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Telangana govt. announces notification for new liquor shops

The government of Telangana has announced the opening of applications for new liquor shops, inviting submissions from tomorrow (Friday) until 18 October. The allocation of licences will be determined through a draw scheduled for 23 October. The new licences will remain valid from 1 December 2025 until 30 November 2027. The tender fee has been increased to £3 lakh, up from the previous rate of £2 lakh, which marks an increment of £1 lakh. Applicants will benefit from the option to pay this fee in six instalments rather than in a single lump sum.

Secretariat women employees celebrate Bathukamma with great enthusiasm

Hyderabad, Sept.25 The women employees celebrated Bathukamma on the grand scale at the Secretariat here on Thursday. Ministers Seethakka and Konda Surekha were the chief guests and took part in the festivities. A significant number of women employees participated and joyfully engaged in the Bathukamma activities. Minister Seethakka joined the women in playing Bathukamma and conveyed her best wishes to all the employees. The Ministers were accompanied by Education Secretary Yogita Rana, Women and Child Welfare Secretary Anitha Ramachandran, and Secretariat Women Employees Welfare Association President Ramadevi.

Telangana High Court suspends single judge's orders on Group-I results



GNS News Agency, Sept 25

Hyderabad: Chief Justice Aparesh Kumar Singh and Justice G.M. Mohiuddin of the Telangana High Court on Wednesday cleared the way for Telangana Group-1 recruitments, issuing interim orders suspending the single judge's September 9 verdict that had set aside the Mains results and directed re-evaluation of answer sheets. The Division Bench said that the Telangana Public Service Commission may proceed with the further process and appointment letters can be issued, though these would remain subject to the final outcome of the writ appeals.

The single judge had delivered a 222-page judgment earlier this month, setting aside the results over allegations ranging from errors in evaluation, double hall tickets, allocation of candidates to favourable centres, special centres

for women, and bias against Telugu medium students, to selection of evaluators. The order directed the Commission to re-evaluate answer sheets within eight months, failing which the entire Mains examination would stand cancelled.A total of 15 writ appeals were filed against the order, 12 by the TGPSC and 3 by selected candidates. All were heard together on Wednesday. Advocate General A. Sudarshan Reddy, Senior advocate S. Niranjan Reddy and Commission standing counsel P.S. Rajasekhar appeared for the Commission. Senior advocates S. Muralidhar, Desai Prakash Reddy and Advocate Vishnuvardhan Reddy and others argued on behalf of the selected candidates. On the other side, senior advocates G. Vidyasagar, Rachna Reddy and Surender Rao represented the writ petitioners who had succeeded before the single judge. The Advocate General argued that the single judge's verdict was contradictory on one hand directing re-evaluation within eight months, while on the other hand directing cancellation of the entire examination if it was not done. "Re-evaluation is nowhere in the TGPSC rules," he pointed out, noting that only recount of marks is permissible within 15 days of results. He said the single judge had ignored the Commission's version and given a judgment based on assumptions and predictions.

He stressed that moderation was followed exactly as per the Supreme Court's ruling in Sanjay Singh v. UPPSC. Each answer sheet was assessed by two evaluators; where there was more than a 15% difference, the paper went to a third evaluator. He also defended the increase of centres from 45 to 46, explaining that a special centre for differ-

ently-abled candidates had to be set up, and that only women were allotted seats at Koti Women's College due to lack of facilities for male candidates. Senior advocate S. Niranjan Reddy submitted that there were no allegations of malpractice, paper leakage or mass copying. Minor issues, he argued, could not justify the cancellation of results.On the other hand, senior advocates Vidyasagar, Rachna Reddy and Surender Rao insisted that evaluation was fundamentally flawed. They alleged that marks were assigned candidate-wise, not answer-wise, and that the system of a third evaluator was invented which was not prescribed in the rules. "What occurred was not re-evaluation but a fresh evaluation," argued Surender Rao, claiming that marks were awarded without marking the answer sheets. Rachna Reddy alleged that several selected candidates were favoured with specific centres, while women candidates at Koti Women's College saw disproportionate success. She maintained that serious irregularities had indeed tainted the process. The bench asked both sides whether there was any evidence of mass copying, paper leakage or major fraud. It observed that issues like double hall tickets, additional centres, or allocation of women candidates fell within the Commission's discretion. "How can results be cancelled based on these small issues?" the bench asked. After marathon arguments, the bench directed all parties to file synopsis highlighting key points and adjourned the matter to October 15. Meanwhile, it suspended the single judge's order, making it clear that appointment orders can be issued but will remain subject to the outcome of the writ appeals.

CM puts admn on high alert due to heavy rains forecast



Hyderabad, Sept.25 Following an IMD forecast of heavy to very heavy rains over the next two days, Telangana Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy has put all government departments on high alert. The CM directed the district collectors to monitor flood-prone areas regularly, evacuate residents from low-lying regions, and ensure shelters are ready. Roads submerged due to floods should be closed, and the safety of causeways must be checked. Electricity department has been instructed to maintain uninterrupted power supply and remove dangling wires to ensure public safety. Educational institutions are also advised to remain vigilant during Dasara holidays. CM Revanth Reddy urged the citizens to avoid venturing outdoors during heavy rainfall. GHMC, HYDRAA, NDRF, and SDRF teams in Hyderabad have been instructed to stay on alert.

D. Raja re-elected CPI national general secretary



GNS News Agency, Sept 25

The Communist Party of India's (CPI) on Thursday re-elected D. Raja as the party's national general secretary during its ongoing 25th congress here, said a party statement. The party also announced a new 11-member national secretariat and a 31-member executive committee. During the congress, the party adopted several resolutions, including the demand for the restoration of trade with Pakistan through Attari-Wagah and other border routes in Punjab. In another resolution that was moved by CPI Punjab state secretary Bant Brar, the party demanded the release of all prisoners who have completed their sentences. In its political resolution, according to a statement, the CPI declared that it would intensify the ideological and theoretical struggle against the BJP-RSS. The party affirmed that in the upcoming Assembly elections in Bihar, Tamil Nadu, and West Bengal, it would strive to ensure the victory of the Left, democratic, and secular forces, while in Kerala, it would make every effort to secure the victory of the Left front. The party also expressed concern over the rising unemployment and the decline in the education sector. It called for the unity of Left and democratic forces against the rising centralising and authoritarian tendencies, added

Telangana emerges as seed bowl of India, says Tummala

Uttam urges R&D and exports to

sustain Telangana as India's seed hub

Hyderabad, Sept.25: Minister of Agriculture Tummala Nageswara Rao stated that Telangana has earned the title of the "Seed Bowl of India" nationwide and is expected to evolve into the "Global Seed Capital" in the future.On Thursday, Tummala Nageswara Rao and Irrigation Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy were the chief guests at the 30th anniversary event of the Hyderabad Seed Conclave-2025, organised by the Seedsmen Association

During his address, Minister Tummala commended the Seedsmen Association for its role over the past 25 years as a vital link between farmers, scientists, industries, and government entities. He indicated that Telangana leads the nation in quality seed production, with the state generating one crore quintals of seeds annually. Of this total, 75 lakh quintals are paddy, 10 lakh quintals are maize, and another 10 lakh quintals comprise jowar and other small grains.

Tummala Nageswara Rao noted that seed production currently takes place across approximately 8 lakh acres, involving around 3.5 lakh farmers in the process.He mentioned that the state exports one lakh tonnes of seeds worth



Rs. 2,000 crore each year, and Telangana seeds are highly regarded in the international market, thanks to the stringent measures implemented by the government. The Minister emphasised that these achievements are the result of the farmers' diligence, discipline, and awareness. He also pointed out that the cultivation of oil palm, currently spread over 1,30,000 acres, is set to expand in the future, potentially transforming the economic landscape of Telangana.

Komatireddy felicitates NAC senior instructor on receiving national award



Hyderabad, Sept.25: Roads and Buildings Minister Komatireddy Venkat Reddy has extended greetings to Nakka Snehalatha, senior instructor at NAC, for receiving the prestigious national best teacher award from the President of India. The award was presented in New Delhi on September 5, coinciding with Teachers' Day by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship in recognition of her outstanding service in skill training and youth empowerment. Snehalatha called on the Minister at his camp office in the Ministers' quarters on Thursday, where he felicitated her with a shawl and memento. Komatireddy lauded her exceptional contribution to skill development programmes, particularly her efforts to train unemployed youth and equip them with employable skills that have opened up significant job and livelihood opportunities. The Minister emphasised that the People's government led by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy is prioritising skill development as a key driver of economic growth and social upliftment. "Enhancing the employability of our youth by equipping them with modern, industry-ready skills is one of the foremost objectives of this government. We are setting up state-of-the-art Skill Development Centres across Telangana to ensure that every young person has the opportunity to learn, grow and compete globally," he said. He announced that a new, advanced skill development centre will soon be inaugurated in Nalgonda, which will serve as a major hub for cutting-edge training programmes aimed at preparing local youth to meet global workforce standards.

Harish Rao condemns police action against Anganwadi staff



Hyderabad, Sept.25 Former Minister and BRS MLA T Harish Rao criticised the police actions taken against Anganwadi staff who participated in a "Chalo Secretariat" demonstration to demand the fulfillment of promises made by the Congress government.

He called for their prompt release and urged the government to uphold the commitments outlined in the Congress election manifesto regarding women employees. He expressed disappointment that Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, who had vowed to empower women financially, is now ordering the arrest of Anganwadi teachers throughout

Hyderabad, Sept.25: Irrigation and Civil Supplies Minister N Uttam Kumar Reddy on Thursday said Telangana must strengthen research, expand exports, and upgrade infrastructure to remain the "Seed Bowl of India." Addressing the Hyderabad Seed Conclave 2025, organised by the Seedmen Association at a hotel, Jubilee Hills, he described seed companies as "nation-builders" and assured them of full government support. The conclave was also addressed by Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageshwara Rao, MLA K Satyanarayana and

Uttam Kumar Reddy said quality seed was the single most important input in agriculture, forming the base of food security and farmer prosperity. "Seeds determine yield, enhance the efficiency of fertilisers and irrigation, and stand at the centre of the agricultural cycle. High-yielding varieties are essential to sustain farmers' incomes," he remarked. He praised Agriculture Minister Tummala Nageswara Rao, describing him as unique among Indian politicians for being a hands-on farmer himself. "He understands farmers' hardships, is sympathetic to them and to seed companies, and under his leadership Telangana has achieved record production in both kharif and rabi seasons since December 2023," Uttam Kumar Reddy said. He added that Telangana had emerged as the number one paddy-producing state in the country under Nageswara Rao's stew-

He called on seed companies to intensify research and development, particularly to develop new paddy varieties with higher yields and improved rice recovery. "Innovation across all crops is the path to improving farmer incomes." he said. Uttam Kumar Reddy underlined the growing global presence of Telangana's seed industry. He said rice and seed varieties from the state were already reaching the Philippines and efforts were on export them to Indonesia, South Africa, Burkina Faso and other African nations. "Seed export has great potential. Just as our software industry carried Telangana's name across the world, our seed industry can also cross boundaries and bring back reputation for the state," he said, evoking applause once again. The Minister assured that the Congress government in Telangana would resolve all the problems being faced by the seed manufacturing

BRS accuses Congress of profiteering from RRR, Greenfield hwy; Calls for united agitation

GNS News Agency, Sept 25

Hyderabad: The BRS has accused the Congress government of exploiting farmers through arbitrary alignment changes to the Regional Ring Road (RRR) and Greenfield highway projects. The party leaders said farmers were being harassed, denied fair compensation and displaced to facilitate land deals. The party called for a united struggle by farmers and vowed to intensify pressure on the State government.

Victims from Kalwakurthy and nearby constituencies met former Minister V Srinivas Goud, former MLAs Jaipal Yadav and Marri Janardhan Reddy at Telangana Bhavan in Hyderabad on Thursday. Speaking on the occasion, Srinivas Goud said the BRS would adopt all means to mobilise farmers and launch a coordinated movement against the government's tactics. He warned



that the party would take the fight to the Parliament, the Assembly, and the streets if needed.

Indian Chronicle

English Daily

India should be wary of China's friendly gestures

In the wake of US President Donald Trump's unexected statements and actions against India, China eems to be trying to widen the chasm between the vorld's largest democracies. A recent instance is Chinese Ambassador Xu Feihong's remark that the 50 per ent tariff on India is "unfair and unreasonable." Speaking n New Delhi, China has accused the United States of weaponising tariffs." He also said that India and China hould "prioritise development and foster mutual support and success." However, India should be wary of such

At first glance, such statements may appear benign, ven encouraging. For Indian policymakers, grappling vith the challenge of maintaining a delicate balance beween great powers, it might seem useful to hear concilatory words from Beijing. But beneath this veneer of riendship lies a far more calculated strategy. China has ong sought to drive a wedge between India and the United states, especially at moments when the latter falters in ts outreach to New Delhi. China's playbook is familiar. Vhenever tensions arise between the two nations, Beijing seeks to present itself as a fellow developing country. rging India to join hands in pursuing growth and opposng Western "hegemonism.

Beijing employs the language of solidarity, often highghting areas of shared history or economic interest. Yet his rhetorical embrace has little substance. The reality is hat India's experience with China has been marked not by solidarity but by chicanery. Border tensions persist long the Line of Actual Control, with repeated incursions, nfrastructure build-ups, and military stand-offs undermin-

Philip Morris International Highlights •290 Billion **Economic Contribution in** EU, Reaffirms Commitment to a Smoke-Free Future

Hyderabad: A recent EY-Parthenon study has revealed that Philip Morris International (PMI) contributed approximately •290 billion to the European Union's economy over a five-year period, underscoring the company's role in industrial resilience, SME support, and innovation investment—while also highlighting its ongoing transition toward a smoke-free future.

According to the study, PMI's presence in the EU generated a total economic footprint of approximately •290 billion, supporting more than 1.5 million jobs (direct, indirect, and induced) across the region. The report further highlighted that PMI has invested more than •43 billion globally in research, development, and infrastructure to deliver innovative smoke-free alternatives and transform the tobacco in-

The findings were announced at a conference in Brussels on 17 September 2025, where Massimo Andolina, PMI President Europe Region, delivered the keynote address. The event also featured insights from EY-Parthenon, which conducted the comprehensive assessment covering 27 EU countries over a five-year period up to 2023. The study demonstrated PMI's contribution to industrial resilience, SME supply chains, R&D investment, workforce training, and

Key Findings of the Study

- 1 million jobs in the EU economy, including approximately 21,500 direct employees in 2023, with additional employment in related industries and retail.
- •19.6 billion of investment, supporting more than 45,000 SMEs, strengthening "Made in EU" industrial ecosystems and the resilience of the supply chain.
- •625 million in tobacco leaf purchases, supporting European farmers and farming communities.
- Over •2.3 billion in R&D investment to drive innovation and scientific progress.
- EU exports of over •33 billion, including •8.4 billion in 2023.

In his keynote address, Massimo Andolina, PMI President Europe Region, drew parallels between the shift from tobacco to smoke-free products and the broader transition from diesel to environmentally friendly electric cars. He emphasized that PMI has been on a 10-year journey to transform its business, with more than 40 percent of global revenues now coming from smoke-free products. Highlighting the broader economic and industrial impact, he added that PMI is "doing it in the right way, including by creating investment and jobs and through the development of intellectual property: all the things that will make the EU more com-

The study underscores how innovation-led transformation in traditional industries can drive economic resilience, support millions of livelihoods, and strengthen regional competitiveness. As the EU advances its green and digital transitions, such models provide valuable insights for shaping inclusive and future-ready economies.

Distribution of expired pallipatti to Anganwadi children"

"Indian Chronicle" kumrambheem, Asifabad.District Reporter Jade Srinivas. September, 25. ""Wankidi: Although officials say that quality food is being served at Anganwadi centers, the situation is different in Khiridi, Wankidi mandal. Here, expired pallipatti was distributed to children. After going home and checking the packets, parents expressed concern and realized that the expiry date had passed. They are complaining that eating this is dangerous for the health of their children.

Amazon Great Indian Festival 2025: Up to 50% off on Alexa-enabled Echo smart speakers, Fire TV devices, and Kindle



Hvderabad: Amazon's Great Indian Festival is now live with exciting offers on Echo smart speakers and displays with Alexa, Alexa smart home combos, Fire TV streaming sticks, smart TVs with Fire TV built-in, and the all-new Kindle Paperwhite. Whether it's getting started on your smart home journey or elevating your TV streaming experience, you can enjoy savings across these devices during the ongoing

Here are some of the best deals to look out for: Read anytime, anywhere with the all-new Kindle Paperwhite

The all-new Kindle Paperwhite is Amazon's fastest and thinnest Paperwhite yet, designed to make reading convenient and enjoyable. With its lightweight design, glare-free display, and battery life of up to 12 weeks on a single charge, Kindle Paperwhite lets you carry your library with you and read comfortably anywhere and in any surrounding. During

Amazon's Great Indian Festival, you can avail flat 2,000 or this e-reader and get it for ?14,999.

Choose smarter living experiences with Alexa

Upgrade your home into a smarter, more connected space with Alexa-enabled Echo smart speakers and smart displays, and Alexa smart home combos. From playing music, controlling compatible smart lights, setting alarms and reminders, and checking the weather, to keeping the little ones engaged with voice-first activities or their favourite nursery rhymes-Alexa helps make everyday tasks simple,

Offers you can avail during Amazon Great Indian Fes-

Flat 56% off on the Echo Pop Combo for Kids with Teddy Sleeve and Alexa Activity Kit. Get it for ?3,499

Flat 54% off on Echo (4th Generation) Combo with Wipro Simple Setup 9W LED Smart Bulb. Get it for 5,548

Flat 51% off on Echo Pop Combo with Wipro Simple Setup 9W LED Smart Bulb. Get it for 3,499

Flat 50% off on Echo (4th Generation). Get it for 5,000 Flat 41% off on Echo Pop. Get it for 2,949

Flat 19% off on Echo Dot (5th Generation). Get it for

Flat 17% off on Echo Spot. Get it for 7,449 Flat 5,000 off on Echo Show 8 (2nd Generation). Get it

Flat 3.000 off on Echo Show 10. Get it for ?21.999.

Made in India for the World: Garware Technical Fibres Launches 'Invisi Grille', Setting Global Safety Standards in High-Rise Living

Hyderabad: Garware Technical Fibres Ltd. (GTFL), a global leader in technical textiles, today announced the launch of Invisi Grille, India's first engineered invisible safety grille. The product marks a significant milestone in formalizing India's largely unorganized invisible grille market, bringing standardized, internationally certified safety solutions to modern high-rise homes. It also reinforces India's Make in India vision by demonstrating that indigenous engineering can meet global benchmarks. With India's high-rise residential sector growing rapidly—adding over 1,000 new projects annually in urban centers—demand for innovative, safe, and aesthetically pleasing solutions like Invisi Grille has never

India's invisible grille market has long been fragmented, dominated that do not meet the standards on breaking strength, aesthetics and good finish quality. Many of these solutions rely on steel wires which, while difficult to cut and hence do not comply with fire evacuation safety norms for high rise buildings. Such compromises highlight the urgent need for a safer, more reliable alternative. After an in-depth research on the above shortcomings GTFL team has developed an exclusive product Invisi Grille which is India's first engineered and certified solution in this category—meeting stringent international safety benchmarks. Designed with a proprietary synthetic polymer core, it offers superior strength, rust-free performance, and weather







resistance, while ensuring families are protected without obstructing safe exits in emergencies. Beyond enhancing safety for homeowners, the launch of Invisi Grille reflects Garware's commitment to formalizing unorganized sectors with scalable, high-quality technical solutions. It also signals the strength of Indian manufacturing to innovate, align with safety standards, and create opportunities for domestic business growth and exports. By setting this new benchmark, GTFL is not only offering a safer alternative but also reshaping the category itself proving that innovation and trust can go hand in hand.

Construction of the Kabrastan wall will be completed in the next two to three days: - Chairman of Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District **Book Society Aves Chisti"**

"Yadadri Bhuvanagiri.. Indian Chronicle..(September 24) :- Everyone knows that the Kabrastan wall in Bhuvanagiri town collapsed due to the unseasonal rains the other day. Keeping this in mind, the municipal workers have been constructing the walls for the past week as per the orders of Bhuvanagiri MLA Kumbha Anil Kumar Reddy. Chairman of Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Book Society Aves Chisti stated that the construction of the walls will be completed in the next two to three days. On this occasion, he inspected the work being done there.

We will contest the Bar Council elections for the protection of lawyers: - Lawyers Forum President and High Court Advocate Narri Swamy"



"Yadadri Bhuvanagiri.. (Indian Chronicle... September 24):- Releasing a press release in the presence of lawyers gathered at the Lawyers Forum for Social Justice state office.. Telangana Social Awareness Forum State Founding President, Lawyers Forum for Social Justice State Working President, Akhil Bharatiya Lawyers Samyukta Adibhakt Manch State General Secretary Narri Swamy revealed various issues on the problems of lawyers. Speaking on the occasion, he said that as a lawyer from the present Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district of the joint Nalgonda district,

he is organizing many movements from the Lawyers Forum for Social Justice and the All India Lawyers' Adibhakt Manch to enact protective laws for lawyers and to provide 5000 scholarships to juniors. Various bar associations across the state are fighting with the support of lawyers. We are contesting the Bar Council elections with the sole aim of enacting protective laws for lawyers in particular. Since each lawyer has the opportunity to cast 25 votes, if I am elected with the largest majority, I will work to resolve the problems of lawyers, said Narriswamy.

Khiridi Main Road Leading..There Are Potholes."

"Indian Chronicle" kumrambheem, Asifabad.District Reporter Jade Srinivas. September, 25. "Wankidi Locals are complaining that the roads in Khirdi village have become potholed due to the negligence of the authorities. The main road leading to Khirdi in Wankidi mandal is completely covered in potholes.

JSW Steel Coated Products and Police Bust Counterfeit Operation in Kadapa; Major Seizure of Fake **JSW SILVER Products**



Hyderabad In a significant crackdown on the illegal counterfeiting of its branded products, JSW Steel Coated has, in coordination with local police, uncovered and seized a cache of fake JSW SILVER etched rolling shutter products in Kadapa, Andhra Pradesh. This action underscores the company's zero-tolerance approach to counterfeiting and its continued efforts to safeguard customers, channel partners and brand reputation from fraudulent practices.

Acting swiftly on a specific tip-off about illegal activity, the JSW Steel Coated team carried out a detailed investigation by a third party agency to verify the misuse of its trademarked JSW SILVER etching on shutter products. This led the company to SDS & Sons in Kadapa.

