

# DECCAN Chronicle

THE LARGEST CIRCULATED ENGLISH DAILY IN SOUTH INDIA  
HYDERABAD | SUNDAY | 3 NOVEMBER 2024

## WEATHER

Max: 31.5°C  
Min: 22.6°C  
RH: 66%  
Rainfall: Nil

Forecast: Partly cloudy sky. Max/Min temp. 31/23 °C

## ASTROGUIDE

Krodhi: Dakshinayana  
Tithi: Karthika Shukla Vidiya till 10.02 pm  
Star: Anuradha

Variyam: 10.18 am to 12.02 pm  
Durmuhurtham: 4.09 pm to 4.55 pm

Rahukalam: 4.30 pm to 6 pm  
HJRI CALENDAR  
Rabi us Sani 30, 1446 H

PRAYERS  
Fajar: 5.14 am  
Zohar: 12.10 pm  
Asar: 4.09 pm  
Maghrib: 5.51 pm  
Isha: 6.59 pm  
SUNRISE TOMORROW 06.15 AM  
SUNSET TODAY 05.53 PM  
MOONRISE 07.37 PM  
MOONSET 06.53 AM

## COUNTER POINT



Rebels from all parties have formed a new party and are contesting in the polls!

## BRIEF

### Kerala Exp kills 4 sanitary workers

**Palakkad:** Four sanitary workers, including two women from Tamil Nadu, were killed after being hit by the Thiruvananthapuram-bound Kerala Express near Shoranur Railway Station on Saturday evening, the Railway police said. The workers, contracted by the Railways for sanitation duties, were thrown from the track due to the collision's impact.

Full report Page 12

### Portals of Gangotri shrine closed

**Uttarkashi:** The portals of the Gangotri temple here were closed on Saturday for the winter season when it remains snow-bound, an official of the temple committee said. All temples located in the Garhwal Himalayas, also known as Char Dham, are closed during the winter. Gangotri temple committee secretary Suresh Semwal said the gates of the temple located at a height of around 10,000 feet above sea level were closed amid rituals at 12.14 pm on the auspicious occasion of the Annakoot festival. Later the idol of Goddess Ganga left in a palanquin for Mukhba where she will be worshipped for the whole of winter, he said.

### Proposal to extradite Anmol

**Mumbai:** The Mumbai police have sent a proposal for extradition of jailed gangster Lawrence Bishnoi's younger brother Anmol Bishnoi, who has been named as an accused in some high-profile crimes, including the Baba Siddique murder case, an official said. The proposal was sent after the US authorities informed the Mumbai police about Anmol Bishnoi's presence in their country, the senior police official said on Saturday. Last month, the Mumbai police's crime branch moved the special Maharashtra Control of Organised Crime Act court here stating that it intends to "initiate the extradition procedure of fugitive criminal Anmol Bishnoi."



## WORLD | 15

### Harris, Trump in final campaign weekend

## PM's remarks plagued with factual errors: CM Revanth rebuts Modi's jibe on 'fake promises'

L. VENKAT RAM REDDY | DC  
HYDERABAD, NOV. 2

In a hard-hitting rebuttal to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's criticism, Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy said that the Congress government in Telangana had begun delivering on its poll promises within two days of taking charge and had swiftly shed the "gloom and despair" trauma left by the BRS government.

Revanth Reddy stated that Modi's comments were plagued with several misconceptions and factual errors. Reddy was responding to Modi's post on "X" on Friday, alleging that Congress governments had failed to keep poll promises in Telangana, Karnataka, and Himachal Pradesh and that development and fiscal health were deteriorating in these states, as a result.

The Chief Minister responded with a post on X on Saturday, challeng-



Every promise made by us to the people is a sacred commitment. In the last 11 months, we have ended the darkness left by BRS.

— A. REVANTH REDDY, Chief Minister, Telangana

ing Modi's assessment, while highlighting the rapid progress made by the Congress government in Telangana since it took office last December.

"Every promise made by us to the people is a sacred commitment. In the last 11 months, we have ended

the darkness left by BRS. Today the rising Telangana is spreading light and ushering in renewed hope," Revanth Reddy stated. He detailed several initiatives implemented by his government, arguing that they have effectively improved lives and strengthened the state.

Within two days of assuming office, the Congress government delivered on key pledges, including free bus travel for women across government-run buses and providing comprehensive healthcare and hospitalisation coverage of up to ₹10 lakh under the Rajiv Aarogyaasree scheme. Over 101 crore free bus trips have been made by women, saving them a cumulative ₹3,433.36 crore in less than a year.

The Chief Minister highlighted the Congress government's farmer-friendly initiatives.

Page 3: Loan waiver helped 22 lakh farmers: CM



## SPORTS | 18

### India-New Zealand third Test turns spinners way

## TABLOID

### Sreeleela to match steps with Allu Arjun



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## Charges against Shah false: India to Canada

Says such irresponsible actions will have serious consequences

VINEETA PANDEY  
NEW DELHI, NOV. 2

The Indian government on Saturday said it has lodged a protest over "absurd and baseless" references made by Canadian deputy minister David Morrison about Union home minister Amit Shah in the Hardeep Singh Nijjar murder case. India also cautioned that such irresponsible actions will have serious consequences for bilateral ties.

The MEA said a Canadian high commission representative was summoned to lodge India's protest. According to foreign ministry spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal a diplomatic note was handed over in reference to the proceedings of the



Union home minister Amit Shah at a gathering on the occasion of Gujarati New Year in Ahmedabad on Saturday.

Canadian standing committee on public safety and national security in Ottawa on October 29.

"The government of India protests in the strongest terms to the

absurd and baseless references made to the Union home minister... In fact, the revelation that high Canadian officials deliberately leak unfounded insinuations to the inter-

- India and Canada diplomatic relations have hit a low after Canadian PM Justin Trudeau accused India of carrying out the killing of Khalistani separatist Nijjar.
- The relations between the two countries are in a downward spiral as the Canada makes fresh allegations.
- Both India and Canada have already withdrawn senior diplomats.

Page 13: Canada flouts diplomatic norms: India

## Probe ploy to force Ajit into NDA: Cong.

DC CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, NOV. 2

The Congress on Saturday called for a probe into alleged "blackmail" and "coercion" tactics used to bring NCP leader Ajit Pawar into the National Democratic Alliance (NDA) fold.

Taking a swipe at the BJP, the Congress also said the saffron party's "washing machine" was nowhere more powerful than in Maharashtra. Senior Congress leader Jairam Ramesh cited Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar's recent remarks to claim that the issue involved not just the use of "coercion and blackmail" but also breach of the oath of confidentiality and the Official Secrets Act.

"The BJP's washing machine is an all-India

The BJP's washing machine is an all-India phenomenon but perhaps nowhere was it more powerful than in Maharashtra.

JAIRAM RAMESH, Congress leader

phenomenon but perhaps nowhere was it more powerful than in Maharashtra," he said. The use of the term "washing machine" by the Opposition in political parlance refers to the pattern of allegedly sullied leaders being inducted into the BJP and portrayed as clean.

When in Opposition before 2014, the Bharatiya Janata Party raised allegations about massive corruption by Ajit Pawar,

then the state's irrigation and water resources minister and the allegations claimed corruption to the tune of ₹70,000 crore, Ramesh pointed out.

The senior Congress leader claimed that Ajit Pawar has now confirmed that blackmail and coercion surrounding these charges were used by the BJP to bring him over to the NDA.

"Ajit Pawar has now revealed that after becoming Chief Minister, Devendra Fadnavis showed him a file recommending an open inquiry against Ajit Pawar in the alleged irrigation scam. One can only imagine the threat that was implicit in this move: submit to us, or face action," Jairam Ramesh said.

Page 13: Blackmailing, coercion rampant: Cong.

## Clear ₹1.36 lakh-cr coal dues, Soren urges Modi

DC CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI/RANCHI, NOV. 2

Ahead of the scheduled visits of Prime Minister Narendra Modi and home minister Amit Shah to poll-bound Jharkhand, Chief Minister Hemant Soren on Saturday requested the Centre to clear ₹1.36 lakh crore of coal dues to the state,

while the BJP alleged that the JMM-led government has failed to properly utilise Central funds.

"The PM and the home minister are coming to Jharkhand. I once again request them with folded hands to clear the outstanding coal dues of ₹1.36 lakh crore to Jharkhand. This amount is crucial for Jharkhand," Soren posted on X.

He also appealed to BJP MPs to facilitate clearance of the amount.

"I would also appeal to my BJP colleagues, especially the MPs, to help Jharkhandis in getting our dues," Soren posted on X, sharing a copy of a letter to the Prime Minister. Modi is scheduled to address two rallies in Jharkhand on November 4.

## Rahul may attend caste census meet

DC CORRESPONDENT  
HYDERABAD, NOV. 2

AICC leaders Rahul Gandhi and Mallikarjuna Kharge are most likely to participate in an event organised by the Congress here on November 5, eve of the caste census. The event is to be hosted at the Gandhian Ideology Centre in Bowenpally, Secunderabad, aims to gather public opinions and suggestions on the caste census. The caste census initiative was a core promise made by Rahul Gandhi during the Assembly elections. It was being fulfilled by the



Revanth Reddy government, said TPCC president B. Mahesh Kumar Goud. The caste census is a policy decision of the party national leadership which has promised to hold a nationwide caste survey if voted to power at the Centre.

## 72m voted in tight US Prez poll race

**Washington, Nov. 2:** Election Day is Tuesday, but Americans have been voting early for weeks, with more than 72 million ballots already cast - including a record four million in Georgia, where Democrats seek to pull out all the stops to keep the state in their column. Opinion polls continue to show a tied race, particularly in the seven battleground states likely to determine the result in the US Electoral College,

leaving Republican former President Donald Trump and his 60-year-old Democratic rival, Vice President Kamala Harris, fighting hard to peel off even slivers of support from each other's camps.

Harris is doing that by appealing to centrist voters. Thousands of women were expected to demonstrate Saturday, under the theme "We Won't Go Back," in her support.

Full report Page 15

## Firms facing US curbs didn't flout law: MEA

DC CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, NOV. 2

India has defended its nationals and business houses sanctioned by the United States of America for technology and material trade with Russia, which the USA perceives to be aiding war against Ukraine. India said the sanctioned transactions and companies are not in violation of Indian laws. However, it is working with all relevant departments to sensitise Indian companies on applicable export control provisions, and is in touch with the US government to clarify the issues.

Ministry of external affairs spokesperson Randhir Jaiswal said India has a "robust legal and regulatory framework" on strategic trade and non-proliferation controls. "We are also a member of three key multilateral non-proliferation export control regimes. In keeping with India's established non-proliferation credentials, we are working with all relevant departments and agencies to sensitise Indian companies on applicable export control provisions, and also inform them on new measures.

## BLAME | GAME Both parties fire fresh salvo amid a war of words over unkept poll pledges

## Party stands for credibility of promises, asserts BJP

DC CORRESPONDENT  
NEW DELHI, NOV. 2

The BJP on Saturday asserted that it stood for credibility of promises made to people under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's leadership and the Congress for the crisis of credibility. The fresh salvo by the BJP against its rival party came amid a war of words between them over unkept poll pledges.

BJP spokesperson Sudhanshu Trivedi said the ruling party had gradually enlarged the scope of



its welfare schemes, ranging from health insurance to free grains and cash transfer for farmers, by resorting to first creation of wealth followed by its

distribution as the size of the Indian economy grew over the past decade. "We believe in first the creation of wealth and distribution. The Congress stands for creation of corruption and destruction of wealth," he said.

The leader flagged a host of alleged unfulfilled promises of Congress-led governments in different states.

A day before Mallikarjun Kharge had claimed that "Modi ki guarantee" was a "cruel joke on the people of India.

## Kharge hits back at Modi on poll promises remarks

**New Delhi, Nov. 2:** Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Saturday accused the Centre of taking away the right of reservation of the teachers in central universities and claimed that its slogan of "Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas" mocks the fight for social justice.

Kharge said an RTI query has revealed that of the 18,940 sanctioned posts in 46 central universities, 27 per cent teaching posts are vacant.



Among those, more than 38 per cent seats reserved for the Scheduled Castes (SCs), Scheduled Tribes (STs) and Other Backward Classes (OBC) are lying vacant, he claimed. "SC — 32.1 per cent

vacant; ST — 40.3 per cent vacant; OBC — 41.8 per cent vacant; 55 per cent posts of Professor category are lying vacant; 71 per cent teaching posts of EWS are vacant; More than 47 per cent of 35,640 non-teaching posts are also vacant," the Congress chief said in a post in Hindi on X.

Those who are taking away the right of reservation of the teachers in central universities are teaching others a lesson in public welfare, Kharge said. — PTI

## Top LeT commander killed in Srinagar

YUSUF JAMEEL | DC  
SRINAGAR, NOV. 2

After a lull of over two years, Kashmir's capital Srinagar witnessed a fierce gun battle between Islamic militants and security forces on Saturday, leaving a top commander of proscribed Lashkar-e-Tayabba (LeT) dead and four security personnel injured.

The firefight occurred at Khanyar in the heart of old Srinagar when security forces launched a cordon-and-search operation on specific intelligence input about the presence of LeT commander Usman Bhai, a Pakistani national, and two other militants in the congested locality.

During the exchange of fire, two members of the Jammu and Kashmir police's counterinsurgency Special Operations Group (SOG) and as many CRPF jawans were injured.

Page 13: Security forces kill Chhatta Waleed

## EVENTS TODAY

**66th Annual Art Festival Of SICA: Vocal recital by Sudha Raghunadhan**  
Time: 6.30 pm  
Venue: Ravindra Bharathi

**Paranormal Talks: Discussion on spine-tingling tales**  
Time: 9 pm  
Venue: Panchatantra

**Workshop on pottery**  
Time: 2 pm  
Venue: PaPaYa Hyderabad

**Workshop on oottery**  
Time: 2 pm  
Venue: Post Card Global Tapas Bar

**Workshop on photography basics**  
Time: 2.30 pm  
Venue: Sri Laxmi Sai Towers

## SHORT TAKES

### TG TRANSCO GETS ₹4,791.65 CR AS TARIFF SUBSIDY

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 2

The energy department has sanctioned ₹4791.65 crore to Transco towards tariff subsidy for the period from November 2024 to March 2025. Giving an administrative sanction in this regard, the energy department released orders through GO No. 56 here on Friday.

The amount is towards meeting the expenditure of tariff subsidy duly following monthly restrictions under various schemes of assistance for agriculture and allied subsidy.

The order was released by principal secretary for energy Sandeep Kumar Sultania. Directions were given to the assistant secretary to draw the amount and accordingly credit it in TG distribution companies pool account.

### DOCU VERIFICATION FOR HOSTEL OFFICER POSTS FROM NOV. 14

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 2

The Telangana State Public Service Commission (TGSPSC) announced certificate verification dates for candidates shortlisted for the positions of hostel welfare officers across welfare departments.

The verification, which is part of the General Recruitment Notification No.25/2022 issued on December 23, 2022, is set to take place from November 14 to 30 at Sri Potti Srinamulu Telugu University in Nampally.

Candidates selected in the 1:2 and 1:5 ratios, including those vying for positions reserved for Persons with Disabilities (PwD), will participate in the verification stage. A separate reserve period for absentees has been scheduled from December 2 to 4, thereby providing another chance for those unable to attend on the originally designated dates.

TGSPSC has uploaded the list of shortlisted candidates on its official website. The shortlisted candidates must download the necessary verification materials, available from November 4 on <https://www.tspsc.gov.in>.

### NOV. 15 IS LAST DATE FOR TBIE SCHOLARSHIPS

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 2

The Telangana Board of Intermediate Education (TBIE) on Saturday announced an extension of deadline for fresh and renewal applications till November 15, for the National Merit Scholarship under the Union education ministry's Central Sector Scholarship scheme.

The scheme is meant to provide merit-based financial assistance to support students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. Students who qualify for this scholarship are part of the top 20th percentile of candidates, classified across various categories.

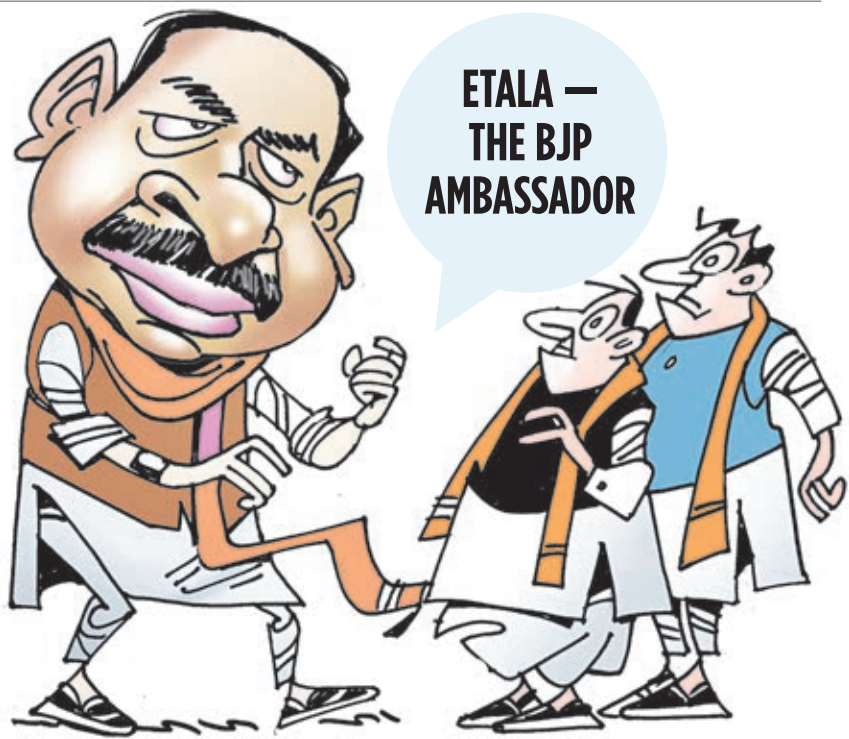
The TBIE's website has published a list of 59,355 provisionally selected candidates, including 32,392 from the OBC communities, 8,089 SC, and 5,198 students from the ST communities.

In addition, November 30 is the deadline for institute nodal officers (INOs) to complete the verification process. Applicants can submit their applications and verify details through the National Scholarship Portal at [scholarships.gov.in](https://scholarships.gov.in).

## Neta's natter

### ROW BETWEEN TD AND JANA SENA?

The row between TD activists and Jana Sena MLA Lokam Madhavi, representing Nellimarla in Vizianagaram district, considered a wealthy member in the Assembly, reached a peak in the recent zilla parishad meeting. Madhavi, not used to instant political pandemoniums, walked out of a meeting in a huff after TD leaders attacked her "for ignoring them". The trouble began when Markfed chairman Karothu Bangarraju raised a question on a local problem addressing the MLA, and Madhavi, instead of responding, asked him to wait. This angered Bangarraju and his followers who began protesting, resulting in Madhavi walking off from the meeting in a huff.



Etala Rajendar's assimilation into BJP philosophy, culture and tradition and practices appears to be complete. Etala who joined the TRS in 2003 was then a recognised student leader with a strong left wing ideology. When

he joined the BJP in 2021, it was to the other end of the political spectrum. Since his switch to the saffron party, he has slowly transformed, not just in thought and speech, but in dressing too. At a recent protest meet-

ing of the BJP to extend support to Musi river project victims, Etala turned up with a saffron coloured waist-coat, leaving some wondering when he would don a RSS uniform and attend a RSS Shakra activity.

### MPs, MLAs DEPUTED TO INTER-STATE PARTY DUTY

Gone are the days when a politician could take a break from the hurly burly of electioneering. After all, once the polls are over, one gets a five-year break. But that was then. Now, things are different with leaders from one state getting deputed to others as constituency in-charges, or with some other election-related duty in states going to the polls. And with demand for Telugu-speaking leaders from Telangana pretty high in Nanded,

Chandrapur and Yavatmal districts and also in Mumbai, Pune, Sholapur and Nagpur cities, leaders from Telangana may be tramping through Maharashtra. Roughing it out on the trail for them can either be a perk — if their party wins in the constituency they have been deployed — or, if it loses, it can be a reflection of what kind of a job they did. Among those facing this situation is Nizamabad MP Dharmapuri Arvind campaigning in Nanded

Parliament constituency going for a bypoll along with the Maharashtra Assembly elections, while BJP MLA Dhanpal Suryanarayana Gupta has also been sent to encourage Telugu voters there to support his party. Among the other notables in Maharashtra doing duty for their party are minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy, and Congress MLA P. Sudarshan Reddy, who represents Bodhan Assembly constituency in Nizamabad district that borders Maharashtra.

### POLITICOS BATTLE IT OUT OVER COTTON

Politicians are good at jumping on to the bandwagon if that means some benefit for themselves among the public. And, in Adilabad, the issue is all about cotton. A fresh fight is raging between BRS and BJP leaders in the district over cotton prices. Not the ones that are being offered in Adilabad but what they are in Gujarat. Former BRS minister Jogu Ramanna has been at it, after BJP leaders began saying that farmers in Gujarat were getting ₹8,000 per quintal for the fluffy crop, but in Adilabad it was just ₹6,500 for the same quality of cotton. At the receiving end of Jogu's diatribe are BJP MLA Payal Shankar and Adilabad MP Godam Nagesh, being accused of failing to ensure Gujarat cotton prices and how they failed to do so by failing to

impress the Central government on the issue. Payal's protestations that Gujarat and Telangana are different and can't be compared even when it comes to the price of cotton, at least for now, has not bailed out the BJP leaders with Jogu still after them on the issue.

The move, reportedly directed by Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy, has garnered support from student activists, who have called for a rigorous review by a committee, led by a sitting judge, before appointing a new VC.

It was less than two weeks back that students had levelled serious allegations of forgery after letter surfaced withdrawing the accusations of corruption made against Prof. Narasimha Reddy. The forged letter, allegedly bearing one of the students' falsified signatures, was submitted to the Chief Minister's Office (CMO) in an attempt to retract the allegations against Reddy. "It is shameful that someone has gone to the extent of forging my signature to mislead the CMO and cover up the corruption complaints against Prof. Narasimha Reddy," Dharmarapu Srikanth, state secretary



Most owners have rented out their residences for commercial purposes on Road No. 10 at Jubilee Hills. — R. PAVAN

## Houses in J. Hills go commercial

Pubs, bars, cafes, coffee shops are in demand

NABINDER BOMMALA | DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 2

Most of the independent houses in Jubilee Hills have been turned into commercial establishments and many more are mushrooming.

In the residential areas, excluding Road Nos. 1, 10, 36, 45 and 92 marked as commercial, there are around 350 commercial establishments. Most of them are pubs, bars, coffee houses and clothing stores, which are expensive compared to the ones that cater to middle income groups. Some establishments boast of a clothing store and an eatery in the same premises.

Many independent houses in Jubilee Hills are now restaurants serving Japanese dishes in addition to houses that cater to Indian and Italian delicacies.

Several residents said

that the reason for turning their houses into commercial establishments was because their children stay in other places, while some complained about congestion and traffic menace.

A look at the financial aspects revealed that houses being leased out to commercial establishments translated into a win-win situation for both the property owners and the tenants.

The commercial establishments are paying comparatively more rent as against those going in for house-turned-commercial space, including taxes and electricity bills.

"Residential property

seekers prefer to pay an EMI of ₹two lakh instead of paying it as rent, but for the commercial establishments the rental charges are viable," said a property owner.

Meanwhile, some families after leasing out their property have moved to areas around Gandipet or to Jalpally.

"I have worked hard my entire life. Now I don't want to live in congested areas and I want to be surrounded by nature. I shifted to a house which is around half an acre in Gandipet," said a person, who moved out of Jubilee Hills five years back.

Sangeeta Varma, a resident of Jubilee Hills Road no. 56, said that the commercial establishments in her area are menace.

"I don't know when the authorities will act, honking, traffic jams, illegal parking, noise pollution and rash drinking are the major concerns of many residents here," she said.

### POOR SHOW AT FIRECRACKER BOUT

Once a leader... we all know how that saying goes, or rather how a "once leader" feels about the issue. Such is the case with Kakinada former MLA Dwarampudi Chandrasekhara Reddy of the YSRC around whom local politics are expected to pivot, and with some good reason too, at least as far as local Jana Sena cadres are concerned, with allegations that the current Kakinada MLA of the TD, V a n a m a d i Venkateswara Rao (Kondababu), is a "front" for the former MLA and that the two leaders have business dealings. The fuse had been burning for a while but the issue blew up recently after the Kondababu group allegedly exerted pressure on officials to allocate a Diwali cracker shop on the busy Main Road,

which of course, the officials refused to. To save face, the TD workers launched a protest against the Jana Sena's Kakinada Lok Sabha member T. Uday Srinivas alleging that he was in league with

Dwarampudi and hence the cracker shop was not permitted. In the end, the brouhaha between the TD and its ally Jana Sena turned out to be a dud with Kondababu enigmatically smiling away at the question of the cracker shop.



Contributions from K.M.P. Patnaik, Vadrevu Srinivas, Narender Pulloor, Pillalamarri Srinivas, Neeraj Kumar.

## No surgery, Nims saves youth

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 2

The doctors at Nizam's Institute of Medical Sciences (NIMS) treated a patient with a rare heart condition without open-heart surgery, by implanting a pulmonary valve that guides blood from the right ventricle of the heart to the pulmonary artery. Led by Dr O. Sai Satish, senior professor of cardiology, the Nims team

performed treatment on Banoth Ashok, a 20-year-old student from Mahabubabad district. They used a 35 mm pulmonary valve — the largest of its kind implanted in India — to restore proper blood flow.

