

## Ankathi Raju appointed head of DRDL Hyd

Hyderabad: Distinguished Scientist Ankathi Raju has been appointed as Director, Defence Research and Development Laboratory (DRDL), Hyderabad and assumed charge as Director of the Indian missile development laboratory.Raju received a BE in Mechanical Engineering from Osmania University College of Engineering, Hyderabad and M.Tech. in Aeronautical Engineering (Propulsion) from IIT Bombay.

Over the last three decades, Raju significantly contributed to successful demonstration of solid fuel ducted ramjet propulsion system, design & development of liquid propulsion systems for missiles include Prithvi, Agni, PAD, PDV, Mission Shakti (ASAT), reaction control systems, interceptors of Air Defence and design and development of Axial flow compressors, a press release said.

## India always first responder in any global crisis: PM Modi in Chhattisgarh

GNS News Agency, Nov 1

India has always come forward as a first responder during any global crisis, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said on Saturday (November 1, 2025), adding the nation has always stepped forward as a reliable partner to provide help.Addressing a gathering after inaugurating the Shanti Shikhar centre for spiritual learning and meditation of Brahma Kumaris in Chhattisgarh's Nava Raipur, Mr. Modi said his government's mantra is to ensure the country's development through development of the states."Whenever a crisis arises anywhere in the world today, whenever a disaster strikes, India steps forward as a reliable partner to provide help. India is always the first responder," Mr. Modi said.

"We are those who see Shiva in every living being," he said. "In our tradition, every religious ritual concludes with the proclamation that may the world prosper and may goodwill prevail among all beings," he added.Guided by the mantra that the development of the state leads to the development of the nation, the government is engaged in the Viksit Bharat mission to make India developed, Mr. Modi said."In this crucial journey towards a developed India, institutions like Brahma Kumaris have a very significant role to play."I have been connected with all of you for several decades now. I am not a guest here; I am one of you," he told the gathering."Today's day is very special. Today, Chhattisgarh is completing 25 years of its establishment. Jharkhand and Uttarakhand are also completing 25 years. Many other states are also celebrating their foundation day today," Mr.



Modi said."I extend my heartiest congratulations to the residents of all these states on their foundation day," he said.Earlier, as part of the 'Dil Ki Baat' programme, Mr. Modi interacted with 2,500 children successfully treated for congenital heart diseases in the 'Gift of life' ceremony at Sri Sathya Sai Sanjeevani Hospital in Nava Raipur.Former India cricket captain Sunil Gavaskar was present.Later in the day, Mr. Modi will participate in Chhattisgarh Rajat Mahotsav marking 25 years of formation of the state.He will inaugurate and lay foundation stones of developmental ?14,260 crore projects across key sectors such as roads, industry, healthcare, and energy in the state.He will also inaugurate the new building of Chhattisgarh assembly and unveil statue of former PM Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

## KCR will occupy gaddi again, in next 500 days, predicts KTR

GNS News Agency, Nov 1

Hyderabad: Allegingthat the Congress government has destroyed the state within two years, the BRS working president KT Rama Rao on Friday asked people not to worry stating that KCR would become Chief Minister of the State once again in the next 500 days - and these 500 days would pass in no time.Several All India Majlis-e-Itthadul Muslimeen leaders and workers joined the BRS here at Telangana Bhavan on Friday. After welcoming them into the party, KTR said that this by-election was a contest between 'Car' and a 'Bulldozer' and between 'Car and Bekar'. He said that Congress leaders may offer Rs 5,000 to each voter. Take the money and vote for the BRS. He said that Congress leaders should be grabbed by the necks and forced to fulfill their promises of a monthly pension of Rs2,500, a tola of gold under the Shaadi Mubarak scheme, and other commitments

The BRS leader said that a thorn must be removed with another thorn, and similarly, cheaters must be defeated through deception. He added that this government was unable to provide even rice, let alone a tola of gold. He pointed out that the former KCR government had given 3,500 double-bedroom houses in Jubilee Hills alone. However, the Congress party was demolishing the homes of the poor with



bulldozers and giving concessions to the rich.Rao expressed confidence that Maganti Sunitha Gopinath will be elected as MLA on November 14 and, after becoming MLA, she will stand with the people of the area to address their problems.KTR also expressed his anger that some Congress leaders were threatening the people. However, he said that no one should be afraid of them. He assured the people that they will always stand by them. He said that the people and BRS workers should work courageously. KTR urged them to vote for the car symbol and make Maganti Sunitha win with a huge majority.

## CM Chandrababu express shock over Srikakulam temple Stampede, calls for better treatment



GNS News Agency, Nov 1

In a tragic incident at the Kasibugga Venkateswara Temple in the Srikakulam district, a stampede has resulted in the loss of several lives, leaving a profound impact on the community. Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu expressed his deep sadness over the unfortunate event, extending heartfelt condolences to the families of the deceased.Chief Minister Chandrababu directed officials to ensure that the injured receive the best possible medical treatment. Additionally, he has requested local officials and public representatives to visit the site to oversee relief operations.The incident has prompted a call for swift action to assist those affected and to manage the situation effectively

## AIMIM launches campaign in Bihar against RJD–Congress Mahagathbandhan

GNS News Agency, Nov 1

Hyderabad: The top leadership of the All India Majlis e Ittehadul Muslimien (AIMIM) is campaigning in Bihar against the RJD – Congress Mahagathbandhan. The party has fielded 25 candidates in the elections.

The AIMIM had earlier tried to strike an alliance with the Mahagathbandhan; however, when both parties rejected the proposal, it formed an alliance with two other regional parties and is contesting from 25 seats.Top leaders of the AIMIM, including party president and Hyderabad MP Asaduddin Owaisi, Nampally MLA Majid Hussain Meraj, Bahadurpura MLA Mohd Mubeen, Yakutpura MLA Jaiffer Hussain Meraj, and several corporators and local basthi leaders of the AIMIM, are campaigning in Bihar. The AIMIM leadership is targeting the Mahagathbandhan and the BJP party in its campaign. The party president had attended several public meetings across Bihar targeting the Mahagathbandhan alliance comprising the Congress and RJD parties and asked the people not to vote for them in



the coming elections.The Muslims in Bihar account for 16 percent of the total population in the State and the party is focusing more on constituencies where the Muslim population is high.

## Three arrested for consuming drugs in Hyderabad

Hyderabad: The Elite Action Group for Drug Law Enforcement (EAGLE) raided a pub at Jubilee Hills and caught three persons who had consumed drugs.

The trio was identified as Ch Dinesh Kumar (46), Bahadur Rohith Singh (31) and Banda Revanth Reddy (25), all residents of Hyderabad.Acting on information, the EAGLE team raided the pub, caught the trio, and conducted tests on them. The police found that Dinesh had consumed opioids, while Rohith and Revanth had consumed ganja. A case has been registered against them.

## Telangana CM Revanth Reddy Seeks International Investment

GNS News Agency, Nov 1

Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy has invited Canadian representatives to invest in the state, during a meeting at the State Secretariat on Saturday with a team from the High Commission of Canada to India, led by Christopher Cooter. The discussion focused on enhancing collaboration in sectors such as IT, pharmaceuticals, aerospace, defence, and urban infrastructure.During the meeting, CM Reddy highlighted ambitious government projects and encouraged Canadian investors to consider opportunities in startups, education, and advanced technology centres. Participants included Canadian Minister Ed Jager, Trade Commissioner Vikram Jain, and Telangana Government Special CS Jayesh Ranjan, among others.

In a separate engagement, French Consul General Marc Lamy and his team also met with CM Reddy to review ongoing French projects in Hyderabad. The Chief Minister urged the French representatives to increase their investments in the city and strengthen the French Bureau's



presence in Hyderabad. This meeting was attended by Special CS Jayesh Ranjan, along with other officials.Additionally, MLA Sudarshan Reddy, recently appointed as an advisor to the Telangana State Government, held discussions with CM Reddy about key issues. The meeting included contributions from TPCC President Mahesh Kumar Goud, MLAs from the joint Nizamabad district, corporation chairmen, and other leaders.

## Seven killed, two injured in temple stampede at Kasibugga in Andhra Pradesh

GNS News Agency, Nov 1

Kasibugga: At least seven people were killed and two others injured at a temple stampede here in Srikakulam district on Saturday, said a police official.The stampede occurred at Venkateswara temple in Kasibugga at around 11.30 am, and "Seven persons died and two others were injured," Kasibugga sub-division in-charge DSP Lakshman Rao told PTI.Reacting to the incident, Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu, in a post on X said, "The stampede at Kasibugga Venkateswara temple in Srikakulam district anguished me. It is very sad that devotees have died in this unfortunate incident. I convey my deepest sympathies to the families of the victims."The CM also said that he directed officials to ensure better treatment for the injured persons and added that he instructed the authorities and local leaders to monitor the relief work at the stampede site.



## Revanth Reddy's 'Pakistan kicked' remark triggers row; BJP demands apology



GNS News Agency, Nov 1

Hyderabad: Chief Minister A Revanth Reddy's remark that "when Pakistan had kicked, there was no response from the BJP government" has snowballed into a major controversy, putting the Congress high command in a tight spot with the Bihar Assembly elections fast approaching.Campaigning in Erragadda division of Jubilee Hills constituency on Friday, the Chief Minister launched a scathing attack on BJP MP and Union Minister G Kishan Reddy."Pakistan kicked you from behind but Kishan Reddy

did not retaliate. But the BJP leaders are warning of carpet bombing in Jubilee Hills. Is this their baap ki jagir?" Revanth Reddy said while addressing a street meeting.

The Chief Minister's statement triggered sharp criticism from several quarters.Sharing a video of his remarks, an X user, Amaresh Mudiraj, wrote: "See how Telangana Chief Minister Revanth Reddy is making comments on our brave soldiers, who crushed Pakistan's arrogance in Operation Sindoor..."In a video circulating on social media, Congress leader Rashid Alvi was seen saying: "We surrendered before Pakistan. US President Donald Trump has claimed that Pakistan shot down five to six Indian jets. Why has the Prime Minister or any BJP leader not refuted these claims?"The remarks gave the BJP fresh ammunition to target the Congress. Union Minister of State for Home Bandi Sanjay condemned the Chief Minister's comments and demanded an unconditional apology.Posting on X, Bandi Sanjay said: "Strongly condemn Telangana CM Revanth Reddy's below-the-belt remark on India. He stooped so low, using derogatory language to say that Pakistan kicked us and India did not retaliate....""It's an insult to the armed forces, which courageously destroyed terror camps in Pakistan during Operation Sindoor. The Chief Minister must unconditionally apologise to the people of India and the brave soldiers who risked their lives for our nation," he added.

## Surrendered Naxal leader Bhupathi urges comrades to quit violence, join mainstream

GNS News Agency, Nov 1

Gadchiroli: Top Naxalite Mallojula Venugopal Rao alias Bhupathi, who surrendered to Gadchiroli police on October 14, urged his active comrades to lay down arms and join the mainstream to work among the masses.His video appeal was part of a press release issued on Saturday by Gadchiroli police. In the video message, Bhupathi gave out his and his surrendered comrade Rupesh's mobile phone numbers for ultras to contact if they were desirous of leaving the outlawed movement helmed by the Communist Party of India (Maoist).

Bhupathi, who was a Polit Bureau and Central Committee member, secretary of Central Regional Bureau, and spokesperson of CPI (Maoist), said comrades involved in armed struggle for power and land must understand that their acts have made them move away from people, which itself showed the "failure of the path". "Active Maoists must leave the way of violence, surrender, and join the mainstream and work among people," he said.He also accused the Central Committee of the proscribed outfit of taking a "hardened approach" due to its unwillingness to let go of armed struggle despite realising the change that is taking place all around.

He said those dubbing him and other surrendered



Naxalites as "gaddar" (traitors) are spreading misinformation. Bhupathi said Rupesh, also a Central Committee member who laid down arms in Chhattisgarh last month, had explained in great detail about why ultras must surrender. "So I will not explain it (need to surrender) further," Bhupathi added.

The situation has changed, and Maoists must leave the armed movement and work within the law, the surrendered leader asserted. "I would request all intellectuals in the country, janwadi premiyo (democracy lovers), and most importantly benefactors of tribals to understand our decision and support us.



# Indian Chronicle

## English Daily

### US-based Indians can tap market opportunities back home

Indiantechology talent has been one of the major contributors to the US technology industry for several decades now. That is the reason that many leaders of Indian origin are spearheading global technology giants, including Sundar Pichai, Satya Nadella and Shantanu Narayen. Moreover, top tech firms of the US are the major beneficiaries of the H1B visa programme under which Indian technology talents are hired for working in the US. However, the current US administration under President Donald Trump has taken many steps to restrict the free mobility of Indian tech talent to the US. The MAGA base of Trump and his Republican party has turned against Indian talent migration.

Their argument is that the H1B visa is being exploited by the US and other foreign companies to exploit American workers. Unemployment rate of American people in the technology field is being blamed for the same. Respecting the popular sentiment, the Trump administration has introduced a prohibitive entry fee of \$100,000 on new H1B visa applicants. On Thursday, the Department of Homeland Security of the US issued an interim final rule ending the automatic extension of Employment Authorisation Documents (EAD). This move is likely to affect the spouses of H1B migrants in the US. Similarly, Governor Ron DeSantis directed Florida's state university system not to use H1B visas, saying it was a "poor reflection" on the universities themselves. These measures indicate that the US is systematically trying to reduce migration of Indian talent- technology, academia and others. Now, one wonders what has changed so suddenly that Indians are no longer welcome in the US. Firstly, an undercurrent of discontent against Indians has been there for some time now. Though Indians are no way a

### Wild Boars Terrorize Tiryani

""Indian Chronicle" kumrambheem, Asifabad, District Reporte, Jade Srinivas. October, 01. ""Wild boars roamed in Tiryani. On Saturday, a group of pigs that came directly from the nearby crop fields in the forest area and entered the residential areas created havoc. People ran away in fear when they saw them. While the animal tracker team was trying to track down the wild boars, a boar came at a high speed and hit animal tracker Bojji Rao. He was injured. One of them fell into a local well.

### Akarapu Arun Patel Resolves Drinking Water Issue in Habsiguda Division Street No.1"



"VADDEPALLI KISHORE, Uppal, November 1 (Indian Chronicle)""Residents of Habsiguda Division, Street No.1, were facing severe drinking water problems for the past four days due to a damaged water pipeline. Locals brought this issue to the attention of Uppal Constituency Youth Congress President Akarapu Arun Patel. "Acting immediately on the instructions of Mundamula Parameshwar Reddy, Congress Party Incharge of Uppal Constituency, Arun Patel spoke with Water Board officials on Saturday and ensured that repair works were carried out promptly. He also arranged water tankers to supply drinking water to the affected residents. "At the request of the colony residents, Arun Patel asked the officials to construct a wall at the damaged site to prevent further issues. "Those who participated in the program included Habsiguda Division leader Shivaraj Madiga, Medchal District Secretary Gangadhar, Youth Congress leaders Vasu and Javed, Indiramma Committee Member Dharmaraju, Suresh, Seethulu, Ch. Lakshminarayana, Vanguru Narsing Rao, Sai Kumar, Sai, Aslam, Irfan, Sumanth, and several local residents.

### Teachers' Union...as an executive committee member in the elections...OU student leader Dr. Veeramalla Srisailam..

""Indian Chronicle Tarnaka OU November 01: Former Osmania University student leader Dr. Veeramalla Srisailam, an assistant professor at IGNOU University, has won the IGNOU 6 IGNOUTA (T) (Teachers Union) elections in New Delhi as an executive committee member with a huge margin of 150 votes. Dr. Veeramalla Srisailam played an active role in the Telangana movement as a student leader of Osmania University. He has held many responsibilities as the president of Osmania University ABVP and a member of the national executive committee. "On the problems of students who have been "Many battles were fought. Home village Veliminedu, Chityala Mandal, Weather in Nalgonda district Polluting companies Many movements to close did No longer the structure of society, Problems of university professors," "Constructive on education reforms



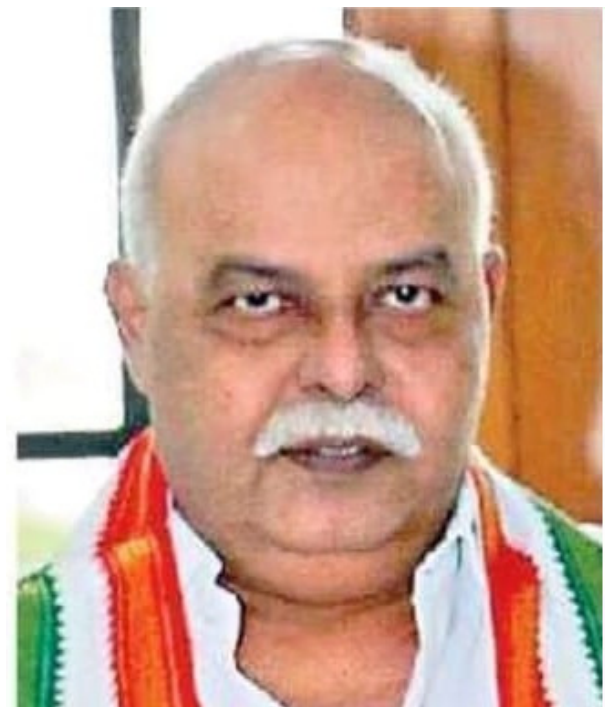
### Police Martyrs' Sacrifices Are Unforgettable – CP Gaush Alam



""CHITTIMALLA MAHENDAR, KARIMNAGAR BU-REAU, OCTOBER 31, INDIAN CHRONICLE""The Police Martyrs' Week concluded on Friday with a candle rally held in Karimnagar to commemorate the supreme sacrifices

made by police personnel in the line of duty. "The rally began at Telangana Chowk and concluded at the Police Headquarters Martyrs' Memorial. Karimnagar Police Commissioner Gaush Alam, IPS, and Karimnagar Municipal Commissioner Praful Desai participated in the event. "After paying floral tributes at the Martyrs' Memorial, CP Gaush Alam said that the sacrifices of police martyrs can never be forgotten. He stated that the services of those who laid down their lives for the safety of the nation and protection of its people will always remain memorable. "The Commissioner revealed that 191 police personnel across the country have lost their lives in the line of duty this year, including five from the Karimnagar Commissionerate. "He described the martyrs' sacrifices as an inspiration to all and assured that the police department would always stand by the families of the fallen heroes. The CP added that the Martyrs' Week concluded with the candle rally held in their honor. Additional DCP Bhim Rao, several police officers from the Commissionerate, police personnel, and a large number of citizens participated in the event.

### To Premsagar Rao Cabinet Minister Rank..""Appointment As Chairman Of The Civil Supplies Corporation.



""Indian Chronicle" kumrambheem, Asifabad, District Reporte, Jade Srinivas. October, 01. ""Near Congress leader

and ManchiRayal MLA Kokkiralra Premsagar Rao has been given the rank of state cabinet minister. The government issued orders on Friday, making him the state chairman of the Civil Supplies Corporation. Premsagar Rao, 65, is known as a distinguished politician. He has close relations with YS Rajasekhara Reddy and Kiran Kumar Reddy, who served as Chief Ministers in the united state. Deputy Chief Minister Bhatti Vikramarka and Minister Sridhar Babu are known to be close friends. After winning the assembly elections held two years ago as an MLA, Revanth Reddy was confident of a place in the cabinet, but he did not get the opportunity. Chennur MLA Gaddam Vivek got the ministerial berth as part of the social class allocations in the second expansion. "Premsagar Rao was disappointed. Two days ago, when cricketer Azharuddin was given a ministerial post, Premsagar Rao's name came to the fore. Every time he was dissatisfied, he tried to appease him. It is noteworthy that this time he was given the post of chairman with the status of a state cabinet minister. "Finally a chance "Since he served as the DCCB Chairman between 2005-07 and as the MLC of the local bodies between 2007-13, he has built a following in all the constituencies of the joint district. Since then, he has earned recognition as an active leader. He has repeatedly brought to the attention of the high command that he wants a ministerial post to do justice to the activists and the people politically, but to no avail. It remains to be seen whether that opportunity will arise with the post he finally got.

