

THE TIMES OF INDIA

INCLUSIVE OF HYDERABAD TIMES (FOR METRO ONLY) | TIMESOFINDIA.COM | EPAPER.TIMESOFINDIA.COM
To advertise with us, call 1800 120 5474 | To order your copy, call 1800 1200 004 toll free or visit - subscribe.timesgroup.com

INDIA'S LARGEST ENGLISH NEWSPAPER

Discovery

TONIGHT AT 9PM

AN UNMISSABLE ADVENTURE, IN THE LAP OF NATURE.

Marching Ants



HAVELLS **IndianOil**

CO-PRESENTS

MAN VS. WILD

CO-POWERED BY

FOGG **policy bazaar** **PharmEasy** **BYJU'S**
The Learning App

WITH BEAR GRYLLS AND
PRIME MINISTER MODI

GLOBAL PREMIERE

COMING SOON ON **NETFLIX**

CO-PRESENTED BY

HAVELLS **IndianOil**

CO-POWERED BY

FOGG **policy bazaar** **PharmEasy** **BYJU'S**
The Learning App

ASSOCIATE SPONSORS

OJK CASH ON CAR **Lenovo** **Sleepwell** **RENAULT**

dishtv - 803 | **TATA sky** - 714 | **airtel** - 420 | **dish** - 441 | **SUN** - 540 | **5T** - 455 | **hathway** - 422 | **SSC** - 352 | **b** - 404 | **GTPL** - 571



Great content deserves a great TV

Get Amazon Prime, Netflix & YouTube enhanced with VOD Upscaler

Shortcut keys on the Remote



Elite Picture

With HDR10 + High Bright 4K panel
+ Adaptive Contrast
+ Digital MPEG Noise Reduction



Elite Connectivity

Vu Linux Smart OS



Elite Sound

With Build-in Dolby Audio &
DTS Sound Technologies



Elite Experience

With Premium Licensed Apps
on Remote Hotkeys



Available Size: 165cm (65) | 190cm (75)

Quantum Pixelight Optical Layer • 1000+ nits Peaking Brightness
4K HDR Supreme • Dolby & DBX-TV Surround Sound
Pure Metal Industrial Design • License YouTube & Netflix



Available Size: 165cms (65) | 140cm (55) | 127cm (50) | 108cm (43)

VOD Upscaler Technology • Dolby Sound with In-Built Woofer
4K HDR10 IPS Panel • iSmart Control, Screen Mirroring
Premium Titanium Grey Aesthetics • High Dynamic Contrast



Available Size: 165cm (65) | 140cm (55) | 127cm (50) | 108cm (43)

VOD Upscaler Technology • DBX-TV Surround Sound Technologies
Dolby Vision & HDR10 • Official Android Oreo 8.0 Smart OS
Premium Titanium Grey Aesthetics • Vu ActiVoice Remote

INDEPENDENCE DAY OFFER



HYDERABAD: DISTRIBUTOR - MALAKPET MITTAPALLY ENTERPRISES - 9866010649.

RETAILERS: S.D.ROAD, VAL TECHNOLOGIES PVT. LTD. - 9848018884 | K.P.H.B. COLONY, REDWIND - 9550983913/9964529032 | MEHDIPATNAM, EMPRO ENTERPRISES - 9000995836/9248018050
R.P. ROAD, SHAH'S ELECTRONICS & HOME APPLIANCES PVT. LTD. - 9885800001/2 | R.P. ROAD, PIRGAL'S HOUSE OF ELECTRONICS & HOME APPLIANCES - 9849550478/9652549399

SANATH NAGAR, SUNRISE ENTERPRISES - 9000569101 | HIMAYATH NAGAR, KUNDAN ELECTRONICS - 966998865/9030070040 | KOTI, PINKY ELECTRONICS - 9603522487/ 9951801977 | AMEERPET, ADITH ELECTRONICS - 9848686123
RAMANTHAPUR, OM KAMAL ELECTRONICS - 9666869975

Disclaimer : The product images, design and specifications are subject to change without prior notice. Technology, features and specifications may vary from model to model. Color shades may vary due to printing restrictions

THE TIMES OF INDIA

INCLUSIVE OF HYDERABAD TIMES (FOR METRO ONLY) | TIMESOFINDIA.COM | EPAPER.TIMESOFINDIA.COM
 To advertise with us, call 1800 120 5474 | To order your copy, call 1800 1200 004 toll free or visit - subscribe.timesgroup.com

INDIA'S LARGEST ENGLISH NEWSPAPER

TAKE HOME ANY PRODUCT AT ₹1 AND PAY THE BALANCE AMOUNT WITHIN 24 MONTHS WITH ZERO INTEREST EMI

1 PAY JUST ONE ₹ RUPEE*

FOR INSTANT APPROVALS PLEASE WALK-IN WITH YOUR ID PROOF, ADDRESS PROOF & CHEQUE LEAF

BAJAJ FINSERV
GIVE A MISSED CALL ON 8744020333 TO KNOW YOUR PRE-APPROVED LIMIT

SHOP ON EASY EMI's GET ₹8,000* CASH VOUCHERS

HDFC BANK We understand your world
HDB FINANCIAL SERVICES
TATA CAPITAL **IDFC FIRST Bank**

*T&C Apply

SAMSUNG
One giant leap for reality
QLED 8K

Available on QLED & 4K UHD (55" & above models)

up to **10% Cashback***

0 Down Payment (subject to T&C)

10 Year up to 100% Burn-in Warranty

2 Year Warranty (1 Year Extended Warranty on Panel)

Available on QLED 45" 4K & 55" & 4K UHD 55" 4K & 75"

amazon.in/plus **MI** **AKAI**

LG OLED TV AI ThinQ™

BRING ANY OLD TV AND GET **MEGA EXCHANGE BENEFITS**

Up to **10% CASH BACK*** ON CREDIT / DEBIT CARDS

FIXED EMI* Starting from ₹2999

2 YEAR WARRANTY

New with Google Assistant™ | hotstar

SONY
Live the stadium feel
Like the picture. Sound directly from the screen.

