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VIJAYAWADA, SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2024; PAGES 12 ₹4 Established 1864

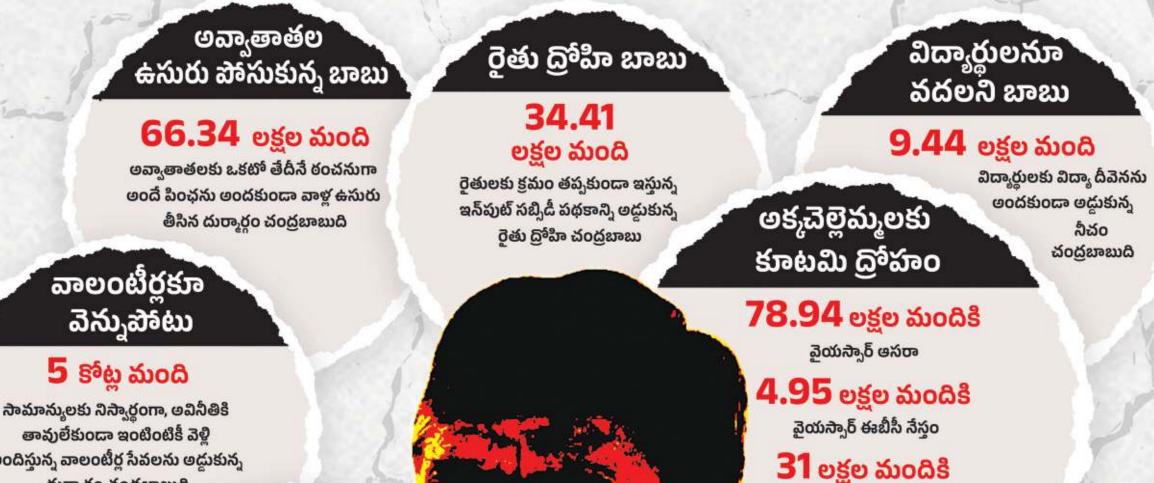
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RNI No.APENG/2018/76468 Established 1864 **Published From** VIJAYAWADA DELHI LUCKNOW BHOPAL RAIPUR CHANDIGARH BHUBANESWAR RANCH DEHRADUN HYDERABAD *Late City Vol. 6 Issue 192 *Air Surcharge Extra if Applicable

www.dailypioneer.com

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పేదలకు అందుతున్న పథకాలను నిస్పిగ్గుగా అద్దుకున్న చంద్రబాబుకు రేపు పౌరపాటున ఓటు వేస్తే..? ఇంకెంత అరాచకం సృష్టిస్తాది?..



అందిస్తున్న వాలంటీర్ల సేవలను అడ్డుకున్న దుర్మారం చంద్రబాబుది

> పేదలకు ఇంగ్లీష్ మీడియం వద్దన్న బాబు

84 లక్షల మంది

పేద విద్యార్థులకు ఇంగ్లీషు మీడియం చదువులు వద్దని కోర్టుకెక్కి అడ్డుకున్న పాపం చందబాబుది

ముస్లిం రిజర్వేషన్లు రద్దు చేస్తామనే వారితో దోస్త్రీ

30 లక్షల మంది పేదరికం పాతిపదికన ముసింలకు అందుతున్న 4% రిజర్వేషన్లను రద్దుచేస్తామనేవారితో జతకట్టిన చంద్రబాబు

వైయస్సార్ చేయూత పథకాలు అందకుండా అడ్డుకున్న రాక్షసత్యం చంద్రబాబుది

దళితులూ దూరం దూరం... ಇದಿ ಬಾಬು ನೆಜಂ

అమరావతిలో పేదలు. దళితులకు ఇళ్ల పట్టాలిస్తుంటే కోర్టుకెళ్లి అడ్డుకున్న కులదురహంకారం చంద్రబాబుది

ఇంతమందికి ద్రోహం చేసి రేపు అన్నీ ఉచితంగా ఇస్తానంటున్న ఆల్ఫ్రీ బాబు అబద్దాలను నమ్మేద్దామా? మనకెందుకీ మోసాల బాబు... మనకెందుకీ దుర్మార్త కూటమి

జగ్నన్నకే మన ఓటు ADVT ISSUED BY YSR CONGRESS PARTY



vijayawada 02



Electoral battle heats up in Palasa as **YSRCP** and **TDP** trade charges

PNS SRIKAKULAM

In the heart of the Palasa constituency, where diversity thrives among its residents, a fierce electoral battle brews as the impending elections draw near. Home to a pattern of communities, including the influential fisherfolk population and various other significant groups, Palasa finds itself at the centre of attention as candidates vie for political dominance.

With over 60,000 residents, the fisherfolk community, comprising Vada Balija, Agnikula Kshatriya, Jalari, and Keviti subgroups, commands substantial influence in Palasa. Minister and YSRCP candidate Seediri Appalaraju, representing this community, appears confident in his bid for victory. Banking on promises to address long-pending projects like the Uddanam Water Project and a 200-bed super specialty hospital, alongside welfare schemes like Navaratnalu, Appalaraju aims to secure the candidate Gouthu Sireesha,

ED names Kavitha in fresh...

Continued from Page 5

Official sources said the prosecution complaint has been filed under sections 45 and 44(1) of the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA) before a designated court, the sources said. A similar complaint against

Kejriwal is expected to be filed next week.

This is the seventh charge sheet by the ED in this case in which it has arrested 18 people so far including Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal, who was given interim bail by the Supreme Court on Friday.

The ED had alleged that Rs 45 re "kickback out of the Rs 100



Minister and YSRCP candidate Seediri Appalaraju, representing fisherfolk community, appears confident in his bid for victory. In opposition stands TDP candidate Gouthu Sireesha, seeking to uphold her family's political legacy. Šireesha highlights alleged corruption and land grabbing by Minister Appalaraju, despite belonging to the minor Sri Sayana community.

seeking to uphold her family's electorate's support. In opposition stands TDP political legacy. Sireesha high-lights alleged corruption and

to the minor Sri Sayana community. Her campaign emphasises the need for transparency and accountability, contrasting Appalaraju's promises with accusations of neglect and wrongdoings.

Amidst the electoral fervour, Palasa grapples with a myriad of challenges. Issues ranging from delayed infrastructure projects like the kidney research centre to the lack of safe drinking water provisions in regions afflicted by Uddanam nephropathy loom large.

Despite governmental ini-tiatives and funding alloca-tions, hurdles such as funding shortages and policy shifts impede progress in critical endeavours like irri-gation projects and industry development.

In the electoral arena, accusations fly as candidates spar over their visions for Palasa's future. Sireesha criticizes Appalaraju's purported focus on corruption over

land grabbing by Minister development, citing discrep-Appalaraju, despite belonging ancies between promises and ancies between promises and ground realities. Conversely, Appalaraju touts completed projects and welfare schemes, dismissing opposition claims as politically motivated.

Both candidates present contrasting visions for Palasa's development. Sireesha pledges to address issues like water scarcity and agricultural woes, advocating for a comprehensive vision document. Meanwhile, Appalaraju defends his track record, citing completed projects and financial aid under welfare schemes as evidence of his commitment to the constituency's progress. As the electoral battle intensifies, the people of Palasa find themselves at a crossroads,

weighing promises against past performance. With competing visions for development and accusations of misconduct, the upcoming elections hold profound implications for Palasa's future trajectory and the well-being of its diverse population.

Staff fear salary delays... urban areas.

Continued from Page 5

The main question looming over government employees per-tains to Naidu's capacity to ensure timely salary disburse-ments amidst proposed fiscal allocations.

The tangible impacts of Chief Minister Jagan's welfare schemes, coupled with his strides in education and healthcare reform, have garnered widespread approval among the populace, particularly among government employees.

The BJP's indirect disassociation from the manifesto underscores the challenges Naidu may face in implementing his proposed welfare schemes without substantial cooperation from the Centre. To date, Chief Minister Jagan has disbursed Rs 4.50 lakh crore to beneficiaries through

Continued from Page 5

The bench also directed Kejriwal to furnish bail bonds in the sum of Rs 50,000 with one surety of the like amount to the satisfaction of the jail superintendent. "He will not make any comment with regard to his role in the present case; and will not interact with any of the witnesses and/or have access to any offi-

Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) and non-DBT channels, highlighting the magnitude of his government's social welfare iniiatives

In contrast, Naidu's ambi-tious agenda would necessitate an estimated Rs 12 lakh crores, prompting queries regarding the feasibility of such expansive proposals.

Furthermore, Naidu's pledge to revoke GO 117 has elicited concern among government teachers, further fueling scepticism surrounding his manifesto commitments.

In light of these developments, government employees express a growing preference for the YSRCP manifesto over the NDA's proposals, indicative of a broader shift in sentiment favouring Chief Minister Jagan

Speaking to The Pioneer, K. Venkatrami Reddy, president of the Andhra Pradesh Secretariat Employees' Union, rebuked Naidu's promises as unrealistic and unattainable. Reddy emphasised the repercussions of Naidu's proposed policies, particularly highlighting the potential displacement of regular employees by outsourced and personnel. contracted Moreover, he scrutinised Naidu's track record, citing a concerning trend of fiscal mismanagement during the TDP's previous tenure.

As the political landscape continues to evolve, the discourse surrounding manifesto promises and their practical implications remains central to the concerns of government Mohan Reddy, particularly in employees and retirees alike.

to the society," the bench said. In

a major relief to Kejriwal, the top

court granted him interim bail till

June I to campaign in the ongo-ing Lok Sabha elections. The

apex court said Kejriwal will have

AAP office at 1 pm.

"I am feeling great to be with you. I had told you that I would

come out soon... First of all, I want

to pay obeisance to Lord

Hanuman. I am among you

because of the blessings of Lord

The AAP leader also thanked

Barred from entering CM...

cial files connected with the nal antecedents. He is not a threat case," the top court said. The apex court, while granti-ng Kejriwal the relief said there was no doubt about the fact that serious accusations have been made against him but he has not een convicted yet.

to surrender and go back to jail "He does not have any crimi- on June 2.

Jagan slams Oppn for ...

Continued from Page 5

Now, the same Congress intends to pay homage to YSR Ghat in Idupulapaya. The party that denigrated my father and wrongfully detained me for 16 months is now paying respects at his grave. Voting for Congress would betray the YSR legacy," CM Jagan emphasised. Furthermore, Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy remarked, "Chandrababu Naidu deals with BJP by day and Congress by night." "We have allocated 7 seats with 4 per cent

political reservation for minorities. Urdu has been designated as the second official language, and we have appointed minorities as MLCs and MLAs, even appointing a minority brother as the deputy chief minister and continuity of all schemes, while a mistake in a woman minority leader as vice-president of voting for Chandrababu would terminate the Legislative Council." CM lagan highlight- them." he said. "We have executed over Rs 2.70 ed. CM Jagan also questioned Chandrababu's alliance with the NDA despite opposing minority reservations. "It is unacceptable to manipulate Muslim reservations for political gains. We stand in solidarity with minorities on issues like NRC and CAA. However, However, we have implemented 99% of the Chandrababu allied with BJP to revoke the guarantees in the manifesto, unlike the pre-4 per cent reservation for Muslims. Can vious administration," CM Jagan asserted.

Chandrababu advocate for Muslim reservations in Modi's presence?" queried CM Jagan.