### Meal Arrangements for Patients' Attendants and OP Patients at Ramanthapur JSPS Government Homoeo Medical College Hospital: Initiated by Child Support Foundation under the Supervision of Principal Dr. N. Lingaraju

""KISHORE VADDEPALLI, Uppal, November 1 (Indian Chronicle):""At the JSPS Government Homoeopathic Medical College and its attached hospital in Ramanthapur, a meal distribution program for patients' attendants and OP (Out-Patient) visitors was launched on Saturday under the auspices of the Child Support Foundation. "The college principal, Dr. N. Lingaraju, inaugurated the program by personally serving meals to the attendants and OP patients. Speaking on the occasion, Dr. Lingaraju stated that while the government already provides meals for inpatients, the idea behind this initiative was to extend the facility to attendants and OP patients as well. He announced that from Monday to Saturday, every day from 10:00 AM to noon, meals will be distributed regularly. The Child Support Foundation has come forward to provide meals for around 100 people daily, he added. "Vice Principal Dr. C.H. Srinivas Reddy, Dr. K. Krishnamurthy (Hospital Superintendent), and representa-



tives of the Child Support Foundation participated in the program.

### \*Today's Youth (Gen Z) – Tomorrow's Parliamentarians"— Dr. Vakulabharanam Krishna Mohan Rao\*



""Nacharam, Indian Chronicle, November 1: ""Delhi Public School, Nacharam, organised the Valediction Ceremony of the Youth Parliament Simulation as part of its annual festival, Fieriya – Y Fiesta 3.0, on Saturday afternoon at its main campus. The initiative aimed to provide students with an experiential understanding of parliamentary procedures and democratic deliberations. "Dr. Vakulabharanam Krishna Mohan Rao, former Chairman of the Telangana BC Commission, attended as Chief Guest, while Mr. T. Veerender Goud, BJP State General Secretary, participated as Guest of Honour. "The proceedings began with a Guard of Honour, followed by an overview of the Youth Parliament and a presentation of the two-day session highlights. Students displayed commendable enthusiasm and maturity in discussing issues of national relevance. "Addressing the gathering, Dr. Vakulabharanam Krishna Mohan Rao observed, "Today you acted as Par-

liamentarians; tomorrow you will truly become the Parliamentarians of our nation," "urging students to cultivate critical thinking, humility, and a spirit of service as hallmarks of responsible leadership. "Mr. T. Veerender Goud, in his address, underlined the importance of political awareness among the youth and commended the school for fostering democratic thinking and participatory learning. "On this occasion, the Founder and Teachers' MLC, Malka Komuriah, was felicitated by the guests, who appreciated his continued contribution to education through the group of institutions. "Principal T. Padma Jyothy, Vice-Principals Cinmole and Ankitha, and Head of Department Sudha coordinated the programme efficiently."

### Hotel Inspections Conducted in Boduppal Municipality

""NARRA SRINIVAS REDDY (NSR), Medchal - Malkajigiri Staff Reporter, Boduppal, November 1, (Indian Chronicle): ""Sanitary Inspectors Srinivas Reddy and Sangeetha, along with the Task Force team, conducted inspections at several hotels within the Boduppal Municipal limits. During the inspections, unhygienic conditions were found in some establishments. A total fine amounting to ₹23,000 was imposed for these violations, according to a statement issued by the Commissioner.

### The Golden Chariot is inaugurated by the Kanchi Peethadhipathi Sri Sri Shankara Vijayendra Saraswati.



"Indian Chronicle October 31 Tarnaka OU : The golden chariot of Sri Subrahmanya Swamy, built with the donations of devotees at the Sri Skandagiri Subrahmanya Swamy Temple in Padmarao Nagar, was inaugurated by Kanchi Kamakoti Peethadhipathi Sri Sri Vijayendra Saraswati Swamy on Friday. The rituals were performed in the presence of Vedic scholars. The golden chariot was taken around the Subrahmanya Swamy temple in the main temple. Skandagiri Temple Trust Chairman L.V. Subrahmanyam, Managing Trustee Krishnan Rajamani, former Chairman of Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams Kanumuri Bapiraju and a large number of devotees attended the program

### Palle Ram Chander Goud is an unblemished leader



"Medak, nov 1 Saturday. ""Congress leader who was defeated in Medak District Congress President's race"" Palle Ramachander Goud from Ramayampet town in Medak district is a tough leader of Congress who has been promoted to many positions starting from Sarpanch to spokesperson of TPCC, everyone is looking for tens, but positions are chasing him, standing proof of ethics and honesty Palle Ramachander Goud, Congress means village, village means Congress, greeting even the small level workers with love and affection, Sharing in their hardships is village Ramchander Goud's naism, no Vasul dandas, no corrupt politics, no role of Shikhandi, if we get one position today, we should learn a lot from Ramchander Goud, countless efforts for BCs, the leader who united BCs in BC Garjana Mahasabha held in April and raised his voice in Delhi Ram Chander Goud is district president of Congress, but justice will be done to Congress workers, young leaders. The youth of the district want to give the post of president to such a leader.

### BRS leader RagidiLaxma Reddy consoles former minister Harish Rao



"VADDEPALLI KISHORE, Uppal, November 1 (Indian Chronicle): ""BRS leader and former minister, Siddipet MLA T. Harish Rao was visited by BRS leader Ragidi Laxma Reddy and several party members to convey their condolences on the demise of Harish Rao's father, Tanniru Satyanarayana Rao, who passed away recently. "The leaders visited Harish Rao's residence at Queens Villa, Hyderabad, on Saturday, offered floral tributes to the portrait of the late Satyanarayana Rao, and prayed for his soul to rest in peace. "Among those who participated were BRS Malkajigiri Parliament In-charge Ragidi Laxma Reddy, BRS State Youth Leader Pittala Naresh Mudiraj, KTR Sena State General Secretary Maya Praveen, Gandhamalla Balraju, Potta Vinod Kumar, and Chowdaboina Raju Mudiraj, among others.





## “Mine Diamonds” Show Launched at Malabar Gold Showroom, Habsiguda“



“KISHORE VADDEPALLI, Uppal, November 1 (Indian Chronicle): “One of the world’s largest jewellery groups, Malabar Gold & Diamonds, has inaugurated its ‘Mine Diamonds Show’ at its Habsiguda showroom. Malabar Gold & Diamonds, a core company of the rapidly growing and trusted Malabar Group, has introduced this exclusive diamond jewellery exhibition for its customers. “The show was inaugurated in the presence of chief guests, customers, well-wishers, and Malabar Gold & Diamonds representatives. The exhibition features a wide collection including daily wear jewellery, bridal ornaments, lightweight jewellery, and men’s accessories. “According to

Showroom Head Mr. Mohammed Jasil MP, the Diamond Show will continue at the Habsiguda showroom from November 1 to November 5, 2025. He mentioned that customers can avail themselves of special offers during this period, including: “Up to 30% discount on making charges for all gold, uncut, and gemstone jewellery.” “Up to 30% discount on diamond value for diamond jewellery purchases.” “Customers can also book jewellery in advance by paying 10% of the gold value. This booking allows them to protect their purchase against future gold price increases — meaning they will pay whichever is lower between the booking-day price or purchase-day price.” “As part of Malabar Gold & Diamonds’ commitment to its customers, the brand offers 11 fair promises, which include: “Transparent pricing with clear breakdowns of making charges, stone weights, net weight, and stone values.”

Lifetime free maintenance for jewellery. “100% value on resale of old gold or diamond jewellery.” “100% BIS hall-marked pure HUID gold.” “IGI and GIA certified diamond jewellery that undergoes 28-point international quality checks.” “Buyback guarantee, use of carat analyzers for quality verification, and gold sourced from responsible origins.” “Store Head Mohammed Jasil MP emphasized that these promises reflect Malabar Gold & Diamonds’ dedication to quality, transparency, and customer satisfaction.

## All qualified faculty members should be given promotions - AUTA President Prof. Manohar Rao.



“Indian Chronicle Tarnaka OU November 01: Qualified teachers lack talent. They say they lack skills.” “Osmania University Teachers Association (OUTA) President Professor Manohar Rao said that the Osmania University Teachers Association (OUTA) strongly condemns the denial of promotions. To this end, teachers wearing black

badges protested at OU Commerce College on Saturday. Speaking on the occasion, they said that although the teachers have been protesting for the past month, there has been no movement among the university authorities or the government authorities. They said that the mistakes in the CAS interviews were made by the university authorities. Therefore, they demanded that the university authorities take the initiative and correct the mistake. Since the past month, the teachers have been continuing their protest programs and have submitted petitions to the government, authorities and university officials, demanding due justice for the injustice done in the promotions. They informed that they have submitted petitions to the government, authorities and university officials individually and through OUTA. Therefore, they want the government to respond and resolve this issue at the earliest. OU faculty members Ramesh, Venkateshwarlu, Padmaja, Aparna, Sandhya Reddy and others were present at the event. I

## Cell phone handover.....SI Durgam, Mahender

“Indian Chronicle” kumrambheem, Asifabad, District Reporte, Jade Srinivas. October, 01. “Kishtayya Oppo mobile belonging to Wankidi Kamana was lost in Wankidi market area and after a complaint was filed at Wankidi police station, the police traced it through CEIR portal and handed it over to the victim. On this occasion, Wankidi SI Durgam, Mahender said that if everyone whose mobile was lost or stolen responds quickly and registers a complaint on CEIR portal, there will be a greater chance of tracing the mobile. And he congratulated Police Constable Nayeem who showed talent in tracing these mobiles



## Bonthu Sridevi Yadav Inspects 280-Meter CC Road Works in Charlapally SC Colony



“NARRA SRINIVAS REDDY (NSR), Medchal - Malkajigiri Staff Reporter, Cherlapally, November 1, (Indian Chronicle): “GHMC Standing Committee Member and Charlapally Division Corporator Bonthu Sridevi Yadav inspected the ongoing 280-meter CC road construction works in the SC Colony of Charlapally. During the inspection, DE Balakrishna, AE Abhishek, Prashanth, Praveen Goud, and local leaders D. Lakshmaiah, M. Lakshmaiah, K. Narasimha, Kommu Suresh, G. Bhanu Chander, G. Ganesh Goud, T. Suresh, P. Srinivas, Manchala Anita, Kommu Indira, and Pandigari Kisthamma participated in the program.

## Government And Grabbing: Srinivas Alleges junior Assistant“

Indian Chronicle” kumrambheem, Asifabad, District Reporte, Jade Srinivas. October, 01. “Srinivas, a Resident of Kishtapur village, has accused Durgam Janaiah, a junior assistant working in the Rebbena MRO office, of encroaching on government land. When he asked for information like land titles, ROR file, and assignment register from 1952 to 2025, he was given false information, Srinivas said. He alleged that Janaiah had acquired three acres of government land and that the MRO and officials were trying to cover it up. Srinivas warned that he would approach the court if the information was not provided. He said that he had previously appealed to the Asifabad RDO but did not get the information.



## Anji Yadav Ascends as Telangana State President of the Allu Arjun Fans Association.“

P.S.ASHOKAN“Karimngar Bureo. “In a moment of immense pride and celebration for admirers of the Icon Star, Thammana Veni Anji Yadav has been officially appointed as the Telangana State President of the Allu Arjun Fans Association. “Addressing the gathering on this notable occasion, Sri Anji Yadav expressed his deep sense of honor and responsibility, affirming his commitment to expand the Association’s service-oriented and philanthropic initiatives across every district of Telangana. “Our vision is to channel the collective admiration for Allu Arjun Garu into meaningful acts of social service and community upliftment,” he declared. “He further remarked that being chosen as the first-ever State President from Karimnagar district stands as a moment of profound joy and distinction for the region. “It is indeed a privilege for Karimnagar to receive such prominence and recognition through this appointment,” he added with gratitude. “



## Resolution of most cases in Lok Adalat to be held on 15th of this month:



District Chief Judge, District Legal Services Authority President A. Jayaraju “(Mandava Srisaillam.. Yadadri Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District... Bureau... Indian Chronicle November 1): “In the premises of the Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Court, District Chief Judge, District Legal Services Authority President A. Jayaraju held a special meeting with the judges, lawyers, police officers, owners of banks and various financial institutions, and arbitration lawyers of the district to resolve most cases in the special Lok Adalat to be held on 15th of this month. Speaking at the meeting, the District Judge said that judges of various courts across the district should take appropriate steps to resolve criminal cases that cannot be settled in Lok Adalats, that if non-bailable warrant cases and pending cases are resolved, more attention can be paid to cases related to serious crimes, that those involved in minor disputes can settle cases through compromise and start a good life, and that check

bounce cases will be resolved. He said that the parties should take advantage of this special Lok Adalat opportunity to be held on the 15th of this month, and gave appropriate instructions to the police who participated in the meeting. First Additional District Judge P Mukthida said that since there is flexibility in resolving cases with the help of trained mediation lawyers, banks and financial institutions can resolve their cases if they refer them. Bhuvanagiri Chief Senior Civil Judge and Secretary-in-charge M. Ushasri said that a total of 1147 criminal cases have been identified for compromise settlement, including 71 cheque bounce cases, and appropriate steps are being taken to resolve them. Additional Senior Civil Judge N. Shyamsunder said that lawyers should take more initiative in resolving cases. Bhuvanagiri Bar Association General Secretary Bollepalli Kumar said that the parties have the right and flexibility to compromise cases, and our lawyers will always cooperate in the resolution. Yadagirigutta ACP Srinivas Naidu said that notices have already been served in cases that can be compromised, advice is given to both parties, and they are informed about the benefits of compromise settlement, etc. Mediation lawyer M. Rajireddy said that we are working to resolve the cases that have come to mediation through effective counseling. A special Lok Adalat promotional wall magazine was unveiled at the event. Chief Legal Aid Defense Counsel K. Bhupal Reddy, Deputy Legal Aid Defense Counsel B. Venkatesh, Assistant Legal Service Advocates N. Rajasekhara, Nagaraju, Sai Srinivas, Saritha, bank officials, District Information Department, police administration and others participated in this event.

## Colony residents anointing a flexi photo of Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Collector Hanumantha Rao in Indiranagar



\*Ration shop set up in Indiranagar on the orders of District Collector Hanumantha Rao “(Mandava Srisaillam.. Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Bureau... Indian Chronicle.. November 1): “Ration shop number 4408002 related to

Aregudem and Indiranagar Colony in the sixth ward of Motkur Municipality in Yadadri Bhuvanagiri district is located in Aregudem. But due to lack of transport facilities to go from Indiranagar to Aregudem every month for ration goods, the elderly, the disabled, single women, the poor who do not have two-wheelers, the dependent children, and the family members of those who have migrated to other areas for employment are facing severe difficulties. “Therefore, he requested that ration goods be provided in Indiranagar as well. There are about 70 cards related to Indiranagar. “There is a distance of about two kilometers from Indiranagar to Aregudem. People are facing difficulties in bringing ration goods due to lack of travel facilities. As part of this, as per the instructions of the District Collector, ration rice related to Indiranagar was distributed on Saturday at the SC Committee Hall building in Indiranagar with the help of ration dealer Lakshmaiah.

## Foreign National Arrested for Attempted Cash Bag Theft in Kushaiguda

“NARRA SRINIVAS REDDY (NSR), Medchal - Malkajigiri Staff Reporter, Kushaiguda, November 1, (Indian Chronicle): “A foreign national was arrested by Kushaiguda Police for attempting to steal a cash bag. According to Detective Inspector Venkateshwarlu, the incident took place at Sainikpuri on Friday night. Srinivas, a resident of Mathrupuri Colony, runs a Western Union money transfer and water purifier business near Ranki Bandi in Sainikpuri. Around 7:30 p.m., an unknown person wearing a mask and helmet entered his office, locked the door, and threatened Srinivas with a knife, demanding the cash bag. The suspect snatched the bag and tried to escape on his scooter. However, Srinivas chased him and managed to pull the bag back from the thief. The accused then fled the scene. Based on Srinivas’s complaint, police launched an investigation and identified the suspect. The accused was found to be a national of Honduras, identified as Hernandez Tabora alias Gilmer Eludin (32). He was taken into custody and will be produced before the court.



## Bonthu Sridevi Yadav Inspects Charlapalli Basti Dawakhana, Reviews Facilities and Promises Improvements“

“NARRA SRINIVAS REDDY (NSR), Medchal - Malkajigiri Staff Reporter, Cherlapally, November 1, (Indian Chronicle): “GHMC Standing Committee member and Cherlapally Division Corporator Bonthu Sridevi Yadav visited the Basti Dawakhana in Cherlapally along with local residents to assess healthcare services. During the visit, she interacted with doctors and staff to review the medical facilities, staff availability, medicine supply, and cleanliness of the premises. She also enquired about the patient turnout and common health issues being addressed at the center. Bonthu Sridevi Yadav assured that she would take up the required repairs, infrastructure upgrades, and additional medical equipment issues with GHMC and health department officials to ensure better services for the public. Local residents appreciated her visit and requested further en-



hancement of healthcare services and extension of operating hours to meet community needs.

## 30 Police Acts To Be Implemented Across The District - SP Kantilal Patil IPS“

“Indian Chronicle” kumrambheem, Asifabad, District Reporte, Jade Srinivas. October, 01. “SP Kantilal Patil IPS said that 30 Police Acts will come into force in Komuram Bhim Asifabad district from November 01 to 30. It is prohibited to hold dharmas, public meetings and rallies without prior permission, prohibited weapons should not be carried, and the orders should be strictly followed for law and order. He made it clear that strict action will be taken against those who violate the rules.





## Wankidi MPDO Patil Jyotsna Honored



""Indian Chronicle" kumrambheem, Asifabad,District Reporte,Jade Srinivas.October,01.""Wankidi MPDO Patil Jyotsna honoredSingle Window Chairman Jabore Pentaiah on Thursday felicitated newly- appointed MPDO Patil Jyotsna at Wankidi Mandal Center. On this occasion, he said that he will work for the development of the MPDO Mandal. Former Deputy Sarpanch Durva Lakshman,Raja and local public representatives participated in the program.

## Loans for backyard chicken unit farming to make women millionaires:- Government Whip Aleru MLA Beerla Ailaiah“



“(Mandava Srisailam I.Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Bureau... Indian Chronicle..November 1):- Government Whip Aleru MLA Beerla Ailaiah participated in the backyard chicken unit distribution program. As part of the Indira Mahila Shakti program, Telangana State Government Whip Aleru MLA Beerla Ailaiah handed over backyard chicken units to women in the form of checks. On this occasion, Government Whip Beerla Ailaiah said. With the intention of making women millionaires, this government has provided opportunities for women to do many types of businesses under the name of Indira Mahila Shakti. Beerla Ailaiah said that the distribution of backyard chicken units was undertaken as part of this.

## Hotel Inspections in Boduppall



“NARRA SRINIVAS REDDY (NSR), Medchal - Malkajgiri Staff Reporter, Boduppall, November 1, (Indian Chronicle):""Sanitary Inspectors Srinivas Reddy and Sangeetha, along with the Task Force team, conducted inspections at several hotels within the Boduppall Municipal Corporation limits. During the inspections, unhygienic conditions were observed at a few establishments. A total fine amounting to ₹23,000 was imposed on the violators, according to a statement from the commissioner.

## Government should take action to continue 250 units of free electricity for BC families: Request by National BC Welfare Association President and Rajya Sabha MP R. Krishnaiah

“VADDEPALLI KISHORE, Uppal, November 1 (Indian Chronicle):""Greater Hyderabad BC General Secretary Ranjith Singh, social activist Ravinder Singh, Rahul Singh, and their team met National BC Welfare Association



President and Rajya Sabha Member Shri R. Krishnaiah to discuss the ongoing issue related to 250 units of free electricity for BC households.“The delegation highlighted that despite repeated appeals, electricity connections are still being disconnected, and ADC charges are being collected. They also pointed out that GHMC officials are treating subsidized meters as commercial connections instead of residential ones and are issuing notices accordingly.“Earlier, BC leader Gaddam Sai Kiran had also raised the same issue and suggested that the delegation meet R. Krishnaiah. Responding to the appeal, Shri R. Krishnaiah assured that he would take up the matter with higher authorities and ensure a permanent solution for BC families.