Ashok had been battling severe breathlessness and

palpitations caused by tetralogy of fallot (TOF), a congenital heart condition. Although he had undergone heart surgery at 5 years of age, the valve had deteriorated, resulting in blood leaking back into his heart.

Over the past four years, his symptoms worsened, causing fainting spells and pain. When private hospitals estimated the procedure would cost

between ₹25 lakh and ₹35 lakh, his family sought help from NIMS, where the doctors opted for a transcatheter valve replacement, which avoids open-heart surgery and shortens recovery time. The complex three-hour procedure went smoothly. The total cost was ₹15 lakh, with the Telangana government funding a major portion, while Ashok's family contributed ₹5 lakh.

### BOOST TO DANGAL Dargah, a Sufi shrine, doubles up as an institute for young and old to learn combat training

## Misrigunj wrestlers keep an age-old tradition alive

SHRIMANSI KAUSHIK | DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 2

The Old City is a mosaic of time, showing landmarks of different eras beginning from Qutb Shahi era to the modern times. Being a repository of real Hyderabad, it has kept one of the unique traditions of bygone Hyderabad alive — wrestling.

The Dargah of Hazarath Akber Hussaini in Misrigunj is not only a Sufi shrine but also a place for the young and old to learn wrestling.

The saint, passionate about training as a war-

rior, set up the wrestling arena almost 400 years ago.

The practice was forgotten after his death. It was revived 70 years ago by a devotee named Ustad Ali Mukharis, whose large portrait hangs in the gym area today.

The practice, commonly known as "dangal" or "taleem", used to drive hundreds of students as long as Mukharis lived and trained young boys.

"In the 1980s, kushti was a popular sport among boys. Hundreds of them would turn up for either bodybuilding or kushti,"

said Mohammed Ibrahim, a trainer.

The interest of the Ustad in teaching dangal as an art form led to its popularisation.

One of his students, Riyaz Pehalwan took the tradition forward. Despite being 72-year-old today, he trains about 50 adults and 200 boys every evening.

While the nature of the practice has changed over the years, transforming into a modern sport from a traditional art form, it is only the interest of the trainers and students that has kept the age-old tradition alive.

"Many of our boys have participated in the state and national level wrestling events. A few even won medals," said Ibrahim.

The akhada has been running on a nominal admission fee of ₹300, which goes into nurturing the soil of the wrestling area and buying equipment.

"Now, as the game has become more formal, we have to practise on wrestling mats instead of on soil. The mats need to be replaced from time to time," Mohammed Ibrahim, added.



Children practice wrestling at Dargah of Hazarath Akber Hussaini in Misrigunj in the Old city. — P.SURENDRA

**IN BRIEF**

**4 lakh bogus votes deleted from list**

**Hyderabad:** Chief Electoral Officer C. Sudharshan Reddy on Saturday said that 4.14 lakh bogus votes were deleted during the special summary revision of voter lists. The gender ratio has shown an improvement, rising from 1,009 in February to 1,012 in the draft roll. The number of young voters aged 18 to 19 had risen from 8.51 lakh to 10.03 lakh. Sudharshan Reddy said the total number of electors, including service voters, stood at 3,34,26,323 till October 29. Of these, 1,66,16,446 were men, 1,68,07,100 women, and 2,777 belonged to the third gender.

**CONG. INFIGHTING COMES TO FORE AT ASIFABAD MEET**

**DC CORRESPONDENT ADILABAD, NOV. 2**

Congress groups led by DCC president Vishwaprasad and Congress Assembly in-charge Shyam Naik on Saturday clashed with each other at a district-level party meeting in the headquarters of Komaram Bheem Asifabad district.

The groups raised slogans during the meeting while their supporters threw chairs against one another. Ruckus erupted when Naik alleged that DCC president Prasad did not inform him about the meeting on the integrated caste survey and was taking unilateral decisions. Prasad refuted the allegations and said he had informed everyone. Dissatisfied by this, Congress leaders led by Naik staged a rasta roko against Prasad and his supporters and demanded that the high command to suspend him. Police took Naik into custody when he continued to protest even after they tried to persuade him to call it off.

**TTD WANTS HINDU STAFF, WHY DILUTE WAQF RULES: ASAD**

**NEERAJ KUMAR I DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 2**

AIMIM president Asaduddin Owaisi charged that Prime Minister Narendra Modi wanted to dilute the religious independence of Waqf Boards and Councils by appointing non-Muslims as members and giving power to district collectors in the handling of Waqf properties and on the other hand was strengthening Hindu endowment institutions such as Tirumala Tirupati Devasthanams (TTD).



Asaduddin Owaisi

In a video message, Owaisi referred to new TTD chairman B.R. Naidu's statement that the TTD would have Hindu employees. The Kashi Vishwanath Board says that all officials should be from the Hindu religion, starting from the commissioner and then going down the hierarchy, Owaisi said. Many states have stated that if any official changed religion and became a non-Hindu, that person would be removed from the board. "When Hindu endowment institutions are going ahead with members and employees from their own religion, why does Narendra Modi want to include non-Muslims in the administration of Waqf Boards and Waqf Council," Owaisi questioned.

Owaisi said Modi was violating Article 26 of the Constitution, which guaranteed the freedom of religion.



The new vice-chancellors of all state universities, chairman of Telangana Council of Higher Education Prof. V. Balakista Reddy and CM's adviser Vem Narender Reddy meet Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy in Hyderabad on Saturday.

**Revamp univ. system, Revanth tells new VCs**

**Expresses concerns over decline in varsity standards**

**DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 2**

Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy asked the newly-appointed Vice Chancellors of state universities to aim for a 100 per cent revamp of the university system, recalling how their predecessors were remembered fondly by students for decades.

He urged the VCs to address rising concerns over drugs and ganja usage on university campuses. He directed the VCs to take immediate, proactive measures to curb these issues. Revanth Reddy was addressing a meeting with the VCs at his residence on Saturday. Education (TGCH) chairman Prof. V. Balakista Reddy and the CM's adviser Vem Narender Reddy were present at the meeting.

Highlighting the urgent need to restore faith in the state universities, Revanth Reddy expressed his concerns over the perceived decline in university standards. He instructed the VCs to conduct a comprehensive study of the universities' current state, involving consultancies if necessary, to prepare an in-depth report on their operational effectiveness.

"The reputation of our universities has been suffering for some time now," he said. "We need to work diligently to rebuild trust and enhance the reliability of these institutions."

Emphasising that the new VCs were chosen based on merit and inclusivity, Revanth Reddy

**Loan waiver helped 22 lakh farmers, Revanth tells Modi**

**FROM PAGE 1**

The CM said it included "India's largest state-level farmer loan waiver," benefiting more than 22 lakh farmers with a total waiver amount of ₹18,000 crore. The promise to waive loans of each farmer up to ₹20 lakh was accomplished in 25 days, he said.

Revanth Reddy said that women are now benefiting from free electricity for domestic use, covering up to 200 units, a measure that has garnered significant support from people. Additionally, the government has reduced each gas cylinder price to ₹500, much lower than the rates in BJP-ruled states. To date, over 1.31 crore gas cylinders have been availed under this program, benefiting more than 42 lakh families, he said.

The Chief Minister said that they had launched an extensive recruitment drive, filling over 50,000 jobs across multiple levels.

Unlike previous administrations, the Congress government has held exams regularly and encouraged them to bring pride to the state government. However, he cautioned that any negligence would be met with strict consequences. He added that the government will fully support VCs who excel in their

roles but would not hesitate to take stringent action if they neglect their duties. Addressing drug-related issues on campus, the Chief Minister called on VCs to implement robust monitoring systems and

recruited candidates across sectors, a record 'no BJP-led state has matched'.

Further, allocations have been increased by over 40% for food and essential items for children in welfare hostels. "Our youth, who faced years of delayed exams and stagnant job opportunities, are finally seeing their aspirations getting realised," Revanth Reddy said.

He also highlighted the government's focus on environmental preservation, including the rejuvenation of River Musi. The Congress government has launched extensive measures to safeguard lakes and water bodies from encroachment, a problem, he noted, had persisted under previous governments.

To further support the state's youth, the Congress government has established the Young India Skills University and is in the process of establishing Young India Sports University, and Young India Integrated Residential Schools, aiming to equip the next generation with skills for a global workforce.

Revanth Reddy stated, "We are committed to creating a 'Future City' and a master plan to propel Telangana towards a brighter tomorrow." He said that the Congress government's approach is not merely fulfilling poll promises but building a sustainable and inclusive future for all people.

Stressing the Congress government's commitment to honour its promises, Revanth Reddy said, "In Telangana, we have ushered in a wave of joy and hope after almost a decade of BRS misrule. Today, Telangana is rising and dispelling the shadows of the past."

**20L Indiramma houses in 4 yrs: Ponguleti**

**MOULI MAREEDU I DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 2**

Retaliating the Opposition's comments on Saturday, housing minister Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy said Chief Minister A. Revanth Reddy would continue in the post for the next four years without interruption. He said that the state government was going to construct 20 lakh houses for the poor under the Indiramma housing scheme by allocating ₹27,000 crore funds in the next four years.

The minister on

Saturday told mediapersons at the Secretariat that the government would conduct grama sabhas in all villages from November 6 to 20 to finalise eligible candidates for Indiramma houses. "If any poor woman possesses 400 square feet of open plot on her name or the family head, we would make her eligible under the scheme. The state government will provide ₹5 lakh funds in a phased manner for construction of houses under," the minister said.

The government is also



Ponguleti Srinivasa Reddy

developing a mobile app to select eligible candidates and monitor the process of releasing funds and construction of houses. Initially, the government is focusing on poor families possessing at least 400 sq. feet of

open land. In the second phase, the government would provide government lands to the poor and offer funds of ₹5 lakh to construct a house under the Indirammama scheme.

The minister said for the smooth processing of applications for the Indiramma Housing scheme, the staff of 16 departments would be brought together. "The Centre provides ₹72,000 for rural and ₹1.25 lakh for urban houses out of the ₹5 lakh. We will also invite Union ministers Kishan Reddy, Bandi Sanjay Kumar and

**Officers told to streamline paddy procurement in TG**

**DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 2**

Civil supplies minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy directed officials to ensure a smooth paddy procurement process across Telangana.

At a video conference with district collectors and the principal secretary and civil supplies commissioner D.S. Chauhan, the minister insisted on meticulous planning as kharif paddy stocks start arriving at procurement centres in large quantities.

He said that this season's paddy harvest was expected to be 150 lakh metric tonnes worth ₹30,000 crore. The state has allocated ₹20,000 crore for procurement, with a provision for additional funds as and when needed.

The government anticipates strong cooperation from millers following an increase in milling charges by ₹40 for fine paddy and ₹30 for coarse paddy, he said. The minister explained the government is now moving towards securitising stocks, requiring a 10 per cent bank guarantee from millers with clean records, while those with a history of default must provide a 20 per cent guarantee.

He empowered district collectors to take local decisions while keeping the civil supplies commissioner duly informed so as to ensure seamless operations.

The government has set up intermediary godowns with 30 lakh metric tonnes storage capacity to handle contingencies.

In case of delays, the collectors should store paddy



Civil supplies minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy addresses a video conference on Saturday.

**Spl team for Sitarama land acquisition: Min.**

**DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 2**

Irrigation minister N. Uttam Kumar Reddy on Saturday said special teams will be constituted for surveys in order to expedite land acquisition for the Sitarama lift irrigation scheme project designed to create 3.28 lakh acres of new ayacut.

He was speaking at a review meeting on the progress of works on the project that was attended by agriculture minister Tummala Nageswara Rao and senior irrigation department officials at Jal Soudha here.

Instructing officials to ensure acquisition of 993 acres of land still needed in godowns managed by the state warehousing corporation or agricultural marketing committees.

Uttam Reddy underscored the critical nature of the one-month procurement

exercise, stating that 4,598 paddy procurement centres are currently operational. He urged officials to open all 7,572 centres immediately and, if necessary, establish additional centres.

for the project in addition to the 6,234.91 acres that has already been acquired, the minister said that the government has set a July 2025 deadline for completion of the project. In addition to creating new ayacut upwards of three lakh acres, the project will also come in handy to fill 500 tanks and lakes, which, in turn, can irrigate another 1.16 lakh acres.

So far ₹6,401.95 crore have been spent on the project, Reddy said, adding that the government was committed to completing the project on schedule. It will provide irrigation and drinking water to Khammam, Bhadradi Kothagudem and Mahabubabad districts, he said.

**BJP membership crosses 30 lakh**

**NEERAJ KUMAR I DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 2**

The BJP has once again extended the membership drive till November 15, saying it had crossed the 30-lakh mark and aiming for 40 lakh members. The party is engaging its senior leaders and front organisations to reach out to the areas where it is weak.

Talking to *Deccan Chronicle*, BJP membership drive incharge N. Ramchander Rao said the party would conduct a special drive between November 3 and 5 with a booth-level focus to increase the membership. He said those who enrolled at least 100 members would be made active members,

who would be eligible to take part in organizational elections.

An active member would be elected booth president. The booth president and 11 other members will act as a committee to take care of the party activities.

He also said Yuva Morcha, Mahila Morcha leaders would take part in a special drive from November 7 to 9. "The mandal level office bearers will take part in the election of district president, who in turn choose the state president. The party wishes to go with consensus in electing the state and district presidents and if more members vie for it, the election will be held," Ramchander Rao added.

**ETALA: BJP HAS 3L MEMBERS IN MALKAJGIRI**

**DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 2**

BJP MP Etala Rajendar said record 3 lakh members had enrolled in his Malkajgiri Lok Sabha constituency, the largest in the country. The party has set a target of 5 lakh members in the constituency. The BJP had secured 10 lakh votes out of the 38 lakh voters in the constituency.

Rajendar said that party leaders were trying hard to enroll at least 100 members in each booth. He said that when delimitation is done, the constituency would have the largest number of Assembly seats.

**INTEREST LOST As per ECI orders, graduates should enrol as voters for every MLC election**

**Graduate voters abstain from registering**

**NARENDER PULLOOR I DC NIZAMABAD, NOV. 2**

Older graduates, and those employed with private institutions, are not showing interest to enrol as voters under for the Legislative Council's Karimnagar graduates constituency. They are dissuaded by the repeat nature of the exercise.

As per Election Commission of India (ECI) orders, graduates should enrol as voters for every MLC election. New voters are ready to enrol their details, but senior others are not as enthusiastic. November 6 is the last date.

There were around 2 lakh graduates in the previous election. Around 2.3 lakh voters have enrolled so far

for the constituency which consists of undivided Karimnagar, Adilabad, Nizamabad and Medak districts. It is expected that around 3 lakh graduates will be enrolled as voters, though the number far exceeds that figure.

The ECI has provided an opportunity for graduates to enrol online. Their details, however, should be verified by the booth level officers. Instead of facilitating enrolment, it is becoming a hindrance as officials are reportedly asking the online applicants to visit tahsildar offices to show their original certificates.

Speaking to *Deccan Chronicle*, Karimnagar graduates MLC constituency aspirant Narender Reddy

said they are trying their level best to encourage graduates to enrol. "I visited 16 educational institutions in Kamareddy district on Saturday to interact with the graduates," he said.

On the other hand, graduates, who mostly engage in private organisations for employment, are not showing interest to enrol. However, a few resident associations of colonies and apartments are urging them to sign up. Voters awareness campaign by the officials is also not up to the mark.

J. Chandrashekar, a private employee, said he enrolled his name for previous poll. Enrolment as a voter for every election is not convenient for people, he said.

**Candidate urges strong action**

**DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 2**

Graduates aiming to register as voters for the MLC elections in the Nizamabad district's Bhimgal mandal are facing significant challenges due to a lack of awareness among the officials responsible for processing applications, alleged one of the candidates, Dr Bhandari Raj Kumar.

The Telangana Medical Council member and TGF founder, who intends to contest the Karimnagar, Medak, Nizamabad and Adilabad MLC constituency poll, addressed the mat-

ter upon receiving complaints from graduates.

Responding to the grievances of voters, Dr Raj Kumar said he had engaged with district officials and the Bhimgal tahsildar, calling for a swift resolution to prevent further obstacles for those attempting to register.

Dr Raj Kumar stressed the need for clarity at the grassroots level, particularly with the booth-level officers (BLOs).

"It's unfortunate that a simple administrative gap is causing such unnecessary delays for graduates. The right to vote is fundamental, and we must

ensure it is accessible to all eligible candidates," he explained.

In addition to urging district officials to streamline the registration procedures, Dr Raj Kumar advocated for an awareness session to be organised specifically for BLOs, aiming to equip them with the required knowledge to manage the registration process more efficiently. "Awareness workshops should be conducted promptly to ensure no graduate is deprived of their opportunity to vote due to administrative shortcomings," he recommended.

सीएसआर-कोशिकीय एवं आणविक जीव विज्ञान केंद्र  
**CSIR - CENTRE FOR CELLULAR AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY**  
 (वैज्ञानिक तथा औद्योगिक अनुसंधान परिषद)  
 (Council of Scientific & Industrial Research)  
 हैदराबाद / Hyderabad - 500007

**Call for a two-week upskilling training "Faculty Development Program"**

CSIR - Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology, Hyderabad along with Telangana State Council of Science & Technology (TGCOST) is conducting a two-week Faculty Development Program (FDP) on 'Basic Techniques in Genetics and Molecular Biology' from 17-Feb-2025 to 28-Feb-2025 under the DBT-Skill Vigyan sponsored program. The training is meant for upskilling the faculty engaged in Undergraduate and Post graduate teaching in Life Sciences & Allied areas of Natural Sciences.

The program curriculum will comprise lectures and hands-on laboratory sessions conducted by skilled resource persons on the topics related to Recombinant DNA Technology, Basic Bacteriology, Research Ethics & Methodology. It is a non-fee based course and a certificate of participation would be issued from the sponsoring organization.

Kindly submit online applications through the 'APPLY ONLINE' tab at the following link : [https://www.ccmb.res.in/Academics/TrainingPrograms?rr=Skill-Development-Program-\(SDP\)-in-Biological-Sciences](https://www.ccmb.res.in/Academics/TrainingPrograms?rr=Skill-Development-Program-(SDP)-in-Biological-Sciences). For any queries write to [sdp@ccmb.res.in](mailto:sdp@ccmb.res.in).

**RAILWAY RECRUITMENT CELL NORTH CENTRAL RAILWAY**  
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**RECRUITMENT AGAINST SCOUTS & GUIDES QUOTA OPEN ADVERTISEMENT 2024-25**

Employment Notice No. S&GQ 2024-25 Dated: 30.10.2024  
**Online Application Start Date 01.11.2024 & Online Closing Date: 30.11.2024 up to 23:59 hrs.**

Online application are invited from willing candidates having minimum educational and Scouts & Guides Qualification for recruitment in Grade Pay Rs. 1900/- and 1800/- (Revised Pay Scale after 7th CPC Pay Matrix Level-02 & 01) against Scouts & Guides Quota 2024-25 on North Central Railway till 23:59 Hrs. of closing date as 30.11.2024 at the quota indicated below:-

| SN | Post    | PayMatrix Level of 7th CPC     | No of post | Distribution  |
|----|---------|--------------------------------|------------|---|
| 1. | Level-2 | Level-2 (Grade Pay Rs. 1900/-) | 02 (Two)   | Over North Central Railway                            |
| 2. | Level-1 | Level-1 (Grade Pay Rs. 1800/-) | 06 (Six)   | 02 Post each for Jhansi, Prayagraj and Agra Division. |

\* The above quota is open to all candidates provided that they are fulfilling the prescribed norms. \* Employment Notice along with prescribed format of application and other details, such as-Educational qualification, Age, Mode of Selection, Examination Fee, how to apply and other Important instruction are available from 30.10.2024 at Railway Recruitment Cell/NCR/PRYJ website [www.rccpryj.org](http://www.rccpryj.org) & [www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in](http://www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in)

Chairman, Railway Recruitment Cell/NCR/Prayagraj  
 191224 FA  
 North central railways @CPRNCR www.ncr.indianrailways.gov.in

IN BRIEF

**Villagers find missing kid's body**

**Adilabad:** The body of Lal Shah, 10, of Anathapur of Sirikonda mandal, who was missing from Friday evening, was found in a water body on the outskirts of the village in Adilabad district on Saturday. The villagers who found the body informed the matter to his parents. The deceased's parents had been searching for him since Friday evening. Local police registered a case and started investigation.

**30-yr-old booked for blackmailing**

**Hyderabad:** Filmnagar police registered booked 30-year-old Kondapaka Umapathi for allegedly blackmailing a woman after reportedly marrying her and fleeing abroad after collecting ₹1.25 crore. He had met the victim over Facebook in 2020. Umapathi professed love for the woman, told her that he had financial problems and borrowed a total of ₹1.25 crore after promising to return the sum, Filmnagar police said. He also reportedly married the victim secretly and went abroad. Nampally and the CDEW in Zehranagar.

**Cop ends life due to fund crunch**

**Nalgonda:** Yadadri traffic police constable Kankuri Ravishanker, 42, died allegedly by suicide in his flat in Nalgonda on Saturday. In the copy of the complaint lodged with Nalgonda II Town police, his mother Venkaamma said Ravishanker was on leave from October 30. At 3 pm, he went into bedroom saying he was tired and needed to take rest, and locked the door. When he did not come out after several hours, his family members forcibly opened the door and found his body. She suspected that Ravishanker might have committed suicide due to financial problems. Nalgonda II Town police filed a case and took up investigation.

**200 drivers booked during check**

**Hyderabad:** The police booked 200 drivers during a check for drunk driving on Friday night in Madhapur, Kukatpally and Medchal, said Cyberabad joint commissioner of police (traffic) Joel Davis. Last weekend, the Cyberabad police had booked 400 drunk driving cases at six traffic junctions. Social media on Saturday was abuzz with reports of drunk driving tests at the exit points of the Outer Ring Road. To this, JCP Davis said: "It is not on ORR specifically, we conduct checks on a regular basis and at random points. We do check at certain exit points of the ORR as well." Davis said the police would present the drunk drivers before the magistrate who decides on the sentencing.

**FIVE HELD, FOUR RESCUED DURING BROTHEL RAID**

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV 2

The central zone task force and the Khairatabad police arrested five persons and rescued four victims during a raid on a brothel that was being run beside a college. Task force DCP Y.V. S Sudheendra said the arrested included a female organiser and four customers.

Police said the organiser Ayesha Siddiqua pretended to be running a marriage bureau. The victims were shifted to a shelter home.

IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE 1st SENIOR CIVIL JUDGE: CITY CIVIL COURT: AT HYDERABAD. S.O.P. NO. 121 OF 2024

Between: Pushpa Shenoy and 3 others. Petitioners/Petitioners.

And M/s. Ultra Tech CerCo. Limited and Others. Respondents/Respondents.

To: All Concerned.

Please take Notice that the above SOP No. 121 of 2024, on the file of the Hon'ble 1st Senior Civil Judge, City Civil Court, at Hyderabad is filed by the Petitioners, i.e., wife, sons and daughter of Late Sri. Srinivas Madhav Shenoy, for Succession Certificate against M/s. Ultra Tech CerCo. Limited, Rep. by its Managing Director and 5 others in respect of the shares held by Late Sri. Srinivas Madhav Shenoy in the said companies. The said SOP No. 121 of 2024 is posted to 23-11-2024 at 10.30 a.m. in the above said Hon'ble Court. Therefore, if any person or persons has/have any claim over the shares held by Late Sri. Srinivas Madhav Shenoy, may put in your appearance before the said Hon'ble Court on the said date and time. On failure to appear on the said date and time, either in person or through the Counsel, the matter will be heard ex-parte.

BY ORDER OF THE HON'BLE COURT. MANIK RAO, Advocate, 3-3-98B, Sethu Manohar Nivas, KubiGuda, HYD-500027, TS. Mob. No. 9848207601.

**Insider's hand in murder: Cops**

Cops had found decomposed bodies of elderly couple in aptt flat

SYED OMAR FAROOQ I DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 2

The special crime teams of east zone police probing the recent murder of an elderly couple and whose highly decomposed bodies were found at their apartment in Saibabnagar, Amberpet, have questioned over 40 persons including victims family members, property offenders and those earlier involved in murder for gain with a similar modus operandi.

The victims' apartment at Saibabnagar of DD Colony, Amberpet, has hardly CCTV cameras. Police teams have so far checked footage of over 240 CCTV cameras on the connecting roads, police sources disclosed. The bodies of the victims, K. Linga Reddy, 83, and his wife K. Urmila Devi, 79, were found on October 20 by their relative Puduturi Ganga Reddy, while their neighbour Donne Janumuna had last seen the couple alive on the night of

**THE VICTIMS'** apartment at Saibabnagar of DD Colony, Amberpet, has hardly CCTV cameras. Police teams have so far checked footage of over 240 CCTV cameras on the connecting roads

October 17. "Their bodies were highly decomposed. The neighbours said they had not heard any sound from the house and there was no forcible entry. This points a finger at an inside job," a senior police officer said. "So far we have questioned around 40 antisocial elements, three daughters of the couple, a son-in-law's relatives in Nizamabad, to cross check any property disputes within the family," the officer said.

"The case is quite sensitive. Our teams are collecting concrete evidence against all possible suspects. We will soon detect the case," one of the investigation officers said.

**Many CCTVs remain defunct**

PRIYA RATHNAM I DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 2

In recent years, residential areas have increasingly relied on CCTV cameras to be assured of enhanced safety. However, in a disturbing trend, many of the cameras are left unmonitored and it is not known when they become defunct.