"I didn't initiate welfare assistance just before elections. It has been distributed according to the welfare calendar for the past five years. The administration is being obstructed not by my government, but by the voices of impoverished students, women, and farmers at 57 months. If you aspire to uplift the lives of the underprivileged, vote for the Fan," CM Jagan urged. Chief Minister Jagan likened the upcoming election to the Kurukshetra war, stating, "The impending election isn't merely about electing MPs and MLAs but about sustaining welfare schemes for the next five years. Voting for Jagan ensures lakh crore under DBT without discrimination by pressing the button 130 times. Did this occur during the previous administration?" queried CM Jagan. "The opposition used to present vibrant manifestos during elections, only to discard them post-polls.

SC grants Kejriwal ...

Continued from Page 5

Observing that granting Kejriwal interim bail for 21 days will not make much of a difference, the bench said the ED's Enforcement Case Information Report (ECIR) was registered in August 2022 while the chief minister was arrested on March 21 this year.

"He (Kejriwal) was out there for one-and-a-halfyears. He could have been arrested earlier or after but nothing such thing happened," the bench told ED.

The law officers urged the court to impose bail conditions, including that Kejriwal will not say anything regarding the excise policy case.

The bench said the conditions will be similar to those imposed on AAP leader Sanjay Singh, who was given bail last month in connection with the case.

According to lawyer Shadan Farasat, who appeared for Kejriwal, the court pronounced a very short oral order.

"We have not yet seen the written order. So we don't now th nts of f e writte

Continued from Page 5

'Inquilab Zindabad', the Delhi chief minister said, "I am fighting against dictatorship with all my might but 140 crore people (of the country) will have to come together to fight against it."

Hanuman," Kejriwal added. He further said that he would visit people for their love and blessings the Hanuman temple at Connaught and asked them to come together to Place at 11 am on Saturday and address a press conference at the fight against dictatorship.

AP HC allows..

Continued from Page 5

With the business hours coming to an end on Friday the State govern

'We have to save ...

crore "bribe" provided by the 'South Group', were used by the AAP for the Goa assembly election campaign in 2022.

The 'South Group' liquor lobby allegedly includes Kavitha, TDP Ongole seat Lok Sabha candidate Magunta Sreenivasulu Reddy, his son Raghav Reddy and others.

The excise case pertains to alleged corruption and money laundering in the formulation and execution of the Delhi government's excise policy for 2021-22, which was later scrapped.

Delhi Lieutenant Governor V K Saxena recommended a CBI probe into the alleged irregularities. Subsequently, the ED registered a case under the PMLA.

The ED filed its money laundering case on August 22, 2022, taking cognisance of the CBI FIR that was lodged on August 17, 2022.

TODAY ALMANAC Month & Paksham: Sukla Paksha Tithi: Chaturthi: May 11 02:50 AM to May 12 02:04 AM Panchami May 12 02:04 AM to May 13 02:04 AM Nakshatram: May 10 10:47 AM Mrigashirsha: to May 11 10:15 AN May 11 10:15 AM Ardra:: to May 12 10:26 AM Rahukalam 9:00 AM to 10:36 AM Yamagandam 1:48 PM to 3:24 PM 06:43 PM to 08:20 PM Varivam: 5:49 AM to 7:25 AM Gulika: 12:22 AM to 01:58 AM Amritakalam: Abhijit Muhurtham: 11:46 AM to 12:38 PM

VIJAYAWADA WEATHER Forecast: Partly Cloudy **Temp:** 37°

Humidity: 60% Sunrise: 5:38 AM Sunset: 6:30 PM

Updated: May 10, 2024 5:00 PM

Botsa slams Oppn alliance...

Continued from Page 5

paign orchestrated by the Highlighting several instances of what he peropposing alliance, Minister Botsa challenged the integriceived as gross negligence ty of their claims regarding during a press conference, the Land Titling Act and crit-Minister Botsa underscored icised media mogul Ramoji the hardship faced by farm-Rao for what he perceived as ers in accessing input subsia lack of accountability dies and the obstruction towards the public. Minister faced by welfare schemes Botsa vehemently opposed such as 'YSR EBC Nestham' the Election Commission's and 'Jagananna Vidya decisions, asserting that they Deevena' in disbursing did not align with ethical principles. He decried what funds. He further indicated he labelled as the decline into that Chandrababu Babu's anxiety over electoral defeat "substandard politics" over was impending, implying the last forty years, implying that the alliance's actions that the current state of were driven by fear rather affairs represented an than a sense of duty. unprecedented low in the Expressing dismay over the annals of governance.

Naidu 'terrorising' public ...

Continued from Page 5 truly believed it to be flawed.

Accusing Chandrababu In addressing Chandrababu's criticism of of engaging in fear-mongering tactics reminiscent the e-stamping system, of terrorism, Sajjala con-Sajjala reminded that it was initiated during demned his attempts to create panic among the Chandrababu's tenure and populace. He attributed has since been adopted by Chandrababu's actions to multiple states. He also political opportunism, referenced past controveraimed at gaining an advansies involving TDP leaders, tage in the upcoming elecincluding the Telgi scandal tions. Sajjala challenged and allegations against for-Chandrababu to denounce mer cabinet colleague C the Act to the BJP if he Krishna Yadav.

said they are releasing Kejriwal on an interim release/bail until June 2, and there are no conditions on what he can say and what he cannot say during the campaigning process and while he is out in these 20-22 days," he said. "We are hoping that this order is uploaded today, and then we will update appropriate procedure for his release," Farasat added.

ment could not proceed further, he added.

A communique from the poll panel on Friday, demanding further details from the State on disbursement, even in the face of a High Court order allowing the disbursal delayed and derailed the funds transfer.

The State government had earlier sought permission from the EC to disburse the funds claiming that they were ongoing schemes, however, the poll body refused.

Dec	claration a	bout crimi	(for Candidate to put	olish in New	Format C- spapers, TV					
(As (Pu Nar	per the jud blic Interes me and ad	gment date t Foundatio dress of c	ed 25th September, 2018, of Hon'ble Supreme Court in on & Ors. Vs. Union of India & Anr.) andidate: <u>Magbool B S, Door No. 9-160-4, Madan</u> hra Pradesh - 515 591.							
Nar (Inc Nar	me of politi dependent of me of Election	ical party : candidates ion : <u>Gener</u>	<u>Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party</u> should write "Independent" here) al Elections HOP / AP LA - 2024							
<u>I M</u>	Name of Constituency: <u>161 - Kadiri Assembly Constituency</u> <u>I Magbool B S</u> (name of candidate) a candidate for the above mentioned election, declare for publi infOrmation the following details about my criminal antecedents:									
SI. No.		Details about cases conviction for criminal offences								
	Name of Court	Case No and Status of Case	Section(s) of Acts concerned and brief description of offence(s)	Name of court & date(s) of order(s)	Description offence(s) punishmer imposed					
1	Not applicable	Cr.No. 344/2023 of Kadiri Town Police Station	Sec.188, 341 r/w 34 IPC and Sec.3 of Public	Not Applicable	Not					
eleo	* In the case of election to Council of States or election to Legislative Council by MLAs, mention th election concerned in place of name of constituency. Note: (i) Details should be given separately for each in separate rows.									
	(ii) The n	natter in ne	wspapers should be in font size of atleast 12.		Sd/- bool B S					

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Continued from Page 5

The southern region, encompassing Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Pradesĥ, Telangana, Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu, has a total live storage capacity of 53.334 BCM. According to the reservoir storage bulletin dated May 9, the available live storage in these reservoirs is 7.921 BCM, constituting only 15 per cent of their total capacity. In comparison, last year's storage during the corresponding period was 27 per cent, and the 10-year average was 21 per cent of the live storage capacity.

The northern region, which comprises Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, and Rajasthan, has 10 reservoirs under CWC monitoring with a total live storage capacity of 19.663 BCM. The bulletin reports the current live storage available in these reservoirs at 5.759 BCM, representing 29 per cent of the total live storage capacity.

During the corresponding period last year, the storage was 37 per cent, and the 10-year average was 33 per cent of the live storage capacity.



🗙 ప్రతి నగరంలోనూ హైటెక్ సిటీ నిర్మించాడా? 🗙 ప్రత్యేక హోదా ఇచ్చారా?

ADVT

వైయస్సార్ కాంగ్రెస్ పార్టీ మేనిఫెస్టా కోసం ఈ QR కోడ్ని స్మాన్ చేయండి

ISSUED BY YSR CONGRESS PARTY



ఫ్యాన్ గుర్తుకే మన ఓటు వేద్దాం

ఇచ్చిన మాటను నిలబెట్టుకునే జగనన్నను గెలిపించుకుందాం





vijayawada 04

CEO outlines polling day arrangements Campaigning to end at 6 p.m. today

PNS VIJAYAWADA

With the general elections slat-ed for May 13, State Chief Electoral Officer Mukesh Kumar Meena has delineated the preparations to be undertaken by district election administrations and police authorities in the crucial 72hour window leading up to polling day.

In a directive issued on Friday, Meena emphasized the imperative for all stakeholders to adhere to Election Commission guidelines, ensuring the smooth conduct of elections devoid of any disturbances or incidents necessitat-

ing re-polling. Detailing the arrangements for the final 72 hours preceding polling day, Meena outlined that a silence period would be enforced from 6 pm on May 11 for 48 hours, during which election campaigning would



intra and interstate, in the days leading up to polling day to thwart any attempts at arms or ammunition smuggling. Special provisions have also been made to ensure voters commuting from neighbouring states face no undue inconvenience.

cease, and the electoral code of

conduct strictly upheld. Section 144 of the CrPC would be



integrity, distribution of funds, gifts, or food to Self Help Group (SHG) members is prohibited, along with precautions against misuse of community facilities such as halls and kitchens. Furthermore, strict regulaparty officials restricted to designated party headquarters. In a bid to preserve the

sanctity of the electoral process, efforts are underway to prevent non-voters from occupying accommodations such as lodges, guest houses, and community halls within 48 hours of polling day, though exceptions will be made to ensure minimal disruption to religious pilgrims and tourists. The dissemination of polit-

ical messages via bulk SMS is banned within 48 hours of the polls closing. Any such com-munications received by voters are to be promptly reported to authorities for investigation. CEO Meena stressed the collective responsibility of all stakeholders in upholding the

tions mandate that political integrity and fairness of the workers campaigning from electoral process, urging coopoutside a constituency vacate eration in implementing these the area immediately postdirectives to ensure a peaceful campaigning, with state-level and orderly election on May 13.

Naidu, his allies hindered welfare schemes: Hafeez

PNS VIJAYAWADA

Accusing Chandrababu Naidu and his allies of obstructing welfare initiatives in Andhra Pradesh, YSRCP MLA from Kurnool, Hafeez Khan, asserted that schemes aimed at benefiting the people were deliberately halted due to orchestrated complaints by Naidu

lamenting that such actions and his cohorts. Highlighting the interfer-ence, Khan said that despite the AP High Court's directive caused distress to countless beneficiaries. Andhra Pradesh to retaliate to continue ongoing welfare programmes, Naidu and assoagainst Naidu and his coalition ciates filed complaints with the in the upcoming elections, condemning their perceived Election Commission, susopposition to welfare and pubpending scheme disbursements despite court clearance. ic interests.