Faced with clear evidence of trademark infringement, the listed JSW Steel's subsidiary- JSW Steel Coated maintained round-the-clock surveillance and promptly liaised with law enforcement. This led to a successful police raid at SDS & Sons, resulting in the seizure of 18 shutter components illegally marked with JSW SILVER and the associated mould used for etching. The First Information Report (FIR No. 323/2025) was filed on 12 September 2025 at Kadapa Taluk Police Station against the proprietor of SDS & Sons under sections 417, 420, 482, 483, 485, and 486 of the IPC and sections 102, 103, 104, and 107 of the Trademarks Act.JSW Steel reiterates its commitment to protecting its brand integrity and ensuring customers receive only genuine JSW products. The company will continue to work closely with law enforcement authorities to combat counterfeiting and uphold its standards of quality and trust

International magician Samala Venu receives special honor in America"





Jersey..Hyderabad Chronicle...September 24):- Hyderabad-based renowned international magician and illusionist Samala Venu was presented with a special proclamation by Hudson County Commissioner William O'Dee in the US. He received this award in recognition of his more than 40 years of service in the fields of social, cultural, arts and entertainment. Similarly, Kearney Mayor Carol Jean Doyle and New Jersey City Council President Joyce Waterman presented a special citation to Samala Venu and honored his talent. The program was organized at the New Jersey City Mayor's Office. Many leaders and well-wishers attended the ceremony. The organizers said that this honor was given in recognition of Samala Venu's 40 years of hard work, social, cultural, art and entertainment services. Rajender Dichipalli, social activist Arjumand Juveria (NJ) and Madhavi Samala participated in the program.

Man Gets Life Imprisonment In POCSO, Atrocity Case"

'Indian Chronicle" kumrambheem, Asifabad.District Reporter Jade Srinivas. September, 25. "Asifabad District Judge MV Ramesh on Wednesday sentenced a person to life imprisonment in the Pocso,SC,ST case. According to the details given by District SP Kantilal Patil.. a girl from a mandal was doing agricultural work near her house. Badige Tirupati, who is the father of two children, made the girl pregnant by telling her false words in the name of love. The judge who heard the case sentenced him.

Steps towards improved underground drainage system in Mallapur Division – MLA B. Laxma Reddy"



"Nacharam (Indian (Chornical, Sepetember, 25) Mallapur Division limits, MLA Sri Bandari Laxma Reddy along with Corporator Pannala Devender Reddy laid the foundation stone for underground drainage works.

The works include Rs.10 lakhs for Annapurna Colony (East) and Rs.6.5 lakhs for K.L. Reddy Nagar Colony. "In this program, Water Board GM Sri Santosh, DGM Sri Satish, Manager Sri Sirajuddin, local leaders, and colony residents participated.

According to the Chevella election declaration, 18 percent reservation should be provided to Dalits in local body elections

Former Municipal Chairman Barre Jahangir

""Mandava Srisailam..(Yadadri Bhuvanagiri..Indian Chronicle.. September 25):- Former Municipal Chairman A petition was submitted to Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Collector Hanumantha Rao today under the auspices of Dalit organizations demanding 17.43% and 18 percent reservation in local body elections as per the SC caste census 2025. "Later, in the local body elections to be held soon in Telangana, the state government requested that 17.43% and 18% reservation be provided to SCs as per the 2025 census. If 15% reservation is provided as per the 2011 census, there is a risk that many public representatives will not be elected to SCs. The state government should consider 2025 instead of 2011. If reservation is provided as per the 2011 census, there is a risk of losing 211 to 324 Sarpanch seats, 141 to 174 MPTC seats, 14 to 15 Mandal Praja Parishad and 14 to 17 ZPTC seats, along with one Parishad chairman. He requested that 15% caste quota as per the 2011 census be increased to 17.43 and 18% as per 2025. Keeping the interests of SCs in mind, reservation should be provided in local body elections as per the 2025 census that you have undertaken. The leaders who par-



ticipated in this program were "PMC State Convener" Surpanga Sivalingam "Dalit United Forum leaders Kartala Srinivas "Padigala Pradeep "MRPS State Assistant Secretary "Itukala Devender Madiga "Srinivas, Ramesh and others

I am very indebted to MLA Kumbham for his assistance in my appointment as a government lawyer:-



District Court Government Special Advocate Dr. Bollepalli Kumar""Mandava Srisailam..Yadadri Bhuvanagiri..(Indian Chronicle September 25):-"I am very indebted to local Bhuvanagiri MLA Kumbham Anil Kumar Reddy for his assistance in all ways in my appointment as a government special advocate in the Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Court and I express my special gratitude to him, said District Court Government Special Advocate Dr. Bollepalli Kumar. On Thursday, the MLAs from Hyderabad met Kumbham Anil Kumar Reddy at his residence and presented him with a bouquet of flowers and expressed their gratitude. Speaking on the occasion, MLA Kumbham Anil Kumar Reddy said that the position given to him by the state government through the law department should be used to work on issues related to the people and to resolve legal issues in the court and work as a bridge and guide for the government and the people.

People Should Live in Peace and Happiness with Goddess' Blessings: MLA Bandari Laxma Reddy""



""NSR, Medchal - Malkajgiri Staff Reporter, Uppal, Sept 25, Indian Chronicle: Uppal MLA Bandari Laxma Reddy said that with the blessings of the goddess, people should live with peace, happiness, long life, and good health. As part of the Navaratri celebrations, Tulaja Sri Youth Association organizers Akhil and Chanti arranged Durga Mata festivities at Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swami Colony in Kushaiguda, Charlapalli division. MLA Bandari Laxma Reddy visited the temple, offered special prayers, and participated in rituals. Speaking on the occasion, the MLA ap-

preciated the discipline and devotion of the youth who wore the goddess' garlands and performed the puja with great faith

Contestant corporator and BRS senior leader Mahesh Goud, CCS Colonies president Empalli Padma Reddy, Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Swami Colony general secretary J. Sudhakar, colony members Kiran and Madesh, Tulaja Sri Youth Association members Abhi, Amulya, Ashish, Shiva, Kumar, Sai, Venkatesh, BRS leaders, and devotees also participated.

TGNPDCL App For Better Services, Superintendent Engineer Rathod Sesha Rao"

""Indian Chronicle" k u m r a m b h e e m , Asifabad.District Reporter J a d e

J a d e Srinivas.September,25.""In a statement, On Fabad Circle Superintendent Engineer Rathod Sesha Rao said that the TGNCDCL app has been designed to provide better services to electricity consumers in a convenient manner. Consum-

ers can download the TGNCDCL app on their Android mobile phones through the Play Store and avail the services. The app has been designed with 20 features. It has been said that 20 features have been incorporated such as Report on Incident, Consumer Grievance, Self Reading, Pay Bills, Bill History, Online Payment History, New Con-

nection, Link Aadhaar- Mobile, Domestic Bill Calculator, Taking New Connection, Name, Load Change, Power Consumption Guidelines, Tariff Details, Energy Saving Tips, Safety Tips, Feedback, My Account, Consumer Bill Information, Details of Officers under the Consumer's jurisdiction, and Contact Us. He said that toll- free numbers 1800 425 0028.



Chilukanagar Women Join BRS Bathukamma Celebrations Led by Corporator Bannala Geetha"



"""Kishore Vaddepalli, Uppal, Sept 25, Indian Chronicle: As part of the call given by BRS working president K.T. Rama Rao, corporator Bannala Geetha Praveen Mudiraj, along with women from Chilukanagar, took out a large rally and participated in the Bathukamma celebrations held at People's Plaza, Necklace Road. Following the directions of Uppal MLA Bandari Laxma Reddy, the BRS organized the Telangana State festival Bathukamma in a grand manner at Necklace Road. Corporator Geetha Praveen led the women participants from Chilukanagar division and actively took part in the Bathukamma festivities. Speaking on the occasion, corporator Geetha Praveen said Bathukamma is the unique cultural festival of Telangana, celebrated with grandeur across the state. She noted that the festival has also gained recognition at the national and international level, showcasing Telangana's culture to the world. A large number of women leaders and members from the Chilukanagar division of the BRS participated in the event.

CPM Demands Transport Facilities for Charlapalli Railway Terminal"

"""NSR, Medchal - Malkajgiri Staff Reporter, Cherlapally, Sept 25, Indian Chronicle: The CPM district committee staged a protest at the Charlapalli Railway Terminal on Thursday, demanding adequate road connectivity and public transport facilities. Speaking at the dharna, CPM Medchal district secretary P. Satyam reminded that the terminal was inaugurated by the Prime Minister in January after construction at a cost of nearly ?480 crore. He criticized that even after several months, the terminal still lacks proper road access and public transport, causing severe inconvenience to passengers. Satyam remarked that the cost of reaching the station is turning out to be higher than the train ticket itself. He demanded that MMTS train services be operated from Charlapalli to Falaknuma, Lingampally, Kacheguda, Secunderabad, and Medchal without delay. Currently, only one trip each is running from Ghatkesar and Lingampally, which he said exposes the poor state of public transport. He urged railway authorities to resolve technical issues hindering MMTS operations immediately. He also called for an increase in the number of RTC buses in line with passenger rush and demanded that buses be synchronized with train timings. In addition, he pressed for the early launch of metro rail expansion works and stressed that road widening to the terminal is urgently needed. District committee members Komati Ravi and M. Vinod accused the Modi government of conspiring to hand over Indian Railways to private corporate powers. They alleged that under the name of privatization, not a single new line has been constructed and public money is being drained on old routes. Later, a CPM delegation submitted a memorandum to railway officials. Among those who took part in the protest were district committee members M. Shankar, N. Sabita, senior leaders G. Yadagiri Rao, Srimannarayana, Somayya Chari, Sharath, P. Ganesh, M.S. Rao, Safia Sultana, Durgayya, J.V. Rao, C.H. Leelavathi, B. Narasing Rao,



D. Prabhakar, C.H. Ashok, Manikantha, T. Narasimha, Adam, Ravinder Reddy and other leaders and workers.

Special Pooja at Durga Mata Mandap in Sri Ramanapuram Colony



"""Kishore Vaddepalli, Uppal, Sept 25, Indian Chronicle: Special prayers were held at the Durga Mata mandap in Sri Ramanapuram Colony, Uppal Division, as part of the Navratri celebrations.

Uppal constituency Congress in-charge Parameshwar Reddy participated in the program and performed rituals at the Durga Mata temple. Speaking on the occasion, Parameshwar Reddy said that evil should be eradicated and expressed his wish for the people of Uppal constituency to lead healthy and prosperous lives with the blessings of the goddess. He also emphasized that the Navratri festival should be celebrated with devotion and enthusiasm. The program was attended by the mandap organizers.

Uppal MLA Launches Anna Prasadam Program"

""Kishore Vaddepalli, Uppal, Sept 25, Indian Chronicle: An annadanam program was organized at the Katta Maisamma Temple near Boppan Cheruvu in Uppal Bhagayat on Thursday under the leadership of Uppal TRS senior leaders Pilli Nagaraju and Jetta Kishore. Uppal MLA Bandari Laxma Reddy participated as the chief guest and offered special prayers to Maisamma. Later, he inaugurated the Anna Prasadam program. A large number of devotees attended and made the event successful.



Traffic Woes in Nacharam Finally Resolved"



"Nacharam, (Indian Chornical, September 25) For a long time, vehicle users traveling from Habsiguda to Raghavendra Nagar, New Raghavendra Nagar, Sri Raghavendra Nagar, Annapurna Colony, Indira Nagar, Shanti Gardens, Rythu Bazar, and surrounding colonies, as well as to educational institutions like Johnson Grammar, St. Peters, and Deccan Springs, have been facing severe traffic issues.""The closure of the road opening in front of Chaudhary Hardware at Raghavendra Nagar forced commuters to travel up to the ESI Hospital to take a U-turn and return. This diversion not only increased the travel distance but also led vehicle users to take the wrong route through the opening in front of Value Zone. This resulted in frequent traffic congestion, accidents, and even heavy penalties for motorists.""To resolve this long-pending issue, Uppal MLA Sri Bandari Laxma Reddy and Nacharam Division Corporator Smt. Shanti Sai Jen Shekhar brought the matter to the notice of the Zonal Commissioner.""Today, engineering and traffic officials, along with the Corporator, inspected the location and initiated works to reopen the road in front of Chaudhary Hardware at Raghavendra Nagar. The central median is being partially removed on both sides to create a wider opening so that school vans, large cars, and heavy vehicles can take a U-turn conveniently.""The Corporator informed that initially, a traffic constable will be deployed for regulation, followed by the installation of a traffic signal. A high-mast light will also be set up at the median for better visibility and safety.""As soon as the works commenced, many colony residents expressed their gratitude to the Corporator and the concerned officials.""

Bones And Joints Medical Camp Concerned

"""Indian Chronicle" kumrambheem, Asifabad.District Reporter Jade Srinivas.September,25.""Penchikalpet:A bone and joint medical camp was organized at the primary health center in the mandal center on Wednesday as part of the Swastha Nari Shakti Parivar Abhiyan (SNSAPA).63 patients suffering from bone and joint related problems were examined and treated.Necessary medicines were distributed by the company of the standard of the company of the company of the standard of the company of

We need people to build a society with the inspiration of Phule - Ambedkar

Former Chairman of Bhuvanagiri Municipal Barre Jahangir,



""Mandava Srisailam..(Yadadri Bhuvanagiri..(Indian Chronicle September 25):- We need people to build a society with the inspiration of Hon'ble Jyotirao Phule - Babasaheb Ambedkar"Former Chairman of Bhuvanagiri Municipal Barre Jahangir said. The organizers of Phule Ambedkar Knowledge Center in Bhuvanagiri, Bhanothu Bhaskar Nayak, congratulated Doddi Yadagiri on their departure for the Phule Ambedkar Inspiration Yatra, which will be held in Maharashtra for five days from tomorrow. Speaking on this occasion, he said that everyone should have an understanding of the life and movement of the greats and should be inspired by the available resources. He said that those leaving Bhuvanagiri for Maharashtra for the Yatra should learn the biographies of Phule and Ambedkar and

convey the inspiration of their movement back to the society here. The organizers Surupanga Shivalingam, Madiga Reservation Porata Samiti State Assistant Secretary Itukala Devender Ande Sai and friends of the employee associations participated in this program.

Doddi Yadagiri and Bhanothu Bhaskar Nayak, who are leaving Bhuvanagiri for Maharashtra to participate in the Phule Ambedkar Inspiration Yatra, paid floral tributes to the great man at the Phule Ambedkar Knowledge Center before leaving. On this occasion, former Municipal Chairman Barre Jahangir offered shawls and felicitated him. MRPS State Assistant Secretary Itukala Devender, Surupanga Shivalingam, and Ande Sai along with employee friends participated in this program.

Goddess Katyayani Alankaram at Sri Mahankali Temple""



"Kishore Vaddepalli, Sept 25, Uppal, Indian Chronicle: On Thursday, the presiding deity at Sri Mahankali Temple in Uppal was decorated and worshipped as Goddess Katyayani. The temple rituals included Suprabhata Seva, Devi Abhishekam, Tirumanjanam, Devi Alankaram, morning darshan, Ekadasa Harathis, Chatushtapachara Puja, Kumbha Harathi, distribution of Teertha Prasadam, Durga Homam, evening Pradosha Puja, Chatushashtopachara

Puja, mass Kumkumarchana with Ashtottaram, Nakshatra Harathi, Ekanta Seva, and cultural programs.

Temple chairman Telkala Mohan Reddy along with committee members participated in the program. Among those present were Eega Anjaneyulu, Bhaskar, Gummadavelli Krishna, Manda Murali Krishna Reddy, Annapu Reddy Krishna Reddy, Kannamaina Naresh, Shaga Shekhar, Karna, and Raghavendra.

Telangana State Government Whip Aleru MLA Beerla Ayilaiah distributed CM Relief Fund cheques







""Mandava Srisailam...Yadadri Bhuvanagiri...(Indian Chronicle...September 25):- Telangana State Government Whip Aleru MLA Beerla Ayilaiah distributed CM Relief Fund cheques to 148 beneficiaries of eight mandals of Aleru constituency in Yadagirigutta town. Turkapalli.11 cheques "Bommalaramaram.25 cheques "Yadagirigutta.26 cheques "Rajapet.17 cheques "Motakondur.13 cheques "Atmakur.11 cheques "Gundala.13 cheques "Aleru.11 cheques "The remaining 21 cheques were handed over.

'Golden Care' initiative for senior citizens

Hyderabad, Sept.25 The Rachakonda police commissionerate and Rachakonda Security Council (RKSC) have launched a pioneering initiative titled 'Golden care- care for those who cared us," aimed at extending care, protection, and dignity to senior citizens within the Rachakonda Commissionerate limits. Under the leadership of Commissioner of police, G. Sudheer Babu, Chairman RKSC, the programme will provide regular outreach visits, moral support, cyber safety awareness, and SOS setup, as well as medical and emergency assistance through hospital tie-ups. Additionally, guidance will be provided on government welfare schemes, including pensions, medical aid, and health insurance.

The Rachakonda police will also offer assistance in reporting financial scams, investigating and intervening in cases of physical or emotional abuse, addressing neglect and abandonment cases, and locating lost items or finding missing individuals. The initiative is backed by legal provisions, including section 144 BNSS, which ensures accountability for neglecting or refusing to maintain dependents, and the Maintenance Act (Sections 4 and 5), which allows senior citizens to claim support from their children. Senior citizens can reach out for assistance through the senior citizen helpline (14567) or the Rachakonda WhatsApp number (8712662111).G. Sudheer Babu emphasised the importance of this initiative, stating, "Our senior citizens are the true pillars of strength and wisdom in our society. cause.

Government Whip MLA Beerla Ayilayya visitsBommalaramula Mandal



""" A scene of Beerla Ayilayya participating in the housewarming of Indiramma's house in Tirumalagiri village.""
*Beneficiaries given silk clothes as gifts""Mandava Srisailam..(Yadadri Bhuvanagiri..(Indian Chronicle..September 25):- Telangana State Government Whip Aleru MLA Beerla Ayilaiah visited Bommalaramaram Mandal of Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District. As part of this visit, a water plant was inaugurated in Mallyala village of





Bommalaramaram Mandal Center in the Mandal. Later, he laid the foundation stone of an Anganwadi building in Tirumalgiri village of the Mandal and participated in the Dharavat Jyoti beneficiary Rurali Indiramma Illu Gruha Pravesha program. As promised on this occasion, he handed over silk clothes and Yata to the beneficiaries. He said that Indiramma houses should be constructed in every village as soon as possible. He congratulated those who took up Indiramma Illu Gruha Pravesha.

Vemula Ashok takes charge as Telangana State General Secretary"

"*A scene of Vemula Ashok, who took charge as Telangana State General Secretary at the Bhuvanagiri BJP office, being felicitated with a shawl by District President Ootkuri Ashok Goud. "Mandava Srisailam. Yadadri Bhuvanagiri..(Indian Chronicle..September 25) :- Vemula Ashok, who took charge as Telangana State General Secretary at the Bharatiya Janata Party state office, was felicitated with a shawl by District President Ootkuri Ashok Goud and congratulated." The program was attended by District Chief Secretaries Koppula Yadireddy, Kaduri Achaiah, Chanda Mahender Gupta, Senior Leaders Chandupatla Venkateshwarlu, Narla Narsing Rao, Padamati Jaganmohan Reddy, Mayada Saratha, Gudur Narottam Reddy, Pannala Chandrasekhar Reddy, Committee Member Krishna, Taddsina Mallareddy, Medi Kotesh, Bhuvanagiri Town President Ratnapuram Balaram, Janagam Kavitha Narsimha Chari, Madhuri, District Party Office Secretary Mangu Narasimha Rao, Town Leaders Udutha Bhaskar, Kolluju Sravan, Bejjanki Ramakrishna Reddy, Kolichelimi Malikarjun, Ratnapuram Srisailam, Santosh, Erupula Shiva,



Kanukuntla Ramesh, Kyasani Srinivas, Ashok, Raju Chari, Ramu, Nagaraju, Swamy, Prithvi, Mani Goud, Nandu, various mandal party presidents and others participated.

Only AITUC Can Secure Workers' Rights--K. Sarayya"-30 INTUC members join AITUC."

""Rayala Kishore, Yellandu Constituency, September 25, Indian Chronicle: AITUC Deputy General Secretary Comrade K. Sarayya, addressing workers along with Yellandu Branch Secretary Md. Nazeer Ahmed, said that it is only AITUC that has always secured the rights of Singareni workers. ""A pit meeting was organized on Thursday under the leadership of the AITUC union at Koyagudem Open Cast. AITUC leaders including Deputy General Secretary Comrade K. Sarayya, Vice President Comrade Dasari Rajaram, Yellandu Area Organizing Secretary Sundar, and Yellandu Branch Secretary Md. Nazeer Ahmed participated in the meeting.""Speaking on the occasion, Sarayya and Nazeer Ahmed expressed concern that Singareni workers had been subjected to injustice in terms of profit sharing and were unable to receive their rightful share of profits. They informed the workers about various discussions that took place during the structural meeting with CMD Balaram, including the own-house scheme, perks, income tax exemptions, interest-free loans, and several other issues. ""It was noted that the Singareni Collieries Workers' Union (AITUC) has been standing firmly by the workers, understanding their problems and resolving them. Recognizing this, senior INTUC leader and ST Association Joint Secretary Maloth Hari Singh, along with a large number of INTUC workers, joined the union at Koyagudem Open Cast on Thursday. Leaders welcomed the new members into the union by draping them with party scarves. "They further said that workers realized on Thursday that the union has been achieving victories, staying closely connected with



the workers, and fulfilling their aspirations, which is why they voluntarily joined the union. They also mentioned that contract workers' problems were understood and resolved, and that contract workers were given a profit share of ?5,500 so they could celebrate the Dasara festival happily with their families. In return, all the contract workers at Koyagudem Open Cast voluntarily joined the union on Thursday.""The leaders emphasized that for the workers, the only true support will always be the red flag. They called on the workers to unite for future movements to protect Yellandu.""Branch Assistant Secretary Kongara Venkateshwarlu, Pit Assistant Secretary S.K. Sarvar, Samala Srinivas, Karuna Shankar, Branch Committee Member Ajmeer Kishore, G.A. Srinivas, Dal Singh, Ayyori Srinivas, and others participated in the program.

Draw lottery for 82 liquor shops in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district released in the presence of the District Collector "

"Mandava Srisailam..Yadadri Bhuvanagiri..(Indian onicle..September 25):- ""Telangana Chronicle..September 25):-Government "Prohibition & Excise Department, Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District"Allotment of new A4 retail liquor shops for the 2025–27 permit period"According to a notification issued by the Telangana Government, a lottery draw was held in the presence of the District Collector on Friday for the allotment of A4 retail liquor shops in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district. As part of this, the details of the allocation are as follows. (Total 82 shops) For open category: 53, For Gowda castes: 21"For Scheduled Castes: 7"For Scheduled Tribes: 1. The District BC Welfare Officer, District Tribal Development Officer, District SC Development Officer, as well as District Excise Officers participated in this program. The entire process was video recorded for transparency."-District Prohibition & Excise Officer"Yadadri Bhuvanagiri



District SP Rohit Raju IPS visited Ashwaraopet Circle Inspector's office."