## Government Whip MLA Beerla Ayilaiah participated in the foundation stone laying ceremony of Tandoor Kuruma Sangam building “



“(Mandava Srisailam.. Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Bureau... Indian Chronicle.. November 1):- Telangana State Government Whip Aleru MLA, Kuruma Sangam State Working President Beerla Ayilaiah, Tandoor MLA Manohar Reddy, Kuruma Sangam Trust Chairman Egge Mallesham, Kotha Sivakumar Kuruma, attended as the chief guests and laid the foundation stone for the construction of the Kuruma Sangam building in Tandoor constituency of Vikarabad district. On this occasion, a large rally was organized and special prayers were performed at the Birappa Swamy temple. After that, they went in a rally and participated in the meeting held to lay the foundation stone for the construction of the Kuruma Sangam building.

## TSTRANSCO Officials Inspect High-Tension Line Road Works in Peerzadiguda Municipal Corporation 17th Division

“NARRA SRINIVAS REDDY (NSR), Medchal - Malkajgiri Staff Reporter, Peerzadiguda, November 1, (Indian Chronicle):""TSTRANSCO officials, led by ADE (EHT) Moulali Balakrishna, inspected the ongoing road development works along the recently sanctioned high-tension line road in the 17th Division of Peerzadiguda Municipal Corporation. The project is being carried out with funds sanctioned by the HMDA. During the inspection, ADE Moulali Balakrishna advised that the road works must strictly follow TSTRANSCO safety and technical regulations to prevent any risk or inconvenience related to high-tension power lines. He instructed the engineering staff and contractors to adhere to all electrical safety standards during the execution of the works. Peerzadiguda Municipal Congress Party President Tungathurthi Ravi also took part in the inspection and reviewed the progress of the road construction. He emphasized that the works should be completed at the earliest for the convenience of the public and appreciated the



prompt response and cooperation of TSTRANSCO officials. Ravi also advised that the road works be completed in full compliance with TSTRANSCO guidelines. Contractors, engineering department officials, and TSTRANSCO technical staff were present during the inspection.

## Heed the Tears of the Tiller”: BJP Demands 40,000 per Acre Relief for Devastated Farmers.“



“P.S.ASHOKAN“Karimngar Bureo. ""Expressing profound anguish over the plight of farmers who have lost their standing crops to the recent Mandha cyclone and unseasonal rains, BJP District President Sri Gangadi Krishna Reddy demanded that the State Government accord immediate attention and extend compensation of ₹40,000 per acre to every affected cultivator.""Addressing a protest demonstration organized by the Bharatiya Janata Party in front of the Mandal Revenue Officer's (MRO) office at Choppadandi, he censured the Congress administration for its indifference towards the agrarian community. “While Rome was engulfed in flames, Emperor Nero played his fiddle — today, Chief Minister Revanth Reddy's Congress Government exhibits the same apathy as farmers shed tears over their ravaged fields,” he remarked sharply.""Sri Krishna Reddy deplored that thousands of cultivators across Karimnagar district have been driven to despair as their crops — nurtured through months of toil — were destroyed on the eve of harvest. In several villages, fields were submerged under floodwaters; in others, entire

tracts of crop were swept away. “The anguish of our farmers is beyond the realm of description. The government must act with urgency and compassion,” he asserted.""He further emphasized that the cost of paddy cultivation itself approximates ₹40,000 per acre, and therefore, equitable justice demands that each affected farmer receive not less than that amount as compensation.""Accusing the ruling party of betraying the farming fraternity, he recalled the Congress government's unfulfilled assurance of a ₹500 per quintal bonus on Yasangi (Rabi) paddy, terming it as “another cruel deception of those who feed the nation.""Recalling the sequence of climatic adversities that struck the State — torrential rains during August and September, and untimely showers in April and May — he pointed out that Chief Minister Revanth Reddy had announced ₹10,000 compensation per acre during his visit to the flood-hit regions, yet “not a single rupee of that proclaimed relief has reached the farmers till date.""Sri Reddy further alleged that this negligence is not new; even during the previous year, farmers affected by natural calamities were denied timely financial assistance. He demanded that the Congress government release a comprehensive white paper elucidating the extent of crop devastation and the quantum of compensation actually disbursed during its 23 months in power.""The demonstration witnessed the participation of several local BJP leaders including Battini Prashanth, former mandal president Mavurapu Sudarshan Reddy, Thota Kotes, Golla Gattayya, Jakkula Shankar, Singireddy Bhoomireddy, Kayita Sai Krishna, Ukanti Narsimha Reddy, Gundeti Shiva Shankar, Jitta Kumar, Arthavelli Srinu, Bodige Suresh, Jagiri Rajender, Anumandla Kotes, Rapalli Srinivas, Jakkula Anjiah, Thallapalli Ravi, Gandla Venu, Akhil, Suresh, Bodige Aditya, Dusa Raju, Srinu, Srikanth, and Akash.

## Resolutionto Drinking Water Problem in Habsiguda Street No. 1: Kandi Shravan Reddy

“VADDEPALLI KISHORE, Uppal, November 1 (Indian Chronicle):""Residents of Habsiguda Division, Street No. 1, had been facing severe drinking water problems for the past four days due to a burst in the Krishna water pipeline. Acting on the instructions of Uppal Constituency Congress Party In-charge Parameshwar Reddy, and with the cooperation of the Water Board, former Medchal–Malkajgiri Youth Congress President Kandi Shravan Reddy took immediate action on Saturday to resolve the issue.Speaking on the occasion, Kandi Shravan Reddy said that when Habsiguda residents brought the problem to his notice, he immediately informed Uppal Constituency In-charge Parameshwar Reddy, who in turn appealed to the Water Board officials to take urgent steps to fix the issue. As a result, repair works began promptly.“He further stated that whenever Habsiguda Division residents bring any problems to his attention, they are promptly communicated to the



concerned officials through Parameshwar Reddy for speedy resolution.“Habsiguda Division President Gannaram Vijay Kumar, Nanapuram Shivaraj Madiga, Edula Sai Kiran, Vanguru Krishna, Gyara Raju, Dhammaraju, and several others participated in the program.



town. The program was attended by the Municipal Commissioner De Sanitary Si, Congress Party Town President Kura Venkatesh, MD Sharif, Abhid Ali, Raghu Babu, MD Mazhar Saladin, MD Akhtar Azaz, Gurralla Srinu Sai, MD Jajil, Dargah Committee members and others.

## Public Organizations Demand Justice For Talandi Sravani's Family



""Indian Chronicle" kumrambheem, Asifabad,District Reporte,Jade Srinivas.October,01.""A round table meeting has demanded that the government respond to the incident of the murder of a tribal girl from Gerre village, Talandi Sravani, out of caste hatred.Leaders of CPM, CITU,AIDWA, SFI,Minority,Kapu and Padmashali organizations participated in the meeting held in Kagaznagar on Friday.It was decided to register a case against the accused under the SC and ST Act, punish them in a fast track court within 6 months, and give ₹25 lakh ex- gratia, house, land and a job to the victim's family.

## Telangana State Government Whip Aleru MLA Beerla Ayilaiah participated in Jubilee Hills election campaign



“(Mandava Srisailam.. Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Bureau... Indian Chronicle..November 1):- Telangana State Government Whip Aleru MLA Beerla Ayilaiah said that Naveen Yadav's victory in Jubilee Hills is certain. On Saturday, a door-to-door campaign was conducted in Rajiv Nagar in Jubilee Hills. In this campaign, he went around every street, every door, and asked people to vote for the hand symbol.. He said that Naveen Yadav's name is being mentioned wherever he sees it. He said that Naveen Yadav's victory in Jubilee Hills was certain.

## There will be no more hunger pangs and hunger pangs under the rule of the Congress Party:-Former Municipal Chairman Barre Jahangir



“(Mandava Srisailam..Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Bureau...Indian Chronicle November 1):- After the Congress Party came to power, the credit of providing ration cards to every poor child belongs to the Congress Party, today every poor person eats his fill with the fine rice provided in the ration shop without going to the grocery store.-Similarly, in the coming days, action will be taken to distribute pulses and sugar. The Congress government in Telangana is ready to ensure that there will be no more hunger pangs and hunger pangs in the state of Telangana. Aiming at the public interest, ration rice was distributed in bags free of cost at Jamkhanaguda Ration Shop No. 11, Bhuvanagiri Municipal Town, the district headquarters, on Saturday. Speaking on the occasion, he said that the state government will provide rice to ration card holders like nowhere else in the country. Stating that State Minister Uttam Kumar Reddy will also provide free bags with special bags for ration beneficiaries to carry ration rice, he said that the government is working for the welfare of the poor people. He explained that such rice also contains high nutrients. He expressed happiness that the poor people are eating rice with joy. Former councilor of the 19th ward, Vadicharla Krishna Yadav Lakshmi, Udutha Ramesh, Mohammed Akhil, Ittaboyna Mahesh, Neelam Narsing Rao, Neelam Narasimha, Kadari Shiva, Neelam Salamma, Neelam Manamma, Neelam Radha, Ittaboyna Vijayalakshmi, Ittaboyna Sailaja, Ittaboyna Lalitha and others participated in this program.



# Court rejects bail plea of former CEO of New India Co-op Bank



GNS News Agency, Nov 1

Observing that the economic offence was committed with ‘cool calculation and deliberate design’ for personal profit, a special court recently rejected the bail application of former CEO of New India Cooperative Bank, Abhimanyu Bhoan, arrested by the Economic Offences Wing (EOW), for allegedly siphoning of Rs 122 crore from the bank’s safes. An inspection by officials of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in February had revealed that money to the tune of Rs 122 crore was missing or untraced from the bank’s vaults. The police named nine persons as accused, including bank officials, alleging that they had conspired and siphoned of money from the vaults between 2020-2024 from the Prabhadevi and Goregaon branches. Bhoan was alleged to have been a beneficiary of Rs 1 crore. Bhoan had filed for

bail stating that he was unaware of the missing amount and none of it was found with him, nor was there any other proof to show that he was the beneficiary of the missing amount. The police opposed the plea stating that as the CEO he cannot shirk responsibility and claim no knowledge of the missing amount.

“It is to be noted here that it reveals from the record that when the alleged incident of digital fraud is committed or came to be found, at the relevant time, the applicant was working as the CEO of the said bank at Prabhadevi branch and prime accused Hitesh Mehta was working under his supervision. It prima facie reveals to me that being a CEO of the bank, he handled each and every cash transaction of the said bank and he was well aware about the cash in hand at the bank,” special judge R K Deshpande said in the order on October 16. He said that merely because the chargesheet has been filed in the case, bail cannot be granted, such conduct is not expected from a person working in a responsible position. “It is to be noted here that an economic offence is committed with cool calculation and deliberate design with an eye on personal profit regardless of the consequence to the community. A disregard for the interest of the community can be manifested only at the cost of forfeiting the trust and faith of the community in the system to administer justice in an even handed manner without fear of criticism from quarters which view white collar crimes with a permissive eye unmindful of the damage done to the national economy and national interest,” the court said.

# 32% more applications pour in for TET as many in-service teachers to sit for exam

GNS News Agency, Nov 1

Babasaheb Purandare (38) has been working as a school teacher in Pune district since 2012. With over a decade of teaching experience, he is now preparing for the upcoming Teachers Eligibility Test (TET), scheduled to be held on November 23. He is among several in-service teachers who have applied for the TET this year in Maharashtra, contributing to a significant surge of around 32 per cent in the number of applications that have poured in for the exam this year. A total of 4.79 lakh candidates have registered for the TET this year. Even though there is no separate count for in-service teachers applying for TET, experts believe that this surge is the result of the uncertainty looming over in-service teachers who are staring at potential job-loss if the Supreme Court (SC) ruling in case of TET is implemented as it is in Maharashtra.

The TET is a mandatory eligibility criterion for appointment of teachers in schools from Classes 1 to 8, especially in all government-run and aided schools. It was implemented in Maharashtra in 2013. According to the Supreme Court ruling, the TET mandate continues for new appointments. But it also states that teachers, who are already in service without TET, will now have to pass it within the next two years to continue their jobs or accept compulsory retirement. Confirming the increase in number of TET applicants this year, Anuradha Oak, Commissioner of the Maharashtra State Council of Examination, which conducts the exam, said, “We have not collected separate data of who are already in service. But compared to last year, there are at least 1.15 lakh more applicants this year.”

Purandare, who has at least 20 years of service left, is representative of many such in-service teachers who have applied for TET 2025. Stating that he applied because he does not want to take any chance, Purandare said, “Even as there is no clarity as yet on TET’s retrospective mandate in Maharashtra, the state will eventually implement the SC ruling. I do not want to wait until then. Considering the difficulty level of the exam, I may require more than one attempt to clear the test, especially while juggling studies with a high-demanding teaching job at the government school where I work.” The retrospective implementation of the SC ruling has led to uncertainty and fear of potential job loss among lakhs of in-service teachers who have been



appointed before implementation of the TET. According to them, the state had allowed them exemption from TET and now asking them to clear the exam will be an injustice. Further highlighting the review petition filed in the SC by the Uttar Pradesh government, teachers organisations in Maharashtra too are demanding similar steps from the state government. But, with no clear stand taken by the state government on this issue, there is confusion and panic among the school-teachers’ community.

A 42-year-old teacher from a Zilla Parishad (ZP) school in Kolhapur, who has applied for TET, said, “I still have a considerable number of years of service ahead of me. It is better I do not wait until the last moment, especially with the consistent low pass-percentage of TET.” Suresh Sawale, Joint Secretary of Spardha Pariksha Samanvay Samiti, an organisation of various competitive exam aspirants; said the passing percentage for TET has always remained between two to four percent. Raising further alarm, Sawale expressed concerns about an increased risk of fraud, scams, and other malpractices in TET 2025 — particularly given the surge in applicants eager to clear the exam as quickly as possible. “Until now, candidates appeared for the TET primarily to meet the mandatory eligibility requirement for applying to teaching positions. Even then, the exam has been marred with issues, most notably the fraud uncovered in the years 2018 and 2019. But the current situation is different — many candidates are now taking the TET to safeguard their existing jobs. This desperation could give rise to serious issues such as paper leaks, mass cheating, or other large-scale scams,” he warned.

# Day after purifying namaz ‘spot’ in Pune’s Shaniwadwada, clamour grows for BJP MP Medha Kulkarni’s resignation



On Sunday, Kulkarni led a morchha of Hindutva activists to Shaniwarwada and ‘purified’ the spot with cow urine where some Muslims had offered namaz.

GNS News Agency, Nov 1

Accusing BJP’s Rajya Sabha MP Medha Kulkarni of indulging in hate mongering on the auspicious occasion of Diwali, Opposition parties and social activists have been demanding her resignation, a day after she ‘purified’ the spot in Pune’s Shaniwadwada where ‘namaz’ was offered by some Muslims visitors. “At a time when farmers in Marathwada have been hit hard by floods and there’s a need to help them tide over this crisis, Kulkarni is trying to divert the attention of the people by indulging in hate mongering,” said Maharashtra Congress chief spokesperson Atul Londhe.

On Sunday, Kulkarni led a morchha of Hindutva activists to Shaniwarwada and ‘purified’ the spot with cow urine where some Muslims had offered namaz. Kulkarni had said, “If the Muslims are offering namaz inside a historical place like Shaniwarwada, then Hindus should also be al-

lowed to perform ‘aarti’ in mosques.” “Farmer families have no money to celebrate Diwali. The state government has stopped Anandacha Shide welfare scheme. The farmers are not getting any help... When Hindus celebrate Diwali, they distribute joy among their brethren but the MP is distributing hate. A people’s representative is expected to fight for the people and not against their interest,” said Londhe pressing for her resignation.

AAP spokesperson Mukund Kirdat said, “It seems whatever Kulkarni did was to impresses her bosses in Delhi. If she wants to indulge in anti-people activities, then she should better resign and work for Sakal Hindu Samaj. An MP represents all sections of the party in Parliament. She seems to have forgotten her responsibility.” Social activist Manav Kamble, who heads the Nagarik Haqq Suraksha Samaiti, said, “Medha Kulkarni went to Shaniwarwada and purified the spot where ‘namaz.’ I want to tell her that Bajirao Peshwe used to bring Mastani in Shaniwarwada. If we read the history books, Mastani, a Muslim woman, used stay in Shaniwarwada. Then, will Medha Kulkarni purify the entire Shaniwarwada? Actually, Kulkarni does not deserve to be the Rajya Sabha MP. She has done a highly condemnable act. She won’t resign on her own, Puneites will have to force her to resign.”

Activist Vishwambhar Choudhari said, “Puneites are hassled by traffic jams, piled up garbage, rising crime and gangwar... But BJP MP Medha Kulkarni is trying to ‘purify’ Shaniwarwada. She is searching for ‘green’ colour in some corner and cover it with saffron colour. This is her favourite achievement. Even her party colleague, Lok Sabha MP Murlidhar Mohol is busy helping builders get prime piece of and.” Manoj Dattatrye More Manoj More has been working with the Indian Express since 1992. For the first 16 years, he worked on the desk, edited stories, made pages, wrote special stories and handled The Indian Express edition. In 31 years of his career, he has regularly written stories on a range of topics, primarily on civic issues like state of roads, choked drains, garbage problems, inadequate transport facilities and the like. He has also written aggressively on local gondaim. He has primarily written civic stories from Pimpri-Chinchwad, Khadki, Maval and some parts of Pune. He has also covered stories from Kolhapur, Satara, Solapur, Sangli, Ahmednagar and Latur. He has had maximum impact stories from Pimpri-Chinchwad

# ‘Vetal Tekdi belongs to common citizens, it is they who have protected it for the past 40 years’: Pune-based environment activist Dr Sushma Date

GNS News Agency, Nov 1

Dr Sushma Date, who, along with the Indian Law Society, filed a petition against the proposed Balbharati-Paud Phata link road on the argument that the project would cause major environmental damage to the ILS Hill, talks to The Indian Express about the struggle involved and the way ahead. Excerpts from the interview: Sushma Date: Pune’s hills are among the last natural resources remaining in our over-developed city. Vetal Tekdi, like all urban forests, acts as a carbon sink, mitigates the urban heat island effect, is a vital catchment zone for a city whose groundwater levels are dwindling at an alarming rate, and is also an important community reserve used by people of all ages and socio-economic classes for physical exercise and psychological well-being. Our generation was lucky enough to grow up among the tekdis (hills) in Pune, which turn lush green for five months of the year, and we need to preserve them as natural heritage for future generations.

In 2012, I happened to meet Maj Gen Jatar, who had filed a PIL in the Bombay High Court against the Balbharati road across the Law College slope of the tekdi. He gratefully accepted my offer of help in his case. Over the next few years, I brought in more volunteers from our citizens group, the Deccan Gymkhana Parisar Samiti (DGPS), and together, we learned from Maj Gen Jatar how to file RTIs in PMC (Pune Municipal Corporation), how to interact with officials, how to study reports, analyse data, make briefs for lawyers and draft petitions. In the process, I realised how reports were tailor-made to suit whatever outcome was needed. For example, in 2013, an EIA was commissioned by PMC for the proposed Balbharati road. The firm that conducted the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) concluded that the road would bring down pollution by 98 per cent and raise Rs 467 crore revenue via selling carbon credits. A careful reading of the report showed that there was an arithmetic error in the calculation of four-wheeler emissions, and the actual reduction was only 9.7 per cent and not 98 per cent. Additionally, the firm had used the wrong gas for calculating the carbon footprint. This experience taught me to be very sceptical of government-commissioned reports and to consult independent ecologists, hydrogeologists, urban planners and traffic experts for cross-checking the data and the conclusions in EIA and other reports.

Q. Can you elaborate on the biodiversity (flora, fauna) and hydrological (groundwater aquifer, springs, recharge zones) features of the hill/forest area that you believe are most at risk?