BRAVIA OLED

X1 Acoustic Surface™ | TRILAYER™ PROCESSOR | Android TV™ | Google Assistant™ | Alexa™ | Apple TV™

ABF - A new TV experience awakens

10% CASHBACK*

SPECIAL FINANCE OFFERS AVAILABLE!

55" 4K
RANGE STARTS FROM **₹55,990/-***

SAMSUNG LG SONY Panasonic MI AKAI

43" 4K
RANGE STARTS FROM **₹38,990/-***

SAMSUNG LG SONY Panasonic MI AKAI

32"
RANGE STARTS FROM **₹11,990/-***

SAMSUNG LG SONY Panasonic MI AKAI

SAMSUNG SIDE BY SIDE

Up to **10% ADDITIONAL CASHBACK ON SELECT PREMIUM PRODUCTS**

MI **AKAI** **HDFC BANK** **ICICI BANK**

LG SIDE BY SIDE

Up to **10% ADDITIONAL CASHBACK ON SELECT PREMIUM PRODUCTS**

Get a 4K, 65cm Refrigerator on select models **FREE!**

HDFC BANK **ICICI BANK** **Standard Chartered** **Axis Bank** **SBI** **The City Union Bank**

DOUBLE DOOR **SINGLE DOOR**

REFRIGERATOR RANGE STARTS FROM ₹12,790/-*

Whirlpool goody LG SAMSUNG

VOLTAS goody

DEEP FREEZER AVAILABLE

- Aesthetic soft look design
- Castor wheels for easy mobility
- Pre-coated body for glossy finish
- Signal indicator for storage protection
- Door lock for restricted accessibility
- Sunken handle for safer operation



BAJAJ ELECTRONICS

SINCE 1983

LG

Up to **10%** ASSURED CASHBACK ON PURCHASE OF LG WASHING MACHINE

FREE VACUUM CLEANER (VK3381WNT)

FREE MICROWAVE OVEN (MC2043D6) or (MC2046S1)

SAMSUNG

Up to **15%** ASSURED CASHBACK ON PURCHASE OF SAMSUNG FRONT LOAD WASHING MACHINE

AXIS BANK | FEDERAL BANK | HDFC BANK | ICICI BANK

FRONT LOAD | **TOP LOAD** | **SEMI AUTOMATIC**

WASHING MACHINES

RANGE STARTS FROM **₹8,990/-***

Whirlpool | Panasonic | IFB | LG | SAMSUNG | BOSCH

25 LITRES

WATER HEATERS

RANGE STARTS FROM **₹10,299/-***

USHR | AC Smith | BAJAJ | DIXON

15 LITRES

WATER HEATERS

RANGE STARTS FROM **₹5,999/-***

USHR | AC Smith | BAJAJ | DIXON

10 LITRES

WATER HEATERS

RANGE STARTS FROM **₹5,499/-***

USHR | AC Smith | BAJAJ | DIXON

30GRAM SILVER COIN & 1.5 L KETTLE FREE

pureit

FREE GIFT WORTH ₹3,000 (SERVICE AMC FOR 3 YEARS)*

KENT

₹3,000 CASHBACK ON EXCHANGE

AC Smith

FREE PERSONAL WATER PURIFIER

EUREKA FORBES

up to 5% CASHBACK WORTH ₹4,200 MAINTENANCE FREE

LG

WATER PURIFIER RANGE STARTS FROM ₹13,990/-*

SAMSUNG

SAMSUNG GALAXY A80

Own now at **₹3,554**

₹3,000 EXCHANGE BONUS (OR)

ZERO DOWN PAYMENT INTEREST PROCESSING FEE

citi 5% cashback on Citi Credit Cards

OnePlus 6⁺

Unlock The Speed

₹500 GIFT VOUCHER AND EASY FINANCE OPTIONS AVAILABLE

In Display Fingerprint Screen Unlock | 16 + 20 MP Dual Camera Capture the Night | Snapdragon™ 855, up to 8 GB RAM Fast and Smooth

vivo

S1 32MP AVAILABLE NOW

VIVO S1 - 6+64 GB

MRP ₹19,990/-

SPECIAL PRICE ₹17,990/-

7.5% **HDFC BANK** Cashback

• 32MP Selfie Camera
• Flash In-Display Fingerprint
• 4500mah Battery
• 18W Dual-Engine Fast Charging

oppo

PRICE DROP

F11 PRO - 6+128 GB	F11 - 6+128 GB	F11 - 4+128 GB
OLD PRICE ₹23,990/-	OLD PRICE ₹19,990/-	OLD PRICE ₹17,990/-
NEW PRICE ₹21,990/-	NEW PRICE ₹17,990/-	NEW PRICE ₹16,990/-

BAJAJ ELECTRONICS

SINCE 1983

A. S. RAO NAGAR | ABIDS | ATTAPUR PILLAR NO 138 | BANJARA HILLS | BN REDDY NAGAR | BODUPPAL | CHANDA NAGAR | CHINTAL | DILSUKHNAGAR | ECIL | FORUM MALL | GACHIBOWLI | HABSIGUDA | HAYATHNAGAR | JUBILEE HILLS | KARMANGHAT | KOMPALLY | KONDAPUR | KOTHAPET | KUKATPALLY | LAKDI-KA-POOL | M. G. ROAD | MADIMAGUDA | MALAKPET | MIYAPUR | NACHARAM | NAGOLE | NALLAKUNTA | NIZAMPET | PUNJAGUTTA | RAJENDRA NAGAR PILLAR NO 215 | RAMANTHAPUR | RC PURAM | RTC 'X' ROAD | SHAH ALI BANDA | SUN CITY | TOLICHOWKI | VANASTHALIPURAM

GAJUWAKA | GUNTUR | KARIMNAGAR | KHAMMAM | MAHBOOB NAGAR | NELLORE | RAJAHMUNDRY | TIRUPATI | VIJAYWADA | VIZAG | WARANGAL

