is longstanding. Since the mid-80s, there has been a significant exodus of Punjabi youth to Canada, where they often expressed are personal)



WHEN A STATE'S

**ECONOMY** WEAKENS, ITS PEOPLE SUFFER. PUNJAB'S **ECONOMIC DISTRESS HAS** LED TO A MIGRATION OF ITS HUMAN RESOURCES TO CANADA

(The author is vicechairman of Sonalika group, vice-chairman of the Punjab Economic Policy and Planning Board, and chairman of ASSOCHAM Northern Region Development Council. Views

do odd jobs to sustain themselves. Unfortunately, some of these young people become prey to anti-India extremists.

It is not good to allow a lopsided economic development of a sensitive state like Punjab. It has its serious repercussions. If we fail to ensure holistic development, then we will be accused of inefficiencies in handling human resources. Unemployment is a multi-faceted problem exacerbating the distressed places associated with poorer men-tal health, crime and drug abuse. There is enough evidence of drug abuse and distress in the law-andorder situation, that an issue of brimming, can be ascribed directly to unemployment.

Punjab, which used to be a prosperous and progressive state even during its toughest time, is currently facing a significant problem of uncontrolled unemployment due to distressed farming and an imbalanced industrial base. This has resulted in Punjab's GDP growth rate dropping to 6%, which is lower than the national growth rate of 7.24% in 2022-23. Punjab is currently ranked at the 19th position, whereas it ranked first in GDP among the states in 1981 and fourth in 2001. Interestingly, UP and Bihar, which were once part of the economically sick states known as 'BIMARÚ' (Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Uttar Pradesh), are now fast-growing economies. UP achieved an impressive growth rate of 16.8%, with a GDP of Rs 20.48 lakh crore in 2022-23, while Bihar's growth rate was 10.98% with a GDP of Rs 7,45,310 crore.

It is crucial to acknowledge that Punjab has immense potential that should not be overlooked when compared to the Southern and Western states. Presently, Punjab's contribution to the country's tax kitty stands at approximately 3%, and it only receives 1.8% of

the divisible pool of taxes allocated by the Fifteenth Finance Commission. In contrast, the Western and Southern states contribute 67% to the central exchequer but only receive a meagre 3-4%. While their argument may appear valid, it is essential to consider that the Southern and Western states account for 53% of India's total factories and have the advantage of being closer to seaports, which can drive economic growth and result in more contributions to the central exchequer. Punjab's sluggish growth may dampen overall economic sentiments, but it still holds enormous potential for growth and contribution to the country's economy.

Undoubtedly, Punjab has the potential to contribute 10-15% as it possesses a strong capable and ate some kind of 'equalization' committed entrepreneurial spirit to among advantaged and disadvanovercome this economic distress. This spirit has been evident in the past when it overcame the challenges of the partition of India in 1947 and 13 years of militancy in the mid-80s to mid-90s. Within a few years of these events, Punjab was able to rehabilitate its economy and become the richest state in India in the 80s. Today, Punjab seeks a fair interface without any political interference to compete on a level playing field and strengthen its economy, ultimately reducing unemployment.

It is important to consider Punjab's significant contribution to national food security. However, the large areas and population figures of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar provide them with additional leverage from the central tax pool. It is concerning that Punjab only received 1.8% of the Rs 8,16,649 crore distributed by the centre to the states during 2022-23. In contrast, Uttar Pradesh received the highest share at 18% (Rs 1,46,525 crore) and Bihar received the second-highest share

at 10%. This highlights why Punjab and other states argue that they are not receiving a fair share of funds, despite contributing more to the

exchequer. During the fiscal year 2022-23, Punjab contributed a sum of Rs 32,800 crore to the central taxes fund, which included CGST, income tax, corporation tax, wealth tax, union excise duty, customs, and service tax. However, in return, the state only received Rs 14,756 crore. This has led to Punjab raising the issue with the Fifteen Finance Commission, as it believes it deserves a fair share of central tax. Despite its efforts, Punjab has been unable to secure an amendment to the Finance Act.

Constitutionally, the purpose of the finance commission is to cretaged states. From the point of view of equalization, the adoption of population figures as one of the criteria of devolution needs to be justified. Therefore, the constitution provides for a fair share of union revenue to be devolved to the states to address this issue.

#### The Way Forward:

In a federal structure, the central government needs to prioritise the improvement of economic conditions and livelihood prospects for the people of Punjab, which are facing unique challenges in comparison to other states.

It is crucial to take a comprehensive approach that ensures employment opportunities and social respect regardless of demographic and political differences. Without sustainable economic growth, local employment generation, and self-reliance, Punjab's well-being will continue to be a challenge, which is indispensable for the overall well-being of our

# Goat-rearing can be an excellent source of livelihood in rural Bihar

To provide livelihood, the government should provide adequate training and information to landless, marginal farmers about the goat farming schemes

Anita Devi, a 40-year-old resident of Hussainpur village, located about 65 kilometres from the Muzaffarpur district in Bihar, lost her husband two years ago. Left with no means to support her family of seven, including four daughters and two sons, she started goat farming to earn a livelihood. She faced criticism when she began rearing goats as a woman farmer. However, Anita resisted because her motivation to provide for her family kept her going. She had started with just two goats. Today, she has eight adult goats and 20 young ones. Goat rearing enabled her to protect her family and improve her financial



SIMRAN KUMARI

(The writers is a student

from ruralBihar; views

expressed are personal)

Alongside labour, agriculture-based employment like cattle, poultry, ducks, and goat farming is a crucial source of income, especially for economically disadvantaged individuals like landless, small-scale farmers, agricultural labourers, and socially oppressed individuals. According to the latest 2019 Livestock census, India has a population of 150 million goats, the second largest in the world. In around half a million remote villages, 70 million farmers are involved In the goat farming business. The primary income from Goat farming comes from milk, which has a production of about 42000 Kgs and meat production, which stands at

Like Anita Devi, Goat farming is an excellent means of self-employment for many rural women. Around rural areas in Muzaffarpur, many women earn their livelihoods through goat farming, becoming breadwinners for their families. 35-year-old Champa Devi, resident of the same village as Aninta, also supports her three daughters and two sons by raising

In other instances, older women in the village claim that their sons and daughters-in-law have stopped providing for them in their old age. These women have, therefore, started rearing 2-4 goats to earn a living. These women leave for the fields in the morning to their capital into it. Even Caste/Schedule Tribe and



graze their goats and only return in the evening.

Goat farming is a hard iob, especially during the monsoons. It can be a challenge to find adequate fodder for the goats. The farmers rely on bananas, bamboo, and Banyan leaves to keep the cattle alive. People invest after that, we see an increasing number of women who raise goats in the village. It has become a source of livelihood for many families.

Various non-governmental and government organisations run programs to strengthen the village economy through agriculture-based employment like cattle, poultry, ducks, and goat farming. The Bihar government provides subsidies up to 60% for promoting goat farming. Under the Integrated Goat and Sheep Scheme, there is a provision for subsidising ten goats plus one buck, and 40 goats and two bucks. The government also provides financial aid to disadvantaged communities like Scheduled

Other Backward Classes. These continuously disadvantaged groups get up to 60% subsidy, while the rest

In addition, the capital investment required for raising 20 goats with one buck is about two lakhs, and farmers can take a loan from the bank for this purpose. This process of approving loans goes through the Department of Animal Husbandry in consultation with the bank. After that, subsidies get deposited into the beneficiaries' bank accounts in two instalments. However, because of a lack of awareness, many rural families do not know these schemes, leading women

high interest rates to start goat farming. On top of that, due to their lack of training, It is difficult for farmers

to acquire high-quality

To promote livelihoods, the government should provide adequate training and information to landless, marginal farmers, and labourers about the goat farming schemes. Details about these schemes should be available in the Panchayat office or Gram Sabha. Ward members should be responsible for disseminating information about these programs to goat farmers. Only then women in vulnerable situations will be able to continue goat farming as a career and give farmers like Anita and themselves and their families Champa to take loans with a better future.

