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పేదల నోటికాడ ముద్ద లాగేసి నోడు రేపు పేదలకు మేలు చేస్తాడంటే నమ్ముదామా?

పేదలకు అందుతున్న పథకాలను నిస్సిగ్గుగా అడ్డుకున్న చంద్రబాబుకు రేపు పొరపాటున ఓటు వేస్తే..? ఇంకెంత అరాచకం సృష్టిస్తాడో..

అవ్వతాతల ఉసురు పోసుకున్న బాబు

66.34 లక్షల మంది

అవ్వతాతలకు ఒకటో తేదీనే రంచనుగా అందే పంచను అందకుండా వాళ్ల ఉసురు తీసిన దుర్మార్గం చంద్రబాబుది

రైతు ద్రోహి బాబు

34.41 లక్షల మంది

రైతులకు క్రమం తప్పకుండా ఇస్తున్న ఇన్పుట్ సబ్సిడీ పథకాన్ని అడ్డుకున్న రైతు ద్రోహి చంద్రబాబు

విద్యార్థులనూ వదలని బాబు

9.44 లక్షల మంది

విద్యార్థులకు విద్యా దీవెనను అందకుండా అడ్డుకున్న నీచం చంద్రబాబుది

వాలంటీర్లకూ వెన్నుపోటు

5 కోట్ల మంది

సామాన్యులకు నిస్వార్థంగా, అవినీతికి తావులేకుండా ఇంటింటికీ వెళ్లి అందిస్తున్న వాలంటీర్ల సేవలను అడ్డుకున్న దుర్మార్గం చంద్రబాబుది

పేదలకు ఇంగ్లీష్ మీడియం వద్దన్న బాబు

84 లక్షల మంది

పేద విద్యార్థులకు ఇంగ్లీషు మీడియం చదువులు వద్దని కోర్టుకెక్కి అడ్డుకున్న పాపం చంద్రబాబుది

ముస్లిం రిజర్వేషన్లు రద్దు చేస్తామనే వారితో దోస్తీ

30 లక్షల మంది

పేదరికం ప్రాతిపదికన ముస్లింలకు అందుతున్న 4% రిజర్వేషన్లను రద్దుచేస్తామనేవారితో జతకట్టిన చంద్రబాబు

అక్కచెల్లెమ్మలకు కూటమి ద్రోహం

78.94 లక్షల మందికి

వైయస్సార్ ఆసరా

4.95 లక్షల మందికి

వైయస్సార్ ఈబీసీ నేస్తం

31 లక్షల మందికి

వైయస్సార్ చేయూత పథకాలు అందకుండా అడ్డుకున్న రాక్షసత్వం చంద్రబాబుది

దళితులూ దూరం దూరం...

ఇదీ బాబు నైజం

అమరావతిలో పేదలు, దళితులకు ఇళ్ల పట్టాలిస్తుంటే కోర్టుకెళ్లి అడ్డుకున్న కులదురహంకారం చంద్రబాబుది



ఇంతమందికి ద్రోహం చేసి రేపు అన్నీ ఉచితంగా ఇస్తానంటున్న ఆల్ఫ్రే బాబు అబద్ధాలను నమ్మేద్దామా? మనకెందుకీ మోసాల బాబు... మనకెందుకీ దుర్మార్గ కూటమి

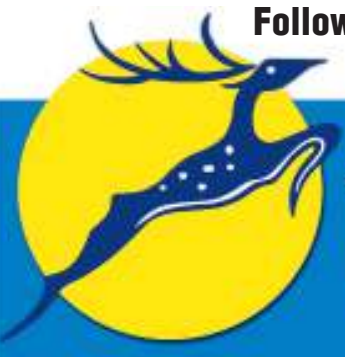
చెప్పాడంటే.. చేస్తాడంటే...

జగనన్నకే మన ఓటు



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నవరత్నాలు +



నమ్మకం

2019 మేనిఫెస్టోలో

99%

హామీలు అమలు



“సూపర్” మోసం



నయవంచన

మేనిఫెస్టో కాదది

పచ్చి దగా

2014 మేనిఫెస్టోను
చెత్త బుట్టలో వేసి మోసం



2024లో అసాధ్యమైన హామీలతో “సూపర్” మోసం

2014లో ఇదే చంద్రబాబు, మోడీ, దత్తపుత్రుడు
కూటమిగా ఏర్పడి ఇంటింటికీ పంపిన పాంప్లెట్లో
ఒక్క హామీనైనా బాబు నెరవేర్చాడా?

- ✗ రూ.87,612 కోట్ల రైతు రుణాలు మాఫీ చేశాడా?
- ✗ రూ.14,205 కోట్ల పొదుపు సంఘాల అక్కచెల్లెమ్మల రుణాలు రద్దు చేశాడా?
- ✗ ఆడబిడ్డ పుడితే మహాలక్ష్మి పథకం కింద రూ.25,000 డిపాజిట్ చేశాడా?
- ✗ ఇంటింటికీ ఉద్యోగం ఇచ్చాడా?
- ✗ ప్రతి నెలా రూ.2,000 చొప్పున 5 ఏళ్లకు రూ.1.20 లక్షల నిరుద్యోగ భృతి ఇచ్చాడా?
- ✗ అర్హులైన వాళ్లందరికీ 3 సంఖ్య స్థలం, కట్టుకునేందుకు ఇళ్లు ఇచ్చాడా?
- ✗ రూ.10,000 కోట్లతో బీసీ సబ్ ప్లాన్ అమలు చేశాడా?
- ✗ చేనేత, పవర్ లూమ్స్ రుణాలన్నీ మాఫీ చేశాడా?
- ✗ మహిళల రక్షణకు ఉమెన్ ప్రొటెక్షన్ ఫోర్స్ ఏర్పాటు చేశాడా?
- ✗ రాష్ట్రాన్ని సింగపూర్ కు మించి అభివృద్ధి చేశాడా?
- ✗ ప్రతి నగరంలోనూ హైటెక్ సిటీ నిర్మించాడా?
- ✗ ప్రత్యేక హోదా ఇచ్చారా?

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వైయస్సార్ కాంగ్రెస్ పార్టీ మేనిఫెస్టో కోసం
ఈ QR కోడ్ని స్కాన్ చేయండి

ADVT



ఫ్యాన్ గుర్తుకే మన ఓటు వేద్దాం

ఇచ్చిన మాటను నిలబెట్టుకునే జగనన్నను గెలిపించుకుందాం





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PAPER WITH PASSION

Testing times

Stakes could not be higher in Haryana's political chess, with the outcome remaining anybody's guess

The recent developments in Haryana's political circles have again brought to the fore the intricacies of coalition dynamics. The Jannayak Janta Party (JJP), a key player in the State's politics, has decided to align with the Congress in demanding a floor test for the BJP-led Government in the Haryana Assembly. This comes on the heels of the withdrawal of support by three Independent MLAs to the ruling coalition, turning it into minority with 44 legislators in the House of 90. The Congress, buoyed by the latest developments and perhaps sensing an opportunity to tip the scales in its favour, has seized upon this moment to mount pressure on the BJP Government. However, in the backdrop of this high-stakes political manoeuvring, the JJP finds itself grappling with internal discord. Reports have emerged suggesting that three of its MLAs held clandestine meetings with former Chief Minister ML Khattar, raising eyebrows and fuelling speculation about potential defections. The apparent dissonance within the JJP underscores the complex interplay of interests and ambitions that often characterises coalition politics. For a party like the JJP, which emerged as a key player following the fractured mandate in the last State elections, maintaining cohesion within its ranks while balancing competing demands from its coalition partners is no easy feat. To jog the memory, it was in Haryana that 'Aaya Ram Gaya Ram' culture started, which continues unabated. The outcome of this internal tug-of-war will not only shape the immediate political landscape in Haryana but also have far-reaching implications for the State's future.