"We should work responsibly so that the accused in grave cases are punished.""I should also involve the public in the installation of CCTV cameras as part of the program. ""Ashwaraopet S. NAGA MANOJ (September 25):- Today, District SP Rohit Raju IPS visited the Ashwaraopet Circle Inspector's office. First, he inspected the office surroundings. Later, he made several suggestions to the police officers and staff present there. He suggested that they should be available to the people at all times and work to solve their problems. He suggested that a special vigil should be established against people involved in anti-social activities like cockfighting, poker, and betting and that strict action should be taken against those caught as per the law. He said that vigilance should be increased on the movements of interstate gangs of thieves and efforts should be made to curb thefts. He said that places where road accidents occur most within the limits of police stations should be identified and accidents should be prevented



there. He suggested that measures should be taken. He asked people to participate in the "Nenu Saith" program and install CCTV cameras in every place within the police station limits. He said that everyone should work for the speedy resolution of pending cases. He said that the accused should be punished in grave cases. The officers working in the police station asked about the problems of the staff. He suggested that awareness programs should be taken to explain to the people from time to time the frauds being committed by cybercriminals.

He said that the people of the district should be alerted from time to time and campaign widely so that they do not fall prey to cyber crimes. Since it is a border police station of Andhra Pradesh state, he suggested that special surveillance should be established on people involved in unethical activities. Ashwaraopet CI Nagaraju Reddy, SSI Yayathi Raju, Akhila, Dhammapeta SSI Sai Kishore Reddy and staff participated in this program."

Telangana women's cultural traditions symbol..Bathukamma festival



Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Collector Hanumantha Rao""Mandava Srisailam..Yadadri Bhuvanagiri..(Indian Chronicle..September 25):- ""The fifth day of Bathukamma festival celebrations were held in the Collectorate on Thursday under the auspices of all the departments of the Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Collectorate. On this occasion, the District Collector said that the Bathukamma festival stands as a symbol of the cultural traditions of Telangana women. He said that the Bathukamma festival stands as a symbol of the spirituality, spirituality and cultural traditions of Telangana women. He said that the Bathukamma festival is a festival by worshipping nature as a deity. He said that by organiz-



ing such festivals, we can convey our cultural traditions to the future generations. He said that it is important to convey culture and traditions as well as values ??to the children of the future generations. Women employees enthusiastically participated in the Bathukamma festival celebrations by playing Bathukamma and singing songs. A large number of women employees participated in this program. The Collectorate premises became bustling with the Bathukamma games and songs. Additional Revenue Collector Veera Reddy, ZP CEO Shobharani, District Revenue Officer Jayamma, women employees of the Collectorate and others participated in this program.

Rotten Chilli Peppers Seen In Bakeries

'Indian Chronicle" kumrambheem. Asifabad.District Reporter Jade Srinivas. September, 25. ""Rotten chillies are being seen in bakeries in Wankidi mandal center. The people of the mandal are worried that there are also worms in them.Innocent people from remote villages come to the mandal center every day for various works. When the work is done, they eat 23. If you go to eat in the local bakeries, you will find rotten chillies with dead worms in them. "They are complaining. The people of the mandal are alleging that the food safety officials are not inspecting. Many are questioning whether the officials who are playing with the lives of innocent people are not paying attention. It is said that such rotten chilies are boiled in oil and the ones with rotten chilies are not even washed out and are mixed with other things in papads and given to the people. The locals are demanding that the officials respond to this and inspect."



Divine Grace in Katyayani Alankaram



: Goddess Mahalakshmi Radiates Splendor During Celebrations. "P.S.ASHOKAN" Indian Chronicle "Manthani, September 25: ""Devotees Flock to Manthani Temple to Witness the Sixth Form of Navadurga "Manthani, September 25 - As part of the ongoing Sharannavaratri Mahotsavam, Sri Mahalakshmi Devi was magnificently adorned in the sacred form of Katyayani Devi, captivating scores of devotees at the Sri Mahalakshmi Temple in Manthani town. The temple premises reverberated with devotional fervor as worshippers thronged to witness the sixth manifestation of the Navadurga, seeking divine blessings for prosperity, protection, and spiritual elevation.""The Legend of Katyayani Devi""According to ancient scriptures, Katyayani Devi is the sixth embodiment of Goddess Durga, born out of the intense penance of Sage Katyayana, who desired the Mother Goddess to incarnate as his daughter. Pleased by his unwavering devotion, the Goddess manifested in his lineage and came to be revered

as Katyayani. This divine form symbolizes valor, righteous-

ness, and fierce protection of dharma. "The principal shrine of Katyayani Devi is located in Karnataka, and her worship is considered highly auspicious during the sixth day of Navaratri. "Navaratri: A Celebration of Divine Feminine Energy"

"The Sharannavaratri festival, celebrated during the Sharad Ritu (autumn season), marks a spiritually significant period when devotees across the country worship the Divine Mother in her nine celestial forms. It is believed that this seasonal transition often leads to natural imbalances and ailments, referred to in Vedic tradition as 'Yama Damshtikalu'. To safeguard humanity and the environment, sages instituted the tradition of invoking Parashakti (Supreme Energy) during these nine nights, ensuring cosmic harmony and collective well-being."



Nacharam, (Indian Chornical, September 25: courtesy meeting was held today with the newly appointed Nacharam SHO, Dhanunjay . On this occasion, community leaders extended their best wishes and expressed their support for his new responsibilities."

Bellam Bakkayya, President, Jetta Srisailam, Temple Chairman, Kandi Ramu, General Secretary Kandi Ramulu, Temple Vice Chairman, Soornam Rajesh Advisor were participated.

Vibrant Bathukamma Festivities Grace Manthani Court Premises with Grandeur."

"P.S.ASHOKAN"Indian Chronicle"Manthani, September 25 - "" The premises of the Manthani Court came alive with vibrant colors, traditional melodies, and festive spirit as the annual Bathukamma celebrations were held on Thursday afternoon with great enthusiasm and cultural fervor. "The event was graced by Senior Civil Judge Smt. V. Bhavani, who inaugurated the festivities. She was joined by an enthusiastic gathering of court staff, women advocates, and members of the local legal fraternity. Esteemed advocates Smt. G. Srilakshmi and Smt. Banda Madhuri took part in the celebrations, exemplifying the unity and cultural pride of women in the legal profession. ""Representing the Bar Association, Vice President K. Raghotham Reddy, General Secretary M. Sahender Reddy, and Library Secretary Katukam Srinivas participated actively. Their presence emphasized the Association's commitment to fostering cultural heritage within the legal community. ""Also in attendance were AGP B. Anjaneyulu, and advocates Sadan Kumar, Shashi Bhushan Kache, Manthani Srinivas, and Vyas Kumar, who added vibrance to the event with their enthusiastic involvement. ""Key Highlights of the Event:""Women advocates and staff adorned traditional attire, celebrating the essence of Telangana's rich cultural legacy. ""A grand floral arrangement of Bathukamma was prepared, surrounded by rhythmic folk songs and



dances.""The atmosphere echoed with the soulful tunes of Bathukamma folk songs, sung collectively by the participants.""Traditional snacks and refreshments were distributed, enhancing the festive spirit."""Speaking on the occasion, Judge V. Bhavani emphasized the importance of preserving cultural traditions alongside professional duties. "Festivals like Bathukamma not only strengthen our cultural identity but also foster a sense of unity, especially among women professionals," she noted.""The event concluded with the ceremonial immersion of the Bathukamma, symbolizing harmony, gratitude, and the celebration of womanhood

Minister Sridhar Babu Offers Prayers at Chandi Yagam During Sharannavaratri Celebrations in Dhanwada.



""P.S.ASHOKAN"Indian Chronicle"Kataram, Manthani Constituency – September 25:"""Telangana State Minister for Information Technology and Industries, Sri Duddilla Sridhar Babu, took part in the spiritually enriching Sharannavaratri celebrations held at the Sri Dattatreya

Swamy Temple in Dhanwada village, Kataram Mandal, on Thursday. "In reverence to the divine feminine, the Minister participated in the Chandi Yagam, a sacred Vedic ritual dedicated to Goddess Durga. At the beautifully adorned mandapam of Goddess Durga Devi, he offered special prayers, seeking blessings for peace, prosperity, and the welfare of the people.""Following the ceremonial rituals, Sri Sridhar Babu, alongside local devotees and temple priests, performed the Ganapathi Homam and Navagraha Homam, invoking auspicious planetary influences and divine protection for the community. ""Minister's Message: ""Speaking to the gathering, the Minister emphasized the significance of divine blessings in public life: ""> "May the universal mother, Goddess Durga, shower her eternal grace upon the people of Telangana. I pray that citizens live with health, happiness, and harmony. May the rains arrive on time, bringing prosperity to our farmers and joy to every household."" event concluded with Vedic scholars conferring blessings upon the Minister through traditional Ashirvachanam, invoking divine grace for his continued service to the state.""The atmosphere was filled with spiritual energy, devotional fervor, and community unity, marking a memorable occasion in the Navaratri celebrations of the region.

Puttapaka Farmers Halt Greenfield Highway Works Over Compensation Dispute.

. S . A S H O K A N "In dian Chronicle "Manthani, September 25: "Construction works on the Nagpur-Vijayawada Greenfield National Highway came to a sudden halt on Thursday morning after displaced farmers from Puttapaka village staged a protest, citing unresolved compensation issues. The incident unfolded in Manthani Mandal, where irate villagers obstructed project officials and halted the movement of JCBs, resulting in heightened tensions under a heavy police presence.""The aggrieved landowners demanded immediate redressal, alleging injustice in compensation disbursement. Their agitation escalated until Godavarikhani ACP Madatha Ramesh intervened and facilitated dialogue between the authorities and the protesting farmers. Following his timely and diplomatic mediation, the villagers agreed to withdraw their protest peacefully. ""Project Overview: Massive Infrastructure Push""The 108-kilometer Greenfield expressway is being constructed in three major packages, as follows: ""Package I: Rasoolpalli (Jaipur Mandal, Mancherial District) to Puttapaka (Manthani Mandal) - 31 km, sanctioned at ?873 crore. "Package II: Puttapaka to Pangidipalli (Jayashankar Bhupalpally District) - 38 km, sanctioned at ?881 crore. "Package III: Pangidipalli to Ooragonda (Hanumakonda District) - 39 km, sanctioned at ?851 crore. ""A total of 204.46 hectares of land has been acquired for the project. Compensation has thus far been paid for 164.49 hectares, with 19.73 hectares still pending due to procedural complications. ""Compensation Disparities and Legal Challenges""Out of 1,519 displaced landowners, 1,303 individuals have received ?47.13 crore, while ?8.51 crore remains pending for 216 landowners. The delays in payment are attributed to several factors: "Lack of legal land



documentation""Unregistered (sada) agreements""Title dis putes and ongoing court litigations ""Following multiple appeals by the affected farmers, the District Collector revised and enhanced the compensation package, sanctioning a total of ?51.17 crore, of which ?46.12 crore has been disbursed. The remaining ?5.04 crore is yet to be released.""Authorities clarified that payments are being withheld only in cases where land ownership documentation is incomplete or under dispute. ""A Peaceful Resolution—For Now "The protest, though brief, highlighted the growing frustration among displaced communities over the slow pace of compensation. However, the swift intervention by ACP Madatha Ramesh was instrumental in restoring order and opening channels of communication between stakeholders. ""As construction resumes, the situation remains under close watch, with stakeholders urging the government to expedite the compensation process and ensure transparency and fairness for all affected landowners.

"Comprehensive Health Screening Must Be Ensured for Every Woman" –

Jha. """P.S. ASHOKAN "Indian Chronicle" Rajanna Sircilla, September 25: """District Collector Sandeep Kumar Jha has issued clear directives to health officials to ensure that every woman in the district undergoes a comprehensive medical examination under the ongoing 'Swasth Nari, Sashakt Parivar Abhiyan' (Healthy Woman, Empowered Family Initiative). ""As part of this flagship health campaign, which is being conducted from September 17 to October 2, the Collector made a surprise inspection of a special health camp organized for women at the Primary Health Centre (PHC) in Moodapalli village, Chandurthi Mandal, on Thursday.""During his visit, the Collector interacted with the medical teams and personally reviewed the diagnostic procedures being carried out. He expressed satisfaction with the arrangements and reiterated the importance of reaching every eligible woman in the district through proactive outreach. ""Key Health Focus Areas Identified ""Collector Jha emphasized that dedicated medical specialists are being deployed daily at government hospitals to conduct a wide range of tests. He specifically instructed healthcare providers to prioritize screening for anemia, diabetes, and hypertension, which are commonly observed health issues among women. ""Under the aegis of the District Medical & Health Department, the campaign is providing the following medical services: ""Vision screening (eye check-ups) ""ENT (ear, nose, throat) examinations "Blood pressure and blood sugar tests""Dental health assessments""Screenings for oral, breast, and cervical cancers" Pre- and post-natal health checks for pregnant women "Tuberculosis (TB)

screening ""Sickle Cell Anemia testing "Maternal and child health counseling ""The initiative also includes awareness drives on balanced nutrition, menstrual hygiene, and obesity prevention through lifestyle changes such as reducing excessive cooking oil usage. ""Special Focus on Maternal Health "The Collector instructed Anganwadi centers to extend nutritional and medicinal support to pregnant and postpartum women suffering from anemia.

Applications Invited For Free Training"

""Indian Chronicle" kumrambheem, Asifabad.District Reporter Jade Srinivas.September,25. """Wankidi: State Bank of India Rural Self- Employment Training Institute,Applications are invited for free training in sewing machine and weaving under the auspices of KB Utnoor, said the director of the organization, Mohammed Ghaus,in a statement. Interested unemployed youth from the joint Adilabad district should apply by October 5,He said, adding that sewing machine training classes will start from October 6 and weaving work classes from the 8th.The training will include free accommodation, free meals, bus fares, two pairs of uniforms, tool kits, and a course certificate will be given after the training.For more details,contact 9949412159,8985633226.9441530494,8096093085...

'Not going anywhere': Bhagwant Mann puts speculation about change in guard in Punjab to rest



GNS News Agency, Sept 25

Mann was referring to his known critics, including Malvinder Singh Mali, Mintu Gurusariya and Lakha Sidhana. Mann was referring to his known critics, including Malvinder Singh Mali, Mintu Gurusariya and Lakha Sidhana. Putting all speculation about a change in guard in Punjab to rest, Chief Minister Bhagwant Mann on Saturday came down heavily on these conjectures and said that "he is going to stay and the YouTubers, who have aired these reports, should seek forgiveness from the people for having misled them". "We have many YouTube intellectuals. They sit in the morning and say whatever they feel like. Their blood has turned black after burning due to their negative feelings towards me. Ever since I went to the hospital, they made four CMs, and even announced their oath-taking ceremony. They enhanced the security of many leaders... They kept saying Bhagwant Mann is being removed. Now, I am here and not going to go anywhere," Mann said. "Will they now seek pardon from their viewers? They always give wrong titles and thumbnails. Now, when I will stay, will they seek forgiveness? Do I not know? I am also from this line only. They keep saying I have said this, while I have never given any statements that they air. Maybe they have a chip fixed in my brain...," he added. Recalling Aam Aadmi Party (AAP) national convener Arvind Keiriwal's statement during his visit to Golden Temple in Amritsar in February this year, when he had put similar chatter to rest, Mann said, "Kejriwal had said this in front of Golden Temple that I will stay (as Punjab CM). Now, will they seek forgiveness? All they do is sit in front of the camera in the morning and peddle such information to get views. Beware of these Facebook intellectuals. Now, they are cheating their own viewers. Now, when I will stay and someone else will not become the CM, then they will say I was to be removed. They keep saying something or the other."

Mann said that AAP does not have groups. "We have no groups. Kejriwal, despite being a diabetic, was on a fast unto death for 25 days. We have formed a party after hunger strikes. The party has borne out of an anti-corruption

movement. We have no groups. People are our groups Tell me which group I am in? Which is Kejriwal's group? Those who were here to form groups have gone back. They are now on the other side," he said. Quipping that he knows their background, Mann said, "You must have heard about ex-serviceman, ex-teacher and so on, but have you heard about former journalist, former smuggler, former drug addict, former gangster? Beware of these people. They can say anything for views. If they have to say something about the BJP, then they keep quiet. They are scared of ED (Enforcement Directorate). I do not want to do anything of this sort to them. I let them be. I know they cannot create any perception. Even their family members would not vote as per their direction. There are 4-5 of them." Mann was referring to his known critics, including Malvinder Singh Mali, Mintu Gurusariya and Lakha Sidhana. Mali is a former advisor of Navjot Singh Sidhu, when he was the Punjab Pradesh Congress Committee chief. He was arrested by the Punjab Police in September 2024 for posting defamatory content on his social media. Gurusariya (Baljinder Singh Sandhu) is a former drug addict-cum-gangster from Gurusar Jodha village in the Lambi Assembly segment. Sidhana is a gangster-turned-activist who unsuccessfully contested the Bathinda Lok Sabha elections in 2024 on a Shiromani Akali Dal (Amritsar) ticket.On the Asia Cup cricket match between India and Pakistan on Sunday, Mann hit out at the BJP-led Centre, saying, "Diljit Dosanjh was branded a traitor when his movie with a Pakistani actor was to be released. Now, the match is being played because "bade Sahib da beta ICC da pardhan hai (Because big boss's son is ICC president)," he said without naming Union Home Minister Amit Shah, whose son Jay Shah is chairman of the International Cricket Council. In this scenario, they forget Pahalgam and Pulwama. Was the Ahmedabad match not conducted? Two teams play a match; the match is with them (Pakistan). They should make it clear that sports and culture will be separate from the relationship between the two countries...It is a mockery with us. We share a culture with Pakistan. They come and perform here. Singers like Arif Lohar come here to sing at weddings. We lost 10 lakh people during Partition. We lost our grandparents. Vehicles full of bodies used to come on this side of the border and vice versa. Should we do whatever they want us to do? Mann asked. Mann also took on Ravneet Bittu, Minister of State for Railways and Food Processing Industries, for responding to his challenge for a debate. "Will I debate with Ravneet Bittu? I told him to get a railway overbridge at Dhuri; he said he cannot do it. I then asked him what kind of minister he is. He can get a cold drink vending machine at the railway stations. They give such ministries to these people. They do not listen to these people. They know these people were not even sincere...They made Jyotiraditya Scindia the aviation minister after selling all aircrafts," Mann said.

Rape of Sikh woman in UK sparks outrage; 'racially aggravated attack,' say police



GNS News Agency, Sept 25

A British-born Sikh woman in her 20s was raped and assaulted in Oldbury in England earlier this week, in an incident that West Midlands Police are investigating as a racially motivated hate crime. The attack, which occurred near Tame Road on the morning of September 9, has sent shockwaves through the local community and drawn widespread condemnation from Sikh organisations, highlighting ongoing concerns about rising racial tensions in the region.

The victim reported being approached and attacked by two white men around 830 am while in a park area. According to police accounts, the assailants not only raped and physically beat her but also hurled racist abuse, including statements like "You don't belong in this country, get out" and "Go back to your country". These remarks have led authorities to classify the crime as racially aggravated, emphasising the intersection of sexual violence and hatemotivated prejudice. The woman, described as a British Person of Indian origin (PIO), managed to report the incident shortly after, prompting an immediate response from law enforcement. The West Midlands police have released descriptions of the suspects in a bid to track them down. One man is believed to be in his 30s, with a shaved head, wearing a grey zip-up hoodie, black tracksuit bottoms, black trainers, and notably black gloves. The second suspect's description has been less detailed in public appeals, but

police are urging anyone with information to come forward. Detectives are reviewing CCTV footage from the area and have requested dashcam or doorbell camera recordings from locals. Extra patrols have been deployed in Oldbury to reassure the community and deter further incidents. No arrests have been made, and the manhunt continues. In a statement on their website, West Midlands police emphasised the seriousness of the case: "We're in vestigating after a woman reported to us that she had been raped in Oldbury in what we are treating as a racially aggravated attack." They have encouraged witnesses to contact them via Live Chat or by calling 101, quoting log number 988 of September 9.

Community leaders and advocacy groups have echoed the call for information, with some sharing appeals on social media to widen the reach. The Sikh Federation (UK) reported details of the incident on social media, noting that the victim was targeted in a park and subjected to repeated violence while being told she did not belong in the UK. Sikh Youth UK and other organisations have condemned the lack of immediate high-level political response, calling for stronger government measures to combat racism and protect minority communities. Anti-racism groups like Stand Up To Racism have also weighed in, describing the attack as an intersection of racism, misogyny, and violence, and criticising far-right narratives that claim to "protect women" while ignoring or perpetuating such crimes. This incident comes amid reports of increasing hate crimes against South Asian communities in the UK, including recent assaults on Sikh taxi drivers. Residents and online commentators have voiced frustration over perceived media silence compared to other high-profile cases, with some questioning why the story has not dominated headlines or elicited public condemnations from politicians. For instance, broadcaster Narinder Kaur posted on X: "Politicians + media who platform this poison are complicit. You cannot feed the beast of racism daily and then feign shock when something happens on your side and SILENCE when a brown person is

'Trade bigger than country?': Uddhav Thackeray hits out at BJP over Indo-Pak match, to send boxes of Sindoor to PM Modi

GNS News Agency, Sept 25

Accusing the ruling BJP and Prime Minister Narendra Modi for giving preference to trade and money over patriotism and the lost lives of Indians in the Pahalgam attack, Shiv Sena (UBT) chief Uddhav Thackeray on Saturday announced that his party's women wing will be sending boxes of Sindoor to PM Modi as a mark of protest against the Asia Cup India-Pakistan cricket match scheduled to be held on Sunday."I am sad and distressed that India and Pakistan are going to play a cricket match on September 14. We started Operation Sindoor to avenge the Pahalgam attack, and our defence minister has said that the operation is still ongoing...US president says that he stopped the war for trade. Does the BJP and our PM consider trade bigger than Hindutva and the country?" Thackeray said.

A real patriot would keep the sacrifice of our Army and innocent civilians in mind before watching the match live on television, he added. "By boycotting one match, we would have shown the world what our delegations could not achieve. We would have shown the world that Pakistan is spreading terrorism in India and proved that we would not allow any relationship with Pakistan unless the terrorism is over," said Thackeray. The former Maharashtra chief minister announced that his party's women's wing will hold a protest across the state on Sunday morning. "The party will collect Sindoor packets in boxes and those will be sent to the residence of PM Narendra Modi to remind him about Operation Sindoor under our 'Maza Koonku, Maza Desh' (My Sindoor, my country) campaign," said Thackeray.He

appealed to PM Modi to announce the cancellation of the match. "This is a real test of our Prime Minister, Amit Shah (Union Home Minister) and Jay Shah (ICC chief and Amit Shah's son)," he said. "Our PM had sent delegations across the world to announce that our fight is against terrorism and Pakistan is sponsoring terrorism in India. What does Modi ji have to say now? This (Cricket match) is nothing but a trade of patriotism by making fun of it. The government has no value for patriotism just for the sake of trade. I want to ask Amit Shah and Rajnath Singh whether they are going

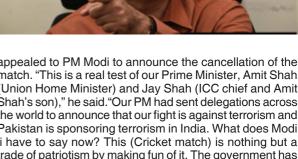
Thackeray asked. Asked whether he would appeal to Indians not to watch the match on television, Thackeray said, "Patriotism cannot be taught by appealing to anyone. I would only say that a real patriot will keep in mind the lives of innocents lost in Pahalgam and the sacrifice of our armed forces due to terrorism sponsored by Pakistan."