This is having major implications, especially for the police department. Their investigation into the Amberpet double-murder case took a severe beating due to a non-functional community CCTV camera. When asked about community CCTV systems, a senior police officer explained, "Community cameras are the ones used for surveillance in residential areas. Cameras in the lanes, apartments and colonies are community cameras maintained by the residents, while those on the main

roads and junctions are classified as traffic cameras." He emphasised the importance of community engagement. "When community members take ownership of these systems, it enhances the ability to clear the cases."

In the context of the double murder case, investigators faced setbacks because one of the house's CCTV systems could not record the incident. "There were civil works going on in the area, and a lorry carrying sand damaged the wires, which the owner did not repair," the officer stated.

As a result, the investigation is relying on the functioning cameras in the lanes and connecting roads, but so far no apprehension has taken place by the Amberpet police. Farheed from the IT Cell of the Hyderabad commissionerate mentioned that most com-

munity cameras are funded by MP and MLA funds, where political leaders pay for the installation of cameras in their constituencies. "Besides, six vendors are responsible for maintaining these cameras, monitoring their functioning and repairs constantly," he explained. In stark contrast, the tri-commissionerate of Hyderabad, Cyberabad, and Rachakonda actively issues traffic challans — 15,000 in Hyderabad, 8,000 in Cyberabad, and 1,500 in Rachakonda daily.

This disparity highlights a disconnection, as traffic cameras are operational while community cameras often fail due to oversight.

According to deputy commissioner of police (traffic) Srinivas Rao, traffic cameras are monitored and repaired by L&T, who recently received a one-year extension for their services.

**JH runover: Nod to further probe**

VUJINI VAMSHIDHAR I DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 2

The Telangana High Court upheld the decision of the trial court in ordering the Hyderabad police to further investigate the Jubilee Hills accident case in February 2022.

Former Bodhan MLA Shakeel Aamir's son Raheel Aamir is reportedly involved in the incident that claimed the life of a two-month boy Ranveer, whose mother Kajol was hit by the speeding vehicle. When police got clues of Raheel's involvement, they urged the trial court early this year to permit them to take up further investigation. The trial court had on March 19 gave permission.

Challenging the same, Raheel approached the High Court arguing that once the chargesheet is filed in a case, further investigation cannot be allowed. His counsel argued that the order of

the trial court amounted to violation of the principle of law under Section 173(8) of the CrPC and that the trial court had erred in directing the prosecution to proceed with further investigation.

Mahesh Raju, the government pleader, argued that the 2022 investigation was not done on proper lines and there were several lapses in the process. Hence, the ACP of Jubilee Hills had instructed an inspector to take up the investigation.

Justice K. Sujana, after hearing the contentions, opined that Section 173(8) of CrPC provided that filing of a chargesheet did not preclude the police from conducting further investigation. Hence the court was of the firm view that there were no illegalities or infirmities in the impugned order dated 19.03.2024 permitting the prosecution to proceed with further investigation.

**Yakatpura fire toll reaches 3**

M. SRINIVAS I DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 2

The toll in the cooking-related fire accident in a house in East Chandranagar in Yakatpura on Tuesday rose to three with the death of a teenager, Shruti Gupta. She was undergoing treatment in a corporate hospital in Malakpet on Saturday.

Shruti, 15, was the the granddaughter of Mohan Lal, 55, and his wife Usha Devi, 51, who died in the fire mishap which was exacerbated by firecrackers stored in the house.

There was a powerful explosion the firecrackers caught fire and exploded, the police said.

The incident occurred when the couple was preparing sweets on a gas stove in the balcony on the first floor of the house. The couple died due to suffocation while Shruti, who suffered serious burns, succumbed on Saturday. Rein Bazaar inspector L Ramesh Naik said the girl's body was handed over to the family members after an autopsy at the Osmania General Hospital (OGH) mortuary in the afternoon.

**Vehicle checking drive**



A traffic policeman collects chals from the motorists at Ameerpet on Saturday. — K. DURGA RAO

**Man held for forging papers, duping ₹1.7 cr**

MANVI VYAS I DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 2

The Cyberabad economic offences wing (EOW) police arrested one Udandapuram Narsimhulu, a resident of Medak district, for allegedly fabricating and forging documents of government land in Allipur, Shivampet mandal and cheating two persons of ₹1.7 crore. The police were acting on a complaint lodged by N.V.V. Subrahmanyam of Suraram, who said

Narsimhulu had told them that the land was private property. The complainant is a priest at the Sri Nikhila Sai Mataireya Madhusudhana Saraswati Peetham at Suraram Colony, Jeedimetla. He intended to purchase the land in Shivampet mandal to construct a temple, he told the police.

In 2018, he got acquainted with the accused at the tahsildar's office Shivampet mandal. The accused, Narsimhulu, intro-

duced himself as an employee working at the tahsildar office and told the complainant that he was due for promotion to deputy tahsildar.

According to Subrahmanyam, Narsimhulu assured him of identifying a land parcel for the temple. The accused showed him land on the outskirts of Alipur, which Subrahmanyam agreed to purchase. It turned out that the land was held by the government.

**Father-son duo goes missing**

DC CORRESPONDENT NALGONDA, NOV. 2

A father-son duo on Saturday went missing in AMRP-Srisalam Left Bank Canal at Shaddulapuram of Kanagal mandal in the district. They were identified

as Suravaram Damodar, 36 and his son Panindra Varma, 14, natives of Shaddulapuram.

According to police, when Panindra slipped into water, his father tried to save him. However, both father and son were washed

away in the canal due to the flow of water. Their relatives present at the site did not dare enter the canal.

Getting information, Kanagal police rushed to the place and began a search for the father-son duo with the help of locals.

**TGSRTC bus rams into pvt bus, 30 hurt**

DC CORRESPONDENT SURYAPET, NOV. 2

At least 30 passengers sustained injuries, three of them grievous, when a TGSRTC bus hit a private bus from the rear on National Highway 65 at Kattakommugudem crossroads near Kodad in the district early on Saturday.

According to police, the private bus driver had stopped the vehicle on the roadside on the request of some passengers who wanted to relieve themselves. When it resumed its journey, the RTC bus hit it from its rear.

The two vehicles were going towards Vijayawada from Hyderabad. The injured have been shifted to government hospital at Kodad by ambulance. Three passengers — K.



Two buses, which were involved in road accident on National Highway No. 65 at Kattakommugudem Cross Road near Kodad in Suryapet district in the early hours of Saturday.

Mani, P. Venkateshwar Rao and Daniel — who received grievous injuries, were shifted to a private hospital. Their condition is said to be serious.

**TAHSILDAR IN ACB NET FOR TAKING ₹12,000 BRIBE**

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 2

The Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB) on Saturday caught Dusiheetti Thirupathi, a tahsildar of Jainoor mandal in Komaram Bheem Asifabad district, red-handed when he allegedly accepted a bribe of ₹12,000 through Madishetti Shekar, a panchayat secretary working on out-sourcing basis from a complainant for doing their duty.

Thirupathi is also the special officer for the village panchayat of Pochamloddhi in Jainoor mandal. He demanded the bribe to issue a cheque of ₹9.10 lakh pertaining to the contract work of laying CC roads at Pochamloddhi executed by the complainant.

The ACB recovered the tainted bribe amount of ₹12,000 from the possession of Shekar. The fingers of both hands of Shekar tested positive for a chemical that was used to mark the currency notes. The duo was produced before a special judge for ACB cases in Karimnagar. The court later remanded them to judicial custody.

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● THIRUPATHI IS also the special officer for the village panchayat of Pochamloddhi in Jainoor mandal. He demanded the bribe to issue a cheque of ₹9.10 lakh pertaining to the contract work of laying CC roads.

**SHRADHANJALI**



**GILALA BABAI AH YADAV**  
DOD On Monday 21st October 2024  
Peddakarma On 3rd Nov/2024 at Hotel Jubilee Ridge, Rd No-36, Jubilee Hills.  
Regards - Sons, Daughter, Grand Children  
Ph: 9030929100, 7893588805  
(A/2425/D00033)

**SHRADHANJALI**



**Sri T Ravinder Raj**  
Expired on: 25/10/2024.  
Peddha Karna today 3rd November 2024  
Inserted by: Childhood Friends: C Nandkumar, C Narahari, T Subash V Kishan, P Suresh

**24th DEATH ANNIVERSARY**



**Mrs. A.J. SUHASINI (SWEETY)**  
W/o. G. Praveen Kumar - Begumpet  
D/o. Late. A. Jeevarathnam  
DOB: 7-1-1974 DOD: 3-11-2000  
"Fondly remembered with silent tears."  
Inserted by: FAMILY MEMBERS

**65th BIRTHDAY REMEMBRANCE**



**Mrs. BANDELA LILIAN RUTH**  
Retd. Head Mistress,  
(St. Thomas S.P.G. Boy's High School)  
DOB: 03-11-1959 DOD: 11-05-2024  
With Love:  
B.J. Sudhakar (Beloved Husband)  
Son, Daughter & Grand Children.  
(S/2425/D00737)

**OBITUARY**



**GYARA JAIPAL SWAMY**  
DOB: 10-10-1948 DOD: 26-10-2024  
You will forever remain in our hearts  
cherished and missed beyond words  
Daughter: Bandari Archana  
Son-in-Law: Krishna Rao  
Grand Daughter: Parishvi  
(CA-4294)

**1st DEATH ANNIVERSARY**



**Mr. Vanamamala John Cyril**  
S/O Late Mr. V. Cyril Kantharao  
Born on 21/9/1962  
Went to be with the Lord on 3/11/2023.  
Inserted by:  
Family Members  
Contact: 9703778703, 9966577123

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF**



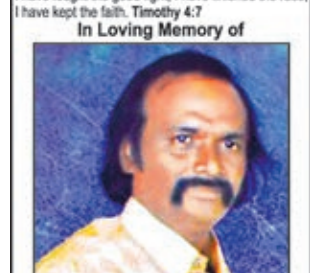
**M. SAROJINI**  
W/o Late M. Maniraj  
DOB: 11.04.1951 DOD: 25.09.2024  
40th Day Memorial Ceremony  
on 3rd November 2024  
Holy Mass @ 9:30 AM at St. Joseph's Church,  
M.J. Colony, Street#2, Moula-Ali, Hyd-40.  
Lunch at 1:00 pm at H.No. 42-352/1, Plot No.12,  
Opp: Veshwtha Residency, Shramika Nagar,  
AS Rao Nagar, Moula-Ali, Hyd-40  
Ph: 8333941602, 9341932990

**3rd DEATH ANNIVERSARY**



**Mrs. SHAKUNTHALA DAVID**  
Retired Principal, MRHS Zbd  
W/o Late Mr. M.L. David  
May 26, 1938 - Nov 03, 2021  
Daughters, Sons in law,  
Grand Children & Great Grand Daughter

**8th ANNIVERSARY**



**Mr. MADDELA R. STEPHEN**  
DOB: 01.01.1953 DOD: 03.11.2016  
Inserted By: Wife: M. LAVANYA, Sons,  
Daughters, Daughters-in-law, Grand Children  
Wife: 9849220699 / 9849050524

**MONEY | TRAIL Police refund or freeze over ₹46 crore from fraudsters a/c**

**Israeli tools come handy to freeze a/c**

DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 2

Recently procured Israeli and German tools came to the aid of the city cybercrime unit (CCU) or freeze cyber-fraudsters' accounts, and return money to the victims.

The police refunded or froze more than ₹46 crore from January till date as against ₹19.9 crore in 2023.

In keeping with the massive rise in cyber-crimes, the CCU has been reinforced with advanced multipurpose software tools for use in prevention, detection and tracking servers of fraudsters not only in

India but abroad too. They freeze the amount that has been swindled and return it to victims in 15 to 20 days after getting the go-ahead from courts.

As per CCU records, 2,998 cyber crimes have been reported this year, as against 2,336 in 2023. The lost amount this year till date is ₹231.88 crore while it was ₹147.22 crore in 2023.

The CCU teams detected 301 cyberfraud cases this year (286 in 2023) and arrested 346 persons in the last 10 months as against 413 in all of last 2023.

However, the refund and freezing process was reportedly affected due

**ADVANCED SOFTWARE**

THE CCU has been reinforced with advanced multipurpose software tools for use in prevention, detection and tracking servers of fraudsters not only in India but abroad too.

**2,998** Cyber crimes have been reported this year, as against 2,336 in 2023.

CYBERCOPS FREEZE the amount that has been swindled and return it to victims in 15 to 20 days after getting the go-ahead from courts.

to lack of modern and sophisticated tools. The recently procured most advanced gadgets and tools were helping the police crack the whip on cyberfraudsters, said

police commissioner C.V. Anand. To tackle cybercrimes, the Centre has established the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C).

The government has also launched the National Cyber Crime Reporting Portal (cyber-crime.gov.in) to enable public reporting of cybercrimes.

"Our CCU forensic laboratory teams are now able to provide early-stage cyber forensic assistance to investigating officers," Anand said.

"Instructions have been issued to start awareness programs in theatres, by popular YouTubers, celebrities and audio and video displays in over 44 identified public places," CCU ACP R.G. Siva Maruthi said.

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DECCAN Chronicle 3 NOVEMBER 2024



Shashi Warriar  
Off the beaten track

# The pitfalls of buying online

No matter how old I get, I don't like to admit I'm a coward. But then, lots of things I fear are becoming more a part of our lives these days, and I find it hard to cope.

There's technology, for instance. Online buying terrifies me. I resisted it with some success until covid came along. I made excuses like, "It's not the same as seeing or feeling something before buying it," and, "You'll never find fruit as good as you'll find in the market," and so on.

Covid changed all that. Risking the dread disease by going to the market was more frightening than buying things online. Besides, my wife Prita wasn't afraid of online shopping. She took to it like a duck to water, and soon we were getting along comfortably. We didn't even have to see the young men who delivered the goods: they simply rang the bell and left the goods on the table in the porch for us to collect. Practically everything we needed was available at our doorstep, and, while dining out was impossible, our favourite restaurants delivered, so we hardly felt the lacks.

Covid receded, but Prita liked purchasing things from the comfort of her sofa, using her cellphone for all her shopping. Despite my urging, she continued with the practice because it was so convenient. And then came the time when her phone began to misbehave. It froze from time to time, and worked very slowly. "It's three years old," she announced to me one evening. "Getting slower by the day. Time to get a new one."

"Let's go," I said.  
"Where?" she asked.  
"To the shops," I said. "Don't you want a new cellphone?"

"No way," she said, settling into her favourite easychair with the phone in her hands and her thumbs racing. "Not while this still limps along."

A half-hour later, she announced. "See what I got?"

"What?" I asked.  
She showed me the deal on an online shopping site, one that promises to deliver anything from A to Z: a new phone, faster and shinier than her present one, at a reasonable price, and, besides, a rather good trade-in value for the old one. "Excellent," I said.

"See?" she said. "No need to go out. And not just that, we know it'll arrive three days from now."

"Terrific!" I said, shrinking from a future in which I depended on her for all my purchases.

The next day, though, we had to go out of town for a few days. "What about your phone?" I asked.

"No worries," she replied. "The delivery boy will call to confirm if we're home, and we'll tell him to bring it next day."

But the delivery boy never called. Instead, when she followed up, she got a message on the online site's app that the delivery boy had tried to call but failed to get through. "Nonsense!" she fumed. "He never called! What terrible service!"

"Right," I said. "So what do we do now?"

"Complain, of course!" she said. "Right now! We can't let them get away with this!" She settled down on the sofa and found the customer relations page of the Internet marketing site, where, after going through several options, she managed to click an option that requested a callback.

They called soon after. She explained what happened, and, after a brief silence, her voice went up. A minute or two of shouting got her a better response, and very soon it was clear that there was nothing left to do but cancel the order, which she did. When she tried to place the same order again – it was a good deal, after all – she discovered she couldn't exchange the phone. After another chat with customer service she found that the site had registered the IMEI number of her phone on a barred list so she couldn't put it up for exchange it for another ten days. Another shouting match followed, after which it was taken off the list.

"When will it arrive?" I asked.  
"Four days," she said, naming the date.

Four days passed, but the phone didn't arrive. She asked again for a callback from customer service, and cancelled the deal once again. "I give up," she said. "I think I'll stick with this phone for some more time."

She deleted a lot of her data and removed many apps she didn't use regularly and got it working a little faster and more reliably than before: its performance was just about acceptable.

A few days later, our ancient toaster failed to come on. This had happened before, and we thought a few thumps at strategic points would revive it, but this time it really seemed to have given up. No amount of thumping worked, so we bid it goodbye and decided to replace it. "Let's go to a shop," I said. "We can get back in an hour or so, and there won't be the tension of whether they'll deliver the thing or not."

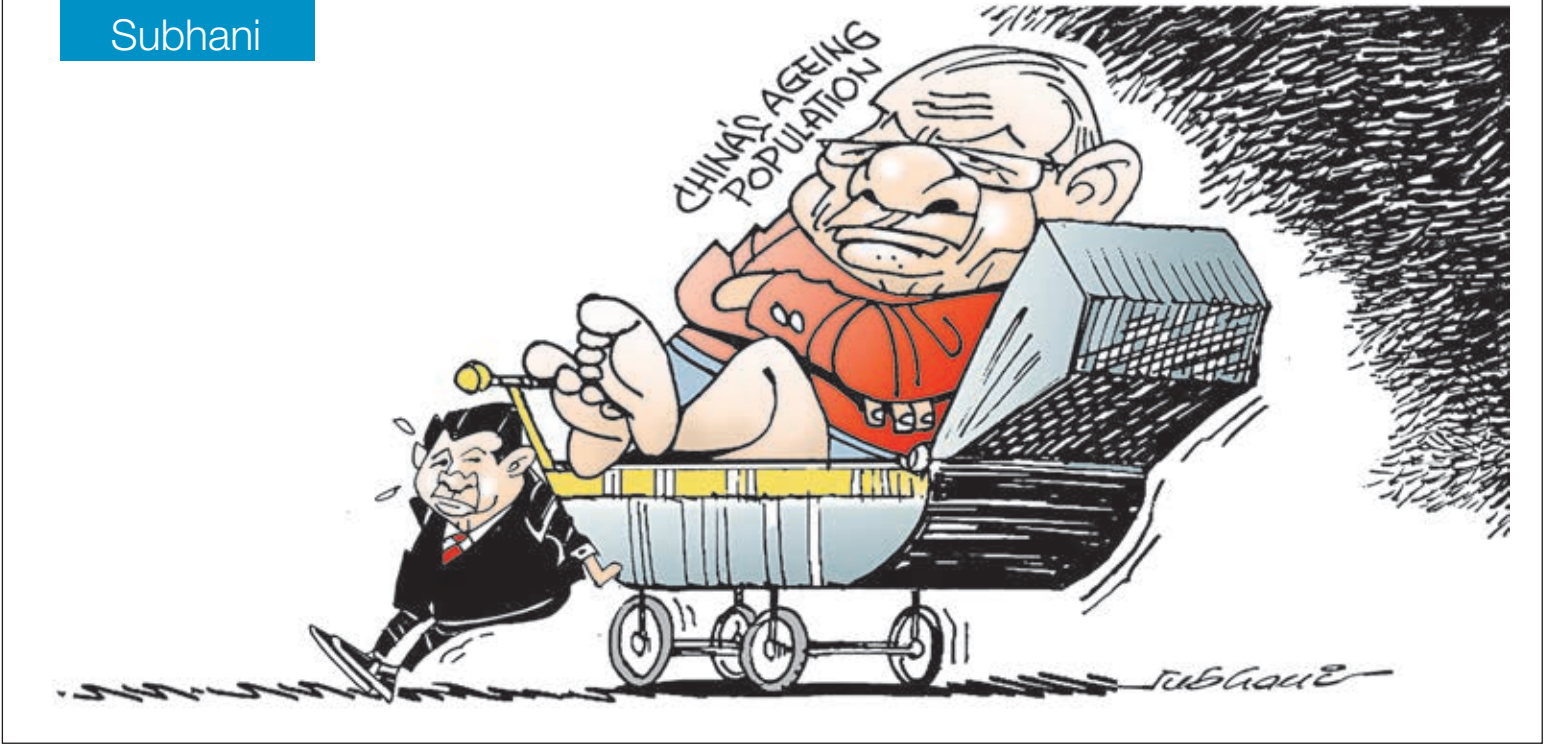
"Right," she said, and we set out. We found a shop just fifteen minutes away, and were back home in just over half an hour with a brand new toaster for which the shopkeeper gave us a ten per cent discount.

"That was short and sweet, wasn't it?" I asked, gloating just a bit.  
She must have caught that, because she whipped out her phone immediately. A minute later, she was showing me what she's found online. "Look!" she said. There it was again, the a-to-z shopping site, carrying exactly the same toaster we'd just bought, but at half the price! "Short, sweet, and expensive!"  
You just can't win!



'Complain, of course!' she said. 'Right now! We can't let them get away with this!' She settled down on the sofa and found the customer relations page of the Internet marketing site...

Subhani



# India, China and the fog of elusive peace



Manish Tewari  
State of the Union

The recent meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Xi Jinping on the sidelines of the Brics Summit in Kazan, Russia, was held out as the potential game-changer that consummated the protracted negotiations to address the April-May 2020 Chinese transgressions along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) and some other near-term legacy issues. Negotiations that had been ongoing since June 2020.

While both Modi and Xi underscored their commitment to disengagement and restoring tranquility along the LAC, the discrepancies in the official readouts of the meeting released by both the countries highlighted discrepancies, divergences and dichotomies in their respective appreciation of the situation along the LAC.

India's optimistic stance on achieving "complete disengagement" starkly contrasted with China's more cautious position. It illuminated the intricate challenge of restoring the pre-2020 status quo along the Line of Actual Control (LAC). Something that the Government of India has held out as a non-negotiable redline for the past 53 months now.

India asserts that the de facto border extends for 3,488 km, while China contends it is significantly shorter. Beijing claims approximately 90,000 square kilometres of Indian territory in the northeastern region, including Arunachal Pradesh, while New Delhi maintains that 38,000 square kilometres in Aksai Chin is part of Ladakh. Despite considerable focus on the disengagement efforts in Depsang and Demchok, numerous such unresolved holdovers persist.

**Uncertainties Surrounding Pre-2020 Border Dynamics:** A crucial aspect of the ongoing disengagement along the LAC is the lack of clarity and opacity regarding the situation prior to the April-May 2020 standoff. The Indian govern-

ment has not adequately disclosed the nature or extent of Chinese incursions or the difficulties encountered by Indian patrols in Ladakh before the escalation in 2020. This opacity has fuelled speculation about the exact terms of disengagement.

The flashpoint of the current border dispute in part can be traced back to China's assertions with regard to where the borders between India and China lay. The Chinese contention in this regard was first articulated by Premier Zhou Enlai in a letter to Prime Minister Nehru on November 7, 1959, and is now colloquially referred to as the Chinese 1959 claim line.

Since then, several areas along the Line of Actual Control have remained contentious. Prior to April-May 2020, tensions were already manifesting themselves in critical areas like the Depsang Plains, where Chinese troops frequently impeded Indian patrols at multiple points namely Patrolling Points 10, 11, 11-A, 12, and 13, respectively.

Although India maintained control over the Burtse area to the west, it has always been a flashpoint since a significant standoff in September 2015 when India objected to the construction of a Chinese watchtower. The Galwan Valley had also experienced friction before the violent confrontation in June 2020. Other locations, such as Hot Springs and Gogra Post, where Indian patrols traversed up to Patrolling Point 15 and 17-A, were recurrent sites of stand offs, particularly during the heightened discord between 2017 and 2019. While a mutual understanding of patrol boundaries has historically helped maintain peace, the region remains always susceptible to the potential of escalations.

**2020 Transgressions: A Turning Point:** The Chinese transgressions of April-May 2020 marked a significant escalation in the border dispute, fundamentally changing the dynamics along the

control. Uncertainties persist regarding whether China has fully withdrawn from all areas it occupied during the 2020 standoff. Although disengagement has been achieved in parts of the region, doubts remain about the long-term status of the established buffer zones. Intended to prevent future conflicts, these zones may become a permanent fixture that limits India's ability to patrol the region effectively.

A January 2023 paper written by a senior police officer vividly detailed that Indian security forces regularly patrolled 65 Patrolling Points (PPs) from the Karakoram Pass to Chumur. However, access to 26 of these PPs has been lost due to the suspension of patrolling by Indian security forces. The paper revealed significant absence of Indian access to PPs 5-17, 24-32, 37, 51, 52, and 62. Notably, unpatrolled PPs include those in the Samar Lungpa area northeast of Daulat Beg Oldi and in the Depsang Plains, as well as PPs along the northern bank of Pangong and other critical locations like Demchok and Charding Nala.

**Need for Greater Transparency:** The ongoing disengagement process along the India-China border has significant implications, particularly for states like Arunachal Pradesh, where China asserts claims over the Indian territory. There are growing concerns that these disengagement agreements and resolutions would weaken India's claims over Aksai Chin, a prerogative aggressively chest thumped by the current government during the Article 370 debate in the Lok Sabha on August 6, 2019. The creation of buffer zones, restrictions on patrolling and other yet unknown details of various disengagement minute may lead to de facto borders that do not align with India's territorial claims, potentially compromising both its negotiating position in future discussions as well its national security.

While recent agreements can be termed as tangible progress transparency with regard to its terms are the key.

*Manish Tewari is a third-term Lok Sabha MP and former Union minister of information and broadcasting, Government of India*

LETTERS

GANDHI STATUE

Why are politicians obsessed with tall statues? (Gandhi statue may be taller than 72 ft, Nov. 2). We have to imbibe their tall values and principles of great personalities. Gandhiji was such a simple person, definitely he would not appreciate this move.