As alliances shift and allegiances waver, the only constant is the relentless pursuit of power and the drive to stay one step ahead of the competition. With the House strength being 90 members, a political party needs the support of 46 MLAs to cross the halfway mark and form a Government. After the withdrawal of support by three Independents, the BJP is short of two MLAs to continue in the Government. The BJP now has 40 MLAs, besides the support of a lone Haryana Lokhit Party legislator and at least three Independents (earlier, it had six Independents in support), which brings to a total of 44 in the House. For the BJP, it is a double whammy, all this is happening days ahead of the Lok Sabha polls to the 10 Haryana seats on May 25. In the 2014 Lok Sabha elections, the BJP won seven of these seats in Haryana with a 35 per cent vote share. In 2019, the BJP won all 10 seats with a 58 per cent vote share. In the current situation, however, it might be a Herculean task. JJP's Dushyant Chautala has mounted pressure on the Nayab Singh Saini Government for a floor test, which he is likely to get the Chair's nod for. If the JJP breaks, it would give the BJP the much-needed elbow room but what is certain for now is that it is time for horse trading in Haryana.

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PICTALK



A herd of elephants grazes near a village at Boko, in Kamrup district of Assam

Battle to save India's biodiversity



KAVIN KUMAR KANDASAMY

India's rich biodiversity is under severe threat due to climate change, as recent studies warn of potential economic losses and irreversible ecological damage

India, a land of diverse climates and rich ecosystems, is a global treasure trove of biodiversity. From the majestic Himalayan ranges to the vibrant coastal reefs, our country's biodiversity sustains countless life forms and plays a crucial role in regulating ecosystems. It's not just a vital resource for human sustenance, providing food, water, shelter and medicine, but also a critical indicator of our planet's health, a testament to our rich heritage and a responsibility we all share.

However, the delicate balance of India's biodiversity is now facing unprecedented threats from climate change. Recent studies warn that India may lose a staggering 35 per cent of its GDP by the year 2100 due to climate change, highlighting the deep interconnection between the nation's prosperity and its natural heritage. Rampant deforestation and habitat degradation, particularly in regions like the Western Ghats, are pushing carbon sinks towards becoming sources, exacerbating the climate crisis. The time for action is now.

Impact of Climate Change: A Looming Crisis

The repercussions of climate change are becoming quite evident in altering ecological balance, extreme weather events and increasing health risks. In an era marked by escalating environmental challenges, the climate crisis demands urgent and concerted action. According to a [i]United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report, climate change is imperilling human well-being and planetary health, focusing strongly on interactions between climate, biodiversity and human society. The report suggests that the rise in extreme weather conditions has led to some irreversible impacts as natural and human systems are pushed beyond their ability to adapt. Not only this, a report by the Reserve Bank of India highlights how climate change poses challenges for monetary policy, with frequent weather shocks threatening economic growth and stability. Moreover, a recent



study predicts that climate change could cut global income by up to 19 per cent in the next 25 years, with the most vulnerable countries suffering the most severe impacts.

To overcome these challenges, India has embarked on a journey to mitigate climate change and safeguard its biodiversity. With the G20 presidency last year, India has positioned itself as the voice of the Global South to lead the way in climate action and leveraged this positioning to drive impactful outcomes in various realms related to climate action. Tackling deforestation, reducing emissions and restoring ecosystems are key strategies. With over 26 per cent of the country grappling with expanding drought conditions, urgent measures are being taken to build resilience against environmental degradation.

Pioneering Climate Action Tamil Nadu, a coastal State in the heart of southern India, is emerging as a beacon of hope and leading the charge in climate change efforts. The State has become a forerunner in climate action by announcing three major missions, name-



INDIA'S BIODIVERSITY, A VITAL RESOURCE AND INDICATOR OF PLANETARY HEALTH, FACES UNPRECEDENTED THREATS FROM CLIMATE CHANGE, NECESSITATING URGENT ACTION TO MITIGATE IMPACTS AND SAFEGUARD ITS RICH NATURAL HERITAGE

ly Climate Change; Biodiversity Conservation and Greening; and Wetlands. Through initiatives like the Tamil Nadu Biodiversity and Greening Project (TBGP), the State aims to achieve a 33 per cent forest and tree cover by 2031. With approximately \$90 million in investments, Tamil Nadu's Climate Change Mission, Green Tamil Nadu Mission and Tamil Nadu Wetlands Mission demonstrate a commitment to sustainable development and ecosystem restoration.

Driving Solutions: Addressing the climate crisis necessitates collaborative efforts from all stakeholders. Supported by startups and Government interventions, public-private partnerships are essential to drive innovation and scale climate solutions. Startups are pivotal in developing innovative technologies that reduce carbon footprints while contributing to economic growth. International collaboration, exemplified by agreements like the Paris Agreement, provides a framework for collective action on a global scale. India's leadership in renewable energy, particularly through

initiatives like the International Solar Alliance (ISA), underscores its commitment to driving sustainable development and fostering a harmonious coexistence between humanity and nature. As India addresses the intertwined challenges of climate change and biodiversity loss, the steps taken today will shape the legacy for future generations.

This demands reflection, unity and action to come up with sustainable solutions. In this crucial sustainability battle, India's role extends beyond its borders, contributing significantly to global biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation efforts. The recent Supreme Court ruling recognising the right against climate change as a fundamental right under Article 14 and Article 21 underscores India's steadfast commitment to climate action and environmental protection. This offers prospects for the Government, corporations and climate action companies to come together and work towards a sustainable future.

(The writer is the CEO of ProClimate; their views are personal)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

EVOLUTION OF MONETARY POLICY

Madam — This refers to the article, 'Evolution of monetary policy', which was published on 8 May 2024. Even before India got freedom the Congress formed a committee to suggest the type of economic policy free India should adopt. The committee analysed and said the key infrastructure sector should be under the Public sector to help the investors with raw materials, power, transport and communication at a very economical cost. This helps domestic ventures to produce more. None of the rich in India had so much reserve to invest in big projects and returns from such projects take some years. When Rajiv came to power he availed a small loan from the World Bank to develop mainly the telecom sector accepting the condition to open our door slightly for foreign goods to be marketed here. Though the country went bankrupt between 1980-1990, it is to be noted that the assets of the top richest families swelled from Rs 8000 CR to Rs 40,000 Cr during the same period. So irrespective of parties the interests of the rich are well cared for and produced more than 200 billionaires in a short span under the present regime. This course continues and will go on to enrich the rich, the cost of the due share of the unprivileged section.

A G Rajmohan | Anantapur

MISLEADING ADVERTISEMENTS

Madam — Apropos the editorial 'The Name Game' published on 9th May, this is my response. There are guidelines issued by the Department of Consumer Affairs called 'Endorsements know-hows' for celebrities, influencers and virtual influencers on social media platforms. The guidelines specify that celebrities must not endorse any product or service they have not personally used or experienced. Further, they are advised to be 'diligent' before endorsing any product or service i.e. extremely careful by analysing the pros and cons of it to save the health and money of lakhs of their followers. Some of them blindly accept and adopt what they say. An

War of words over industrialists



Apropos, 'Modi questions Rahul's silence on Ambani, Adani,' The Pioneer, May 9, this is my response. The phenomenal industrialists Ambani and Adani have become fodder for the political slugfest between the ruling and opposition parties in our country. They have been pilloried by Rahul Gandhi, Modi helped them grow. In contrast, this time Modi turned the tables

against Rahul, alleging a deal between the business tycoons and Congress has silenced Rahul. It's a sad commentary in a country that aspires to emerge as a developed nation and laying the red carpet for the industrialists seeking investments to facilitate employment generation and, thus, economic growth - has engaged in attacking entrepreneurs.

India needs to encourage more and more entrepreneurship and innovation bringing more firms into the sphere as a country where millions of people join the labour force every month which can't be absorbed by a few conglomerates. However, the Congress party was exposed with its hand in glove with businesses in the allocation of 2G spectrum and coal. At the same time, the Modi Government brought in reforms to enhance transparency in the allocation of natural resources and the overhauling of the country's bankruptcy laws.