No drugs, no alcohol, no entry without ID: Student's death prompts Jadavpur University to tighten campus security

GNS News Agency, Sept 25

Though the guidelines had previously been circulated

Speaking to The Indian Express, JU Pro-Vice Chancellor Amitava Dutta said, "Any death is tragic. This is a very painful and tragic incident. The university is looking into the chain of events and circumstances surrounding the incident and is fully cooperating with the police. The secu-



in March, the fresh circular was circulated across all departments, student and faculty associations, and uploaded to the university website. Though the guidelines had previously been circulated in March, the fresh circular was circulated across all departments, student and faculty associations, and uploaded to the university website. Hours after a third-year English student was found dead in a pond on campus, Jadavpur University on Friday issued a fresh circular, tightening entry and security regulations across its premises. Though the guidelines had previously been circulated in March, the fresh circular was circulated across all departments, student and faculty associations, and uploaded to the university website. "Use of narcotics, alcohol, or other illegal substances—or any illegal activity—in any part of the campus is strictly prohibited. Anyone found violating these rules will be prosecuted as per the law," it stated. It further stated that all two-wheelers and four-wheelers entering the university need to have a JU parking sticker displayed prominently. "Vehicles without University stickers must provide their registration numbers at the gate of the University before entering. The security persons must keep proper note with details of all such vehicles. A valid ID card of the driver/passengers) must be produced on demand," the circular added. Trespassing, including morning and evening walks, and using the University premises as a public thoroughfare, has also been prohibited. All those who want to enter the university campus between 7 pm to 7 am will have to carry a valid ID issued by Jadavpur University, which has to be produced at the varsity gates as and when required. "If a person does not have an ID card issued by Jadavpur University, he/she will have to produce some other valid proof of identity and enter the details of the person, whom he/she is going to meet (including a contact number of the said person) in a register which is to be kept at the gate of the University," the circular stated.



rity and safety of our students is of utmost importance."An administrative meeting has been called on Monday regarding the installation of CCTV cameras, following which the state government will be informed, he added. Death due to drowning, says post-mortem reportOn Thursday night, a 22-year-old English (Honours) student was found unconscious in a pond beside the undergraduate arts building by another student who was heading towards the washroom.

Step- By- Step Solution To Electrical Problems

""Indian Chronicle" kumrambheem, Asifabad, District Reporte, Jade Srinivas. "September, 25." "Wankidi: Electricity problems in the mandal The department's SE Sesha Rao said that it will be resolved in a phased manner. On Wednesday, the power line restoration work on both sides of the road from the old SBI to Hanuman Mandir in the mandal center was inspected. Speaking on the occasion, he said that problems often arise due to the narrow poles in the market area and the high number of service wires. He said that the old ones have been removed and new 11- meterlong poles have been installed and the wires have been restored. He advised that if there are problems anywhere in the mandal, they should inform the toll- free number or bring it to the attention of the staff. The staff is with him.

Retd Punjab Police AIG alleges threat from gangsters Lawrence Bishnoi, Bhagwanpuria; FIR registered

GNS News Agency, Sept 25

The Ludhiana Police Friday registered an FIR against unknown persons on the complaint of retired Assistant Inspector General (AIG) of Punjab Police who alleged that he was getting threats from multiple gangsters including Lawrence Bishnoi and Jaggu Bhagwanpuria.Sandeep Sharma, who retired as AIG with Anti-Drug Special Task Force (STF) Ferozepur range in 2022, alleged that he was getting threat calls from gangsters on WhatsApp from international numbers, and was being told to either withdraw the FIR he had got registered against the gangsters, or face consequences. Sharma also alleged that gangsters were also threatening to kill him, his wife and son.

Though Sharma named multiple gangsters including Bishnoi and Bhagwanpuria in his complaint, the FIR states that the case was being registered against "unknown persons." Except his statement, he (Sharma) could not produce any other proof to prove that the callers were actually Bishnoi and Bhagwanpuria. However, he did receive threat calls from some international numbers which cannot be denied. Hence, this FIR is being registered on the approval of Ludhiana police commissioner," read the FIR. The FIR adds that gangsters Bishnoi, Bhagwanpuria and others named in the complaint, are currently lodged in different jails, and they "will be involved in investigation soon." The FIR has been registered against unknown persons under the section 195-A of IPC (threatening a person to give false evidence) at Haibowal police station. The FIR has been registered under IPC as the threat calls were allegedly received before the BNS was enforced last year.

Sharma, a resident of Chander Nagar in Ludhiana, in his complaint to the police submitted in April 2024, had stated that he retired as AIG STF in 2022. He said that during his tenure as AIG STF, he had executed heavy recoveries of drugs and weapons from jails and gangsters following which gangsters namely Bishnoi, Bhagwanpuria, Bagga Khan alias Buta, Munish Parbhakar, Goru Bachha, Sukh Bhikariwal,



Rajpal alias Raja etc had started issuing threats to him via calls. He added that the then special DGP STF Harpreet Sidhu granted him security cover and Ludhiana CP also prepared a report following which an FIR dated 28.07.2023 was registered at Haibowal police station under sections 294, 115, 500, 506, 34 of IPC. Two gangsters Bagga Khan and Parbhakar were also subsequently arrested. After their arrest, according to Sharma, their accomplices Bishnoi, Goru Bachha, Sukh Bhikariwal, Sukha Barewalia, Rajpal Raja, Bhupinder alias Bhinda, Sukhraj Singh alias Sukha etc again started making threat calls to him, and threatened him to "either withdraw the 2023 FIR or face consequences." Sharma said in his complaint that on March 19, 2024, Bishnoi and Bhagwanpuria called and issued threats to him to withdraw his FIR against them, else they will finish him and his family. He said he could not record the calls as he had an iPhone but had submitted screenshots of numbers to the police.

He made a fresh complaint dated April 15, 2024 and an enquiry conducted by Ludhiana ADCP-3. Sharma further said in his fresh statement that even as the "ADCP recommended FIR against gangsters on May 1, 2024, the report kept lying pending with CP office for over 10 months", following which he moved High Court.

"Comprehensive Health Screening Must Be Ensured for Every Woman"

Collector Sandeep Jha. ""P.S. ASHOKAN "Indian Chronicle" Rajanna Sircilla, September 25: """District Collector Sandeep Kumar Jha has issued clear directives to health officials to ensure that every woman in the district undergoes a comprehensive medical examination under the ongoing 'Swasth Nari, Sashakt Parivar Abhiyan' (Healthy Woman, Empowered Family Initiative). "As part of this flagship health campaign, which is being conducted from September 17 to October 2, the Collector made a surprise inspection of a special health camp organized for women at the Primary Health Centre (PHC) in Moodapalli village, Chandurthi Mandal, on Thursday.""During his visit, the Collector interacted with the medical teams and personally reviewed the diagnostic procedures being carried out. He expressed satisfaction with the arrangements and reiterated the importance of reaching every eligible woman in the district through proactive outreach. ""Key Health Focus Areas Identified ""Collector Jha emphasized that dedicated medical specialists are being deployed daily at government hospitals to conduct a wide range of tests. He specifically instructed healthcare providers to prioritize screening for anemia, diabetes, and hypertension, which are commonly observed health issues among women. ""Under the aegis of the District Medical & Health Department, the campaign is providing the following medical services: "Vision screening (eye check-ups) "ENT (ear, nose, throat) examinations "Blood pressure and blood sugar



tests""Dental health assessments""Screenings for oral breast, and cervical cancers" Pre- and post-natal health checks for pregnant women "Tuberculosis (TB) screening""Sickle Cell Anemia testing""Maternal and child health counseling ""The initiative also includes awareness drives on balanced nutrition, menstrual hygiene, and obesity prevention through lifestyle changes such as reducing excessive cooking oil usage.""Special Focus on Maternal Health "The Collector instructed Anganwadi centers to extend nutritional and medicinal support to pregnant and postpartum women suffering from anemia. He underscored the need for special care for vulnerable women, adding that timely intervention will help improve maternal and child health outcomes across the district."

London police brace for large rival protests



GNS News Agency, Sept 25

LONDON, - London police will deploy extra officers on Saturday as right-wing, anti-immigrant protesters and opposing anti-racism demonstrators stage rival rallies, raising concerns over potential clashes. A "Unite the Kingdom" march organised by anti-immigrant and anti-Muslim activist Stephen Yaxley-Lennon, also known as Tommy Robinson, is due to meet near London's Waterloo Bridge before making its way to the southern end of Whitehall where a rally will take place.

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news you need to start your day. Sign up here.A counterprotest, organised by "Stand Up To Racism", is due to gather at the other end of Whitehall, the main thoroughfare towards parliament. The Unite the Kingdom march is expected to mourn Charlie Kirk, the American conservative activist shot dead on Wednesday as he gave a talk at a university in Utah.London's Metropolitan Police said barriers will be in place to create space between the two groups. It said more than 1,600 officers will be deployed across London on Saturday, including 500 brought in from other forces, as in addition to the marches there are high-profile soccer fixtures including West Ham versus Tottenham, concerts and other events. Around 1,000 officers will be on duty at the marches."We will approach them as we do any other protests, policing without fear or favour, ensuring people can exercise their lawful rights but being robust in dealing with incidents or offences should they occur," said Commander Clair Haynes, who is leading the policing operation.Last Saturday, nearly 900 people were arrested at a London demonstration against the ban on the group Palestine Action.Immigration has become the dominant political issue in Britain, eclipsing concerns over a faltering economy, as the country faces a record number of asylum claims and arrivals by migrants in small boats across the Channel, including more than 28,000 this year. Facing mounting public criticism over immigration, Prime Minister Keir Starmer last week appointed Shabana Mahmood as Britain's new interior minister in a shake-up of his govern-

NATO to beef up defence of Europe's eastern flank after Poland shot down drones



BRUSSELS/WARSAW/UNITED NATIONS, GNS News Agency, Sept 25, NATO announced plans to beef up the defence of Europe's eastern flank on Friday, two days after Poland shot down drones that had violated its airspace in the first known action of its kind by a member of the Western alliance during Russia's war in Ukraine.

At the United Nations, the United States called the airspace violations "alarming" and vowed to "defend every inch of NATO territory," remarks that appeared aimed at assuaging Washington's NATO allies after President Donald Trump said Russia's drone incursion could have been a mistake. Make sense of the latest ESG trends affecting companies and governments with the Reuters Sustainable Switch newsletter. Sign up here. Warsaw has portrayed the drone incursions as an attempt by Russia to test the capabilities of Poland and NATO to respond. On Friday, Poland rejected Trump's suggestion that the incursions could have been a mistake, a rare contradiction of the U.S. president from one of Washington's closest European allies. Its foreign minister told Reuters Poland hoped Washington will take action to show solidarity with Warsaw.Later on Friday, the U.S. joined Western allies in a statement to express concern about the drone incursion and to accuse Moscow of violating international law and the founding U.N. Charter.

Russia said its forces had been attacking Ukraine at the time of the drone incursions and that it had not intended to hit targets in Poland. Russia's U.N. Ambassador Vassily Nebenzia said the maximum range of the drones used did not exceed 700 km "which makes it physically impossible for them to have reached Polish territory."NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte called the incursions "reckless and unacceptable.""We can't have Russian drones entering allied airspace," he told a press conference announcing operation

NATO's top military official, Supreme Allied Commander Europe Alexus Grynkewich, a U.S. Air Force general, said it was a flexible operation to bolster defences along NATO's entire eastern flank, which stretches from the Baltic states in the north to Romania and Bulgaria in the south.Grynkewich said "Poland and citizens from across the alliance should be assured by our rapid response earlier this week and our significant announcement here

today."The mission, which begins on Friday evening, will involve a range of assets integrating air and ground bases. NATO already has substantial forces in eastern Europe, including thousands of troops. It did not specify how many additional troops would be involved in the new operation. Rutte said allies, including Denmark, France, Britain, and Germany, have committed to the mission with others set to join. He said NATO was still assessing the possible intent behind the Russian incursion. Item 1 of 4 NATO Secretary General Mark Rutte and Supreme Allied Commander Europe Alexus G. Grynkewich attend a press conference at the Alliance headquarters in Brussels, Belgium

NATO's announcement detailed a modest number of additional military assets - including two F-16 fighter jets and a frigate from Denmark, three Rafale fighter jets from France, and four Eurofighter jets from Germany. Spain said it would provide air assets and Britain said it would detail its contribution soon. Trump told Fox News on Friday that his patience with Russian President Vladimir Putin was "sort of running out and running out fast," but stopped short of threatening new sanctions over the war. Trump has repeatedly set deadlines for Moscow to agree to a ceasefire or face new sanctions, only to row back. Germany said it had extended air policing over Poland and it and France summoned the Russian ambassadors to their countries over the drone incident. For Polish leaders to directly contradict Trump is almost unheard of and a sign of Europe's alarm at the U.S. president's willingness to give weight to Moscow's account. This week's incident has raised questions about NATO's ability to respond to the sort of mass drone attacks often involving hundreds of unmanned aerial vehicles that have been a feature of the war in Ukraine following Russia's 2022 invasion. Ukrainian drone attacked one of the buildings of the Smolensk nuclear power station, opens new tab, but it was downed and no damage or casualties were reported. European leaders say the incident in Poland again shows Moscow has no interest in a peace deal in Ukraine, weeks after Trump hosted Putin in Alaska and dropped a demand that Russia accept an immediate ceasefire. European officials have been in Washington this week, hoping to coordinate sanctions on Russia. Announcing such sanctions in tandem was previously standard practice, but has not taken place since Trump returned to office.Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov said on Friday peace negotiations were on pause and that "the Europeans are hindering this" peace process.

Ukrainian officials said U.S. special envoy Keith Kellogg and national security advisers from Britain, Germany, France and Italy were in Kyiv. President Volodymyr Zelenskiy said many details on security guarantees for Ukraine were already on paper, and that foreign troops on the ground would signal political support for Kyiv.Russia and its close ally Belarus began a long-planned joint military exercise on Friday involving drills in both countries and in the Baltic and Barents seas. Dismissing concerns abroad about the exercise, Peskov said Western European countries were suffering "emotional overload" and that Russia

UN overwhelmingly endorses two-state solution declaration that condemns Hamas

GNS News Agency, Sept 25

UNITED NATIONS, The United Nations General Assembly on Friday overwhelmingly voted to endorse a declaration outlining "tangible, timebound, and irreversible steps" towards a two-state solution between Israel and the Palestinians ahead of a meeting of world leaders. The seven-page declaration is the result of an international conference at the U.N. in July - hosted by Saudi Arabia and France - on the decades-long conflict. The United States and Israel boycotted the event. The Reuters Daily Briefing newsletter provides all the news you need to start your day. Sign up here.

A resolution endorsing the declaration received 142 votes in favor and 10 against, while 12 countries abstained. The vote comes ahead of a meeting of world leaders on September 22 - on the sidelines of the high-level U.N. General Assembly - where Britain, , , and are expected to formally recognize a Palestinian state. The declaration endorsed by the 193-member General Assembly condemns the attacks against Israel by Palestinian militants Hamas on October 7, 2023, which triggered the war in Gaza.

It also condemns the attacks by Israel against civilians and civilian infrastructure in Gaza, siege and starvation, "which have resulted in a devastating humanitarian catastrophe and protection crisis."French Foreign Minister Jean-Noel Barrot said the resolution secured the international isolation of Hamas. "For the first time today, the United Nations adopted a text condemning it for its crimes and calling for its surrender and disarmament," he said in an X post. The resolution was supported by all Gulf Arab states. Israel and the United States voted against it, along with Ar-



gentina, Hungary, Micronesia, Nauru, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay and Tonga. The declaration endorsed by the resolution says the war in Gaza "must end now" and support the deployment of a temporary international stabilization mission mandated by the U.N. Security Council. The United States described the vote as "yet another misguided and ill-timed publicity stunt" that undermined serious diplomatic efforts to end the conflict. "Make no mistake, this resolution is a gift to Hamas," U.S. diplomat Morgan Ortagus told the General Assembly. "Far from promoting peace, the conference has already prolonged the war, emboldened Hamas and harmed the prospects of peace in both short and long term. "Israel, which has long criticized the U.N. for not condemning Hamas by name for the October 7 attacks, dismissed the declaration as one-sided and described the vote as theater.

US vows to defend NATO territory after suspected Russian drone incursion in Poland



UNITED NATIONS, GNS News Agency, Sept 25 The United States told the United Nations Security Council on Friday it would "defend every inch of NATO territory" after a suspected Russian drone incursion into Poland."The United States stands by our NATO allies in the face of these alarming airspace violations," acting U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Dorothy Shea told the 15-member body. Make sense of the latest ESG trends affecting companies and governments with the Reuters Sustainable Switch newsletter. Sign up here. The remarks appear aimed at assuaging Washington's NATO allies after U.S. President Donald Trump on Thursday said Russia's alleged drone incursion into Poland could have been a mistake. Shea also noted Russia has intensified its bombing campaign against Ukraine since Trump met with Russian President Vladimir Putin in Alaska as part of his bid to broker an end to Moscow's more than threevear war in Ukraine

"These actions, now with the addition of violating the airspace of a U.S. ally – intentionally or otherwise – show immense disrespect for good-faith U.S. efforts to bring an

end to this conflict," Shea said.Poland shot down drones in its airspace on Wednesday with the backing of aircraft from its NATO allies, the first time a member of the Western military alliance is known to have fired shots during Russia's war in Ukraine. "We know, and I repeat, we know that it was not a mistake," Poland's Secretary of State Marcin Bosacki told the council. He showed photos of a downed drone, pointing out Russian lettering on parts of it. "Poland will not be intimidated."

Item 1 of 3 Firefighters work on the destroyed roof of a house, after Russian drones violated Polish airspace during an attack on Ukraine, with some being shot down by Poland with the backing from its NATO allies, in Wyryki-Wola, Lublin Voivodeship, Poland, Slovenia's U.N. Ambassador Samuel Zbogar also sought to dispel the suggestion that the drone incursion could have been a mistake, telling the council "it is hard to imagine that so many drones flew so deep over Polish territory, unintentionally."

Russia has said its forces had been attacking Ukraine at the time of the drone incursions and that it had not intended to hit targets in Poland. "There were no targets marked on Polish territory," Russia's U.N. Ambassador Vassily Nebenzia told the council. "The maximum range of the drones used in this strike did not exceed 700 kilometers, which makes it physically impossible for them to have reached Polish territory."He said Moscow was willing to speak with Poland "if the Polish side indeed is interested in reducing tensions rather than fomenting tensions. "The U.S. also joined Western allies in a joint statement on Friday to express concern about Russia's drone incursion and accuse Moscow of violating international law and the founding U.N. Charter.The statement, read by Bosacki ahead of the Security Council meeting, also called on Russia to stop "its war of aggression against Ukraine" and desist from further provocations.

US calls on G7, EU to impose tariffs on China, India over Russian oil purchases



GNS News Agency, Sept 25

WASHINGTON, Group of Seven nations' finance ministers discussed in a call on Friday further sanctions on Russia and possible tariffs on countries that they consider "enabling" its war in Ukraine, as the U.S. called on its allies to impose tariffs on purchasers of Russian oil. Canadian Finance Minister Francois-Philippe Champagne chaired the G7 meeting, which was held to discuss further measures to increase pressure on Russia to end its war against Ukraine, according to a statement from Canada, the head of the rolling G7 presidency. The Reuters Power Up newsletter provides everything you need to know about the global energy industry. Sign up here.

The ministers agreed to speed up discussions to use frozen Russian assets to fund Ukraine's defense, and discussed a "wide range of possible economic measures to increase pressure on Russia, including further sanctions and trade measures, such as tariffs, on those enabling Russia's war effort," the statement said.U.S. Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent told finance ministers during the call that they should join the U.S. in imposing tariffs on coun-

tries that purchase oil from Russia, Bessent and U.S. Trade Representative Jamieson Greer said in a separate statement following the meeting.

"Only with a unified effort that cuts off the revenues funding Putin's war machine at the source will we be able to apply sufficient economic pressure to end the senseless killing," Bessent and Greer said. Bessent and Greer welcomed commitments made during the call to increase sanctions pressure and explore using immobilized Russian sovereign assets to benefit Ukraine's defense, according to the joint statement.

Earlier in the day, a U.S. Treasury spokesperson called on G7 and European Union allies to impose "meaningful tariffs" on goods from China and India to pressure them to halt their purchases of Russian oil. President Donald Trump has imposed an extra 25% tariff on imports from India to pressure New Delhi to halt its purchases of discounted Russian crude oil, bringing total punitive duties on Indian goods to 50% and souring trade negotiations between the two democracies. But Trump has refrained from imposing additional tariffs on Chinese imports over China's purchases of Russian oil, as his administration navigates a delicate trade truce with Beijing. Bessent is due to travel to Madrid on Friday for another round of talks with his Chinese counterpart, Vice Premier He Lifeng, that will cover trade issues, Washington's demands for Chinese-owned TikTok to divest its U.S. operations, and anti-money laundering issues. Trump earlier on Friday said that his patience with Russian President Vladimir Putin was running out, but stopped short of threatening new sanctions during a Fox News interview. Trump expressed frustration about Putin's failure to halt the war. He said sanctions on banks and oil were an option to increase pressure on Russia, but added that European countries also needed to participate.

Tens of thousands join pro-Palestinian march in New Zealand's biggest city



GNS News Agency, Sept 25

Thousands took part in a pro-Palestinian march in Auckland, New Zealand's biggest city, on Saturday, in what organisers said was the largest rally of its kind since the war in Gaza began between Israel and militant Islamist Palestinian group Hamas.Some 50,000 attended the March for Humanity rally in central Auckland on Saturday morning, the Aotearoa for Palestine group said. New Zealand police estimated the attendance at 20,000.The Reuters Daily Briefing newsletter provides all the news you need to start your day. Sign up here.

Aotearoa for Palestine spokesperson Arama Rata said it was New Zealand's largest march in support of Palestinians since conflict broke out in Gaza in October 2023, when Israel launched an offensive in retaliation of a Hamas-led cross-border attack that killed about 1,200 people and resulted in the capture of 251 hostages. Palestinian authorities have said that more than 64,000 people have been killed in the conflict in Gaza, while humanitarian organisations say a shortage of food is leading to widespread starvation. Many in Saturday's protest crowd carried Palestinian flags and banners with slogans including "Don't normalise genocide" and "Grow a spine stand with Palestine", public broadcaster Radio New Zealand reported. Organisers, motivated by a march that shut down Sydney's iconic Harbour Bridge in August, wanted to close a major city bridge with Saturday's rally, Rata said, but were forced to abandon those plans on Friday due to strong winds. Police said there were no arrests at the march and that roads along the route were being reopened. Aotearoa for Palestine said it wanted New Zealand's centre-right coalition government to impose sanctions on Israel. Prime Minister Christopher Luxon in August described recent Israeli actions in Gaza, including a lack of humanitarian assistance, as "utterly appalling", and New Zealand has been weighing up whether to recognise a Palestinian state.Ben Kepes, a spokesperson for the New Zealand Jewish Council, a body representing around 10,000 Jews who live in the country, said he appreciated the peaceful nature of Saturday's march but condemned calls to sanction Israel. "We are concerned sanctions against Israel singles Israel out, fails to recognise the attacks on Israel and ignores the plight of the hostages," Kepes said in a state-

Human rights defenders decry dismal state of disaster relief in Pak-occupied Gilgit-Baltistan

Islamabad: Several human rights defenders and community members raised grave concerns about the dismal condition of disaster relief in Pakistan-occupied Gilgit Baltistan (PoGB), stating that a surge in floods, landslides, and glacial lake outbursts has left marginalised communities bearing the brunt of the crisis.