#### **Demand for EV chargers to** grow at 65% by 2030

he domestic demand for EV chargers is likely to grow at a CAGR of 65 per cent to reach the 3 million unit mark by 2030, according to a report. More than 17,000 units of electric vehicle (EV) chargers were sold in 2021, the joint report of Customized Energy Solutions(CES) and India Energy Storage Alliance (IESA) said. The Indian EV charger market is poised to expand at an

impressive CAGR of 65 per cent between 2022 and 2030 to achieve annual sales of 3 million units to meet the requirement of chargers to meet the national EV scenario (NEV) by 2030, the report titled 'India Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure & Battery Swapping Market Overview' said. The demand will be driven by government initiatives and private investments, it added. Rahul Walawalkar, founder and president, IESA, and MD of Customized Energy Solutions India, said: "India's electric revolution is gaining momentum at an astonishing pace"



#### **Amazon to tie up with more** banks for credit card offerings

Obal e-commerce giant Amazon is looking to tie-up with more banks for credit card offerings, as it sees high growth in the segment, a senior official said on Wednesday. At present, the company has a tie-up with ICICI Bank for a co-branded credit card as part of which over 42 lakh credit cards have been issued as of June 2023. " as we think about

expanding our credit offerings, we will absolutely look at whether we want to tie-up with more banks and also want to expand to more networks and (that is) something we are deliberating right now," Amazon Pay's whole-time director Vikas Bansal told reporters here. He said the bank looks at "trends and customer problems" on a continuous basis, and also added that there is a "strong interest" among small businesses to own a credit card. ICICI Bank had reported a 45 per cent jump in its credit card portfolio for the June quarter.



#### Rupee snaps two-day fall, recovers 6 paise against US\$

he rupee on Wednesday staged a recovery after two days of steep losses to end 6 paise higher at 83.22 (provisional) against the US dollar on positive cues from domestic equity markets. However, selling pressure from foreign equity investors amid elevated levels of American currency and surging crude oil prices weighed on the local unit, forex traders said.

At the interbank foreign exchange, the domestic unit opened at 83.23 and traded in a narrow range of 83.18 to 83.24 against the greenback. It finally settled at 83.22 (provisional), registering a gain of 6 paise from its previous close. The rupee lost 34 paise in the past two sessions. It closed 15 paise lower at 83.28 against the dollar on Tuesday, a day after registering a decline of 19 paise. The downward movement of the rupee was attributed to a strengthening dollar amid a record rise in US Treasury yields



#### High standards to help India become developed economy by 2047: Goyal

PNS NEW DELHI

Food and Consumer Affairs Minister Piyush Goyal on Wednesday said high-quality standards in products and services will help India achieve its ambition of becoming a developed economy by 2047.

He also stressed that "standards must support creating robust enforcement ecosystem and that they are developed after extensive consultation with all stakeholder groups".

Addressing the onboarding

workshop for Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) technical committee members at the National Institute for Training in Standardization (NITS), Goyal said standards are a cornerstone of domestic trade and export, a facilitator of innovation and efficiency contributing towards national growth. As members of technical committees formulating Indian Standards, they have an enormous responsibility to ensure that standards embed the principles of sustainability, facilitate the fight against counterfeit goods and support MSMEs and startups to become more competitive, he said in a statement.

# **Onus with private sector to** lead country on growth path

The government is facilitating holistic development but the onus lies on the private sector to lead the country on a sustainable growth trajectory, NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Suman Bery said on Wednesday.

The private sector contributes 40 per cent of Research and Development (R&D) in the country, while its share in developed countries is 70 per cent, Bery said, while addressing an event organised by the Public Affairs Forum of India (PAFI).

"If we are to transit from the middle income trap, the private sector needs to enhance its contribution to R&D through its own investments and under corporate social responsibility," the NITI Aayog VC said.

The onus is on the private sector to lead us on a sustainable growth trajectory, Bery said. He said the relationship between the public and private sectors needs to be redefined in the Amrit Kaal, to lead the country to a path of sustainable growth. Bery further said that

The relationship between the public and private sectors needs to be redefined in the Amrit Kaal, to lead the country to a path of sustainable growth. Bery further said that India's takeoff moment has arrived, backed by the advantage of having the world's largest working population and resilient physical and digital institutions.

India's take-off moment has arrived, backed by the advantage of having the world's largest working population and resilient physical and digital institutions.

'This is India's take-off moment... 1/5th of humanity will have rising living standards," he said.

"India is on the move, there is no doubt about it... India has the largest working age population in the world, (and) resilient physical and digital institutions," he said.

Bery also pointed at the need to address significant challenges, including managing urbanisation, making regulations consistent and continuous, and adapting to disruptive technologies.

Noting that India has the advantage of having the largest arable land and the highest population of bovine animals, Bery said the issue of raising agricultural productivity and having opportunities for displaced labour is a big chal-

#### Travel, tourism sector sees 44% jump in hiring

PNS MUMBAI

With the country witnessing a boom in the travel and tourism sector, the industry saw a 44 per cent growth in hiring demand in August, compared to the same month last year, a report said on Wednesday.

This optimistic growth can be attributed to increased disposable incomes and higher spending on leisure and business travel in the country, a report by foundit (formerly Monster APAC & ME)

Pre-pandemic trends indicate that the travel and tourism sector experienced a robust 16 per cent growth in 2019, however, with the pandemic-related disruptions, travel restrictions and lockdowns, there was a 47 per cent fall in job postings in 2020 and 27 per cent dip in

While the industry began to bounce back with a marginal 3 per cent growth in hiring in 2022, it has dramatically recovered this year, as people regained confidence in travel, the report stated.

#### **CENTRE TO BANKS**

# Depute doorstep executives to help bedridden pensioners

PNS NEW DELHI

The Centre has asked all pension disbursing banks to depute doorstep executives to help bedridden and hospitalised pensioners submit their life certificates.

An order issued by the Department of Pension and Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW) also asked all banks to create awareness about the convenience of obtaining the life certificate digitally by using the face authentication technology by super senior pensioners

(those aged 80 and above). All pensioners have to give a life certificate (proof that they are alive) annually to continue receiving pension. There are about 69.76 lakh central government pensioners.

In view of the digital life certificate through face authentication technology, it is now possible for every citizen to submit a digital life certificate (DLC) either from home using an Android smartphone or at



the bank branch, said the order dated September 25.

"It is suggested that all banks may utilise the various platforms for creating awareness of the convenience of obtaining a life certificate by using the face authentication technology," it said. Banks can facilitate the submission of life certificates by deputing doorstep banking executives, said the order.

They can widely publicise the methodology for submitting DLC by pasting information posters at branches and ATMs, it added. Banks may send SMS/emails/WhatsApp messages to the pensioner with a link to the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for face authentication to empower the super senior pensioner to submit their life certificate through face authentication technology using their

Android phone, the order said.

The DoPPW has also asked the banks to circulate the SOP on DLC through face authentication via email among their concerned officials to enable them to get familiar with the

## Sensex rebounds on buying & positive trends



PNS MUMBAI

Benchmark Sensex rebounded from early lows to settle higher by 173 points on Wednesday following buying in Reliance Industries, Larsen & Toubro and ITC and positive trends in Asian and European markets.

The 30-share BSE Sensex rose by 173.22 points or 0.26 per cent to settle at 66,118.69 with 20 of its components ending in the green and 10 closing lower.

The index opened lower and fell further to a low of 65,549.96 in morning trade. However, buying in Reliance, L&T, Infosys and Maruti helped it recover losses. Later, it jumped 226.8 points or 0.34 per cent to a high of 66,172.27.