N Sadhasiva Reddy | Bengaluru

example of carelessly endorsing a harmful product is 'pan masala' that too on a sports channel during the live telecast of a cricket match watched by millions of youngsters, highly prone to its habit-forming usage. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has reiterated the above guidelines. The Government needs to punish the celebrities indulging in misleading promotions under the Consumer Protection Act by a jail term, not mere fines to instil responsibility in them as advocated by the Court.

O Prasada Rao | Hyderabad

FOOTBALL IS NUMBER ONE

Madam — Though top football-playing nations are restricted to Europe, Latin America and African countries, the beautiful game's popularity is unmatched in non-football-playing nations as well. The game is a universal language, to say so and has nicely flowered over the decades through champion players of diverse socio-economic milieus gathering together for a common cause: regale the fans with skill and perseverance. No surprise, the lovely game is viewed as a promoter of uni-

versal peace despite the onfield acrimony. The exhilaration of great players will captivate fans forever.

No game evokes such intense emotions that emanate after every goal is scored. Parallely, administrators and countries worldwide have displayed mostly unambiguous references towards the game. Now, in a huge honour to football, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) has adopted a resolution proclaiming May 25 as 'World Football Day'. May 25 marks the 100th anniversary of the first ever Football tournament. As aptly described by a diplomat at the UNGA, football is the 'number one game played and followed across the globe'. Additionally, as the resolution Stated, football creates a space for international cooperation. World Football Day is intended to encourage global peace, overall development and women and empowerment of women and girls.

Ganapathi Bhat | Akola

Send your feedback to: letterstopioneer@gmail.com

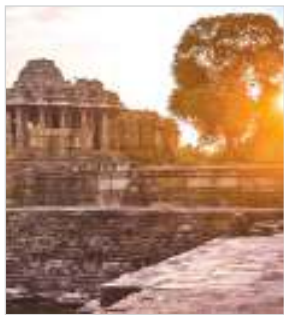
Use of lighting in Indian architecture



ABHIJIT VAISH

Lighting greatly enhances India's architectural heritage, turning historic landmarks into captivating spectacles

India's architectural heritage reflects a blend of history, culture and tradition. In bustling urban environments, our heritage monuments stand as timeless witnesses to our rich past. However, these architectural marvels often fade into the background amidst the vibrant city scenes. Yet, through the strategic application of lighting, these structures are brought to life, captivating the imagination and enhancing their charm after dusk.



cons of cultural heritage for generations to come.

Transforming Indian Architectural Landscape with Lighting

From the majestic Sun Temple in Konark to the iconic Roomi Gate in Lucknow, lighting has transformed India's architectural scene, infusing these structures with renewed splendour and magnificence.

Sun Temple, Modhera: Nestled in the heart of Gujarat, the Sun Temple stands as a testament to ancient craftsmanship and architectural ingenuity. Through the application of dynamic lighting, the temple's intricate carvings and majestic outlines are brought to life after sunset. Visitors are mesmerized as the tem-

ple emerges as a radiant spectacle, inviting them to embark on a journey through time and history. **Roomi Gate, Lucknow:** As a symbol of Lucknow's rich Mughal heritage, Roomi Gate exudes grandeur and historical significance. Dynamic lighting accentuates the gate's intricate motifs and architectural features, casting a mesmerizing glow that captivates spectators. Illuminated against the night sky, Roomi Gate symbolizes the city's cultural legacy, inviting locals and tourists alike to marvel at its beauty. **Gujarat Bhawan:** Nestled in the heart of New Delhi, Gujarat Bhawan serves as a cultural hub representing the vibrant heritage of Gujarat. Through the integration of dynamic lighting, the Bhawan transforms, becoming a luminous tribute that honours the State's rich traditions. The interplay of light accentuates its distinctive features, creating a captivating visual narrative for visitors and passersby.

Signature Bridge: The Delhi Government's decision to illuminate the entire structure of the Signature Bridge underscores the city's commitment to enhancing its architectural landmarks. Towering above the city's skyline, the bridge now glows at night, offering a spectacular view to visitors and residents alike. Maryada Purushottam Shri Ram International Airport, Ayodhya: This architectural marvel, features dynamic lighting that complements its unique design inspired by the Nagara style of temple architecture. Blending modern facilities with rich cultural heritage, the airport offers a captivating experience for travellers and visitors. Lighting greatly enhances India's architectural heritage, turning historic landmarks into captivating spectacles. Embracing this technology allows cities to showcase their cultural legacy and create vibrant public spaces, enriching the lives of residents and visitors. As India progresses, lighting signifies innovation, guiding towards a brighter future for its architectural landscape.

(The author is the executive director at Instapower Ltd, views are personal)





FIRST COLUMN TRAITS OF A SUCCESSFUL PERSON

He dares to defy convention and breathe life into audacious ideas



RAVI VALLURI

There is a part of us that will not let us be content until we become all that we are capable of being. Life is not about resting on our past achievements and laurels and residing in our comfort zone. It is an adventure from being ordinary to extraordinary. One's current situation may be good, but if a greater opportunity presents itself, one must be open to expanding. This does not mean you are to run away or violate your integrity.

Muscles stay strong and flexible only by use and stretching and so does our mind. The challenge is the way of the universe and showing us the path that the bigger we assume that form and shape. We should bless our dreams and our desires to identify the opportunity that is lurking as there would be several chances arising around the corner. We need the courage and humility to ask the Universe to provide such opportunities, leave behind all our limitations and step forward to live life as magnificent and gigantic as ordained by the Universe. Successful people stretch their hands and take up responsibility which empowers them to enter uncharted territories. This increases the level of their prana/chi, attention span and nature of work, adding a new dimension to the personality. Successful people are never straight-jacketed in their approach and revel in taking risks. Only risk-takers become game-changers.

Rahul Bajaj's sons Rajiv and Sanjiv embarked upon a fascinating idea to salvage the scrap of the decommissioned INS Vikrant to manufacture scooters. It was an innovative idea, utilizing scrap in a novel manner. While the bottom line of the exercise may be to generate profit, the unattainable thought is audacious. Therefore, successful entrepreneurs never kill an idea. An ingenious idea can be a platform for a radical discovery.



An awesome idea is breathtaking and amazing, stunning and awe-inspiring. When the idea germinates, something stupendous takes place. Think big and do not listen to people who tell you it can't be done. "Life is too short to think small", writes Tim Ferriss. The Universe listens to our deepest thoughts. If the thought is positive, we are blessed with positive results.

The cardinal principle in life is to ensure that we receive and circulate only positive thoughts. We should ensure that we are surrounded by efficacious people. Keep shouldering responsibility and ensure that we possess a YES MIND. Successful enterprises ensure that their workforce performs in harmony and synergy while working in teams. The Universe believes in the Laws of Attraction, the Laws of Abundance, the Laws of Gratefulness and the Laws of Spiralling Effect. All this gets transformed into what Darren Hardy calls the Compound Effect. Next, we ought to always feel blessed and have faith that a superior power is guiding us in our endeavours. There is a superior intelligence that is always creating wonderful opportunities for us and these should be grabbed and seized with humility.

A triumphant individual hinges his belief on the thought that the Divine will take care of everything and by simply reposing faith in that Superior Power. Successful People work on these principles where the football swerves like a parabola and enters the net and we are benumbed, giving a standing ovation. That is the miracle performed. Choose to call it the power of the Almighty or the architecture of the Universe. But this works on the premise of the power of positive thinking and becoming successful.

(The writer is the CEO of Chhattisgarh East Railway Ltd. and Chhattisgarh East West Railway Ltd. He is a faculty of the Art of Living; views are personal)

Precision agriculture: Key to food security



PARAG ACHARYA

The future of Indian agriculture hinges on a blend of tradition and innovation. Precision agriculture offers a crucial pathway to sustainably feed 1.7 billion people

India's population is projected to reach approximately 1.7 billion by 2050. It would be a significant challenge for Indian agriculture to meet the food demands of such a vast population amidst the emerging challenges of climate change. Additionally, the sector faces issues such as an ageing farmer population. Younger generations are increasingly veering away from taking over the family agricultural farm, choosing other, more lucrative and less labour-intensive career paths over agriculture. To address these challenges, the adoption of modern farming techniques like precision farming and digital smart agriculture becomes imperative to ensure sustainable food production and the future prosperity of Indian agriculture.