Padma Nandyal  
Hyderabad

The state should maintain existing statues, monuments and heritage structures properly instead of going for new ones with more pomp and show. Many statues are in a dilapidated condition. It would be the right tribute to Gandhi if his principles are followed and practised.

Pradeep Kamadana  
Hyderabad

Shun the politics of statues for political mileage. People voted for the Congress to fulfil the guarantees promised. It may lead to states vying for building tallest statues at the cost of government exchequer.

P.V.K. Upendar  
Hyderabad

DIWALI CELEBRATIONS

There are restrictions regarding the bursting of firecrackers during Diwali (Unsafe bursting of crackers to the fore, DC, Nov. 2). But, as usual, this year too, all of them have been mocked by rampantly violating them. It means that people's "freedom of action" can't be curbed even if their actions are harmful.

Dr O. Prasada Rao  
Hyderabad

ELECTION COMMISSION

The Election Commission has eroded its credibility (Not surprised EC gave itself clean chit, alleges Congress, Nov. 2). It's time for the judiciary to put an end to the allegations and counter-allegations regarding EVMs. When questions are raised about EVMs or electoral bonds, sustained attention also needs to be paid to the activities of the Election Commission.

P. Sritha  
Hyderabad

DEBROY NO MORE

Extremely saddened by the news of the passing of Bibek Debroy who is known for multifaceted genius, renowned economist and man of towering simplicity (Economist, writer, Debroy dead Nov. 2). His guidance was instrumental in shaping key economic reforms and development strategies that have defined modern India.

Parcha Devi  
Hyderabad

Email your letters to  
info@deccanmail.com,  
editor@deccanmail.com.



Mahir Ali

# Trump or Harris? Sooner than later, American empire bound to crumble

A few days from now, nervous tension will be spiking within and beyond the US as the results roll in from what has been hyped up as the most consequential election in American history. The choice, essentially, is between the reinforcement of a deeply unsatisfying status quo and a return to the depressingly entertaining self-immolation of a Trump presidency.

Writing in the context of Nazism and its impact on Germany, Hannah Arendt noted long ago that "those who choose the lesser evil forget very quickly that they chose evil". In recent decades, it has more or less become the norm for the electorate in many democracies faced with a choice between two varieties of what voters might be inclined to detest or distrust. The US easily falls into that category, notwithstanding its posturing as an exemplar or, more absurdly, an enforcer of liberal democracy, given the number of dictatorships its interventions have spawned.

Criticism of Donald Trump's Madison

Square Garden rally on Sunday has tended to focus on a warm-up comedian's obnoxious description of Puerto Rico as a garbage dump. Even the Trump campaign has disavowed his stance – but, at the same time, distracted attention from echoes of a notorious gathering at the same venue 85 years ago arranged by the German American Bund where an image of George Washington was flanked by Nazi insignia, and the keynote speaker's anti-Semitic, white-supremacist message was greeted with 'siege hellos' by the 20,000-strong multitude.

The f-word – fascism – had been flung at Trump even before a number of disenchanted colleagues from his previous White House stint endorsed it. After all, the ex-President had doubled down on his traditional pet hate – which involved denigrating all immigrants who entered via Mexico as rapists and murderers – by claiming that Haitian arrivals in Springfield, Ohio, were devouring cats and dogs. The lack of evidence for even a single instance of such behaviour did not

matter to him or his acolytes.

The accompanying threat to violently deport millions of 'illegal immigrants' was almost a predictable corollary. It has stirred precious little alarm in the US which had in its initial stages relied on invaders and their slaves plus genocidal assaults against North America's native inhabitants that it should still be unwelcome to outsiders keen on rebuilding lives that have been shattered all too often because of America-first mentality in Washington.

There is more alarm over Trump's vow to deploy the military against 'enemies from within', a designation that encompasses pretty much all of his domestic opponents, who are obviously being unpatriotic in disdaining his MAGA agenda, which in part reflects the white-supremacist efforts of predecessors that were interrupted by Hitler's transgressions. Trump is hardly a pioneer, though. Richard Nixon, too, had his list of enemies – and he came a cropper within two years of winning an undeserved

landslide in 1972.

American voters have picked many obnoxious Presidents within living memory, and there has never been any reckoning for their international crimes – from Vietnam and Korea to Chile, El Salvador, Afghanistan and Iraq, among a far longer list. Trump, to his credit, failed to spark any new wars. The claims that he would have pre-empted both the Russian invasion of Ukraine and October 7 alongside its genocidal aftermath in Israel, Gaza and beyond, are easy to denigrate as absurd. But these are hardly defining issues for most voters.

In the case of Israel's genocidal impulses, they matter more on the Democratic side. Kamala Harris has failed to distance herself from the Biden administration's demonstrably fake efforts for a ceasefire, even while its influence has been paramount in forestalling the kind of revenge Benjamin Netanyahu and Yoav Gallant had in mind for Iran. Meanwhile, the Kahanist "ethnic cleansing" in the Palestinian territories pro-

ceeds apace. Would a reincarnated President Trump somehow halt it? Dream on. The Arab/Muslim 'community leaders' who latched on to him in Michigan recently are either unwise or ignorant in glossing over his efforts to bury the question of Palestine under the mendacious Abraham Accords.

Would Harris be any better? Yes, marginally, at least on domestic concerns. It matters, for instance, that she defends women's autonomy over their bodies, and on the economic front is slightly less enthusiastic than her rival about redistributing wealth to the rich. But then, false promises are the lifeblood of US elections. On the global front, the choice perhaps is between a rapid apocalypse or the gradual decline and fall of an empire that has for too long surreptitiously prolonged the age of imperialism. Either way, but especially with Trump, the risk is that the rest of the world will pay the price for decades to come.

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IN BRIEF

**Woman dies in bid to kill lizard**

**Hyderabad:** A 30-year-old home-maker, Yasmeem Begum, succumbed to burns that she had sustained at an incident in her house on September 28. Police said she had tried to throw kerosene at a lizard in her kitchen and burn it. However, some kerosene spilled on her clothes which caught fire when she went near the stove. She was rushed to the Osmania General Hospital, where she succumbed late on Friday night, Attapur police said. The body was released to her husband Syed Khaium.

**Plea filed to open Tarnaka X-road**

**Hyderabad:** GHMC deputy mayor Mothe Srihatha Shoban Reddy has submitted petitions to the Hyderabad police commissioner and the GHMC commissioner to open Tarnaka crossroads for traffic. The crossroads have been closed for long, and motorists have to travel some distance to take a U-turn.

**Cop found dead at Intelligence office**

**Hyderabad:** Head constable Sampath Kumar, 50, was found dead on the fourth floor of state intelligence office at Lakdikapul early on Saturday. Police said he was found in an unconscious condition by personnel who came to relieve him. Kumar was declared dead at a private hospital. Police suspect that Sampath Kumar had suffered a heart stroke.

**Woman raped at supermarket**

**Hyderabad:** A 20-year-old woman was allegedly raped by a 35-year-old co-worker at a supermarket, Ghatkesar police said. Following the complaint, Ghatkesar inspector Parshuram said, the police arrested Basheer. Police said Basheer had threatened the victim into silence. When the victim finally told her family about the incident, they lodged a complaint at the police station.

**RTC bus runs over woman on bike**

**Hyderabad:** A 25-year-old woman two-wheeler rider was run over by an RTC bus in Tarnaka at about 10.15 am on Saturday, Osmania University police said. Visuals of the accident were uploaded on social media. OU police inspector N. Rajender identified the victim as Rohitha, 25, a hosteller. She was heading towards Habsiguda. She was run over by the front left wheel of the bus, police said. RTC Ravinder has been arrested.

**Urban isolation fuels disordered eating**

Structured life, understanding of eating patterns can help

MRITTIKA BANERJEE | DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 2

"I feel a compulsive need to eat late at night, to binge-eat. It's not something I am proud of, but it happens," says Sayantan Roy (name changed), a 28-year-old fit-looking software engineer living in Hyderabad. Roy's struggle with disordered eating is something he keeps hidden. "I usually do this at night when no one will notice. I even stand by the door so the bell doesn't alert my flatmates," he explains quietly.

Roy's eating habits first started when he moved to Hyderabad for work, after the pandemic. "It was mainly due to my stress about my dog, he wasn't doing too well," he shares. Although he managed to control it temporarily, his habits resurfaced as work pressures increased.

"I'd barely sleep because work kept running through my mind. Food became an escape, a kind of relief but also a self-inflicted punishment. I would order late at night, sometimes even at 4 am and binge eat. The guilt was overwhelming, but I couldn't stop," he admits. Though Roy seems fit and active to those around him, his battle with food is less visible, as it is for many people struggling with eating disorders.

Mira Patel (name changed), a 29-year-old banker on the opposite side of Hyderabad, faces a similar struggle as Roy. "I order food late at night because I don't want anyone to see me eating. It's shameful somehow, and when you're living alone, it's easier to hide," she admits.

Mira's issues go beyond binge eating; she often skips meals and weighs herself multiple times a day. "I know it's not healthy to check my weight so often. But the numbers get in my head and they start to take over," she explains. What Roy and Patel have in common apart from their urban isolation, are food delivery apps. A study from Melbourne University titled "Tonight, I'm



Some sufferers go to great lengths to keep the practice secret.

MELBOURNE UNIVERSITY research suggests use of food delivery apps use can worsen urges to overeat.

**WORK STRESS AND LONELINESS**  
**DISORDERED EATING**  
**TEMPORARY RELIEF**  
**HABIT FORMATION**  
**HEALTH AND FITNESS ISSUES**

**STRESS**, either at work or in personal life, appears to trigger disordered eating. Food becomes an escape.

Young professionals living alone in big cities are more vulnerable to disordered eating habit than those in social or rural environments.

— DR AKULA, a city-based psychiatrist

**OTHERS OFTEN SKIPS MEALS.**

**THE PROLIFERATION** of these apps has made accessing meals convenient and immediate which in turn has surged maladaptive eating disorders.

According to the study, loneliness can deepen these habits.

Negative moods were significant triggers, especially among people living alone in cities like Hyderabad.

Disordered Eating: The effects of food delivery app use, loneliness, and mood on daily body dissatisfaction and disordered eating urges" explains these experiences further. The research suggests that food delivery app (FDA) use can worsen urges to overeat, especially in those already feeling isolated or struggling with low moods.

Using a daily tracking method, researchers found that people who used these apps more frequently reported a stronger desire to overeat and greater dissatisfaction with their bodies. Loneliness and negative moods were significant triggers, especially among people living alone in cities.

The proliferation of these apps has made accessing meals convenient and immediate which in turn has surged maladaptive eating disorders. According to the study, loneliness can deepen these habits. The researchers noted that being alone might prompt people to turn to food for comfort, creating a "dysfunctional self-evaluation system," where food becomes both friend and foe. The convenience of food delivery

apps, allowing people to order at any hour, often feeds this cycle further. "Hyderabad is a place where people come to make a mark and prove themselves, and that pressure can lead people to use food as both a comfort and a punishment," says Ashwini Sagar, a nutritionist.

Dr Akula, a city-based psychiatrist, points out that young professionals living alone in big cities are more vulnerable to disordered eating than those in social or rural environments. "Urban isolation often pushes people toward disordered eating. They turn to food as a coping tool when dealing with the loneliness that comes with living alone. Studies show that those who live alone are more likely to face mental health issues, including anxiety, depression, and eating disorders."

For Sayantan, eating with family or friends doesn't carry the same heavy feeling as eating alone. "When I'm with others, eating is a social act. It doesn't feel wrong or excessive. But eating alone is different. It's emotional and somehow tied to my mental health," he explains. This difference between

eating with others and eating alone as a form of comfort or escape shows the complex role food now plays in the lives of Hyderabad's young professionals. Facing demanding work hours, high expectations and often having limited support systems, many turn to food to cope with isolation and stress.

"When someone feels low or stressed, their brain's 'reward' system kicks in. Foods high in sugar, fat or salt can temporarily make them feel better by releasing dopamine, a feel-good chemical. This quick boost creates a habit, where food becomes a go-to for comfort during hard times," says Dr Akula. The easy access to meals through food delivery apps further turns eating into a habit hard to control. These people spend thousands of rupees on these apps. "I spent ₹40,000," admits Roy.

Ashwini concludes, "A more structured life and a better understanding of one's eating pattern can be a respite for these." And for people like Sayantan and Mira, this understanding might be the first step toward building healthier ways to cope in this fast-paced world.

**Divine illumination**



Women devotees light diyas at the Bhulakshmi Durga Mata Mandir in Narayanguda as part of special rituals carried out in Karthik month of Hindu calendar on Saturday evening. — P. SURENDRA

**Seethampeta celebrates Bathukamma on Diwali**

P. SHARATH KUMAR | DC WARANGAL, NOV. 2

When people all over the country celebrated Diwali, the residents in Seethampeta of Hasanparthy mandal observed a unique tradition of celebrating Saddula Bathukamma in Hanamkonda district.

The practice is followed for over a century by the members of the weavers' community who invite their family members, relatives and friends to take part in the festivities.

B. Hari Babu, a member of the weavers' community, told *Deccan Chronicle* that for past four generations he had witnessed the celebrations. Previously, elders used to celebrate the festival for four to five days but now it is limited to three days. On the first day of Diwali, when some villagers perform Kedarawara Swamy Vratha Kalpam (Nomu), others worship Goddess Lakshmi. After offering prayers, men visit the village pond in the afternoon and collect black clay and prepare idols of oxen (Jodu Yeddu) along with some other farm equipment with rice flour.

On the second day, the idols are painted and placed before God to seek blessings. The story behind preparation of idols is that members of the weavers' community depended on weaving and farming. To respect their profession, they prepare idols of oxen, plough and other tools required for cultivation and offered prayers which is still in vogue. In the evening, villagers take out a procession with oxen idols to the pond amid dances and kolatams and then immerse the idols in the pond. Then all the villagers play Holi by splashing colours on each other along with bursting crackers. On the third and final



Bulls were the star attraction at the Yadav community's Sadar celebrations at Narayanguda on Saturday. — DC

**Majestic bulls hold fort at Sadar Utsav**

SANJAY SAMUEL PAUL | DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 2

It was a sight to behold as over 100 sturdy and majestic bulls were paraded at the annual Sadar Utsav Sannamela at Narayanguda here on Saturday. The sammelan marks the largest gathering of the Yadav community in the twin cities.

Most roads saw a procession of bulls with brass bands and dances adding to the glitter while convoys of traditional dancers made

for the liveliness that is unique to the celebration as they neared the venue. The celebrations will go on till early in the morning. Hundreds of families from the Yadav community made it to the venue as did many visitors while the youngsters were busy taking selfies with the mighty bulls. The jam-packed gathering enjoyed the drumbeats and dances, while at least hundred people were dancing beside each bull all through the procession. All those who had brought a bull received mementos.

day, women will take part in the celebrations. They prepare Bathukammas with flowers collected by men from various places and later dressed in traditional attire along with their girl children will participate in the procession. They worship Gouramma made of turmeric and vermillion and play Bathukamma near the pond as that of Saddula Bathukamma by singing

songs, dancing around the Bathukamma. Even men also take part in the celebrations and then immerse Gouramma embedded in the flowers in the water. G. Ravinder, a resident from another community, told *Deccan Chronicle* that not only people of the weavers' community, members of other communities as well take part in the three-day festivities.

**Singham roars again to steal the show**

L. RAVICHANDER

The 'Sooryavanshi' pause or for that matter the earlier edition of the 'Singham' franchise laid the path for another definitive 160-minute action-packed Rohit Shetty outing. Inspired by the Feroz Khan "car destruction syndrome" and letting four-wheelers do what Papa Shetty expected of humans, is Rohit's forte. The audience expects it. Accept? Will wait. Does repetition enhance reputation and bring in the moolah, or does "think big" sink is a Friday-to-Sunday question.

The storyline, for those who still look for one in every nook and corner of cinema, is about the vendetta of Zubair Hafiz aka Danger Lanka (Arjun Kapoor) who, to avenge the death of his granddad Omar Hafiz (Jackie Shroff), kidnaps Avni (Kareena Kapoor). This is a signal for the Rohit cops: Singham (Ajay Devgn), Sooryavanshi (Akshay Kumar) and Simbha (Ranveer Singh) to head to Lanka - to the town where Sita was held captive.

Just as imagination is hemmed by the limitations of human thought, artistic depiction too is. Stupidity, however, is infinite. Rohit may well be encouraged by market forces and could well be invited to the Ivy League schools to talk about the physics of cars and the dynamics of the box office. It is irritatingly clear that the local police commis-

sioner's circular on firework nuisance and sound decibels is not applicable to the Rohit cop-verse. This is arguably the next expanded inch of the Rohit expanse and a step in the direction of 'Singham Again'.

There is also this worrisome ecosystem steady in the indoctrination and gleeful in acceptance where "police power" is celebrated. The best way to make it unquestionable is to place the "terrorist" as the common enemy. Would one ask what is more dangerous to the structure - the bomb scare or the white ants? Is it the terror of the "outlaw" or the brazen disregard to the legal principles by the representatives of law?

Mainstream cinema continues to feed on the misplaced adrenaline and the psychic gameplay of nurturing the voyeuristic pleasure in a citizenry. Brave in the collective (especially the closed assured environs of a movie theatre) but timid in calling the bluff. Bollywood is waiting for the kid to exclaim that the king is wearing no clothes!



**FILM: SINGHAM AGAIN**  
Cast: Ajay Devgn, Salman Khan, Deepika Padukone, Akshay Kumar, Tiger Shroff, Arjun Kapoor, Ranveer Singh, Kareena Kapoor Khan, Vicky Kaushal  
Director: Rohit Shetty

Traditionally our cinema is more a take-off from the circus than an extension of the stage. Rohit has no pretensions. The only aspect he needs to factor in is the audience expectation. He answers the money bags who invested so heavily with the cast and my gut feel from the initial response at a theatre is that this is yet another winner. Like with 'Sooryavanshi', paradoxically, the film is better off in the lighter moments than in the action scenes.

Also, given the need to account for additional stars (Deepika and Tiger), Rohit eschews painting the villains. In fact, unapologetically, the villain here is more on a vendetta than the portrayed convenience of the terrorist.

The revenge saga goes back to Dadu Hafiz (Jackie Shroff) whose attempts to kill DCP

Bajirao Singham (Ajay Devgn) only leads to his capture. The task of revenge moves to the grandson Zubair (Arjun Kapoor). What gets irksome and propagandist is drawing constant parallels with the Ramayana and helping the good-evil conflict deepen with religious overtures. Et tu Rohit? Arvi (KK) is kidnapped and taken to Sri Lanka. Simba (the obvious Hanuman parallel) first arrives in Lanka.

Thrills endless, the propping up of Sooryavanshi ACP Satya Bali (Tiger Shroff) and the token addition of the inspector (Deepika) contribute to a keepsake domestic marriage picture in the sixties and seventies. Of the cast, Ajay Devgn, who has put his feet where his money is, has obviously kept himself prim and performs with the fervour that is expected of him and his persona - more particularly 'Singham'. A k s h a y K u m a r w a l k s i n t o o l a t e a n d

Wait now for the returns of the cops with Chulbul Pandey added to the menu card.



makes good with quips and stunts. Kareena and Deepika are floral decors. Tiger is an add-on with no value. Arjun Kapoor looks too chubby to be a villain.

He seems more as if in the company of one Malaika than enjoying the dreadful villain in the script casts him to be.

The best is Ranveer. He is his usual self. His light-hearted quips add a lot of value to the film. The flavour he brings on board is crucial in the shift from mere destructive action to some lighter moments.

So this 'Singham' is closer to 'Sooryavanshi' in style and approach. What costs the film the fun element is the "oversell" of the Ramayana.



Villagers in Seethampeta celebrated Bathukamma during Diwali with a procession featuring oxen idols made of black clay, part of the three-day festivities on Saturday. — BY ARRANGEMENT

**SPECIAL BRANCH POLICE HEADQUARTER, M.P., BHOPAL**  
NO. SB/Store/2024-25 (509), Bhopal. Dated: 29-10-2024

**"ONLINE E-TENDER NOTICE"**

E-tender are invited by Assistant Inspector General of Police, Special Branch (G) M.P., Bhopal on behalf of DGP MP Bhopal for the following item on website <https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgp/app>:

| S.No. | Name of Item(s)            | Qty. | Tender Fees Rs.   EMD (Rs.)          |         | Tender No. |
|-------|----------------------------|------|--------------------------------------|---------|------------|
|       |                            |      | Paid Online Through mptenders.gov.in |         |            |
| 1     | Hydraulic Lift for Vehicle | 01   | 1,000/-                              | 9,000/- | 1st Tender |

1. Cost of tender document (Tender Fee) is non refundable and cannot be exempted in any condition & must submit online through website <https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgp/app>.  
2. Tender document can be download from the website of MP Police ([www.mppolice.gov.in](http://www.mppolice.gov.in))  
3. Bids shall be submitted online only at MP Tenders website: <https://mptenders.gov.in/nicgp/app>

**4. Tender Schedule:**

| No. | Tender Activity  | Date & Time                |
|-----|--|----------------------------|
| i   | Submission of written queries through e-mail: <a href="mailto:sec25-sb@mppolice.gov.in">sec25-sb@mppolice.gov.in</a> | 11/11/2024 up to 1600 hrs. |
| ii  | Pre Bid Meeting along with written queries   | 12/11/2024 at 1100 hrs.    |
| iii | Bid Submission Start Date  | 18/11/2024 at 1000 hrs.    |
| iv  | Last date of online e-Tender submission  | 28/11/2024 up to 1600 hrs. |
| v   | Bid will be opened on  | 29/11/2024 up to 1600 hrs. |
| vi  | Demonstration from   | 04/12/2024 at 11.00 hrs.   |

Sd/- D.I.G. of Bhopal (Intelligence) M.P. Bhopal  
Tel. No. 0755-2443654  
G-18414/24

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FOR SALE AUTOMOTIVE

AUTOMOTIVE-LEASE/HIRE

PERSONAL CAR for lease fortune, crystal, breeze, Benz, Dzire, Etiga, Swift, etc. Contact: 913351210, 903024038. (HYMM/2425/C03967)

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MARUTI CELERIO vxi automatic 2016, petrol, 55000 kms drive single owner, full insurance, red color, well maintained. Ph:9849447003. (HYMM/2425/C03726)

BMW X1 2018 driven 46,000 kms, showroom service record blue color. Price 28,50,000/- slightly negotiable. Dealer's excuse. Ph:9878500090. (HYMM/2425/C03895)

CARENS DCT 19,000 kms driven 2023 model. Silver Metallic. 50800 kms done with New Tyres. Immaculate Condition, Spangly used. Ph:901126767 (HYMM/2425/C03896)

FORTNER 2016 Regd. 3.0 4WD Automatic, super white company owned & maintained, excellent condition, 1.2 lakh km. Genuine buyers only may contact: 9466937674 / 959998855 (HYMM/2425/C03908)

WHITE INNOVA Crysta, Petrol, November 2022 Model, 50800 kms done with New Tyres. Immaculate Condition, Spangly used. Ph:9100101691. (B/2425/C00469)

MARUTI XL6 zeta mt (7seater) for sale only 17k. kms run 2021 year silver grey colour- petrol- immaculate condition- first-owner- dealers please excuse 9030603070 (HY/HA/2425/C03989)

INNOVA 2.5V 7 seater, 2012 model, 90000 km done, lady driven vehicle, showroom condition. 7799991248 (HYMM/2425/C03918)

JAGUAR XF, fancy number, Hyderabad location, by December 2013, 130,000 kilometers, white, automatic transmission, used by Software professional, price 12.90 negotiable. 9393932787 (HY/HA/2425/C04012)

MERCEDES BENZ C200, 2012 showroom condition 82,000 kilometers driven, genuine 2 keys, 4 new sealed tyres, fancy number interior exterior in excellent condition urgent sale to abroad, price 6,30,000/-, Contact: 7842810239 (HY/HA/2425/C04010)

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URGENT SALE kia sonnet diesel 2021, s cross diesel 2018, swift vxi petrol 2021, salarati 2017, honda automatic 2018, call: 8309128817, 8309124118. (HY/HA/2425/C04062)

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1000 SQ.YARDS DTC approved plot in Palaka Estates at Bonagiri town, beside Hyderabad-Warangal National Highway is for sale. Temple tourism area, near to 13000 sq yards. Renuka Yellamma temples, inside the RRR, 10 kms away from AIMS Binaagar. Suitable for Guest Rooms or Banquet halls. Contact: 9440002999, 9949424539. (W/2425/AT/000606)

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DILSUKHNAGAR BUS depot back side Shalivanaga Nagar 2 BHK 1000 sft east and west face flats under construction car parking. Ph:9849950988 (HYMM/2425/C03978)

ATTAPUR: AUCLAND residency apartment, PVNR pillar no- 172, east facing, semi furnished 2 BHK (1161 sq.ft flat. 100% as per vastu, ready to occupy, 24 hours water, DG power backup. Ph:7207899854/ 9888588304 (HYMM/2425/C03925)

FLATS FOR sale @ Suchitra Diwali offer on select units only 2 BHK 1225 sft E/W, U/C @ 55 lacs only 8977500891. (HY/HA/2425/C03679)

RS 40 Lakhs Ready to occupy 2 BHK Flat including car parking West Facing in Occipancy Certificate just 1km. From Dilusukhnagar Metro Station at Singarane officers Colony Saidabad Hyderabad. Contact: 9063995885, 900299553 (HY/HA/2425/C03702)