The Nifty gained 51.75 points or 0.26 per cent to end at 19,716.45. It moved between a low of 19,554 and a high of 19,730.70 in day trading. Among the Sensex firms,

Under Urjit Patel, the then RBI

Governor, the central bank had

a habit of making complete

about-turns on various issues,

including electoral bonds and

digital payments, former

finance secretary Subash

Chandra Garg said in his book

titled 'We Also Make Policy: An

Insider's Account of How the

Citing some instances of

about-turns by the then RBI

Governor Patel, Garg in his

book said, RBI had done so on

the electoral bond issue and it

Finance Ministry Functions.'

PNS NEW DELHI

Larsen & Toubro, ITC, Sun Pharma, Maruti, Reliance Industries, Axis Bank, IndusInd Bank and Hindustan

Titan, State Bank of India, ICICI Bank, HDFC Bank, Tata Steel and Nestle were the major laggards.

Unilever were among the gain-

The market inched higher in the second half, driven by positive openings in European markets. Concerns about global interest rates and elevated oil prices are being balanced by several domestic factors, such as promising economic growth prospects and the potential for strong earnings, which validate the premium valuation, said Vinod Nair, Head of Research at Geojit Financial Services.

Persistent outflows of foreign funds and rising US bond yields are expected to keep the broader indices in bleak terrain, in the near term, Nair

(PRB). RBI also made unilater-

al decisions like ordering com-

plete data localization for par-

ticipation in the payment sys-

tem, Garg wrote in the book

which will hit the stands on

RBI that the report (on PRB)

was unanimous. If there was any

dissent, it should have been

made before the report was

finalized. We would have glad-

ly included the dissent note as

part of the report and provid-

ed a rejoinder to the points

However, claiming inaccu-

raised by RBI," the book read.

"We humbly pointed out to

October 1.

#### **SIG** to invest 100 mn euro on **Gujarat plant**

PNS AHMEDABAD

Leading packaging solutions provider SIG expects India to be among the top ten markets globally and will invest 878.8 crore) to set up its first plant here, its CEO Samuel Sigrist said on Wednesday.

The company, which entered into the Indian market in 2018, has witnessed a "phenomenal growth" here, and expects it to "play a very important role for us going forward", he added.

sumption, he said. When asked whether India would figure in its top 10 markets in mid-terms (around 5 years) Sigrist said: Easily. Our five-year CAGR for the packaged dairy business is in kind of the high teens, around 15-17 per cent".

"We normally outgrow the market. We are the new entrant and the growth opportunity here is amazing. Îndia will, over time, become a very, very sizable market price set. We are super excited," he added. However, he said, currently, India is small right now but is growing at a fast pace. Moreover, with the new plant and growth of the beverage industry in India, it would scale up.

We humbly pointed out to RBI that

If there was any dissent, it should

have been made before the report

was finalized. We would have gladly

included the dissent note as part of

the report and provided a rejoinder to

certain recommendations of

the committee, RBI posted a

dissent note on its website by

way of a press release on 19

October 2018, it said.

the points raised by RBI.

the report (on PRB) was unanimous.

It is quite encouraged by the growth of the beverage industry in India, coupled with factors like the growing economy, income of the people and packed food con-

# 'Seeds available for Rabi season 20.70% higher than requirement'

PNS ■ NEW DELHI

The availability of seeds for sowing in the 2023-24 rabi (winter) season for crops like wheat is estimated to be 159.03 lakh quintal, 20.70 per cent higher than the country's overall requirement, according to

The overall seeds requirement is estimated to be 131.75 lakh quintal for the 2023-24 rabi season. Sowing of rabi crops begins from October, while harvesting

is the main rabi crop. As per the ministry's data, the availability of wheat seeds is estimated to be 123.43 lakh quintal, as against the requirement of 102.63 lakh quintal for the rabi season of this year. The availability of sorghum

would be 1.04 lakh quintal for requirement of 0.74 lakh quintal. In case of rabi pulses, the availability of chickpea seeds would be 25.04 lakh quintal, as from October, while harvesting starts from March/April. Wheat against the requirement of 21.38 lakh quintal, while the seeds



supply of black gram would be 1.49 lakh quintal, as against 1.14 lakh quintal in the said season.

The availability of lentil seeds is pegged at 2.88 lakh quintal during the rabi season

of this year, as against the requirement of 2.29 lakh quintal, while green gram seeds supply would be 1.45 lakh quintal, as against the requirement of 0.94 lakh quintal. As far as rapeseed-mustard

seeds is concerned, the availability would be 3.70 lakh quintal during the rabi sea against the requirement of 2.63 lakh quintal. The agriculture ministry has urged farmers to go for climate resilient crops during the rabi season amid the challenges of climate change.

# **Moody's downgrades Vedanta Resources**

PNS NEW DELHI

Moody's Investors Service has downgraded the rating of Vedanta Resources Ltd because of the elevated risk of debt restructuring over the next few months, as the firm has not made progress on refinancing its upcoming debt maturities.

Moody's said it has downgraded to Caa2 from Caa1, the corporate family rating (CFR) of Vedanta Resources Limited (VRL). At the same time, Moody's has maintained a negative outlook.

The downgrade reflects the elevated risk of debt restructuring over the next few months because VRL has not made any meaningful progress on refinancing its upcoming debt maturities, in particular the USD 1 billion bonds maturing each in January 2024 and



August 2024," said Kaustubh Chaubal, a Moody's Senior Vice President and lead analyst on VRL. VRL's credit quality is constrained by its weak liquidity because of large refinancing needs and interest expenses amid tightening financing conditions in global capital markets, the agency noted.

The company continues to face challenges in refinancing its debt, a reflection of reduced appetite from the lending community, and a key credit concern," the rating agency said.

"VRL's Caa category CFR reflects the company's unsustainable capital structure,

These recommendations had

the potential to transform the

payment architecture, infra-

structure and institutional

arrangements in the country.

Though RBI is acting upon

some of the recommendations

made, India still has not insti-

tutionalized a good experimen-

tal regulatory sandbox," it said.

Recently, in a paper issued by RBI, it said, it proposed open-

ing up the payment space to

NBFCs and other private enti-

with reserves of the central

bank for transfering it to the

Patel's reluctance to part ways

aggressive risk appetite and weak financial management. In August 2023, VKL sold a

4.3 per cent stake in key subsidiary Vedanta Limited (VDL) for around USD 500 million to stave off some of the pressure arising from the holding company's imminent cash needs.

"Ġiven that its entire shareholding in VDL and that VDL's entire 64.9 per cent shareholding in Hindustan Zinc Limited (HZL), which holds around two-thirds of the group's consolidated cash, have already been pledged, this implies VRL has limited financial flexibility to raise financing," the rat-

ing agency said.

Moody's said a softening commodity price environment will somewhat strain the ability of VRL's operating subsidiaries to generate cash

Modi to compare him with a

'snake who sits over a hoard of

money'. Garg, who served as

Economic Affairs Secretary

between June 21, 2017 and July

25, 2019, also served as the

finance secretary to the govern-

ment of India, dealt with the politics of deciding the mini-

mum support price (MSP) to

farmers, introducing electoral bonds, recapitalizing banks and

monetizing six airports, among

However, the most con-

tentious and talked about issue

during his tenure was relation-

ship between the Mint Street

and North Block which houses

others.

#### Power Grid Corporation inks MoU with AIIMS Raipur to provide medical equipment

**PNS** ■ RAIPUR

Power Grid Corporation of India on Wednesday signed a memorandum of understanding with All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) Raipur for providing medical equipment and an ambulance worth Rs 15.50 crore to the institute.