Bajaj Electronics - A Trademark of Electronics Mart India Ltd. CIN No: U52902TG2018PLC02690. Regd. Office: 6-1-01, Shop No. 10, Ground Floor, Next to Telephone Bazaar, Seetabari Road, Hyderabad - 500002. Corporate Office: M. No. 6-3-466/1 to 7, 3rd Floor, Opp. NIMS Hospital, Pangutta Main Road, Hyderabad - 500092. Email: communications@bajajelectronics.in

*Terms and Conditions Apply: On selected Samsung products only. TS days offer is under the EMI offer. EMI and approval of EMI is at the sole discretion of the finance company and the decision of the finance company management is final. 0% finance is available on selected models and brands only. 0% finance on mobiles and laptops are only for limited period. Finance offer is not valid for products below Rs. 30,000/- Finance offer is not applicable on Samsung & LG Products. Free gifts are not applicable on Laptops, Mobiles, Home Appliances and Kitchen Appliances. Product images shown here are only for demonstration purposes. Please check the products before purchase. Cashback offer is applicable for Bajaj Finance customers. Offer is applicable on True Bajaj Finance on select models and brands not applicable on Sony, Samsung and LG products. *Free gift is applicable on select brands and products and is not applicable on mobiles and laptops.

For corporate bookings or bulk orders, please email us at corporatesales@bajajelectronics.in



THE TIMES OF INDIA

zomato
Presents **HAPPYTIMES**
Everyday, 2500 winners get upto ₹ 200 off from Zomato.
Now, everyone wins!
How? Every Happy Times points to **TIMESPOINTS** on www.toihappytimes.com & unlock assured rewards.
T&Cs Apply www.toihappytimes.com

INCLUSIVE OF HYDERABAD TIMES (FOR METRO ONLY) | TIMESOFINDIA.COM | EPAPER.TIMESOFINDIA.COM
To advertise with us, call 1800 120 5474 | To order your copy, call 1800 1200 004 toll free or visit - subscribe.timesgroup.com

KOHLI BREAKS 26-YR-OLD RECORD OF MIANDAD, BECOMES HIGHEST RUN-SCORER AGAINST WI IN ODIS 14

GOTABAYA, RAJAPAKSA'S BROTHER & WARTIME DEF SECY, IN SL PREZ RACE II

skip cooking. get straight to the eating!
zomato NO WAITING AUGUST
Answer 2 simple questions correctly to win e-vouchers the same day.
To participate, SMS your <CITY> <SPACE> A1 <SPACE> <Answer 1> <SPACE> A2 <SPACE> <Answer 2> to 8745966661

TODAY'S HAPPY TIMES Q1. Who is India's external affairs minister? **READ** Q2. Who do Bengal Warriors take on in Pro Kabaddi today? **WIN** Weekly, monthly draws for Croma Vouchers & Cars. **T&Cs Apply** www.toihappytimes.com



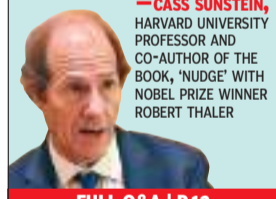
Constable Pruthvirajsinh Jadeja carries two children to safety in flood-hit Morbi district of Gujarat. The flood toll rose to 174 on Sunday, with 11 more dead in Gujarat, 15 in Kerala and seven in Karnataka | P 7

Vedanta chief's family trust joins bid for Jet

Mining and metal baron Anil Agarwal's family trust, Volcan Investments (VI), has submitted an expression of interest (EOI) to revive grounded Jet Airways. The trust said the move is "exploratory" in nature and the "EOI is in no way linked to Vedanta". Three international entities — including Panama-based fund Avantulo Group and VI — had submitted their bids for Jet by Saturday. The resolution professional will decide on the eligibility of bids by Tuesday. **P 12**

TOI INTERVIEW
Stopping open defecation has been one of the greatest achievements of the last 25 years in any country

One thing I am particularly excited about for India is... the opportunity to help people find healthier, cleaner solutions, that reduce risks children face. In sheer magnitude, that opportunity is probably unequalled anywhere



FULL Q&A | P 12

Unnao case: CBI to question SHO

The CBI is set to question the SHO of the Makhli police station for delay in registering an FIR on a complaint by the Unnao rape survivor's mother against key accused MLA Kuldeep Singh Sengar's brother and his aides. **P 7**

Ratul Puri's house attacked

As part of its probe into money laundering in the AgustaWestland case, the income tax department has attached a Rs 300-crore bungalow and fixed deposits worth crores of rupees of Kamal Nath's nephew Ratul Puri in Lutyens' Delhi. **P 6**

Namaz in nearby mosques but no large gatherings for Eid in Kashmir

Sec 144 To Be Strictly Enforced After Prayers

Saleem Pandit & Bharti Jain

Srinagar/New Delhi: Jammu and Kashmir is bracing for a tense Eid as the administration has decided to allow namaz at neighbourhood mosques but will not permit large congregations and worship at bigger masjids due to concerns that trouble makers may infiltrate such gatherings.

The buzz and activity a day ahead of Eid, even though major shops and business establishments remained closed, will give way to a more regulated situation on Monday. On Sunday though, markets were abuzz with shoppers mostly purchasing sheep and goats for the religious obligation of sacrificing the animal on Eid-ul-Zuha on Monday.

The police, keen to ensure that Eid passes off without incident, made announcements through loudspeakers from their vehicles for re-imposition of Section 144. There were reports of stone-pelting in downtown Srinagar too which made the security forces more cautious.

In Kashmir, there will be no further relaxation in communications on Eid. Restrictions on landlines, mobile, internet, broadband will continue as they are, said sources in J&K police. Movement of people, which was allowed to facilitate pre-Eid shopping, will not be permitted on Monday. Prayers in the morning will be facilitated at "area mosques". The restriction on movement of residents is intended to prevent "unlawful assembly" that can turn into a stone-pelting mob. "There is a need to take more precautions on Eid as there will be readymade crowds," said a senior official.