A recent parliamentary panel has emphasized the importance of promoting agricultural mechanization, particularly for small and marginal farmers and has advocated for the integration of tiny robots and Artificial Intelligence (AI) into Indian farm operations to address the challenges posed by fragmented land holdings. Furthermore, the panel recommended the establishment of a 'National Institute of Agricultural Robotics and Artificial Intelligence' to ensure that India remains at the forefront of agricultural development both domestically and internationally. On August 23, 2022, regarding Farm Mechanization, the Secretary of the Department of Agricultural Research and Education revealed that India's mechanisation level stands at 47 per cent, trailing China (59.5 per cent), Brazil (75 per cent) and the US (95 per cent). The level of mechanisation varies greatly by region inside India too. Northern States boast higher rates (70-80 per cent), driven by fertile land, labour decline and State backing. Southern and eastern States lag (35-45 per cent) due to fragmented land holdings. North-eastern States struggle due to terrain, equipment costs and socio-economic factors.

Certainly, agriculture has evolved steadily from a traditional, labour-intensive model to a sophisticated, technology-driven system. Key milestones include the establishment of the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK). The development of high-yielding, cost-effective, disease/pest-resistant and climate-resilient varieties and technologies across crops, horticulture, animal husbandry and fisheries sciences by ICAR has significantly bolstered production and productivity. However, while acknowledging these strides, it's imperative to recognize that the pace of progress must match the urgency of our times.

Throughout history, people have always sought easier, faster and more efficient ways to get things done. This pursuit has sparked a technological revolution that merges age-old farming practices with cutting-edge innovations like the Internet of Things (IoT) known as Ag-IoT. It is a huge change in farming that could shake up how we grow, manage and protect our food. Its solutions are not merely about efficiency; they are about empowering farmers to achieve greater time efficiency, productivity and precision in their daily tasks. It's like having a super smart assistant that can take care of land, animals, crops and farms without needing humans to do everything. People also call it precision agriculture, smart agriculture, or digital agriculture.



THE INTERNET OF THINGS IS A HUGE CHANGE IN FARMING THAT COULD SHAKE UP HOW WE GROW, MANAGE AND PROTECT OUR FOOD. ITS SOLUTIONS ARE NOT MERELY ABOUT EFFICIENCY; THEY ARE ABOUT EMPOWERING FARMERS TO ACHIEVE GREATER TIME EFFICIENCY, PRODUCTIVITY AND PRECISION IN THEIR DAILY TASKS

It is like a big step forward in farming because it uses data to make decisions, making everything more efficient and productive. Through Ag-IoT, the very pulse of plant and animal needs can be sensed. The farmers can keep an eye on the soil all the time, control watering systems from afar and even check on the health of their animals without being right there. It's super handy because it can predict how much crops will grow accurately. In every aspect, Ag-IoT stands poised to revolutionize the landscape of crop management, insect and pest surveillance, food warehousing, livestock care, disease monitoring, dairy operations, supply chain logistics and beyond.

The evolution of drone technology has opened up boundless possibilities in the realm of crop assessment and monitoring. One such pioneering initiative, the NaMo Drone Didi Initiative, stands as a beacon of empowerment for rural women. In a momentous gesture, Prime Minister Narendra Modi personally handed over 1000 drones to 1000 Nammo Drone Didis across 10 locations nationwide at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute in Pusa, New Delhi. These drones will help them do things like check on crops, spray fertilizers and plant seeds. Prime Minister Modi's announcement of the 'Drone Didi' yojana 2023-24 further underscores the Government's dedication to leveraging technology for the betterment of society. Significant financial allocations during 2020-21 and 2021-22, by the Indian Government including INR 1756.3 crores and INR 2422.7 crores respectively to States for the integration of cutting-edge technologies

like drones, artificial intelligence, blockchain, remote sensing and GIS into agriculture and INR 7302.50 crores and INR 7908.18 crores were made in the same periods to ICAR for R&D, further demonstrate the Government's dedication to modernizing agriculture.

Technological strides like RFID tags (radio frequency identification) and systems like NLIS (National Livestock Identification Scheme) and INAPH (Information Network for Animal Productivity & Health) have propelled Precision Dairy Farming. With swift electronic scanning and data integration, farmers can efficiently manage cow health, productivity and records, marking a significant shift in the dairy industry towards precision and efficiency. Meanwhile, in the aquaculture industry, companies like Aquaconnect and Shrimbox are leveraging technology to revolutionize shrimp farming. Aquaconnect employs artificial intelligence and satellite sensing technologies to monitor farm performance and provide advice to shrimp and fish farmers, predominantly small to medium-scale operations. Shrimbox, on the other hand, specializes in shrimp farming in colder climates and landlocked areas, boasting impressive productivity with minimal water usage and without antibiotics. Cropin Technology, based in Bengaluru, has developed Aksara, an open-source microlanguage model tailored for climate-smart farming.

In India, the World Economic Forum's AI for Agriculture Innovation (AI4AI) initiative, led by C4IR India, is revolutionizing farm-

ing through AI. The 'Saagu Baagu' pilot in Telangana's Khammam district, supported by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Digital Green, exemplifies this success. With over 7,000 farmers benefiting, chilli yields surged by 21 per cent, pesticide use decreased by 9 per cent, fertilizer usage dropped by 5 per cent and unit prices improved by 8 per cent. Consequently, farmers doubled their earnings, with incomes rising by over INR 66,000 per acre per crop cycle. Overall, AI interventions at 175 farms in India have boosted crop yields by 30 per cent, as per the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR).

In conclusion, the future of Indian agriculture hinges on a blend of tradition and innovation. With a burgeoning population and dwindling resources, precision agriculture offers a crucial pathway to sustainably feed 1.7 billion people. If established, the 'National Institute of Agricultural Robotics and Artificial Intelligence' would catapult Indian agriculture into unprecedented realms of excellence. The benefits of farm mechanization must permeate every corner of our nation, bridging divides and fostering inclusivity. We cannot afford to overlook those who are marginalized by the digital divide, particularly our small-scale farmers. As we look towards the future, let us remain committed to nurturing a vibrant, tech-enabled agrarian ecosystem that empowers farmers, preserves natural resources and ensures food security for generations to come.

(The writer is a scientist, at Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhubaneswar; their views are personal)

Revisiting Rohith Vemula's death after eight years

As the dust settles, revelations by the Telangana Police shed new light on Vemula's untimely death

Rohith Vemula (26), a PhD scholar at the University of Hyderabad was found dead in his hostel room on 17 January 2016. Had he lived for another fortnight, he would have celebrated his 27th birthday on January 30. But he was called back by the Maker as it is said that He prefers the favourite ones to join Him ahead of others.

The untimely demise of Vemula opened a Pandora's Box all over India. Opposition parties led by the Congress staged a nationwide protest and agitation blaming the Narendra Modi Government at the Centre for the death of this young man. The CPI(M)'s frontal organization SFI called for education bundh the next day and



KUMAR CHELLAPPAN

demanding the resignation of Smriti Irani, the then union minister for human resources development and Bandaru Dattatreya, a minister of State from the council of ministers blaming the duo for the death of Rohith Vemula. Poets affiliated with the CPI(M) and other Left organizations wrote poems and short stories based on the life and times of Vemula. The fact that Vemula belonged to the Harijan com-

munity added to their ire and this was discernible from the power of the words with which they blamed the "communal and fascist" Government at the Centre. Many articles and features that appeared in regional newspapers and satellite TV channels blamed the doorsteps of Smriti Irani for Rohith Vemula's suicide. A major political outfit promoted by the all-powerful minority community had declared a solatium of Rs 25 lakh to the family of Vemula within days of his unfortunate death. Though it is more than eight years since he bade farewell to this world, his mother or brother has not been given the promised amount. When Radhika, the mother of Rohith

Vemula contacted the leadership of the said party, they feigned ignorance about the amount and the matter was given a silent burial.