PGCIL will provide Rs 15.50 crore for procuring one CT Scan Machine and ambulance, recovery cum patient shifting trolleys, foldable wheelchairs and e-rickshaws through its CSR funds, AIIMS Raipur Public Relations Officer S S Sharma said. PGCIL hopes that it will give immense relief to patients in terms of the wait-

ing period for a CT scan after the

new machine is installed. PUBLIC HEALTH &

MUNICIPAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT 'e' - Procurement Notice 'e'-Procurement Notice No. 430/ TUFIDC/Madhira /2023-24

Dt: 26-09-2023 Works in Madhira Municipality - 3 works Estimated cost Rs 430.00 Lakhs, Download start date 30-09-2023 and Download end dates 9-10-2023. Further details can be een @www.tender.telangana.gov.in

Unit-I, TUFIDC, Warangal R.O. No.:999-DP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2023-2/

Sd/- Dist. Panchayat Raj Engineer

# Under Urjit, RBI had a habit of making complete about-turns

GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA ROADS & BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT E-Procurement Notice

E-Procurement Notice
Online tenders are invited under e-procurement platform in Khammam
District under Non PLAN (MDR) in (R&B) Department vide ENC® NIT No.
2023/ENC(R)KMM/EE(R)/DEE 6/AEE/2023-24 Dt. 26-09-2023 for an estimate amount of Rs. 4.96 Crores. (i) 5 road works under Non-plan in Khammam District. Z. Tenderers can download the tender schedule from e-market place i.e.

www.eprocurement.gov.in. The last date of receipt of tenders is on or
before 05-10-2023 upto 3.30 PM.

Sd- Engineer-in-Chief (R&B)

R.O. Mo.: 655-OPICL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2023-24

State Roads & CRN

#### GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA Panchayat Raj Engineer, PIU Yadadri Bh SHORT TENDER NOTICE

HQ/16/2023-24, Dated: 26-09-2023. Tenders are invited by the undersigned for total - 150 Number of works in Yadadri Buranagiri District, Sanctioned under Various Grants with **Total Estimate cost: Rs. 1477.00 Lakhs.,** last date of receipt of application: **03-10-2023** up to 05.00 PM., Tender schedules will be issued 04.10.2023 upto 05.00 PM., Date of receipt of tenders: 05.10.2023 upto 03.00 PM. Date of opening of tenders: 05.10.2023 at 03.30 PM. Further details can be had from the undersigned.

Sett. Dist. Panchavat Rei Fagineer

DP9 R.D. No.: 581-0P/D,-AGENCHADVT/12023-24, Date: 27-08-2923

#### GOVERNMENT OF TELANGANA ROADS & BUILDINGS DEPARTMENT TENDER NOTICE

Engineer-in-Chief (R&B) State Roads: 2324/WGL/ENC (R&B)/DCE/R/JEE-R/DEE-4/AEE1/0023, Dt-26.89.2023 Online tenders are invited under e-procurement platform for the following works under SDF, 1) Hanumakonda Dist, 2 Nos., Amount Rs. 1240 lakhs. 2) Warangal District. 3 Nos. Amount Rs. 2200 lakhs. Total 5 works Rs. 3440 Lakhs. Tenderers can download the tender schedules from e-market place further details at https://tenders.telangana.gov.in. The last date is 04-10-2023 upto 3,30 PM.

R.O. No.: 668-DP/CL-AGENCY/ADVT/1/2023-24 State Roads & CRN

mendations of the inter-minis-The 2007 PSS law remains government of India prompted had so in case of setting up of rately that its representative Payments Regulatory Board had submitted a dissent note on unamended. The government terial group that I headed. the Prime Minister Narendra the Finance Ministry

has still not notified the PRB as

created by the Finance Act

take any action on the recom-

"The government did not

# the pioneer aerabaa

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Thursday September 28, 2023



**Empowering** community on cyber safety



PNS| HYDERABAD

THIS WEEK FOR OUR **WEEKLY EDITION OF** COMMUNITY WISE, WE **BRING TO YOU ABOUT THE QUICK HEAL** FOUNDATION, WHICH AIMS TO PRIORITISE **AWARENESS AS THE PRIMARY TOOL TO TACKLE** CYBERCRIME.

ry objectives, we have been working in the public health space ever since the Quick Heal Foundation is inception. Under our Arogya Yan initiative, we donate state-of-the-art, driven by its purpose of securing futures by enabling comfully equipped medical vans to NGOs operating in the rural areas of the their programs are designed to be in country," informs Anupama Katkar, line with the United Nations the chairperson of the foundation. Sustainable Development Goals to Post-pandemic they observed that create a better India with better there was a marked increase in menopportunities for all. Their key focus tal trauma of underprivileged stuareas are cybersecurity awareness and dents coming from slum areas. They better healthcare for all. In this

then under their program, 'Arogyam Mansampada', proactively designed process, they also work to enhance employability and conducted a 3-hour long through soft skills trainsession to address anxiety, stress, trauma phobia, and other problems ing.
"Our Cyber Shiksha including lack of attenfor Cyber Suraksha

program aims to cretion and concentration. 'The true impact of ate awareness in society through street our initiatives comes in plays, workshops, and a non-tangible form, webinars for students comprising a multitude of emotions like security, across India. Furthermore, under our program Earn and empowerment, self-awareness, gratitude, and above all, joy. We couldn't ask for anything beyond Learn we train and motivate the volunteers to spread cyber security awareness amongst schools and colmaking cybersecurity a fundamental right for all while being carried forleges. We have organized workshops for underprivileged sections of society, like street vendors educating ward to even the remotest corners of the country, and the smiles that we get to see on the faces of people who benefit from our health and educathem on how to minimize risks on the internet. We have included all our employees, partners, schools & unitional programs." versities, local police, authorities, state administrations, and corporates across the country. We proac-

In tangible terms, they take pride in having touched the lives of more than 4 lakh rural residents and 448 tively spread awareness of cyber members of President Protected threats through e-learning on our website, social media, and PR cam-Tribes. They have donated 15 vans so far in 10 different states of India covpaigns. Since creating better access to ering 600+ remotely located villages.

healthcare is also one of our prima-

Besides, "The easiest way to safeguard vourself from malicious attacks is to install a good anti-virus solution and to activate your firewall. It keeps you protected from viruses, malware, and rootkits. It is advised to always keep the security software undated applying the latest patches that are sent to your system to block and prevent new emerging threats. In a bid to educate the community at large on how to identify, report, and mitigate threats online, we have designed an e-booklet that is available on our website in multiple languages. Under one amongst many of our CSR programs, we conduct street plays and work closely with local administrations, NGOs, Universities, and Police to educate the marginalized sections of society on cyber safety. We have also organized workshops for underprivileged sections of society, like street vendors educating them on how to minimize risks on the internet."

The government's vision of 'New India' is more digital, self-sufficient, connected, and ambitious. With the country's internet user base growing and internet penetration increasing by the day, it is extremely important for robust steps to be taken at the policymaking level in order to increase cyber literacy in the country. It is important to foster cyber safety as a culture, empowering everybody in the organization and value chain with cyber safety education. It is also imperative for responsible industry stakeholders to join forces to spread awareness of safe digital practices to vulnerable communities at large.

# Compelling acting craft and emotional depth

TEJAL SINHA

Popularly known for his role in *Bazaar* along with Saif Ali Khan, actor Rohan Vinod Mehra is currently getting all the much-deserved love for his recent stint in Kaala. And yes, now he's the talk of the

Rohan, who plays the character of Subhendu Mukherjee, is the son of the well-known actor Vinod Mehra. Enjoying the love and admiration for his role that he has gotten, he described his character's journey as nothing short of an "immense roller coaster of emotions," which according to him was also one of the factors that made him very thrilled to portray the role.

Rohan plays three different characters, of different age groups. However, according to him, "Playing the old man was difficult but I think the prep that

Bejoy and I had done, we had done a lot of prep for the character to understand who he in was, who were the people was around him. Once we got into the sets, we were all prepared to take on and shoot this character. It definitely was challenging and required a lot of efforts from my part and a lot of preparations were shown?