Security forces are wary of large crowds at big mosques or large prayer grounds like Eidgah, Jamia Masjid and Hazratbal. In Jammu, Section 144 has been lifted from all 10 districts. However, three-four towns, including Kishtwar, Bhaderwah and Poonch, will see restrictions under Section 144 for Eid.

Security forces are wary of large crowds at big mosques or large prayer grounds like Eidgah, Jamia Masjid and Hazratbal. In Jammu, Section 144 has been lifted from all 10 districts. However, three-four towns, including Kishtwar, Bhaderwah and Poonch, will see restrictions under Section 144 for Eid.



Women at a protest in Srinagar on Sunday. Restrictions eased ahead of Eid will be back in place today

Was hesitant about J&K bill in RS as we don't have majority: Shah

Union home minister Amit Shah on Sunday said he had apprehensions about how the Rajya Sabha would react to the Kashmir Reorganisation Bill, scrapping the special status of J&K, reports **B Sivakumar**. "I was hesitant as NDA does not have a majority in the Upper House," Shah said while speaking at the launch of a book on VP Venkaiah Naidu. He said he had doubts even on the day when the bill was moved. "Still I decided we will take the bill first to RS and after that to LS," he said. He said the law would end terror in J&K. **P 8**

Omar shifted from guest house after argument with Mehbooba

An argument between former J&K chief ministers Omar Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti, who were in detention at Hari Niwas Palace in Srinagar, got so nasty last week that the two have now been kept in different places, an official revealed. Omar has been shifted to "a splendid hut" owned and maintained by the forest department in Cheshmashahi, at the foot of Mahadev Peak. "Both were accusing each other of getting BJP into J&K," said the official, reports **Saleem Pandit**. **P 8**

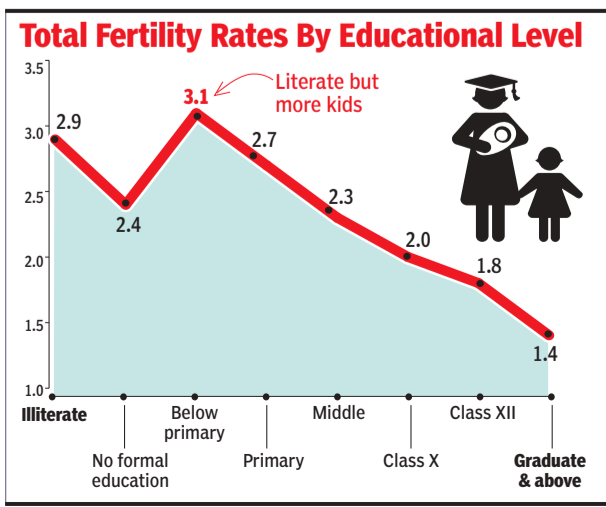
Security forces are wary of large crowds at big mosques or large prayer grounds like Eidgah, Jamia Masjid and Hazratbal. In Jammu, Section 144 has been lifted from all 10 districts. However, three-four towns, including Kishtwar, Bhaderwah and Poonch, will see restrictions under Section 144 for Eid.

Security forces are wary of large crowds at big mosques or large prayer grounds like Eidgah, Jamia Masjid and Hazratbal. In Jammu, Section 144 has been lifted from all 10 districts. However, three-four towns, including Kishtwar, Bhaderwah and Poonch, will see restrictions under Section 144 for Eid.

In reducing fertility, a little education may be worse than none, shows data

Rema Nagarajan @timesgroup.com

The higher the educational level of a woman, the lower the total number of children she will have, according to conventional wisdom. However, recently released official data from 2017 on the total fertility rate (TFR) or the average number of children born to a woman over her lifetime shows the connection may be more complex. For one, the culture of a state might be a greater determinant of fertility with illiterate rural women in Tamil Nadu having a lower fertility rate than urban graduates in UP.



There's also a consistent pattern across states of illiterate women and those with no formal education having lower fertility rates than those with below primary level education. It raises the question — does little education actually lead to a higher TFR? Is a threshold number of years of education required to reduce fertility? Experts say this pattern — referred to as "inverted-J" — has been observed in other countries. However, they caution this pattern in 2017 data for India and to some extent in 2016 data can't be taken as significant unless it stays for 4-5 years.

► 4.4 TFR of literate in Bihar: P 7

Man objects to WhatsApp msg, lynched

Salim Ahmad, 20, paid with his life when he confronted a youth for sending him a sleazy video message on WhatsApp. The accused and his six cousins allegedly thrashed Salim to death in Muzaffarnagar's Sherkot area on Saturday evening. All the accused are absconding. Cops said that this was not for the first time when they had got into a spat. They allegedly had a rivalry over some other matter also, police said. **P 7**

RSS Muslim wing to hoist tricolour in T

Members of the Muslim Rashtriya Manch (MRM), a wing of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), will fan out all over Telangana and hoist the tricolour on Aug 15 marking India's 72nd Independence Day. The national flag will be hoisted at about 700 locations in the state. They will also burn the effigy of Pakistan PM Imran Khan on Aug 14, Pakistan's Independence Day. **P 4**

Zomato in beef, pork row with delivery execs

Zomato is in the eye of a storm again after a week-long protest by a few hundred delivery executives of Zomato in north Howrah, demanding a pay revision and the right to refuse delivery of pork and beef packets, received unstinted support of two Trinamool ministers from Howrah on Sunday. A protest that began for pay revision, with protesting delivery executives claiming that a delivery trip that fetched them Rs 80 was revised to Rs 25 a trip, soon assumed religious tones with the Hindu and Muslim delivery executives raising their voice for being made to deliver beef, or pork, respectively. **P 6**

Man beheads estranged wife, dumps head into rivulet in Vij

Srikanth.Aluri@timesgroup.com

Vijayawada: A man beheaded his estranged wife, carried her head with him and later threw it in a rivulet that carries most of the city's sewage in Vijayawada on Sunday afternoon. The victim Gopisetti Mani Kranti (26), a nurse, and accused Peteti Pradeep Kumar (30) were from different castes and had married about five years ago after convincing their parents. The couple, who had a falling out later, had filed multiple police complaints against each other and were fighting a divorce case.