MANIKONDA KHAJAGUDA 2 bhk 1000 Sft, 75' Lakhs including amenities & 3 bhk 1600 sft flats for sale gated community near Lanco hills ready to move, clear title. Contact: 9848055500, 9848064555. (HY/HA/2425/C03784)

2 BHK 1350 sft flat for sale in Dollar Hills Manikonda highly elevated with nice view. Contact: 630215419 (HY/HA/2425/C03819)

FLAT FOR sale: 1250 sft (2 BHK) east facing, 1st floor, S.K. Inclave, Semi-furnished 2 BHK, 1250 sft flat for sale in prime location with premium amenities, 100% vastu, spacious car parking & ample water. Ph:949245768 (HYMM/2425/C03936)

RAMAKRISHNAPUR OFFICERS Colony, Adjacent Flyover, Neredmet, Hyderabad. 2 BHK, 1250 Sft flat. Immediate Sale, 20 yrs 4th floor, 24 hrs water (manjeera+at), power backup, car parking, A/C, Price 50 Lakhs Negotiable. Ph:9032414569. (B/2425/C00468)

SAJNEEVA REDDY Nagar to Mumbai Highway Behind ICICI Bank Two Bed room 3 bhk, 1900 sft flat for sale. Sale. Brokers excuse, Genuine parties only 9704153011 (HY/HA/2425/C04068)

2 BHK Apt, semi furnished, E/F, 900sqft, 3rd Floor, UDS 45 sqyd, Car Park, Lift, Genset, CE Colony, Shivam Road. Ph:9849635828 (W/2425/AT/000642)

2BHK Flat 1020 sft in Suncity Near Block. Prime Location Near Glendale Intl School. Ph: 9000516555. (HY/HA/2425/C03968)

HIMAYATHNAGAR, 2.475 sft premium north facing semi furnished, spacious and well maintained 3 bedroom flat available 3rd floor near Madanapalle. Suitable for sale with car parking. 9177937070 (HY/HA/2425/C03926)

BASHEERBAGH 3.5 bhk fully furnished modular kitchen 3 glass partitioned baths newly renovated 1350 sft semi gated community 9391134352 (HY/HA/2425/C03927)

BASHEERBAGH 3 bhk 2050 sqft new flat on 6th floor with all facilities 1350 sqft. Contact: 9885245499 (HY/HA/2425/C03976)

NARSING GATED community flats 2000 sqft, 28 bhk for sale. club house, amenities. Occupation: July 2025. Contact: 9703066669 (HY/HA/2425/C04028)

JUBILEEHILLS READY To Move Limited 4BHK Flats for SALE Premium, Luxurious Gated community. Fully furnished Green Space Sides Open Corner Flat Car Parks & servant quarters. Ph:9494616102. (HY/HA/2425/C04064)

KOKAPET LUXURIOUS 3bhk flats near Aulm studios & ORR with clubhouse & gym, handovers 3 months, only few flats left. call: 8885411122 (HY/HA/2425/C04044)

KOMPALLY ADJACENT to Garden Housing Society, Cineplanet lane, new 1950 sft, 1+studium metro station, mostly occupied by Khaja Families. Ph:9246366920 (S/2425/C01658)

TRENDESET JAYABHERI Elivat Kondapur- Madhapur road, 4 BHK 4095 sft, east facing, 3 BHK 2530 sft and 2215 sft, west facing, flats available for sale. Ph:7893927160. (HYMM/2425/C03955)

MADHAPUR, RAVINDRA society, kakatiya hills Road no. 11, ready to occupy deluxe 3 BHK 1400 sft flat, with Occupancy Certificate, Silt+ 5 Floors. Contact builder: 7995394274. (HYMM/2425/C03966)

MARRADPALLY New Flats sale 3 BHK 1550 Sft, North East facing near Kasturba college, 100% vastu, car parking. Contact: 8019024240. (S/2425/C01666)

MEHDIPATNAM MIGH colony 1540 sft, 3 bhk new flats first and fifth floor. Contact: 9347831432 (HY/HA/2425/C04008)

3 BHK dix flat 1500 sft, 73 UDS north facing, 4th floor premium interior, 30 yr old, 2 kms metro, Nagole, Hyd Ph:9030091356 (HYMM/2425/C03932)

TELLAPUR, OSMANAGAR, besides Birla open minds school ready to occupy 3 bhk 1920 sft with amenities. Contact: 9703066669 (HY/HA/2425/C04027)

3 BHK flat for sale in a high-rise building, gated community. Spacious and well-lit 1800 sqft at Bowenpally Secunderabad. Contact: 9849742390 (HYMM/2425/C03961)

3 B/R Flats 14 years old fully renovated for office/ residential use. 2 BHK 1100 sft, 2 BHK 1100 sft, 2 BHK 1100 sft. Contact: 9866208371. (HYMM/2425/C03968)

FILM NAGAR, Jubilee Hills, new ready to move 3 BHK hilltop with breath-taking view @ prime location, 3200 sqft. Contact: 9391923994, 8886511101. (HYMM/2425/C03983)

GANDHINAGAR PREMIUM 3 bedroom flat 1900 Sft, east facing. Only 1 Flat per floor, 2 car parkings. 9885064115 (W/2425/AT/000641)

HI-TECH CITY: My home booda, flat for sale 3 bhk, east facing, 2680 sft, 13th floor 2 car parkings, price: 6.20 crore. contact agent Keshav. Ph:9866618796. (HYMM/2425/C03938)

SHANTI NAGAR, Masab Tank luxurious new 3 BHK 1900 sft flats for sale in prime location with premium amenities, 100% vastu, spacious car parking & ample water. Limited flats only. Ph:949245768 (HYMM/2425/C03936)

RAMANATHAPUR, 3 BHK, 1355 sqft to 1745 sqft, new gated community, ready to move in, loans arranged, jogging track, beautiful landscape, childrens play area, multi purpose court, outdoor gym, 2lifts, genset, 24 hrs water, 24 hrs electricity, solar fencing, CCTV, fire alarm, etc. visit: www.nirmalshelters.com. Ph:9347809801, 9563555333 (HYMM/2425/C03635)

KONDAPUR BRAND new 3 BHK flats 2180 and 2080 sft 9th floor, fully gated community flats and 10 years old 3 BHK flat 1680 sft gated community well maintained, 5th floor 2 carpark. Ph:8096444047/ 7013027189 (HYMM/2425/C03723)

NANAKRAMGUDA, SUMADHURA Acropolis, flat no: G-03, ground floor, east facing 3 BHK, 1795 sft, gated community. Contact: 9396136619. Ph:8396829958. (HYMM/2425/C03744)

BRAND NEW 4BHK Lavish pent house for sale, 3554 sq ft, huda lay out surya nagar colony, Tolichowki, Hyd just beside the main road. Contact: 9833366197. Ph: 97205119/ 9849059439 (HY/HA/2425/C04052)

PARAMOUNT COLONY gate no.1 2 BHK 1100 sft, 2 BHK 1260 sq. ft. side facing registered & tax paying. ph: 8142471108. (HY/HA/2425/C04054)

BRAND NEW 4BHK Lavish pent house for sale, 3554 sq ft, huda lay out surya nagar colony, Tolichowki, Hyd just beside the main road. Contact: 9833366197. Ph: 97205119/ 9849059439 (HY/HA/2425/C04052)

PARAMOUNT COLONY gate no.1 2 BHK 1100 sft, 2 BHK 1260 sq. ft. side facing registered & tax paying. ph: 8142471108. (HY/HA/2425/C04054)

BRAND NEW 4BHK Lavish pent house for sale, 3554 sq ft, huda lay out surya nagar colony, Tolichowki, Hyd just beside the main road. Contact: 9833366197. Ph: 97205119/ 9849059439 (HY/HA/2425/C04052)

PARAMOUNT COLONY gate no.1 2 BHK 1100 sft, 2 BHK

RENTALS

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THREE & MORE

BANJARA HILLS Road No.7 GMR Trendset. 4 BHK West Facing 3350 Sft. Rent 2 lacs. Road No.4 near CVK 1, 3 BHK, East Facing 2800 Sft. Rent Rs. 75000. Ph:7337421169.

BARKATPURA NEWLY constructed 2/3 bhk flats for rent. Ph:9398124038, 9393937665

WEST MAREDPALLY 2, 3 & more bedrooms flats, independent houses for rent. Contact: Garh Realtors. Ph:9394098924, (HYM/2425/C03728)

BRAND NEW gated community flats for rent 5000 sft 5 bhk 3.l. pm no agent Ph:9000755155 (HYM/2425/C03840)

MALAKPET DAYANAND Nagar. Near new market metro ready to occupy 3 BHK spacious semi furnished luxury flat with walking distance to garden covered carpark. Ph:9701304545 (HYM/2425/C03842)

BEGUMPET CLOSER to Metro/ MMTS/ Railway Station, Brahmanwadi, 6th Lane, flat 403, Sita Residence, 1275 sqft, 2 balconies, well done interiors, manjeera water/ 24-hour borewater, car parking. 9895185912 (HYM/2425/C03759)

2500 SOFT 3-bedroom apartment, 2nd floor, 4-storied standard Bldg, Defence Colony, Sainikpuri available for rent. 2 living rooms, 3-bedrooms, 2-balconies, 2 carparks with a servant room. Ph:9223374787 (HYM/2425/C03874)

KONDAPUR-3 BEDED 2nd floor east facing semi furnished flat 202 at commercial space, Botanical Garden Road for rent, contact 984864800. (HYM/2425/C03988)

THREE BHK Flat, Lakdikapal Redhills. Double Entrance Doors, Drawing Room, Built-in Wardrobes, Car Parking, 24/7 Water, Lifts, Generator Backup. 8247358903, 9490382120. (W/2425/A000637)

MADHAPUR PRIME location, 3 bhk fully furnished guest house (or) bachelors' club and canteen, dining table sofa freeze, ready to move. Ph:9177994443 (HYM/2425/C03979)

3 BHK 3 balconies flat on rent @ 4th floor, 1 luxurious, 3 bathrooms, car parking, lift facility available at Sai Chandira Residence, Malakpet. Mobile: 7337263330. (S/2425/A001678)

AS ENCLAVE Masabtank AC guards flat no.203, semi furnished 3 bhk 2nd floor for rent. 2 hrs water, 9851988292, 9866621349 (HYM/2425/C03817)

LAKDIKAPAL MAIN road opp: Lotus childrens hospital 2000 sft space available for office purpose & 2 shops 250 sft each @ Khan Lateef Khan Building fathemaudin. Ph:9849091418, (HYM/2425/C03866)

COMMERCIAL 2300 sft 3 big shutters on main road, Kakitya Nagar, Lakdikapal, Nana Nagar, ready to move. Ideal for Banks, showrooms, Clinics, Labs, Gym, offices, etc. Call: 7680936859. (HYM/2425/C03835)

JUBILEE HILLS Road No 82 near Film Nagar commercial complex facing east, first floor plus ground floor, 5500 sq.ft. area, ready to move. Ph:9849911363 (HYM/2425/C03835)

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COMPUTERS

WANTED EXPERIENCED Computer Operator. Salary 16000. Female Candidates. Contact Select Kitchen Equipment, Sanathnagar, Hyderabad. Ph:832840522, 9848477986.

DRIVERS

WANTED CAR driver with minimum 5 years experience near Sikkh Village, Bowenpally, Secunderabad. Interest call: 9859858801. (S/2425/C01673)

ENGINEERS

SITE ENGINEERS required in Hyderabad. Diploma/BE in civil engineering with 5 years experience in civil and MEP works may apply. Salary is commensurate with experience and qualifications. Apply with your resume to: jobs@olympiaindian.com, or +91 8374888834. (HYM/2425/C03802)

SITE ENGINEERS, safety engineers, office/ store assistants, electricians and billing department. Best. Contact: fabricators 1 to 5 years of experience. (age 21 to 40 years), office timings: 9am to 6pm, required for reputed electrical contracting firm in Hyderabad. Ph:7989262112, 9676347192 (HYM/2425/C03818)

HOTEL

WANTED SHAWARMA cook, cold stone icecream master, frankie roll master, Andhra non-veg curry master for hotel. 9000960521. (W/2425/A000640)

MANAGERS

WANTED MARKETING manager to marketise inorganic products in Hyderabad. Salary 30000+ cont: 9059862558/ 9390102088 (HYM/2425/C03926)

WANTED MANAGERS for multi core corporate company prof. gov/ private Retd/ VRS & housewife income to 80k. Contact: 984864800. (HYM/2425/C03971)

IAS COACHING Institute in Hyderabad is looking for a website manager with proficiency in JavaScript or python. If you meet the eligibility criteria, please send your CV to niranjan@9999@gmail.com. (HYM/2425/C03962)

MEDICAL

2 GYNECOLOGIST Jobs (Senior/Junior) vacancies in Punjagutta, Hyderabad. Ph:9242455227. (HYM/2425/C03810)

SHROFF HOSPITAL BARKATPURA radiologist Cardiologist, Dip in Diagnostic Radiology, Gynecologist, D.M.Os- M.B.B.S. ER Physician, Sisters (B.Sc, GNM), ICU & OT Sisters, Infection Control Officer, NDB Coordinator, Lab Manager, ECG Technician, Pharm-D, Walk-in with documents between 3pm to 5pm on working days. Ph:402-27568606, 9848675666. (HYM/2425/C00470)

WANTED NUTRITIONIST, RMO (Clinical), (Accommodation provided), Night Shift DMO, Physiotherapist, Technician (Night), experienced OT Nurse. Woodlands Hospital, Barkatpura. Contact: 040-27568602/ 9848675666. (HYM/2425/C03810)

WANTED MBBS duty Doctors, MD (Gen Med), Paediatricians, Staff Nurses with Gynacc, Experience, Accountant, Receptionists ward boys, Lady Sweepers for Shreyas hospital. Ph:9242455227, 9848675666. (HYM/2425/C03971)

WANTED FEMALE gynec dmo's (day shifts, night shifts) BAMS, BHMS, MBBS) Southern Gem Hospital, Basheerbagh. Sainath: 9951964120 (HYM/2425/C03999)

MULTIPLE VACANCIES

**IN BRIEF**

**TSRTC Karthika masam spl trips**

**Hyderabad:** The Telangana State Road Transport Corporation on Saturday announced that it would operate special bus services to temples of Lord Shiva during Karthika masam. These include services from Hyderabad to Srisailem, Vemulawada, Dharmapuri and Keesaragutta, among others and will be operated on Sundays and Mondays.

**GOV. ANNOUNCES INCENTIVES FOR EX-SERVICEMEN**

**AISHWARYA GANDEED I DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 2**

The Telangana state managing committee of the Armed Forces Flag Day Fund, chaired by Governor Jishnu Dev Varma, approved financial assistance schemes for ex-servicemen and their family members. The meeting, held on Saturday at Raj Bhavan, focused on providing immediate relief and long-term support to the ex-servicemen and their families.

The key decisions included providing ₹3 lakh to parents of unmarried soldiers, ₹2.5 lakh to parents of married soldiers and ₹3 lakh to the spouses of married soldiers who died in service. The committee has increased the monthly allowances of fully disabled soldiers from ₹12,000 per month to ₹15,000 per month.

The committee also increased the financial assistance to special children of ex-servicemen under the age of 15, from ₹3,000 to ₹6,000 per month. For special children above 15 years, assistance is increased to ₹9,000 per month, and for orphaned children from ₹2,000 per month to ₹5,000 per month. Financial assistance of up to ₹2 lakh for organ transplantation at ECHS-empowered hospitals if the expense is not fully covered by ECHS. The hostel fee reimbursement has been increased from ₹10,000 to ₹20,000 per annum for the children of ex-servicemen studying in Class 11 and above and staying in college-run hostels. They will also provide cash incentives for medals won by ex-servicemen or their children in sports events organised by state or the central governments, with ₹1 lakh for the gold medal, ₹75,000 for silver and ₹50,000 for bronze medals. The marriage grant for daughters of ex-servicemen, which is now named "Kalyana Kanuka," has been increased to ₹50,000.

The committee increased the funeral grant for deceased ex-servicemen from ₹10,000 to ₹20,000, and approved reimbursement of ₹40,000 to children of ex-servicemen for the purchase of computers during the first year of a degree course.

**SAGAR-SRISAILAM CRUISE RESUMES AFTER 5 YEARS**

**DC CORRESPONDENT NALGONDA, NOV. 2**

After five years, the Telangana State Tourism Development Corporation (TGTDC) on Saturday resumed cruise tour of the Nagarjunasagar-Srisailem in the Krishna river. The cruise tour was suspended due to the Covid-19 pandemic and low level of water in the project.

With 100 tourists, the 'Phalguni' launch was started from the station near Vijaya Vihar. Nandikonda municipal chairman Tirumalakonda Anpurna flagged off the service.

The 120-km cruise passes through Eleshwaram, Saleshwaram, eastern ghats and Nallamalla forest.

The six-hour journey on the waters of the Krishna river gives tourists a view of the beauty of nature and a feel of the peace of the forests. At certain times, some tourists can spot different birds and animals in the Nallamalla forest who come to the river for drinking water.

The TGTDC officials said the cruise tour package would continue until the water level at the Nagarjunasagar comes down to 577 feet. Water presently stands at 588.5 feet. The cruises would be conducted every Saturday.



The Nagarjunasagar-Srisailem cruise service was launched by the Telangana State Tourism Development Corporation on Saturday. — DC



People pray for the loved ones at their graves on All Souls' Day at Naraynaguda and Mettuguda cemeteries on Saturday. —DEEPAK DESHPANDE

**Kin pay tributes on All Souls' Day**

Day was filled with nostalgia, special mass

**SANJAY SAMUEL PAUL I DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 2**

On All Souls' Day, this Saturday, Christians offered flowers and lit candles at graveyards and remembered the good times they had with their departed ones. With this, they also introduced the younger generation to their forebears.

The day was filled with nostalgia. Special mass was held at several places, and elders are remembered. Cardinal Poola Anthony delivered the message of All Souls' Day at Bhoiguda cemetery.

Stalls of flowers and candles mushroomed near cemeteries across the city and had crisp sales as the day fell on the weekend. Ammuguda Graveyards at Yaprul is more than 300 years old, according to Job Sunder Raj, an ex-serviceman.



A boy offering flowers at the graveyard on All Souls' Day at Mettuguda cemetery on Saturday. — DC

“Here, we have our grandparents, parents and in-laws. On this day, we get a chance to meet all our family and relatives.”

The Roman Catholic graveyard at Gun Rock, Trimulgherry, saw visitors from the morning on Saturday. Derrick Richard, a resident of Trimulgherry, said, “This is an important day, some people do charity on this day.” Father Dr Swarna

Bernard, parish priest at St Patrick's Church, Mornington Road, Trimulgherry, said, “This is also the purification of souls, as the day symbolises the fact that someday each one will have to reach this place. This is also a call for people to lead a good life.”

“One day, we have to leave everything and go. Only good deeds will follow us,” Father Dr Bernard said.

**Safety first**



Families enjoy their evening out on the Necklace road in Hyderabad on Saturday. — R. PAVAN

**SCR walkathon against graft**

**DC CORRESPONDENT HYDERABAD, NOV. 2**

Hundreds of railway employees participated in the Integrity Walkathon organised by South Central Railway (SCR) on Saturday as part of vigilance awareness week at the Necklace Road railway station. The rally was aimed to reaffirm the commitment to promote

integrity and probity in public life, generate public awareness and publicise the ill-effects of corruption.

Railway officials, sports personnel, staff and school students participated in walkathon that SCR general manager Arun Kumar Jain flagged off. The vigilance awareness week is observed to coincide with the birth

anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Addressing the gathering, Jain said that integrity did not just mean honesty but also the integration of hearts and minds. He stated that everyone should integrate good values and practices with their lives and encourage the same among colleagues and neighbors for better results.

**Land ownership cannot be decided by court: HC**

**L. RAVICHANDER HYDERABAD, NOV. 2**

A two-judge panel of the Telangana High Court declared that the factual aspect of whether the State Police Housing Corporation was in possession of land at Asmangadh in Gaddiannaram cannot be decided by the High Court in writ proceedings. The panel was dealing with a writ appeal filed by the government challenging an order of a single judge, who allowed a writ petition filed by the legal representatives of Afsar Sultana claiming that she had purchased the prime land. The petitioner had made a declaration under the Urban Land Ceiling Act and parts of the land were declared as being in excess. Before the possession of the land was taken by the authorities, the ceiling Act was repealed. While the private parties

were seeking regularisation, the government proceeded to treat it as its land, and the Police Housing Corporation (PHC) constructed a compound wall across about five acres. Drawing legal interference, a single judge pointed out that since the possession was not actually taken and the PHC had no right to enter the land and the land shall be restored to petitioners even if it is in the possession of the PHC and the petitioners were entitled to remain in possession. In the appeal, the Advocate-General pointed out that when the government was in possession of the property, the question of consideration of the regularisation under the GO did not arise and the competent authority had rightly rejected the claim of the petitioners. When the disputed question of facts of possession and title over

the property were involved, the single judge ought to have delegated the petitioners to approach the competent civil court, Chief Justice Alok Aradhe said the single judge ought not to have dealt with the issue with regard to possession and ought not to have proceeded to record the finding with regard to possession.

**UNUSED ACQUIRED LAND NOT RETURNED**

Justice T. Vinod Kumar will hear a writ plea challenging the actions of the Union of India and others in not returning the land acquired by the government in 2017 for the construction of an indoor firing range for the Telangana Police Academy. The judge was hearing a writ plea filed by Uttam Chand Jain and others, seeking return of their unused land at

**Demand for custard apples picks up but supplies falter**

**G. RAM MOHAN I DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 2**

It's the time of the year when Annuna squamos L., more popularly known as custard apple, marks its presence in the city. The fruit, once taken for granted for its plentiful availability, is suddenly the toast of the season.

It has shot into the preferred list, including those of farmers, after its nutrition values came to the fore. The plant which consumes less water and is largely free of pesticides is suitable for cultivation across the state.

Grown in the forest tracts of Nallamala, Mulugu, Uttoor and Palvancha, the produce is unable to meet the needs of the local population.

Of the 1.55 crore acres of agricultural land in the state, paddy, cotton and maize account for 1.2 crore acres. Of the 1,28,932 acres earmarked for custard apple crop in the country, Maharashtra tops the list with 42,960 acres, while Telangana stands seventh with 2,291 acres.

“We used to export the fruit earlier but now it is being brought from other states. It used to be grown in Jalpally, Maheshwaram gardens and even Kukatpally, which all have become real estate spaces. Most of the produce we get is from Maharashtra and Bengaluru,” said Mohammed Hussain, owner of Lucky Fruit



A vendor arranged custard apples in a row for sale at a shop in the city. — DC

Shop in Moazzamjahi Market. He added that the famed Balanagar variety from Mahbubnagar district was not sufficiently available.

The state largely depends on supplies from other states to meet more than 70 per cent of its needs of vegetables and fruits, said traders at Jambagh. The state has just 12,95,913 acres under horticulture crops which include fruits, plantation crops, vegetables, spices, flowers and medicinal crops.

In their bid to change this situation, the horticulture department along with the central Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture, have over the years given a subsidy of around ₹42,800 per hectare and promoted the cultivation of 'staphal'. The impetus has resulted in farmers taking to cus-

tard apple crop over an area of 2,291.7 acres.

Officials point out that custard apples assure higher returns compared to mangos. Moreover, 640 custard apple plants can be grown in an acre compared to a mere 80 to 100 mango plants in the same area.

The department has promoted NMK-01 (golden) variety that has been developed by a farmer in Maharashtra. But many farmers Deccan Chronicle spoke with informed they are yet to realise the promised benefits. “I grew this crop in five acres prodded by the incentives but I am yet to see profits. I opted for the Maharashtra variety as the yield is higher,” said Madhavaram Bhaskar Rao.

The sentiment was shared by B. Subhash Chandra Reddy, 72, from Rachaluru of

Kandukur mandal who has grown the crop in 10 acres.

L. Santhosh, who loves custard apples, says that the hybrid varieties, which have a lot more pulp, don't taste the same as the native variety.

Officials of the horticulture department aver that the situation will change as the availability of the fruit in the wild was falling. In three to four years, the plantations which are coming up in the state will bear fruit.

“We procure the fruit from the forests. They fetch ₹100 to ₹120 per kg which we sell coming all the way from Veldurthi in Medak district. After coming here we don't have any designated selling points and hence are subject to problems from the police,” said Anitha Banoth, selling her fruits on the SD Road in Secunderabad. Her relative K. Mallesh informed that they end up saving ₹1,000 to ₹1,200 on an average every day during the season.



**PCB says Diwali this year cleaner**

**PRATHYUSH NALLELLA I DC HYDERABAD, NOV. 2**

Diwali this year was cleaner with regard to air pollution by particulate matter (PM) as compared to 2023, according to data released by the Telangana Pollution Control Board (TGPCB) on Saturday. Noxious gases, however, were another story. And yes, it was way noisier too.

The TGPCB's ambient air quality monitoring showed a decrease in particulate matter (PM) levels. PM2.5, or fine particles, averaged 84 µg/m<sup>3</sup> this Diwali, down from 119 µg/m<sup>3</sup> last year. PM10 levels fell from 188 µg/m<sup>3</sup> in



2023 to 184 µg/m<sup>3</sup>. Despite these reductions, both levels remain above the 24-hour average standard limits of 60 µg/m<sup>3</sup> and 100 µg/m<sup>3</sup> respectively. However, emissions of sulphur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) and nitrogen oxides (NO<sub>x</sub>) saw a slight rise this year. SO<sub>2</sub>,<sub>2</sub> levels increased

TGPCB said that the noise levels recorded on Diwali night in industrial areas were measured at 69.4 dB (decibels) during the day and 64.5 dB at night. These were 2 dB higher on Diwali, but still within the standard levels of 70 dB.