At an outreach meeting held by the Human Rights Commission of Pakistan (HRCP) in PoGB on Friday, the members highlighted that displaced families are forced to live in unsafe shelters with no access to clean water, electricity, healthcare, or education. They noted the neglect of women, children, daily-wage workers, persons with disabilities, and transgender persons, while mental health remained ignored. The meeting also pointed out that the relief funds lack transparency and accountability. According to the HRCP, during the meeting, stakeholders adopted a unanimous resolution stressing that disaster response in PoGB must be inclusive, transparent, and dignified. This included multi-sectoral coordination at all levels, community-led monitoring and rehabilitation, and transparent use of relief funds. Additionally, it called for the protection of vulnerable households, with fair compensation and relocation from highrisk zones, while suggesting that climate justice measures such as reforestation, halting exploitative natural resource extraction, climate insurance, and disaster preparedness be included in the school curriculum.

As Unesco honours historic Maratha forts, 5 in Mumbai crumble in silence despite storied military legacy



At the heart of Mumbai's Dharavi, where bustle and cacophony dominate daily life, a small directional sign points into a narrow lane, Kala Qilla Road. Like countless bylanes in this slum sprawl, it is cramped and chaotic, lined with hawkers, fruit sellers, and tiny shops. At the very end of this lane, tucked behind a row of hutments, looms a massive black, rectangular structure – the Riwa Fort, known locally as Kala Qilla for its charcoal hue.

At one corner of the fort, half-hidden behind a stack of plastic containers and parked two-wheelers, stands an information plaque declaring the site a 'State Protected Monument' in gold lettering. The words appear at odds with the reality around it. The fort's stone walls are coated with algae, and creepers push their way out of cracks, silent evidence of years of neglect. Using the walls as a ready-made base, Dharavi's hutments have grown into an informal boundary around the monument. The story of Riwa Fort is not unique. In July this year, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco) granted World Heritage status to 12 forts under the collective concept of the 'Maratha Military Landscape of India'. Eleven of them are located across Maharashtra's Raigad, Pune, Satara, Ratnagiri, Kolhapur, Sindhudurg, and Nashik districts, while one stands in Tamil Nadu's Villupuram district. Mumbai, too, is home to six forts of historical and military importance. Of these, five - Riwa, Sewri, Worli, Mahim, and Bandra - fall under the custody of the state's Directorate of Archaeology and Museums, while the Sion Fort is overseen by the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).Like the newly recognised Maratha forts, the six in Mumbai also boast a storied military legacy, with links stretching from Yadava ruler Raja Bimba and Mughal emperor Aurangzeb to the Portuguese colonists, the East India Company, and even the Seven Years' War of the 18th century. Yet, as a recent visit by The Indian Express revealed, five of Mumbai's six forts are in a precarious state, Riwa Fort included. Records from the state government, along with responses to Right to Information (RTI) queries filed by The Indian Express, confirm the neglect: most of these forts have seen no restoration or conservation efforts in more than a decade. The forts and their present-day conditionThe origins of the Riwa Fort, which stands at the heart of Dharavi's slums, date back to the 18th century. Just above the Archaeology Department's information plaque is a nearly defaced inscription that proclaims the fort's history, "Built by order of the Honorable Horn Esq President and Governor of Bombay in 1737." According to records, John Horne served as the 19th Governor of the erstwhile Bombay between 1734 and 1739.

In the 18th century, Dharavi was a marshland on the banks of the Mithi River (Mahim Creek), separating the British-controlled seven islands – Isle of Bombay, Colaba, Little Colaba, Mazagaon, Parel, Worli, and Mahim – from the Portuguese-held Salsette Island. Salsette comprised what is now Mumbai's dense suburban belt between Dahisar and Bandra. "The seven islands, which were initially under Portuguese control, were handed over to the British as part of the famous dowry to King Charles II of England in 1665. Following this, between 1672 and 1692, the British were attacked by the Dutch, Mughals and Siddis of Janjira. This prompted the British to strengthen their fortifications and in 1737, the administration commissioned the construction of the Riwa Fort," said Sandeep Dahisarkar, archaeologist and author.

Today, the fort stands in a dilapidated state. There are no defined entry or exit points, which historians say is because it functioned as a military watchtower overlooking the Sion Fort.Local residents have built makeshift stairs to reach the upper deck, where some have set up poultry farms. The floors and walls appear unstable, with stone

slabs jutting out. Ropes are strung across the deck for drying clothes. "The slum pockets are very congested, so we don't get sunlight here very easily. Therefore, we put our clothes for drying at the deck of the fort after washing them," said Shanti Mishra, 49, a Dharavi resident of over two decades. Living adjacent to one of the staircases that leads to the upper deck, she added that in winter, local residents also use the fort for drying lentil dumplings and pickles. "Often, tour guides bring tourists over here to show this place, so we know for a fact that this structure has importance. However, nobody has ever restricted us from using this fort for our chores," Mishra added. Seven kilometres away, at Mumbai's western shoreline, stands the Mahim Fort. Believed to date back to the 13th century, it is considered the oldest of the city's surviving forts. Declared a State Protected Monument in 1975 and given Grade I heritage status, it nevertheless became heavily encroached. Until 2022, as many as 276 families lived illegally inside its precincts. That year, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC), acting on state government orders, relocated the families. Since then, the fort has been closed to the public, but its condition remains precarious. Walls are corroded, sections of the boundary wall have collapsed, and the main entrance is unstable.

"Since people would live inside earlier, miscreants wouldn't gather here. Now that the entire place is empty, people would come and gather here at night. After the local residents raised this issue with the police, the fort was shut down," said a local resident. Authorities note that decades of unauthorised alterations, including the destruction of staircases and bunkers, have scarred the structure permanently. Officials also point out that the deterioration accelerated after Independence, with large-scale encroachment beginning in the 1950s. Across Mahim Bay, facing the Arabian Sea, stands the Worli Fort, dating back to the 16th century. Its black, rectangular form offers an unhindered view of the coast and has often been used as a backdrop in Hindi films. Yet the site is heavily encroached. Inside, a small temple has been established by local residents, while duplex slum units have been built directly onto its outer walls. The fort's decks and basements double as drying and storage areas for the nearby fishing community. Approaching the fort is also difficult: it lacks a direct road and can only be reached via a narrow kutcha road from the Worli Koliwada bus stop.

On the city's eastern edge stands the Sion Fort, built in the 17th century atop a hillock near the railway station. The fort, a Grade I heritage structure, houses the regional office of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) at its base. Unlike other forts, it has no encroachments, but its condition remains poor, with walls and floors weakened by time. Stone blocks are coming loose in several areas, and the structure shows signs of neglect.

About five kilometres away, overlooking the creek and the newly built Atal Setu, is the Sewri Fort, also from the 17th century. Here, some hope of revival exists. The state Archaeology Department has initiated restoration work, and when The Indian Express visited, the site was closed to the public as repairs were underway. Floors and roofs were being reinforced, while the southern wall, described by contractors as being "on the verge of collapse," was also slated for repair. In contrast, the Bandra Fort in the western suburbs stands in relatively better condition. Built by the Portuguese in the 17th century, it has been partially restored and was reopened to the public last year, making it one of the few forts in Mumbai to see any significant conservation effort. No maintenance, lack of manpower Despite their historical significance, Mumbai's forts remain in precarious condition. Records from the state Archaeology Department and the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) reveal that no comprehensive maintenance plan has been implemented for conserving these structures. In an RTI response to The Indian Express, the state archaeology department admitted that no maintenance work had been carried out at the Worli and Mahim forts between 2014 and 2025.

Another RTI reply showed that in 2019, the department allotted Rs 84 lakh for the restoration and conservation of the Riwa Fort in Dharavi. However, only basic cleaning of the fort's decks could be undertaken before the project stalled. "There is a big tree that has grown from the cracks of the fort, and we had to cut it down in order to go ahead with the maintenance work. However, the BMC didn't give us permission to take down the tree, stating that it will be dangerous. Meanwhile, the entire periphery of the fort was

Being in the race...And in with AI

A few weeks ago, I won a small, gleaming cup at a local chess tournament. Engraved on its base was a single word: "Runner." At first, it stung. Runner-up. Second place. A polite way of saying I didn't quite win. The word felt oddly familiar. For years, my wife has joked that I'm a "runner" always busy, always chasing a deadline, always on the move. I'd always taken it as a gentle tease, a sign I was constantly playing catch-up, forever a step behind.

That night, as I held the trophy, that old feeling crept back. My wife, Swathi, saw the look on my face and said something that completely changed not only how I saw that cup, but how I viewed the future. She said "You're not a runner because you're behind. You're a runner because you're in the race."Her words resonated deeply. It's easy to feel like we're always trying to catch up, especially with the rapid rise of Artificial Intelligence (AI). But what if the point isn't to be first? What if the point is simply to be in the race?"A runner isn't just about who crosses the finish line first," she explained gently. "A runner is someone who keeps showing up; One who keeps moving forward, no matter how tough the path. A runner is someone who simply never stops trying."That single sentence was a revelation. Suddenly, the word wasn't a brand of defeat but a badge of resilience. And it made me think deeply about our collective relationship with Artificial Intelligence. Most conversations about AI are tinged with fear. We see it as a new competitor in the human race, a machine intelligence that might one day push us into second place in our own jobs, our own creativity and our own lives. We worry about being outpaced and left behind. But what if we're looking at it all wrong? What if Al isn't our competitor, but our partner in the race? A runner doesn't compete with a car; a runner uses the car to go farther and faster than their own two feet could ever take them.Al is our car. It is not here to replace us: it's here to run with us. It's the ultimate running partner, a tool that can help us navigate new terrain, make smarter decisions, and push past limits we once thought were absolute. This isn't a far-off, futuristic concept. This partnership is already transforming our daily lives in profound ways.

Think of a doctor in a rural clinic. With an AI-powered diagnostic tool, they can analyse a patient's scans and com-



pare them against a global database of millions of cases in seconds, spotting subtle anomalies that might have otherwise been missing. The AI isn't the doctor; it's the superhuman assistant, providing insights that allow the human expert to deliver world-class care, no matter the location. Consider a student struggling with a complex subject like calculus. An Al tutor can provide personalised lessons, adapting to their unique learning pace, offering encouragement, and explaining concepts in a dozen different ways until one finally clicks. It doesn't replace the teacher but acts as a tireless, patient guide, ensuring no one gets left behind on their educational journey. Even in creative fields, AI is not an adversary but a collaborator. A musician can use it to generate a hundred different chord progressions to break a creative block, or an architect can visualize a dozen structural variations for a building in minutes. The AI provides the raw material, the spark of inspiration, from which human creativity can forge something truly meaningful and new. This is the new definition of a "runner" in the 21st century. The challenge for our generation is not to outrun technology but to learn how to run alongside it. It calls on us to cultivate curiosity over fear and to focus on our uniquely human skills-empathy, critical thinking, and moral judgment-that AI can augment but never replicate. Now, when I see that cup on my shelf, I don't see 'second place." I see a powerful reminder. The real winners in this new era won't be the ones who stand still, fearing what's next. They will be the runners, the ones who embrace the chase, adapt to powerful new tools, and just keep moving forward, together.

The Deep State's Asian playbook: Why India must stay vigilant

South Asia is on fire; governments have been toppled amid waves of public fury, including Nepal. But the unrest follows a troubling pattern: states moving closer to India or China suddenly face chaos, often amplified by foreign toolkits and U.S. "Deep State" interventions under the guise of democracy promotion. India is not immune. As the opposition peddles unproven "vote chori" claims and echoes external narratives, the risk of manipulation grows. The real test is whether India's political class can unite to safeguard democracy and sovereignty before it is too late. The political fires burning across South Asia are not random sparks. They are part of a disturbing pattern where foreign toolkits exploit discontent to topple governments. From Colombo to Dhaka, from Islamabad to Kathmandu, we are watching unfolding of the same playbook. The danger for India is real.

This is the moment when our opposition parties must stop playing with matches in a dry forest. They can dislike Narendra Modi. They can prepare to defeat him in 2029. But they cannot open the gates for outside forces looking to destabilise India from within. Sri Lanka was the first domino. In 2022, economic collapse and street rage forced the president to flee. Two years later, Sheikh Hasina in Bangladesh was pushed into exile after violent protests. Imran Khan's fall in Pakistan came amid orchestrated turmoil. Indonesia has been kept on boil. And this week, Nepal exploded, its prime minister resigning after mayhem that shook the Himalayan state to its core. Different countries. Different leaders. Different triggers. Yet a common script: mass anger, collapsing trust in elites, cries of corruption and inequality, and sudden explosions of youth-led fury. These alignments make one thing clear: whenever a state drifts from Washington's orbit, unrest follows. Coincidence? Hardly.

For decades, America's "Deep State" - the entrenched network of security, intelligence, and bureaucratic elites — has shaped outcomes abroad. It claims to promote democracy. This creates spaces for chaos, allowing extremist ideologies and pliable regimes to take root. Nepal is the latest case study. Analysts say the unrest was sparked by the government's September ban on multiple social media platforms. True — but that is not the full story. The protests were overwhelmingly youth-led, coordinated online, and carried slogans that echoed global activist playbooks. Commentators on Indian channels were quick to suggest: "Nepal ke youth ne kar diya, ab India ki baari." Even opposition parties like Congress, Samajwadi Party and RJD echoed such views. The similarities with India — youth unemployment, corruption, accountability gaps are being exaggerated to create a sense of impending crisis here. What is left unsaid: India remains the fastestgrowing major economy. Flaws exist, yes. But to call India an "anarchy in waiting" is absurd. The tragedy is that India's opposition seems eager to play chorus. Having failed to convince voters for nine years, it now clings to the "vote chori" theory. No evidence offered. No authentication attempted. Just rhetoric. The BJP claims this campaign has foreign fingerprints, crafted abroad to erode trust in Indian democracy. The Congress mocks the charge. But the echoes are troubling. Rahul Gandhi's messaging often sounds uncannily aligned with U.S. talking points. His claim of a "dead economy." His parroting of "Vote Chori." His bizarre threats that youth will beat Modi with sticks. His silence or absence during critical moments-Punjab floods, the Vice-



President's election. They all raise questions. This is not healthy opposition. This is reckless politics that risks playing into foreign hands. We have seen it before. The farmers' protest that turned violent at Red Fort. The raising of the Waqf Board issue. The aggressive push for caste census. Each attempt designed to inflame. Each one amplified by social media wings working overtime. Yet each has failed to dent the basic trust people place in India's democratic process. But here lies the danger: even failed agitations create fertile ground for external actors. They do not need outright victory. They only need to plant doubt, sow cynicism, and weaken institutions. Look at the numbers. Reports say over \$60 million in U.S. aid has been pumped into Nepal under the banner of "strengthening democracy" and "empowering civil society." Sounds noble. But it effectively bankrolls activists, media houses, and NGOs that can shape narratives and fuel movements. India has not been spared similar attempts. The U.S. embassy reportedly invited "influencers" after the BJP secured 240 seats — part of a strategy to cultivate new opinion-shapers through tours, awards, and training. This is soft regime-change work. It is subtle. It is disguised as partnership. But it aims to mould domestic politics. India is not Sri Lanka or Nepal. Our scale, diversity, and democratic depth make us resilient. But that does not mean immune. Washington is already uncomfortable with India's tough stance on tariffs and its refusal to be a junior partner in the global order. The Deep State, when displeased, looks for pressure points. Civil society, social media, and opposition parties become easy targets. The question is: will our opposition recognise the danger? Or will its desperation to unseat Modi make it a willing pawn? The opposition has every right to challenge Modi. That is democracy. They should build a credible alternative, win hearts, and defeat him in 2029 if they can. But inviting, echoing, or amplifying foreign interference is a betrayal. Respect institutions. Stop theatrics. Compete fairly. That is the only way to strengthen India. The youth of South Asia have been weaponised by others' agendas. Today's Nepal stands testimony. Tomorrow it could be somewhere else. But India must not trek that path. Swami Vivekananda's 'arise, awake call is more relevant than ever before. Our young people must direct their energy toward overcoming corruption, inequality, and social injustices - not toward tearing down their own country in the name of imported slogans. India's destiny cannot be outsourced. Our democracy cannot be subcontracted. Our sovereignty cannot be pawned. The Deep State is playing its game. The question is whether India's leaders — government and opposition alike — are

Khalid Jamil's pragmatic approach is the way forward for Indian football.

Resolute, defensively solid, substance over style, and making the most of every opportunity — that is how Khalid Jamil played his football and that is also how his Indian team has gone about business so far.Khalid, who was born in Kuwait and moved to India after Iraq's invasion of the West Asian country, was a naturally gifted player and did not take long to attract the attention of Kolkata giants Mohun Bagan and East Bengal.Strength of conviction

However, being a devout Muslim, he rejected both teams due to their sponsorship deals with the United Breweries Group. It is that strength of his convictions that has helped the former India midfielder progress from an injuryriddled playing career to multiple successful managerial stints at clubs across the country. Since taking over as the Indian head coach, Khalid has shown an ability to adapt and improvise, rather than complain and throw in the towel. When Mohun Bagan Super Giant refused to release seven players for India's CAFA Nations Cup campaign, he expressed disappointment but swiftly moved on from the issue. The many foreign coaches who preceded him - Wim Koevermans, Stephen Constantine, Igor Stimac and Manolo Marquez, the most recent — ran Sunil Chhetri into the ground, citing a lack of adequate attacking firepower in the country. Khalid, however, decided against calling up the veteran and chose to test other players in competitive settings without Chhetri's larger-than-life shadow looming over them from the bench.

Yes, Irfan Yadwad failed to deliver as the No. 9. So did Vikram Partap Singh, Ashique Kuruniyan, Lallianzuala Chhangte, Manvir Singh and Naorem Mahesh when tasked with leading the line. Yes, 41-year-old Chhetri might lead the Blue Tigers against Singapore in the AFC Asian Cup qualifiers on October 9. But Khalid has shown that he is willing to back the right player, giving Indian strikers across clubs the sort of confidence boost that has been missing in recent years. Mohammedan SC head coach Mehrajuddin Wadoo, who has crossed paths with Khalid in his playing days, believes that the 48-year-old's knowledge of the country's football landscape puts him in good standing as the India head coach.

"Khalid's experience in the country, both as a player and coach, is helping the Indian footballers to grow because he understands Indian football. It is always an advantage for players when you have an Indian coach. Because of the communication and because of the understanding of Indian football," he told The Hindu. "Foreign coaches, when they come to the national team or when they come to India, they take time to understand the philosophy, the culture and the football. But for an Indian coach, it is already there by default. Someone like Khalid has that, since he has been in the system from his childhood." Another former India international, who wished to remain anonymous, gave an insight into how Khalid has gone about his job so far: "He has been speaking with players one-on-one, personally guiding them in various things, and has even taken a hands-on approach to his coaching sessions. Players have loved that, as of now." Maximising defence

Where successive coaches grappled with the idea of getting results while playing easy-on-the-eye football, Khalid has been more pragmatic. Knowing that India was the third-lowest-ranked side at the CAFA Nations Cup, the team set up in a way that maximised its defensive strengths, one of the hallmarks of his teams over the years. Khalid even took a leaf out of Rory Delap's playbook, utilising Rahul Bheke



and Muhammed Uvais' athletic abilities to effortlessly make accurate long throws. The result? All three goals scored under him have come either directly from them or in the phases of play immediately after. India has gone from struggling to compete against better-ranked teams to finding ways to go toe-to-toe with them — host Tajikistan and Oman, sitting 27 and 54 places above India, respectively, were both sent packing during a bronze-winning campaign. Former India coach Syed Nayeemuddin, who gave Khalid his national team debut in 1998, recalled how he was always eager to learn and get better. The 81-year-old stated that while Khalid was not among the most flashy of players he trained over the years, he was among the hardest working and most disciplined — qualities Nayeemuddin believes have helped him build a successful coaching career.

Experience speaks: Dronacharya awardee Syed Nayeemuddin says criticism of Khalid's style of play is "nonsense". The 81-year-old backs the India head coach to achieve success on the global stage. Experience speaks: Dronacharya awardee Syed Nayeemuddin says criticism of Khalid's style of play is "nonsense". The 81-year-old backs the India head coach to achieve success on the global stage. | Photo Credit: Ramakrishna

"I saw him playing in Bombay and he immediately caught my eye. After coming into the national squad, he was very, very disciplined, worked hard, always arrived well before time and was disciplined, both on and off the field. He played real top-class football, respected everyone, be it coaches or his teammates, or even opponents. And he has been the same as a coach," the Dronacharya awardee said. Nayeemuddin said Khalid showed early signs of being a good leader and backed him to achieve success on the global stage, even if football purists scoff at his methods. "Do not listen to criticism about his style of play. It is nonsense. Everyone sitting at home can easily talk. It is easy to comment. Only a coach knows what the strengths and weaknesses of his players are, and a good coach will ensure that opponents do not exploit those weaknesses." Nayeemuddin emphasised."To play stylish football, you need at least three to five years. Players cannot turn over a new leaf overnight. And to be in the role for that long, you need results first."His football might not be everyone's cup of tea, but for Khalid, a team's success is built on defensive solidity. "I tell my players to focus on defending, stay tight man-to-man, and maintain their shape. Beyond that, they have the freedom to play their natural game," he said at a press conference. Under Constantine, while India broke into the top 100 of the FIFA rankings and qualified for the Asian Cup, there was widespread criticism for his counter-attacking style. Under Stimac, India lacked a clear tactical plan

and effective in-game management.

What is the universe's antimatter mystery? | Explained



The story so far:, an international collaboration of scientists based in Europe reported that they had, for the first time, observed that the matter and antimatter versions of a type of subatomic particle called a baryon decay at different rates. The result revealed a new difference in their behavior that may help explain why the universe is made mostly of matter.

Why is the universe made mostly of matter?