Pradeep, who was arrested recently after his wife filed a complaint that he was threatening her, had come out on bail on Saturday. And on Sunday he waited for Mani Kranti outside her house and attacked her when she returned from shopping even as her mother tried to intervene. He beheaded her in full public view and then dumped her head into Budameru, a rivulet that flows through the city.

GORY CRIME

Police said Mani Kranti and Pradeep worked in the same hospital and were a happy couple for a couple of years, but frequent disputes led to the victim filing seven complaints and the accused lodging four complaints. While the divorce proceedings are in the final stage of hearing, Pradeep again started threaten

ing her, leading to his arrest recently. Police with the help of State Disaster Response Force (SDRF) launched a search operation in Budameru to trace the head and the murder weapon. Deputy commissioner of police (DCP) Ch Vijaya Rao, who visited the crime scene, said that Pradeep tried to flee from the city but a traffic constable noticed him and alerted cops who took him into custody.

Mani Kranti's mother along with relatives later held a protest with the body at the crime scene. They alleged that cops had failed to protect her despite several complaints. Cops have booked Pradeep under IPC Section 302 (murder).

15-yr-old girl kills self after bike ride with 2 ends in rape

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: A 15-year-old student, who was allegedly gangraped on Saturday by two persons, including a minor, committed suicide at her residence in Warangal on Sunday. Hours later, the two culprits were taken into custody.

Warangal police said the minor girl, a Class 9 student, hanged herself from the ceiling when her grandmother went out to the washroom. On Saturday morning, the culprits, who were acquaintances of the girl, went to her residence and took her on a bike for a ride, Warangal police said. She was reportedly taken to the outskirts of Warangal and allegedly gangraped by the duo, including the 16-year-old boy. In the evening, the two dropped her near her residence, police added. When the grandmother of the girl asked about her long absence and her torn dress,

the girl narrated her ordeal. According to the grandmother, the girl had told her on Saturday night that the accused should get strict punishment.

On Sunday morning, when the grandmother went to the washroom, the minor girl committed suicide. After the elderly woman discovered the girl's body, she alerted locals, who in turn called the police. During investigation, the girl's grandmother narrated the sequence of events since Saturday which allegedly pushed the minor girl to commit suicide. The girl's father had died a few years ago and she was staying with her grandmother. Though she did not leave any suicide note, based on a complaint lodged by her grandmother a case was registered under the Sections 376 (rape) and 306 (abetment to suicide) of the IPC, Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act by Kakatiya University police.

Hyderabad too bright, leads in light pollution

Flashy lights and high intensity outdoor lights, including LEDs, have earned Hyderabad the dubious distinction of being the brightest city in the country, according to a research paper published in the peer-reviewed 'International Journal of Advanced Research'. Result: Sleep disorders and other health risks such as obesity, depression and diabetes in humans and nocturnal animals too, reports **Preeti Biswas**.

According to the research paper, authored by Prof Siba Prasad Mishra of civil engineering department, Centurion University of Technology and Management, Bhubaneswar, Hyderabad has highest "light pollution in India" with artificial brightness of 7,790 cd/m² (unit of luminous intensity per square metre) followed by Kolkata 7,480 cd/m² and New Delhi 7,270 cd/m² respectively. Bhubaneswar recorded lowest, 2910 cd/m². The researcher studied satellite maps of eight cities to measure brightness of the night sky between 2014 and 2017. **P 2**



Light pollution: Hyd LEDs the way

Pic: P. Ajikumar



SOLUTIONS TO LIGHT POLLUTION

LIMITED USAGE | Protect detrimental light sources such as radio lights, X-rays and laser lights, which are injurious to vision; limit use of fluorescent lamps, LEDs, sodium lights and CFL.

SHIELDING | Shield the light with a solid cap above the bulb that avoids light being exposed directly upward. Use only indispensable quantity of illumination and switch off redundant lighting decorative flood lights, fluorescent lights for advertising late at night

SENSORS | Motion sensors must be installed in street and lawn lights; test the signal and motion detector's sensitivity depending upon its necessity

APPROPRIATE USAGE | White light sources, such as metal halides, CFLs or LEDs, must be used with precaution; illuminating systems such as chandeliers, flash lights, revolving lights in circus and lighthouses of ports should be mounted at low angles to minimize light pollution

Excess Bright Nights Poses Health Risks: Research Paper

Preeti.Biswas@timesgroup.com

Flashy lights and high intensity outdoor lights, including LEDs, have earned Hyderabad the dubious distinction of being the brightest city in the country, according to a research paper published in the peer-reviewed 'International Journal of Advanced Research'. Result: Sleep disorders and other health risks such as obesity, depression and diabetes in humans. It affects nocturnal animals too.

The research paper, authored by Prof Siba Prasad Mishra of civil engineering department, Centurion University of Technology and Management, Bhubaneswar, states Hyderabad has highest "light pollution in India" with artificial brightness of 7,790 µcd/m² (unit of luminous intensity per square metre) followed by Kolkata at 7,480 µcd/m² and New Delhi at 7,270 µcd/m². Bhubaneswar recorded lowest at 2910 µcd/m².

The researcher studied satellite maps of eight cities to measure brightness of the night sky between 2014 and 2017. Radiance of these cities revealed that light pollution in Hyderabad, New Delhi, Chennai, Mumbai and Ahmedabad had increased by 102.23% during 2014-2017.

"Excess artificial light or light pol-

THE DARK TRUTHS OF BRIGHT LIGHTS

WHAT IS LIGHT POLLUTION?

Light pollution is described by National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) as overuse or misuse of artificial light

Light pollution results from any artificial light that includes wasteful, obtrusive, misdirected, inappropriate, invasive and redundant lights constituting photons and illuminants at night

Light pollution also includes over-illumination, glare, sluggish light, clutter, light trespass, smog and sky glow

THE HEAVY PRICE OF TOO MUCH LIGHT

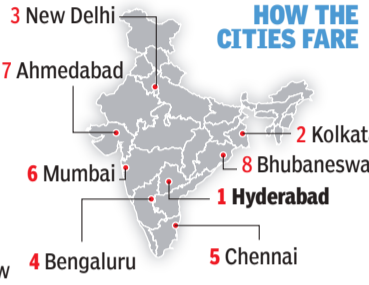
Light plays an integral role in photosynthesis, helps organisms heal and recuperate, maintain spatial orientation and visual perception.