More than eight years after the suicide of Vemula, the Telangana Police which was entrusted with the probe of finding out matters that led Vemula to resort to the extreme measure concluded that Rohith Vemula was neither a member of the Harijan community nor any Other Backward Community (OBC) student as he had claimed. The fear that the university was likely to detect the truth behind his caste status which would put an end to his political aspirations had made him take the drastic step, said the police report. The unanswered question in



the whole episode is why the investigating officers failed to track the phone calls made by Vemula during the last few days of his life. This would have thrown more light on the reasons behind the suicide of the research scholar. Many of his colleagues attribute a failed love affair as the cause behind his suicide.

Months before he committed suicide, Vemula had led a demonstration under the auspices of the Ambedkar Students Association on the University Campus to protest the death penalty awarded to Yakub Memon, one of the prime accused in the Mumbai serial blasts of 1993 which claimed 260 lives. There were reports that the soft-spoken Vemula and his friends had bashed up a member of the rival union and the victim needed hospitalisation. Moreover, there were charges against the University of Hyderabad for non-payment of a monthly scholarship of Rs 25,000 to Vemula though the university authorities denied the allegation. Rohith Vemula was neither the first Harijan student in the

University of Hyderabad or any other universities in India who have committed suicide. Rajini Anand, an engineering college student in Kerala had jumped to death in 2004 following the callous approach of the ruling Congress-led Government in the State towards her plea for financial assistance to pay college fees.

Sometime last year, a CPI(M) member of Rajya Sabha asked the Government of India to furnish the number of Harijan students who had committed suicide in the country since 2014. The MP's innuendo was that no Harijan students had committed suicide in the country before the swearing-in of Modi as Prime Minister. The kind of fire from the

opposition faced by Smriti Irani was unprecedented and strange. The Rohith Vemula affair cost her the office of the HRD ministry and she was relegated to minister of textiles. Opposition party leaders have all the right to criticize the Government and ministers for errors and omissions. But it should be restricted to the carelessness and irresponsibility of the concerned minister. For eight years, this young lady was crucified by her political rivals. Had they taken a little bit of time and gone through the releases issued by the Government of India, they would not have dared to throw mud at Smriti.

(The writer is special correspondent with The Pioneer; views are personal)

Manisha Koirala reveals having bad intimacy experiences on-screen!



Manisha Koirala may have pulled off a few intimate scenes in *Heeramandi: The Diamond Bazaar*, but she has expressed reservations about on-screen closeness. In an interview, she expressed concern over the personal sequences with Jaideep Ahlawat in Dibakar Banerjee's 2018 Netflix India anthology, *Lust Stories*. "I had my reservations about the love-making scenes. I very frankly told Dibakar that I've had some bad experiences with on-screen intimacy in the past. I thought he would not be able to get around that problem," Manisha said. However, she then credited the filmmaker for being receptive and sensitive. "I was deeply impressed by his open-minded, responsive attitude. He listens to everyone, not just the actors but also the crew," she added. Earlier, in an interview during *Lust Stories* promotions, Manisha had said, "It (Dibakar's shot) was called *Love Lust and Everything In Between* or something like that. It made me wonder what kind of movie it would be." She even suggested Dibakar go with a 'bolder' actor. "I had seen and loved his shot in *Bombay Talkies*. I knew he would make something sensible... At every step [Banerjee] was careful. He has been sensitive and respectful."



Akshay Kumar to headline The Entertainers Tour in Australia

While Akshay Kumar leaves fans enthralled with his performances on screen, another thing that gets him celebrated across the globe is The Entertainers World Tour. The last season happened in North America in 2023 and was spectacularly successful. This year, The Entertainers Tour will return in August. Once again, Akshay Kumar will be headlining it! The Entertainers Tour will take place in Australia in August 2024. Akshay Kumar will be joined by celebrities like Norah Fatehi, Disha Patani, Sunil Grover, Elnaaz Norouzi, Sonam Bajwa, and Stebin Ben. Once again, these celebrities will deliver stellar performances to a live audience, leaving an imprint in the global arena. The second season of the world tour will happen in Melbourne and Sydney. On the acting front, he has *Sarfra*, *Jolly LLB 3*, *Housefull 5*, and *Welcome To The Jungle* coming up.

Jason Shah approached once again for Bigg Boss OTT 3

After his power-packed performance in the highly acclaimed series *Heeramandi: The Diamond Bazaar* as Mr. Cartwright, he has been in the minds of everyone for grabbing attention with his spectacular performance and showing off his ruthless charm. And now the actor has no way to look back and is again making headlines. Jason Shah has been offered again to be part of *Bigg Boss OTT 3*. Jason Shah made a memorable mark during his time on *Bigg Boss 10* but had to leave the show due to health issues just after 2-3 weeks. Despite his short stay, he managed to garner a huge fan following with his charisma and personality. Now, after delivering major hits one after the other, Jason Shah has once again caught the attention of the *Bigg Boss* team. Although there is no official confirmation from his end, sources close to the actor reveal that he is currently considering the offer. "It would be amazing to see Jason back on a reality show, especially after his remarkable performances in recent projects. There is no official confirmation from his end yet, but discussions are ongoing between Jason's team and the *Bigg Boss OTT 3* team. So it would be really great to see if the actor wishes to grab this offer once again or not."



Ahan Shetty-Pooja Hegde-starrer Sanki shoot will kickstart on June 6

Ever since the first announcement of *Sanki* happened, there has been a lot of buzz about the unusual pair of Ahan Shetty and Pooja Hegde. Producer Sajid Nadiadwala plans to kickstart the schedule on June 6 with a special action-designed sequence with international action-choreographer Kecha Khampakdee. A source close to the development added, "The team is all set to kickstart a week-long Mumbai schedule with many action sequences designed by Kecha and then followed by a Goa schedule. The duo's chemistry is anticipated to sizzle on screen,

adding an extra layer of excitement to the project." It is going to be a very different world for *Sanki*, which the audience will experience with this film. *Sanki* is poised to be a high-octane thriller, promising audiences a rollercoaster ride of adrenaline-pumping action sequences and gripping drama. With Sajid Nadiadwala at the helm, known for his penchant for delivering blockbuster hits, expectations are running high for this film to deliver on its promise of entertainment excellence. *Sanki* has blocked Valentine's Day, February 14, 2025, for its release.

what's brewing?

Scarlett and Channing are set for a space race in *Fly Me to the Moon*

The film *Fly Me to the Moon*, starring Scarlett Johansson and Channing Tatum, is set to hit theaters in July 2024. This comedy-drama, directed by the acclaimed Greg Berlanti, blends wit, style, and high stakes in an exhilarating trip alongside NASA's historic Apollo 11 moon mission. Johansson plays Kelly Jones, a sharp-witted marketing expert hired to improve NASA's public image, and Tatum plays Cole Davis, a launch director bearing the weight of the moon landing on his shoulders. The film's script, written by Rose

Gilroy and based on a story by Bill Kistein and Keenan Flynn, creates a fascinating narrative in which truth and fantasy meet dramatically. Nick Dillenburg, Anna Garcia, Jim Rash, Noah Robbins, Colin Woodell, Christian Zuber, and Donald Elise Watkins join Johansson and Tatum in the film's ensemble cast. Ray Romano and Woody Harelson make special cameos, adding seriousness and humour to the mix. The new posters, which feature Scarlett Johansson and Channing Tatum in fascinating roles, have sparked excitement. These stunningly striking posters hint at the strong chemistry and high-flying drama that fans might expect.



Dorit and Paul Kemsley part ways

Dorit and Paul Kemsley, stars of Bravo's *Real Housewives of Beverly Hills*, have decided to end their nine-year marriage. The reality stars announced their split on social media, explaining that they had been having marital problems and had mutually agreed on this difficult decision. Dorit, 47, and Paul "PK" Kemsley, 56, married in 2015 after four years together. They have two children: 10-year-old Jagger and 8-year-old Phoenix. In recent months, there has been much conjecture regarding the couple's marital problems. The former couple released a joint statement on their Instagram stories that read, "We have been subject to a lot of speculation about our marriage. We have had our struggles over the last few years and continue to work through them as two people who love each other and share two amazing children."