Khan squarely placed the blame on Naidu and his associates for impeding the distribution of welfare schemes,



Khan urged the people of

Reflecting on Chief Minister

YS Jagan Mohan Reddy's

tenure, Khan praised the seam-

less delivery of welfare schemes

Secretariat systems. However, he lamented the adverse impact of stalled schemes, noting financial hardships faced by students due to the suspension of 'Vidya Deevena' and farmers grappling with dif-ficulties accessing input subsidies during the current agricultural season. Khan further underscored the plight of women affected by the cessation of 'Aasara' and 'Cheyutha' schemes, squarely attributing responsibility to Naidu and his associates for the disruptions.

over the past 58 months under

his administration, citing the

efficacy of the Volunteer and

In a resolute call to action, MLA Hafeez Khan urged the people of Andhra Pradesh to hold Naidu, TDP candidates, and their alliance accountable at the ballot box.

4,44,216 postal votes polled for 25 LS seats

PNS VIJAYAWADA

Chief Electoral Officer Mukesh Kumar Meena said that 4,44,216 postal ballot votes were polled for the 25 Parliamentary constituencies.

He said that 4,44,218 postal ballot votes were polled for the 175 Assembly constituencies. The postal ballot voting for the government employees began on May 5 and concluded on Friday in the facilitation centres.

The maximum number of postal ballot votes of 22,650 polled in the Nellore district while the lowest of 14,526 polled in the Amalapuram (SC) constituency.

Naidu is anti-poor, say YSRCP 'star campaigners' TDP chief flayed for obstructing delivery of welfare scheme funds to the tune of Rs 14,000 crore

PNS VIJAYAWADA

obstructing the delivery of

welfare scheme funds to the tune of Rs 14,000 crore. During

a press conference that took

place at the Central Party

Office in Tadepalli, these 'Star

Campaigners' reiterated that

Chandrababu and his party are

They also helped draw a

timeline of how Chandrababu

and Co were trying all tricks in

the book to inconvenience and

anti-poor and anti-women.

trouble the poor, widows, youth, disabled as well as the In the wake of a complaint filed elderly in the State as they were by TDP chief N Chandrababu desperate to come to power Naidu and his aides to the again. These Star Campaigners also sent out a warning to the Election Commission to stall public to be wary of the fact that TDP helmed by the disbursement of benefits under six welfare schemes in Andhra Pradesh, YSRCP's 'Star Chandrababu would stop all YSRCP welfare schemes if at all Campaigners', all of who are commoners, came down heavthey come to power. ily on Chandrababu for

The Star Campaigners spoke about the initiatives introduced by CM Jagan and how those initiatives transformed their lives. "The YSRCP government's pro-poor policies have significantly enhanced our economic security, a feat unparalleled in history. Under Jagan we got a taste of a good, inclusive government where delivery of

services was ensured at our doorstep. However, when we recall Chandrababu's tenure, all

that we can think of is discrimination, corruption and hardship for women, farmers, and

10

students," they collectively mentioned. Janardhan Reddy, YSRCP 'Star Campaigner' from Kurnool district, highlighted the profound impact of CM

Meena stressed

the collective responsibility of all stakeholders

in upholding the

fairness of the

electoral process,

urging cooperation

these directives to

ensure a peaceful

and orderly election

in implementing

on May 13.

integrity and

Jagan's governance on their lives. He said, "Jagananna lives by his words 'Kulam Chudam, Matam Chudam, Rajakeeyalu Cheyyam' which translates to good governance without any discrimination. Our CM supported the family of BJP leader Ranga Gowd hailing from our

constituency by settling all his medical bills even after he passed away. It was Jagan, who provided financial assistance and ensured that his family's debts were all cleared. That's the kind of a human being that we are talking about!'

He added, "Jagananna might not remember the help he has provided me and my family, but I clearly remember how he alone has transformed our lives. In return, today, I am the lives. In return, today, I am the happiest being his 'Star Campaigner'. I am proud to be one among these 90 lakh com-mon campaigners. We are with Jagananna and we vow to make him win big!"

Other star campaigners including Anantha Lakshmi from Rajahmundry, Gangu Kalyani from Srikakulam, Syed Anwar from Nellore, Challa Eshwari from NTR district, Sivaprasad from Krishna district and Jagadish Kattari from Anakapalle too were present at the press conference to slam Naidu for his wicked actions and to endorse Jagan's good governance.

YSRCP lodges complaint against TDP's WeApp

PNS VIJAYAWADA

YSRCP has lodged complaints with the Election Commission and the State DGP against TDP's WeApp for illegal collection of voters' data and for alleged luring of voters through barcode slips in favour of TDP in the elections. YSRC MLA Malladi Vishnu, YSRC Grievance Cell president A Narayanamurthy and Legal Cell

leader Srinivasa Reddy submitted the complaint to the Election Commission and the DGP.

MLA Vishnu stated that Telugu Desam has brought an app called WeApp, in which complete information about the people is stored. He further stated that people's personal information like voter ID, their secretariat area, voter number, which party they are sympathisers etc are stored.

'GIRL EMPOWERMENT MISSION-2024 NTPC Simhadri launches workshop

PNS VISAKHAPATNAM

In a profound gesture towards uplifting young girls, NTPC Simhadri inaugurated the 'Girl Empowerment Mission-2024' workshop on Friday. This initiamoment in ive ma a pivot:



of all participants. Through interactive sessions and mentorship programmes, girls are encouraged to explore their interests, develop critical thinking skills, and cultivate a sense of self-worth.

Beyond academic

28 spl polling booths in NTR district

PNS VIJAYAWDA

The NTR district administra tion has arranged 28 special polling stations across the district, namely Haritha, Youth, Pink and Differentlyabled booths, intending to increase voting percentage. According

tions are arranged in all seg-Dasullapalem, Mylavaram, ments for women. Special polling booths have also been set up for differently-abled people. The polling officials would present rose flowers to all women voters, the

Nandigama - PS No.162, MPP School, Jagannadhapuram, Jaggayyapet - PS No.59, RCM UP School Building, Jaggayyapet

Youth Polling Stations: Tiruvuru - PS No.212, ZPHSC, A Konduru, Haritha Polling Stations: irnvnrn PS No Vijavawa West Vissannapet, Vijayawada West Govt Jr College (Urdu), - PS No.149, Potti Sriramulu Vidyadharapuram, Vijayawada Central - PS No.38, Andhra Prabha Chalavadi Mallikharjuna Rao College of Engineering and Technology, One Town, Vijayawada Central - PS No.155, Railway Function Kalyana Mandapam, Vijayawada East - PS No.148, APSRMCH School, Krishna Hall, Gopal Reddy Road, Lanka, Mylavaram - PS No. Surya Raopet, Vijayawada 203, MPP School, Jupudi, East-PS No.142, Montessori Nandigama - PS No.190, Mahila Degree College, ZPHS, Kanchikacherla, Jaggayyapet - PS No.142, MPP School Vatsavai Punnammathota, Mylavaram - PS No.78, MPP School,

Collector said.

the organisation's commitment to fostering education and empowerment among girls in the region.

Speaking at the inaugural ceremony, Sanjay Kumar Sinha, Head of Project, NTPC Simhadri, emphasised the importance of providing young girls with avenues for personal and professional growth. He highlighted the workshop as a

The 'Girl Empowerment Mission-2024' workshop is slated to run until June 7, offering a comprehensive curriculum designed to empowplatform for fostering skills, er participants. From educa-

knowledge and confidence to pursue their aspirations fearlessly. One of the workshop's key features is its inclusive approach, catering to the diverse needs and aspirations ties.

tional training, the workshop also places a strong emphasis on holistic development, promoting values of empathy, resilience, and social responsibility. By nurturing well-rounded individuals, NTPC Simhadri aims to cultivate a generation of empowered women who are not only successful in their endeavours but also catalysts for positive change in their communi-

Distric Collector Dr S Dilli Rao, all seven Assembly segments have Haritha, Youth, Pink and Differently-abled people polling stations. Sufficient infrastructure facilities have been set up at all these special polling stations, he said.

Haritha polling stations have TV, newspapers, magazines, coolers, WiFi, and waiting rooms for the voters. There will be greenery and



attractive pandals.

Meanwhile, youth polling booths are arranged constituencies with the highest number of youth votes. Similarly, Pink polling sta-

Global edu and skill conclave concludes

Perspectives. Babu empha-

sised the importance of tech-

nology in skills to meet mar-

ket demands, alongside indus-

try-aligned curriculum devel-

opment and a focus on both

new-age job markets and tra-ditional trades. He further

stressed the need for enhanced

industry participation in

skilling activities to create a

truly effective education

valuable platform for discus-

sions on the future of educa-

tion and skilling. Participants

from various sectors shared

insights and explored ways to

bridge the gap between educa-

tion and employability.

The conclave provided a

ecosystem.

PNS VIJAYAWADA

The sixth edition of the Global Education and Skill Conclave concluded successfully in Delhi on Friday. The prestigious event brought together a diverse group of over 150 participants, including education and skill development policymakers, university leaders, school chain owners, EdTech innovators, and global thought leaders.

A keynote speaker and panellist at the event was P Raja Babu, MD and CEO of APSS-DC. He addressed the critical topic of Nurturing Innovation, Ensuring Skilling & Creating an Effective Education Ecosystem: The States



Naidu accused of obstructing welfare schemes

PNS VISAKHAPATNAM

State president of YSRCP Women's Wing, MLC Varudu Kalvani, has raised concerns over the alleged obstruction of welfare schemes by Opposition Leader N Chandrababu Naidu and urged voters to weigh the implications carefully. Speaking to the media on Friday, Kalyani accused Chandrababu of obstructing essential welfare schemes, citing instances where funds for schemes like Input Subsidy for Farmers, YSR Cheyutha,

and Jagananna Vidya Deevena were reportedly blocked. She highlighted the plight of the elderly and widows, alleging that Chandrababu's actions led to delays in pension disbursements, resulting in unfortunate deaths among vulnerable populations.

Ŵhile Chandrababu defended his actions, citing concerns over fund mismanagement, Kalyani contested these justifications, pointing out discrepancies in the Election Commission's approach between Andhra Pradesh and

neighbouring Telangana. She emphasised that the High Court had rebuked the Election Commission for its stance, questioning why similar objections were not raised

in other States. Kalyani warned voters about the potential repercussions of supporting Chandrababu, emphasising the risk of losing existing welfare schemes and the progress made under Chief Minister Jagan's leadership.

importance of maintaining the current trajectory of development.

Urging the voters to support YSRCP candidates in the elections, Kalyani highlighted the need to combat Chandrababu's alleged obstructionism and ensure the continued implementation of progressive policies aimed at uplifting the State's disadvantaged communities. She urged voters to cast their ballots wisely and uphold

devasthanam, several NGOs

and voluntary organisations

Chit business busted PNS HYDERABAD

> The Economic Offences Wing (EOW) police station of Cyberabad has busted an unregistered chit business which was operated from Chintal and Jeedimetla and arrested the accused on Friday. The police have arrested Mekala Nagamani and Mekala Nagamunnaiah. The accused persons have been conducting the unregistered chits in their house since 2006 and they built lots of trust and confidence among the residents of their colony.

Religious fervour and gaiety mark 'Chandanotsavam'

PNS VISAKHAPATNAM

The annual 'Chandanotsavam' of Sri Varaha Lakshmi Narasimha Swamy atop Simhachalam began amid traditional gaiety and religious fervour in the wee hours of Friday. As per tradition, the hereditary trustee of the temple, P. Ashok Gajapathi Raju, was the first to have darshan of the deity. He offered 'pattu vastrams' and sandalwood to the deity at

panied by his family members. The deity is covered in sandalwood throughout the year and Nijarupa darshan is allowed only on Vaisakhi Suddha Tadiya (Akshaya Tritiya). After the conclusion of

the daily rituals on Thursday, temple priests removed the sandalwood paste, a procedure that took three hours. After performing abhishekam and special rituals, archakas allowed devotees to have darshan. The TTD JEO offered silk robes on behalf of the TTD on the occasion.