Something that he looked for in the script he says was how emotional the role would be! When I first started reading the character and script, I thought that the role is definitely emotional but there's different elements to it. During the journey, when I was finding Subhendu and the truth in the scenes, I kept coming back to such a strong emotion of love, and the emotion for why this man is doing what he does. So that surprised me a lot about the character and the journey he took," he shares adding, "One thing that he really got to learn was doing a character that you can connect on an emotional and an instinctive level. It is the best way, and quite assuring as an actor because now that I see how the show is being loved so much, it's just so fulfilling. The character with whom you relate the most in the future will be the most fun to play since they will motivate you to move on." The series also takes you on

a rollercoaster ride of emotions and will give you shivers down your spine as you watch it. In a world where power, revenge, and wealth rule, the way to succeed in life often involves a complex maze of lies and clever tricks. Recalling at the most challenging scene to shoot, he shares, "It was definitely the army scene, the action part of the show because we had the location for a certain amount of

time and we were shooting on a real location. We had to get all of the aspects perfect. Everything had to be in sync to make it look realistic. We had to take multiple takes just for the choreography of the scene. My character in that particular scene, there was a lot of running. It was definitely demanding and you also had to make sure you don't lose the emotional connect of the scene."

To him, the most rewarding part of working on the series, he says, "Having to work with Bijoy. The trust and the freedom he gives you as an actor bring the life and soul of a lot of you into the character. He does not make any judgment on his part of the director. He always tried to figure out how are we doing the scenes, how the character was, and what decisions the character would "The character affected me a lot

thing in West Bengal, Kolkata, and Siliguri. My scenes were completely different as compared to the rest of the cast in terms of story and timeline. It was not like coming home to family and friends after the shoot. We were in a lot of isolated locations and there were not really network signals. It was lonely in that way. It was all about your character and what you're doing the next day. I'm not as lonely as my character in real life but I love to have my alone time and do things on my own," signs off the budding actor, who will next be seen playing another different character in Adbhut, starring alongside Nawazuddin Siddiqui.

Enrapturing hearts

well because we shot the whole





# SECOND-HAND SMOKE CAN RESULT HEARING LOSS IN YOUR KID

hen you breathe in other people's tobacco smoke (unintentionally or otherwise), it is called second-hand smoke wise), it is called second-hand smoke affects the lungs and heart and can cause cancer but the negative doesn't stop here. Second-hand or passive smoking can also cause hearing loss or passive smoking. Second-hand smoke exposure results from mainstream or side-stream smoking. Side-stream smoke is produced while burning tobacco items, such as cigarettes, cigars, or pipes. Mainstream smoke is exhaled by a nearby smoker. Both sources emit airborne hazardous substances that have an impact on nonsmokers.

We have heard a lot about passive smoking being more harmful than direct smoking. However, we are only limited to knowing that be it direct smoking or second-hand smoking, it

which especially applies to children because their lungs are still undergo-ing vital stages of development, making them more susceptible to the harmful effects of second-hand smoke exposure. Even parents who deliberately limit their smoking to the outdoors unintentionally subject their children to the harmful chemicals that pervade the air.

Smoking is associated with decreased oxygen levels and increased blood viscosity, which can harm the fragile cochlear hair cells and result in probable hearing loss in

children. More than 4,000 different compounds are found in secondhand smoke, also known as environmental tobacco smoke in science.

Living with a smoker doubles the risk of hearing loss in nonsmokers. Your chance of having hearing loss increases with the number of cigarettes you smoke on average each day. Smoking during pregnancy increases a child's chance of having speechlanguage issues. It increases the likelihood of developing noise-induced hearing loss if you spend a lot of time near loud noise at work. Teenagers who are exposed to secondhand smoke have a two to three times higher risk of developing hearing loss, and they sometimes aren't even aware of

it. Infants and children with hearing loss who are not treated may experience substantial delays in speech and language development. The consequences include academic setbacks and socialization issues, highlighting the critical need to protect kids from the harmful effects of secondhand smoke. Quitting smoking will eliminate the source of exposure and foster a healthy atmosphere for the future of our children, which is the most efficient remedy for this urgent

(The author Dr. Rohit Bhatia, MBBS, MS, (ENT Specialist) is the Director, Cochlea Advanced Surgical Center at Lucknow.)



# what's brewing?





Actress Kritika Roy, along with the directors of IFS International Fashion School, graced the celebrations of its 3rd-year graduation fashion show and presented the students with certificates and mementos.

























#### **ARCHIE**









## **CALVIN AND HOBBES**





SPEED BUMP





#### **GARFIELD**

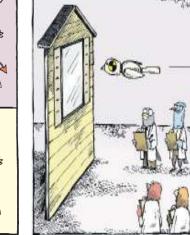




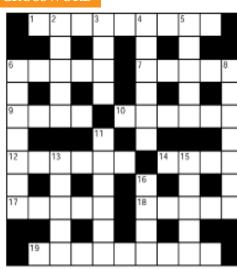


# WHIMAND 4-2 BADMINTON 600DMINTON

REALITY CHECK



# CROSSWORD







#### **GINGER MEGGS**







#### **SUDOKU**

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

#### Rules

 Each row and column can contain each number (1 to 9) exactly once.

• The sum of all numbers in any row or column must equal 45.

#### ACROSS

- 1 People who carve statues
- 6 Use your brain
- 7 Straps held by a jockey
- 9 Not difficult 10 Say again
- 12 Put this sachet in a teapot
- 14 This insect flies at night
- 17 The number of sides on an octagon
- 18 A round thing with spokes 19 Know by sight

#### DOWN

- 2 Strips of fried potato
- 3 Find pleasant
- 4 Changed direction 5 Lift up



6 Watch plays here

carrying books

skin 13 Have a quarrel

15 Follows orders

8 A soft type of bag for

11 A design pricked into

16 A graceful water bird

## **SAIEE MANJREKAR**

DANCING ON THE with the project, **ROCKY TERRAINS** FOR SKANDA WAS A TEST FOR ME

he month of September is drawing to a close, and it is the time when the entertainment industry gears up for a grand finale, releasing some highly anticipated films. Skanda among the lined-up releases, promises an entertaining cinematic

Let's delve into the exclusive interview with one of the leading ladies Saiee Manjrekar, as she's set to hit the screens and captivate audiences in this final week

"Skanda's whole set-up is actually really good. To cast Ram Pothineni was nothing short of eminence. We did trial after trial to get my look right, it's very important for an actress. But yes, somewhere down the line I would love to move away from doing the roles of just romantic interests," shared the Major

Our cinema is a mirror that reflects time. So she's okay with not playing a decorative subject always, and rather become a strong force in the cinema. Thus far, "This doesn't mean the romantic interests I have played weren't solid, they were. In the movie Major-I had so much to do even as a wife. My style of acting has changed for Skanda. I have gone a step

*Skanda* is an action-packed entertainer directed by the illustrious Boyapati Srinu. The film, produced by Srinivasa Chitturi, is all set to premiere on September 28. But the protagonist spilled her guts out a little bit more, "We shot the popular song of the movie in the fields. Bits and pieces of it at the waterfall too! So dancing on such rocky terrains was a test for me. We were shooting in Mysore,

and then on and off Hyderabad. As soon as our dance sequences used to finish, and cut to all of us gobbling down the local food of Mysore. The restaurants at Mysore were

really cool.

sits down with *The* **Pioneer** over an exclusive chat about

Skanda, going a step ahead in acting

A unique aspect of Skanda all of them will be seen in distinctive roles, promising a thrilling cinematic experience for their fans and the actress continues, "As a director and actor himself, my father is really happy with my filmography in South. The feedback is also getting better! Then Ram and I bonded over food and travelling a lot when in Hyderabad together. I always saw him taking care of the crew members as much as he could. Now when comparisons are being drawn between Sreeleela and myself, we can't be the same. Even after bagging so many projects, she continues with her hard work and has a very pleasant personality off-screen. I would love to have the mass popularity though. In fact, I even admire Keerthy Suresh's line-up. And I am not



The Malayalam film 2018: Everyone Is A Hero, which stars Tovino Thomas and Kunchacko Boban, has been selected to represent India as the country's official entry at the 96th Academy Awards, by the Film Federation of India

on Wednesday. Hereafter, the film will compete in the Oscars if it is selected by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences for the final nomination list.