Exposure to excessive photons causes disruption in circadian rhythm related activities like sleep and reproduction.

Excessive lighting causes sleep disorders and other health risks such as obesity, depression, diabetes, breast cancer among others.

Excess artificial light can disrupt the seasonal cycle of flowering, fruiting and yield of the plant leading to seasonally affective disorder of plants

Light pollution induces the air pollution



lution is one from the specific destructive disorder like over-illumination, glare, light clutter, sky glow and light trespass that harms the living kingdom," the researcher said, adding the ratio of natural radiance to artificial one has increased substantially in Hyderabad.

While light pollution does not raise alarm that air or water pollution does, the paper warned that Hyderabad has lost its night sky posing health risk for denizens. Excessive lighting in outdoor areas could cause a lot of glare and impact visibility of

drivers and pedestrians. "Although LEDs are being promoted as an environment-friendly option, they are harmful for humans. Long-term and excessive usage of LED lights can result in disturbance in vision and people may find difficulty in appreciating colours," said Dr Jyotsna Myneni, ophthalmologist at KIMS Hospital.

Light pollution also affects birds and nocturnal animals as it disturbs their migration route and time table, nest building schedule and sense of direction. "Frogs stopped singing before mating," the researcher said.

"Light pollution causes physiological stress on bats among other nocturnal animals. Due to street lights and ambient light coming out of industries and residential areas, nocturnal animals are not travelling too far due to light shyness," said Srinivasulu Chelamala, professor of zoology, Osmania University, and a wildlife biologist.

To curb light pollution, researcher Siba Prasad Mishra said, "It is high time to monitor the radiance, artificial pollution and appropriate steps to ameliorate the LP by framing legislation."

Forum slaps Fortune Group with ₹2.5L fine

Did Not Honour Room Booking, Gift Vouchers

Nirupa.Vatyam @timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: A district consumer forum here has directed Fortune Group of Estates and Services to refund ₹1.48 lakh and pay ₹1 lakh as compensation to a consumer for failing to honour a gift voucher and confirm hotel booking made by the consumer.

Y Sreedhar, the complainant, stated that he had taken up membership at the Fortune Group of Estates and Services in May 2018 by paying ₹1.48 lakh to avail services in affiliated clubs, hotels, resorts, marketing clubs, and holiday membership. He said that at the time of issuing the membership, Fortune Group offered to give a gift voucher for a 7-day package for one of the seven locations listed.

Sreedhar submitted in his complaint that he had opted for a trip to Kashmir on October 29, 2018, and had selected a hotel for November 10, 2018. After booking flight tickets for the tour, he said that he had deposited ₹9,000 towards annual maintenance charges (AMC), as per instructions of the representatives of Fortune Group.

The complainant said that despite paying the money and reminding them of

Fortune Group remained absent despite being served a notice. In addition to the refund and compensation, ₹15, 000 was given towards costs of the complaint.

the booking multiple times, the opposite party failed to send the hotel booking confirmation. Left with no option, he submitted that he had to cancel the flight tickets. Claiming that he couldn't go on the trip because of the opposite party's negligence, he filed the complaint seeking compensation.

During the trial, the bench of Hyderabad III district consumer forum noticed that the purchase agreement, jointly executed by the opposite party and the complainant, clearly showed that a member of the scheme was entitled to holiday package i.e. room at domestic and international destinations.

"Even though the complainant was given a gift voucher, the opposite party failed to provide services to the complainant. Although as per the terms and conditions, the membership fee was non-refundable and it was not a deposit as the opposite party failed to provide services as agreed, there was a deficiency of service on part of the opposite party. So, the complainant is entitled to get a refund and compensation," said the bench.

CRIME FILE

2 detained for theft, extortion

Two persons were detained by Cyberabad police under the Preventive Detention Act. The accused were identified as Mohammed Yousuf (28) and Devadi Balakrishna (20), residents of Parvathnagar and Madhapur. The duo was found to be involved in cases of robberies and extortion. They were involved in three such cases in the span of ten months.

Newborn boy left in garbage

An abandoned newborn baby boy was found in the garbage at Bantaram Mandal head quarters of Vikarabad district. It was found that the baby's umbilical cord was also not cut properly before he was abandoned. The baby was rescued and shifted to hospital for treatment.

1 held for illegal liquor sale

A 45-year-old man was taken into custody for illegally selling liquor at Hastinapur on Sunday. The accused was identified as Pulakanti Raghavreddy, a resident of Shiridisai Nagar.

Student held for selling ganja

A 20-year-old student was caught in Alwal for selling ganja on Sunday. The accused identified as Kunchala Shiva Pradeep was caught in Surya Nagar of Alwal. The officials seized 80 grams of ganja and a bike from his possession.

Sectt revamp: Vaastu bug bites senior Telangana bureaucrats

Mungara.Sunil @timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: After chief minister K Chandrasekhara Rao's cabinet ministers recently spent crores of rupees renovating their ministers' bungalows citing vaastu, the bug now seems to have bitten the senior bureaucrats of Telangana Secretariat, who have been asked to move out to older offices.

Civil works such as demolition of existing chambers, doors, washrooms, and removal of air-conditioners, redoing the electricity network are in full swing at Burgula Rama Krishna Rao Bhavan (BRKR), to provide 'swanky' and spacious chambers. BRKR Bhavan was chosen by the state government as the temporary Secretariat building. Before the work was set into motion, a marathon exercise that involved canvassing of the space and identifying the various vaastu parameters was carried out by officials at BRKR Bhavan. Officials also prepared sketches of the area to ensure smooth flow of work.

The changes involve shifting of office rooms within the building as well. For instance, chief secretary, S K Joshi will occupy the chambers that was earlier used by the D G, Vigilance & Enforcement Department. In fact, the entire General Administration Department (GAD), will be shifted to the same floor.