Residential areas experienced 68.89 dB of sound during the day and 65.68 dB at night, while the standard is 55 dB and 45 dB. In commercial areas, TGPCB recorded 70.69 dB during the day and 68.23 dB at night, crossing the norm of 65 dB and 55 dB respectively. Sensitive areas recorded 62.7 dB during the day and 63.3 dB at night, way above the safe norm of 50 dB and 40 dB.

**Comedian arrested for Porsche crash**

**PRIYA RATHNAM I DC HYDERABAD NOV. 2**

Banjara Hills police on Saturday arrested Utsav Dixit, stand-up comedian and head of sustainability and strategic management at Alpha India Private Limited, in connection with his luxury sports car ramming into the wall of the KBR Park on Friday.

Dixit had also started Deccan Comedy to gather local comedians and put them on the global map.

With regard to the missing registration plate for the car, police said Dixit noticed that it had broken during the collision. He



File photo of a electric Porsche Taycan 4s, which crashed into the compound wall of KBR Park. — DC

placed the pieces in the dickey of the vehicle and left the spot. The vehicle is registered in the name of Srinivas Reddy Parvat on the traf-

fic police website. He is the managing director of MTAR Technologies, a company recognised for its contributions to defense and

aerospace equipment, including the Chandrayaan 3 mission. An expert with the luxury car dealership explained that the accidents involving high-end cars are not caused by the driver alone. The driver should be aware of the aerodynamics, tyres, servicing and car performance, he said.

Police said that Dixit had left the house reportedly after a domestic issue, and was going to distribute sweet boxes to fellow stand-up comedians. Police produced him before a court under the Prevention of Damage to Public Property Act.



Survey No. 22, Katedan, Rajendranagar mandal in Rangareddy district. The petitioners contended that the land remained unused for over five years and was thus liable to be returned under Section 101 of the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act, 2013 (LARR Act). Counsel for the petitioners emphasised that two acres and 10 guntas of the land remained unutilised, while the rest has been partially developed. The government pleaded, appearing for the respondent authorities,

requested two weeks to file an additional response.

**GOVT REPLY SOUGHT ON FREEING ROHINGYA**

Justice J. Sridevi of the Telangana High Court required the government to ascertain various factors relating to the release of four Rohingya Muslims apprehended and under detention for entering the country illegally. The judge was dealing with a petition filed by Mohd Omer and two others. According to the petitioners, they were apprehended in July when they were travelling from Kolkata to Hyderabad in the hope of better employment. The petitioners claimed to be originally from Myanmar but had crossed the Bangladesh borders into India. They said that confession statements were recorded in Hindi, a language they were not famil-

iar with. Senior counsel V. Raghunath pointed out that India being a signatory to international human rights conventions was bound to rehabilitate such refugees and not persecute them. Justice Sridevi repeatedly asked the government and counsel representing the petitioner as to where the petitioners would be, if released from custody. Raghunath informed the court that they have family members, who would execute bail bonds. The judge posted the matter to November 11.

**CHILD CARE CENTRE SEEKS LICENCE**

Justice Surepalli Nanda of the Telangana High Court took on file a writ plea challenging the action of the chairperson of child welfare committee of Bhongir district, in not renewing the licence of

Nireekhsana Gospel Mission and thereby relocating children housed by them. The judge was hearing a writ plea filed by the mission, alleging that the authority without considering its representation that was submitted in September for renewal of licence, proceeded to cancel its licence. The petitioner alleged that the children were shifted from the premises of the petitioner to government's 'safe houses' over 30 to 40 km away. The petitioner alleged that it came to know from a newspaper article that a girl, who was removed from its care, had become a sexual assault victim. After hearing the parties, the judge directed the counsel for respondents to seek instructions in the matter and posted it for further adjudication.

Full reports in deccanchronicle.com

SHORT TAKE

**FIVE-HOUR FLIGHT SUSPENSION FOR TEMPLE RITUAL**

Thiruvananthapuram, Nov. 2: Flight services from the international airport here will be suspended for five hours on November 9 to make way for 'Alpassi Arattu' procession of Sree Padmanabhaswamy Temple here, TIAL said on Saturday. The annual procession traditionally taken on a route crossing the runway.

The Thiruvananthapuram International Airport Ltd (TIAL) said the flight services would be suspended from 4 pm to 9 pm on November 9. It said the updated timings of the flights are available with the respective airlines.

"The runway at Thiruvananthapuram International Airport remains closed twice a year for the Sree Padmanabha Swamy temple procession to pass through. The practice of the procession traversing the current path to reach the Shungumgham Beach for the holy bath of the idols began centuries ago.

"This ritual continues even after the airport was established in 1932, ensuring that the culture and traditions of the region remain intact," TIAL said in a release.

The airport has been pausing operations and rescheduling flights twice every year for decades.

**K'taka CM withdraws notices on Waqf lands**

Siddaramaiah tells officials not to harass farmers regarding land

M.B. GIRISH I DC BENGALURU, NOV. 2

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Saturday directed officials to immediately withdraw notices served by tahsildars under the Waqf Act, asking farmers to produce documents of land owned by them.

The decision came in the wake of BJP's proposed statewide protest on Monday over the Waqf land issue along with farmers who have been affected in the districts of Vijayapura, Kalaburagi, Yadgir, Bidar and Shivamogga, among others.

The BJP has called it a 'land jihad'.

Siddaramaiah at a meeting here directed officials not to harass farmers regarding land under their possession. The Chief Minister said any unauthorised modifications to land records without prior notice or legal procedure should be immediately nullified.

Expressing dissatisfaction over recent actions initiated by certain officials, especially serving notices to farmers under the Waqf Act, CM alleged that the issue could be used by the JDS and the BJP to disturb peace and tranquillity.

**FOR FARMERS**

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**THE CHIEF MINISTER SAID** any unauthorised modifications to land records without prior notice or legal procedure should be immediately nullified.

**I.U.M.L. FOR GOVT INTERVENTION ON MUNAMBAM ISSUE**

Kozhikode Nov. 2: Indian Union Muslim League (IUML) leader P.K. Kunhalikutty on Saturday has requested the Kerala government's intervention to resolve the Munambam land issue.

He said that an immediate intervention was needed as any delay would enable communal groups to promote divisive sentiments by targeting specific communities. "It is actually a technical issue, and the residents are not guilty in any way. During the tenure of V.S. Achuthanandan as chief minister, technical glitches occurred. The state government should take the lead to resolve the issue," the IUML leader said, adding that the government can resolve the Munambam issue within a single day. —PTI

**SIDDA HITS BACK AT MODI OVER 'GUARANTEES'**

Bengaluru, Nov. 2: Karnataka Chief Minister Siddaramaiah has hit back at Prime Minister Narendra Modi over his 'guarantees' comment, saying he should look at the 'disastrous' legacy of BJP Karnataka unit before pointing fingers at the Congress.

He joined the war of words between the Congress and the BJP over AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge's remark on poll guarantees at a party event.

He said, "Mr. @narendramodi, before pointing fingers at Congress, take a hard look at @BJP4Karnataka's disastrous legacy in Karnataka!"

"We are fulfilling every promise we made to our people all 5 guarantees implemented with a budget over ₹52,000 crore, and an additional ₹52,903 crore in capital outlay to build Karnataka's future," Siddaramaiah said in a post on 'X'. He alleged that the BJP left Karnataka plagued with 40 per cent commission corruption, draining resources that could have transformed lives. —PTI

**4 workers hit by Kerala Express, die**

Palakkad, Nov. 2: Four sanitary workers, including two women from Tamil Nadu, were killed after being hit by the Thiruvananthapuram-bound Kerala Express near Shoranur Railway Station on Saturday evening, the Railway police said.

The New Delhi Thiruvananthapuram train struck the workers around 3.05 pm while they were clearing garbage from the railway track near Shoranur bridge, located a few kilometers from the railway station.

The workers, contracted

by the Railways for sanitation duties, were thrown from the track due to the collision's impact. While three bodies were retrieved from the area, efforts are being made to locate the fourth, which is suspected to have fallen into the Bharathapuzha River, police said.

A team from the Railway Police reached the spot. "The workers may not have noticed the approaching train, which resulted in the accident, but further investigations are underway," said an officer with Shoranur Railway Police. —PTI

**Modi ruined PM's dignity: Priyanka**

New Delhi, Nov. 2: In a scathing attack on Narendra Modi, Congress leader Priyanka Gandhi Vadra on Saturday said the prime minister has "destroyed" the dignity of the highest post of the country by repeatedly making "hollow promises" to 140 crore Indians.



Priyanka Gandhi

She also said the developmental trajectory and fiscal health in the Congress-ruled states of Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka and Telangana is going from bad to worse.

Hitting back at the PM Priyanka Gandhi said in a post in X in Hindi, "Mahatma Gandhi used to say 'Truth is God'. 'Satyameva Jayate' written in Mundaka Upanishad is our national motto. These mottos establishing truth became the ideals of the Indian freedom movement, the reconstruction of India and public life." —PTI

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**Teacher uses music to make lessons interesting**

ARUNA I DC VISAKHAPATNAM, NOV. 2

A unique teaching method captivates students' attention at the classroom of a Zilla Parishad High School classroom in Vizianagaram district.

Social Studies teacher Bonthalakoti Shankara Rao, currently at the GT Peta school, has been on the job since 1998 and exchanged traditional chalkboards for musical instruments. Utilising harmonium, keyboard, guitar, kanjira and tappeta

gullu, he transforms conventional lessons into musical experiences.

"Many students feel bored during social science lessons. To avoid this, I teach them with the help of songs and games. If I narrate the story of Independence, three students would be asked to join me in singing the lesson, scripted first in a story format."

Shankara Rao employs various art forms such as Kolatam, song, dance and Burra Katha to teach high school students. He has been

teaching through songs, significantly increasing students' interest and participation in the classroom. This innovative approach has earned him three President's Awards and recognition from the United Nations.

He explains, "This policy reduces the pressure children feel towards education. Students should return to school the next day with the same enthusiasm they go home with. Only then will their passion for education grow." Active student partic-

ipation is integral to Shankar Rao's style of teaching. He not only plays musical instruments himself but also encourages students to do so. "Students see the classroom as a space for artistic expression and sharing knowledge," Rao says. In addition to teaching, Shankar Rao has written songs on social issues, composed works, and created tunes for them. He is also involved in biodiversity projects and is a winner of the international Biodiversity award from the UN.



Shankara Rao, social studies teacher, plays harmonium as part of his innovative method of teaching the subject with the help of music. —BY ARRANGEMENT

**NATION**

SHORT TAKES

**ARMY BEGINS VERIFICATION AT DEMCHOK POINT**

DC CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, NOV. 2

The ministry of external affairs on Saturday said verification patrolling by the Indian Army has begun at Depsang, the second friction point in eastern Ladakh. Patrolling at Demchok had begun on Friday, a day after the Indian and Chinese troops completed disengagement at the two friction points in eastern Ladakh.

"On October 21, the last phase of disengagement was agreed upon between India and China. As a result, verification patrolling has commenced on mutually agreed terms in Demchok and Depsang," said external affairs ministry spokesperson Randeep Jaiswal. The areas and patrolling status are expected to be moved back to the pre-April 2020 level. Foreign secretary Vikram Misri had on October 21 said that an agreement was finalised between India and China following negotiations over the past several weeks.

**CARTRIDGE FOUND IN AIR INDIA FLIGHT, COPS BEGIN PROBE**

New Delhi, Nov. 2: The Delhi police are probing a case of security breach after a live cartridge was found in a pocket seat of an Air India flight landing from Dubai recently, officials said. An Air India staff found the live round of ammunition during routine cleaning on a flight on October 27. Following this, an FIR was registered under the Arms Act and a probe has been initiated, he said.

Air India spokesperson in a statement said, "One ammunition cartridge was found in the pocket of a seat of our flight AI916 after it had landed from Dubai at Delhi on October 27, and all passengers had safely disembarked."

"A complaint was immediately lodged with the Airport Police by Air India strictly adhering to the laid down security protocols," the statement read.

**97 p.c. toilets for girls in schools, Centre tells SC**

16 L boys, 17.5 L girls' toilets built in 10 lakh govt schools

DC CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, NOV. 2

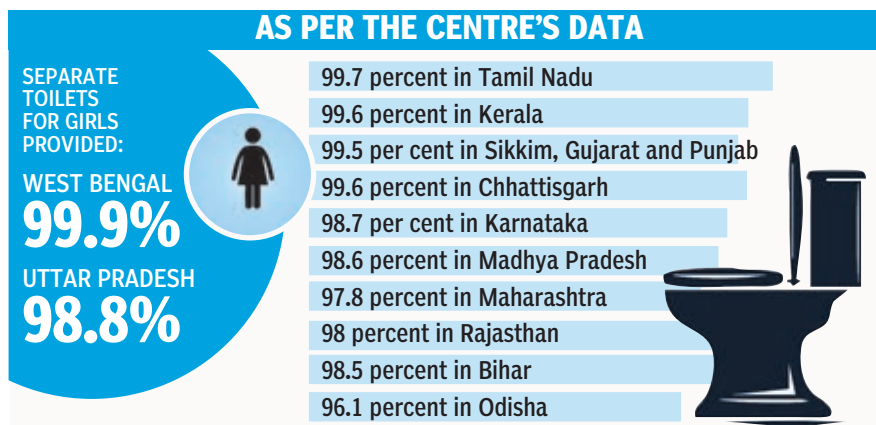
Over 97.5 per cent schools in the country, including government, government-aided and private ones, have provided separate toilet facilities for girl students, the Centre has informed the Supreme Court.

In an affidavit, the Union government has told the apex court that states and Union territories, such as Delhi, Goa and Puducherry, have achieved 100 per cent targets and complied with the earlier orders of the court.

As many as 16 lakh toilets for boys and 17.5 lakh toilets for girls have been constructed in more than 10 lakh government schools and 2.5 lakh toilets for boys and 2.9 lakh toilets for girls have been made available in government-aided schools, the affidavit said.

The Centre has pointed out that in West Bengal, separate toilet facilities have been provided for girl students in 99.9 per cent schools and in Uttar Pradesh, 98.8 per cent schools have separate facilities for girls.

As per the Centre's data, the figure for such facilities



● THE TOP COURT had directed the Centre to lay down a national model for building toilets commensurate with the number of girl students in all government-aided and residential schools across the country.

ties is 99.7 percent in Tamil Nadu, 99.6 percent in Kerala, 99.5 per cent in Sikkim, Gujarat, Punjab, 99.6 percent in Chhattisgarh, 98.7 per cent in Karnataka, 98.6 percent in Madhya Pradesh, 97.8 per cent in Maharashtra, 98 percent in Rajasthan, 98.5 percent in Bihar and 96.1 percent in Odisha.

However, the northeastern states lag behind the national average of 98 per cent, the Centre has said, adding that even Jammu and Kashmir has provided separate toilet facilities

for girls in 89.2 per cent schools.

On July 8, the Centre informed the top court that a national policy on the distribution of menstrual hygiene products to adolescent school going girls is at an advanced stage of formulation.

The Centre's affidavit came in a pending PIL moved by Congress leader and social activist Jaya Thakur seeking directions to the Union and states to provide free sanitary pads to girl students of Classes 6 to 12 and ensure separate

female toilet facilities in all government, government-aided and residential schools. The public interest litigation moved by Ms Thakur has highlighted the difficulties faced by adolescent girls from poor backgrounds in schools.

Earlier, the top court had directed the Centre to lay down a national model for building toilets commensurate with the number of girl students in all government-aided and residential schools across the country.

**Remembering beloved**



People from the Christian community light candles at a cemetery as they observe 'All Souls Day', in Nadia district, West Bengal, on Saturday. —PTI

**10 jumbos die eating millets**

DC CORRESPONDENT BHOPAL, NOV. 2

'Kodo' (millet) crops were destroyed in some areas in Bandhavgarh tiger reserve (BTR) of Umariya district in Madhya Pradesh on Saturday, where 10 elephants have died over 72 hours after allegedly consuming the coarse grain, official sources said.

The move comes in the wake of the preliminary findings in the autopsy of the elephants suggesting that excess consumption of the millet crop may have generated toxic cyclopi-

azonic acid leading to death of the pachyderms. The exact cause of death could be ascertained in the forensic tests of viscera of the dead elephants, official sources said. Interestingly, the forest department had earlier planned to distribute 'kodo' seeds to the farmers in the forest villages in BTR to promote millet cultivation.

"A decision to distribute 'kodo' seed to the farmers in the forest villages was taken at a meeting of the forest department earlier", BTR deputy ranger C.S. Marco told the media.

He said that he had never heard of wild animals dying due to consumption of kodo millet. "We consume kodo grain", he said.

Samples of viscera of the elephants were sent to the school of wildlife forensic and health (SWFH) in Jabalpur in Madhya Pradesh for tests. Chief Minister Mohan Yadav called an emergency meeting here on Friday night to review the situation. He was briefed on the incident by senior forest officers, sources said. In another development, two people were on Saturday trampled to death.

**SHAMEFUL I ABUSE Video of woman cleaning hospital bed goes viral; notice to be issued to health centre**

**Pregnant woman forced to clean hospital bed in MP**

RABINDRA NATH CHOUDHURY I DC BHOPAL, NOV. 2

A video showing a pregnant woman cleaning the hospital bed in which her husband died in Dindori district in Madhya Pradesh has gone viral on social media, prompting the authorities to issue showcause notice to the staff of the government medical facility.

In the video, the woman, identified as Roshni

Marawi, was seen cleaning the bed in the Gardasari community health centre (CHC) in the district after her husband Shivraj (40) succumbed to injuries caused in an attack on him and his family members by a group of assailants in their village following a land dispute.

Shivraj, his father Dharam Singh, 65, and brother Raghuraj, 42, were attacked by a group of around two dozen people in Lalpur Sani on

● In the video clip, Shivraj's widow Roshni Marawi, who was five-month pregnant, was seen cleaning the blood-stained hospital bed used by her husband during his treatment, viral video triggered uproar among the local villagers.

Thursday evening. The injured were rushed to the CHC where all the three succumbed to injuries, police said.

Shivraj's family started sowing in a piece of agricultural land in the village after they won a land dispute case in the court. The assailants armed with sticks and sharp weapons attacked them when they were harvesting crops in the land, police said.

In the video clip, Shivraj's widow, who was five-month pregnant, was seen cleaning the blood-stained hospital bed used by her husband during his treatment.

The viral video triggered uproar among the local villagers leading the local chief medical health officer (CMHO) to issue a show-cause notice to the staff of the CHC on the incident. Dr Chandrasekhar Tekam of the CHC told the local reporters that the woman was gathering evidence by collecting the blood-stained clothes of her husband and was not asked by the hospital staff to clean the bed.



A pregnant woman cleans her husband's blood-stained hospital bed after his death, in Dindori district, Madhya Pradesh on Saturday. —DC

SHORT TAKES

**MAYAWATI SAYS BJP-SP 'ALLIANCE' FIGHTING U.P. POLLS**

Lucknow, Nov. 2: Bahujan Samaj Party chief Mayawati on Saturday claimed that the BJP and Samajwadi Party are contesting the upcoming bypolls in Uttar Pradesh with "mutual understanding" and their "alliance" has lost sleep since the BSP entered the fray on all seats.

The former UP chief minister also slammed the two parties for their ongoing war of slogans — BJP's 'Batenge toh Katenge' and SP's 'Judenge toh Jeetenge' — and said these are designed to divert the people's attention from the real issues.

"Ever since bypolls have been announced and BSP decided to contest the bypolls solo on all nine seats, the BJP-BSP 'alliance' have lost their sleep. Except for a couple of bypolls, BSP has not contested byelections here," Mayawati said here in a presser.

**INDIA COMMITTED FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION**

DC CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, NOV. 2

The Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister P. K. Mishra has affirmed India's commitment to the Sendai Framework for disaster risk reduction and called for increased international collaboration on knowledge sharing, technology transfer and sustainable development to enhance disaster resilience globally.

Mishra said this while participating in the G-20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group (DRRWG) ministerial meeting in Belem, Brazil, according to an official release.

He led a high-level Indian delegation, which took part in the meeting held from October 30 to November 1.

With the active participation of the Indian delegation, a consensus was arrived at on finalising the first ministerial declaration on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR), the Union home ministry said in an official release on Saturday.

**TOP COURT TO HEAR RAJOANA'S PLEA ON NOV. 4**

DC CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, NOV. 2

The Supreme Court is slated to hear on Monday a plea of former police constable Balwant Singh Rajoana, convicted in the 1995 assassination case of the then Punjab chief minister Beant Singh, seeking commutation of his death sentence to life term on the ground of an "inordinate delay" in deciding his mercy petition.

A special bench of Justices B. R. Gavai, P. K. Mishra and K. V. Viswanathan will hear the convict's plea on Monday.

On September 25, the apex court had sought responses from the Centre, the Punjab government and the administration of the union territory of Chandigarh on Rajoana's plea.

In his plea, Rajoana has sought directions to the Centre and the Punjab government to commute his death sentence "due to inordinate delay" in its execution and in deciding the "mercy petition filed on his behalf".

**7 DIE IN TRAILOR, BUS COLLISION IN ODISHA**

DC CORRESPONDENT BHUBANESWAR, NOV. 2

A tragedy struck in Odisha's Sundergarh district early Saturday morning when a minibus carrying local villagers collided with a stationary trailer near the Gaikanapali area under the Hemgiri police jurisdiction.

The accident, attributed to dense fog and poor visibility, resulted in the deaths of seven passengers, while four others sustained serious injuries.

The victims, who were on their way back from a "Kirtan" ceremony — a devotional singing event held in celebration of Diwali — were only a few kilometers from home when the crash occurred.

According to initial police reports, the minibus driver failed to see the parked trailer in time to avoid a collision due to the thick fog blanketing the area. Local police were quickly notified and, along with the help of residents, transported the injured passengers to a nearby hospital for urgent medical care.

**Shah to hold 3 rallies to woo voters in J'khand**

Minister's visit to give impetus to BJP's poll efforts in state

DC CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, NOV. 2

As the battle for Jharkhand gets intense, the BJP heavyweight and Union home minister Amit Shah is set to hold three rallies in the poll-bound state on Sunday and unveil the party's manifesto and sops to woo the voters. Prime Minister Narendra Modi is also scheduled to be in Jharkhand on Monday to address rallies. Defending his bulwark, chief minister Hemant Soren is focusing on matching the BJP sops with the JMM's poll doles but finds himself embroiled in "distractions", the latest being controversy related to his age.

With barely 10 days to go for the first phase of polling in the tribal-dominated state, the BJP's top leadership has shifted its focus from Maharashtra to Jharkhand. Apart from campaigning, Shah's visit is also to give impetus to the BJP's poll efforts and rejuvenate the cadre. Mr Shah is also expected to take stock of the poll strategy, which includes the micromanagement of the booths and showering the voters with sops.

The BJP, however, suffered a setback on Saturday after the party's state vice president Pranav Verma switched to the JMM, accusing the saffron party of ignoring him. Verma is a prominent Kushwaha leader in the state.

Shortly after his arrival in Ranchi, Shah held a meeting with senior party members in the state along with the two in-charges — Union minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Assam CM Himanta Biswa Sarma — to take stock of the situation and give final touches to the election manifesto called the "Sankalp Patra", which he will release on Sunday morning.

**SECURITY FORCES GUN DOWN CHOTTA WALEED**

FROM PAGE 1

The injured security personnel were evacuated to Srinagar's 92 Base (military) hospital where their condition is stated to be stable.

Inspector-General of Police (Kashmir range) V.K. Birdi said Usman Bhai alias Chotta Waleed, one of the most wanted terrorists, was gunned down by the security forces. "He was wanted in many terror-related cases, including killing of non-locals and attacks on security forces. He was also involved in the murder of police Inspector Manzoor Ahmed", he said.

A private house in which the militants had been holed up caught fire, amid loud sounds. The locals said that the security forces had tossed incendiary devices in their assault against the holed-up militants. The operation was underway as reports last came in. The police said that they shifted dozens of civilians including women and children of the besieged area to safer locations to ensure no harm comes to them.

This is the first major clash between the security forces and the militants in Srinagar in 26 months. The last such incident in the Kashmiri capital had taken place on September 15, 2022, at Nowgam in which two militants were killed.

Prior to it, Srinagar city had witnessed an encounter between the militants on May 19, 2020, when two Hizb-ul-Mujahideen cadres were neutralised by the security forces at Nawa Kada 1. Even though many parts of the Kashmir Valley and the Jammu region of the Union Territory have continued to see infrequent terror attacks and other incidents of violence, Srinagar has remained peaceful.



Union home minister Amit Shah with his wife Sonal Shah during a gathering at his residence on the occasion of Gujarati New Year, in Ahmedabad. — PTI

**BJP using hatred to fool people: Congress**

DC CORRESPONDENT NEW DELHI, NOV. 2

The Congress on Saturday claimed that the JMM led I.N.D.I.A. bloc government in Jharkhand is going among the people in the upcoming Assembly polls on the basis of its work, while the BJP is trying to "mislead" them with its "same old politics of hatred".

The Congress general secretary in-charge communications Jairam Ramesh said that in the last five years, the Jharkhand government has taken many steps for the betterment of the people of the state and done excellent work in fields of education, health, housing and security.