Date: PMC’s own Ecology study conducted in 2019 recorded 48 tree species, 19 shrub species, 13 climber species and 21 herb species along the alignment of the road. It stated that around 1,700 trees would need to be cut for the road, of which the majority were native species. It recorded a total of 45 bird species, 13 butterfly species, five reptile species and one mammal species. The report said that the alignment along the Law College hill slope was of high to moderate priority for conservation. The section behind Bhandarkar Research Institute, for instance, has a lot of biodiversity, which will be critically impacted because the service roads for the Bal Bharati road and ramps for the proposed HCMTR (High Capacity Mass Transit Route) are planned in this section. Well-known ecologists from Pune, like Dr Ashish Nerlikar and Dr Aparna Watve, have recorded the existence of *Tatropha Nana Dalzell* on this hill slope, which is listed under global priority for conservation. According to ACWADAM, an organisation that advises the government on groundwater management, the Law College hill slope houses several large unconfined basal aquifer systems, and any construction activity here will disrupt these systems, severely impacting groundwater levels in Deccan, Karvenagar and Erandawane. In fact, in its 2019 report, ACWADAM had recommended that Vetal Tekdi be given “No Compromise protection”. With Bengaluru undergoing a water crisis and Pune headed the same way, with a record rise in tanker dependency, it is now imperative to protect our remaining groundwater recharge areas. Water will be an election issue this year – and citizens need to know where our candidates stand on the Vetal Tekdi projects, because this will directly impact their liveability in the city.

Q. What were the limitations of the environmental studies conducted so far? What additional data would a full four-

season EIA reveal, and how crucial is that for assessment of impacts?

Date: Government bodies tend to conduct single-season EIAs and generally select the summer when the full biodiversity of that area may not be visible. Ecosystem parameters like air and water quality, flora, and fauna are not static. A single-season study could easily miss the presence of migratory birds, seasonal aquatic life, or vegetation patterns that are critical to the local ecosystem. An all-season environment study provides a more accurate, comprehensive, and scientifically robust picture of a project’s potential environmental effects, allowing informed decision-making and effective planning of mitigation measures.

Q. What challenges did you face during the legal process of filing and arguing the petition?

Date: The proposed road has a four-decade history with several legal battles in the past. While court hearings tend to be brief, lengthy and rigorous preparations need to be made before each hearing, which can be very stressful. As someone with no legal experience, challenges included selecting good lawyers, building a rapport with them, and finding Senior Counsel to take on the case. Other challenges were getting supporting documents via RTI from the PMC road department, which was very reluctant to hand them over, studying piles of documents so that we got our facts right, writing briefs, and putting facts down logically so that our Counsel could make the appropriate arguments in court.

Q. In your view, what alternative routes or solutions could be considered instead of this road alignment?

Date: Several low-risk, non-invasive solutions can and should be tried first.

a) Pune has seen three CMPs (Comprehensive Mobility Plans) in the last decade. All emphasise strengthening public transport, and that does not mean Metro alone. They prescribe that PMPML (Pune Mahanagar Parivahan Mahamandal Limited) has about 50-55 buses per lakh population. Unfortunately, during the same timeframe, PMC let Pune go down from 30 buses per lakh to 24 buses per lakh. If we have 50 buses per lakh, we will easily be able to provide bus routes that connect Aundh and Baner Roads to Paud Road and Kothrud-Karvenagar areas, each with a frequency of five minutes. This will reduce any perceived congestion significantly, while providing mobility to people from all financial strata.

b) PMC has also approved a parking policy to discourage car usage and has received central funds for the Metro because of this policy. However, they have not started implementing it.

c) PMC has approved a Bicycle Plan that prescribes a network of cycle tracks and cycle lanes to the tune of 350 km. Here too, PMC has failed to create cycle tracks where one could ride safely, even for 500 metres continuously.

d) PMC must provide safe pedestrian walkways and footpaths, encouraging people to switch to walking instead of using vehicles over short distances, surely a healthier option for citizens.

e) The Metro network, with its existing, proposed and under construction corridors, will soon encircle the Vetal Tekdi, making the Kothrud to Aundh/Baner/Hinjewadi commute easier. Why build more roads in areas that can be serviced by the Metro? All PMC needs to do is provide good last-mile connectivity.

It should be noted that the solutions suggested above will help reduce congestion all across Pune and not just one road – and whether the Balbharati Road will actually help reduce congestion on LCR itself is highly suspect, going by the experience from 14 or so flyovers constructed in the city in the last 15-odd years. And, these solutions can be implemented in just five years. They can make Pune’s transportation more inclusive, sustainable and safe, unlike the Balbharati road, which will largely favour only cars and two-wheelers, inducing more traffic, creating new congestion points and increasing the city’s carbon footprint.

Q. How do you plan to monitor compliance with the Supreme Court’s order moving forward?

Date: Vetal Tekdi belongs to common citizens, and it is they who have protected it for the past 40 years. Public pressure, vigilance and participation alone can ensure good governance by PMC.

# ‘Release evidence,’ say Congress leaders after BJP MP B Y Raghavendra claims funds being sent for Bihar polls from Karnataka



GNS News Agency, Nov 1

‘Release evidence,’ says Congress leaders after BJP MP B Y Raghavendra claims funds being sent for Bihar polls from Karnataka. Responding to media queries, Siddaramaiah said, “We have not paid even five paisa to elections held in any state ever. We are not giving to Bihar either.” In the wake of allegations by BJP MP B Y Raghavendra that Congress ministers from Karnataka are extorting money from officials to fund the party for polls in Bihar, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy CM D K Shivakumar Monday slammed the MP and sought evidence for his claims. Responding to media queries, Siddaramaiah said, “We have not paid even five paisa to elections held in any state ever. We are not giving to Bihar either.” Such activities, the CM said, might have taken place during the BJP rule. “He might be blaming us for what they did,” he added.

Shivakumar advised Raghavendra to avoid being part of the list of leaders with ‘hit and run’ tendencies. “If he has any evidence, let him release it and then make allegations. Let him not be synonymous with lies. Raghavendra should not become like other leaders who hit and run,” he said. The BJP MP from Shivamogga made the allegations Sunday and alleged that the state government was collecting money from officials to extend the tenure in their posts. The col-

lected amount is sent to Bihar for funding elections, he had claimed. Meanwhile, addressing a news conference, BJP MP and former CM Jagadish Shettar claimed that the recent dinner party hosted by Siddaramaiah was meant to mobilise funds for Bihar polls. He alleged that the CM held one to one interactions with ministers in his Cabinet and fixed them a target to collect funds for the upcoming polls. He accused the Karnataka government of turning into an “ATM for the Congress high command”.

# EBC Committee demands legal action against hate speech targeting forward castes

Hyderabad: Decrying what they called “hate-filled propaganda” by certain individuals posing to be representatives of specific communities, the EBC Joint Action Committee, representing economically backward classes within the forward castes, on Sunday called for stringent legal measures to address the issue. At a round table conference held at the Somajiguda Press Club, the JAC leaders called for police action against those inciting caste-based violence and disrupting social harmony.

For the past few months, some individuals claiming to represent certain caste groups have been systematically defaming general castes through media channels, fostering deep-seated caste animosities and threatening social harmony, noted the speakers. They urged authorities to invoke relevant laws to prosecute those responsible, emphasizing that such acts of verbal and physical aggression are “unforgivable crimes.” On the ongoing debates around reservations, they refuted claims that forward castes are against reservations’. It is a deliberate falsehood aimed at maligning our communities,” they noted.



# Southern Command set to conduct joint training op with Navy, Air Force



GNS News Agency, Nov 1

As the nation celebrates the festive season, troops of Southern Command remain deployed in operational areas, training rigorously in preparation for the upcoming Tri-Services exercise Trishul." the release added. (Image: @laSouthern)As the nation celebrates the festive season, troops of Southern Command remain deployed in operational areas, training rigorously in preparation for the upcoming Tri-Services exercise Trishul." the release added. (Image: @laSouthern)THE PUNE headquartered Southern Command of the Indian Army is set to undertake a Joint Exercise 'Trishul' with the Navy and Air Force, with offensive manoeuvres in the creek and desert sectors, and amphibious operations off the Saurashtra coast. The exercise will also comprise joint multi-domain operational exercises encompassing Intelligence, Surveillance and Recon-

naissance (ISR), Electronic Warfare (EW), and Cyber capabilities.

A press statement from the Southern Command read, "Prime Minister Narendra Modi has articulated the guiding mantra of JAI – Jointness, Atmanirbharta and Innovation, defining it as the cornerstone of India's future defence preparedness. His vision calls upon the Armed Forces to translate this directive into reality by deepening jointness, promoting self-reliance, and fostering innovation across all dimensions of military planning and execution. Southern Command, under the leadership of Lieutenant General Dhiraj Seth, stands at the forefront of translating this vision into practice. With jointness in its DNA, Southern Command has consistently demonstrated synergy across services, coordinated operational planning, and a deep commitment to Atmanirbharta and innovation-driven transformation."The release further said, "The upcoming Tri-Services Exercise Trishul, to be conducted in close coordination with the Indian Air Force and Indian Navy, will serve as a true manifestation of the JAI strategy in action." The exercise will be conducted over the coming one month."The exercise will also highlight the effective employment of indigenous systems, the application of Atmanirbharta in operational practices, and the refinement of tactics, techniques and procedures attuned to the emerging threats and changing character of contemporary and future wars. As the nation celebrates the festive season, troops of Southern Command remain deployed in operational areas, training rigorously in preparation for the upcoming Tri-Services exercise Trishul." the release added.

# Why Oppn’s Nov 1 protest is a good start but not enough on substance



GNS News Agency, Nov 1

The announcement by the Opposition parties in Maharashtra to hold a protest on November 1 against the State Election Commission (SEC) over alleged discrepancies in electoral rolls might be a good strategy to display its political might ahead of the local bodies elections. But the larger question that remains unanswered is, what next?From what emerges, half-a-dozen political parties, which constitute the Opposition, are still grappling with core issues namely fate of alliance and leadership. Without streamlining the fundamental issues complete with which party stands where in the Maha Vikas Aghadi (MVA) or broader INDIA bloc, the Opposition is unlikely to go far, especially against the BJP, which is meticulously planning and is miles ahead when it comes to drawing up election strategies and executing them.

Officially, the BJP has dismissed the Opposition's planned protest as a replay of the Rahul Gandhi-led morcha against the Election Commission (EC) in Delhi. The party believes the Opposition's attack against the SEC too exposes the lack of issues or agenda before them."In politics, every party has the right to protest within the democratic framework. But if you are already prejudiced against the SEC, which is an independent authority, it is unfortunate. You send a wrong message to the public, which is aware of what is right and wrong," state BJP chief Ravindra Chavan said.

A senior Congress leader, however, said, "Ahead of the local bodies elections, we have to adopt an aggressive posture. When we launch a protest against a constitutional authority like the SEC, we are highlighting the rot in the system, which gives the ruling Mahayuti an added advantage. Our battle is for a bigger cause and not restricted to just one or two polls. Also, what Rahul did in Delhi has gained

traction across the country. And Maharashtra is the best place to find out how much public support this issue will elicit. It also gives us some idea of our own standing in public on the 'vote chori' issue."In a hurriedly convened press conference on Sunday, Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Sanjay Raut announced, "The Opposition will hold a mega rally in Mumbai against 'vote fraud'. The morcha will be led by Sharad Pawar, Uddhav Thackeray and prominent Congress leaders, among others."The announcement comes shortly after the Opposition presented a memorandum to SEC Dinesh Waghmare and Chief Electoral Officer S Chokolimgan on October 14. However, the Opposition is unhappy with the response from the SEC. While reassuring to address errors in the electoral rolls, the SEC maintained, "No political parties can tamper with the voter lists. If there are any discrepancies it would get addressed."

The Opposition, which wants the SEC to nail the ruling BJP, realises it cannot push its agenda beyond a point with constitutional authorities. Therefore, it has chosen street protests as the best route to ventilate its ire and whip up public support.Senior NCP (SP) leader Jayant Patil said, "We are just asking for clean rolls. We have called all parties to join us in the fight for free and fair elections. Except for the ruling parties everybody has rallied for the cause. If the authorities concerned take up the issue and rectify the mistakes, we have nothing to seek. Unfortunately, they are not ready to accept the discrepancies."As Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis said, "The Opposition is just beating around the bush. If they have any concrete proof of vote manipulation they should furnish it to the SEC. As they lack in substance they are trying to build a fake narrative to cover up their own failures and shortcomings."State BJP media chief Navnath Ban said, "Opposition politics is in fits and starts. Nobody there knows who is deciding what."

"If the Shiv Sena (UBT) is so concerned about accommodating the MNS let them first rectify their 20-year-old mistake that led to Raj Thackeray walking away from the undivided Shiv Sena. Uddhav should hand over the reigns of the organisation to Raj as the political heir of late Bal Thackeray. After all, Raj has been consistent with Bal Thackeray's Hindutva ideology unlike Uddhav who compromised in 2019 by joining the Congress for power," he said."Even today, the Shiv Sena (UBT) is showering affection on Raj for power. Once they achieve their goal, they will dismiss the MNS. If they are truly keen on ending their rivalry, they should be generous and accept Raj as the true custodian of Bal Thackeray's legacy," he added.

# 308 stubble burning cases in Punjab since Sept 15; Tarn Taran records maximum



GNS News Agency, Nov 1

The number of stubble burning incidents in Punjab has reached 308, with Tarn Taran and Amritsar districts accounting for the majority of such cases, according to the Punjab Pollution Control Board data.At 113, Tarn Taran district has witnessed maximum stubble burning cases in Punjab so far, followed by Amritsar with 104 cases, as many farmers continue to burn crop residue, ignoring the state government's appeals to stop the practice.Stubble burning in Punjab and Haryana is often blamed for the rise in air pollution in Delhi-NCR.

As the window for the Rabi crop, wheat, is very short after the paddy harvest in October and November, many farmers set their fields on fire to clear off the residue for sowing the next crop.Punjab saw 308 fire incidents between September 15 and October 19, as per the data of the Punjab Pollution Control Board (PPCB).Among other districts, 16 stubble burning cases have been reported in Ferozepur, 15 in Patiala and seven in Gurdaspur, as per the data.Indicating a surge in the number of farm fires over the past week, stubble burning incidents reached 308 from 116 on October 11.A fine of over Rs 6.5 lakh in the form of environmental compensation has been imposed in 132 cases so far, as per the PPCB data. Of the total fine, over Rs 4.70 lakh has been recovered.

Additionally, 147 FIRs, which include 61 in Tarn Taran

and 37 in Amritsar, have been registered over stubble burning incidents.Cases have been registered under Section 223 (disobedience of orders promulgated by a public servant) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita.While the state government has launched a campaign to highlight the ill-effects of stubble burning and benefits of crop residue management machinery, it is still practised by many farmers to clear crop residue.Punjab saw 10,909 farm fires in 2024 as compared to 36,663 in 2023, registering a 70 per cent decrease in farm fires.The state had recorded 49,922 fire events in 2022, 71,304 in 2021, 76,590 in 2020, 55,210 in 2019 and 50,590 in 2018 with many districts including Sangrur, Mansa, Bathinda and Amritsar witnessing large number of stubble burning incidents.

# Crocodile creates panic in Vadodara’s Gajrawadi area, rescued

A team of animal rescue volunteers, led by Hemant Vadhvana, received a call around 8.30 pm on Sunday that a crocodile had been spotted near the Gajrawadi Sewage Pumping station.The crocodile had ventured close to three temples in the area, which were crowded due to the ongoing festivities. During the rescue, the crocodile attempted to escape several times, snapping at the rescuers and turning turtle. The scenes caused panic among onlookers, even as the rescuers attempted to bring it under control.

Vadhvana said, "It took us over an hour to bring the crocodile under control as it attempted to free itself from the grasp... When we finally succeeded after multiple efforts, as per the process, three persons sat on its back to pin it down while we covered its eyes with a wet cloth and tied its jaw and limbs... We handed it over to the forest department."

# Demand for Khari riverfront in Mehsana, MMC starts preparing project report



GNS News Agency, Nov 1

The ambitious project aims to improve water availability, rejuvenate the seasonal river, and enhance urban infrastructure in Mehsana city.Mehsana Municipal Corporation has initiated the preparation of a project report to develop a riverfront on the Khari river, inspired by Ahmedabad's Sabarmati Riverfront.The authorities of newly formed Mehsana Municipal Corporation (MMC) have started the process to draft the project report to have a riverfront on the banks of Khari river in Mehsana on the lines of Sabarmati Riverfront in Ahmedabad.The MMC authorities have started preparing the project report following the direction from the state government.The state government took the initiative after Rajya Sabha MP Mayank Nayak, who is from Mehsana, wrote to Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel with a demand to develop a riverfront on the Khari river like the one in Ahmedabad.Nayak had written to the state government in July.

In his letter to the CM, while demanding the develop-

ment of a riverfront on Khari river passing through Mehsana city, Nayak stated that the development of the riverfront could resolve the issues of ground water recharge and vehicular traffic in the city.He also urged the government to give priority to the project specially when Gujarat is celebrating 2025 as Urban Development Year.Requesting anonymity, a top official of Mehsana Municipal Corporation said that as the demand for riverfront was raised, the state government has asked the MMC authorities to first prepare a project report and send it to them."The government has asked for the draft project report around a month back. We have started the work and will send the report to the state government in another one months' time. After submission of the report, if the government finds it proper then it may give an in-principle approval to the project," said the officer.We have started preparing the project report. We are preparing it in-house. If required, we will take help from CEPT University or some subject matter expert from the state government..." the officer added.According to the MMC officer, if approved by the state government, the project will be long term and an ambitious one and its primary focus areas would be availability of water and rejuvenating the Khari, a seasonal river.MMC is one of the nine newly formed municipal corporations of Gujarat and it is set to go for its first elections by January-February next year. The MMC has 13 wards.In January, the Gujarat government announced to form nine new municipal corporations in the state taking the number of such urban bodies to 17It must be noted that Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel had, in October last year, stated while addressing a public gathering that riverfronts should be developed only at places where water is available all 12 months of the year.

# A year after groundbreaking ceremony, BMC’s move to build residential quarters for sanitation workers in limbo



GNS News Agency, Nov 1

Once approved, the project under Ashray Yojana will provide housing to LIG conservancy staff through a lottery system.BMC's plan to build residential quarters for Solid Waste Management workers in Mumbai is delayed due to Development Plan rules and pending lease formalities with Mumbai Port Trust.A year after carrying out its groundbreaking ceremony, the Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation's (BMC) proposal for building residential quarters for Solid Waste Management (SWM) workers remains in limbo over rules pertaining to its Development Plan.In October 2024, the BMC had proposed setting up residential quarters for conservancy workers of the SWM Department under the Ashray Yojana scheme. A portion of the plot on which the quarters will be built is owned by the Mumbai Port Trust (MBPT) which has leased it to the civic authority for building the quarters. Of the total 1,892.15 sq m area of the plot, around 1,403 sq m is owned by the civic authorities, while 489.13 sq m is owned by the MBPT.

However, the civic authorities maintain that the initial

# Pune civic employees urged to donate a day’s salary to CM’s Relief Fund for flood-hit citizens



The Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) has urged its employees to donate one day's salary to the Maharashtra Chief Minister's Relief Fund to assist people who have been adversely affected by the recent flooding in several parts of the state.Naval Kishore Ram, Municipal Commissioner, said it is a national responsibility to help those suffering due to flooding in the state and urged employees not to oppose it."The donation should be from the salary of October month. The civic administration should calculate a day's salary and cut it from the pay to be given by the end of month," he said.Earlier this month the state government had urged its

employees to donate a day's salary for the same purpose."The situation that has arisen due to natural calamity of heavy rain in the state recently... Thus, all state government employees should participate in providing relief to the affected citizens and should donate their one-day salary in the CM Relief Fund," said the state government resolution.

The municipal commissioner said those who are not keen on donating a day's salary for the purpose should give it in writing so that their salary is not cut. "Those donating a day's salary should be issued a certificate to avail due benefit when it comes to income tax payment," he added.Various parts of Maharashtra have witnessed heavy rain and flooding of late, washing away fertile land from hundreds of farms. The state government has declared financial assistance for the affected citizens but the opposition has criticised it as a meagre amount compared to the heavy losses suffered.Last month, Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis wrote to Union Home Minister Amit Shah seeking the release of more aid from the National Disaster Relief Fund (NDRF) for the state's flood-affected farmers. The letter stated that around 50 lakh hectares were damaged due to incessant rain.

# ‘With Land Stack project, all info about a piece of land will be available on a single click’

Piloted in Tamil Nadu and Chandigarh, it aims to enable informed decisions, prevent property fraud, and simplify access to land-related information.The Land Stack project consolidates land records, surveys, registrations, development plans, and building permissions into a single platform for citizens.