Given the Model Code of Conduct (MCC), there were no 'antarayala' darshanam and protocol darshan this year. District collector Dr A. Mallikarjuna said that temple 'dharmakarthas' and the Endowments Department offi cials had darshan from 3.30 a.m. to 4.30 a.m., and later regular devotees were allowed. Special buses were run to



ferry the devotees from parking spots and foothills to the hilltop. Parking slots for private vehicles at Simhachalam

distributed buttermilk and water to the devotees standing in queue lines. Mallikarjuna also said that in view of the scorching heat, drinking water points were arranged at around 160 places. Several seva organisations will be providing buttermilk, he said.

Toilets are arranged at around 250 points, and medical points at 60 places including the steps route and parking places. Police Commissioner A. Ravi Shankar said that over 2,000 police personnel are being deployed as part of the bandobast for the festival. This apart, rope parties are also foothill eased the congestion on top of the hill. Apart from the ping to be used at some places

ke bus parking places.

The Collector said that tick-

et-clearing teams were arranged with 10 scanners. Last year, around 30,000 tickets of Rs 1,500 and Rs 1,000 were sold. This year, the number of tickets is limited to 20,000. At the exit points, they have arranged mesh to prevent reverse entries. About two lakh devotees had darshan by 5 pm, he added.

He said that barricading was arranged for six km as part of queue lines for the devotees. Shamianas are erected along the queue lines to protect devotees from the summer heat.

Kondamma, a resident of Akkayyapalem, expressed satisfaction with the smooth darshan experience despite having to wait in line for an hour.

She cautioned against a return the momentum of positive to the previous administrachange initiated by the current tion's policies, highlighting the government.



Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Friday said the country currently has a Prime Minister, who is using a language unbecoming of that position, as he only harps on Hindu-Muslim issues aimed at "dividing" the nation. Kharge was speaking at an INDIA alliance public meeting here. "The moment he opens his mouth he savs 'Hindu Muslim'. What did you do in the past 10 years? You ask us what we (Congress) did in

This transition has encompassed both active government personnel and retirees, who now express confidence in Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy's strategies towards progress.

Previously, there lingered a perception among employees and educators that the taxes collected by the government were being efficiently channelled into welfare schemes by Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy. However, with the release of the NDA alliance manregarding the potential advers

crore and Rs 2,180 crore respectively. The implementation of NDÁ alliance schemes threatens to disrupt this financial equilibrium. The implementation of the 12th

PRC under Chief Minister Jagan's leadership has garnered a positive reception among employees, signalling a commitment to developmental initiatives. Notably, capital expenditure has surged during Jagan's tenure, with plans for the operation of multiple sea ports, ifesto, concerns have surfaced fishing harbours, and fish landing said. within the next two yes cent poised to bolster Andhra Pradesh's economy. Conversely, apprehensions persist regarding Naidu's potential return to power, with concerns over stagnation in infrastructure projects and a focus on Amaravati at the expense of broader economic development. **Continued on Page 2**

PNS VIJAYAWADA

Friday allowed the

State government to

disburse funds under

various pending direct

benefit transfer (DBT)

schemes on May 14,

without the Election

Commission's interfer-

The Andhra Pradesh High Court on

petitions filed by beneficiaries had allowed the YSRCP government to

CM confident of Avinash Reddy's victory

in Kadapa LS segment

years

Dares Naidu to speak in favour of

Emphasises consistent implementation

of welfare measures over the last five

Highlights accomplishments under DBT

Muslim quota in front of Modi

Positions election as crucial for

sustaining welfare scheme

PNS VIJAYAWADA

Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has asserted that those who claim to be the heirs of YS Rajasekhar Reddy have allied with his adversaries to undermine Avinash Reddy's prospects in the Kadapa Lok Sabha seat. 'They aim to create a political void in the district, but I am confident that Avinash will secure a resounding victory," he

his address to the peopl D111

YS Jagan and Revanth spar over Chandrababu remark PNS KADAPA

As said Andhra Pradesh CM Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy, Telangana CM Revanth Reddy is Chandrababu Naidu's man. Addressing an election rally here on Friday, Jagan said, "Politics has deteriorated so much that Congress is trying to make Chandrababu Naidu win If we vo for Congress, it will be like splitting our votes and helping NDA win. Congress entered AP only to help Naidu win the elections.

ahead of the general elections. Speaking at a media conference held at the party's central office, Sajjala criticised Naidu's dissemination of misinformation through vernacular newspapers like

70 years now you tell us about yourself. Wherever he goes ..

-PAGE: 8 Must visit 'Babymoon' ...

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 ...

Virat Kohli should open in T20...

-PAGE: 10

Former Indian captain Sourav Ganguly on Friday said the Indian team management should make Virat Kohli open in next month's T20 World Cup to exploit the star batter's rich vein of form in the ongoing Indian Premier League Kohli is the current Orange Cap holder in this IPL with 634 runs from 12 matches, averaging 70.44 and at an impressive strikerate of 153.51, which is significantly higher than his career rate of 134.31. "Virat is playing exceptionally well. The way Kohli batted last night — 90 in guick time, you need to use him as opener in T20 World Cup. He should open, evidenced by his last few IPL innings which have been outstanding," Ganguly told PTI here on the sidelines of a promotional event.

-SPORTS

impact on employees, as highlighted by union leaders.

Chief Minister Jagan has consistently allocated approximately Rs 70,000 crore annually towards welfare initiatives. In contrast, for Chandrababu Naidu to execute schemes on a similar scale, an estimated Rs 1.50 lakh crore would be

Botsa slams

PNS VISAKHAPATNAM

Oppn alliance for

ignoring the poor

Education Minister

Botsa Satvanaravana

has condemned the

Chandrababu Babu-

led alliance, accusing

them of neglecting the

welfare of the under-

privileged. He criti-

Continued on Page 2

cized their alleged mistreatment of

the poor and raised serious con-

cerns about their alleged manipu-

lation of electoral procedures.

in Kadapa in support of Avinash Reddy on Friday, Jagan Mohan Reddy said, "After the demise of my father Dr Rajasekhara Reddy, I departed from Congress and contested independently for the Kadapa seat, founding the YSR Congress Party (YSRCP). The overwhelming

victory, backed by 5.45 lakh people, underscored unwavering support.

disburse these funds on May 10, it

could not do so as it ran out of time due to EC's interference and also

further court proceed-

ings on Friday. "The government

could not proceed because the DBT funds

should first go to the Reserve Bank of India

(RBI) and from there

to the beneficiaries

Continued on Page 2

The

manifesto promises Points out Naidu's unfulfilled pledges, including farm loan waivers and women's welfare schemes.

and emphasises the fulfilment of

political legacy of the YSR family, When I assumed office as MP in Delhi, all eyes turned to Jagan," the they employed every agency CM recounted. against us.

"In their efforts to tarnish the

DELHI EXCISE POLICY CASE ED names Kavitha in fresh charge-sheet

PNS NEW DELHI

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) on Friday filed a fresh charge sheet in the Delhi excise policylinked money laundering case naming BRS leader K Kavitha as an accused, official sources said.

The federal agency had arrested Kavitha, the daughter of former Telangana chief minister K Chandrashekar Rao, from her Banjara hills residence in Hyderabad on March 15.

Continued on Page 2

the Act received support from Niti Aayog and BJP-led states. Sajjala said that the government would guarantee land own-

Chandrababu did

'Eenadu' and 'Andhra Jyoti'.

Highlighting the contradiction

in TDP's stance, Sajjala pointed out

that TDP MLA Payyavula Keshav

had voiced support for the Act in

the Legislative Assembly back in

July 2019 when the bill was under

consideration. He questioned why

tions at that time, especially since

not raise o

ership following the implementa-tion of the Land Titling Act, which is currently undergoing a comprehensive land survey.

Continued on Page 2

SC grants Kejriwal interim bail till June 1

Continued on Page 2

PNS NEW DELHI

In a major relief to Delhi Chief Minister Árvind Kejriwal, the Supreme Court on Friday granted him interim bail till June 1 to campaign in the ongoing Lok Sabha elections.

and Dipankar Datta said Kejriwal, 🛛 🛌 arrested in a money laundering case linked to the alleged excise policy scam, will have to surrender and go back to jail on Party (AAP) chief on June 2. The bench refused the request of senior advocate Abhishek Singhvi, appearing for

Kejriwal, that the interim bail be granted till June 5. June 1 is the last day of the seven-phase elections. The

votes will be counted on June 4. The court said reasons for granti-

ng Kejriwal interim bail will follow. Solicitor General Tushar Mehta

A bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and Additional Solicitor General S V Raju, appearing for the Enforcement Directorate, opposed the granting of interim bail to the Aam Aadmi grounds of poll campaigning saying no such precedents are available.

Continued on Page 2

'We have to save **Barred from entering CM** office, Delhi Secretariat

elhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal cannot visit his office or the Delhi Secretariat during the tenure of his interim bail, the Supreme said on Friday as it imposed a slew of restrictions on him as part of the bail conditions. It asked Kejriwal to not sign any official file unless absolutely necessary to obtain the Lieutenant Governor's sanction during the 21-day interim bail period. Imposing a raft of bail conditions on the embattled AAP leader, a bench of Justices Sanjiv Khanna and Dipankar Datta said, "He shall not visit the Office of the Chief Minister and the Delhi Secretariat." "He shall be bound by the statement made on his behalf that he shall not sign official files unless it is required and necessary for obtaining clearance/

approval of the Lieutenant Governor of Delhi," the top court said.

AS RESERVOIR LEVELS PLUNGE TO 15%... Southern India grapples with severe water crisis

Though the High Court, based on through various banks," an official

said.

AP HC allows DBT funds

disbursal on May 14

PNS NEW DELHI

With the southern region most hit at just 15 per cent total live storage capacity in reservoirs, the storage capacity this year is below the average of last 10 years during the corresponding period, the Central Water Commission (CWC) data has revealed.

The CWC's analysis also indicated a week-on-week decrease in storage levels, affecting not only the southern region but also the nation as a whole.

As of last Thursday, the southern region's reservoir capacity stood at 16 per cent, dropping from 17 per cent the previous week.

The bulletin from the CWC said the southern region has been severely impacted, with reservoirs operating at only 15 per cent of their total reservoirs, the total live storage



live storage capacity The data from the CWC shows that storage levels this year are lower than both the corresponding period last year and the ten-year average for the same period. Nationally, out of 150 monitored

metres (BCM), approximately 69.35 per cent of the estimated 257.812 BCM created across the country. However, the live storage available in these reservoirs currently sits at 27 per cent, down from 36 per cent recorded last year and 32 per cent on

average over the past decade. Compared with

data from the CWC shows that historical data, the bulletin high-lights that the storage levels this year are lower than both the current live storcorresponding period last age is only 79 per cent of last year and the ten-year year's levels and average for the 92 per cent of the 10-year average for same period. the corresponding period.

The storage during the curcapacity is 178.784 billion cubic rent year is lower than that of the corresponding period last year in all of the country while it is below the average storage of the last 10 years during the corresponding period in northern, eastern southern and western

Continued on Page 2

interim bail and sought people's support in his "fight against dictatorship". The Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) national convenor was granted interim bail till June 1 by the Supreme Court earlier in the day. He walked out of the prison in the evening amid dhol beats and sloganeering by AAP workers and leaders. Standing through the sunroof of a car, Kejriwal then addressed AAP workers and supporters amid slogans of 'Jail Ke Tale Toot Gaye, Kejriwalji Chhoot Gaye'.Beginning with slogans of 'Bharat Mata Ki Jai', 'Vande Mataram' and



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the pioneer

pinion 06

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Testing times

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

he 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.