"As per vaastu, the chief secretary has to sit on the west side of the building facing the east. Accordingly, the officials are renovating the chamber. Apart from his chamber, a mini conference hall with modern facilities, to

TRAFFIC WOES UP CITIZENS' ALLEY

The busiest stretch between Liberty Circle and BRKR Bhavan, enroute GHMC Office, may soon be blocked by traffic cops, reports Sunil Mungara

The traffic restriction is due to the government's move to shift the Secretariat to the BRKR Bhavan, temporarily

The one-way stretch is used by thousand, coming from Liberty circle, Basheerbagh, Hydernagar and adjoining areas on a daily basis.

Work in progress at the Burgula Rama Krishna Rao Bhavan

According to officials, over 20,000 commuters pass through this stretch every day

As BRKR Bhavan does not have a cellar or an active parking area efforts will be taken to provide parking based on the space availability near BRKR Bhavan, a senior traffic cop said

It is a fact that once the officials begins their work at BRKR Bhavan, the traffic problem will go haywire. Keeping this problem in view, an inspection on the existing stretches located around BRKR Bhavan was already done last month and a report was submitted the director general, Special Protection Force (SPF), a source in traffic wing

address and convene meetings with dignitaries and also 'head of departments is being constructed too," a senior official said.

The change was made as astrologers say east symbolizes life as the sun rises in the east direction and that wealth and prosperity are assured if one works facing the east.

In fact, to suit the rules of vaastu, the washrooms, located behind the chief secretary's chamber, are also going to be demolished, according to a senior GAD official.

Simultaneously, work is also being carried out on the

8th floor of the BRKR Bhavan, to facilitate the office of the principal secretary, finance, K Ramakrishna Rao.

Department officials have already made changes to his chamber and the work space of the employees to ensure wealth and smooth functioning of the administration.

The chamber of another principal secretary, Irrigation & CAD, Somesh Kumar, has already been renovated. He will occupy the premises within a day or two, said sources in I&CAD.

The top brass of the Telangana Secretariat will soon occupy their swanky new

chambers at BRKR Bhavan and are likely to begin work in another four to five days.

The temporary Secretariat will function from this premises for at least two years before the new Secretariat comes into play, according to a senior bureaucrat.

However, the government's vaastu fixation has earned brickbats from certain quarters. "The government spending crores of rupees in the name of vaastu is unacceptable. It is public money and shouldn't be spent on their whims and fancies," a city-based social activist, criticised.

Two of gang arrested in currency fraud case

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: Sleuth of Taskforce, East Zone Team, on Sunday arrested two members of a gang, who were found involved in four offences in Hyderabad City and Nizamabad District. Police recovered Rs.1.6 lakh, One Bike, five cell phones and other material from the gang's possession.

The accused were identified as Mohammed Sameeruddin alias Sameer (39) from Bandlaguda and Abdul Rizwan (21), all belonging to Bodhan, Nizamabad District. While other two accused persons, Mohammed Arif and Mujaid, both from Nizamabad districts are still absconding. The gang used attention di-

₹1.6L RECOVERED

verting tactics to commit the crimes. They approached various money transfer and travel agencies who are in the business of exchanging Dirhams to Indian currency. One of the accused would outside the agency and target victims who approached the agencies to exchange and convert Dirhams to Indian currency.

In a recent case, the accused persons approached a victim had in his possession original Dirhams and said that they can help him exchange it to Indian currency. The victim calculated its value and quoted an amount which the accused refused. They then diverted the attention of the victim and exchanged the victim's pouch with a similar looking pouch of their own that contained fake colour xerox copies of Dirhams.

WALROBO: 37 AND COUNTING

KNOW INDIA'S 1ST REMOTE-CONTROLLED BOT

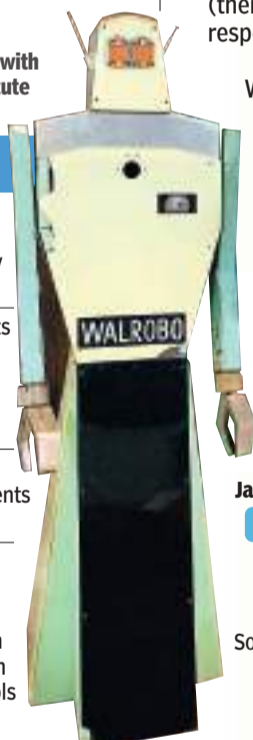
Few days ago, Jayesh Ranjan, principal secretary, industries and commerce, Telangana government, stumbled upon India's first remote-controlled humanoid robot at the Hyderabad Science Society, Gudimalkapur, and tweeted about it. Since then, Walrobo, built in 1982, has generated a lot of interest, with many city residents visiting the institute for a look, reports Arya Sharan

The robot was first exhibited at the India Machine Tool Exhibition (IMTEX) in Mumbai (then Bombay) in 1982. The huge response to a simply mechanical robot was unexpected.

When news spread about the robot, people visited the exhibition in large numbers. The event was even telecast

I took my 10-year-old son to the show. It's nice to know that our city had built something like this so many years ago

Jayesh Ranjan's tweet on August 3 @jayesh_ranjan | Stumbled upon something fascinating...the first ever robot built in our country. Walrobo was built in 1983 by Hyderabad Science Society for an industrial exhibition in Bombay. The Robo is still functional and lives in the HSS office at Gudimalkapur



India's first remote-controlled humanoid robot is 37 years old

Built in 1981 by the Hyderabad Science Society (HSS) for an industrial exhibition held in Bombay (now Mumbai), it is still functional

The robot can walk, move around, shake hands, hold things and move

Its movements are basic, but it was exemplary for a time when it was built

The first robot, which is known as Walrobo 1, is with HSS and maintained by them

The second robot, Walrobo 2, was taken by the of the show in 1982 and is now in their machine tools division in Pune

Passengers protest at RGIA over SpiceJet delay

Preeti.Biswas@timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: Scores of passengers protested at the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (RGIA) on Saturday night after a Delhi-bound SpiceJet flight was delayed by over five hours.