The two added that they needed some time apart to protect their friendship and have a peaceful environment for their kids. "To safeguard our deep friendship and maintain a harmonious environment for our children, we have made the mutual and difficult decision to take some time apart and reevaluate our relationship while we prioritise our children," stated the two, adding, "We appreciate your love and support while we continue to do the work necessary throughout this journey. With love, Dorit and PK."



FUN

ARCHIE



CALVIN AND HOBBS



GARFIELD



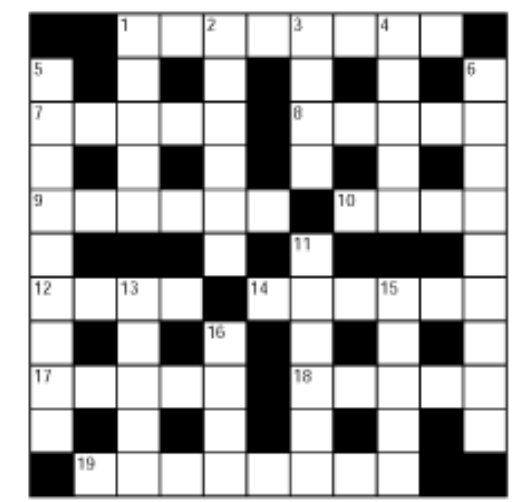
REALITY CHECK



SPEED BUMP



CROSSWORD



NANCY



SUDOKU

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

Yesterday's solution

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

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 The first teenage year
- 7 A neck warmer
- 8 This makes bread rise
- 9 Having a meal
- 10 Expensive
- 12 A heat injury
- 14 An artist's workshop
- 17 Precise
- 18 Shave with this
- 19 A sheep minder
- 6 A ship's right-hand side
- 11 Be ill or die from lack of food
- 13 Get to
- 15 Stunned and not able to think properly
- 16 Halt

DOWN

- 1 Easily burnt breakfast food
- 2 Young child
- 3 Things to play with
- 4 Rub out
- 5 Puts together from separate parts



GINGER MEGGS



'BURGEONING POPULATION IN HYD HAS LED TO ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES'

SUBODHINI PUROHIT

Jamuna Singh Shilpa, a dedicated fashion designer, not only stitches fabrics but also weaves dreams into reality with her creations. Beyond her craft, she serves as a beacon of empowerment for women, counselling and uplifting them. Engaged in various social events alongside charitable foundations, her vision extends beyond the realm of fashion.

A 'pakka pahadan' yet deeply rooted in Hyderabad's vibrant tapestry, her journey from Uttarakhand to the city of pearls is a testament to resilience and belonging. With her father's army service forging a bond with this bustling metropolis, Hyderabad isn't just her birthplace; it's where her heart finds its true home. She says, "I hail from the vibrant city of Hyderabad. Despite being rooted in the rich culture of Uttarakhand and Nepal, my formative years, from childhood through teenagehood and marriage, have been intricately woven into the fabric of Hyderabad's bustling streets and warm embrace." Her father's service in the army led to their migration here, making Hyderabad her cherished home.

Hyderabad, where creativity thrives and the community embraces innovation with open arms, from unveiling new concepts to fostering learning, this city's vibrant spirit fuels the journey of every art enthusiast. As an art enthusiast, "I've found Hyderabad to be a haven for creativity, where every introduction resonates with immense enthusiasm from the community. Whether it's unveiling new concepts or imparting knowledge, the people of Hyderabad eagerly embrace, learn, and adapt."

Her journey started with pursuing an MBA that led to fashion design. Each step for her has contributed to a fulfilling tenure in this vibrant city. "With an experience of 15 years, three years ago, I embarked on a new chapter by opening a boutique nestled in the heart of Jubilee Hills. It's been a thrilling venture, marked by the city's unwavering support and a shared passion for artistic expression."

Her fondest memories from school days in Hyderabad are deeply intertwined with a sense of advocacy for gender equality. "I vividly recall the school's outdoor ground, where cricket was exclusively reserved for boys, leaving us girls disheartened during breaks. Determined to challenge this disparity, I took matters into my own hands. Rallying two fellow girls, I led them

Though she has been deeply rooted in the culture of Uttarakhand, fashion designer Jamuna Singh Shilpa has been deeply rooted in Hyderabad. This week, *The Pioneer* connects with her for our weekly column on *Hyderabond*, sharing her association with the city.

onto the ground, defiantly disrupting the boys' monopoly. This bold action repeated itself, gradually breaking down barriers until girls and boys harmoniously played together. In college, my curiosity knew no bounds. I eagerly participated in every opportunity for learning and growth, driven by an insatiable thirst for knowledge."

Despite early challenges and societal expectations, she defied the odds, carving her own path with unwavering resolve and self-reliance, proving that with perseverance, dreams can become reality. Through hard work, she not only survived but thrived, turning obstacles into stepping stones toward success. She shares, "At the tender age of 16, I found myself navigating the complexities of life, born into an orthodox family where marriage was expected early. Married at 16 and blessed with a daughter at 17, I embarked on a journey where challenges loomed large. Hailing from a middle-class background, the odds seemed stacked against me. Yet, fuelled by unwavering determination, I refused to relinquish my dreams. With grit and resilience, I forged ahead, overcoming every obstacle that dared to impede my path. I charted my course, relying on sheer perseverance and self-reliance to carve out a future. Despite the adversities, I pursued my education with fervour, refusing to let circumstances dictate my destiny."

Hyderabad, often hailed as the city of nawabs, exudes an unparalleled quality of acceptance where one never feels estranged. This vibrant metropolis, with its juxtaposition of the old and new, showcases stark differences between the historic charm of the old city and the modernity of the new.

"While the rich tapestry of culture and history adorns every corner, the warmth of hospitality envelopes all who visit. Notably, Hyderabad stands out as a haven where women can navigate the streets late into the night without apprehension, a testament to its safety compared to other urban landscapes. However, amidst its allure, challenges loom large. The burgeoning population has led to environmental changes, marked by the proliferation of high-rise apartments and dwindling green spaces. The resultant increase in traffic congestion serves as a poignant reminder of the need for sustainable urban development."

From its inclusive spirit to its tranquil charm, this city has something in the bag for everyone that captures the heart and soul of those who call it home. She says, "Hyderabad holds a special place in my heart, a sanctuary of joy and tranquility. It's not just a city; it's a realm of boundless opportunities, offering fertile ground for career growth and entrepreneurial endeavours. While I may spend fleeting moments in Mumbai, it's Hyderabad where true peace resides, unmatched by any other locale on the globe. Hyderabad, with their inherent grace and cultural richness, create an inviting atmosphere for all. This city's inclusive culture, a fusion of diverse traditions, welcomes everyone with open arms, making it effortless for anyone to call it home. The comforting vibe of Hyderabad soothes the soul, providing solace amidst life's hustle and bustle." Truly,



Review



Written by: Abhishek Garg and Chirag Sallian
Directed by: Ashish R. Shukla
Cinematography by: Murzy Pagdiwala
Produced by: Sameer Nair, Deepak Dhar, Rajesh Chadha, and Deepak Segal
Starring: Harsh Chhaya, Dibyendu Bhattacharya, Surya Sharma, Ankur Rathee, Ayn Zoya, Aanchal Singgh, Shivangi Singh, and Varun Badola
Streaming on: Sony Liv
Rating: 2.5/5

SURYA SHARMA SHINES ANEW in Undekhi Season 3

TANISHA SAXENA

After two highly successful seasons that promised an engrossing plot that would keep you glued to the screen, *Undekhi Season 3* is finally here. In its most recent chapter, the suspenseful thriller introduces more turns and twists.