Battle to save India's biodiversity



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

ndia, 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 evi-dent in altering ecological bal-ance, 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 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 Famil Na a coastal State in

Climate 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

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 to climate action and environfootprints while contributing mental protection. This offers economic growth

initiatives like 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. În 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 prospects for the Government corporations and climate action companies to come together and work towards a sustainable future. (The writer is the CEO of ProClime; their *views are personal)*



bility 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

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-

RICH NATURAL HERITAGE

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

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

Use of lighting in Indian architecture



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

• ndia'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.

Enhancing Historical Significance Through Lighting

Carefully designed external lighting has the power to breathe new life into heritage landmarks, illuminating their intricate details and historical significance. technology, renowned for its energy efficiency and controllability, offers a unique opportunity to showcase these monuments in a manner that respects their heritage while captivating modern audiences. By leveraging lighting solutions, cities across India are revitalizing their architectural treasures, ensuring they remain bea-



cons of cultural heritage for generations to come. Transforming Indian Architectural Landscape with Lighting

From the majestic Sun alike to marvel at its beauty. Temple in Konark to the Gujarat Bhawan: Nestled iconic Roomi Gate in in the heart of New Delhi, Lucknow, lighting has trans-Gujarat Bhawan serves as a cultural hub representing formed India's architectural scene, infusing these structhe vibrant heritage of tures with renewed splen-Gujarat. Through the integration of dynamic lighting, dour and magnificence. Sun Temple, Modhera: the Bhawan transforms, Nestled in the heart of becoming a luminous tribute Gujarat, the Sun Temple that honours the State's rich stands as a testament to traditions. The interplay of ancient craftsmanship and light accentuates its distincarchitectural ingenuity. tive features, creating a cap-Through the application of tivating visual narrative for dynamic lighting, the temvisitors and passersby. ple's intricate carvings and Signature Bridge: The Delhi majestic outlines are brought to life after sunset. Visitors are mesmerized as the tem- ture of the Signature Bridge

ple emerges as a radiant underscores the city's comspectacle, inviting them to mitment to enhancing its embark on a journey through time and history. architectural landmarks. Towering above the city's skyline, the bridge now Roomi Gate, Lucknow: As a symbol of Lucknow's rich glows at night, offering a Mughal heritage, Roomi spectacular view to visitors Gate exudes grandeur and and residents alike.

historical significance. Maryada Purushottam Shri Dynamic lighting accentu-ates the gate's intricate motifs Ram International Airport, Ayodhya: This architectural and architectural features, marvel, features dynamic lighting that complements its unique design inspired by Illuminated against the night the Nagara style of temple architecture. Blending modsky, Roomi Gate symbolizes the city's cultural legacy, ern facilities with rich culturinviting locals and tourists al 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)

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 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 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



propos, "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, alleging Modi helped them grow. In contrast, this time Modi turned the tables

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 endorse any product or service they have 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 blindly accept and adopt what they say. An lovely game is viewed as a promoter of uni-

War of words over industrialists

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

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. Parallelly, 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

Government's decision to illuminate the entire struc-

casting a mesmerizing glow

that captivates spectators.

VIJAYAWADA | SATURDAY | MAY 11, 2024



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FIRSTCOLUMN TRAITS OF A SUCCESSFUL PERSON

He dares to defy convention and breathe life into audacious ideas



RAVI VALLURI

here 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 straightjacketed 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 aweinspiring. 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



analys \$ 07

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

ndia'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 Îndian agriculture.

A recent parliamentary panel has empha-sized the importance of promoting agricul-tural 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 Vigvan Kendra (KVK). The development of highyielding, 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 cut-ting-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.



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 THINGS IS A HUGE crops will grow accurately. In every aspect, Ag-IoT stands poised to rev-olutionize the landscape of crop CHANGE IN management, insect and pest sur-FARMING THAT veillance, 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 Namo 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 AND PRECISION IN 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 signif

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 tra dition and innovation. With a burgeoning population and dwindling resources, precision agriculture offers a crucial pathway to sustain-ably 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 smallscale farmers. As we look towards the future, let us remain committed to nurturing a vibrant, techenabled agrarian ecosystem that empowers farmers, preserves natural resources and ensures food security for generations to come.

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 THEIR DAILY TASKS

THE INTERNET OF

COULD SHAKE UP

icant shift in the dairy industry towards precision and efficiency. Meanwhile, in the aquaculture industry, companies like Aquaconnect and Shrimpbox are leveraging technology to revolu-tionise 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. Shrimpbox, 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-

(The writer is a scientist, at Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhawanipatna; 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

R^{ohith} 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 belonged to the Harijan com- mother



KUMAR CHELLAPPAN

demanded 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 amount. When Radhika, the

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 Smrithi 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 of

munity added to their ire and Vemulacontacted 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. Rohith The unanswered question in the cause behind his suicide. the first Harijan student in the



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

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

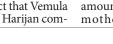
University of Hyderabad or any other universities in India who have committed suicide. Rajini Anand, an engineering college student in Kerala had jumped to death in 2004 following the callous approach of the ruling Congress-led Government in the State towards her plea for financial assistance to pay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

Hyderabad for non-payment of a monthly scholarship of Rs 25,000 to Vemula though the university authorities

Rohith Vemula was neither

opposition faced by Smrithi 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 Smrithi. (The writer is special corre-

spondent with The Pioneer; *views are personal)*







denied the allegation.

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





Bharat unfathomable to Congress 'Brown Sahibs'

◄he British have won. As colonisers interested only in India's riches but not in Indians; the British naturally saw only differences among Indians: in looks, skin colour, languages, scripts, dressing, food habits, festivals, faiths, castes, cultures and traditions. While their presumptuous sense of superiority never let them see beyond India's diversity and grasp its civilisational unity, their 'divide and rule' strategy made it disadvantageous for them to acknowledge it even if they accidentally discovered it.

Although they left India in 1947, one has to agree that Thomas Macaulay's mission to create "a class of persons, Indian in blood and colour, but English in taste, opinions, morals, and intellect" has succeeded in dominating the

Congress party's 'idea of India'. Recent comments by Sam Pitroda, the mentor of Congress scion Rahul Gandhi, are evidence of this. When Sam said, "We could hold a country together as diverse as India, where people on the east look like Chinese, people on the west look like Arabs, people on the north look like maybe White and people in the south look like Africans", he was mirroring the very perception of India that the British had.

While the political slugfest over his comments focuses on the part about Indians' looks, it is the part where he says, "We could hold a country together as diverse as India" that exposes the Congressman's 'idea of India. Congress believes India is not a nation but, at the most, a nation in the making. And until India becomes a nation,

While the political slugfest over his comments focuses on the part about Indians' looks, it is the part where he says, "We could hold a country together as diverse as India" that exposes the Congressman's 'idea of India'. Congress believes India is not a nation but, at the most, a nation in the making. And until India becomes a nation, it has to be 'held' together.

it has to be 'held' together. but a conglomeration of Rahul and many senior nationalities or sub-nationali-Congress leaders have expressed this thought. When ties held together by the Indian State

Congress's 'idea of India' logically culminates in its focus Rahul says, "Bharat is a union of states. That is the line that is on the north-south divide, its opposition to the Uniform written in our Constitution. India is not described as a Civil Code, the abolition of Article 370, and finally, its 'jitna aabadi, utna haq' slogan. nation; it is described as a union of states," or when he says India is just like the European Union, a union, he Rahul and his party see India is giving voice to Congress' more like the USSR (Union of belief that India is not a nation Soviet Socialist Republics) and



EU (European Union), where balkanization and Brexit are distinct possibilities. One wonders if this was the reason why the Congress was able to reconcile to the idea of India's Partition in 1947.

Does India reflect Congress'

'idea of India'? Integrating 565 principalities in less than a year would have been impossible if it had. Integrating Hyderabad using 'Police action' would have led to a popular move-ment to secede from India if it had. People of Goa, Puducherry, and Sikkim would not have pushed to become Indians if they had. A Constitution that empowered Parliament to alter the boundaries of states and even divide or unite them at will would have failed to pass muster if it had.

It's not just post-Independence, even pre-Independence; long before the idea of a nation-state evolved in the West, the people of Bharatavarsha were one. Though divided by kingdoms and rulers, Bharat always had a sense of unity. The and submit an affidavit to the

Mahabharata and the Puranas refer to Bharatvarsh. The Puranas define Bharat as the land between the Himalayas and the Indian Ocean. The Telugu phrase 'Aasetu Himachalam' - from the Ram Setu in the south to the Himalayas in the north reflects the same idea as Kanyakumari to Kashmir. Shankaracharya's establishment of Shankara mutts in the four corners of India reflects this oneness of Bharat. Tenkashi in Tamil Nadu, Vemulawada - the Dakshina Kashi and Bhadrachalam - the Dakshina Ayodhya all reflect this unity. Indian festivals, languages, and scripts all share common roots. The Congress rejects this idea of India's unity. Once you Ramayana and reject Mahabharata as just myths

courts saying there's no proof of Rama's existence, it is easy to buy into the British's idea of India as just an aggregation of communities that do not have much in common and are

antagonistic to one another. One cannot dismiss Sam Pitroda's comments as a careless slip of the tongue or the eccentric ideas of some fringe Congressman; they reflect the 'idea of India' the top leadership of today's Congress holds. The issues and the agendas Congress is pushing in this election align with this. It is time for the voters of India to send a clear and loud message, rejecting Congress' ideas. Otherwise, like the British, the Congress would not hesitate to divide and rule us.

> (The author is BJP TS spokesperson.)

"Jagan Mohan Reddy has ruined the

Kharge: Modi harping on Hindu-Muslim issues

PNS VIJAYAWADA

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Friday said the country currently has a Prime Minister, who is using a language unbecoming of that position, as he only harps on Hindu-Muslim issues aimed at "dividing" the nation.

Kharge was speaking at an INDIA alliance public meeting here.

"The moment he opens his mouth he says 'Hindu Muslim'. What did you do in the past 10 years? You ask us what we (Congress) did in 70 years now you tell us about yourself. Wherever he goes he talks about mangalsutra, mutton, chicken," said Kharge.

He noted that such rhetoric result in disputes and accused Modi of 'dividing' the country AICC president Mallikharjuna Kharge on the 'basis of language, caste and other aspects'.

Alleging that there was no end to the lies peddled by Modi, Kharge recalled the PM's promise of creating two crore jobs every year. Seeking to know the number

of jobs the NDA government created in the past decade, Kharge claimed that 30 lakh ment jobs were lying



addressing an INDI Alliance meeting in Vijayawada on Friday

Pic by CH. VIJAYA BHASKAR ernment was not filling these vacancies because 50 percent of

Communist Party of India (CPI), Congress and CPI (M) those jobs will go to SC, ST and OBC people. According to Kharge, Modi are INDIA alliance partners in wants people to continue work-Andhra Pradesh.

nation.

elections.