The Big Bang 13.8 billion years ago should have created equal amounts of matter and antimatter. But when we look around, we see a universe filled with matter — stars. planets, people — while antimatter is almost nowhere to be found. This lopsidedness is one of the biggest unsolved mysteries in science. Physicists believe subtle differences in how matter and antimatter behave, especially something called CP violation, could be a major clue to understanding this imbalance.CP stands for charge conjugation (C) and parity (P). Charge conjugation means swapping a particle for its antiparticle (which has the opposite electric charge) and parity means flipping left and right, like looking in a mirror. If the universe treated matter and antimatter exactly the same, even after a particle swap and a mirror flip we'd say CP symmetry holds. But experiments have shown that this symmetry can be broken. This is called CP violation.CP violation is crucial because it's one of the conditions necessary for a universe to end up with more matter than anti-

Has CP violation been seen before?

"While CP violation had previously been observed in mesons, particles made of quark-antiquark pairs, it had never before been seen in baryons, three-quark particles such as protons and neutrons that constitute the majority of visible matter in the universe," Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, experimental high-energy physicist Minakshi Nayak told The Hindu. The new result is the first to show CP violation in baryon decays, specifically in a particle called the ?b0 baryon. The ?b0 baryon is a heavy subatomic particle made of three quarks: an up quark, a down quark, and a bottom quark. Its antiparticle, the ?b0-bar, has the corresponding antiquarks. In the new study, scientists studied how the ?b0 baryon decays into a proton, a negatively charged kaon, and two pions (one positive, one negative).

They also looked at the same decay for the antiparticle but

How're particle decays observed?

The experiment took place at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC) in Europe, and data for its analysis was collected by the machine's LHCb detector. Over several years, the team collected data from billions of proton-proton collisions, which occasionally produced ?b0 and ?b0-bar baryons. Sophisticated algorithms and machine learning techniques then helped the researchers pick out the rare events where these baryons decayed into the specific set of particles they were looking for. The key is to compare how often the ?b0 baryon decays into the chosen set of particles with how often its antiparticle does. If the laws of physics treated matter and antimatter identically, these rates would be the same. Any difference, after accounting for possible experimental biases, would be evidence of CP violation. The researchers measured a quantity called the CP asymmetry, which is the difference in decay rates divided by the total number of decays. The researchers were very careful about identifying and removing other effects that mimic CP violation. For example, the LHC might produce slightly more ?b0 baryons than ?b0-bar antibaryons or the LHCb detector might be better at spotting one over the other. To correct for these effects, the team used a control channel, a similar decay where no CP violation is expected. By measuring any asymmetry in this control channel, they could subtract these nuisance effects and isolate the true CP violation signal.

What was the main result?

The researchers found a clear difference in the decay rates: the CP asymmetry was measured to be about 2.45% with a very small uncertainty. "Statistically, the measured CP asymmetry deviates from zero by 5.2 standard deviations, surpassing the 5-sigma threshold required to claim a discovery in particle physics," Dr. Nayak said. "This historic discovery holds the potential to deepen our understanding of the matter-antimatter imbalance". It's a big step forward, although the amount of CP violation observed is still too small to account for the large imbalance between matter and antimatter in the universe. Scientists can now look for CP violation in other baryon decays and try to measure it more precisely. Theoretically, they can work to understand the complex dynamics that produce these effects and search for signs of previously undiscovered particles and forces, in a bid to plug the gaps in our knowledge of our universe.

The ultimate goal is to find out whether there are additional sources of CP violation that could explain matter's dominance. The finding also addresses a fundamental question about our existence: why is there something rather than nothing? Every atom in your body, every star in the sky, exists because matter somehow won out over antimatter. By uncovering the subtle differences in how nature treats matter and antimatter, scientists are piecing together the story of how our universe came to be the way it is.

Eight healthy babies born from three people's DNA in Britain free of genetic disease

Eight healthy babies were born in Britain with the help of an experimental technique that uses DNA from three people to help mothers avoid passing devastating rare diseases to their children, researchers reported Most DNA is found in the nucleus of our cells, and it's that genetic material — some inherited from mom, some from dad — that makes us who we are. But there's also some DNA outside of the cell's nucleus, in structures called mitochondria. Dangerous mutations there can cause a range of diseases in children that can lead to muscle weakness, seizures, developmental delays, major organ failure and death

Testing during the in vitro fertilization process can usually identify whether these mutations are present. But in rare cases, it's not clear. Researchers have been developing a technique that tries to avoid the problem by using the healthy mitochondria from a donor egg. They reported in 2023 that the first babies had been born using this method, where scientists take genetic material from the mother's egg or embryo, which is then transferred into a donor egg or embryo that has healthy mitochondria but the rest of its key DNA removed. The latest research "marks an important milestone," said Dr. Zev Williams, who directs the Columbia University Fertility Center and was not involved in the work. "Expanding the range of reproductive options ... will empower more couples to pursue safe and healthy pregnancies."Using this method means the embryo has DNA from three people — from the mother's egg, the father's sperm and the donor's mitochondria — and it required a 2016 U.K. law change to approve it. It is also allowed in Australia but not in many other countries, including the U.S.This image from video provided by the Newcastle Fertility Centre shows a nuclear genome from an egg carrying a mitochondrial DNA mutation being inserted into an egg donated by an unaffected woman.

This image from video provided by the Newcastle Fertility Centre shows a nuclear genome from an egg carrying a mitochondrial DNA mutation being inserted into an egg donated by an unaffected woman. at Britain's Newcastle University and Monash University in Australia reported in the New England Journal of Medicine on Wednesday that they performed the new technique in fertilized embryos from 22 patients, which resulted in eight babies that appear to be free of mitochondrial diseases. One woman is still pregnant. One of the eight babies born had slightly higher than expected levels of abnormal mitochondria, said Robin Lovell-Badge, a stem cell and developmental genetics scientist at the Francis Crick Institute who was not involved in the research. He said it was still not considered a high enough level to cause disease, but should be monitored as the baby develops.Dr. Andy Greenfield, a reproductive health expert at the University of Oxford, called the work "a triumph of scientific innovation," and said the method of exchanging mitochondria would only be used for a small number of women for whom other ways of avoiding passing on genetic diseases, like testing embryos at an early stage, was not effective.Lovell-Badge said the amount of DNA from the donor is insignificant, noting that any resulting child would have no traits from the woman who donated the healthy mitochondria. The genetic material from the donated egg makes up less than 1% of the baby born after this technique. "If you had a bone marrow transplant from a donor ... you will have much more DNA from another person," he said. In the U.K., every couple seeking a baby born through donated mitochondria must be approved by the country's fertility regulator. As of this month, 35 patients have been authorized to undergo the technique. Critics have previously raised concerns, warning that it's impossible to know the impact these sorts of novel techniques might have

on future generations. "Currently, pronuclear transfer is not permitted for clini-



cal use in the U.S., largely due to regulatory restrictions on techniques that result in heritable changes to the embryo, Williams, of Columbia, said in an email. "Whether that will change remains uncertain and will depend on evolving scientific, ethical, and policy discussions."For about a decade, Congress has included provisions in annual funding bills banning the Food and Drug Administration from accepting applications for clinical research involving techniques, "in which a human embryo is intentionally created or modified to include a heritable genetic modification."But in countries where the technique is allowed, advocates say it could provide a promising alternative for some families.Liz Curtis, whose daughter Lily died of a mitochondrial disease in 2006, now works with other families affected by them. She said it was devastating to be told there was no treatment for her eight-month-old baby and that death was inevitable. She said the diagnosis "turned our world upside down, and yet nobody could tell us very much about it, what it was or how it was going to affect Lily." Curtis later founded the Lily Foundation in her daughter's name to raise awareness and support research into the disease, including the latest work done at Newcastle University. "It's super exciting for families that don't have much hope in their lives," Curtis said.

New algorithms enable Al models to collaborate across platforms

Jerusalem: Researchers from Israel's Weizmann Institute of Science (WIS) and Intel Labs have developed a set of algorithms that allow different artificial intelligence (AI) models to "think" and work together as one, WIS said in a statement. The development, presented at the International Conference on Machine Learning being held in Vancouver, Canada, makes it possible to combine the strengths of different AI systems, speeding up performance and reducing costs, WIS said on Wednesday.

The new method significantly improves the speed of large language models, or LLMs, which power tools like ChatGPT and Gemini, reports Xinhua news agency. On average, it increases performance by 1.5 times, and in some cases by as much as 2.8 times, the institute said, adding that it could make AI more suitable for smartphones, drones, and autonomous vehicles. In those settings, faster response times can be critical to safety and accuracy. For example. in a self-driving car, a faster Al model can mean the difference between a safe decision and a dangerous error. Until now, Al models developed by different companies could not easily communicate or collaborate because each uses a different internal "language," made up of unique tokens.

CERN collider reveals major clue to universe's bias against antimatter



EMS News Agency, August 25

The universe is made mostly of matter, not antimatter, but scientists believe that after the Big Bang, both must have existed in equal amounts. One of the big mysteries in physics is understanding why matter dominates the universe today and what happened to all the antimatter. A key clue comes from something called CP violation — a difference in the behaviour of matter and antimatter. While CP violation has been observed in certain types of particles called mesons, it has never been reported in baryons, which are the particles (like protons and neutrons) that make up most of the matter around us. Based on new data, the LHCb collaboration in Europe has now reported the first-ever observation of CP violation in baryon decays, specifically in a particle called the ?b° baryon (pronounced "lambda beezero baryon"). Their findings were published in Nature on July 16. For the first time, we have clear evidence of CP violation in baryons," Xueting Yang, the corresponding author of the study, a member of the LHCb team, and a PhD student at Peking University in Beijing, told The Hindu. "The matter-antimatter asymmetry in the universe requires CP violation in baryons, such that the discovery is a key step forward."In CP, 'C' stands for charge conjugation, which means the action of swapping a particle with its antiparticle. 'P' stands for parity, which is the action of flipping the spatial coordinates, like looking in a mirror. CP symmetry stipulates that if you swap particles for antiparticles and look in a mirror, the laws of physics should be the same.

CP violation thus means this symmetry is broken and that the laws of physics are slightly different for matter and antimatter. This is important because CP violation is a necessary ingredient to explain why the universe is made mostly of matter. The ?b° baryon is made up of three smaller particles: an up quark, a down quark, and a bottom quark. The antiparticle of the ?b° baryon is called the ?b°-bar. The newly reported result focuses on a specific decay of the ?b° baryon: into a proton, a negatively charged kaon, a positively charged pion, and a negatively charged pion. This is denoted: ?b° ? p K? p? p?. The collaboration also studied the same decay for the antiparticle, ?b°-bar, but with all charges reversed. The experiment used data from the Large Hadron Collider at CERN, specifically from the LHCb detector on the machine.

The LHCb team collected data between 2011 and 2018, corresponding to a very large number of collisions between beams of protons accelerated to nearly the speed of light. In these collisions, ?b° and ?b°-bar baryons are produced and then rapidly decay. The LHCb researchers looked for events where the decay products matched p K? p? p?. To reduce background noise — in the form of random combinations of particles that mimic the signal — they used machine learning to distinguish real decays from fake ones. They also used particle identification tools on computers that could tell protons, kaons, and pions apart.

The main quantity they measured was the CP asymmetry. It compares the number of ?b° decays to the number of ?b°-bar decays: if there is no CP violation, the value of CP asymmetry should be zero. In practice, they measured the yield asymmetry, which is the difference in the number of decays observed for ?b° and ?b°-bar. There are some effects that can mimic CP violation. For example the proton-proton collisions may produce more ?b° than ?b°bar to begin with. For another, the LHCb detector on the Large Hadron Collider might have been slightly better at detecting one charge over another. To correct for these possible biases, the researchers used a control channel — a similar decay where no CP violation is expected. Here, an ?b° baryon decays to a positively charged ?c baryon, and a negatively charged pion: ?b°? ?c? p?.Any asymmetry seen in this control channel was considered a nuisance and subtracted from the main measurement. The LHCb detector at the Large Hadron Collider is designed primarily to study the decay of particles containing bottom quarks and and charm quarks. The LHCb detector at the Large Hadron Collider is designed primarily to study the decay of particles containing bottom quarks and and charm quarks. | Photo Credit: CERNMesons, then baryonsThe researchers used statistical methods to determine how many real ?b° baryon and ?b°-bar antiparticle decays the detector recorded. Then they checked their results for consistency across different data-taking periods, detector settings, and analysis

methods. Thus, the team found a significant difference in the decay rates: about 2.45%. According to the paper, this result is 5.2 standard deviations away from zero, which is well above the statistical threshold required for physicists to claim a discovery in particle physics.

'It was expected that the LHCb group had enough data. They are reporting it now," theoretical physicist, University of Hawai'i affiliate graduate faculty, and Chennai's Institute of Mathematical Sciences retired professor Rahul Sinha told The Hindu. This is the first time CP violation has been observed in baryon decays. Previously, physicists had reported CP violation only in mesons, particles which are made of a quark and an antiquark, and not baryons, which are made of three quarks. The result matches the predictions of the Standard Model, the main theory of particle physics, which says CP violation comes from the way quarks mix and decay. However, the amount of CP violation in the Standard Model is not enough to explain the matter-antimatter imbalance in the universe. "The observation of CP violation in baryons still doesn't settle the mystery of the universe's missing antimatter," Prof. Sinha said. "The Standard Model predicts a rate of disappearance of antimatter that doesn't match what we're seeing in the universe."The new announcement opens new ways to search for 'new physics', the name for hitherto unknown effects or particles beyond what the Model predicts, and which physicists believe will reveal the 'complete' theory of subatomic particles. According to Prof. Sinha, the new paper reports observing CP violation in baryons but doesn't say whether the amount of violation is higher or lower than that predicted by the Standard Model. Ascertaining that requires researchers to determine the complex phase. In the context of CP violation, the complex phase is a combination of variables present in the Cabibbo-Kobayashi-Maskawa (CKM) matrix, a mathematical tool physicists use to understand how the quarks in a baryon interact with each other.

If the complex phase has a non-zero value, it means the laws of physics are not identical for matter and antimatter, leading to observable differences in their behaviour. The Standard Model predicts specific values for the amount of CP violation, which are determined by the magnitude and phase of the variables in the CKM matrix. By measuring the phase associated with CP violation in baryon decays, physicists can compare the observed amount of violation to the Standard Model's predictions.

In their paper, the LHCb researchers have reported that the complex phase information proved too difficult to extract from the data collected by the detector."Until we measure the phase, we can't say if the rate of antimatter's disappearance is too high or too low compared to the Model's prediction," Prof. Sinha said. The same technique to measure the phase for mesons can't be used for baryons. To this end, Prof. Sinha added that in 2022, he and his peers Shibasis Roy and N.G. Deshpande described a new way to measure the complex phase for baryons. It was published in Physical Review Letters. Observing CP violation in baryons is important because the visible matter around us today is made of baryons. Some baryons like protons and neutrons are very stable and don't decay for a long time. Others, like ?b°, decay in around 1.5 picoseconds. The point is what is true for one baryon should be true for all baryons."To definitively resolve the asymmetry problem, both experimental and theoretical progress are needed," Ms. Yang said. "Experimentally, more precise and comprehensive measurements across different particle systems are required to build a coherent and consistent picture of CP violation. Theoretically, improved calculations and refined models are essential to connect these experimental observations with the fundamental physics driving the matterantimatter asymmetry."

How did matter gain an overwhelming upper hand over antimatter in the universe? CP violation in baryons is an important piece of this puzzle — but also only one piece. In 1967, the Soviet physicist and later political dissident Andrei Sakharov said three conditions will have to be met for the universe to be made predominantly of only matter. They are:(i) Baryon number violation: physical processes must exist that create an imbalance between the number of baryons and the number of antibaryons.(iii) Departure from thermal equilibrium: to prevent processes from balancing baryon and antibaryon production, interactions must occur out of equilibrium. The observation of CP violation in baryon decays provides a 'source' that adds to CP violation among mesons. The complex phase of the mesons' violation has been measured whereas that of the baryons is pending. Once the latter is known physicists will be able to compare it to that predicted by the Standard Model. If they match, it will mean the Standard Model is right — but at the same time leave a gap between the predicted matter-antimatter asymmetry and that observed in the universe. If the values don't match, it could be a sign of 'new physics', which physicists will have to explain using new theories and experiments. Overall, the newly reported observation is a milestone showing that the laws of physics treat matter and antimatter differently not just in mesons but also in baryons the building blocks of the visible universe.

Gujarat launches India's first tribal genome project to tackle inherited diseases

Gujarat has become the first Indian State to launch a genome sequencing initiative focused exclusively on communities.At a high-level consultation chaired by State Tribal Development Minister Kuber Dindor here, the Tribal Genome Sequencing Project was announced with the aim of identifying genetic health risks and enabling precision healthcare for tribal populations. The initiative will sequence the genomes of 2,000 individuals from tribal communities across 17 districts in the State. The project, titled "Creation of Reference Genome Database for Tribal Population in Gujarat", is being implemented by the Gujarat Biotechnology Research Centre (GBRC) and is part of the 2025–26 State budget.Detecting genetic disorders

Mr. Dindor said the ini-

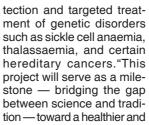
tiative will focus on early de-

more prosperous future for

our tribal communities," he

said. "It is not just a scientific initiative, but a focused campaign to bring long-term improvements in tribal health."The genetic data collected will also be used to identify markers related to natural immunity and support the development of personalised healthcare solutions. The project will incor-

porate advanced infrastructure for sample collection, sequencing, and interpretation of genetic data, officials said. Experts at the event stressed that the initiative is not limited to scientific research but aims to empower tribal communities through the use of advanced technology and data.



Oil prices fall nearly 1% on oversupply and weaker US demand



oil pricesSaudi Arabia's crude oil exports to China are set to surge in October after a deep cut in prices, several trade sources told Reuters on Thursday, with Aramco shipping about 1.65 million barrels per day in October, compared with 1.43 million bpd allocated in September. Oil prices fell on Thursday, pressured by concerns over softening US demand and broad oversupply that offset threats to output from conflict in the Middle East and the Russian war in Ukraine.

Brent crude futures were down 63 cents, or 0.9%, at \$66.86 a barrel by 1139 GMT while US West Texas Intermediate crude futures lost 68 cents, or about 1.1%, to \$62.99. The benchmark contracts gained more than \$1 each on Wednesday after Israel's attack on Hamas leadership in Qatar the previous day and the mobilisation of Polish and NATO air defences to shoot down suspected Russian drones that had strayed into Poland's airspace during an attack on western Ukraine. However, the International En-

ergy Agency said in its monthly report that world oil supply will rise more rapidly than expected this year as OPEC+ members increase output further and supply from outside the group grows, with limited expansion in demand. "Our market is torn between perceived supply shortage due to the rise in tension in the Middle East and Ukraine and actual oversupply as reflected in rising OPEC+ production and swelling stocks implied in the weekly and monthly EIA reports," PVM Oil Associates analyst Tamas Varga said.

While the uncertainty around secondary sanctions against Russian oil buyers China and India also puts a floor under the market, prices should resume their fall once those tensions ease, he added. US crude inventories rose by 3.9 million barrels in the week to September 5, the Energy Information Administration said, against expectations of a draw of 1 million barrels. A softer US economy, meanwhile, has raised expectations that the Federal Reserve will cut interest rates next week."Traders are taking a more cautious stance ahead of the upcoming US inflation report (later on Thursday), with expectations of more significant Federal Reserve rate cuts already factored in, which could be unsettled by a warmer than expected CPI report," said IG market analyst Tony Sycamore. The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and allies, a group collectively known as OPEC+, on Sunday decided to raise production from October. OPEC is due to issue its monthly oil market report at 1200 GMT. Saudi Arabia's crude oil exports to China are set to surge in October after a deep cut in prices, several trade sources told Reuters on Thursday, with Aramco shipping about 1.65 million barrels per day in October, compared with 1.43 million bpd allocated in September.

Nepal, Indonesia, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka: When demographic dividend isn't delivered

Sri Lanka in 2022. Bangladesh in 2024. Indonesia in August 2025...and now Nepal, a month later. The past few years have been littered with youth-led uprisings in Asian countries, coming at a time when the headline growth numbers have not resulted in better lives for those entering the labour force. At the same time, the ruling elite and business class seem to have prospered. Over the last week, the children of Nepal's political class have come under heavy fire for displaying their luxurious lifestyles on social media, with the phrase 'nepo kids' trending as the Gen Z's ire over corruption took centre-stage. In 2024, Nepal was ranked 107 out of 180 countries in Transparency International's corruption rankings. Bangladesh was ranked 151, Sri Lanka 121, and Indonesia 99.

If politics is about optics, the leaders of these countries have not quite helped themselves. Earlier this week, Indonesia's President, Prabowo Subianto, fired the globally respected Sri Mulyani Indrawati as the finance minister amid some of the worst public unrest in years following the revelation that Parliamentarians were set to receive a monthly housing allowance equivalent to \$3,000. The allowance, scrapped on September 4 after days of violent protests, was almost 10 times the country's highest monthly minimum wage of \$337 in the capital city of Jakarta. Indrawati, a former Managing Director at the World Bank and Executive Director at the International Monetary Fund, had burnished Indonesia's image with her fiscal restraint during her 13 years as the finance minister under three Presidents. However, she was at odds with Subianto and his populist policies. The high levels of corruption and lack of political continuity have meant economic growth has not been inclusive, with the youth suffering in particular. And these countries are all rather young. According to the United Nations' World Population Prospects 2024 report, the median age of Nepal last year was 25 years, only slightly lower than Bangladesh's 25.7. For Indonesia it was 30.1, while Sri Lanka's was 33.1 years.

Whither demographic dividend?

Countries with a young population bank on the youth to propel economic growth higher. This gain, called the demographic dividend, comes from changes in the age structure of a country's population which lead to the proportion of the working-age population becoming increasingly larger than those who don't work — young children and the retired. As young adults finish their education, they expect to enter the labour force and boost the talent available to domestic firms. An increase in supply of talent can also ensure wages don't rise much, helping raise profits, which can help finance future investments. This would then support the creation of more jobs. This, seemingly, has not happened in many of Asia's developing economies."...although there has been significant and largely sustainable growth, that has not been accompanied



by millions of new jobs," the Asian Development Bank said in June. "In urban Asia, auto electronics and textile manufacturing used to be the entry point into the labour market for millions of young people. But with much of industrial production now mechanised, we live in an era of far fewer jobs in those traditional sectors. The average car factory today employs only around 15 per cent of the workforce it needed 25 years ago. Likewise, repetitive low-skilled assembly work everywhere has been largely ceded to increased automation."Last year, the World Bank had warned South Asia was on a path "that risks squandering its demographic dividend of growth". According to the Bank, from 2000 to 2023, South Asia created 10 million jobs a year on average – just over half of what was required.