> stories of humanity overcoming the adversity set against the backdrop of the 2018 floods that devastated parts of Kerala. Tovino Thomas essays the role of a young man in the film who leaves the Indian Army with a fake medical certificate

> > during the floods.

The film narrates the

The film also stars Asif Ali, Lal, Narain, Kunchacko Boban and Aparna Balamurali in prominent roles.

Reacting to the news, actor Tovino Thomas said, "Being chosen as India's official entry for the Oscars is truly an incredible recognition for our film. It's not just a moment of pride for me as an actor, but for the entire team that poured their heart and soul into this project. 2018 is a reflection of the resilience and indomitable spirit of the people of Kerala in the face of one of the most devastating natural disasters of

our time". He further mentioned, "Through the film, we aim to remind everyone that amidst the chaos and destruction, there is always a glimmer of hope, and it's the human spirit that shines the brightest. This nomination serves as a shining example of our collective efforts, and I am hopeful that it will resonate with the and redeems himself international audience, just

2018: Everyone Is A Hero is one of the highest grossers of Malayalam cinema and clashed at the ticket windows with The Kerala Story - the Hindi film incidentally set on its soil. The makers of 2018: Everyone Is A Hero even went on to market the Malavalam film as the 'Real' Kerala story and not the Hindi film which received the flak from a section of audience for

staging a propaganda.
2018: Everyone Is A Hero in fact finds a mention in the top

three highest-grossing Malayalam films of all time.
Produced by Venu Kunnappilly, C. K. Padmakumar, and Anto Joseph, 2018: Everyone is a Hero is directed by Jude Anthany Joseph. The film is also available to stream on Sony LIV.

The 96th Oscars for films released in 2023 will be held on March 10, 2024, in Los



# VD-Mrunal starrer VD13 completes half of its shoot

Tijay Deverakonda's movie with director Parasuram Petla went on the floors in July. Producers Dil Raju and Shirish on Wednesday revealed that the shoot of the untitled film has been completed to the tune of 50%. The short of the sankranthi slot due to the release of Salaar on December 22 this year. Cinematographer KU Mohanan of Maharshi fame and Geetha Govindam composer Gopius on the movie. AS Prakash (cut director) Morthand K Venketsek (editor)

Starring *Sita Ramam* actress Mrunal Thakur as the female lead, the film is firmly on its way to being released in theatres for Sankranthi 2024. The reiteration by Sri Venkateswara Creations comes in the wake of rumours that Nani's Hi Nanna and Venkateshs Saindhav might choose

Sunder are working on the movie. AS Prakash (art director), Marthand K Venkatesh (editor)

and others are working on the project.

Besides this project, the *Kushi* actor is also doing a film with *Jersey* director Gowtam Tinnanuri. He will also be teaming up with Di Raju on a film to be directed by Ravi Kiran Kola of 'Raja Vaaru Rani Vaaru' fame.

## 'If anyone finds MAD a lesser comedy than Jathi Ratnalu, we'll refund their ticket'

Fortune Four Cinemas, will be released in theatres on October 6. Narne Nithin, Sangeeth Shoban, and Ram Nithin are joined by Sri Gouri Priya Reddy, Ananthika Sanilkumar and Gonikaa Udyan to headline this college campus comedy.

At an event on Tuesday, producer S Naga Vamsi promised that MAD will leave the audience in splits. "If anyone from the audience found MAD a lesser comedy compared with *Jathi Ratnalu*, we will refund their ticket amount, said the producer, known for films like Bheemla Nayak. The producer assured everyone that there is nothing vulgar about the comedy. "If,

AD, produced by on the release day, anybody finds even a single line crass, they can question me," Naga Vamsi said.

Meanwhile, Narne Nithin, who is Jr NTR's brother-inlaw shared, "It was my sister Haarika who asked me to check out Nithin's profile. I liked him. Tarak garu didn't say anything in particular before the start of this film. He just asked me to do a good film with Nithin," Naga Vamsi revealed. Nithin later added that there is so much to learn from his 'bava'. "I have always wanted to become an actor. Even as a child, I had that strong desire. After my sister's marriage, that desire only became intense. I am glad that

I am debuting with a movie like *MAD*," he said.

'This is a mad fun film that is definitely not about the dreams and aspirations of Engineering undergrads. This is a pure entertainer, a noholds-barred one at that," said director Kalvan Shankar. "I am hoping that MAD will bring me commercial success and also respect. The three male besties will make you laugh and also move you. You will be reminded of your best friend after you watch *MAD*. You will want to call him or her as you walk out of the theatre."

The makers will hold early paid premiers from October 3 in cities like Hyderabad if the content is ready by then.



### Filmmakers shower praises for Kumari Srimathi

reators of the upcoming
Telugu comedy drama
Kumari Srimathi, which
exclusively premieres on Prime video from today, recently held a special screening of one episode of the series for media episode of the series for media and friends from the industry. Filmmakers like Nandini Reddy and Hanu Raghavapudi, along with the cast including Talluri Rameswari, Prem Sagar, Nirupam, Mahesh Achanta and Praneeta Patnaik, director Gomtesh Upadhye, producer Swapna Dutta and Manish Meghani Director and Head Swapna Dutta and Manish Meghnani, Director and Head Content Licensing, Prime Video, graced the blue carpet. At the end of the screening, all attendees gave a thunderous applause, appreciating the engaging narrative, humorous

storyline, and sincere performances delivered by the ensemble cast of the series.

Set in a village in East Godavari, the series hilariously encapsulates the tribulations in the life of a 30-year-old woman (played by Menen), who challenges stereotypes in a small town riddled with a small town riddled with antiquity. The seven-episode series is produced by Early Monsoon Tales, a web division of Vyjanyanthi Entertainments with a legacy of 50 years, and directed by Gomtesh Upadhye.

Kumari Srimathi will exclusively premiere in India and 240 countries and territories worldwide on Prime Video on September 28 in Telugu, with dubs in Hindi, Tamil, and Malayalam.

# Dochevarevarura to stream on Aha from September 29





Pakala is pro-

viding music

Srinath

for this movie.

ent concept, which will impress the audience.

Actor Rohit Nanda speaking at the event said, "The journey behind the making of *Vidhi* has been special for us. We are bringing this movie to the audience with audio descriptive technology. Even blind people can experience this movie. Sri Charan Pakala gave excellent music and background score. We are also going to show this movie to the visually challenged people. There are about ten lenged people. There are about ten lakh blind people in two Telugu states. 90 percent of them may not have been to the theatres. They all can go to the theater and enjoy this movie. Evidence Foundation, Delhi has helped develop this app.

duced through YouTube. I worked comfortably with Anandi. Sri Charan has given the classic music.

in the media industry said, "I want the media to consider this movie as their own and take it forward. Thanks to the producer Ranjith for giving us a chance. Director Srikanth said, "Vidhi is our first film. It means it's our first lover. There are many memories. I will tell you all that in future events. Thanks to God and our team for giving us this opportunity. Small filmmakers like us need media support and we expect lot of love from you. During the writing time, both my brothers had fights. Fights are natural between brothers and sisters. But when he came to the sets, he was just professional and acted like nothing happened."