"Amidst all the efforts of 'MoShah' to destabilise the state government, these public welfare schemes of ours are providing relief to the people — Bicycle distribution scheme: 10 lakh children got bicycles; CM Utkrisht

Vidyalaya: Education started through CBSE medium in 80 schools."

Ramesh also cited schemes such as pre and post-matric scholarship from which 35 lakh children benefitted; the Savitri Bhai Phule Kishori Samridhi Yojana under which 9 lakh adolescent girls got assistance of ₹40,000 each; the Jharkhand Agricultural Loan Waiver Scheme under which agricultural loans up to ₹2 lakh of about 6.5 lakh farmers were waived; and the Mukhya Mantri Urja Khushali Yojana under which electricity dues of 39 lakh beneficiaries consuming up to 200 units were waived.

He also cited the Jharkhand Mukhya Mantri Mainya Samman Yojana under which a 'samman amount' of ₹30,000 is given every year to 57 lakh sisters of the state aged between 18 and 50.

**SOREN ENGAGING IN 'SELECTIVE HOSPITALITY', SAYS ASSAM CM**

DC CORRESPONDENT with agency inputs NEW DELHI, RANCHI, NOV. 2

Playing the Hindu card ahead of the Assembly polls in Jharkhand, the Assam Chief Minister and BJP co-in-charge, Himanta Biswa Sarma has accused the state chief minister Hemant Soren for practicing "selective hospitality" and alleged him of favoring certain groups while treating others as "outsiders."

He challenged the chief minister to send back Jharkhand Congress in-charge Ghulam Ahmad Mir from the state and claimed that if Soren did so, he too would leave the state.

"Can he dare to call Mir an outsider? You cannot run this country by appeasing a particular community. It is sad that Ghulam Ahmad Mir can come to Jharkhand but I cannot. Is this hospitality only for a particular community?" Sarma asked.

The Assam CM's statement has come amid the political debate over the visits of several saffron party's leaders in the poll bound state. Soren has raised this issue many times calling them "outsiders" during the public rallies underscoring that thousands of BJP leaders and Chief Minister of BJP ruled State are roaming in Jharkhand.

Sarma also questioned why he, as an Indian citizen, should not be allowed to visit Jharkhand, implying that Soren's policies favor certain communities over others.

**Farooq seeks inquiry into rise in J&K terror attacks**

YUSUF JAMEEL I DC SRINAGAR, NOV. 2

National Conference (NC) president Farooq Abdullah on Saturday said that the sudden spurt in terror attacks and other incidents of violence in Jammu and Kashmir raised doubts about the motive behind such activity. He demanded an independent probe to find out who was doing it, and at whose behest.

"There should be a probe (into these incidents). How is it that (an elected) government has been formed and this is happening? I suspect this is being done by the people who want to destabilise this government. Otherwise, why wasn't it happening earlier," he said here. He



Security personnel during an encounter with terrorists in the Khanyar area, in Srinagar on Saturday. — PTI

added, "I think it is being done to set off a crisis. There should be an independent inquiry into it".

Pleading that the suspected militants trapped inside a private house following the security forces launched a cordon-and-search-operation in Srinagar's Khanyar area earlier

during the day on Saturday should not be killed but captured alive, the former chief minister said, "They can be asked at whose behest are they doing it. That's the way. Who are these people who are doing it and why? Why didn't they do it in all these years? I'm concerned".

**Fadnavis keen to get Shiv Sena candidates**

SONU SHRIVASTAVA I DC MUMBAI, NOV. 2

Senior BJP leader Devendra Fadnavis is leaving no stone unturned to get candidates of Shiv Sena and Republican Party of India elected

from the Andheri (East) and Kalina Assembly constituencies respectively.

The candidates fielded by the BJP's alliance partners in the two constituencies are considered close associates of Fadnavis. They joined the Shiv Sena

and the Ramdas Athawale-led party on Fadnavis's instructions.

RPI (A) has fielded Mumbai BJP vice president Amarjeet Singh from the Kalina seat. In Andheri (East), chief minister Eknath Shinde has fielded Murji Patel, who

**Canada flouts diplomatic norms, practices: India**

FROM PAGE 1

"It only confirms the view the government of India has long held about the current Canadian government's political agenda and behavioral pattern. Such irresponsible actions will have serious consequences for bilateral ties," he added.

India and Canada diplomatic relations have hit a low after Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau accused India of carrying out the killing of Khalistani separatist Nijjar. The relations between the two countries are in a downward spiral as the Canadian side makes fresh allegations and targets the Indian diplomats. Both India and Canada have already withdrawn senior diplomats.

The remaining Indian diplomats continue to be under high surveillance by Canada. Some of the

environment of extremism and violence. This action of the Canadian government aggravates the situation and is incompatible with established diplomatic norms and practices," said Jaiswal.

Indian consular officials were recently informed by the Canadian government that they are under audio and video surveillance and that their communications have also been intercepted.

"We have formally protested to the Canadian government as we deem these actions to be a flagrant violation of relevant diplomatic and consular conventions. By citing technicalities, the Canadian government cannot justify the fact that it is indulging in harassment and intimidation. Our diplomatic and consular personnel are already functioning in an

environment of extremism and violence. This action of the Canadian government aggravates the situation and is incompatible with established diplomatic norms and practices," said Jaiswal.

Amid the deteriorating ties, Canada has named India as an "adversary" in its National Cyber Threat Assessment 2025-26 Report released on October 30. Listing India alongside Russia, China, Iran and North Korea, the report states: "We assess that Indian state-sponsored cyber threat actors likely conduct cyber threat activity against Government of Canada networks for the purpose of espionage. We judge that official bilateral relations between Canada and India will very likely drive Indian state-sponsored cyber threat activity against Canada."



Ajit Pawar

**CONG.: COERCION, BLACKMAIL RAMPANT**

FROM PAGE 1

The non-biological Prime Minister himself led the charge, famously labelling the NCP — now his much beloved ally at the state and Centre — as a Naturally Corrupt Party," he said.

"Ajit Pawar has now revealed that after becoming Chief Minister, Devendra Fadnavis showed him a file recommending an open inquiry against Ajit Pawar in the alleged irrigation scam. One can only imagine the threat that was implicit in this move: submit to us, or face action," Ramesh said.

Ajit Pawar and several other MLAs broke away from the Nationalist Congress Party led by his uncle Sharad Pawar and joined the Shiv Sena-BJP government in the state last year.

The Congress leader asserted that this was a serious matter since it involved not just the use of coercion and blackmail but also breach of the oath of confidentiality and the Official Secrets Act. An investigation should be conducted into this matter, he said.

His remarks came days after Pawar alleged he was "backstabbed" by close colleague and then home minister R.R. Patil, who ordered an open inquiry against him in the alleged multi-crore irrigation scam.

Pawar claimed a file mentioning Patil's remarks ordering an inquiry was shown to him by Fadnavis after he became chief minister in 2014.

**Govardhan Puja**



A cow being worshipped on the occasion of 'Govardhan Puja' at Geeta Temple, in Nagpur, Maharashtra, on Saturday. — PTI

**Sawant sorry for 'maal' comment**

DC CORRESPONDENT MUMBAI, NOV. 2

Shiv Sena (UBT) MP Arvind Sawant on Saturday issued an apology for his comments on Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena's candidate Shaina N.C. He was under fire after he called the Shiv Sena candidate, who was earlier BJP's spokesperson, "imported maal".

Mr Sawant said he has always respected women and his comment was distorted to deliberately target him. "I was hurt by the accusations against

me. I have always respected women. But my comments were distorted and I was targeted deliberately. Still if my comments hurt anybody's sentiments, I regret it and apologise for the same. In my 55 years of public life, I have never insulted women," the Lok Sabha member of Shiv Sena (UBT) said.

Shaina N.C. is contesting the Assembly election from the Mumbai-devi seat as the Shiv Sena candidate. She was a member of the BJP for more than a decade.

**MP: Bastar Olympics set to wow revellers**

RABINDRA NATH CHOUDHURY RAIPUR, NOV. 2

In a first of its kind initiative, the Chhattisgarh government is going to hold a 35-day mega sports event, "Bastar Olympics", from November 5 this year, particularly to showcase the sports talent of the surrendered Naxals and tribal youths, decapitated by Maoist violence, in the Leftwing insurgency-hit region in the state.

The event is a part of the move to bring the tribal youths in Bastar in the state to join the mainstream of development, a spokesman of the state

government said. Chief minister Vishnu Deo Sai on Saturday unveiled the mascot of the Bastar Olympics, featuring hill myna, Chhattisgarh's state bird, and wild buffalo. Chhattisgarh's state animal, and reviewed preparations for the sports event. Around 1.65 lakh youths in Bastar have already registered their names for participation in the event, the spokesman said.

Special event would be organised as part of the Bastar Olympics for the surrendered Naxals and tribal youths in the region decapitated by Maoist violence to showcase their sports talent.

**40TH ANNIV. 1984 events marked not only the murder of citizens but also death of justice**

**Anti-Sikh riot survivors recount horror**

New Delhi, Nov. 2: Sonia was three years old when her parents and uncles were killed during the 1984 anti-Sikh riots in Delhi.

Her sister, who was 13 at the time, later told Sonia about the violence and killings of people from the Sikh community following former prime minister Indira Gandhi's assassination, she said in Delhi on Saturday at a press conference commemorating the 40th anniversary of the riots.

"I was three years old... My sister told me about

the incident and how my father and uncles were killed," she said.

With tears in her eyes, she described how her sister took care of her in her parents' absence. Sonia now works with an NGO and has two children.

Gandhi was assassinated at her home on October 31, 1984, by her two bodyguards Beant Singh and Satwant Singh.

During the press conference, senior advocate HS Phoolka said he and his team were releasing a series of 20 documentary videos titled "1984

Genocide Unending Quest for Justice" on the riots' 40th anniversary.

The documentary videos follow survivors of the riots who narrate their experience of that time, Phoolka said.

Twelve videos were released on Saturday. The rest will be released in Chandigarh on November 9.

"The events of 1984 marked not only the murder of countless citizens but also the death of justice itself," Phoolka said. The entire legal system

collapsed and the "blindfolded" Lady Justice reflected the blindness of judges who failed to see the atrocities occurring around them, he alleged.

"It wasn't until 2017 that the Supreme Court began to take an active interest in punishing the perpetrators of this genocide. Justice Dipak Misra established a new special investigation team to reopen cases, signalling a long-overdue commitment to seeking justice for the victims," the senior advocate added. — PTI



Nihang Sikh warriors during Fateh Diwas celebration a day after Bandi Chor Diwas, in Amritsar on Saturday. — PTI



Celebrities pay tribute to fashion designer, Rohit Bal

3 >>



SUNDAY | 3 NOVEMBER 2024

As Ash turns 51, Abhishek's silence noticed by all

8 >>



# 'Digi Arrest' fear grips the nation

As 'Digi Arrest' scams witness an exponential rise across the country, cyber experts caution of possible pitfalls

ROSEINA COUTINHO

It's time everyone steers clear from the 'Digi Arrest' fear. Suddenly 'digi arrest' has become the talk of the town. Many people have reportedly been scammed out of millions of rupees by impersonators and fraudsters who reach out to their victims via video calls, under the façade of a police or tax official. The scammers force their victims to stand in one place, 'freezing' their position under the false pretext of 'Digitally Arresting' them. The 'digital arrest' quagmire has become so deep and messy that recently Prime Minister Narendra Modi cautioned people against 'Digital Arrests' via his *Mann Ki Baat* radio address. The PM said: "No government agency will ever contact you via phone or video call for such an investigation."

PHOTO: FREEPIK



matter by asking the victims to do a "settlement" to avoid arrest. The 'settlement' means paying a 'fat amount' to the fake CBI or income tax officials.

## DIGI ARREST FEAR

"A digital arrest is a scam where someone pretends to belong to some police or government agency solely to scare you and have your personal details shelled out along with a huge amount to be paid," explains Himanshu Yadav, Cyber Security expert, content creator & Founder at Hackindtech. He shares how recently in India, a group of scammers posed as CBI officers and made video calls to individuals, levelling charges of illegal activities against them. They even try arbitrating the

Abhishek Parashar, Cyber-crime Investigator & Founder of Indian Cyber Club says, "At times after the victim is digitally arrested, the fraudsters may even threaten to freeze



SCAMMERS INCREASINGLY USE CALL SPOOFING TO CHANGE THE CALLER ID THAT APPEARS ON THE RECEIVER'S PHONE UNDER THE PRETEXT THAT THE NUMBER CALLING THE OTHER IS A LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT NUMBER."

— HIMANSHU YADAV, Cyber Security Expert & Content Creator

NO GOVERNMENT AGENCY WILL EVER CONTACT YOU VIA PHONE OR VIDEO CALL FOR SUCH AN INVESTIGATION."

— PM NARENDRA MODI - Mann Ki Baat

bank accounts along with other social media handles or any internet-based transaction account until the victim agrees to pay the demand put forth." The 'settlement payments' are usually accepted via untraceable means. "Untraceable means such as gift cards bearing arbitrary amounts of money, bitcoins or wire transfers are usually preferred options by such fraudsters," says Abhishek.

TURN TO PAGE 2

## WORD OF CAUTION

**Verify:** Never take unsolicited calls from unfamiliar numbers at face value.

**Use Two-Factor Authentication:** Added layer of security for bank and social media accounts helps.

**Stay Cautious:** Avoid sharing Aadhaar numbers or bank details over the phone.

**Stay Updated:** Be aware of current scams and inform others about it.



PHOTO: FREEPIK

## CYBER FRAUD

**Aug 2024:** Bengaluru cops arrested several men after they scammed a victim for more than Rs 20 million.

**7.4 lakh** complaints registered from Jan to April 2024 (National Cybercrime Reporting Portal)

**₹11,269 crore** worth of complaints were listed in the first six months of 2024 on the Home Ministry's cybercrime portal and 1930 Helpline.

**9.6 lakh** complaints were filed in 2022 and 4.5 lakh in 2021 respectively.



## Sreeleela to match steps with Allu Arjun

She's the chosen one for the special song in *Pushpa: The Rule*. In the earlier film it was Samantha who made waves with the *Oo Antava* number

B.V.S. PRAKASH

DECCAN CHRONICLE

Although names of Bollywood actresses like Janhvi Kapoor and Shraddha Kapoor have been doing the rounds, it is Telugu girl Sreeleela who has bagged the plum chance to match dance steps with reigning star Allu Arjun for a special song in *Pushpa: The Rule*.

"Allu Arjun is a terrific dancer and very few could match him in speed and grace," says a source and adds, "Sreeleela is a very good dancer too."



Sreeleela has become a sensation in Tollywood with her racy dancing in movies like *Dhamaka* and *Guntur Kaaram*. 'Her dances in songs like *Pulsar Bike*, and *Jinthak* in *Dhamaka* and her *Kurichi Madathapeti* song with Mahesh Babu in *Guntur Karam* became super popular," he notes.

Talking about the rumours that Bollywood divas would get to do the *Oo Antava* type song, the source says, "Being a pan-India movie, they were looking for a popular actress who can also dance, and found Sreeleela fits the bill — she's a great dancer and is also going to make her debut in Bollywood soon."

CHOKITA PAUL  
DECCAN CHRONICLE

Emotional farewells may be a hallmark of airport settings, but travellers departing from Dunedin, New Zealand, will need to speed things up. A newly imposed 3-limit on goodbye hugs in the airport's drop-off zone aims to curb lingering embraces that could clog traffic.

Signs outside the terminal now warn, "Max hug time three minutes," advising those looking for more heartfelt goodbyes to head to the parking lot instead.

CEO Dan De Bono explained to *The Associated Press* that the cuddle cap was designed to "keep things moving smoothly" in the airport's revamped drop-off area. But there were mixed reactions. De Bono said, "We were accused of breaching basic human rights and asked how we dared to limit how long someone can have a hug."

Some travellers had welcomed the change. The signs were intended as a gentler approach, contrasting with other airports that warn of wheel clamping or fines for overstaying in drop-off zones. In the UK, some airports have even started charging fees for all drop-offs, no matter how brief.

"Three minutes is 'plenty of time to pull up, say farewell to your loved ones, and move on. The time limit is really just a polite way of saying, you know, let's keep things moving,'" said De Bono. He also pointed out that a 20-second hug is enough to trigger the feel-good hormones oxytocin and serotonin, adding that anything beyond that becomes "really awkward."

**LONGER HUGS SPEAK VOLUMES**

Radhika Dhawan, a business and mindset



**YOUR 'GOODBYE' TIME STOPS... NOW!**

IN NEW ZEALAND, TRAVELLERS AT ONE AIRPORT ARE BEING REQUESTED TO KEEP THEIR FAREWELL HUGS TO A MAXIMUM OF 3 MINUTES. THE REGULATION IS DESIGNED TO ENSURE DROP-OFF ZONES REMAIN UNOBSTRUCTED AND TO AVOID DELAYS CAUSED BY PROLONGED GOODBYES

coach finds Dunedin Airport's "Max Hug Time" rule amusing. "Airports are crossroads of love and anticipation, places where emotions race. A farewell isn't just about chemistry; it's about being fully present in those fleeting moments. Sometimes, a simple 'see you soon' feels right. Other times, we need a longer, lingering embrace

to mark the depth of a bond." For Dhawan, while Dunedin's rule might nudge travellers toward efficient goodbyes, it also signals a broader direction where productivity edges out ties. "Where do we draw the line?" she asks, challenging the fact that even small, expressive gestures are now on a timer. "A hug that speaks what words cannot stay with us far longer than the seconds it takes to share it," she asserts.

**STILL A LANGUAGE OF LOVE**

Dr Annie Baxi, a mental health practitioner, views Dunedin Airport's "3-minute hug permit" with both humour and a sense of concern over the boundaries it places on human connection. "The idea of timing a hug touches on a deeper truth about public spaces and the quiet restrictions we place on emotional expression," she explains. Many find it ironic that a time limit is placed on something so universally

comforting, she notes. But beneath that humour lies a subtle discomfort. "The restriction feels emotionally limiting and even unnatural. Hugs bring a sense of calm and make us feel valued. To control or constrain this in public policy touches a nerve. A flight represents a period of separation, a temporary disconnection from loved ones," Baxi says.

The "3-minute hug rule" may feel both comic and bittersweet, illustrating the clash between our inherent need for connection and the efficient, regulated spaces we navigate daily. It begs the question: Have we reached a stage where even the smallest gestures of affinity are regulated and streamlined?

Dhawan adds, "I couldn't help but recall the opening scene of *Love Actually*, where Heathrow Airport becomes a backdrop for tearful reunions, heartfelt smiles, and hugs — a beautifully chaotic portrayal of airport hellos and goodbyes. The idea of placing love on a timer, as with this new rule, felt both comical and absurd, as though it's somehow trying to contain the very emotions that make these farewells so deep."

DR ANNIE BAXI, mental health practitioner.

IT'S ABOUT BEING FULLY PRESENT IN A FLEETING MOMENT, AND NOT ALL ABOUT THE CHEMISTRY. SOMETIMES, A SIMPLE 'SEE YOU SOON' FEELS RIGHT. OTHER TIMES, WE NEED A LONGER, LINGERING EMBRACE TO MARK THE DEPTH OF A BOND."

— RADHIKA DHAWAN, business and mindset coach.

**'Digi Arrest' fear grips the nation**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

**EXPONENTIAL RISE**

While these scammers appear on screens with a dummy setup of police stations, tax offices or any government agency, they also don't 'copycat' uniforms of policemen while targeting their victims. PM Modi expressed concerns stating that in the first quarter of 2024 alone, Indians had lost a whopping Rs 120 crore to such scams. Himanshu says it is easier to pull off scams now because most people have shifted to online spaces for financial transactions. Scammers just have to tap in the right codes to have a bite of one's personal information or number.

A common tactic is call-spoofing. Himanshu adds, "Scammers increasingly use call

spoofing to change the caller ID that appears on the receiver's phone under the pretence that the number calling the other is a legitimate government number." He opines that such tactics help them 'appear to be' more credible. However, these very tactics complicate things for victims who feel threatened and cannot distinguish between officials and scammers.

**VICTIMS ON CHECKLIST**

Scammers are quite mindful of certain groups who perhaps, appear to be more susceptible or simply, fit the bill. Mukesh Kumar Rao, Cyber & Cloud security specialist cautions, "These scammers often target senior citizens, government employees, believing them to



have substantial financial resources along with some inclination towards avoiding any legal hurdles." He affirmingly adds, "They may also exploit social media profiles to first find victims for their personal details that can later be used over their victims for psychological manipulation." While retired officials are often a hot spot, others too,

they may also exploit social media profiles to first find victims for their personal details that can later be used over their victims for psychological manipulation."

— MUKESH KUMAR RAO, Cyber & Cloud security specialist

need to be wary. "Older people, students or even immigrants are common targets because they would be less likely to be in a position to take action against such perpetrators," says Himanshu.

**CAUTION OVER REGRET**

The first word of caution: Stay Calm! Prachi Chauhan, Digital

Forensics Expert, at Indian Cyber Club says, "There is no reason to rush into such things as no genuine police or government official would ask you to pay fines via gift cards or online modes right away." Look out for warning signs (red flags). The very mention of cryptocurrency payments or gift cards should be viewed with suspicion. Make sure of the organisation's website or contact details being forged by the scammer.

Abhishek adds, "Sadly, we Indians tend to be fearful 'by default' on hearing any mention of police officials or legal procedures for that matter." This lack of awareness about existing laws, too, acts as a stepping stone for scammers to feed on the fear of victims. Given the exponential rise in these cases, caution and prevention need to be on everyone's checklist.

# FAREWELL TO A VISIONARY

Rohit Bal, lovingly known as 'Gudda' by those close to him, has left the fashion world in mourning. Aged 63, he passed away Friday night following a heart attack, leaving behind a legacy as one of India's most cherished designers

In a career that spanned decades, Bal's work was composed of seamless blends of Indian heritage and modern sensibilities, that took Indian fashion beyond borders, making his name a mainstay in wardrobes of global stars and the Indian elite. Bal's presence in fashion was magnetic, drawing Hollywood icons such as Cindy Crawford and Uma Thurman, and Bollywood stalwarts like Kareena Kapoor Khan, Ranbir Kapoor, and Sonam Kapoor to his creations. Yet, what set Bal apart was his personal warmth and charisma. The news of his passing had messages from friends, muses and admirers pouring in.

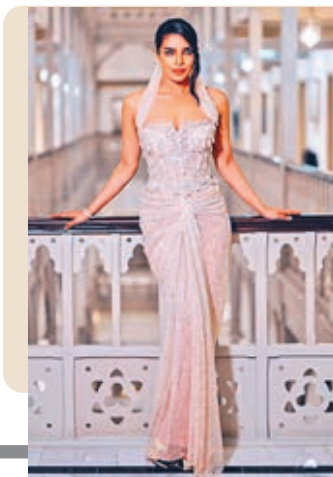


Filmmaker **Karan Johar**, who recently wore one of Bal's creations, penned a moving tribute. He revealed the eerie timing: he had chosen one of Bal's outfits to wear for Diwali, not knowing it would be his last homage to the designer. Sharing photos of himself in the exquisite ivory ensemble with Bal's iconic flora and fauna embroidery, Johar wrote, "I saw Gudda's collection and show and as always marvelled at what a stunning artist, craftsman, fashion legend he is... I say this with a heavy heart and in the present tense because his art and irreplaceable contribution to the fashion industry will remain forever..."

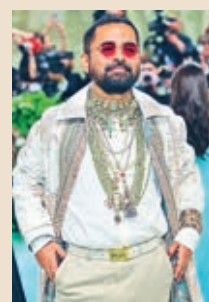
Just last month, Bal took his final bow at the Lakme Fashion Week X FDCI 2024 grand finale. Frail but resolute, he navigated the runway with the help of his models, among them Bollywood star **Ananya Panday**. She had the privilege of being his muse that night, presenting him with a rose at the end of the show — a spontaneous tribute to a man who could barely walk but still commanded the stage with his undeniable presence. Ananya shared a photo of herself with Bal from the show, captioning it simply, "Gudda," with a red heart and dove emoji. **Kareena Kapoor Khan**, too, honoured him with a throwback photo from his early days, while **Aditi Rao Hydari's** tribute said, "Rest in style, Rest in beauty."



The Fashion Design Council of India (FDCI), which Bal helped found, called him "a pioneer" whose "legacy of artistry, and innovation along with forward-thinking will live on in the fashion world." Bal fought ill health to make a grand return to the ramp at the LFW grand finale. The designer looked frail as he presented *Kaaynaat: A Bloom In The Universe*.



**Sonam Kapoor**, another loyal admirer, shared a poignant message. "Dear Gudda, I hear about your passing on my way to celebrate Diwali in your gorgeous creation that you generously lent to me for the second time. I've been blessed to have known you and worn you and walked for you multiple times. I hope you're at peace. Always your biggest fan."



"Gone too young. Rest peacefully #RohitBal," **Priyanka Chopra** wrote on her Instagram Stories. **Sabyasachi** said, "Rest in Peace Rohit Bal. You were much loved and admired by all of us at Sabyasachi."

— With inputs from PTI.

# Foo Fighter's Dave Grohl drops divorce attorney

Dave Grohl, rock band Foo Fighters' iconic frontman, has parted ways with his divorce attorney in a bid to repair his marriage following his recent confession of infidelity and the birth of a child outside of his marriage. The singer is no longer working with a divorce attorney and instead hoping to work things out with his wife. Grohl's wish is on keeping his family intact as he faces the consequences of his actions.