Maharashtra's Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) S Chockalingam heads the high-level committee set up by the Union Rural Development ministry to launch its ambitious Land Stack project. It is currently launched on pilot basis in Tamil Nadu and Chandigarh. In an interview with Alok Deshpande, Chockalingam talks about the project and how it aims at allowing citizens to make informed decisions with availability of every necessary information related to the land it plans to deal with.

What is the Land Stack project?

In the past two decades or so, different departments in the government have digitised the records, be it land records, survey, development plan or registration of property. Even though different departments have digitised their records, as a citizen, if I need even a small piece of information, I have to visit separate websites. For example, to purchase a property, I need to check land ownership details at one place, then for boundaries of it, I have to check the survey department, to know the earlier chain of purchasers, then the land use shown in the development plan and what is its current use. All this information is available at different places. Add to it, future proposed projects on that land. The intention of this project is that all this information about a piece of land is available on a single click at one website. It will have every piece of information available that any land user should possess.



## South Korea seeks arrest warrants for 59 online scam suspects repatriated from Cambodia



GNS News Agency, Nov 1

Seoul: South Korea's Police said on Monday they have sought arrest warrants for 59 suspects repatriated from Cambodia over their alleged involvement in various online scams. Sixty-four such suspects were flown home from Cambodia on Saturday, and one was arrested immediately with a pre-issued warrant.Of the remaining 63, four were released soon after, while one was released after the prosecution denied the police's request for an arrest warrant,

## Iran's Khamenei rejects Trump's offer of talks, denies U.S. destroyed Iranian nuclear capabilities

GNS News Agency, Nov 1

Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei on Monday rejected an offer of renewed talks from U.S. President Donald Trump and denied his assertion that the United States has destroyed Iran's nuclear capabilities. Tehran and Washington engaged in five rounds of indirect nuclear negotiations that ended with the 12-day air war in June in which Israel and the U.S. bombed Iranian nuclear sites.

"Trump says he is a dealmaker, but if a deal is accompanied by coercion and its outcome is predetermined, it is not a deal but rather an imposition and bullying," Mr. Khamenei said according to state media.Last week, Mr. Trump told the Israeli Parliament that it would be great if Washington could negotiate a "peace deal" with Tehran, following the start of a ceasefire in Gaza between Israel and Palestinian militant group Hamas."The U.S. President proudly says they bombed and destroyed Iran's nuclear industry. Very well, keep dreaming!" Mr. Khamenei added. "What does it have to do with America whether Iran has

## Kabul must rein in militants for ceasefire to hold, says Pakistan



ISLAMABAD, -GNS News Agency, Nov 1 A ceasefire agreement between Islamabad and Kabul rests on the ruling Afghan Taliban's ability to rein in militants attacking Pakistan across their shared border, Pakistan's Defence Minister Khawaja Muhammad Asif told Reuters on Monday, underscoring the fragility of the accord.The South Asian neighbours agreed to a ceasefire in Doha at the weekend after days of border clashes that killed dozens, the worst such violence since the Taliban seized power in Kabul in 2021.Ground fighting between the one-time allies and Pakistani airstrikes across their contested 2,600-km (1,600-mile) frontier were triggered after Islamabad demanded that Kabul control militants, saying they operated from havens in Afghanistan."Anything coming from Afghanistan will be (a) violation of this agreement," said Asif, who led the talks with his Afghan counterpart Mullah Muhammad Yaqoob. "Everything hinges on this one clause."The Taliban administration and Afghanistan's defence ministry did not immediately respond to requests for comment.WRITTEN AGREEMENT SAYS NO INCURSIONS FROM AFGHANISTAN

In the written agreement signed by Pakistan, Afghanistan, Turkey and Qatar, it was clearly spelled out that there would not be any incursions, the minister said in an inter-

## Romanian court rejects plan to raise judges' retirement age

BUCHAREST, Romania's top court struck down on Monday a government plan to raise the retirement age for judges and prosecutors and cap their pensions, raising questions over the ruling coalition's stability as it tries to curb the EU's biggest budget deficit.The Constitutional Court rejected, by five votes to four, proposals to raise retirement in the judiciary to 65 from around 50 at present and cap pensions to 70% of final salary.

The Reuters Daily Briefing newsletter provides all the news you need to start your day. Sign up here.Judges and prosecutors have monthly pensions of up to 5,000 euros (\$5,831) versus the Romanian average of 600 euros.

Though it was unclear if the proposals were rejected on a technicality or in principle, the hard-right opposition Alliance for Uniting Romanians called for the resignation of liberal Prime Minister Ilie Bolojan who leads a months-old coalition.Government spokesperson Ioana Dogioiu said there would be no comment until the court had published its statement.Centrist President Nicusor Dan said the government will draft a new law that incorporates the court's arguments but which "corrects magistrates' pensions in a way that is equitable for society."Bolojan's government has raised some taxes from August to boost revenue and enforced minor cuts to state spending.Those measures were enough for Romania to cling to its rating on the last rung of investment grade, but they came at a steep cost, triggering

the National Police Agency (NPA) said. By region, 45 suspects are being handled by the NPA's South Chungcheong Province office, while 15 are being handled by the North Gyeonggi Province office, including those that have already been released, reports Yonhap news agency.

The remaining four suspects are being investigated by the Daejeon, Gimpo, Wonju, and Seoul Seodaemun offices, respectively. The South Chungcheong office has been conducting investigations into romance and other scams that occurred between the end of last year and last July, while the North Gyeonggi office has been investigating romance scams that took place from March to April.Since the Cambodian authorities informed the South Korean police of their crackdown on local voice phishing call centres from July to September, and the detention of South Korean nationals suspected of involvement in the schemes, the NPA has designated the South Chungcheong and North Gyeonggi offices as the main investigation agencies for the crimes.Police said several repatriated suspects have told investigators they were detained and assaulted by members of scam rings in Cambodia. All 64 have undergone drug tests with their consent, and all have come back negative, the police said.



nuclear facilities or not? These interventions are inappropriate, wrong and coercive."Western powers accuse Iran of covertly trying to develop a nuclear bomb through enrichment of uranium, and want it to cease such activity. Tehran denies seeking to weaponise enrichment, saying the programme has solely civilian energy purposes.

view in his office at Pakistan's parliament in Islamabad."We have a ceasefire agreement as long as there is no violation of the agreement which is already in force."Tehreek-e-Taliban Pakistan, commonly known as the Pakistani Taliban, an umbrella of several Islamist militant groups, operates out of Afghanistan to attack Pakistan "in connivance" with the ruling Taliban, the minister said.Kabul denies giving haven to militants to attack Pakistan and accuses the Pakistani military of spreading misinformation about Afghanistan and sheltering Islamic State-linked militants to undermine its stability and sovereignty.

Zabihullah Mujahid, the Taliban spokesperson, said on Sunday that at the Doha talks, "It was decided that neither country would take hostile actions against the other, and support will not be provided to groups operating against the government of Pakistan."In a follow-up post on X, he said it reflected the Taliban's longstanding position that Afghanistan's territory would not be used against any other country.The statements made about the agreement did not constitute a joint declaration, he said.The Pakistani Taliban, who have been waging a war for years against the Pakistani state in a bid to overthrow the government and replace it with their strict brand of Islamic governance, have accelerated attacks in recent months to target Pakistani military.Pakistan carried out airstrikes on the Afghan capital Kabul, including one on October 9 in an attempt to kill Pakistani Taliban leader Noor Wali Mehsud, Pakistan security officials have said, though he later appeared in a video showing he was alive."We were being attacked. Our territory was being attacked. So we just did tit for tat. We were paying them in the same coin," Asif said."They are in Kabul. They are everywhere. Wherever they are we will attack them. Kabul is not, you know, a no-go area."The next round of talks would be held in Istanbul on October 25 to evolve a mechanism on how to enforce the agreement, Asif said.Qatar's foreign ministry, which mediated Saturday's talks along with Turkey, said the follow-up meetings were meant "to ensure the sustainability of the ceasefire and verify its implementation in a reliable and sustainable manner".



public sector protests, fuelling inflation and bolstering the hard right in opinion polls.

DEFICIT REDUCTION MEASURESIn September, the government fast-tracked through parliament a second package of spending cuts aimed at eliminating what Bolojan called unjust privileges for a few in the public sector.The package included some tax hikes from 2026, raising the judiciary retirement age, job cuts and wage curbs for financial, energy, telecoms regulators and state-owned firms, and healthcare reform.

## German coalition unruliness threatens Merz's reform agenda



BERLIN, - German Chancellor Friedrich Merz is struggling to push through two key policy proposals on pensions and military service, in a setback fuelling concerns that some of the political instability seen in France could soon echo in Europe's largest economy.Merz's conservatives and the centre-left Social Democrats had promised to provide more stability when they formed their "marriage of convenience" five months ago after the collapse of a fractious three-way coalition.A historic spending package agreed before they took office helped smooth the path for a coalition, giving a certain fiscal leeway for them to achieve their differing goals.

But the coalition, which only has a slim parliamentary majority, has been beset by tensions since day one, when Merz became the first ever chancellor to fail to be elected in the first round of voting.While the coalition leaders have a good working relationship, they are struggling to keep their lawmakers in line. Many within Merz's own conservatives are disappointed at the degree of compromise needed when their campaign promised radical change - making secret ballots, like the one to elect the chancellor, particularly risky, lawmakers told Reuters.

Merz, who had no government experience prior to taking office as chancellor, has taken a hands-off approach towards infighting both within the coalition and his own party."If the coalition continues in this way, it will not be able to effect any meaningful change," Philipp Koeker, political scientist at the University of Hanover.Analysts say governance is being complicated by distrust between and within the parties, ideological misalignment, a lack of governing experience in Merz's cabinet, and the scale of the challenges facing Germany.Yet the coalition needs to move fast as the economy is facing its third year of contraction and the unreliability of its top security partner, the United States,

## Zelenskiy paints meeting with Trump as a success, touts new Patriot systems



KYIV, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy painted his meeting last week with Donald Trump as a success that yielded progress on acquiring new air defence systems, a contrast from reports that Trump had berated him with obscenities in the White House.In comments made to media on Sunday initially off-the-record but authorised for publication on Monday, the Ukrainian leader described Trump's message at the meeting, which ended with Trump calling for a ceasefire with forces in place, as "positive".The Reuters Daily Briefing newsletter provides all the news you need to start your day. Sign up here.As a result of Zelenskiy's visit to Washington, Ukraine was now preparing a contract to buy 25 Patriot air defence systems, a major boost to its defences against Russian missile attacks, Zelenskiy said.Zelenskiy was speaking before Reuters and other news organisations reported that Trump had pushed Zelenskiy to give up territory during their meeting, which sources described as more tense than initially disclosed.TRUMP'S 'MESSAGE IN MY VIEW IS POSITIVE', ZELENSKIY SAYS"After many rounds of discussion over more than two hours with (Trump) and his team, his message, in my view, is positive: that we stand where

## Russia tightening law on sabotage, citing rising Ukraine, NATO threats

MOSCOW, GNS News Agency, Nov 1- Russian lawmakers said on Monday they had drafted a law mandating life imprisonment for anyone involving minors in sabotage and lowering the age threshold for criminal responsibility for such crimes to 14 years old.Since it sent military forces into Ukraine in 2022, Russia has crafted a series of laws which give state security agencies extensive powers to detain those accused of misrepresenting the war or opposing the state.

Vasily Piskaryov, chairman of the lower house of parliament's security committee, said a bill introduced into the lower house of parliament on Monday and backed by 419 out of 450 deputies would increase the security of the state.

'INEVITABILITY OF PUNISHMENT'The bill will "increase the inevitability of punishment for those who try to undermine the foundations of our state," Piskaryov said."It will more toughly punish those who involve children in terrorism and sabotage, up to life imprisonment," he said, adding that the age threshold would be reduced to 14 years old.Piskaryov said the law was needed because sabotage posed a threat to the Russian state. He accused the secret services of Ukraine and NATO members of stepping up subversive attacks on Russia including by involving minors in sabotage.

He gave no specific examples but cited data from prosecutors which said that there were 204 subversive crimes registered in 2024, but 174 in just the first half of 2025 alone.NATO and Ukrainian authorities did not immediately respond to Reuters requests for comment. Kyiv has in the past accused Russia of involving Ukrainian minors in at-

makes it all the more vulnerable to growing Russian security concerns.RISE OF THE FAR RIGHTThe bill reintroducing voluntary military service and opening the door to a reintroduction of the draft is urgently needed, for example, to help boost Germany's long-neglected armed forces, say its proponents. Defence Minister Boris Pistorius has pledged that it would take effect in 2026 - a timeline that now looks at risk.The latest turbulence in Germany comes after multiple collapses of French governments in the past year, raising the prospect of political paralysis and a further rise in support for the far-right in both the EU's two top economies.Support for the Alternative for Germany (AfD) has surged in tandem with a drop in support for the conservatives and SPD and the far-right party now frequently polls first place nationwide.Lawmakers from the conservatives' youth faction warned last week they would withhold support for the pension bill, one of the party's flagship compromises with the SPD that freezes pensions through 2031 while incentivising people to work for longer.They argue it cements benefits without fixing the financing as Germany ages, leaving young people to foot the bill.

BRINGING BACK MILITARY SERVICE? Meanwhile, conservative and SPD lawmakers sought to rewrite the defence minister's bill on the introduction of military service even before he could introduce it to parliament.With the SPD seeking a voluntary scheme and the conservatives demanding some kind of draft, senior lawmakers agreed on a "lottery" to call up men in case not enough young people signed up.But Pistorius rejected the "lazy compromise", prompting the parties to cancel a joint news conference at the last minute.While the coalition is expected to eventually find new compromises on both bills, analysts fear they could be messy, slow to come and trust between parties has already been broken.Merz has been criticised for his reluctance to intervene - for example when his conservatives torpedoed the SPD's choice for a constitutional court judge already agreed by party leaders - a move that dented SPD trust in their coalition partner.Critics accuse him of focusing on foreign policy, earning him the moniker "Aussenkanzler" or "foreign chancellor" for his foreign policy successes - at the expense of domestic politics.

Merz has built a rapport with Donald Trump despite the U.S. president's frustrations with Germany over its trade surplus and defence spending, and helped improve tense relations between Trump and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy.Merz's approval ratings have dropped by roughly 12-15 points since June to around 27%, far behind those of his two predecessors in the same period, making him one of the least popular chancellors in recent memory.

we stand on the front line," Zelenskiy said.

Ukraine and its allies have long called for an immediate ceasefire with troops in place, while Moscow has demanded Ukraine cede further territory before it would halt fighting.Zelenskiy did not specify how close Ukraine had come to signing the contract for the 25 Patriots, but he said that a great deal of time on his trip had been spent discussing the issue, including directly with Trump.Zelenskiy did not achieve his stated aim of persuading Washington to provide Ukraine with Tomahawk cruise missiles for long-range attacks inside Russia. Zelenskiy said he believed this was because Trump did not want to take steps that would anger Vladimir Putin shortly before a plan to meet the Russian president at a summit.Zelenskiy has spent half a year rebuilding his relationship with Trump since a disastrous meeting in February, in which Trump and Vice President JD Vance berated the Ukrainian leader in front of cameras in the White House Oval Office.Zelenskiy returned to the White House on Friday to meet Trump, a day after Trump spoke by telephone to Putin.Three sources described Trump's meeting with Zelenskiy as tense, with Trump repeatedly using profanity."It was pretty bad," one of the sources said of the meeting. "The message was, 'Your country will freeze, and your country will be destroyed'" if Ukraine doesn't make a deal with Russia.It was the latest apparent shift in positions for Trump, who had said for months that Ukraine must give up territory to make peace, only to describe Russia last month as a "paper tiger" and say Ukraine could potentially win back all its land.Trump and Putin are planning to meet in Budapest, capital of Hungary, a NATO and EU member that has maintained warm relations with Moscow throughout the Ukraine war.Zelenskiy criticised the choice of venue, suggesting that Hungary's domestic politics had played a role in the choice: "We are talking about peace in Ukraine, not elections in Hungary". However, he said that he would be willing to attend talks there if he were to be invited.



tempts to destroy Ukrainian infrastructure during the war.RUSSIA SAYS WEST HELPING UKRAINE ATTACK ITS ENERGY SITESUkraine in recent months has stepped up attacks on Russian oil refineries and other energy installations, and Moscow says the West including major NATO powers have been supplying Kyiv with intelligence.Moscow and Kyiv have accused each other of assassinating people.The Kremlin says a general tightening of the law is necessary to preserve order as Russia was facing an unprecedented hybrid attack from the West, which has backed Ukraine with hundreds of billions of dollars worth of arms and intelligence.Opponents of the Kremlin, such as Alexei Navalny, who died in an Arctic prison in 2024, said that President Vladimir Putin had crafted a brittle dictatorial system which would one day be swept aside by the torrents of history.



# Collector Pamela Satpathy Emphasizes Public Awareness on Unclaimed Assets.



“P.S.ASHOKAN”Karimnagar Bureau. District Collector Smt. Pamela Satpathy has called upon representatives of banks, insurance companies, and financial institutions to take proactive measures to create public awareness about unclaimed financial assets such as bank deposits, insurance policies, provident funds, mutual funds, and shares, enabling rightful claimants to recover their dues. Addressing a review meeting held on Saturday at the Collectorate Auditorium, attended by officials from banks, insurance agencies, and regulatory bodies, the Collector emphasized the importance of accurate documentation at the time of opening bank accounts. She underlined that “every depositor must mandatorily provide nominee details and complete all personal particulars carefully.” She observed that in many cases, individuals working or residing in different parts of the country have left their investments unclaimed across various financial institutions. As a result, due to incomplete address details and lack of contact with family members, substantial sums have remained idle in dormant accounts. However, she noted that with the advent of Aadhaar and mobile connectivity, tracing such accounts

has now become far more feasible. The Collector highlighted that unclaimed assets worth over 72 lakh crore remain undistributed across India. To address this long-standing issue, the Government of India has launched the UDGM (Unclaimed Deposits Gateway to Access Information) Portal, which allows citizens to trace and claim their unclaimed funds from multiple financial entities through a single platform. She stated that Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurated this initiative in Gujarat on October 1, under the national campaign titled “Mera Paisa, Mera Haq” (My Money, My Right). Through this platform, citizens can visit their respective banks or financial institutions, submit the required documents, and claim their legitimate amounts. The awareness campaign will continue until December 31, during which information stalls will be set up at the village level to educate the public about the process. On this occasion, awareness stalls were arranged within the Collectorate premises, and several beneficiaries were handed settlement letters acknowledging their claims. Officials from various banks, financial institutions, and beneficiaries participated actively in the programme.

# Launch of the collective Shiva Naam Smarana pamphlet

Sanatana Hindu Temples Preservation Committee President Devarakonda Narasimha Chari (Mandava Srisailem. Yadadri Bhuvanagiri District Bureau... Indian Chronicle. November 1):- Sanatana Hindu Temples Preservation Committee President Devarakonda Narasimha Chari, Pachchalakatta Someswara Swamy Temple Committee Chairman Kolluri Raju Brahmin Sangam District Secretary Ramagiri Koteswara Sharma Ayyappa Guruswamy Sadhu Upendar Swamy have called for a collective Shiva Naam Smarana on Wednesday, the 5th of this month, from 7.15 pm to 7.30 pm, to celebrate Kartika Pournami. Everyone is invited to participate in this program, which is being carried out on the advice of Vedic Brahmins, spiritual gurus, Brahmins and Vishwa Brahmin priests. On the occasion of Kartika month, everyone is invited to participate in this program, which is being carried out on the advice of Vedic Brahmins, spiritual gurus, Brahmins and Vishwa Brahmin priests. During the launch of the pamphlet, the group was asked to chant Shiva's name while Shiva Keshavula was roaming on earth and seek the blessings of the Swami. They asked everyone to be there at the specified time on that day and to chant Shiva's name for fifteen



minutes while doing household chores, business, and other activities. In this program, Kappagantula Nagaraju Sharma, Bisma Sharma, Praveen Sharma, Chenna, Mahesh Guruswami, Kalya Nagaraju, Potnak, Rahul Karipe, Manish, Errozu, Praveen, Chari, Bari, and Ayyappa Swami participated in the launch of the pamphlet.