PLOT: In the third season of the series, the 'Atwals' make a riveting return. With higher stakes, the chase becomes even more exhilarating, and the intricate plot twists leave viewers in awe. Papaji, portrayed by the talented Harsh Chhaya, finds himself in dire straits as the incriminating video of him shooting the dancer from *season 1* resurfaces, compelling a desperate bid for his rescue. Rinku, played by the dynamic Surya Sharma, is driven to extraordinary lengths to safeguard his beloved Papaji amidst the tumult. Amidst the chaos, an illicit drug trade adds another layer of complexity to the narrative.

HIGHLIGHTS: Dibyendu Bhattacharya's portrayal as DSP Barun Ghosh is a true showcase of realism and nuance. With meticulous attention to detail, Bhattacharya breathes life into Ghosh, depicting him as a cop who fearlessly navigates the gritty world of crime with an authentic touch. His subtle yet impactful expressions and mannerisms capture the essence of a seasoned officer unafraid to confront the darkest aspects of society, making him the show's standout feature. Bhattacharya's delivery of Ghosh's witty one-liners and quirky humour adds a layer of humanity to the character, rendering him both relatable and endearing to audiences. Surya Sharma's return as Rinku Atwal, aka Rajendra Singh Atwal, is equally compelling. He embodies the role of the obedient son, determined to protect his father and their shady business at any cost. Sharma maintains a strict demeanour throughout, skillfully withholding emotions to enhance his performance. His restrained approach to language and action adds depth to the character, showcasing Sharma's versatility as an actor.

Women play strategically significant roles in the series, each with her own motives and backstory that shape their journey through the

storyline. Anchal Singh, portraying Teji Atwal in this season as in its predecessor, demonstrates a nuanced character arc. She effortlessly embodies the essence of her character, adding an air of mystery to her portrayal.

The show's screenplay is a standout feature, skillfully crafted to captivate the audience. The seamless integration of Hindi, Punjabi, and Bengali lines adds depth and broadens its appeal to viewers across India. Papaji's Punjabi dialogues, flavoured with vivid expletives, imbue the conversations with an authentic and dynamic flair. Furthermore, DSP Ghosh's Bengali dialogues, alongside the use of standard Hindi, enrich the linguistic fabric of the series, showcasing the diverse cultural backgrounds of its characters and locales.

DRAWBACKS: The show's biggest drawback lies in its predictability. While the episodes are engaging, they lack the gripping suspense that keeps viewers on the edge of their seats. Additionally, some episodes suffer from an excessively slow pace, and the introduction of new characters feels underutilised.

TECHNICAL ASPECTS: The series doesn't unfold against the typical backdrop of Uttar Pradesh or Bihar but rather amidst the picturesque hilly terrain of Manali. The breathtaking mountain vistas serve as more than just a scenic backdrop; they become integral to the secrets and intrigues woven by the characters. The cinematography skillfully transports viewers to the majestic mountains of Manali, capturing their grandeur and mystique. The adept use of lighting further elevates the visual experience, enhancing the ambiance of each scene with precision. The editing is sharp, and the shots are meticulously chosen. And the background score is truly a garnish to the series.

VERDICT: *Undekhi* presents a refreshing take on the crime thriller genre, offering a nuanced exploration of crime, corruption, and power dynamics. What distinguishes it from other recent crime thrillers is its restrained approach; it refrains from excessive glorification of the criminal world.

Must visit 'Babymoon' retreats for a memorable pre-baby holiday

A "babymoon" is a pre-baby getaway for expectant parents to relax and celebrate. Its origins are modern, but the idea of pre-baby trips has historical roots in various cultures. They are now cherished worldwide, with couples enjoying pampering and creating memories. The trend has surged, with resorts offering packages emphasising self-care and nurturing relationships before parenthood. They celebrate the transition to parenthood, offering couples precious moments before their new journey.

So, if you are seeking a destination to explore for your babymoon, here's a curated list of the best babymoon destinations that will ensure expectant couples enjoy an unforgettable pre-baby retreat.

Club Mahindra Tungi, Lonavala: Located amidst the picturesque beauty of the mountains, near Lonavala city, it offers expectant couples a serene weekend getaway. With its spectacular views and experiences, it provides the perfect setting for soon-to-be parents to unwind before parenthood. This vibrant destination offers a myriad of

fun-filled activities, allowing couples to bond and create cherished memories. From exploring the scenic views to witnessing breath-taking sunsets, couples can immerse themselves in the breath-taking beauty of the resort. With its panoramic views of Pawna Lake visible right from the windows, it also serves as an idyllic backdrop for a memorable photoshoot. For couples seeking indulgence and relaxation, this resort is the ultimate choice for pampering themselves and celebrating this special time together.

Club Mahindra Udaipur: Nestled against the stunning backdrop of the scenic Aravalli Hills, it is a masterpiece of tranquility that promises not only calmness but also an amazing experience for expectant couples. The resort offers easy access to enriching and unique experiences, seamlessly blending nature, culture, history, and adventure for a soothing stay. Couples can indulge in royal services and comforts, and rejuvenate their senses amidst lush greenery with signature treatments and therapies at the spa. It is the perfect retreat for your babymoon, where every moment is

designed to pamper you and your growing family.

Club Mahindra Varca: Nestled along the picturesque shores of Goa, it offers a serene escape amidst ivory sea waves and golden sands, making it a perfect getaway for an expectant couple. Embrace the calming beauty of the beach for a day or embark on a romantic stroll along the sparkling seashore with your spouse, creating cherished moments together. Indulge in an intimate candlelight dinner by the beach, further enhancing the romance of your babymoon experience. Additionally, expectant couples can also explore nearby attractions such as Dolphin Point, the Spice Plantations Tour, and the historic Basilica of Bom Jesus, perfect for experiencing with your special someone during your babymoon.

Club Mahindra Madikeri: This resort offers a plethora of experiences for expectant parents to unwind and de-stress themselves before navigating the path of parenthood. Nestled amidst coffee plantations, the resort offers a tranquil escape from busy city life and transports travellers to a peaceful and serene environment. The resort not only provides comfortable and spacious rooms but also boasts amenities like a spa and swimming pool, perfect for pampering and relaxation escape for the expectant couple. The breath-taking natural landscape surrounding the resort is ideal for leisurely walks in the woods, allowing the couple to enjoy the soothing breeze and immerse themselves in the beauty of nature..





MEGASTAR CHIRU, HONOURED WITH PADMA VIBHUSHAN DEDICATES IT TO TECHNICIANS

At a ceremony held at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi, renowned actor Chiranjeevi—a legend in Telugu cinema—was conferred with the prestigious Padma Vibhushan, India's second-highest civilian honour. The seasoned actor conveyed his sincere appreciation for all the well-wishes that poured in from all directions. In a poignant message posted on the social media site X, Chiranjeevi expressed his gratitude to everyone who helped him along the way in the creative industry, including his supporters, and the Union Government for the esteemed award. Fans all throughout the country have been moved by the pictures and videos that show Chiranjeevi accepting the Padma Vibhushan and celebrating the moment with his family!

Even with the recognition that comes with being named a Padma Vibhushan, Chiranjeevi is dedicated to his work. While working on the highly anticipated socio-fantasy movie *Vishwambhara*, the megastar never fails to enthrall viewers with his on-screen persona. Unmatched in the Indian film industry, Chiranjeevi's legacy is characterised by his many years of commitment, adaptability, and creative genius. In addition to receiving praise from critics, his services to Telugu cinema have won him millions of admirers across the globe. The Padma Vibhushan award is evidence of his remarkable career and lasting influence on Indian cinema.

After coming back to Hyderabad, Chiranjeevi

talked with the media and expressed his feelings over winning the important recognition. Throughout his remarkable career, he worked with directors, producers, and technicians, and he credited them for his accomplishments. "I will be happy if Sr. NTR gets the Bharat Ratna," Chiranjeevi added, expressing his respect for the legendary actor and former Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh. Chiranjeevi's family, including his wife Surekha, son Ram Charan, daughter-in-law Upasana, and daughter Sushmitha, accompanied him to the award ceremony. Ram Charan, a renowned actor himself, shared a heartfelt post on Instagram congratulating his father. The post featured a family picture and a video of Chiranjeevi receiving the award.