Elections for the 175-meming as daily wagers and contract of permaer Assem seats in Andhra Pradesh are scheduled on May 13.

of the Congress government, Kharge recalled land reforms,

nationalisation of banks and

Referring to Modi's charges that Rahul Ganghi got tempo loads of cash from industrialists,

Kharge sought to know why the

PM didn't send Income Tax

sleuths to raid Adani and

Further, he charged the PM

with selling all the public sector

units, airports, seaports and

CPM general secretary

Sitaram Yechury and CPI gen-

eral secretary D Raja also spoke

at the INDIA alliance election

campaign meeting. Raja said the 2024 polls have

become very crucial for the

nation and its future and called

on people to ensure that the INDIA alliance wins in these

Yechury alleged that the BJP needed 400 MPs so it can

amend the Constitution to

make India a theocratic Hindu

Ambani if it was true.

other assets.

others.



PNS ONGOLE

Telugu Desam Party (TDP) MLA and Addinki candidate Gottipati Ravikumar conducted a massive election campaign accompanied by alliance leaders on Friday. Gottipati Ravi Kumar conducted houseto-house election campaigns at various villages in Addanki mandal. He explained to the voters the 'Super Six' schemes of the TDP.

Addressing the crowd on the occasion, Ravi Kumar alleged that Chief Minister Jagan Mohan Reddy failed to fulfill his assurances including implementing a total prohibition and revoking the CPS. The power tariff has been hiked 9 times during the five years of the YSRCP regime, he pointed out. Jagan Reddy also failed in exerting pressure on the Centre to grant SCS, he criticized. The TDP leader questioned the Chief Minister about why the job calendar was not released and why the Islamic bank was as per his promise. The Chief Minister had not announced a mega DSC either during

'Govt failed to fulfil total prohibition promise' PNS BHIMAVARAM by him and why he was unable to resolve the CPS issue during the five years.

Telugu Desam Party (TDP) national president and former chief minister N Chandrababu Naidu has alleged that the Jagan Mohan Reddy government is sell-ing poor quality liquor which is spoiling the health of consumers and called upon

voters to reject the YSRCP in the election. Chandrababu Naidu, along with Undi MLA candidate Raghurama Krishna Raju, conducted an election campaign in Undi on Friday. They took part in a roadshow. Addressing the crowd, Chandrababu

Naidu slammed that poor quality liquor is being sold by the government, spoiling the health of consumers who are daily wagers and labourers. "Under the YS Jagan Mohan Reddy leadership, the state plunged into corruption and the leaders resorted to plundering of natural resources. Unbridled plundering of sand and gravel is taking place in the state with the patronage of YSRCP leaders," Naidu

India made progress under NDA govt: Purandeswari

PNS RAJAHMUNDRY

BJP State president and Rajahmundry MP candidate Daggubati Purandeswari has said that massive development has taken place during the 10 years of the BJP-led NDA regime.

along with TDP city MLA candidate Adireddy Srinivas

and Jana Sena city president Y

Srinivas, conducted an election

campaign at Seshayya Metta,

Gokavaram bus stand,

Tummalova, Paper Mill area

Daggubati Purandeswari

aqua sector with his wrong policies. He also failed to utilize the funds of Jal Jeevan Sranvanti to provide drinking water to all households," Naidu blamed. Chandrababu Naidu assured of providing power supply at the rate of Rs 1.50 per unit to the aqua sector and oppressing the ganja menace by 100 days, if voted to power. Naidu lauded Jana Sena chief Pawan Kalyan stating that is the hero not only in the cinemas but also in real life. Naidu called upon voters to go to polling stations as early as possible to cast their votes. He wooed voters to elect TDP candidate Raghurama Krishna Raju to the Assembly from Undi constituency and

criticised. The Chief Minister would not hesitate to borrow money by pawning the lands of people, he cautioned. Naidu questioned Jagan Mohan Reddy about why he failed to implement total prohibition as assured

Jenda' of TDP, JSP and BJP are different but the 'agenda' of the three parties is the same.

Naidu richest candidate, Jagan has highest income PNS VIJAYAWADA

other NDA candidates contesting in WG

Godavari district. He reiterated that the

Telugu Desam Party (TDP) supremo and former Chief Minister Nara Chandrababu Naidu, who is contesting from Kuppam Assembly constituency, is the richest can-didate in the State with assets of Rs.931.83 crore. Meanwhile, YSRCP president and current Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan

country and realising the dreams of youth by generating huge employment. She highlighted that 554 Amrit Bharat railway stations have been constructed across

Srinivas to the Assembly.

"So far Rs 15 crore worth of

As many as 416 polling sta-

problematic polling stations

and arrangements were made

for live telecast from the

polling stations and micro

observers were appointed to

the problematic polling sta-

tions, the Collector added.

Minister Narendra Modi is committed to developing the the country and the Mudra

vacant

He alleged that the BJP gov-

deprived nent government jobs. Listing out the contributions

years, the TDP candidate flayed

'Malicious campaign launched against me'

PNS KADAPA

APCC president YS Sharmila has dismissed allegations that she demanded money and power of position and deplored that her Chief Minister brother YS Jagan Mohan Reddy used her politically when he was in prison but later ignored her after coming to power.

Addressing a press conference here emotionally on Friday, she said that when Jagan Mohan Reddy was in prison she was asked by Jagan Mohan Reddy to campaign for the 19 YSRCP candidates in the by-election.

conduct padayatra when he was in prison stating that if padayatra did not conduct the political graph of Chandrababu Naidu would go up. If I had political aspirations, I would have got them after taking the

"Jagan Reddy asked me to reins of the party into my control when Jagan Reddy was in prison" she made it clear.

YS Sharmila, who was seen as emotional with tears in her eyes when speaking to the media, dared to swear in the Bible that she did not demand money or to make her a Member of Parliament but she had never asked him herself for any power of position.

Sharmila pointed out that Jagan Reddy's close relatives including YS Avinash Reddy, YV Subba Reddy and Ravindranath Reddy were given posts and asked whether it did not come under 'nepotism'.

She made it clear neither she nor her husband have asked Jagan Mohan Reddy for help with any issue. She lamented that Jagan Reddy had forgotten that he was the son of YSR.

"A malicious campaign was power of position. At the same launched against me on social time, she challenged Jagan media by some paid artists. It Reddy whether he could swear is meaningless to say that we in the Bible that she demanded are the remote controls of money and power of position. Chandrababu Naidu. Jagan The APCC president dis-Reddy is under the fear of closed that Jagan Reddy had Chandrababu Naidu," Sharmila promised to YS Vijaya Lakshmi lambasted.

Steps taken for peaceful voting: Eluru Dist Collector

and Kotilingala pet area. They

also participated in a road

Purandeswari said that Prime

Addressing the crowd,

show.

PNS ELURU

All arrangements have been made in Eluru district to conduct polling in 1,744 polling stations on May 13. Informing this to the media here on Friday, Collector V Prasanna Venkatesh said that over 16.37 lakh voters are going to cast their votes in the district on May 13, adding that the polling would begin at 7 am and end

at 6 pm. He said that Section 144 would be enforced within 200

metres of polling stations, adding that cases would be reg-



istered if more than four persons assembled at a place within 200 meters of polling stations and the election campaign should be stopped at 6 pm on Saturday.

oan limit x as hiked from I 10 lakh to Rs 20 lakh. She Reddy, who is the candidate underlined the need to elect the NDA once again for the progress of the country. She called upon voters to elect her to Lok Sabha and Adiredddy

for the Pulivendula segment, is the highest income holder with Rs.73 crore. The Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR)

and Andhra Pradesh Election Watch have analysed the selfsworn affidavits of 2,368 out of 2,387 candidates, who are contesting in the Andhra Pradesh Assembly elections. Out of 2,368 candidates analysed, 340 are from national parties, 388 are from State parties, 667 are from registered unrecognised parties and 973 candidates are contesting independently. The ADR released the analysis report on Friday.

According to the report, TDP's former minister Ponguru Narayana, contesting from the Nellore city segment, has assets worth Rs.824 crore, while Jagan Mohan Reddy has Rs.757.65 crore worth of assets. Also, Jagan showed his income from the salary, rental income, capital gains, and other income sources, including that of his spouse Bharati and dependents.

I will turn Pithapuram into a model segment: PK

PNS PITHAPURAM

The Jana Sena Party (JSP) orchestrated a road-show in Pithapuram on Friday, featuring the presence of Jana Sena chief K Pawan Kalyan.

Commencing at Chitrada village, the event garnered support from the people at various centres.

In his impassioned addresses at multiple stops along the route, Pawan Kalyan pledged to make the Pithapuram constituency a model segment of development, should he secure the mandate.

He implored voters to envi-



sion a future brimming with opportunities for their progethe people, transcending barny and advocated for the coaliriers of caste and religion.

'Modi Guarantee' is to break promises: Shashi Tharoor

PNS HYDERABAD

Congress MP Shashi Tharoor said that Modi's guarantee is the guarantee to break all promises. Tharoor was addressing a press conference at the Taj Krishna on Friday.

'In Telangana, you have been told various things by the government, and again, what we are finding is that many commitments have not been kept. For example, a large quantity of funds was supposed to be released to Telangana. A vast sum of Rs 24,205 crore had been announced by NITI Aayog as due to Telangana, but that has not come. About Rs 4,000 crore of GST compensation has not come to Telangana and a Rs 1,800 crore grant for the development of active regions of the state has not come. There was a promise that the Centre would establish an IIM and a tribal univer-



Shashi Tharoor interacting with the media on Friday at Hotel Taj Krishna

sity in Telangana, but were they fulfilled? No. So Modi's Guarantee is a guarantee that breaks all promises," Гharoor said.

He also said that one of the most important developments in the first three phases of the election campaign is that the BJP's attempt to set the narrative has completely failed. In 2014 and 2019, they succeeded in controlling the narrative. They made devel-

opment an issue in 2014 and said sabka saath sabka vikas. As we know, in their first term they failed completely. They inflicted the pain and job losses of demonetisation and the hasty, unplanned GST rollout. The result was suffering. So in 2019, they changed the narrative and particularly in north India it became a national security election. They also failed to uphold national security on the border with China. Despite having had conflicts with the Chinese for 45 years, there were no problems on that border. However, the killings at Galwan and other areas occurred due to the failure to uphold national security. The Chinese established a permanent presence in 26 areas. The Chinese army denied shepherds' grazing rights in Ladakh and they killed 20 of our soldiers in Galwan. So national security

is no longer an available option,

Tharoor said.

"Since national security failed, the BJP tried Hindutva and Ramchandra Hindu Hrudaya Sangha and to their horror, they discovered that it has its own expiry date, and that it is not working at all. We have criticised the policy of using Ram Mandir for elections. We did not go to the opening ceremony of the Ram Temple as God was being used for politicking. Election experts say that the BJP has probably lost 40 seats in the 283 where voting is over, and that's just over half the seats. If this trend continues in the remaining half then we're looking at a change of government on June 4. If the BJP has lost control of the narrative, what is our narrative? And let me say very simply to the Indian voter, our narrative is you.

This election is about you. It's about your well-being," Tharoor said.

tion's commitment to serving



Manisha Koirala reveals having bad intimacy experiences on-screen!

anisha 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 experi-ences 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* promo-tions, 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."

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."

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. Akshav 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 Baiwa, and Stebin Ben. Once again, these celebrities will deliver stellar performances to a live audience, leaving an imprint in the global arena. The y, stars of Bravo's Real second season of the world tour will happen in Housewives of Beverly Melbourne and Sydney. Hills, have decided to On the acting front, he has Sarfira. end their nine-year

Jolly LLB 3, Housefull 5, and Welcome To The Jungle coming up.

> 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: 10year-old Jagger and 8-year-old Phoenix. In recent months, there has been much conjecture regarding the couple's marital problems. The for-

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

orit and

Kemsle

Paul

lousew

Gilroy and based on a story by Bill Kirstein 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 Harrelson 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 rong chemistry ıd high-flying ama that fans night expect.