# CP Amber Kishore Jha, IPS, Conducts Surprise Inspection at Anthargam Police Station



Reiterates Commitment to Professional Excellence and Public Trust. P.S.ASHOKAN Karimnagar Bureau. Ramaguntam Commissioner of Police Sri Amber Kishore Jha, IPS, carried out a surprise inspection of the Anthargam Police Station on Saturday, as part of the Commissionerate's continuous efforts to reinforce accountability, efficiency, and service integrity within the police system. During the inspection, the Commissioner undertook a comprehensive review of the police station premises and examined the geographical jurisdiction, operational

structure, and overall administrative discipline. He closely assessed the nature and volume of cases registered, particularly those frequently reported within the station limits, and reviewed the law and order situation in the surrounding villages. Sri Amber Kishore Jha interacted with the front-desk personnel, verified the documentation, registers, and records, and conducted a thorough appraisal of all pending cases. He directed the officers to ensure expeditious disposal of investigations while maintaining the highest standards of transparency and procedural diligence. The Commissioner emphasized that every police station must serve as a symbol of public confidence and institutional integrity. He urged officers to exhibit discipline, vigilance, and citizen-centric professionalism, ensuring that every individual approaching the police receives respectful, prompt, and just assistance. He also underscored the significance of maintaining clean premises, organized record-keeping, and proactive community engagement, which collectively enhance the credibility and operational readiness of the police force. The inspection concluded with the Commissioner's directive to uphold zero tolerance toward negligence, reaffirming his vision of a responsive, ethical, and people-oriented policing system across the Ramaguntam Commissionerate.

# “I Am Neither Their Voice Nor Theirs — I Am the Voice of Telangana’s People”: Kalvakuntla Kavitha.

P.S.ASHOKAN Karimnagar Bureau. Jagruthi President deplores political inertia, demands 50,000 per acre compensation for cyclone-hit farmers, and urges equitable access to education and healthcare. Declaring that Telangana is gripped by a political void, Smt. Kalvakuntla Kavitha, President of Telangana Jagruthi, lamented that mainstream political parties have abandoned their duty to champion public causes. She affirmed that her movement will stand steadfastly with the people, fighting for their rights and restoring moral accountability in governance. Addressing the media at a private hotel in Karimnagar on Saturday, Kavitha observed that despite widespread devastation caused by the recent Montha cyclone, major political parties remain apathetic, more absorbed in electoral pursuits than in alleviating farmers' suffering. She demanded that the State Government sanction compensation of 750,000 per acre to all cyclone-affected farmers and criticized both the BJP and Congress for their silence on labour reforms that undermine workers' rights. Prime Minister Modi tramples on labour rights, yet neither Congress nor BRS has raised a voice for the working class. Rahul Gandhi speaks passionately about farmers' laws, but why does he not speak of labour laws? she questioned pointedly. Clarifying her stance on the Jubilee Hills by-election, Kavitha asserted

that Telangana Jagruthi holds no partisan position. Recalling her earlier interventions in the Legislative Council, she noted, “Only after I raised the issue of fee reimbursement did the Chief Minister release 700 crore.” She extended her solidarity to educational institutions struggling for reimbursement dues, promising unwavering support to their cause. Refuting allegations of political alignment, Kavitha proclaimed, “They may call me their arrow or someone else's weapon — but I am the arrow of Telangana's people, guided solely by their aspirations.” She further vowed to embrace every betrayed activist of the Telangana movement and to secure compensation for the families of unrecognized martyrs. She emphasized the need to ensure universal access to education, healthcare, and social welfare benefits, describing them as the pillars of a humane and equitable state. Expressing grave concern over the deteriorating civic infrastructure, Kavitha remarked that the Karimnagar-Vemulawada road is blanketed with dust, while the roads in Huzurabad and Manakondur have fallen into appalling disrepair. On the social front, she decried the alarming deaths in welfare hostels, revealing that over 110 children have lost their lives in such institutions within the last eighteen months, calling it “a blot on the conscience of the administration.”

# A Call To Make The Adivasi Dharma Yuddam Maha Sabha To Be Held In Utnoor On November 23, 2025,A Success.

Indian Chronicle" kumrambheem, Asifabad, District Reporte, Jade Srinivas. October, 01. Joint Adilabad “In Utnoor in the district, the tribals held a Dharma Yuddham open-air meeting with the main slogan of Adivasi Bachao Lambada Hatao and with the sole demand of removing Lambadas from the ST list. On November 23, the coordinator of all tribal associations, Mesram Durgu (District Medi), called for a huge public meeting in the name of Dharma Yuddha at the MPDO ground in Utnoor. On this occasion, a large number of tribals from the joint Adilabad district should come to this meeting, Adilabad district itself is known as the cradle of movements, and a huge, very large number of people should come to the Utnoor meeting and make the meeting a success, and all caste associations, public associations, and employee associations should work together for this meeting, he said in a statement. Tudungbe

district president Pendor Dadirao, Adivasi Sankshema Parishad district president Sedmaki Rama Rao, Adivasi Sena district president Rai Seedam Jangu Patel, Pradhan Sangam district president Uika Sudarshan, and And Samaj Adilabad district president Mukade Vishnu were present at the event. Adivasi Students Association State President Seedam Jangu Dev, Adivasi Student Association District Working President Kanaka Ganesh, District Rai Center Treasurer Kari Madavi Anand Rao, Tudungbe District Vice Presidents Mesram Manik Rao, Naitham Chitru Patel Matadi Sarmedi Purka Chitru, Tudungbe Indravelli Mandal President Ada Sri Ram, Tudungbe Narnoor Mandal President Pendor Tri Murthy, Tudungbe Utnoor Mandal President Pendor Mahender, Adivasi Student Association Sirkonda President Mesram Mothiram, Tudungbe Narnoor Vice President Pusam Devarao, Janda Rai Center Gitedari and others participate

# Steps Taken To Create Facilities In The Desired Block

District Additional Collector Deepak Tiwari

Indian Chronicle" kumrambheem, Asifabad, District Reporte, Jade Srinivas. October, 01. Asifabad District Additional Collector (Local Bodies) Deepak Tiwari said that steps should be taken to create infrastructure in the Akankshitha Block of Tiryani Mandal. On Friday, a review meeting was held with the officials of the Education, Medical- Health, Child Welfare, Agriculture and Rural Development departments on the infrastructure works to be undertaken in the "Akankshitha Block" Tiryani Mandal at the Collectorate Conference Hall in the district center. Speaking on the occasion, the District Additional Collector said that steps should be taken to create infrastructure in the Akankshitha Block Tiryani Mandal. The construction work of Anganwadi buildings should be completed quickly and put into use, R. O. plants should be set up in primary health centers and social health centers to provide clean drinking water to the people coming to the hospital, waiting rooms should be built for the assistants who come with the patients, and medical services should be provided to the patients. He said that computers should be installed in schools for students, plans should be prepared for the provision of water facilities for farmers for agricultural cultivation, and



estimates should be prepared for the construction of buildings for the self-help groups to meet. He said that as part of the desired program, the officials should work to take Tiryani mandal forward in all sectors. Officials of the relevant departments and others participated in this program.

# DYFI Foundation Day Celebrations



Indian Chronicle" kumrambheem, Asifabad, District Reporte, Jade Srinivas. October, 01. On the occasion of the 46th Foundation Day of the Democratic Youth Federation of India, District President Teekanand hoisted the DYFI flag in front of the Public Associations Office in Asifabad District Center. He said that DYFI was formed in Luthiyanagaram, Punjab in the month of November in 1980. He said that DYFI fights on job, employment and youth issues. DYFI District Vice President Purushottam and Secretary Karthik participated.

# IMA 9th State Conference Begins in Karimnagar: Swearing-in of New State President



Chittimalla Mahendar, Karimnagar Bureau, November 1, INDIAN CHRONICLE: The 9th Telangana State Conference of the Indian Medical Association (IMA) will be held on Sunday at V Convention Hall on the outskirts of

Karimnagar, announced Organizing Committee Chairman Dr. P. Kishan and Organizing Secretary Dr. Polasa Ramkiran. Addressing a press conference at the Karimnagar IMA Hall on Saturday, former IMA State Presidents Dr. Shyam Sunder, Dr. B.N. Rao, and Dr. Vijender Reddy stated that the conference will feature expert discussions on advanced medical practices and detailed deliberations on IMA's forthcoming programs. During the event, newly elected IMA Telangana State President Dr. P. Kishan will take the oath of office.

The conference will be attended by Telangana IT Minister Duddilla Sridhar Babu, MLA Gangula Kamalakara, SUDA Chairman Komatireddy Narender Reddy, and IMA representatives from all 33 districts of Telangana. On this occasion, the conference brochure was unveiled. Prominent among those present were IMA Karimnagar President Dr. Akula Shailaja, Secretary Dr. Mahesh, Treasurer Dr. Neelima, Dr. C.H. Vijay Kumar, and Dr. Vasanth Rao.

# Collector Garima Agarwal Emphasizes Strengthening Institutional Deliveries and Public Health Services



P.S.ASHOKAN Karimnagar Bureau. In-charge District Collector Smt. Garima Agarwal, IAS, has directed medical and administrative officials to intensify efforts to increase the number of institutional deliveries in government hospitals across Rajanna Sircilla District, ensuring that expectant mothers receive safe, reliable, and quality healthcare under state supervision. As part of her field review, the Collector conducted a surprise inspection at the Primary Health Centre (PHC), Hanmajipet, in Vemulawada Rural Mandal on Saturday. She meticulously examined the attendance of medical staff, the outpatient and medicine registers, vaccine storage facilities, and the pharmacy division. During the visit, she also interacted with patients, gathering direct feedback regarding the efficiency and accessibility of healthcare services at the centre. Speaking on the occa-

sion, Smt. Garima Agarwal underscored the pivotal role of ASHA workers in ensuring that all pregnant women register at government hospitals and avail themselves of continuous antenatal care.

She instructed the health staff to educate the public about the importance of institutional deliveries, highlighting the superior medical safety, hygiene, and professional support provided in government facilities. She further emphasized the need for vigorous public awareness campaigns on seasonal disease prevention, personal hygiene, and environmental sanitation, urging health officials to strengthen preventive healthcare outreach at the community level. Ensure Nutritious Meals and Academic Discipline in Schools:

# “Strict Action Against Unauthorized Structures

Indian Chronicle" kumrambheem, Asifabad, District Reporte, Jade Srinivas. October, 01. Strict Action Against Unauthorized Structures In The District:- Collector Venkatesh Dotre. Collector Venkatesh Dotre said that action will be taken against unauthorized constructions in municipalities and gram panchayats in the district. A review was held with district officials at the Asifabad Collectorate on day. The collector said that the officials should record the details of the complaints received about the construction of buildings without proper permissions in municipalities and gram panchayats in the registers.



# How Visvesvaraya, Muthulakshmi and Mahalanobis shaped modern India



Born in colonial India in the 19th century, all three would go on to blaze new trails in their chosen fields and make foundational contributions to the social, economic, and institutional landscape of independent India in the 20th century. Although spread across different domains, their work displayed a deep commitment to public service and nation-building during the transition from colonial rule to freedom. They showed what independent India was capable of, and what it should work for. Born in the village of Muddenahalli in present-day Chikkaballapura, Visvesvaraya started out as a civil engineer who grew to become a skilled administrator and the 19th Dewan of Mysore from 1912 to 1918. He pushed strongly for industrial modernity in a colonial era that could not conceive of the idea of Indian self-reliance.

Aparajith Ramnath’s extensive biography, *Engineering a Nation* (Penguin India), of “the most famous Indian engineer of the twentieth century” throws light on Visvesvaraya’s remarkable contributions across multiple dimensions of governance. Beginning with the careful and scientific management of water for pioneering irrigation and drinking water projects, Visvesvaraya was also invested in flood protection and drainage systems; expansion in scientific research and technical education; establishment of colleges, industries, and railway lines; and economic planning and development. In the face of colonial scepticism, these achievements set high standards of integrity, excellence, and self-reliance. If Visvesvaraya was committed to modernising education, engineering, and infrastructure, it was with a view to improve the quality of people’s daily lives. “My one aim was to plan, promote and encourage developments, chiefly in education, industries, commerce, and public works, to enable people to work well, earn well, and live well,” he wrote. Believing that people played an active part in shaping their nation’s destiny, he wrote in *Reconstructing India* about the choice before Indians: to decide “whether they will be educated or remain ignorant; whether they will come into closer touch with the outer world and become responsive to its influences, or remain secluded and indif-

ferent; whether they will be organised or disunited, bold or timid, enterprising or passive; an industrial or an agricultural nation; rich or poor; strong and respected, or weak and dominated by forward nations.” Inspirational doctor

Muthulakshmi Reddy, born in Pudukottai as the daughter of a college principal and his companion from the Melakkara community, faced discrimination right from birth. After completing her school education as the first girl student at a school for boys, Muthulakshmi went to Madras to study medicine, topped the exam, and became the first Indian woman surgeon from the Madras Medical College. V.R. Devika’s brief biography, *Muthulakshmi Reddy: A Trailblazer in Surgery and Women’s Rights* (Niyogi Books), illuminates the story of this inspirational woman who “lived every moment of her life achieving impossible dreams.” Reddy became the first woman legislator in Madras; fought for the abolition of the Devadasi system; founded the Avvai women’s shelter; and established the Adyar cancer hospital — where she broke another intractable barrier, by stipulating that poor patients would be treated in the same way as affluent patients. Fittingly, Tamil Nadu’s progressive and impactful maternity benefit scheme is named after Muthulakshmi Reddy. “Even today her achievements resonate in Pudukottai, with several families naming their daughters Muthulakshmi,” notes Devika. Planning for the economy After his childhood in Calcutta, Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis went to England to study science, but soon grew fascinated with statistics and its potential for economic development. In *Planning Democracy: How a Professor, an Institute, and an Idea Shaped India* (Penguin), Nikhil Menon describes how, starting the Indian Statistical Institute in 1932, and the National Sample Survey in 1950, Mahalanobis influenced the way in which the newly independent nation could measure its growth and plan its economic development. This was especially reflected in the Second Five Year Plan, which laid a foundation for the development of heavy industry in India. The new discipline of statistics and data gathering for national planning would become a model for other parts of the world. Surveying a sample set of villages out of 5,60,000 across India to gather data about the economic life of Indians, NSS surveys would throw light on consumption, expenditure, employment, and poverty at a granular level. Menon quotes Mahalanobis on the central role of statistics in planning for development: “Statistics must have a purpose,” he said. “Poverty is the most basic problem of the country, and statistics must help in solving this problem.” As pioneering reformers in their fields, committed to public service, institutional development, and social progress through education and expertise, here were three historical figures who shaped the trajectory of modern India in their unique ways, leaving rich institutional and social legacies that continue today.

# New definition of pandemic emergency enters global health dictionary

, amendments to the International Health Regulations (IHR) came into effect. These rules bind 196 States Parties (the 194 WHO Member States, along with two non-members). Under these rules, each country retains the authority to legislate for its own population, but commits to act in ways that protect the wider international community from disease threats. The concept has its roots in 19th century Europe, when cholera outbreaks along trade routes prompted the first International Sanitary Conference in Paris in 1851. These conferences created rules for quarantine and information exchange. Over the next century, they led to a series of conventions, including specific agreements on aerial navigation and maritime health during the World Wars. Following the creation of the WHO in 1948, these fragmented conventions were consolidated into the International Sanitary Regulations of 1951. They covered six diseases: cholera, plague, yellow fever, smallpox, relapsing fever, and typhus. Their focus remained on shipping, ports, and border certificates, reflecting the priorities of the time.

In 1969, the regulations were renamed the International Health Regulations. The scope was narrowed to three diseases - cholera, plague, and yellow fever. Certificates of vaccination and quarantine requirements remained central, but the narrow disease list soon proved outdated. The outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) in 2003 demonstrated the weaknesses of the older system. In 2005, the World Health Assembly (WHA) adopted a completely revised IHR. This version applies to any “public health emergency of international concern,” not just to specific diseases. It required notification to the WHO within 24 hours, mandated development of “core capacities” in disease detection and response, and required each States Party to establish a system for round-the-clock communication.

Amendment procedure The technical process of amendment is set out in Article 55 of the IHR. Amendments may be proposed by any State Party or by the WHO Director-General. They are then circulated to all State Parties for consideration. Adoption requires a majority decision of the World Health Assembly, which is the forum where all 196 States Parties are represented. Once adopted, the amendments are transmitted to all States Parties by the Director-General. Under Article 59, they enter into force after a fixed period, unless a country expressly rejects them under Article 61. A country may also enter reservations under Article 62. The 2024 amendments were adopted through consensus at the 77th WHA, rather than by a formal vote. This means no Member State opposed them strongly enough to require voting, allowing the text to be accepted collectively. The resolution WHA77.17 (2024), adopted several amendments. The IHR also established technical committees to guide decision-making. The Emergency Committee, created under Article 48, is composed of international experts chosen for their relevance to the event at hand. It advises the WHO Director-General on whether an event constitutes a public health emergency of international concern or a pandemic emergency, and on the temporary recommendations that should follow. The Review Committee, created under Article 50, is another expert body. It provides technical advice on proposed amendments, on the content of standing recommendations, and on any other questions referred by the Director-General.

Pandemic emergency defined The 2024 amendments add a new legal category: Pandemic Emergency. This is defined as a public health emergency of international concern caused by a communicable disease that has, or is at high risk of having, wide geographical spread to and within multiple States, and that overwhelms health systems with significant social and economic disruption requiring rapid, equitable, and enhanced international action with the potential need for a whole-of-government and whole-of-society response. This definition now sits alongside the existing “public health emergency of international concern.” WHO has clarified that negotiations on a separate pandemic agreement, being conducted by an intergovernmental negotiat-



ing body, continue independently. The legal definition of pandemic emergency, however, already enters into force through these IHR amendments. National IHR Authority

The amendments require every country to establish a National IHR Authority, distinct from the Focal Point. While the Focal Point is mainly a channel of communication, the Authority will have responsibility for coordinating implementation of the regulations across ministries and sectors, ensuring coherence between health, transport, trade, and security agencies. For India, this will mean formal designation of such an authority by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, (or any nodal ministry as designated by GoI) with likely involvement of Parliament in updating public health laws. India will need to reinforce its disease surveillance networks, laboratory infrastructure, and rapid response mechanisms, while also enacting measures to protect personal data during emergencies. To ensure compliance, the WHO and States Parties use Joint External Evaluations (JEE). These are voluntary but collaborative reviews in which international experts work with national authorities to assess readiness across key areas such as surveillance, laboratory systems, risk communication, and health workforce. The results help identify gaps and priorities for investment, strengthening the ability of countries to meet their IHR obligations. From cholera quarantines in the 1850s to the sanitary regulations of 1951, from the disease-specific rules of 1969 to the broad system of 2005, and now the detailed amendments of 2024, the IHR have continuously adapted. With 196 States Parties now bound, a new definition of pandemic emergency has entered the global health dictionary.

# Supergiant delivers a stunning sequel with Melinoë

Escape, fight, die, repeat — that was the simple formula with which I played Hades, and the sheer number of times I died trying to get Zagreus to meet his mother Persephone is simply uncountable. Yet, through all my time with Hades, it never felt like Bloodborne or Elden Ring. The characters, the dialogue and the dungeons spurred me on to keep trying. So, when I finally beat Hades (after two years of trying), I did not mind diving back in again a few months later. Hades remains one of the greatest roguelike games ever made, and succeeding it is not easy. But with Hades II, Supergiant has managed to outdo the original and deliver a worthy contender to Clair Obscur 33 for Game of the Year. For those who have not played Hades II in its early access phase, the game shifts focus away from Zagreus to his younger sister Melinoë, who is born at the end of Hades when Persephone finally relents and returns to the underworld. But happiness seldom lasts in hell. Chronos, the leader of the Titans, escapes his imprisonment in Tartarus and takes Hades, Persephone and Zagreus hostage. Melinoë,

# When an industrialist’s saree giveaway at Palani ended in stampede on Gandhi Jayanthi in 1993



Pitchai Chettiar, who was stated to be running textile mills at Tiruppur and Dharmapuri districts, was used to distributing sarees and dhotis to the poor. His philanthropy formula was this — for every, 1,000 sarees manufactured, he would set apart one saree for free distribution. That year he had originally made arrangements for the distribution of free sarees to needy women in Palani on October 3. However, he advanced it by a day and booked a kalyana mandapam (wedding hall) to hand over the sarees to the beneficiaries.