Grohl publicly acknowledged an affair on Instagram last month, sharing that he had recently welcomed a new daughter. In his post, he expressed his intentions to be "a loving and supportive parent" to his new child and to work toward restoring trust with his wife and family. "I love my wife and my children, and I am doing everything I can to regain their trust and earn their forgiveness," he wrote, urging consideration for "all the children involved" as they navigate it.

Frontman fights to save marriage amid cheating scandal



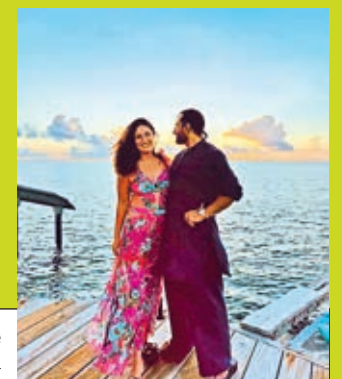
# Floral Kareena!

Kareena Kapoor's low-key Diwali look steals the show in tropical Paradise with Saif



While Bollywood was abuzz with ornate sarees and lehengas for Diwali 2024, Kareena Kapoor took a fresh route, embracing the festive vibe in a romantic beach setting with her family. The actor, along with husband Saif Ali Khan and their sons Jeh and Taimur, is spending the holiday at an undisclosed tropical location, sharing glimpses of her idyllic "Diwali sunset" with fans.

In a series of photos posted on Instagram, Kareena looked radiant in a breezy floral maxi dress by US fashion label PatBO, an ideal choice for a laid-back yet elegant celebration. The pink and green dress features a sleeveless design with ruffles around the neckline, waist cutouts, and a belt for added structure. Its boning balances sophistication with a touch of beachy romance. Kareena captioned her post, "Diwali sunsets with my love, 2024," celebrating the holiday in her own understated style.



## YOUR NOVEMBER MONTHLY HOROSCOPE

OSCAR CAINER



**YOUR HOROSCOPE FOR THE WEEK BEGINNING 3 NOVEMBER 2024**

### ARIES



March 21 - April 20

You might feel more vulnerable than usual in November; as if you've got lots to protect, but your options of making gains are limited. Yet other people, who have a different perspective, will be able to see with greater clarity. You're in an enviable situation. The advantages of your current position far outweigh the negatives. If you think positive, and plug into the Mercury/Jupiter energy, you'll be able to see beyond the irritating issue that's causing so much frustration and focus on this month's opportunity. It's big. And achievable.

Take full advantage of November's opportunities! Visit [infree.cainer.com](http://infree.cainer.com)

### TAURUS

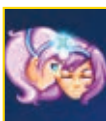


April 21-May 21

Since the darkest hour always happens just before the dawn, why don't we banish dawns? Waiting for the Sun to appear over the horizon might be magical, but is it worth the hassle? Of course it is! As soon as we experience its warmth and light, darkness disappears. Those middle of the night anxieties fade away. And we forget what wasn't looking so great before it appeared. November brings the grand finale of an intense situation in your world. Will it have a happy ending? Absolutely. Like a quest to watch the sun rise, it will be fun.

November is going to be amazing! For inspiring insight, visit: [infree.cainer.com](http://infree.cainer.com)

### GEMINI



May 22-June 22

Time is elastic. Just because it ticks past doesn't mean it progresses in a regular way. We know this. We've all experienced minutes that pass like hours and vice versa. We notice it most in times of intense emotion, when we don't seem to have any control of its speed. But that doesn't mean we can't influence the way it passes. In November, with your ruler in mutual reception with Jupiter, time is more on your side than you think. If you relax, it will slow down. And if you want to get things moving faster, you can do that too.

For uplifting news about November, check out your forecasts at [infree.cainer.com](http://infree.cainer.com)

### CANCER June 23-July 23



November brings information you've been waiting for. Great! You'll know what you need to know. But will that change the way you're feeling? Or will you decide you need to know even more? If you can stop seeking greater knowledge about a situation in your world, and absorb the intel you've already got, you'll realise that you're perfectly positioned to draw a conclusion. Is it guaranteed to lead to success? No. But it's a sure sign that you're on the right track! If you stop wondering, and start doing, you'll make excellent progress.

You're going to enjoy November. Find out why! Visit [infree.cainer.com](http://infree.cainer.com)

### LEO



July 24-August 23

In November, there are definite indications of greater material and emotional stability. Yay! The issue is that they're likely to arise from a development that (initially at least) seems challenging. But don't panic! If you find yourself in a situation that seems to involve compromising your interests, you've got the talent to be able to negotiate into a better position. It's about exerting your Leo authority in a clever way. Using your social skills, you can bring others around to your way of thinking. And work towards success.

For news you need to hear about November, visit: [infree.cainer.com](http://infree.cainer.com)

### LIBRA

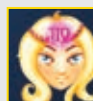


September 24-October 23

Just because the drama in your world features somebody else doesn't mean your role is insignificant. You've got a vital part to play. The spotlight isn't on you, but you can influence the way the storyline develops, and get recognition when it comes to an end. Someone needs to express themselves. And your guiding hand is giving them the support they need. As long as they think they're leading the way, you can steer their direction. The experience you gain will enable you to shine in the new situation November brings your way.

Make November a month to remember! For valuable news, visit [infree.cainer.com](http://infree.cainer.com)

### VIRGO



August 24-September 23

Although waiting for something is exciting, if we wait too long, our interest wanes. We might be hungry, and look forward to dinner; but if something interrupts our plans, all thoughts of food disappear. You've been yearning to make a change in your world. Will this month bring what you want? Or will it be too little, too late? With your ruler, Mercury in mutual reception with lucky Jupiter, there's every reason to be hopeful. Even if things don't go according to plan, November brings new situations and connections that will re-inspire you.

November's cosmic events could transform your life! Find out how! Visit [infree.cainer.com](http://infree.cainer.com)

### SCORPIO

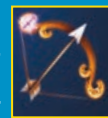


October 24-November 22

Working out the difference between a good idea and a bad one isn't as easy as we'd like it to be. Often, it's not the idea that's the problem; it's the way it's implemented. Some dreadful ideas have been successful. And lots of brilliant ones have gone by the wayside. In November, with your ruler, Pluto, moving into innovative Aquarius, with a combo of creativity, enthusiasm and determination, you'll be able to transform dull concepts into brilliant notions. And if you use discrimination, the decisions you make will be right. And wise.

Be ready for November! It's going to be action-packed! Visit [infree.cainer.com](http://infree.cainer.com)

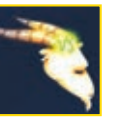
### SAGITTARIUS November 23-December 21



You're much in demand. Wherever you turn someone needs your attention/support. It's flattering that they think you're the person to help sort out their issues. But what about you and your needs? Who's looking after those? You're not, of course, obliged to be available to everyone, all the time. You could, of course, say 'no'. But the truth is that you enjoy being stretched to the limit. This week, the Celestial Archer brings a reward for your efforts. Amongst all your responsibilities, there are moments of respite, and fun.

Discover why this Celestial Archer is so magical for you.

### CAPRICORN



December 22-January 19

When people aren't on the same wavelength, it's often because they're not communicating properly. They're talking more than listening. And poor communication can have the opposite effect too; it's easy to assume we're in agreement, then, when things go a bit pear-shaped, discover that we disagree on fundamental issues. In November, the legacy of mysterious Pluto leaving your sign gives you the ability to set 'wrongs' right. It's bridge-building time. You can lay aside past grievances and move towards a brighter, happier future.

For inspiring predictions to take you through the coming month, visit [infree.cainer.com](http://infree.cainer.com)

### AQUARIUS



January 21-February 19

A key relationship is growing more tense. This isn't necessarily, by the way, a romantic connection. It could be someone you work or socialise with. Somehow, the understanding you both shared seems to have disappeared. And this is troubling you. But with transformative Pluto entering your sign (for a 20-year residency), your perceptiveness is on the up. Your increased awareness gives you the insight to be able to gently address any problems in a way that leads to resolution and reunion. It's transformation time!

November brings potential for positive change. Find out more! Visit [infree.cainer.com](http://infree.cainer.com)

### PISCES



February 20-March 20

You're not where you were or who you were. You might be in the same physical space (and look the same), but, in your heart and mind, you've moved on. In November, you'll realise that things that used to scare you hardly bother you. And that things you were passionate about no longer hold the same interest. Yikes! If the latter sounds worrying, relax. Over the course of the month you'll find other priorities, that are worth getting really excited about. And if you turn your attention to them, you can begin to transform your life.

Make November special! For inspiring forecasts and great news, visit [infree.cainer.com](http://infree.cainer.com)

WANT TO KNOW MORE?

The late Jonathan Cainer's nephew Oscar, will bring you your weekly zodiac forecasts over the weeks and months to come. For more from Oscar, visit [cainer.com](http://cainer.com)



# The New Eco-friendly 'Combing Operation'

Many people are 'brushing aside' plastic combs and opting for eco-friendly combs made from bamboo, neem wood, and even ox horns



PHOTO: FREEPIK



PHOTO: ANUWOODCRAFT

**ANUSHREE CHAURASIA**

In a world increasingly aware of environmental degradation, small changes in daily habits can contribute significantly to sustainability. One such shift is in the realm of personal grooming, where more and more people, especially the younger generation, are swapping out plastic combs for eco-friendly alternatives like bamboo, neem wood, and even ox horn combs. This movement isn't just about aesthetics; it's about ethics, heritage, and sustainability.

**JOURNEY BACK TO NATURE**

It's refreshing to see a resurgence of traditional, natural materials in everyday products. Young men and women today are rediscovering the charm of eco-friendly grooming tools, much like those used by their grandparents. These natural combs, made from materials like bamboo, neem, and Sheesham wood, offer a more environmentally conscious alternative to plastic combs.

Poonam Raman, an ecologist emphasises the importance of these choices. "Every small decision we make in our daily lives, from the kind of comb we use to the materials we choose for our clothing or accessories, has a direct impact on the



PHOTO: FREEPIK

**HAIR THIS!**

- Neem wood comb helps reduce dandruff, and promotes scalp health
- Natural oils present in ox horn combs add shine to the hair
- Sheesham (Indian rosewood) and coconut shell combs are durable and passed down from generation to generation.



PHOTO: NBS\_ARTWOOD



PHOTO: CREAMKRR



PHOTO: ANUWOODCRAFT



PHOTO: DEAN\_HUNT\_ART

environment. By switching to sustainable alternatives like bamboo or neem combs, we reduce our reliance on harmful plastics and also encourage the growth of traditional, eco-friendly industries."

**NATURE'S BOUNTY**

Combs made from bamboo, a fast-growing and renewable resource, are particularly popular. Lightweight and strong, bamboo combs glide through hair without snagging, helping to prevent breakage and split ends. Additionally, bamboo's antimicrobial properties make it ideal for daily use, keeping the scalp cleaner and healthier.

Neem wood combs, another favourite in this eco-friendly grooming trend, are prized for their medicinal properties. Neem has been used in Ayurvedic medicine for centuries due to its antifungal, antibacterial, and anti-inflammatory benefits. A neem wood comb helps reduce dandruff, promotes scalp health, and is gentle on sensitive skin. In contrast to plastic combs, which can generate static and lead to frizz, neem wood combs leave hair smooth and manageable.

**MODERN TWIST**

There's also a resurgence of interest in combs made from Sheesham (Indian rosewood) and coconut shells. These materials are not only durable but carry with them cultural significance. Traditionally, Sheesham combs were passed down from generation to generation, and they were often crafted by hand, reflecting the skill of artisans who valued sustainability long before it became a buzzword.

For people with tough or curly hair, combs made from coconut shells or ox horns are particularly suitable. The density and smooth texture of ox horn combs make them perfect for detangling thick or textured hair without causing damage or breakage. The natural oils present in ox horn also add shine to the hair, making them a luxurious yet eco-friendly choice.

These traditional combs are increasingly being seen as a symbol of ethical consumerism. Many youngsters are sharing photos and

**BY SWITCHING TO SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVES LIKE BAMBOO OR NEEM COMBS, WE REDUCE OUR RELIANCE ON HARMFUL PLASTICS AND ALSO ENCOURAGE THE GROWTH OF TRADITIONAL, ECO-FRIENDLY INDUSTRIES."**

— POONAM RAMAN, Ecologist

videos of their natural combs on Instagram and TikTok, sparking an eco-friendly haircare trend.

**THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT**

From an ecological perspective, plastic combs are part of the larger plastic pollution problem. Plastic doesn't decompose. Every discarded comb lies somewhere on the planet, either in a landfill, breaking down into microplastics in our oceans, or contributing to the accumulation of non-biodegradable waste. According to the World Wildlife Fund, plastic pollution is one of the greatest threats to the environment, affecting marine life and ecosystems worldwide.

Natural combs, on the other hand, are biodegradable and require fewer resources to produce. Bamboo, for instance, grows rapidly without the need for pesticides or fertilizers, making it one of the most sustainable materials on the planet. Neem, Sheesham, and coconut trees are similarly renewable, and their cultivation often supports small-scale farmers and artisans in rural communities.

Moreover, the craftsmanship involved in making these combs supports local economies, especially in

regions where artisanal skills are passed down through generations. "It's a win-win," says Raman, adding, "You're not just reducing waste but also supporting communities and preserving age-old craftsmanship."

**A HOLISTIC APPROACH**

Beyond environmental benefits, using natural combs is also better for hair and scalp health. Plastic combs often generate static electricity, which can lead to frizz and hair breakage. In contrast, wooden and horn combs are gentle on the scalp, stimulate blood circulation, and help distribute natural oils evenly through the hair, leading to healthier, shinier locks. Bamboo and neem wood combs are especially good for scalp massages, a practice that helps in stress relief and relaxation. These combs promote better circulation to the scalp, which can improve hair growth and strengthen the roots.

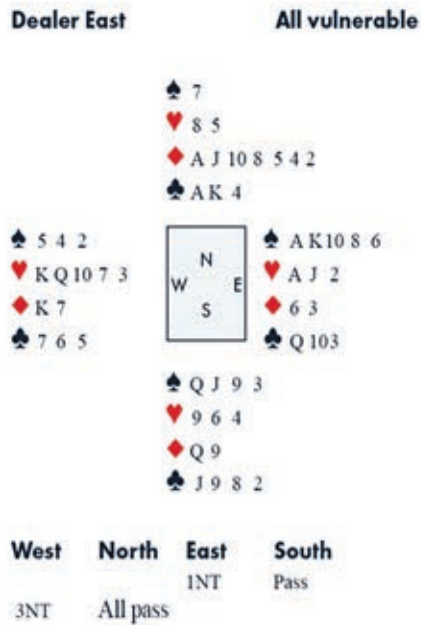
**GREEN COMBING CULTURE**

This eco-friendly combing culture is a conscious choice that blends tradition with sustainability. By opting for natural, biodegradable materials like bamboo, neem, and ox horn, individuals are not only reducing their environmental footprint but also promoting a healthier, more holistic approach to personal care. This shift is part of a broader movement toward ethical consumerism, one in which beauty and grooming products are not just about self-care, but also about caring for the planet.

PHOTO: FREEPIK



**BRIDGE** | Janet de Botton



The World Bridge Games are taking place in Buenos Aires and I'm glued to my screen, kibitzing and checking the results at every opportunity. The superstars are out in force, and it's riveting to compare the way they approach the same hands – and a great way to learn. That said, you'll see certain bids which you probably shouldn't try to emulate: their instincts and imaginations are on an altogether higher plane than most of ours. Indeed, I saw a number of bids which, if anyone I teach had made, I'd have 'corrected' at once!

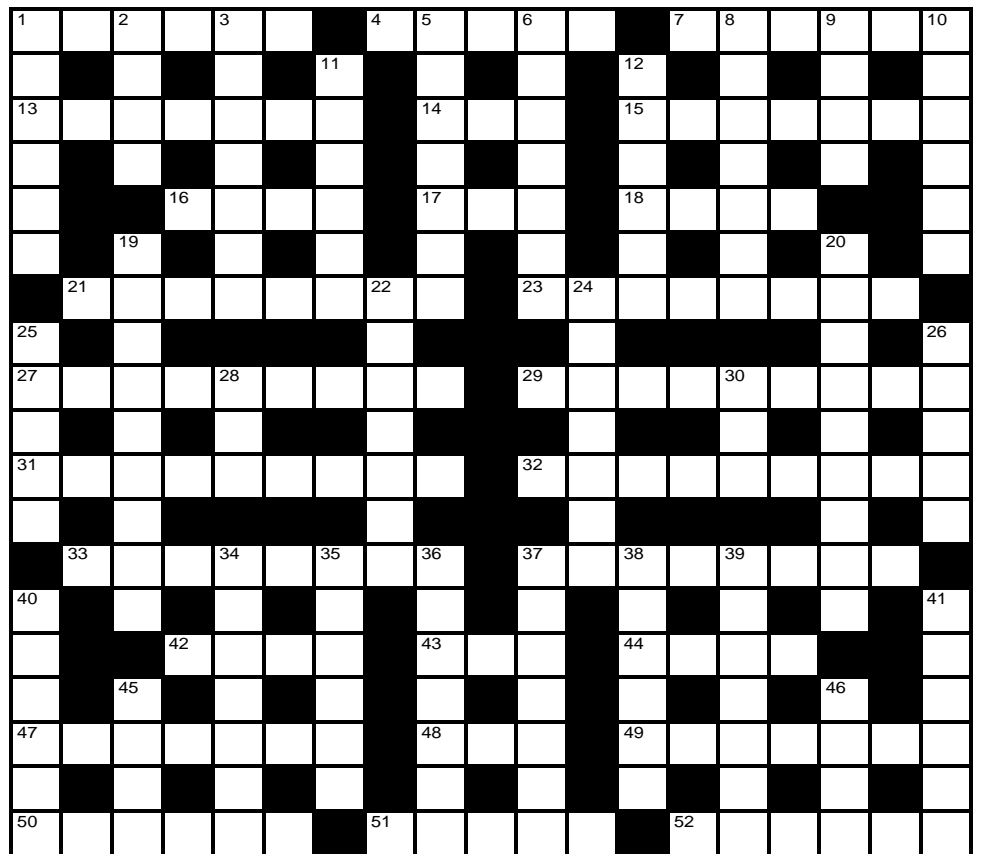
Representing the USA in the Seniors Teams, for instance, Zia Mahmood (South), picked up ♠J♥♦AKJ107643 ♣AK82. When East opened 1♥ he passed! West jumped to 3♥ and when the bidding came back to Zia, he sprang to life with 4NT (showing both minors). When his partner bid 5♣ he jumped to 6♦. Could there be a more beautiful way to show both minors with longer, solid diamonds? He was obviously void in hearts, so it wasn't hard for his partner to raise.

Another legend, the Polish player Michal Klukowski (representing Switzerland), also made an odd-looking bid on this hand against France (see diagram).

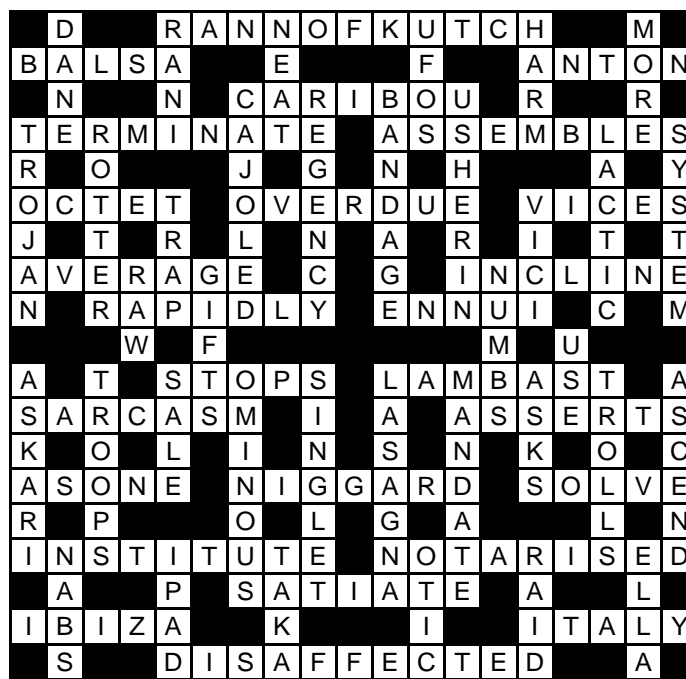
Every other West transferred into hearts and EW either ended up in an unmakeable 3♥ or 4♥, or else allowed North to play in 3♦. Klukowski decided that 3NT was the best shot at game. How right he was! South led the ♠Q, and when North played the ♠7, East, Jacek Kalita, played a deceptive ♠8. You can hardly blame South for continuing the suit – and Kalita had his nine tricks.

**SUNDAY CROSSWORD – 1168**

- ACROSS:**
- Facet (6)
  - Hurried or quick (5)
  - Spoke (6)
  - Plead, solicit or supplicate (7)
  - Little devil (3)
  - A loud outcry (7)
  - Fall in the winter (4)
  - And so on abbr. (3)
  - Wayside taverns (4)
  - Lonesome; isolated (8)
  - Elongate, extend or draw out (8)
  - By that very fact (Latin phrase) (4,5)
  - Wounds or tears roughly (9)
  - US water-side worker (9)
  - Uncomfortable (3-2-4)
  - Lawyer's jargon (8)
  - Telling with confidence (8)
  - Hebrew measure - "pa he" (4)
  - Purse or a satchel (3)
  - Luxuriant in growth (4)
  - Escape of information (7)
  - Tune (3)
  - Otalgia (7)
  - Nun (6)
  - Exclude (5)
  - Makeshift shed (4-2)
- DOWN:**
- Lie in wait (6)
  - Cuban cash (4)
  - Capital of Tamil Nadu (7)
  - Comply (5,2)
  - Representative (7)
  - Opposing (7)
  - Door handle (4)
  - Sad and mournful songs (6)
  - Astronaut: Kalpana \_\_\_ (6)
  - Director's word (6)
  - Made slightly damp (9)
  - Holds in check (9)
  - Makes slow or late (7)
  - Makes possible or easy (7)
  - Wash out in water (5)
  - Bone prefix (5)
  - Enemy (3)
  - Decay (3)
  - Mollify or pacify (7)
  - Glossy coating (6)
  - Hug (7)
  - Country in NW Africa (7)
  - Precious metal (6)
  - In \_\_\_ : on stand-by? (7)
  - Grown-ups (6)
  - Got by (4,2)
  - Beams of light (4)
  - Examine (4)



**SOLUTION FOR CROSSWORD - 1167**



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**Answer for last week's**

**CROSSWORD JIGSAW**



**STRIKE OUT**





# 'AAMIR KHAN HAS NO CLUE ABOUT AZAD'S SCHOOL'

**SAYS KIRAN RAO, THE ACTOR'S FORMER WIFE**

Throwing light on superstar Aamir Khan's parenting style, his former wife Kiran Rao has said: "Aamir has no clue about school." Rao was speaking to Kareena Kapoor on the chat show *What Women Want*. She co-parents her son, Azad, with Aamir Khan and gave a glimpse into how it works for them. "It's tricky. He is a very busy father. Honestly, even when we were married, I was doing a lot of the actual primary parenting. Once we got sepa-

rated and then divorced, I think Aamir also sort of realised how much of that he will have to factor into his life because when you are living together in the same house, it somehow gets managed. But, in order to make time for Azad, it became much more of a conscious decision recently." Rao added that co-parenting has become smoother as Aamir is more involved now. In an earlier

interview, Aamir had expressed regret about not being there for his children. Rao said that she is lucky that Azad is a good kid which made single parenting easier for her. She added that her parents step in when she wants some me-time.

## AS ASH TURNS 51... ABHISHEK'S SILENCE IS NOTICED BY ALL



Aishwarya Rai Bachchan turned 51 on Nov 1st. However, unlike previous years, there was no affectionate birthday wish for her from her husband Abhishek Bachchan on social media, adding fuel to rumours that all is not well between them. On Aishwarya's 50th birthday last year, Abhishek's brief "Happy Birthday" message had gone viral for its "lack of warmth".

Speculation about the state of their marriage has been rife ever since the couple were seen making separate entries at events, which were further fuelled by Aishwarya and her daughter Aaradhya moving out of the Bachchans' Juhu residence to live with her mother. According to sources, the move was temporary since her mother had not been keeping well. But as per Bollywood's overactive grapevine, the couple has been having issues for a while now.

Aishwarya had posted a birthday greeting for father-in-law Amitabh Bachchan on daughter Aaradhya's behalf on Oct 11.

Aishwarya was last seen at the SIMA awards in Abu Dhabi, with her daughter. When asked why Aaradhya was always with her, she retorted, "she is my daughter; she goes everywhere with me." Aishwarya and Abhishek were married in April 2007.

**AS PER BOLLYWOOD'S OVERACTIVE GRAPEVINE, THE COUPLE HAS BEEN HAVING ISSUES FOR A WHILE NOW.**



## DEEPIKA INTRODUCES DAUGHTER DUA

Her name means 'prayer'



Deepika Padukone and Ranveer Singh's fans received a special treat after the actress revealed their daughter's name in an Instagram post. With an adorable photo that showed tiny baby feet, Padukone wrote: "Dua Padukone Singh/ 'Dua': meaning a Prayer/ Because She is the Answer to our Prayers / Our hearts are filled with Love & Gratitude." (sic).

Dua Padukone Singh is the latest star kid to hit the block. The photo of the baby's feet dressed in ethnic wear and resting in her mother's lap has earned love from fans worldwide. Many celebrities like Alia Bhatt, Malaika Arora and Rakul Preet Singh reacted to the photo by dropping heart emojis.