Dorit and Paul Kemsley part ways

mer 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.



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

The schedule on June 6 with a special action-characteristic states and the schedule of the schedule on June 6 with a special action-designed sequence with international action-characteristic states to the development added "The

marriage. The reality

stars announced their

split on social media,

explaining that they had

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,

SPEED BUMP

OLD CHIPMUNK

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.

ARCHIE

WITH SCHOOL OUT I BET YOU SLEEP TILL NOON EVERY PAY WELL, WELL/ JUGHEAD'S UP ALREADY. OF PUSK!





CALVIN AND HOBBES

REALITY CHECK

HOW COME IMONLY

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NOW WHERE THE

HECK DID I PUT

THOSE NUTS

GARFIELD







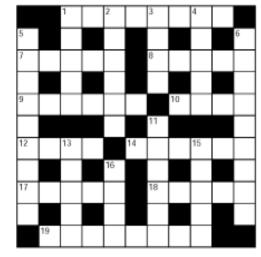
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CROSSWORD



ACROSS

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- 7 A neck warmer 8 This makes bread rise
- 9 Having a meal
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food

think properly

SOLUTION

6 A ship's right-hand side

11 Be ill or die from lack of

- 12 A heat injury 14 An artist's workshop 16 Halt
- 17 Precise
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DOWN

- Easily burnt breakfast food
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THINGS OUT A LITTLE!

GINGER MEGGS







General Follow us on 🕥 @TheDailyPioneer 👩 facebook.com/ dailypioneer

Saturday May 11, 2024

'BURGEONING POPULATION IN HYD HAS LED TO ENVIRONMENTAL CHANGES

SUBODHINI PUROHIT

amuna Singh Shilpa, a dedicated fashion designer, not only stitches fabrics but also weaves dreams into reality with her creations.

designet, not only stitches labits out 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. cherished home.

Hyderabad, where creativity thrives and the com-munity 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 As an art enhances, Twe 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 expeto a running tentre in this vibrant city. With an expe-rience 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 advo-cacy 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

Review

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.

🟓 the pioneer

lavawad

onto the ground, defiantly disrupting the boys' monopoly. This bold action repeated itself, gradually breaking down barriers until girls and boys harmo-niously played together. In college, my curiosity knew no bounds. I eagerly participated in every oppor-tunity 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 unwa-vering resolve and self-reliance, proving that with per-severance. dreams can become reality. Through hard

she dened the oldds, carving her own path with driwa-vering resolve and self-reliance, proving that with per-severance, dreams can become reality. Through hard work, she not only survived but thrived, turning obsta-cles 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 jour-ney 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 edu-cation with fervour, refusing to let circumstances dic-tate my destiny." tate 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, show-

YDERAB

cases stark differences between the historic charm of the old city and the moder-nity 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 tes-tament to its safety compared to tament 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 those who call it home. She says, "Hyderabad holds a special place in my heart, a sanctu-ary of joy and tranquility. It's not just a city; it's a realm of boundless opportunities, offer-ing 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. Hyderabadis, with their inherent grace and cultural richness, create an inviting atmosphere for all. This city's inclusive culture, a fusion of diverse traditions, wel-comes everyone with open arms, making it effort-less for anyone to call it home. The comforting vibe of Hyderabada soothes the soul, providing solace amidst life's hustle and bustle." Truly,

Written by: Abhishek Garg and Chirag Salian Directed by: Ashish R. Shukla **Cinematography by:** Murzy Pagdiwala

Produced by: Sameer Nair,

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

* "babymoon" is a pre-baby get- fun-filled activities, allowing couples to designed to pamper you and your group A away for expectant parents to relax and celebrate. Its origins ing family. bond and create cherished memories. From exploring the scenic views to witnessing breath-taking sunsets, couples can immerse themselves in the breath-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 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 indul-gence and relaxation, this resort is the beach for a day or embark on a romantic stroll along the sparkling seashore ultimate choice for pampering them-selves and celebrating this special time with your spouse, creating cherished moments together. Indulge in an inti-mate candlelight dinner by the beach, further enhancing the romance of together. So, if you are seeking a destination your babymoon experience. Additionally, expectant couples can also explore nearby attractions such as Dolphin Point, the Spice Plantations 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 Tour, and the historic Basilica of Bom Jesus, perfect for experiencing with your special someone during your easy access to enriching and unique experiences, seamlessly blending nature, babvmoon. culture, history, and adventure for a soothing stay. Couples can indulge in royal services and comforts, and rejuve-Club Mahindra Madikeri: This resort 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 offers a plethora of experiences for expectant parents to unwind and destress 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 rooms but also boasts amenifies like a spa and swimming pool, perfect for pampering and relaxation escape for the expectant couple. The breath-tak-ing natural landscape surrounding the resort is ideal for leisurely walks in the woods, allowing the couple to enjoy the soothing breeze and immerse them-celves in the beauty of nature selves in the beauty of nature ..



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

fter 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.

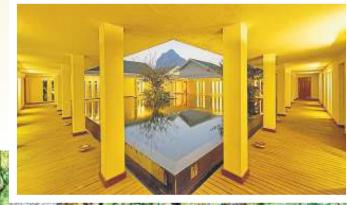
TECHNICAL ASPECTS: The series doesn't unfold against the typical backdrop of Uttar Pradesh or Bihar but rather amidst the picturesque hilly terrain of Manali. The breathtaking mountain vistas serve as more than just a scenic backdrop; they become integral to the secrets and intrigues woven by the characters. 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

are modern, but the idea of pre-baby trips has historical roots in various cultures. They are now cherished worldwide, with couples enjoying pamper-ing and creating memories. The trend has surged, with resorts offering packages emphasising self-care and nurtur-ing relationships before parenthood. They celebrate the transition to parenthood, offering couples precious moments before their new journey.

to explore for your babymoon, here's a curated list of the best babymoon destinations that will ensure expectant couples enjoy an unforgettable prebaby retreat.

Club Mahindra Tungi, Lonavala: Located amidst the picturesque beauty of the mountains, near Lonavala city, it offers expectant couples a serene







KKR TARGET PLAYOFF BERTH AT HOME SEEK TO SALVAGE PRIDE PTI KOLKATA rounder has failed to cross 10

n red-hot form, two-time former champions Kolkata Knight Riders will look to seal an IPL playoff berth for the first time in three years when they take on the struggling Mumbai Indians in their final home match of the season, here on Saturday.

The return of their two-time title-winning skipper Gautam Gambhir as team mentor has done wonders for the side which has found ways to win games from difficult situations this season.

Sitting at the top of the 10-team standings with eight wins from 11 matches, another win will guarantee them the playoff berth as the Shah Rukh Khanowned franchise will look to end on a high, its campaign at the home venue of Eden Gardens.

Gambhir's ploy to back Sunil Narine as an opener along with World No.2 T20I batter Phil Salt has been a masterstroke. The duo have scored bulk of the team's runs, giving it the perfect platform in power-plays to post six 200-plus totals from eight matches batting first.

With 32 sixes to his name, Narine is also the second in the list behind Abhishek Sharma

PTI BENGALURU



Narine keeps churning out high scores match after match has been phenomenal.

PREMIER LEAGUE

With one century and three fifties, the Trinidadian has also been their leading run-getter, amassing 461 runs at a strike-rate of 183.66. Englishman Salt has scored 429 runs at a strikerate of 183.33.

The duo's explosive form has Ramandeep Singh has been also meant that the likes of spectacular at the death. The consistency with which Andre Russell and Rinku In contrast, five

Singh, who have been their champions Mumbai Indians, designated finishers, have not under Hardik Pandya, became got enough opportunities. the first team to be knocked Their performance has also out after Sunrisers Hyderabad covered up the team's bowling profligacy, particularly that of Mitchell Starc. demolished Lucknow Super Giants the other day.

Coming on the back of a morale-boosting win over SRH, MI will look to salvage The young Angkrish Raghuvanshi at No.3 has also proved his worth, while some pride. Fresh from his knocks of 56

and 102 not out, Suryakumar Yadav has been in scintillating five-time

form which augurs well for Team India ahead of the T20 World cup in less than a month.

At the same time, Team India fans will hope that Rohit Sharma and Hardik Pandya also return among runs. The India captain has four single-digit scores and one 11 in last five games, while Pandya's best this season has

been 46. The struggling all-

month

Gus

Raghuvanshi,

TEAMS (FROM): Kolkata Knight Riders: Shreyas Iyer (c), KS Bharat

(wk), Rahmanullah Gurbaz

(wk), Rinku Singh, Angkrish

in his last six innings. Pandya would be desperate to strike form given that it would be crucial to India's chances in the T20 World Cup next

The Big Cricket League to promote local talent

PIONEER NEWS SERVICE NEW DELHI

Sherfane Rutherford, Manish Pandey, Rutherford, Manish Pandey, Andre Russell, Nitish Rana, Venkatesh Iyer, Anukul Roy, Ramandeep Singh, Varun Chakravarthy, Sunil Narine, Vaibhav Arora, Chetan Sakariya, Harshit Rana, Suyash Sharma Mitchell Starc Promising to transform the landscape of Indian cricket, the Big Cricket League (BCL) was officially launched here recently at an event with an aim to bridge Sharma, Mitchell Starc, Dushmantha Chameera, Sakib the gap between established cricketing stars and aspiring cricketing stars and aspiring local talents. Led by former India international cricketer Rudra Pratap Singh, the BCL revolves around providing a platform for showcasing raw Hussain, Mujeeb Ur Rahman, Atkinson, Allah

Ghazanfar and Phil Salt. Mumbai Indians: Hardik Pandya (c), Rohit Sharma, Suryakumar Yadav, Dewald Brevis, Jasprit Bumrah, Piyush talent and offering a once-in-Chawla, Gerald Coetzee, Tim a-lifetime opportunity to play David, Shreyas Gopal, Ishan alongside cricketing icons. Kishan (wk), Anshul Kamboj, The launch event was The launch event was attended by legendary cricket figures including former India Captain Dilip Vengsarkar, League Commissioner, and former West Indies Captain Courtney Walsh, Vice President. Both Vengsarkar and Walsh echoed Singh's enthusiarem emphasizing the Kumar Kartikeya, Akash Madhwal, Kwena Maphaka, Mohammad Nabi, Shams Mulani, Naman Dhir, Shivalik Sharma, Romario Shepherd, Arjun Tendulkar, Ñuwan Thushara, Tilak Varma, Harvik Desai (wk), Nehal Wadhera and Luke Wood. enthusiasm, emphasizing the

significance of the BCL in providing opportunities for those who have missed out on traditional pathways to cricketing success. At the inaugural season, it was

announced that six franchises were set to compete in 18 live T20 matches. These matches will feature a blend of former international icons, first-class cricketers, and aspiring local talents, ensuring a captivating spectacle for cricket enthusiasts worldwide.

With matches set to be broadcasted on both television and OTT platforms across India and in over 30 countries, the BCL aims to make its presence felt amid a global audience. Furthermore, opportunities for team ownership and sponsorship are available, signaling the league's commitment to fostering collaboration and support within the cricketing community, said a statement from the BCL.

Recently, Dinesh Karthik had

expressed his desire to return to the Indian side in the context of the

T20 World Cup, but Ganguly said the selectors made the right choice

by selecting Rishabh Pant and Sanju Samson as wicketkeeper batters.