Hundreds of women started to queue up at the marriage hall, as a small posse of policemen, who were on bandobust duty, looked on. However, late at night chaos broke out with everyone in the crowd wanting to grab the sarees. In the melee many elderly women fell down leading to a stampede that killed 12 and injured two women. Among those who died were two octogenarians and three septuagenarians. Only two of the victims were not senior citizens, aged between 45 and 55 years. “Eyewitnesses said a big crowd had even gathered from 10 a.m. Late in the night, the distribution started and a few who had received clothes were returning when some women from outside gatecrashed into the kalyana mandapam. Many old women fell down and were trampled upon. An old woman, who was one of the beneficiaries, said she saw many women standing on the bodies, keen to receive the sarees rather than helping the old people who had been trampled on,” a report in The Hindu dated October 4, 1993, said. The police arrested Pitchai Chettiar, his son Palaniappan and five persons belonging to his industry and registered cases against them.

Early next morning Deputy Inspector General of Police S. V. Venkatakrishnan, inspected the scene of the tragedy. Later, he told journalists, the organisers could have made pucca arrangements with entrance and exit gates in the street, whose width was between six and eight feet. “The people had to elbow their way into the kalyana mandapam,” he said. As per his version, four police personnel were posted at the venue for crowd control. “The organisers distributed 1,200 sarees and when a few more were to be distributed,

an announcement was made. As a result another 1,500 people waiting to get their clothes rushed in, leading to the stampede and deaths,” the report said. Incidentally, bodies of five victims were taken away by relatives. The DIG said they had to be persuaded to return the bodies so that post-mortem and other formalities could be completed. Chief Minister Jayalalitha (as her name was spelt before 2001) ordered an enquiry by G. Malaikani, the Revenue Divisional Officer of Palani. She announced a solatium of ₹10,000 to families of each of the deceased and ₹5,000 each to the injured women from the Chief Minister’s Relief Fund.

As per The Hindu report, “...she said charity to the needy was to be appreciated, but the attempts by some persons to promote themselves under the garb of philanthropy could not be accepted by the Government.” Ordering action against the organisers of the event, Jayalalitha said to avoid such incidents, police permission would not be granted for functions of this nature. Also, if private parties intended making donations, they should identify individual beneficiaries and arrange for the distribution with adequate police protection. She also noted, the Government itself was every year distributing free dhoties and sarees to landless labourers and all those living below the poverty line. If Jayalalitha believed distribution of clothes by the Government would be incident-free, it was not. She was proved wrong on March 8, 1996, when a 70-year-old woman, Navameri of Vadakku Vasal in Thanjavur, died and 17 other women were injured in a stampede at Sangeetha Mahal in Palace Complex when then Revenue Minister S.D. Somasundaram, was distributing free dhotis and sarees to landless agriculture labours. “Navameri, who fell and was trampled upon by the surging crowd of women who suddenly entered the Mahal by opening the main gate near where they were waiting for a long time, was pronounced dead at the Thanjavur Medical College Hospital. The injured persons were admitted to the hospital,” said a report in this newspaper. As per the report, to regulate the crowd and ensure orderly distribution the officials allowed only 500 persons inside the Mahal and asked others to wait outside. “As the Minister had come to Thanjavur in the morning and was distributing dhotis and sarees at different places, the women were waiting for a long time outside the Mahal.

The Minister, who came at 3 p.m., distributed sarees and dhotis to the persons inside the Mahal. Nearly 300 women were waiting at the main gate while the Minister distributed sarees and dhoties to five hundred persons inside. Those who got the sarees and dhotis were getting out through the side gate. As the Minister was about to finish distribution inside the hall, women waiting near the main gate surged forward, opened the door and started running inside. In their eagerness to go inside they did not notice the steps immediately after the entrance. They fell down and a stampede ensued,” said the report.

# Why is environmental surveillance important? | Explained

The story so far: Pathogens (usually bacteria and viruses) that cause diseases in humans and animals, can be tracked in samples taken from the environment, for example, by sampling sewage through wastewater surveillance. This can provide early warnings for potential disease outbreaks.

How does this work?

Samples taken from sewage treatment plants, effluents from hospitals and from public spaces such as railway stations and toilets in airplanes, can be studied to see how the pathogens they contain change from day-to-day. It works because pathogens of interest are shed in the stools or urine of infected individuals. Diseases transmitted by parasitic worms such as roundworms and hookworms can also be monitored through wastewater and soil samples, providing information about the burden of the disease and the effectiveness of control measures. Rigorous protocols inform the collection of samples. These protocols detail how samples must be collected and processed, and how pathogens are detected and analysed. By following these protocols, comparisons of pathogen load become possible, and whole-genome sequencing enables the identification of variants of the same pathogen.

Why is this important?

Traditionally, the only way to figure out levels of infection in a community was to detect infections in patients, called clinical case detection. However, not all infected people might show symptoms, or might not choose to be tested if symptoms are mild. The number of people who are tested might not reflect the true numbers of those infected. Environmental surveillance can thus provide important early warning signals of an impending outbreak. It is now known that the levels of pathogen in wastewater can precede, often by more than a week, a rise in infections.

Why do early-warning signals matter?

Understanding how many infected people there are is important for public health planning. The more the amounts of pathogen that circulate, the more likely it is that people will be infected. Preparing for a disease outbreak becomes much easier if there’s more notice. Wastewater-based epidemiology has been used for over 40 years to track sev-



eral diseases such as measles, cholera and polio. Such disease surveillance in India, through wastewater, was first initiated in Mumbai for polio in 2001. During the COVID-19 pandemic, similar surveillance programs for COVID-19 were started in five cities, and they continue to this day.

What is India doing?

The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has recently said that it will initiate wastewater surveillance for 10 viruses across 50 cities. This will enable public health surveillance to pick up any increase in viral load within community settings. This extends ICMR’s involvement in establishing environmental surveillance for viruses, including avian influenza virus, particularly in areas with outbreaks. However, there is scope for improvement. The sharing of data and protocols across institutions and reaching common agreements on templates for surveillance frameworks that are disease-specific is important. Programmatic approaches, rather than project-driven approaches, must be developed that integrate waste-water and other environmental surveillance with routine disease surveillance. Developing a national wastewater surveillance system for India is important. Moreover, new methodologies are emerging — audio samples of people coughing in public places can be used to examine the prevalence of respiratory conditions, through refined machine learning methods. Thus, the possibilities of environmental surveillance are ever-increasing.

# Government aims to integrate Ayurveda into health education curriculum in schools, colleges: Minister

The government aims to integrate Ayurveda into the health education curriculum in schools and colleges, Ayush Minister Prataprao Jadhav said. He said that the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) and the University Grants Commission (UGC) are working together to prepare course modules for school education and higher education so that the younger generation can connect with the principles of holistic health. Some States, such as Goa, Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh, have already integrated the Indian knowledge system in school education, Mr. Jadhav said. “Discussions are underway with NCERT and UGC for preparing course modules for the school education and higher education,” the Minister told PTI recently. On efforts being made to establish Ayurveda on a global level, Mr. Jadhav said that the Ayush Ministry is focusing on evidence-based research. High-quality clinical trials are being conducted through the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS) and other research institutions. In partnership with WHO, standards are being set to strengthen the scientific credibility of Ayurvedic treatments further, Mr. Jadhav said. On the competition between modern medicine and Indian healing practices, Mr. Jadhav said that the goal is to develop an inte-

grated healthcare model. “Allopathy and AYUSH systems are complementary to each other, not competitors. Through the National AYUSH Mission and AYUSH Grid, we are working towards combining the benefits of both systems to provide better and more comprehensive healthcare services,” he stated. As part of the government’s policy to strengthen public health infrastructure, under the National AYUSH Mission, AYUSH doctors are being deployed in Health and Wellness Centres, especially in rural and remote areas, to make primary healthcare services more accessible. The Ministry of AYUSH has given a new identity to India’s traditional medical practices in the last decade, the Minister said. “We have not only established AYUSH systems with scientific evidence, but also succeeded in spreading them to the masses and gaining global acceptance. From giving Yoga a global identity to the establishment of the WHO Global Centre for Traditional Medicine, and through initiatives like International Yoga Day, AYUSH Chairs, and international Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs), we have made historic achievements for global holistic health,” he said. The Minister stressed that the government’s priority is balanced and equal development.



According to a report by 'TechCrunch', WhatsApp is now testing a monthly limit on messages sent to people who don't respond.



## Who is Phoebe Litchfield? Australian opener, who went viral on social media as a teen phenom, scores stunning century against India in Navi Mumbai



GNS News Agency, Nov 1

Here's how Ian Bishop called Pheobe Litchfield's sensational century in the ICC Women's World Cup semifinal against India at the DY Patil Stadium in Navi Mumbai on Thursday. "The phenom named Phoebe went viral on social media at the age of 16, batting in a nets session. And six years later, she brings up her first World Cup hundred, a semifinal knock of the highest class." The video Bishop was referring to was posted on X by @CricketNSWWomen with the caption: "Some pretty good shots here. Introducing Phoebe Litchfield." It showcased 16-year-old Litchfield's stunning technique and footwork, something the world got to see in Navi Mumbai once more as – now aged 22 years and 195 days – she went to become the youngest batter to hit a century in a Women's World Cup knockout game. He century came off just 77 balls and she was eventually dismissed for a sensational 93-ball 119. On the back of that viral video, Litchfield made her debut in the Women's Big Bash League at 16 too, and scored a half century in just her second match for Sydney Thunder. After graduating from high school, she played for Australia A against England and hit her first WNCL century for NSW in October 2022. Her

debut came in the T20I format for Australia in India. In her first ODI knock, it was fitting that Litchfield got to bat alongside Aussie great Meg Lanning in January 2023 against Pakistan.

The then-19-year-old scored a match-winning 78\* and shared a partnership of 137 with Lanning. That day she was filling in for Alyssa Healy at the top of the order. Afterwards she said: "I am happy to run drinks for a long time. I am just happy to be around this group. If there is an opportunity I'll take it but I will be pretty happy to see Midge (Healy) back." Now, she is not just Healy's regular opening partner, but seen as the centerpiece to Australia's batting lineups of the future. It helps that relishes batting in India because of her comfort against spin, using the sweeps and reverse sweeps to devastating effect but also dancing down the track. In Mumbai early last year, she was involved in a 189-run partnership with Healy as she scored a classy 119 to power her side to a mammoth 338/7. And it was Healy who had the best seat in the house. "I mean, at 20 years of age, what an unbelievable talent we've unearthed," Healy had said then. "To have two ODI hundreds under her belt already is scary. She's one for the future no doubt, for me it's an amazing experience to stand at the other end and watch the next generation." Unsurprisingly, she brings out the reverse frequently to great effect in white-ball cricket, something she attributes to her hockey background. "I have to play hockey right-handed so it took me a while to get good at that. When the reverse comes out, that's sort of a hockey shot," she had told ESPNcricinfo once. The approach against spinners showed her solid fundamentals in cricket as she went forward and back as the length demanded. After her debut against Pakistan, she was asked about being in the limelight so soon in her career. "I try not to think too much about it," she had said. "It probably comes on when I fail a bit more and I look back and I go, 'am I as good as you know, everyone says I am?' but I think it's just down to watching the ball at the end of the day and once I get on the field, it goes away, which is nice."

## Alyssa Healy vs Kranti Gaud: How Indian pacer dismisses Aussie captain for the fourth time in five matches

GNS News Agency, Nov 1

Kranti Gaud dismissed Alyssa Healy for the fourth time in five ODIs to give India an early breakthrough in the ICC Women's World Cup semifinal against Australia in Navi Mumbai on Thursday. The Indian pacer had the number of the Aussie superstar thrice in three matches in the recent bilateral series. And then Healy went after her in Vizag as Australia chased down a world record 330 in the league phase of the World Cup. The Aussie captain spoke in the PC about wanting to 'look into a contest' with Kranti in Vizag and she had done just that, targeting the Indian pacers in that run-chase but especially not letting Kranti settle in.

But in the semifinal, Kranti managed to provide the big early breakthrough. It's the wobble seam that did the trick as the ball came in just a little bit after landing on the seam at a good length and Healy's defence was breached. It was met with a big roar from Kranti. During the bilateral series, in the first ODI in New Chandigarh, it was a similar dismissal to the one in the semifinal in Navi Mumbai, with the Aussie captain bowled off a length when she chopped on. Another in-dipper accounted for Healy in the second match when Healy flicked one in the air to Arundhati Reddy, out for 9 off 19 balls as India went on to win that match, the last time Australia lost an ODI. In the run-fest over in New Delhi when Australia posted 412, Kranti had Healy caught by Harmanpreet Kaur. After her century in Vizag, Healy had said: "If you've been watching me in the nets, it's been a frustrating experience because I feel like I've had no rhythm whatsoever, been struggling to find it, and I didn't really know where it went before I came into the World Cup. But I think once you step out on the field, your competitive instincts



kick in and you kind of just lock into getting in the contest. Obviously aware that Kranti had got me out a fair bit throughout the ODI series, so an opportunity to go out there and lock in a contest with her and just sort of, I don't know, have a bit of fun in that regard, I think sort of got me going and that was really a really enjoyable experience." Healy's dismissal on 5 off 15 balls came with a fair share of drama in Navi Mumbai. Back in the XI after missing a couple of matches due to injury, she appeared tentative and rusty. A miscue down the ground when she was batting on 2 was put down by Harmanpreet at mid off, a fairly simple chance. Then at the start of the sixth over, there was a delay in play as the players waited for the lights to come on as it had gotten darker. That seemed to further disrupt Healy's rhythm and she ended up losing her wicket. It would frustrate Healy even more that the players headed in immediately after as rain stopped play briefly.

## How Bollywood, WPL-IPL franchises and Bharat Army wished India 'All the Best' for Australia challenge in Women's World Cup

GNS News Agency, Nov 1

It's one of the toughest challenges for India's cricket team as they are engaged in a stiff battle with Australia in the semifinals of the World Cup. Though the tough encounter with Australia as odds-on favourites hasn't hogged massive attention, small pockets of support built up for the underdogs at home, as JioHotstar compiled a montage featuring 'all the best' messages from Bollywood actors. Most prominently, Alia Bhatt sent across her message, saying, "How far can you go for your passion? Our women's team will prove it." Rashmika Mandhana declared, "Women in blue, we believe in you. There is so much to look forward to. All the best. Make us proud." Other Gen Z actors included Kartik Aryan and Siddharth Malhotra as well as Aditya Roy Kapoor. Kartik Aryan while wishing team luck, says, "All the best. Have been following your matches from preparation. I think our team is strong." Kaala chashma dancer-actor alongside Katrina Kaif, Sidharth Malhotra got to the meat of the matter on equality. "Sport is sport. Men or women, we love to cheer for them. Rooting for all the women. We feel happy to see India win," he simply said. The video was headlined by Akshay Kumar reciting, "Asli fan wohi kar Khladi ke saath khada ho. Chaahe woh men ho ya women." All the top franchises – Bangalore, Delhi sent in their hopes and wishes, with RCB posting, "A massive occasion and we're backing the Women in Blue to put on a show." Tezaab and Mr India star Anil Kapoor said, "World will look up to India and how we have empowered women. So it's great. Looking forward to this match."

Superhit Kantara actor Rishabh Shetty said, "Women's team ko all the best. Achha khelo, Jeet ke aao." Aditya Roy Kapoor preached the 'have fun' mantra though it's tough when Phoebe Litchfield is going bonkers. "Have fun, enjoy



yourselves. And if you do that everything follows from there. Bring it home," he said. Ammy Virk who played Balwinder Singh Sandhu in 83, said, "Meri taraf se India ko best wishes. Jeet ke aana, bohot bohot pyaar. Zindabaad." Meanwhile India's largest organised fan forum Bharat Army announced it will land up at DY Patil to lend decibel to cheering. India's original women's cricket fan army is Bucket hat cult. But Bharat Army too will join in.

Rakesh Patel, Founder of Bharat Army said in a press release, "The Bharat Army has always stood firmly behind Indian cricket across formats, and we are proud to extend the same passionate support to our women's team as they chase glory in the ODI World Cup. This squad represents the spirit of modern India, which is fearless, resilient and driven by excellence, and we want to ensure they feel the energy of millions of fans with them on this journey." "Our focus is to amplify the atmosphere both in the stadium and online, rallying fans to show up, cheer loudly and celebrate every moment of their success."

## Paul Scholes quits football commentary to care for autistic son



GNS News Agency, Nov 1

Former Manchester United player and legend Paul Scholes has revealed he has decided to move away from commentary to take care of his autistic son. Speaking on the podcast 'Stick to Football' Scholes who won Premier League and Champions League titles with Manchester United opened up on his 20-year-old son's condition.

"Everything I'm going to do now just works around him," said Scholes. "I do studio work, but everything is built around his day. Last season, on Thursday nights I'd do the Europa League for Man United, that's the night I'd usually have him, so he was getting all agitated, biting and scratch-

ing. He knows the pattern's not there straight away. And I did that for years really, always thinking I've got to stop this at some point, so I had the chance to do the podcast and I thought that would suit me more – well, not me, Aiden," he added. Scholes had kept his son's diagnosis private for a long time and even revealed once that Alex Ferguson even dropped him from a game when he was trying to handle the situation at home. Scholes now hoped talking about the difficulties and the joyous moments of his son can help other families dealing with a similar situation.

"I never got a break from it, even when playing," said Scholes. "It was very hard in those days. I don't think they diagnosed it until he was two-and-a-half years old. But you knew early something was wrong, but then you get the diagnosis, and I'd never heard of it. I remember the first time after we were playing Derby away and I just didn't want to be there. I remember the manager dropped me the week after actually, and I hadn't told anyone. I ended up telling them a few weeks later, I think, as it was quite hard," he said. The 50-year-old said he isn't looking for any sympathy, but was more concerned about his son's future. "Even now, I don't want sympathy or anything. I just thought, even if I did speak to someone about it, it's not going to help Aiden. The big concern now is, because you're getting a bit older, what happens when you're not here? That's the thing that's now on my mind all the time."

## Sanju Samson has no option but to be tight-lipped and bat wherever the team asks him to, says Kris Srikkanth

GNS News Agency, Nov 1

Former India captain and chairman of selectors has once again come down with a sharp criticism with how the Indian team has handed Sanju Samson a demotion in the batting order. Following Srikkanth's comments on pacer Harshit Rana earlier this month on his YouTube channel, India head coach Gautam Gambhir had responded strongly asking to avoid any personal comments. This time, Srikkanth expressed his frustration over Gambhir's decision to slot Samson in the middle-order. Samson, who had forged an attacking partnership at the top with Abhishek Sharma, was forced to move to the middle-order after India handed a recall to Shubman Gill to the T20 side in the Asia Cup. Despite scoring three centuries at the top in the past one year, the 30-year-old is still adjusting to his new role in the middle-order as he was clearly seen short on rhythm at the Asia Cup in the UAE.

And Srikkanth has said Samson is the 'most unlucky' player as he has been made to bat at different positions. "The guy who's most unlucky is Sanju Samson. He was scoring centuries as an opener. But now they send him everywhere — from No. 3 to No. 8. If given an opportunity, they may send him at No. 11 also! A person like Sanju will naturally feel bad after doing so well at the top, but he has no option but to be tight-lipped and bat wherever the team asks him to," Srikkanth said in his YouTube channel. In the



Asia Cup which India won without losing a match, Samson batted at No 5 in three matches and didn't get to bat in one match. Despite showing signs of struggle in the middle, there were questions whether Samson is suited to the middle-order and whether the team management will look at Jitesh Sharma as a potential replacement in Australia. However, factoring in the conditions in the UAE during the Asia Cup, where it wasn't easy for middle-order batsmen to play with aggressive intent, Samson has remained the first-choice wicketkeeper Down Under. "The only good thing is he did well at No. 5 in the Asia Cup. It's a good sign because Sanju is now the automatic choice as the first wicketkeeper for the T20 World Cup," he said.