High youth unemployment In Indonesia, the national average unemployment rate in 2024 was 4.91 per cent. But for those in the 20-24 age bracket, the unemployment rate was more than three times as high: 15.34 per cent. In Bangladesh, the national unemployment rate in 2023 was 3.35 per cent. However, at 8.24 per cent, the highest unemployment rate was for those in the 15-24 years age bracket. In Nepal, the country's statistics office said in July that the employment challenge was "significant". "The high dependence on foreign employment and remittances, coupled with limited industrial development and job creation in the formal sector, presents ongoing challenges for policymakers," the National Statistics Office said in a report titled Demographic Dividend in Nepal, adding that the labour market sector had not shown any improvement, with unemployment increasing to 12.6 per cent in 2022-23 from 11.4 percent in 2017-18. With underemployment even more prevalent, especially among those aged 15-24, young Nepalis were looking abroad for jobs, resulting in remittances accounting for nearly a quarter of the country's GDP. "These trends highlight the urgent need for domestic job creation in emerging sectors and industries to retain talent and support the economy sustainably... without sufficient job creation, Nepal risks missing out on the economic benefits of its demographic dividend."

Before GST 2.0, almost 40% of consumers could just about manage food shopping: Survey

While the Goods and Services Tax (GST) cut announced by the GST Council with effect from September 22 will bring much-needed relief to Indian consumers, a new report has cautioned that a large proportion of shoppers were barely able to find the money to spend beyond food items earlier in the year. According to PwC India's Voice of the Consumer 2025 report that focused on the food industry, released on Thursday, 32 per cent of the respondents said they were 'financially coping' while another 7 per cent said they were 'financially insecure'. "There is a fair bit of a costof-living crunch in the sense that household savings as a percentage are lesser today than they were four years back. whereas the liabilities have actually gone up," Hitanshu Gandhi, retail & consumer markets lead (director), PwC India, said. Referring to monthly data that the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has recently started releasing on the merchant category-wise break-up of Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions, Gandhi said that the high position of debt repayment reflected "fairly heavy stress on households". "Therefore, when we asked 'How comfortable do you feel about paying your bills', while 60 per cent in India was financially secure, 32 per cent said 'Look, I am paying the bills, but after that... there is very little left over for any leisure." As per the NPCI data, Rs 3.5 lakh crore or nearly 13 per cent of total UPI payments in the first four months of 2025-26 were for the merchant category 'debt collection agencies'. The PwC survey was based on responses from 21,075 people globally, of which 1,031 were Indians. Conducted in the first two months of 2025, the survey respondents were primarily in the 18-44 age bracket, with two-third of them based in large cities. As per the report, the GST rate cuts will likely make household budgets "more manageable". However, it also said that consumers



are adopting money-saving behaviours, including shopping at different stores. PwC officials were also not sure how much of a boost consumption would get from the tax cutinduced price reductions. "Some of the chatter that we are picking up is that price reduction is great. But a lot of that price reduction is going to translate into buying a better electronics product, going on a trip, or eating out - provided you are already consuming a fair bit of branded play," said Ravi Kapoor, partner and leader-retail and consumer sector, PwC India. The GST rate cuts are also expected to push up demand for goods made by the formal sector. "If I take a 5-10-year view, formalisation is going to be very good, because the consumer wants it. The consumer wants trust, quality, and nutrition. If you are able to guarantee all of these things, then why stay informal? Become a formal brand, like what is happening in beauty and personal care, where branded players are mushrooming beyond the big players," Kapoor said, adding that "quality of consumption" was going to get a leg-up.

The hidden plastic problem in your daily dental routine – and what's being done about it



You brush twice daily, floss religiously and see your dentist every six months. But what if these acts of oral hygiene are quietly contributing to one of the planet's most pressing environmental crises? A growing body of research reveals that our pursuit of clean, healthy teeth comes with an unexpected cost: we're washing billions of microplastic particles down the drain every day. Take toothpaste, for example. Decades of using toothpastes with plastic microbeads triggered bans in many countries, but studies show that many modern toothpastes still contain microplastic particles.

And toothpaste isn't the only offender; dental floss is another stealth culprit. Most flosses are made of nylon or Teflon – non-biodegradable fibres – that shed and linger in ecosystems. Even the simple toothbrush sheds dozens of nylon bristle fragments during normal use. These fragments enter sewage, pass through treatment systems and end up in marine food chains where they are ingested by plankton, shellfish, fish and, eventually, us. Beyond daily hygiene products, the materials dentists use inside our mouths also matter. For years, dentists have been replacing mercurycontaining silver amalgam fillings with white plastic ones, believing them safer for patients and the planet. That shift got a boost in 2013, when the UN Minamata Convention treaty urged countries to phase out dental amalgam to cut mercury pollution. Resin-based composite fillings (the white plastic kind) became the go-to alternative. However, new research suggests these plastic fillings might have their own hidden environmental costs. Microplastics More than 15 countries have already banned plastic microbeads in tooth-

A 2022 review in the British Dental Journal confirmed this risk, showing how resin-based composites could contribute to pollution. It found that all the ingredients in these fillings might act as pollutants once they start breaking down. In other words, the plastic material in a filling doesn't just sit harmlessly in your tooth forever. Over time, tiny fragments and chemical components can wear off and leach out. These resin bits and monomers (the basic chemical building blocks

of the plastic) can make their way into saliva and wastewater, and eventually into the wider environment. These risks don't only emerge while fillings are in the mouth. A key concern is the microscopic plastic dust produced during routine dental work. Drilling out an old composite or polishing a new one generates fine debris that gets suctioned up and flushed down the drain. These particles, often only a few microns wide, are essentially microplastics. They spread easily through water, and their large surface area means they can leach even more of the filling's chemicals as they break down. The problem doesn't stop with fillings. Acrylic dentures, worn by millions of older adults, are another constant source of microplastic exposure. With every bite and every cleaning, tiny particles can rub off their surfaces and be swallowed. Similarly, acrylic mouthguards, nightguards, clear aligners and removable retainers are held in the mouth for hours each day and show visible wear over time. That wear is a sign that microscopic fragments are being released and either ingested or rinsed into the sink. All of this plastic debris inevitably raises a bigger question: what does it do to us? The effect of microplastics on our health is worrying. Bisphenol A, a chemical used in some dental resins (plastics), can mimic hormones and disrupt the endocrine system.In 2024, a medical study detected microplastics embedded in arterial plaque, and those patients were far more likely to suffer a heart attack or stroke. Other studies suggest swallowed microplastics may disturb gut microbes and trigger inflammation. Given these mounting risks, solving this plastic invasion will take action from industry and consumers alike. Manufacturers are developing toothpastes with natural abrasives like silica or clay instead of plastic beads and researching biodegradable polymers for future dental products. Over 15 countries have already banned plastic microbeads in toothpastes and cosmetics, removing one obvious source of pollution. Some dental clinics are testing filters (like activated carbon filters) to trap resin dust before it enters wastewater. Microplastics Bamboo toothbrushes or those with natural bristles significantly reduce plastic waste. (Source: Freepik)Consumers also have choices. Toothpaste tablets or powders in plastic-free packaging are now available. Bamboo toothbrushes or those with natural bristles significantly reduce plastic waste. Plasticfree, natural fibre-based floss options can also help minimise the impact of plastics. For orthodontics, traditional metal braces offer effective alternatives without adding plastic to your mouth or the environment. Dental plastics have brought clear benefits such as whiter teeth, easy treatments and safer alternatives to mercury. Yet their environmental costs and possible health risks are now coming into focus. With microplastics turning up in the human bloodstream, even our mouths are not safe from this invisible contamination. The hope lies in innovation and vigilance so dentistry can continue to protect our smiles without adding to the plastic

'I ain't no nutritionist but...': Vidya Malavade clarifies as she shares all that she eats in a day

Vidya Malavade recently took to social media to give us a glimpse of her daily diet. "Making FOOD my medicine . I ain't no nutritionist but with trials & errors I kinda follow simple homecooked meals full of locally sourced fresh spices & ingredients," she wrote on Instagram. Holistic health and wellness coach Isha Lall helped us decode what she eats in a day, walking us through the health benefits of incorporating these foods into our regular diet. Vidya believes what you eat should reflect your lifestyle and life principles, says Isha adding, "When I looked at her 'what I eat in a day' post, I didn't see a celebrity diet. I saw a woman who eats with the same care she brings to her yoga mat," said Lall. The expert said that every choice feels intentional and nour ishing, not just for her body but her mind and her practice. "She is living and eating a yogic, mindful, and probably soft and slow life," Lall told indian express.com.

Decoding her meals

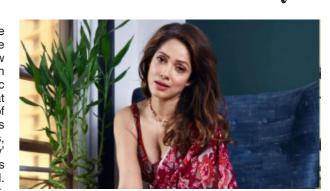
6 am: Ashwagandha, shatavari, moringa goli with coconut oil

6.15 am: Homemade ghee sattu and jaggery laddoo 9 am: Ashgourd juice or coconut water or beet, carrot, ginger, lime juice

9.30 am: Soaked nuts, a date, a pomegranate, another fresh fruit, and a protein shake.

"Ayurveda calls this sattvik eating; in fact, Yogic nutrition lives by it too – clean, light foods that wake up digestion without overwhelming it. Nutrition science calls it steady, low-GI fuel to carry you through the morning without energy dips," said Lall.

1-2 pm: tofu, sprouts veggie with homemade curd and methi (or kulith) millet roti with ghee, small sesame jaggery laddooBy midday, her plate is vibrant yet balanced: tofu and sprouts, seasonal veggies, a roti made from methi millet or horse gram, a dollop of ghee, and even a sesame-jaggery ladoo – to combat those sweet cravings. "She has almost all the flavours on her plate. These choices hit all the macronutrient notes, but they also reflect her awareness of



how food can heal, considering her personal health concern, like horse gram for kidney health, sesame for strong joints," elaborated Lall.

6 pm: Besan chilla stuffed with tofu, veggies, and mint chutney, and an elaichi banana. Evenings stay light: besan chilla stuffed with veggies, or something equally gentle. According to Lall, both yoga philosophy and circadian biology agree — our digestion is most efficient in daylight, so eating earlier allows the body to rest and restore overnight. Post dinner: 2-3 cups of digestive tea made of ginger, lemongrass, saunf, mint, and a pinch of green tea leaves. What's remarkable is the absence of extremes, Lall noted. "No crash diets, no over-supplementation, no 'cheat days' because probably there's nothing to cheat on. Instead, she treats food as a daily practice, which we also believe in, one rooted in balance, connection, kindness toward herself," said the wellness expert, adding that that's the real secret: it's not about copying her menu, but about adopting her mindset. Listening to your body. Choosing what makes you feel both grounded and energised. Eating in rhythm with your life, not against it. Taking cues from Malavade's plate, Lall shared that the idea is your diet should be a reflection of your fitness goals - both for the body and the mind without disrupting the natural rhythm of the body. Because that's a true idea of a life well-lived and intelligence on your plate.

Shah Rukh Khan hopes son Aryan Khan 'didn't trouble' Diljit Dosanjh during "Tenu Ki Pata" recording

Mumbai: Bollywood superstar Shah Rukh Khan, on Friday, took to social media to express his gratitude to singer Diljit Dosanjh for his kindness and support.

Taking to his Instagram handle, the Veer-Zaara' actor shared a video featuring Diljit and his son Aryan Khan. In the clip, the Punjabi singer is seen recording the song 'Tenu Ki Pata,' while Aryan sits in the recording room, enjoying the session. The young star also arranged for Diljit to talk to Shah Rukh Khan over a video call. The clip further captures Aryan and Diljit sharing a warm hug and bonding.In the caption of his post, SRK also humorously mentioned his son Aryan, hoping he wasn't too much trouble during the song recording. The 'Dilwale' actor also promoted the release of the song 'Tenu Ki Pata' and the Netflix show 'The Ba**ds of Bollywood,' which premieres on September 18. The 59-year-old actor wrote, "A heartfelt thanks and big jhappi to Diljit paaji" |. you are too kind and sweet. Hope Aryan didn't trouble u too much. Love u. #TenuKiPata out now! Watch The Ba***ds of Bollywood, out 18 September, only on Netflix." On September 11, the makers released the third song from The Ba***ds of Bollywood, 'Tenu Ki



Pata.'• The foot-tapping number is composed, arranged, and produced by Ujwal Gupta, with lyrics by Kumaar and vocals by Diljit Dosanjh and Ujwal Gupta. The track also includes a special twist. Aryan Khan, who directed the show, lends his voice for a few lines, marking his debut as a singer. The Ba**ds of Bollywood• will mark the directorial debut of Aryan Khan. Produced by Red Chillies Entertainments Pvt. Ltd, the series is created and directed by Aryan himself, alongside co-creators Bilal Siddiqi and Manav Chauhan.

'We should've done better': FIDE's Emil Sutovsky on Hikaru Nakamura exploiting loophole to qualify for Candidates



GNS News Agency, Sept 25

FIDE CEO Emil Sutovsky recently criticized Hikaru Nakamura's decision to exploit a loophole by trying to qualify for the the Candidates tournament by playing in events with weaker opponents, saying that the US Grand Master should have qualified playing tournaments with players of his level rather than advancing by defeating players who were almost a thousand points lower than his rating. Sutovsky, however, said that the chess body should have done a better job of closing the loophole before players could take advantage of it, adding that they had thought that their top players were better than taking advantage of the loophole.

'So, it's very simple. I think A) We could do our part better. We, you know, being immersed in so many organizational regulatory issues, we somehow missed the notion of the loophole where the player would, from certain moment basically qualify using the loophole. Maybe we though better of our top players not doing that and it didn't come naturally to our mind what would happen because with the same way we should ask that now ourselves and we are already asking and we will be swift in our action. What if anyone just decides, not for the same qualification, but just to play 50 games like that within a month against opposition which is thousand points lower and so on. Yes, I acknowledge that we should have been looking at it more scrupulously and to prevent such a loophole from happening," Sutovsky said in an interaction with ChessBase India. "I don't agree with the notion that blame the rules, don't blame the players. For some reason, no body or almost no body was

doing it. Because there are legal sides of it and there is a moral side. They are two different things. so I don't imagine many players doing the same, let's say in such a clinical way. But again it's not forbidden and if it was poorly regulated by FIDE, okay that created the loophole. So yes, small mistakes can happen like that. It's not like it allowed some weak player to qualify, it allowed the World no. 2 to qualify using some loophole rather than using a proper tournament for his games and to use his existent rating because what happen that in a way that he's farming games and also in the way he is farming the rating. It's an indirect consequence but it is a consequence. And that's what bugs me even more. "That's the part that annoys me because it feels unfair completely to other players. It feels fair that the No. 2 is in candidates even if through a loophole but it feels unfair that farming the number of games indirectly also leads to farming the rating points and that's upsetting. But again, I can agree that we should have done better. But the very fact that Hikaru could qualify for the candidates is very normal. But I still think that he could have farmed it in a tournament with a couple of Grand Masters and a few International Masters. not necessarily with 18 and 1900s playing," he added. Having played in only a handful of classical chess events this year, like the Norway Chess event, Nakamura needed to play a certain number of classical chess games till the end of the year to enter the Candidates via ratings spot in 2025. This is why Nakamura has been competing in regional events in the USA like the Louisiana State Championship and the Iowa Open, where the competition is not that strong.

5-time World Champion Magnus Carlsen, however, did not see anything wrong with what Hikaru was doing, saying that it was a "shameless method" but but also "probably the right thing to do". "I kind of admire the way he is going about it because it is so shameless. The thing is a lot of players, they probably would have picked tournaments where there was maybe like a couple of IMs or something like that. But Hikaru just wants to make sure that he's getting his games, which is the pragmatic thing to do. It's absolutely shameless, but it's probably the right thing to do. It looks like the system could do with some fixing. But I'm not part of that s**t anymore. So it's fine," Carlsen said in an interview with the Take Take Take app.

'Wasim Akram would hate it..': Why Sanjay Manjrekar feels Pakistan's unusual attack can threaten India in Asia Cup

GNS News Agency, Sept 25

Asia Cup 2025: Pakistan's unusual spin-heavy attack could threaten India, felt Sanjay Manjrekar. (AP)Asia Cup 2025: Pakistan's unusual spin-heavy attack could threaten India, felt Sanjay Manjrekar. (AP)Pakistan's spin-heavy attack was a notable difference in their opening game of the Asia Cup 2025 tournament earlier this week and Sanjay Manjrekar feels Salman Agha's men can threaten India on Sunday with their unusual bowling composition.

Pakistan secured a 93-run victory over Oman, thanks to a superb display from their four specialist spinners. The spin quartet, which included Saim Ayub and Sufiyan Muqeem, who each took two wickets, proved too much for the Omani batters on the turning pitch. Although captain Salman Agha was an additional spin bowling option, he wasn't needed as the primary spinners controlled the match. Known for the evergreen pace flavour, Pakistan have opted to suit themselves to the conditions with a spin-heavy attack, much like how India rolled in their opening match against UAE.Former India batter Manjrekar felt that the uncommon Pakistan make-up could just about needle India in Dubai on Sunday evening. "I like this bowling combination because it's India vs Pakistan, and I feel this attack might give the Indian batters something different to think about," Manjrekar said on Sony Sports Network.

"They've played Pakistan in world events before, but usually against a certain kind of attack. This is completely



different — hardly any pace on show — and maybe Wasim [Akram] would hate it.""Batting will need a little improvement against India, but credit to Mike Hesson for making the most of the resources he has. Saim Ayub has hardly bowled for Pakistan in the past, but under Hesson, he's bowled in almost 90% of the innings. This shows a new approach, and that's exciting because it's refreshing to see Pakistan try something different," remarked Manjrekar. "Can you imagine the first six or eight overs? Just two overs of pace, and the rest were all spin. Incredible," Manjrekar said in astonishment of the way Pakistan employed spin throughout the Powerplay against Oman. With Kuldeep Yadav, Varun Chakaravarthy and Axar Patel, India project a similar threat to Pakistan. But will the Men in Blue batters be tested by Pakistan's drift to spin?

With no success beyond opening, where should India slot in Sanju Samson?



GNS News Agency, Sept 25

Dubai: The Indian team management is unlikely to tinker too much with its playing XI for the marquee Asia Cup clash against Pakistan, but Sanju Samson's batting slot will surely be a hot topic of discussion come Sunday.In the lead-up to the first game, it didn't seem like Samson was in the scheme of things, but once he was rested for the optional training ahead of the team's tournament opener against UAE, it became clear that the Kerala dasher would be playing ahead of Jitesh Sharma.The UAE game, in which skipper Suryakumar Yadav came in after the fall of Abhishek Sharma's wicket during the team's chase of 58, is no indicator, and it remains to be seen where Samson fits in against stronger sides.Sunil Gavaskar, in a recent interaction with PTI, said, "Samson can't be played below No. 3, and in that case, Tilak Varma needs to come in at

Among the three formats, T20 is one where 'data points' play a bigger role compared to the others. The data seemingly suggests that Samson is virtually ineffective beyond the opening position, although he has had modest success at No. 2 down. Herein lies the problem, as the left-handed Tilak is also not very effective beyond No. 3 in T20Is. The third angle of this triangle is the skipper himself, who became a world-beater by batting regularly at No. 3 for India in recent years. With Samson, there is a two-fold problem. Firstly, he has batted in 38 innings for India, 14 of those

when he has faced the first ball of the innings (at No. 1). He has scored 512 of his 861 runs at this position, with a fantastic strike rate of 182.2, including three hundreds and a fifty. He has also batted at various numbers from 2-7, but the other significant slot has been No. 4, where he played 11 innings, scoring 164 runs with a fifty and a below-par strike rate of 129.9. Out of 38 innings, in 25, he has either batted at No. 1 or No. 4. In all other slots, his contributions have been negligible, and his strike rate has been very poor. It's also a reflection that he hasn't exactly been very successful in negotiating the slow bowlers during middle overs. Although in internationals, he hasn't faced much spin bowling. Secondly, when one looks at Tilak's numbers for India, it becomes clear that he thrives either at No. 3 or No. 4. In 21 of his 24 innings, the Andhra left-hander has batted at these two slots.

Offering his take on the issue during a media briefing here on Friday, India's batting coach Sitanshu Kotak said, "Sanju Samson hasn't batted a lot at No. 5 or 6, but that doesn't mean he can't bat at that position. Everyone knows their roles. Last match he didn't bat at No. 3, but it doesn't mean the same thing will happen in the next game."In 13 innings at No. 3, Samson has scored 443 runs at a strike rate close to 170, with both his centuries against South Africa coming while he batted at that slot. He has been okay at No. 4, scoring 256 runs from eight knocks at a strike rate close to 138. In this current Indian set-up under Suryakumar Yadav, the skipper and Tilak swapping positions between No. 3 and No. 4 has worked well for the side. But now, with Shubman Gill at the top and the team management preferring an extra top-order keeper-batter in Samson rather than a finisher like Jitesh Sharma at the start of the tournament, a problem with batting slots has emerged. The Indian T20I skipper has maintained that beyond the openers, who have fixed slots, everyone from numbers 3 to 7 needs to be flexible according to the team's needs, but the numbers are telling a very different story. The problem with Samson being asked to bat in the middle order is fraught with the prospect of him not being able to dominate the slower bowlers on a slightly tackier track in Dubai, compared to what he would face in India or South Africa.

Hong Kong Open: How Satwik-Chirag ended their semifinals jinx to reach first title clash of 2025 – 'Final, finally'



GNS News Agency, Sept 25

Hong Kong Open: Satwik-Chirag registered a largely comfortable win in just 38 minutes, to set up another tantalising title clash with China's Lian Weikeng and Wang Chang. (Badminton Photo) Hong Kong Open: Satwik-Chirag registered a largely comfortable win in just 38 minutes, to set up another tantalising title clash with China's Lian Weikeng and Wang Chang. At the peak of their prowess which, they insist, they haven't hit again just yet this year -Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty had a reputation of converting good form in a tournament into deep runs. And by deep, we mean regularly playing on Sundays. From March 2023 to May 2024, Satwik and Chirag had a 100% record on Saturdays - winning 10 straight semifinals. But in a season where they have had to switch on and off for multiple reasons, the semifinal had become something of a jinx. Post Paris 2024, where they lost in the guarterfinal, Satwik-Chirag had reached six semifinals and lost all of those (five this year), most recently at the World Championships in Paris; a defeat that left them somewhat disappointed despite resulting in a fine bronze.

On Saturday, that jinx ended at the Hong Kong Open Super 500 as they came through in straight games against Chen Cheng Kuan and Lin Bing-Wei of Chinese Taipei as the world No 9 from India registered a largely comfortable 21-17, 21-15 win in just 38 minutes, to set up another tantalising title clash with China's Lian Weikeng and Wang Chang. This will be the 10th meeting between the two former world No 1 pairs, with Liang-Wang leading 6-3 but Satwik-Chirag winning the most recent clash in Paris at the Worlds round of 16. "Final, finally," Chirag told BWF. "We've been constantly playing semifinals and we really wanted to make the final. It's been a while so we are extremely happy."