"Dinesh played well but there are

better players than Dinesh. I don't

Virat Kohli should open in T20 WC: Ganguly will always be Test matches. "Look, quality players will be successful in all formats of the game. Look at Virat Kohli...the best players will adjust to all formats," he

Former Indian captain Sourav Ganguly on Friday said the Indian team management should make Virat Kohli open in next month's T20 World Cup to exploit the star batter's rich vein of form in the ongoing Indian Premier Africa.

League. Kohli is the current Orange Cap holder in this IPL with 634 runs from 12 matches, averaging 70.44 and at an impressive strike-rate of 153.51, which is significantly higher than his career rate of 134.31.

"Virat is playing exceptionally well. The way Kohli batted last night — The way Kohli batted last night — 90 in quick time, you need to use him as opener in T20 World Cup. He should open, evidenced by his last few IPL innings which have been outstanding," Ganguly told DTL here on the sidelines of a PTI here on the sidelines of a promotional event.

Ganguly said India have picked a balanced squad for the T20 World Cup which has the wherewithal to the trophy after a gap of 17

India's lone triumph in the T20 World Cup came in 2007, the inaugural edition held in South

"This is an excellent squad. I think they have picked the best possible squad. Apart from batting depth, bowling looks excellent.

"Bumrah is the best fast bowler in the world at the moment. We have experience in Kuldeep, Axar, Siraj. It's an ideal combination we have

this time," said Ganguly. This edition of the IPL has seen teams breaching the 250-run mark quite effortlessly, and the 51-year-old said the trend would continue in the future as well.

"This is going to be the trend in the years to come. T20 cricket has become a power-oriented game and that's what it is going to be.

"I was reading Sanju Samson's comments the other day, where he

said there's no time to settle down in modern T20s. You just have to hit, and that's the way it is going to

be," said Ganguly. The Kolkatan, himself no stranger to hitting some monster sixes during his playing days, identified the evolved mindset of batters and Impact Player rule as the main reasons behind such mammoth totals in the IPL.

"Now, in IPL we are seeing scores like 240, 250 regularly. The main reasons are good batting wickets and the grounds are also not big in India. In the last game between Delhi Capitals and Rajasthan (Royals), 26 sixes were hit in a 40over game, which is almost one six

"That's how this game has gone and that's how the players have started approaching the game. The Impact Player rule, where every team has the possibility of adding another



batsman, has also added another upskill themselves to counter the dimension to it," he detailed. ruthless march of batters in T20s, Ganguly said the bowlers ne and cited the example of pacer

Jasprit Bumrah. Amidst the general ruins of bowlers, Bumrah stood tall, grabbing 18 wickets from 12 matches and his economy rate of 6.20 is the best among regular

bowlers. "The bowlers need to be really more skillful, we have some skillful more skillful bowlers around, to be more successful. Look at Bumrah, Axar Patel, Kuldeep Yadav, all of them bowl superbly in all formats of the game and in the IPL.

"It is not fair for me to make a artistry in Test cricket. Test matches

added.

think you can leave Sanju or Rishabh out. There are better I don't believe in formats. I believe players than Dinesh Karthik at the in skills. These are exemplary moment," said Ganguly. Ganguly players who will thrive in all formats," he noted. also refrained from commenting on the "public reprimand" given to Lucknow Super Giants skipper KL Rahul by the team owner Sanjeev Does he think the power-hitting will take the elegance and artistry away, making cricket robotic? "Not at all. Demands of different Goenka. formats are different. Everything evolves, sports is not an exception. You will still see elegance and

comment based on a TV grab. I don't know what Sanjeev had spoken to Rahul. So, I leave it at at," he said.

OTHER SPORTS

Rafael Nadal shows he is not quite ready for retirement in a comeback win at Italian Open

AP ROME

For a brief stretch on Thursday, Rafael Nadal looked every bit of a weary 37year-old player nearing retirement.

Struggling to produce pace off both sides with his both sides with groundstrokes, committing an number of unforced errors and unable to stay in rallies, Nadal dropped the first set of his first-round match at the Italian Open against Belgian qualifier Zizou Bergs. Then the fist-pumping,

virtually-unbeatable-on-clay, 22-time Grand Slam champion version of Nadal emerged and the Spaniard rallied for a 4-6, 6-3, 6-4 victory before an adoring crowd in what will likely be his final tournament at the Foro Italico.

a the fold match. Nadal was playing only his 10th match this year after missing nearly all of 2023 with a hip injury that required myself ready for what's surgery. He's hoping to be competitive one last time at the French Open, where he is the record 14-time champion.

"That was not my best match. I was practicing better than how I played today, without a doubt. But I found a way to win," Nadal said. "My game is more unpredictable than before. I didn't play much tennis for the last two years. So I'm up and down, on and off, but I think I can do it much better than what I did today." Rome, where he is a record 10time champion, is Nadal's last big warmup tournament before Roland Garros starts on May 26.

Nadal noted that after overcoming his hip and always amazing with me, abdominal issues, the time has



coming."

"I am not talking only about Roland Garros. I am talking about the next match. I need to lose this fear," Nadal said. "Matches like today help. Some moments I was moving faster. Some moments not. I need to get used to that, to take that risk. ... I feel more ready to try it than before." During his 70th win in the

Italian capital, the Campo Centrale crowd serenaded Nadal with chants of: "Ole, Ole, Ole, Na-dal, Na-dal."

"I've always been emotional to play here, these kind of events are the most important events in my tennis career," Nadal said. "The crowd has been

supporting me since the

beginning of my tennis career. So I'm super excited to be able to play one more time here." Nadal was coming off a straight-set loss to 31st-ranked

Jiri Lehecka in the fourth round of the Madrid Open. But he has never lost consecutive matches on clay in his entire career and now that impressive statistic remains intact during what he has indicated is his final season on tour.

Nadal got out to a strong start, unleashing a 95 mph (153 kph) forehand winner en route to an early break and a 3-1 lead in the first set. But he gave the break right back in the next game when he missed three weak groundstrokes into the net.

Then at 4-4, Nadal doublefaulted twice and was broken again to give the 108th-ranked Bergs a 5-4 lead and a chance

to serve out the set.

In the first set, Nadal committed 16 unforced errors to Bergs' 10.

During the first game of the second set, the match was briefly suspended when a spectator in the stands required medical treatment. That allowed Nadal to chat with Carlos Moya, his coach. the After 10-minute suspension of play, Nadal raced out to a 3-0 lead in the second set as he upped the power on his shots and became more aggressive. During the third set, Nadal

managed to win a point after he fell to the red clay, quickly getting up to resume the rally and then producing a delicate drop-shot winner. Then he blasted a forehand cross-court winner to break for a 3-1 lead and unleashed a double-clutch fist pump.

Gukesh storms back, Pragg moves to joint third; Carlsen takes

PTI 📕 WARSAW

World Championship challenger D Gukesh bounced back from a sedate start to defeat compatriot R Praggnanandhaa and Germany's Vincent Keymer before holding world No. 1 Magnus Carlsen after round six of the Superbet rapid and blitz tournament here on Fridav.

However, Praggnanandhaa produced a strong fifth round, defeating Holland's Anish Giri and he followed it with a win over Keymer in the sixth round.

Norway's Carlsen shares the lead with Wei Yi of China with eight points apiece while Praggnanandhaaa and Shevchenko share the third spot on seven points each. Nodirbek Abdusattorov of Uzbekistan, Gukesh and Arjun Erigaisi are joint fifth on 6 points, a full point ahead of local star Duda Jan-Kryzstof.

With four points, Keymer is in ninth spot in the \$175000 prize money tournament, a point clear of Giri.

However, the dream run of Romanian Kirill Shevchenko was ended by Erigaisi,



who scored his first victory in the event.

followed by a lone draw, Gukesh showed pluck to prevail over Praggnanandhaaa in the fourth round in 41 moves. The middle game arising out of a double

Starting with losses in the first two rounds

fianchetto by white did not offer much scope for Gukesh and his position worsened as Praggnanandhaaa launched a King side attack by advancing his pawns. The pressure was immense on both and despite getting close to a winning position Praggnanandhaaa could not keep his nerves and let Gukesh come back strongly. In the next round, Praggnanandhaa was on target with some difficult moves to grind down Giri in just 21 moves out of an irregular Queen pawn game.

Giri fell prey to a brilliant rook manoeuvre and blundered early.

Gukesh made most of the chances to crush Keymer who played white. The tactical complications led to a wild position in the middle game wherein Keymer found his king going for a long walk.

It was hard to recover for him from there and Gukesh finished the game with a queen sacrifice.

Leverkusen rallies late in draw with Roma to preserve unbeaten record and reach Europa League final

AP LEVERKUSEN (GERMANY)

Bayer Leverkusen had a double reason to celebrate in stoppage time on Thursday. Not only did it reach the Europa League final and keep its treble bid on course but substitute Josip Stanišic's late goal preserved its remarkable record unbeaten as Leverkusen rescued a 2-2

draw against Roma. Both had seemed at risk during the semifinal second leg after two Leandro Paredes penalties had made it 2-0 on

the night and 2-2 on aggregate. But an own goal by Roma defender Gianluca Mancini eight minutes from time and Stanišic's equalizer saw Leverkusen stretch its unbeaten streak to 49 matches.

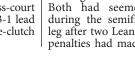
Leverkusen advanced 4-2 on aggregate and will face another Italian team on May 22 in Dublin after Atalanta beat Marseille 3-0 to advance 4-1 on aggregate.

"It's pure goosebumps!" Granit Xhaka told German television RTL. "You dream of



an atmosphere like this. You dream of games like this. As a kid, you want to be in these games and then when you equalize just before the end and get to the final, it's incredible."

The fact that its unbeaten record was preserved about 30 seconds away from coming to an end was another improbable finale in an impressive season for Xabi Alonso's team, which has already won the Bundesliga title and also reached the German Cup final.





tollywood



MEGASTAR CHIRU, HONOURED WITH PADMA VIBHUSHAN **DEDICATES IT TO TECHNICIA**

t 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

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, daughterin-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.

<u>'S A WRAP FOR DARLING</u>

Privadarshi, 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 sur-

rounding 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 mar-riage. 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

elugu-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 prothe 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 nart. Vedika appears to be playing the Lakshmi in the key parts. Vedika appears to be playing the fairy in the titlular role. It's been also reported that her character would change with each episode of this exciting series that incorpo

rates horror themes! You can watch the Yakshini web series in Telugu,

Malayalam,

Kannada, and

Plus Hotstar.

stood that the

announced by

the makers. The

episodes in this

series will be

release date will

It is under-

shortly be

amount of

Hindi on Disney

Bharat Raj takes charge as Abhiram in Yevam

→ he 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-

▲ ity. 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*

ilmmaker 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 compromis-

es. Let's make it happen. Sky's the limit." After extensive discussions involving the

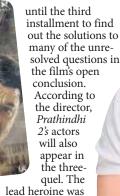
director of photography, art director, and production designer, the makers decided to execute the set at Ramoji Film City. The film is scheduled to execute the set at Kanfol Film City. The Hyderabad and is set to conclude by August 5th. The planning and execution of both the loca-tions and set design 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 Khossla in the lead role, while Tusshar Kapoor, Suchitra Krishnamoorthi, and the rest of the ensemble cast play pivotal roles.

PRATHINIDHI TO HAVE A THREEQUEL': REPORTS

P^{*rathinidhi*} 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 come-

back 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



portrayed by Siree Lella, while important characters were portrayed by Dinesh Tei, 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

n 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 set on fire for Rs 4 crore! The shooting was going on when the fire broke out, but there were no casualties reported.



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

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