Ajith Kumar begins shooting for *Good Bad Ugly* in Hyd

Mythri Movie Makers announced a high-budget action film, *Good Bad Ugly*, with Ajith Kumar playing the lead. Adhik Ravichandran, who last directed Vishal in Mark Antony, will helm the new film. It is heard that Ajith Kumar lands in Hyderabad for the movie.

The movie *Good Bad Ugly* went on floors on Friday. Ajith Kumar also takes part in the shoot in the first schedule, which is happening in a big set in Hyderabad. The movie will see Ajith Kumar in a role with multiple shades. The title poster awestruck one and all. Mythri Movie Makers is making movies in other languages with big stars from other industries, and *Good Bad Ugly* is a Telugu-Tamil bilingual.

The movie, which will have music by rockstar Devi Sri Prasad, is scheduled to be released in Pongal in 2025.

Bharat Raj takes charge as Abhiram in *Yevam*

The first look of *Yevam* was revealed earlier this year. The movie aims to question conventional wisdom and honour women's tenacity. After sharing the details about the characters of the heroines—Chandini Chowdary and Ashu Reddy—the makers have shared a new update about the male lead, Bharat Raj's character in the film.

In the film, Bharat will be seen playing the character of inspector Abhiram, and his intriguing look was unveiled on Friday.

Directed by Prakash Dantuluri, the film also stars Chandini Chowdary, Ashu Reddy, and Vashishta Simha, among the rest. The film is produced by Navdeep and Pawan Goparaju. On the technical front, it has cinematography by SV Visveshwar, music by Keertana Seshu and Nilesh Mandalapu, and editing by Sujana Addusumilli.

Prerna Arora said 'no compromise' on budget for *Hero Heeroine*

Filmmaker Prerna Arora is leaving no stone unturned to make her upcoming project *Hero Heeroine* stand out among the other films. For a significant scene in the film, which takes place in a forest, Arora suggested constructing a set on a studio floor, irrespective of the high cost it would require. Prerna was adamant that director Suresh Krissna had crafted such a visually striking and emotionally resonant sequence that it deserved to be a standout moment in the film.

Director Suresh Krissna said, "Prerna is truly an exceptional visionary. Once she's captivated by a story, she spares no effort in bringing it to fruition. The day I narrated this sequence, she recognised its true value within the film. Without hesitation, she declared, 'Sir, no compromise-

es. Let's make it happen. Sky's the limit!"

After extensive discussions involving the director of photography, art director, and production designer, the makers decided to execute the set at Ramoji Film City. The film is scheduled to commence shooting on June 10 in Hyderabad and is set to conclude by August 5th.

The planning and execution of both the locations and set design indicate that this film promises to deliver a truly distinctive cinematic experience! The film is said to be a pan-Indian film that stars Divyah Khosla in the lead role, while Tusshar Kapoor, Suchitra Krishnamoorthi, and the rest of the ensemble cast play pivotal roles.



IT'S A WRAP FOR *DARLING*

Priyadarshi, who most recently starred in the absurd comedy *Om Bheem Bush*, is getting ready for his upcoming movie, *Darling*, alongside the talented actress Nabha Natesh.

While, there has been much anticipation surrounding the film, the makers shared on Friday that the shoot has been wrapped up. The film is about

a heartfelt journey through the complexities of love and marriage. K. Niranjan Reddy is producing *Darling* under the Prime Show Entertainment banner. *Darling* is directed by Aswin Raam, who has previously worked on movies such as *Yaarume Thevai Illa* (2021) and *Anbarivu* (2022). Vivek Sagar has been engaged to write the soundtrack for the movie. Naresh Ramadurai did the cinematography, while Pradeep E. Ragav did the editing.

Manchu Lakshmi-starrer officially titled *Yakshini*

Telugu-language makers of *Baahubali* are working on a horror web series. For this OTT series that Arka Media Works is producing, the name *Yakshini* has been decided upon. Disney Plus will provide this webseries for streaming. On Friday, they gave fans a first peek at the webseries poster. It's intriguing that the differently designed poster merely features a shadow instead of the main actors. Interest will grow thanks to the poster's caption, "Yakshini comes."

This web series, which begins with a horror story, is rumoured to have Vedika, Rahul Vijay, Ajay, and Manchu Lakshmi in the key parts. Vedika appears to be playing the fairy in the titular role. It's been also reported that her character would change with each episode of this exciting series

that incorporates horror themes! You can watch the *Yakshini* web series in Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, Kannada, and Hindi on Disney Plus Hotstar. It is understood that the release date will shortly be announced by the makers. The amount of episodes in this series will be



made clear along with the director. *Yakshini* is a web series that Sobhuyarlagadda and Prasad Devineni are making with a significant budget under Arka Media Works.

However, this is actress Vedika's debut web series! She made her Tollywood debut in *Vijayadasami*, starring Kalyan Ram. She then acted in a number of movies, including *Far Away*, *Balakrishna Ruler*, and *Baanam*. Her hit in Telugu was *Kanchana 3!* She also had a major part in the recently released film *Razakar*.



PRATHINIDHI TO HAVE A 'THREEQUEL': REPORTS

Prathinidhi 2, a political action drama directed by Nara Rohit, premiered in cinemas three days prior to the AP elections. The film is the first feature film that renowned journalist Murthy Devagupthapu has directed. Nara Rohit is back on the big screen after an arduous six-year break.

Prathinidhi 1 was a highly praised film with remarkable performances by Sree Vishnu and Nara Rohit. *Prathinidhi's* ovation made it possible for Nara Rohit to make a comeback with its follow-up.

As of right now, there is going to be a third installment in this Telugu political franchise, which was affirmed by Murthy Devagupthapu during the conclusion of *Prathinidhi 2*. The audience will have to wait



until the third installment to find out the solutions to many of the unresolved questions in the film's open conclusion. According to the director, *Prathinidhi 2's* actors will also appear in the threequel. The

lead heroine was portrayed by Siree Lella, while important characters were portrayed by Dinesh Tej, Sapthagiri, Jisshu Sengupta, and Sachin Khedekar. Under the auspices of Vanara Entertainments and Rana Arts, Kumar Raza Bathula, Anjaneyulu Sri Thota, and Surendranath Bollineni provided financial support for the political action drama. The music was composed by Mahati Swara Sagar.



Massive fire accident at Kalyan Ram's next film set

On Friday, a massive fire accident occurred on the sets of the hero Kalyan Ram. It seems that there has been a loss of around Rs 4 crore in this accident. According to reports, this accident took place in the huge set built for each scene in the film in Hyderabad. The shooting of this movie, which is yet to be titled, is currently going on at a rapid pace. Senior actress and political leader Vijayashanti is playing a key role in this movie.

According to reports, Kalyan Ram is acting in this crime thriller movie. He will be seen as a CBI officer in the film. A huge set was set up for shooting the action scenes of this movie. Now the set is on fire for Rs 4 crore! The shooting was going on when the fire broke out, but there were no casualties reported.

Mr. Idiot teaser out now

With the release of its teaser on Friday, *Mr. Idiot*, the eagerly awaited film debut of Maadhav, the nephew of Mass Maharaj Ravi Teja, has created a lot of hype. The film is produced by JJR Ravichand under JJR Entertainments in collaboration with Yalamanchi Rani, and it stars Simran Sharma as the lead female character. The teaser for the new film, which was directed by Gauri Ronanki, who is well-known for the box-office hit of *Pelli Sanda D*, shows promise for the debutante.

In the teaser, Simran Sharma's character Satya, a prominent student at Dhruva Fashion Designing College known for her extraordinary design skills, is introduced to the audience. Hero (Maadhav), whose lighthearted repartee with Satya progressively develops into a more intimate bond that he teases to be called a "multiple." Maadhav captivates with his elegant character and amazing performance, emulating the lively spirit of his uncle Ravi Teja. *Mr. Idiot* is getting ready for a big theatrical premiere after completing all production phases with success. The creators promise an amazing cinematic experience in the coming future and will reveal the precise release date.