## Why are Indian and Australian players wearing black armbands during Women's World Cup semifinal in Navi Mumbai?



GNS News Agency, Nov 1

The Indian and Australian women's teams wore black armbands during their high-octane ICC Women's World Cup 2025 semifinal clash at the DY Patil Stadium in Navi Mumbai on Thursday as a tribute to Ben Austin, the 17-year-old Australian cricketer who passed away on the cricket field on Thursday morning. Teenager Ben Austin succumbed to his injuries and died, which he sustained in the cricket nets earlier in the week. The aspiring cricketer hailing from Melbourne was hit by a ball thrown by the wanger (A device to throw the ball before the game). Austin, although he was wearing a helmet but was not wearing a stem guard, head of Cricket Victoria Nick Cummins confirmed. "The ball

hit him in the neck in a similar accident that Phil Hughes suffered 10 years ago," Cummins said.

"This tragedy has taken Ben from us, but we find some comfort that he was doing something he did for so many summers — going down to the nets with mates to play cricket," Ben's father Jace, wrote. "We would also like to support his teammate who was bowling in the nets — this accident has impacted two young men and our thoughts are with him and his family as well," he added. In a post on social media, Ben's club, Ferntree Cricket Club, urged to "put your bats out for Benny," which is a reference to the late Phil Hughes. Hughes Australian Ben Austin on the left and Phil Hughes on right. (Ferntree Gully Cricket Club in 2014, Hughes died in a Sydney hospital, two days after being struck on the head by a cricket ball in a Sheffield Shield match. He was 25 at the time. His death was caused by a cerebral hemorrhage, or bleeding on the brain, which shocked and saddened people across Australia and cricket fans all over the world. Post the death of Hughes, a stem guard has been introduced as an attachment to the helmet to give extra protection on the back of the head and neck to the cricketers. However, the likes of David Warner have complained about having a limited neck moment, and Steven Smith during the 2023 Ashes said, "I just feel claustrophobic. I compare it to being stuck in an MRI scan machine." In Navi Mumbai, India and Australia are playing for a place in the final against South Africa, who defeated England women's team by 125 runs in the first semifinal in Guwahati on Wednesday to reach their maiden ODI World Cup final.

## Rahul Dravid credits Rohit Sharma for evolution of India T20 team: 'Others are thinking, "shucks, we've got to match this"'

Rahul Dravid has heaped praise on former India captain Rohit Sharma for the evolution of the Indian cricket team into an aggressive batting unit, especially in the T20I format. Dravid said that the Indian team in T20I format is so aggressive that there are other teams looking at them and thinking that they need to emulate the Men in Blue. Dravid's assessment of the current Team India outfit in the shortest format of the game was that the side was "changing what T20 cricket is like." "India is absolutely changing what T20 cricket is like. Indian batting in T20 cricket at the moment is off the charts. It's close to 300 (runs per game), and every-one else in the world is now having to catch up. In the space of three or four years, you're seeing that everyone's looking at India and saying, 'Shucks man, we've got to match this,'" Dravid said in an interview with Breakfast with Champions.

"Certainly, from the time I came in, a lot of the discus-

sion with Rohit was around how we wanted to play a more aggressive brand of cricket, and we tried (to do just that). We started right from the beginning because we could see that that's the way the game was evolving, and Rohit's got to take a large credit for that, right? To move the team in a particular direction. Play the game in a lot more aggressive and a lot more positive manner. "I'm glad that India have sort of kept going in that direction to the point where India's kind of lately," Dravid said.

While saying that he only owed a part of the credit for this evolution, Dravid again highlighted Rohit's role as the leader of the outfit. "It has to be driven by the leaders, right? It has to be driven by the captain. It has to be driven by the players because they've got to do it, right? They've got to take the risks. You might be giving them a certain amount of security, but in the end, they are the ones who've got to take those chances, take those risks," Dravid added.



## Shruti Haasan shares childhood picture of Kamal Haasan with grandfather



Mumbai: Actress Shruti Haasan shared on Wednesday a glimpse of her father, cinema legend Kamal Haasan, from his childhood and her grandfather. Taking to Instagram stories, Shruti shared a monochrome picture of a little Kamal Haasan sitting next to his father D. Srinivasan, a defence lawyer. "My fave human and my guardian angel Daddy and grand daddy," Shruti wrote as the caption. Talking about Shruti, she was last seen in "Coolie," where she essayed the role of Preethi Rajasekar in the film, which also starred the titans of Indian cinema like Rajinikanth, Nagarjuna Akkineni, Malayalam actor Soubin Shahir, and Bollywood

superstar Aamir Khan in a cameo appearance. Coolie follows the story of a former coolie union leader, who investigates the death of his friend which leads him to a crime syndicate. The film was officially announced in September 2023 under the tentative title 'Thalaivar 171' as it is Rajinikanth's 171st film as the lead actor. The official title was announced in April 2024. Principal photography took place between July 2024 and March 2025, in locations including Chennai, Hyderabad, Visakhapatnam, Jaipur and Bangkok. The actress will next be seen in "Salaar Part 2: Shouryanga Parvam". The first installment of "Salaar: Part 1 – Ceasefire" released in 2023. The epic neo-noir action thriller film directed by Prashanth Neel.

The film stars Prabhas in the titular role, alongside an ensemble cast of Prithviraj Sukumaran, Shruti Haasan, Jagapathi Babu, Bobby Simha, Sriya Reddy, Ramachandra Raju, John Vijay, Easwari Rao, Tinnu Anand, Devaraj, Brahmaji and Mime Gopi. In the fictional dystopian city-state of Khansaar, where monarchy still exists, the film follows the friendship between Deva, the exiled prince of Khansaar, and Varadha, the current prince of Khansaar. When a coup d'état is planned by his father's ministers and his relatives, Varadha enlists Deva's help to become Khansaar's undisputed ruler.

## Farah Khan teases Karan Johar with 'so rich you are looking' compliment

Mumbai: Filmmaker-choreographer and star Youtuber Farah Khan gave her close filmmaker friend Karan Johar a playful compliment, telling him that he is looking "so rich" dressed in an outfit by Manish Malhotra. Karan, who was honoured with a National Award for Rocky Aur Rani Ki Prem Kahani, took to Instagram to share a few pictures of himself dressed in the ensemble he wore for the ceremony. For the caption, he wrote: "For the special day ... for every special day... always in @manishmalhotra05."

The filmmaker added the song "Perfect" from his upcoming film "Sunny Sanskari Ki Tulsi Kumari" as the background number for the pictures. However, it was the comment section that caught the eyes of many as Farah Khan commented: "So rich u r looking (sic)." Ranveer Singh and Alia Bhatt-starrer was honoured with the award for 'Best Popular Film Providing Wholesome Entertainment' at the 71st National Film Awards on Tuesday by the President of India.

After receiving the honour, Karan wrote: "So humbled and honoured to win the most POPULAR FILM PROVIDING WHOLESOME ENTERTAINMENT at the NATIONAL AWARDS @mib\_india #71stnationalfilmawards.. Apoorva @apoorva1972 and I are deeply grateful to our entire family @dharmaamovies for being our soul and spine... (sic)." He added that he is extremely emotional to win the National



Award in the same year as Rani Mukerji and Shah Rukh Khan. Showing his gratitude towards the audience, the director added, "thank you all for all the love to our film #rockyaaurranikipremkahani and @ranveersingh and @aliaabhatt I just have to say ... Karan Johar this side and I am a fragile today... thanks to the love and recognition (Red heart emoji)." Starring Dharmendra, Jaya Bachchan, Shabana Azmi, Tota Roy Chowdhury, Churni Ganguly, Aamir Bashir, and Kshitee Jog in key roles, "Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahani" shared the love saga of a flamboyant Punjabi Rocky and an intellectual Bengali journalist, Rani, who end up falling for one another despite all their cultural differences.

## Bollywood's 'Ghazal King' drowned his sorrows in alcohol and died at 51, was fired from B-grade movie in his final years

Always a melancholic man, Madan Mohan valued the importance of a sad song. "A light song, even the most popular one, hardly lasts for a year while a sad song survives for decades."

It is said that the legendary Madan Mohan, the music director known as the 'Ghazal King', didn't get his due during his lifetime. Unlike his contemporaries, he didn't rush. He enjoyed his breaks, and produced music that is remembered to this day, even if the films that it was featured in are not. Madan Mohan was born in Baghdad to a diplomat, and, against his father's wishes, he decided to try his luck in the film business. Madan had a two-year stint in the army under his belt, as well as several years' worth of experience singing for All India Radio in Lucknow. Shortly after India gained Independence, he got his first few opportunities to sing for films. Because he didn't have his father's support, Madan had to struggle in the initial few years of his career. "At one time, I was doing so badly that I had to starve for five days at a stretch, but not for once did I think of going to my people for help. I had come to Bombay to join the film industry, not as a music director but as an actor. People producing films did not think of me as capable of acting," he said, according to his biographer Vishwas Nerurkar. Like many others during that time, he wanted to be a 'singing star', someone who could carry musicals on his shoulders. It was in the 1950s that he devoted himself fully to singing. "The mysteries of the mind, the interpretations of dreams and the monumental probing into certain aspects of my thoughts provoked me to concentrate on film music. Music was in my blood. Nothing could curb it from coming out. Destiny decided that I part with my musical gift to music lovers," he said, explaining his preference for music over acting.

Always a melancholic man, Madan Mohan valued the importance of a sad song. "A light song, even the most popular one, hardly lasts for a year while a sad song survives for decades." He also made it a point to not overextend himself, and worked, on an average, on three films a year. "Working at a stretch, day after day, is not my way of working. I need at least an interval of two months to abandon the mood of one film and take up another," he said. By the early 1960s, his career had taken off, with films such as Anpadh (1962), Manmauji (1962), Aap Ki Parchhaiyan (1964) and Ghazal (1964). He was also acclaimed for his work in the film Haqeeqat (1964). In that same year, he saw the release of eight films featuring his music; these were titles such as Jahanara, Pooja Ke Phool, Suhagan, and Woh Kaun Thi? Madan Mohan forged enduring partnerships with Lata Mangeshkar, Mohammad Rafi, and Talat Mahmood. He won the National Award for best music direction for his work in the film Dastak. By the mid-70s, however, the industry had changed. Amitabh Bachchan was the biggest star in the country, and his action-packed social dramas the biggest blockbusters.

In an interview with Siddharth Kannan recently, Anu Malik's brother, Daboo, recounted a story that Madan



Mohan's son told him once. "He said that Mohan Choti, who was making a very small film, signed him as a music composer. This was the final phase of his career. Distributors said that Madan Mohan makes slow music, and it wouldn't suit the comedy film that they were making. He was removed from that B-grade film, and that was the biggest setback of his life." Madan Mohan's eldest son, Sanjeev, once recalled in an article published on his father's official website, "I realised later that it was the lack of mass adulation that always caused him anguish and, over the years, embittered him. The man who was acknowledged as a genius by people who understood and appreciated music was never at the top rung in the hit parades or with the big banners or the big stars. One of the few times he made it to number one on the Geetmala was with 'Jhumka Gira Re', which even though a very popular song, was probably one of his lesser compositions." Sanjeev continued, "His films were rarely successful and often only remembered for their songs. Films that he worked hardest for, often ran only for a week at the box office and this harsh reality broke his heart — this was true for Jahanara, Dulhan Ek Raat Ki and even Chirag. He never got to work with the biggest stars — he never did a Dilip Kumar film, and only did a couple of films of Raj Kapoor and Dev Anand with small banners that are not even remembered today. His biggest hits are not visually remembered — but the songs have indeed endured the test of time." Hollywood actress Shirley MacLaine and music director Madan Mohan. Hollywood actress Shirley MacLaine and music director Madan Mohan. Reflecting on his father's love for alcohol, which would later consume him completely, he said, "Of course he enjoyed his evening drink — always the best Scotch whiskey for him, which he would pour for himself and his friends in the most expensive cut glasses. A particular musical decanter with a couple waltzing to music was his favourite and used to fascinate me as a child — and I would watch him drink, for the style with which he did it. I, of course, remember, that he would always make an exception, at the behest of my mother, to abstain on important religious occasions and also on the day of karva chauth." Sanjeev also recalled that his father would be 'deeply hurt' when a song of his didn't receive the plaudits he felt it deserved. By 1970, when he won the National Award for Dastak, he had no interest in accepting the honour.

## Anupam Kher says he was 'depressed' after Saiyaara 'wiped out' his film Tanvi the Great: 'It depressed me, made me feel very sad'



Anupam Kher's film Tanvi the Great released in theatres on the same day as Yash Raj Films' Saiyaara. While Saiyaara — directed by Mohit Suri and starring newcomers Aneet Padda and Ahaan Panday — went on to become the biggest hit of the year, Tanvi the Great got "wiped out" in the Saiyaara storm. During his recent interaction at the latest edition of Espresso, Anupam admitted his film's failure and shared how it got replaced in theatres by the Mohit Suri film. Speaking with Anant Goenka, Executive Director, Indian Express Group, Anupam said, "I worked for four years on this film, one year of writing, one year of music. I wrote and directed the film. We released the film on the same day when Yash Raj Films' Saiyaara was releasing and it got

completely wiped out. It depressed me. It made me feel very sad, not just for myself, but for the new actor, whom I took from my acting school, and almost 200 people worked on the film."

Anupam revealed that his film had run into financial trouble, which forced him to turn to his friends for support. "The financier of the film ran away a month before it's release. It's a costly film. So I called my friends who are doctors, lawyers, etc. They gave me the money. We did the world premiere at Cannes Film Festival. We went to New York where Robert De Niro saw a film till interval, and he thought it was good. We also showed the film to the President of India."

He went on to say, "Everything was going fine, but the world wanted to see a love story and rightfully so. Young, teenage love story had not come for a long time and the system here is that even if you're releasing the film in 400 theatres, but if the other film is doing very well, they will remove your film. So it was a failure which was very heart-breaking for me." Later in the session, when Anupam was asked which film's success surprised him the most, he responded, "Saiyaara. Even Aditya Chopra must have been surprised by it, everyone was surprised but theek hai... thank God Aditya Chopra and Yash Chopra are part of my family, I grew up in cinema with them. If it was somebody else it would have been very painful." According to Sacnilk, Saiyaara had minted Rs 569.75 crore at worldwide box office.

## Who is Anya Singh, the actor being noticed for Ba\*\*\*\*ds of Bollywood once signed a three-film contract with YRF but never led any film after debut

If you watched Aryan Khan's The Ba\*\*\*\*ds of Bollywood, you must have noticed the chaos surrounding the infamous three-film contract. For some, it can be a golden ticket; for others, it becomes a cage with no way out. In the show, the character most haunted by this deal was Sanya, played by Anya Singh, who portrayed the manager to Lakshya's Aasmaan. But here's the irony—off-screen, Anya Singh herself reportedly signed a similar contract with Yash Raj Films (YRF). Back in 2016, YRF introduced Anya as its fresh face and signed her for a three-film deal. Her debut came in 2017 with Qaidi Band, opposite Aadar Jain. Unfortunately, the film sank at the box office, and the other two promised projects never materialised. Despite being active in the industry for nearly a decade, Anya was gradually sidelined, was seen in smaller roles in films like Kho Gaye Hum Khan and Stree 2.

Who is Anya Singh?

Born in Delhi, Anya Singh was scouted by casting director Shanoo Sharma, who spotted her during a hunt for new talent across Delhi, Chandigarh, and Jaipur. In fact, Sharma first met her in a coffee shop and immediately saw potential. After two auditions, Anya was chosen as YRF's next launch. Speaking to Mid-Day, Shanoo revealed: "Adi [Aditya Chopra, producer] always pushes me to go out and find new talent. When casting for this film, we wanted girls from Delhi, Chandigarh, and other cities. Anya was the result of that hunt—the idea was to find someone like Ranveer Singh or Anushka Sharma, who came out of nowhere and conquered the industry. Anya filled that spot for me." According to rediff, Anya's parents, however, were skeptical about Bollywood, calling it the "Big Bad World." They gave her just one year to try her luck; if things didn't work out, she was expected to go abroad for higher studies. For Anya, the chance was too big to pass up. Signing the three-film deal, she dreamed of working alongside her idol Ranveer Singh. "When I saw Band Baaja Baaraat, I became his fan. I find him very relatable," she said in a statement at the time. Her debut in Qaidi Band (2017) was meant to be her launchpad, but its commercial failure changed the trajectory of her career. Speaking at that time, Anya told a wire service: "Yes, Qaidi Band got a lukewarm response... When you make a movie, so many people put in hard work,



and when it doesn't work, it does affect you. You feel bad because it's like your child." The remaining two films in her contract never took off. By 2019, she tried her luck in Telugu cinema with a film opposite Sundeep Kishan, but that too failed to leave a mark. Anya then shifted to digital, gaining visibility through the web series Never Kiss Your Best Friend opposite Nakuul Mehta. Later, she appeared in brief roles—playing Lala, an influencer and Adarsh Gourav's girlfriend in Kho Gaye Hum Khan, and Apaashakti Khurana's love interest, Chitti, in Stree 2. A second chance for Anya Singh Now, with her prominent role in Aryan Khan's The Ba\*\*\*\*ds of Bollywood, Anya has once again resurfaced in public conversation. A Reddit thread revisiting her stalled YRF contract recently went viral, with fans sympathising over her lost opportunities. One user wrote: "This 3-film contract only worked for Anushka. It destroyed careers—look at Vaani, even Sushant had issues with his contract. Shradha too got into trouble with YRF when she broke her contract for Aashiqui 2." Some even speculated that newcomer Aneet Padda has signed a similar contract, with fans hoping she doesn't face the same fate. "Hope Aneet doesn't end up like this... already feels like YRF is sidelining her, no promotions, no paps," a Redditor commented.

## Yacht owner R Madhavan opens up about investing wisely, shares what actors should do to avoid being 'on the roads'



In an interview with Akshaye Rath, he said, "I come from the time when cash was an important component of the salary, and those who take cheques are few and far between. I realised the importance of having a credit rating. The thing is, if you want to follow the kind of career that you want in the movies, you need to have financial security. At one point, it was investment in real estate. It was a no-brainer. Retirement mein yehi kaam ayega, ek ek karke zameen becho, that was the situation."

Actor R Madhavan opened up about his investment journey, and spoke about the importance of evolving with the times. Many of his contemporaries have several other business interests beyond acting and filmmaking, and Madhavan stressed upon the importance of having a diverse portfolio. Madhavan primarily lives in Dubai, where he owns a yacht. He also has properties in Mumbai, and he recalled how important real estate used to be back in the day, when cash was the main mode of currency. In an in-

terview with Akshaye Rath, he said, "I come from the time when cash was an important component of the salary, and those who take cheques are few and far between. I realised the importance of having a credit rating. The thing is, if you want to follow the kind of career that you want in the movies, you need to have financial security. At one point, it was investment in real estate. It was a no-brainer. Retirement mein yehi kaam ayega, ek ek karke zameen becho, that was the situation."

But over time, Madhavan said, horizons broadened. He said that investing in real estate wasn't necessarily enhancing an actor's career. "Now, they have the opportunity to substantiate their income with endeavours like this (VFX companies, production, cosmetics, etc). They're able to generate an income and maintain a lifestyle beyond their acting career," he said. Madhavan said that being financially astute also enables actors to take risks creatively, as they don't need to burden producers by demanding hefty up-front salaries. Implying that profit-sharing is the way forward, he said, "The producer is the biggest victim in filmmaking today. If they're able to generate enough income to maintain their lifestyle, they will take risks, and their conviction will be proven if their film works, or they'll be out on the roads." Madhavan said that 'education' is extremely important to 'survive' in the film business today. Speaking about the mental fortitude that junior artistes in the industry must have to survive, he said, "You need financial stability to think lucidly. If money is going to be a problem, you've lost half the battle already. You're going to be so stressed, you're going to be making decisions to make that money. Very few stars have the ability to say, 'Boss, I don't need the money, let's make the movie. The more financially literate actors come into the industry, it'll help...' In an earlier interview with Mashable, Madhavan said that he is insecure about money to this day. "I'm really insecure about my bank account."