# Australia beat India by 66 runs to score a consolation win in 3rd ODI

ustralia avoided an unprecedented series whitewash after registering a 66-run victory over India in the third ODI here on Wednesday. Chasing a massive 353 to win, India were restricted by Australia to 286 in 49.4 overs. India however won the three-match series 2.1 match series 2-1.

match series 2-1.

The Aussies motored to 352 for 7 after Mitchell Marsh (96), Steve Smith (74), Marnus Labuschagne (72) and David Warner (56) made impact knocks.

Jasprit Bumrah took three for 81 and emerged the most successful among

Indian bowlers. India made a fist of chase through captain Rohit Sharma (81) and Virat Kohli (56), but soon fizzled against the off-spin of Glenn Maxwell. Earlier, Mitchell Marsh's stroke-

Farlier, Mitchell Marsh's stroke-filled 96 and Marnus Labuschagne's polished 72 took Australia to a com-mendable 352 for 7 against India in the third and final ODI here on Wednesday. While Marsh missed reaching triple figures by a whisker, Australia's batters

came good collectively in what will be their last official ODI before the start of

the World Cup.

David Warner had himself to blame for his dismissal after a fiery 56 off 34 balls (6x4s, 4x6s), but he set the tone for Australia early on.

Steve Smith also put brakes on his poor run of scores to make a rapid 74 and towards the end, Labuschagne upped the ante with his 58-ball knock to help Australia post their challenging score. Labuschagne also became Australia's top run-getter in the ongoing calendar

Williamson likely to play

**PTI** ■ CHRISTCHURCH

New Zealand skipper Kane Williamson is set to return from a long injury layoff in his side's World Cup warm-up mat-

ches, starting in India this week.

ruptured the ACL (anterior cru-

ciate ligament) in his right knee

while fielding for Gujarat Titans in the IPL. He underwent

surgery in April.
"The plan is to be involved

in the warm-up games. There is

a strong desire to be involved as

much as I can," Williamson

said ahead of the team's depar-

progress what I am doing now

- the running, the fielding, time

World Cup warm-up matches

on September 29 in Hyderabad

and October 2 in Thiruvanan-

thapuram respectively.

They play England in the

in the middle with the bat."

"Basically, it's just wanting to

New Zealand will take on Pakistan and South Africa in

ture to India.

The star batter hasn't played

cricket since March when he

World Cup warm-up matches

tournament opener in Ahmedabad on October 5.

Asked if he was still experiencing discomfort, Williamson said: "Not a huge amount.

"Although the load is going

"Although it's going well

Talking about the most dif-

ficult aspect of his recovery Williamson said: "Not so much

the sprinting, more the slowing

actually. From sprinting, the

towards the end of recovery."

to keep increasing, so there is a

little bit of an unknown. But it

has felt pretty good really in the

you still have days that vary a lit-

last few weeks.

much," he added.

sive finals.



year. On a hot and humid day, drinks were brought out more often than not between change of over while batters dropped down to their haunches, turning out to be quite a laborious effort for the Australian batters after their captain chose to bat.

Marsh took the attack to Jasprit Bumrah (3/81 in 10 overs), hitting two fours and a six and forcing India to take off the solitary slip since there was no early movement on offer.

Warner too shrugged off a slow start to hit Mohammed Siraj for two imperious sixes as Australia seized early

The assault continued as Prasidh Krishna was hit for three fours and a six in his opening over with Warner taking the lead. The Australian opener completed his ninth fifty against India and 31st overall with a six over fine leg off Siraj. However, Warner's charge ended while trying to scoop Prasidh, walking across the wickets but only to edge it behind.

In search of a big score, Smith opted for consolidation with Marsh, who had long shifted gears to drop the anchor.
Bumrah was brought back for the

23rd over but Marsh clobbered him for

three fours and two sixes to collect 19 runs — he gave that many in two separate overs — which finally forced India to bring Kuldeep Yadav (2/48) into the

While India found it difficult to penetrate owing to a placid surface, the Australian pair of Marsh and Smith amassed 137 from 119 for the second

However, the Australian pair did struggle with the heat and humidity late in the afternoon and increasingly looked for boundaries while sacrificing the

For the second time this year and against the same opponent, Marsh came close to bringing up only his second ODI century but missed it by four runs.

All the hard work of getting close to the mark while braving the conditions went in vain when Marsh hit straight to Krishna at cover off Kuldeen.

Krishna at cover off Kuldeep.

Smith perished soon after as Siraj

pinned him in front of the wickets for 74 off 61 balls, including eight fours and a

Alex Carey (11) had a short stay as he misjudged a slower ball from Bumrah to chip it straight to Virat Kohli at cover in the 37th over.

Bumrah, mixing his deliveries well in this spell, cleaned up Glenn Maxwell (5) for his second wicket of the game but one that also dented Australia's hopes of acceleration in the remaining overs.

Australia's slide continued as Kuldeep had Cameron Green (9) caught at long on, but Labuschagne and Pat Cummins put on 46 to take them to their overall fourth highest ODI total against India.

# Tough to look beyond Shreyas in WC playing XI: Azharuddin



**PTI** HYDERABAD

 $F^{\rm ormer\ captain\ Mohammad}_{\rm Azharuddin\ can't\ look}$ beyond Shreyas Iyer in India's playing eleven in the ODI World Cup and also backed a possible last-minute inclusion of R Ashwin in the 15-man squad.
India find themselves in a

problem of plenty in the middle with Iyer, Ishan Kishan and Suryakumar Yadav staking a claim for one spot.

Iyer, who was India's designated number four before a back injury ruled him out of the game for six months, struck an attacking hundred in Indore to put himself ahead of Kishan and Suryakumar in the middleorder race.

order race.

"Good competition always brings the best out of the players. Shreyas is an exciting player and he really batted well the other day after losing out on games due to his back issues. He is very positive with his intent and looks to score all the time. the time.

"He can make a big impact in the game. It is very hard to look past him unless you are looking for a left- hander in the middle, then Ishan comes into picture. However, I feel Shreyas has done enough," Azhar told

Ashwin should find a spot in final-15

Ashwin, who had played only two ODIs since 2017 before being picked for the ODI series against Australia, is expected to replace Axar Patel in the squad if the latter doesn't regain full fitness. He gave a good account of his skills in the first two ODIs before being rested for the final game in Rajkot.

The wily off-spinner also has Azhar's vote.

'Ashwin is someone who should be in the team. It is not very easy to line up against him as he has got a lot of variations. The team has already been announced. It remains to be seen whether Axar is in there or not.

"Instead of two left-arm spinners, Ashwin can also bat

spinners, Ashwin can also bat well, he should find a place," said Azhar, who captained India in three World Cups.

While Shardul Thakur has done alright in the chances he has got, he doesn't match the skills of Mohammad Shami who should be preferred over the former in the playing eleven, said the 60-year-old.

The recent selection showed that the management has not

that the management has not fully made up its mind on the fast bowling combination. Jasprit Bumrah and Mohammad Siraj walk into the playing eleven.

"Shami has been doing well for a long time. Shardul too has done alright in the limited chances he has got. But you don't require everyone to bat in the 11. Shami has also batted well at

"Shardul is a bowling all-rounder not a batting all-rounder. When you already have Haridk Pandya you don't need Shardul in the playing eleven," he said.

For him, the Indian player to watch out for will not be Rohit Sharma or Virat Kohli, as he has put his money on Shubman Gill.

Gill has been in sensational form over the past 12 months and has racked up five ODI hundreds this year.

"This time, Gill will be the main player for India. Obviously, the others around him are also batting well. If he can give India a good start it will set the ball rolling," said Azhar.

**'Pressure will be on India'** Considering India have not won an ICC event since 2013, Azhar feels the team is bound to feel the pressure of not being able to win knock-out games

over the past decade.