So far this week at the Hong Kong Coliseum, the Indians had struggled to find the right rhythm during the entirety of a match, having been taken to three games in each of their previous matches. But having taken the scenic route to get here, they cruised on the expressway in the semifinal. Over the first 12 points of the match against the right-left combo of Chen and Lin, there were barely any developed rallies. It was all fast and furious, and not necessarily clean, from both sides of the net. With the game tied at 6-6, Chirag made his signature charge forward from the backcourt after Satwik's serve. The big man then nailed a

smash from the baseline to force an error. A slice of luck at the net cord, a hand of apology, and a sharp point at the net later, the Indians took an 11-7 lead into the mid-game interval. Then came the point of the day. At 8-11, with the leftie Lin serving, Chirag morphed into a gymnast, showing sensational flexibility and agility to keep the rally alive with four returns, each of which could have been a winner for the Taipei pair. First, with the third shot of the rally, he arched his back to make space for a forehand block with the shuttle zoning in on his torso at one point. Then he somehow dug the shuttle out from near his right foot, inches off the floor. That was followed by two full-stretch forward dives as Lin tried to catch him out with drops at the net. Having witnessed Chirag pull a rabbit out of the hat, Satwik then came up with a clever direction change on his forehand block to open up the court before Chirag closed the point out. The Indians had no business winning that rally, but they did. That crazy exchange was followed by a run of four points for Chen-Lin as they levelled it up at 12-12, before the Indians stepped on the gas again for 15-12. The Indians clinched a 30-shot rally for 16-12 with clever use of crosscourt shots. Midway through the point, Satwik played almost a Carlos Alcarazesque backhand drop shot that you'd see more on a tennis court, which had Chen scrambling forward, somehow lunge to return the shuttle, and stumble out of the playing area With spaces opening up, the Indians closed out the rally.

Those subtle changes of direction helped Satwik-Chirag reestablish their control in the game with a run of points that saw them open up a 19-14 lead. Turning the racket head at the last possible moment of intercepting the shuttle is a ploy that Satwik had earlier in the year called a little bit of mixed doubles kicking in. The opening game was sealed by a deft touch from Chirag on return of serve, before Satwik's big smash from the baseline setting up the steeper smash winner for Chirag at the net. It was Chen-Lin who made a bright start to the second game, for a 5-3 lead. Satwik, after a couple of well-judged leaves, was guilty of rare indecision as he thought about leaving the shuttle before changing his mind at the last moment. The Indians, however, quickly caught up at 6-6, thanks to a drive serve from Chirag that was unreturned. Chen-Lin still kept their noses ahead in the quick, flat exchanges to open up a 10-7 lead, with Chen especially taking charge at the backcourt Errors from the serve have been a problem area for Chirag and Satwik, mostly due to the high serves, but sometimes even the variations they try in terms of going low or playing the long flick; it was the latter that went wrong for Satwik as Chen-Lin went into the mid-game interval with a 11-9 lead. But the Indians once again took charge after the break A mega smash from Satwik forced an error from Chen as the Indians closed the gap down to 11-12 before a flat exchange helped them level the game at 12-12. Satwik isn't usually the kind to overly celebrate winning a point midmatch, but even he was left pumping his fist at 13-13 after he played a fully side-on point from the net, standing parallel to Chirag as coach Tan Kim Her wanted them to. A couple of service errors from Chen didn't help the Chinese Taipei cause and their challenge soon faded as Satwik-Chirag reeled off six straight points from 15-15 to seal the deal.

'We're the only sport with a World Cup every year': ECB Chairman calls cricket's 'unrelenting' schedule 'too much'

GNS News Agency, Sept 25

England's captain Ben Stokes, left, and India's captain Shubman Gill shake hands after the end of the fifth cricket test match between England and India at The Kia Oval in London, Monday, Aug. 4, 2025 (Ben Whitley/PA via AP)England's captain Ben Stokes, left, and India's captain Shubman Gill shake hands after the end of the fifth cricket test match between England and India at The Kia Oval in London, Monday, Aug. 4, 2025 (Ben Whitley/PA via AP)

Richard Thompson, chairman of the England and Wales Cricket Board, has raised concerns about cricket's demanding schedule and its impact on player fatigue. "Cricket arguably does play too much," Thompson told BBC Sport. "We're the only sport to have a World Cup every year, which I personally think is too much." He emphasised the need for balance, both domestically and internationally, to keep top players performing at their best. Thompson made these comments at the opening of a new all-weather cricket dome in Darwen, Lancashire. England recently rested key white-ball players Jamie Smith and Ben Duckett for the T20I series against South Africa. This follows a tightly contested five-match Test series against India — which ended 2–2 and spanned over two months — leaving many players visibly drained.

"I'm not surprised some of the players were obviously exhausted... I can't ever remember a five-Test series going five days in every Test. This was a one-off in the sense of ensuring the players actually had the ability to get to the end of it. But yes, there were some creaking bodies. We have to look at the schedule. We're reducing the number of T20 Blast games we're playing. We're looking to potentially reduce the amount of Championship cricket." New inves-



tors in The Hundred have insisted on England players being available throughout next year's tournament. However, the competition is scheduled to begin just two days after an ODI series against India and three days before the first Test against Pakistan. Thompson acknowledged the clash but said significant changes to the calendar can't be made until the next TV rights cycle in 2028. "This Hundred investment has come when we're actually in the middle of a rights path that we can't change. So we're only three years away from being able to ensure there is a gap at the beginning and end of that period, so there isn't a situation where the players are exhausted. Whether it's in 50-over format or T20 format, we have a World Cup every year, so we have an exam to sit that does put white-ball players actually under more pressure," said Thompson. "Where rugby or football wait every four years, we come each year, so it's pretty unrelenting for those players. But I'm not at all worried that we're going into a fallow period, we'll come through this," he added.

The missing element in the Unmukt Chand documentary: Why did the one-time prodigy fail to make it big

GNS News Agency, Sept 25

There is something remarkable about Unmukt Chand's life. Not the highs: the iconic Under-19 World Cup triumph and innings in the final, the ton on Ranji debut, the big IPL contract, the early media blitz. But the steep fall from grace: from his predestined future as India's next big sporting star to his retreat into anonymity only a few years later. This is an entirely unique Indian cricketing tale. Some parallels have been drawn, with suggestions that the boisterous Delhi boy was the Vinod Kambli to Virat Kohli's Sachin Tendulkar. But Kambli played 17 Tests and over 100 ODIs for India; Unmukt retired from Indian cricket at the age of 28 without making his international debut to pursue cricket in the United States. There would be a natural fascination to this story. And through the overly stylised, predictable, and slow documentary made about his life, that fascination remains. The film's problem is that it does nothing to address the intrigue. 'Unbroken: The Unmukt Chand Story,' which released in theatres on Friday, is very much of the OTT mould that has srged in popularity recently, albeit trading shock value for overt sentimentality. The advantages of that are that the filmmakers have been granted remarkable access to the former prodigal player, raising an opportunity to answer a vital question: what must it be like to be a 30-yearold professional (semi-professional?) athlete, still toiling away at lower levels of the sport, who is only remembered for the time when he was 19? There are the general cliches. Dramatic philosophy spouted by well-wishers and himself to a cheesy background score. Tainted old home videos and photographs. Talking heads speaking of his heady talent. But the film trudges along as nothing more than a retelling of his story, which, by the end of it, ends up feeling a bit dull, especially without any new revelations. Does archival news footage and newspaper clippings from his early days, inclusive of big endorsements, his writing of a book, and a very public admonishment from Kapil Dev (seemingly prophetic and slightly amusing in its tenor), really give an insight into what went wrong for the prodigy? Did fame really get to him? The film does not address it. Does relentless coverage of Unmukt and his wife's struggles to adapt to life in Dallas really give an insight into his life in the present moment? epare for disappointment.

Director of Amitabh Bachchan's cult classic thriller denies plagiarising Quentin Tarantino's original, says he's never even seen it: 'It was boring'



Director Sanjay Gupta, who has long faced accusations of plagiarism, said that it is not possible that he copied Reservoir Dogs to make Kaante, because he has never seen the classic crime movie in its entirety. In an interview, Sanjay Gupta said that he found Quentin Tarantino's debut film 'boring', and stressed that Kaante actually has a larger story than it. He also said that Reservoir Dogs itself is plagiarised from a Hong Kong film. In an interview with Cyrus Broacha, the filmmaker recalled pitching Kaante to Amitabh Bachchan, who was delighted by the script and immediately said yes to it. The production ran into a major hurdle when, just when they were about to start shooting, the September 11 attacks happened. The film starred Amitabh Bachchan, Sanjay Dutt, Suniel Shetty, Mahesh Majrekar, Lucky Ali, among others, "It will be very difficult for people to believe this, but when I say it, it's a fact, I have still not seen Reservoir Dogs. Whenever I start the film, I get bored after the first 10 or 15 minutes. Kaante is 18 reels, and the warehouse starts at reel number 12. Where did the 12 reels come from? Over an hour isn't there in Reservoir Dogs. And Tarantino has gone on the record and said that he thinks (Kaante) is a far superior film. It's a fact."

At the Indian Film Festival of Los Angeles many years ago, Tarantino made comments about Kaante, and singled out the performance of the 'big beard guy', aka Amitabh Bachchan. He said, according to The Times of India, "I think it was fabulous. Of the many rip-offs (of Reservoir Dogs) I loved Hong Kong's Too Many Ways To Be No.1 and this one, Kaante. The best part is, you have Indian guys coming to the US and looting a US bank. How cool is that! I was truly honoured. And these guys are played by the legends of Bollywood. Here I am, watching a film that I've directed and then it goes into each character's background. And I'm like, 'Whoa'. For, I always write backgrounds and stuff and it always gets chopped off during the edit. And so I was amazed on seeing this. I felt, this isn't Reservoir Dogs. But then it goes into the warehouse scene and I am like, 'Wow, it's back to Reservoir Dogs'. Isn't it amazing!"In a previous interview on the Timeout with Ankit YouTube channel, Sanjay Gupta said, "

So Tarantino himself has gone on record and stated that he prefers Kaante over Reservoir Dogs and he said 'I love how he has brought in all the back stories of the characters'. Every time he meets a bunch of Indian filmmakers, the first thing he talks about is Kaante," he said, and added, "He doesn't need to say that some kid sitting in Bombay has made a better film than mine but he says it." He called people "ignorant" and said that they don't know that "Reservoir Dogs itself is a remake of a Hong Kong film, City on

The Girlfriend review: Olivia Cooke and Robin Wright turn obsession, motherhood and desire into a psychological battlefield



The Girlfriend review: Amazon Prime Video's The Girlfriend is a psychological thriller that seduces and unsettles in equal measure—a story of women locked in a battle for control, told with style, intensity, and a willingness to make its audience squirm.

The Girlfriend review: James Brown once sang, "It's a man's man's man's world, but it would be nothing without a woman or a girl." The lyrics might not survive 2025's cancel culture, but nothing captures The Girlfriend better than that line. A man's world has always revolved around women—mother, nurse, teacher, lover. Whether he admits it or not, his life is threaded through women who can shape, save, or destroy him. If he believes his existence rests solely in his own hands, he's a fool. Because quietly, women run the world. The Girlfriend thrives on that truth, circling two women fighting for control over a boy—or rather, a mama's boy—who is yet to become a man.

On paper, The Girlfriend is a neat psychological thriller: Laura Sanderson (Robin Wright) fears her son Daniel (Laurie Davidson) is slipping under the sway of Cherry Laine (Olivia Cooke), a girlfriend who may or may not be dangerous. But in execution, the series becomes something far knottiera dark psychological tug-of-war where love, paranoia, and manipulation blur into something both irresistible and repulsive. From one of the initial shots, the series makes its intentions clear. Laura and Daniel's reunion happens not around a dinner table, not in a warm living room, but in the family home's basement pool. They drink beers in their swimsuits, later sliding into the sauna, where Daniel shyly admits he's seeing someone new. His attempt to frame Cherry as unique — "You remind me of her" — is swiftly undercut by Laura's ice-cold response: "She reminds you of me." This is not merely a mother-son bond; it's a portrait of intimacy and attachment drawn with such blurred boundaries that it unsettles the viewer. There is nothing unlawful or overtly sexual about their relationship, but the way Laura and Daniel interact, the casual closeness, the lack of distance, makes us instinctively uneasy. The series deliberately thrives on that discomfort, pushing us to question not their intentions, but the intensity of their dependency on one

The brilliance of The Girlfriend is its refusal to hand out easy answers. Is Cherry manipulative, scheming her way into wealth, status and power? Or is Laura the obsessive mother who cannot let her son grow up? Each episode loops back, replaying moments through shifting perspectives. What looks like seduction in one light turns innocent in another; what feels like paranoia suddenly reads as truth. The audience, like Daniel, is tugged in both directions, manipulated at every turn. The first three episodes, directed by Wright herself, are the strongest of the lot. Wright knows exactly how to set the stage: she builds the architecture of suspicion and desire with precision, giving us characters who don't feel like archetypes but like real, dangerous people. Her Laura is a fascinating contradiction, coolly graceful yet deeply controlling, a mother who cannot bear to relinquish her son's affection. Opposite her, Olivia Cooke delivers Cherry as a whirl of charm and mischief, a woman whose every smile can be read two ways: affectionate or calculating. Their dynamic is electric. Scenes of confronta-

tion between the two feel like duels, subtle at first, with barbed compliments and lingering glances, before exploding into outright hostility. To watch Wright and Cooke spar is to witness two actors gleefully peeling away their characters' civility, layer by poisonous layer. If The Girlfriend excels at anything, it is manipulation. The series is almost mischievous in how it toys with its audience. Every scene you watch feels trustworthy until the next moment replays it from another angle, another POV, nudging you to question your judgment. Who is lying? Who is deluded? Who, if anyone, can be believed? This narrative sleight of hand is both the show's greatest strength and, at times, its weakness. On one hand, it keeps the thriller alive across six episodes, ensuring viewers are never complacent. On the other, the repetition can occasionally feel indulgent, stretching moments that might have packed a sharper punch had they been left ambiguous. Still, there is a thrill in the confusion itself, in realising that the show has pulled you into its web as effectively as Laura or Cherry pulls Daniel into theirs. The show does not shy away from being steamy, but its eroticism is never just surface-level titillation. Instead, it is weaponised — desire becomes a tool, intimacy a battlefield. When Daniel looks at Cherry, we wonder if it's love or enchantment. When Laura touches her son's shoulder or lingers too close, we shift uncomfortably, questioning whether her protectiveness masks something far more suffocating. This deliberate discomfort is the point of the series. The Girlfriend unsettles not only because of what happens, but because of how it makes us feel while watching. We are implicated, drawn into judging, choosing, doubting, just as Daniel is. By the time the finale arrives, with a confrontation that tips into tragedy, the viewer has been played as thoroughly as any character. Even with its psychological grip, The Girlfriend cannot entirely escape moments of indulgence and slack. After the tight direction of Wright's opening episodes, the back half sometimes loses steam, leaning too heavily on melodramatic beats. Certain twists feel telegraphed, and Daniel, the man supposedly at the centre of this tug-of-war, occasionally feels frustratingly underwritten, less a person and more a rope being yanked between two forces. Yet even in its weaker stretches, the series holds your attention. It is stylishly shot, with an opulent sense of setting that underscores the stakes of class and money. And it never stops asking its central, uncomfortable question: when two women are fighting for a man's life, how much of that fight is about love, and how much is about power? The Girlfriend is a psychological thriller that seduces and unsettles in equal measure. It is a story of women locked in a battle for control, told with style, intensity, and a willingness to make its audience squirm. It is wickedly entertaining, a show that knows the oldest truth of them all: men may believe the world is theirs, but in reality, women are the ones holding the threads. The Girlfriend The Girlfriend Cast - Robin Wright, Olivia Cooke, Laurie Davidson, Waleed ZuaiterThe Girlfriend Director - Robin Wright, Andrea HarkinThe Girlfriend Rating - 3.5/5

When Shah Rukh Khan was arrested for threatening a journalist with a knife, Nana Patekar bailed him out: 'They said it's a joke'



In the early days of his career, it was often reported that both the media and the broader film industry were hostile towards Shah Rukh Khan. This was largely due to his status as an outsider and his rapidly growing popularity, which began to challenge the established order. During that time, many media outlets published false or sensationalised stories about him. Recalling one such incident, Shah Rukh Khan shared a startling, yet at times humorous, anecdote during an interview at THiNK 2012. He described how a fabricated story in a film magazine spiraled out of control, eventually leading to his arrest. He recalled that the entire episode started after a magazne wrote a story about his alleged affair with a female actor. He had just gotten married at the time and found this entire thing to be extremely distasteful. "She (Gauri) was so worried about what I'd be doing, what supposedly film stars do apart from acting — and then this whole thing came up. And it wasn't true at all. So I called up the lady (journalist) and asked, 'Why have you written this?' She said, 'But Shah Rukh, it's a joke.' But I said, 'It's not funny. Do you hear me laughing?' And I wasn't actually saying it like that way I'm telling you now. I was more like the Delhi guy in me, where it was like: 'Tujhe hansi aa rahi hai? Main hass raha hoon?' [You're laughing? Do I look like I'm laughing?]"He went on to describe how things spiralled out of control: And I said, 'Tum wahin ruko, main aata hoon, dekhta hoon tumko' [You stay right there, I'm coming to see youl, and I went there. I fought, I beat up people, I did really nasty stuff, which, naturally, Delhiites do. They don't know that in other parts of the country, this is considered nasty. So I behaved really badly."He then recalled going to the magazine's office with a khukhri (knife) and stormed into the magazine's office. "I remember that young boy — he was sitting there in his shorts — and the whole office was sitting there. And it was a kukri knife, not even a sword. So I took that and struck between his legs,' he shared and continued, "And I don't know why, now, when I think of it, and I looked at his parents and said, 'I'm going to cut him up,' and they didn't understand anything."Shah Rukh then recalled that he was called by the cops shortly afterwards, and was arrested. "They took me after 6 o'clock, so that I couldn't get bail." In the lockup, SRK was told he had the right to make one phone call, and he called up the same guy. "That's when I realised I'm cut out to be a Hindi film hero." Instead of calling a lawyer or loved one, he rang the journalist responsible for the story and warned him: "Ab toh main jail bhi chala gaya hoon, aur ab nikal ke aaunga aur kaat ke hi jaunga." (Now that I've gone to jail, when I get out, I'll slash you for sure.) Shah Rukh credited Nana Patekar for getting him bailed out. "Nana Patekar got me out of jail, finally, and he was very sweet. On weekends, there's an evening court that grants bail or something. I tried to be decent, and I have kind of changed now."Senior journalist Pooja Samant also recalled an early interaction with Shah Rukh Khan, where the actor was visibly upset with a magazine she was associated with. According to her, he had a massive argument with the editor over negative

'Meeting Aryan Khan felt like meeting Shah Rukh Khan': Diljit Dosanjh praises Aryan's singing skills as he records for his web series

Earlier this week, Aryan Khan unveiled the song Tenu Ki Pata from his upcoming Netflix web series The Ba**ds of Bollywood. The track features vocals by none other than Punjabi music icon Diljit Dosanjh, and in a surprising twist, Aryan himself has lent his voice to the English verse that opens the song. Fans were thrilled when, just yesterday, Shah Rukh Khan shared a behindthe-scenes video of Aryan and Diljit recording the track together in the studio. The clip captured a candid glimpse into their collaboration, showcasing moments of camaraderie, creativity, and mutual respect. Following the release, Diljit took to social media to express his gratitude and admiration for the Khans. In his heartfelt post, he expressed love to SRK and wished Aryan the very best for his directorial debut. In his tweet addressed to SRK, Diljit wrote: 'Sir, much love to you. Aryan is truly wonderful. The first time I met him in the studio, it felt like I was meeting you. What really shocked me was that Aryan not only plays the guitar but also sings exceptionally well. While I was dubbing the song, I noticed that he knew every single note of it. God bless him. RESPECT."Previously, Diljit and Shah Rukh Khan had collaborated on the track "Banda" for the film Dunki. Diljit



has consistently expressed his admiration for the superstar, and perhaps it's that deep respect that brought him on board for this latest collaboration with Aryan as he steps into the world of direction. Set to premiere globally on Netflix on September 18, The Ba**ds of Bollywood is co-created by Aryan Khan, Bilal Siddiqi, and Manav Chauhan.

Bigg Boss 19's Tanya Mittal was dumped for her looks; rich boyfriend said she wasn't pretty and needed to groom herself: 'You are golmatol like rasgulla'



Tanya Mittal has become a sensation ever since she entered the Bigg Boss 19 house. But she has also become a target of trolls, particularly for the claims that she makes about her wealth and lifestyle. She is an entrepreneur, who runs a saree business. While the outfits she designs empower women today, there was a time when she was rejected by her boyfriend for the way she looked. In an old interview with NewScoop, Tanya Mittal shared that a boy broke her heart, which led her to participate in the Miss India pageant.

"There was a time when I was dating this guy. I really liked him, and he was more like my backup plan. I thought that if my business doesn't work, I'd marry him because he was rich. But before I could tell him anything, he broke up with me. Valentine's Day was round the corner. I cried a lot. I asked him why he dumped me. He said: 'Because you are not pretty. You need to groom yourself. You look like a gol matol si rasgulla.' His statement made me cry even more. And he didn't even care to console me. He walked away."That was the day that Tanya decided to work on herself. "I realised that nobody will value you if you are both ugly and broke. I joined beauty pageant institute in Gwalior. I told them, I will pay all your fees, you please make me look pretty. In six months, I was so depressed that I lost my appetite. I was extremely sad and lost about 13 kgs. I learnt how to put makeup. Until then, I didn't know anything about makeup."Tanya had to hustle to afford one bottle of foundation. "I realised that a Mac Foundation costs you Rs 4,000. I had to sell to 40 greeting cards to afford that foundation. I used to invest my everyday turnover into that beauty institute. All this just with the hope that maybe one day the boy will regret his decision of breaking up with me. I secretly took part in Miss Asia. I won the title but by the time I returned, it was too late. He was married. I blocked him after that."She shared that after her success, she has been constantly receiving marriage proposals, but is happy by herself.

Rhea Chakraborty calls chaos behind shoots 'magical' in new BTS post

Mumbai: Actress Rhea Chakraborty shared a sneakpeek into the behind-the-scenes world of shooting and tagged the experience as both chaotic and magical. Taking to Instagram, Rhea shared some BTS moments. In the string of videos and photos, the actress was seen in different outfits and posing for pictures. She wrote: "The chaos behind every shoot is magical. Yet somehow we manage to get the end result. Out of chaos comes order."On the acting front, the 33-year-old actress has featured in several films such as 'Sonali Cable,' 'Bank Chor,' 'Half Girlfriend,' 'Dobaara: See Your Evil,' and 'Jalebi.' In 2024, she made a significant impact with her new ventures, including a podcast and her fashion label. She was last seen on the big screen in "Chehre" (2021), a mystery thriller directed by Rumy Jafry. The movie also featured Amitabh Bachchan and Emraan Hashmi in pivotal roles. The film was an uncredited adaptation of the 1956 German novel A Dangerous Game by Friedrich Dürrenmatt, which had earlier been adapted in Marathi as Shantata! Court Chaalu Aahe, in Kannada as Male Nilluvavarege and in Bengali as Anusandhan. She has also been a part of television as a gang leader on the reality show "MTV Roadies." Rhea faced a major setback following the tragic death of actor Sushant Singh Rajput. However, last month, the actress was cleared of any involvement in the case after an investigation by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI).

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