"It is going to be a very competitive world cup. India have a very good team. Grounds will be full as India are hosting after a long time." Asked if India are peaking at the right time follow-ing the Asia Cup title and series win over Australia, Azhar said: "I really don't understand this peaking business. When you are playing you are playing well, doesn't matter whether you are

peaking or not peaking.
"Sometimes you lose two
three matches even after peaking and that has happened with this team. Rather than thinking about all of this, one should focus on the game, rather than thinking about semis and finals

straightaway.
"Yes, there will be a lot of pressure to win an ICC tourna-ment which we have not won for a long time. I am sure the boys are fully aware of that," he said. His home city of Hyderabad

will be one of the 10 venues stag-ing the World Cup games. But Azhar is disappointed that Hyderabad is not hosting an India match.

# Nepal batters break three world records in T20Is

**PTI** ■ HANGZHOU

 $N_{
m world}^{
m epal}$  batters smashed three world records en route to becoming the first team to amass a 300-plus total in T20Is, in the Asian Games here on Wednesday. Kushal Malla, a 19year-old left-handed batter, struck the fastest-ever T20I hundred in 34 balls, eclipsing David Miller and Rohit Sharma's joint previous record (35 balls).

Batting at No 3, Malla smashed 12 sixes and eight



fours to remain unbeaten on 137 and power Nepal to the highestever T20I score of 314 for 3 against Mongolia, who opted to field. Their No 5 batter Dipendra Singh Airee also rewrote the record books, blasting a nine-ball fifty that bettered Yuvraj Singh's 16-year-old record.

Singh's 16-year-old record.
Yuvraj took 12 balls for his fifty en route to scoring 58 in the World T20 match against England on September 19, 2007.
The previous record for the highest innings total in a T20I was held by Afghanistan, who had amassed 278 for 3 against Ireland on February 23, 2019.

# Our ambition is to become biggest T20 league outside IPL: SA20 Commissioner Graeme Smith

PTI NEW DELHI

The kind of generational Indian T20 stars that IPL has produced in the last tle bit. So it's working through those warm-up games to get as much out of it as I can, and as a one and half decades has set the template to follow for a new franchise competition team, without bothering it too like SA20, former South Africa captain and commissioner of league Graeme

Smith said on Wednesday.

"Our ambition is to be the biggest league outside India," Smith told PTI ahead of the second season's auction. Williamson had played a crucial role in New Zealand's campaign in 2015 and 2019 editions when they reached succes-

The SA20 comprises six franchises
— MI Cape Town, Joburg Super Kings,
Durban Super Giants, Paarl Royals, Pretoria Capitals, Sunrisers Eastern Cape, all of which are owned by the owners of IPL teams.

braking, a little bit of a change "I think IPL was there in the beginning. It took a couple of years to develop a number of generational stars and work within BCCI managed to create "Our salary cap is USD 2.3 million and teams can work with significant of direction. It's all been part of the plan, and introducing it

outstanding depth of cricketers in India. It will be our goal too going forward," said Smith, who has always shared a cordial relationship with the Indian board, both as player and administrator.

"The highlight of the first season of SA20 was to see some youngsters and more established stars perform together. I think they played in the competition and were exposed to best practices by franchises — exposed to way of global thinking, getting the best coaches, best medical advice," said Smith, who is very satisfied with how the league has shaped up in just one season.

In fact, Smith is happy that SA20 has kept a salary cap of USD 2.3 million, offering the best pay scale outside IPL.

So, do you plan to increase the salary

numbers for a league outside the IPL. It

gives us the ability to attract quality players," he said. Smith believes that SA20 brought a lot of positivity in South African crick-

et. "The Season 1 exceeded all the expectations. We had such a limited amount of time to get up and running and we were able to attract six partners like six global franchises," said Smith.

As the league's commissioner, Smith has worked tirelessly with his team to deliver a product that is acceptable in the market. "Apart from the commercial side, it was important to bring some positivity back to South African cricket and see the fans flock to the stadium.

'Most importantly, the cricket in season 1 was outstanding. Some local young talent really stood up, global stars shone through and it was a very successful season," he said.

In Season 2, each franchise can buy up to 15 players with six uncapped ones, which will also help South Africa promote its own local talent, beneficial to the

national team in future

#### App revolutionises fantasy sports

Mumbai: The newly launched engagement platform BeBetta, prioritises com-



ship over traditional betting. With personalised content and real-time updates, it offers

fans an engaging platform for Cricket, Football, and Kabbadi ahead of the Cricket World

Cup.
We believe that sports are best enjoyed with friends, and at BeBetta, we're committed to delivering an extraordinary experience that fosters a sense of belonging within a winning team, said Meet Shah, CEO & Founder of BeBetta.

# Spain routs Switzerland in first home match since Women's WC

AP ■ CORDOBA (SPAIN)

 $Spain's \ women's \ team \ received$  the support of a record crowd in its first home match since winning the World Cup title.

A crowd of 14,194 saw Spain rout Switzerland 5-0 in the Nations League on Tuesday, surpassing the previous record of 11,209 fans for a women's national team match in Spain, which was achieved in a friendly against the United States last

The local crowd, which did not fully fill the 21,000-capacity Nuevo Arcangel Stadium in Cordoba, showed their support for the players who have been fighting against sexism since their world title was tarnished by a scandal sparked by the former Spanish soccer federation president, Luis Rubiales, kissing player Jenni Hermoso on the lips during the World Cup awards ceremony. Players boycotted the national team but eventually a deal was reached with the federation and government mediators for significant reform in the beleaguered federation.

A banner shown by fans in Cordoba read "Your fight is our



pride. You are not alone. Before the match, players from both teams got together and held a banner with the words "Se Acabo" — Spanish for "this is over" — followed by "Our fight is the global fight."

The "Se Acabo" slogan was started by Hermoso's teammate Alexia Putellas, Spain's star player, and has been a rallying call amid the scandal. New coach Montse Tomé left Hermoso out of the squad "as a way to protect her." Players also wore wristbands with the "Se Acabo" slo-gan, and raised their wrists while posing behind the banner.

The national team showed off the World Cup trophy to the fans, with Putellas and Irene Paredes raising it in front of the home crowd.

"We were excited about being able to celebrate with the fans," said Aitana Bonmatí, who scored twice on Tuesday.

"It was an atypical week but we were able to overcome everything. The players showed that they are professionals." Spain's first match after the

World Cup was a 3-2 comefrom-behind win at Sweden in the Nations League last week.



# India continues winning streak at Badminton World Junior

Tndian team continued its win-Ining streak at the badminton
World Junior Championships with an impressive 5-0 win over Brazil in Spokane, USA on Wednesday.

In the opening match, the mixed doubles pair of Samarveer and Radhika Sharma triumphed over Joaquim Mendonça and Maria Clara Lopes Lima 21-14, 21-17 to give India a 1-0 lead.

In the boys' singles match, Lokesh Reddy Kalagotla faced a formidable opponent in Renan

Melo, who lost the first game 17-21 but fought back resiliently in the second game.

Lokesh managed to get the upper hand and ultimately won the second game by 24-22 to wrap up the match.

In the girls' singles section, Devika Sihag cruised to victory by defeating Maria Eduarda Oliveira 21-9, 21-6 in just 18 minutes

In the boys' doubles category, Divyam Árora and Mayank Rana emerged victorious against Joaquim Mendonça and João Mendonça Taveira 21-19, 21-10.

Girls' doubles pair of Ven-nala Kalagotla and Shriyanshi Valishetty then displayed their coordination on way to an impressive 21-13, 21-11 win over Maria Clara Lopes Lima and Maria Eduarda Óliveira.

Later in the day, group D leaders India will next face Germany, who is second in the group. The outcome of this match will decide who tops the

The team that finishes on top will face the winner of group C in the quarter-finals on September 28.