The flight, SG 126, which was scheduled to depart from RGIA at 9:30 pm on August 10, eventually left for its destination at 2:37 am on August 11.

While the airline attributed the inordinate delay to a technical snag and claimed that the fliers were well taken care of in a statement issued to TOI, passengers complaint of chaotic scenes at the airport. Many angry passengers took to social media to express their anguish. In a video

shared by a passenger, fliers are seen raising slogans against the airline at the boarding gate.

"Standard at the runway of Hyderabad airport. The flight was scheduled/depature for 9:30pm dated August 10 and it's been 4 hours, not boarded yet. Worst ever experience with SpiceJet (SG126)," tweeted Surya Saxena, one of the passengers, tagging the aviation minister and seeking action against the airline.

Aggrieved passengers ruded that they were not informed about cause of delay as the airline continued to share misinformation over the departure time. Many complained of the airline failing to offer dinner or refreshments for the initial few hours.

@flyspicejet My SG-126 (Hyd to Delhi) hasn't flown as of now (tweeted at 12.54 am). It was scheduled to fly at 9:30 pm and now you guys are offering refund whereas alternative tickets costs double. Total mockery of travelers time and patience," tweeted Anirudh Mittal, a passenger.

Passengers tweeted that they were boarded into the bus to be taken to the aircraft around 11.15 pm, only to keep them further waiting.

@flyspicejet My wife and 5 year daughter are travelling from Hyderabad to Delhi by SG 126. Departure time was 9:30 pm and now time is 12:30 am and don't know when flight will depart. Really frustrated and concerned," tweeted Rakesh Agrawal.

SUNDAY'S TEMPERATURE

CITY WEATHER

31.8° / 23.3°
MAX / MIN

GENERALLY CLOUDY SKY

SUNDAY'S AVERAGE PPM DATA

AVERAGE VALUE

Location	Value
SANATH NAGAR	19.26
ZOO PARK	14.22
IDA PASHAMYLARAM	NA
BOLLARAM INDUSTRIAL AREA	NA
ICRISAT PATANCHERU	9.32
CENTRAL UNIVERSITY	18.01

GOOD RANGE 0-60µg/m³

Source: Central Pollution Control Board

AVERAGE AQI ACROSS FOUR MAJOR CITIES

(AQI-air quality index) (Data for 24hrs till 4pm on Sunday)

City	AQI
BENGALURU	43
HYDERABAD	44
DELHI	68
CHENNAI	35

WHOLESALE PRICES OF VEGETABLES PER KG

TOMATO	₹22-34	LADY'S FINGERS	₹22-32
POTATO	₹12-17	BRINJAL	₹20-24
BOTTLE GOURD	₹9-12	GREEN CHILLIES	₹20-30

Source: IMD

METRO DIGEST

MLA caught on film beating man

In a video that went viral on Sunday, AIMIM legislator from Karwan, Kausar Mohiuddin was seen hitting a person with stick. The MLA was seen asking the person to apologise for his behavior. Speaking to TOI, the MLA said that the video is an old one and the person in the video was a worker in his office. "He consumed liquor and resorted to nuisance. I am like a guardian to him, I did not hit him hard. I want him to change his behaviour so that he leads a better life," said the legislator. The person who has been beaten up also said that MLA is his guardian and took care of his needs since years.

Abattoirs given closure orders

In view of Bakri-Eid, the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation issued closure orders to all cattle slaughter houses and retail beef shops in its limits on August 12 and August 13. All the shop owners and concerned officials were requested to extend necessary co-operation with the municipal staff, who will be inspecting all the areas in its limits during the two days to keep an eye on any violations.

No rain in city till August 15

The progression of south-west monsoon across Telangana is weak, stated a weather report issued by the Indian Meteorological Department, Hyderabad on Sunday. The IMD, Hyderabad has not issued any rainfall warning till August 15. Absence of rainfall activity across the state has resulted in rise in maximum temperature. Meteorologists predict that rains will make a comeback to all districts only after August 15.

500 participate in marathon trial

Ahead of Airtel Hyderabad Marathon, the Hyderabad Runners held a trial run on Sunday to help runners prepare for the event which will be held on August 24 and 25. Over 500 participated in run flagged off from Necklace Road.

Three road accidents across city claim lives of four, injure 3

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: Four persons died and another three suffered injuries in three separate road accidents which occurred in the city on Saturday and Sunday.

The first accident occurred at 8.30 pm at Kowkor near Jawaharnagar on Saturday when three hotel workers were returning home on a bike after finishing work.

Two of them, Vilas and Venkat, died on the spot when a car coming from the opposite direction rammed into their bike. "Due to the high speed of the vehicle, Vilas and Venkat died on the spot as they suffered severe injuries. The third person, Asif,



suffered a fracture on his leg," said Jawaharnagar sub-inspector Abdul Hayyum.

According to the police, the car crashed into a cement pole after ramming into the bike. The driver had abandoned the vehicle and fled from the spot. He was identified as 33-year-old Abhishek and taken into custody. The driver's blood samples will be analysed for alcohol. Based on the complaint lodged by the vic-

The first incident occurred when three persons riding on a bike were rammed into by a vehicle in the opposite direction. The other two incidents involved the drivers losing control

tims' family members, a case was registered against the accused under sections 304-a and 337 of the Indian Penal Code.

In the second case, a 68-year-old acupuncturist died when his van crashed into a wall at Mansoorabad on Saturday night. The victim, Anil Kumar Waghrey, was driving from Sahara junction to Mansoorabad when he lost control over the vehicle and crashed into a compound wall of

a plot. "The victim suffered severe head injury and died on the spot," LB Nagar police said.

The third incident occurred on Sunday afternoon at Golconda's Ibrahimbagh. 40-year-old Devender Singh died as a result of severe head injuries after he lost control of his two-wheeler while trying to avoid a pothole.

"He suffered severe head injury and was declared brought dead at a local hospital. To avoid running over Devender, an auto rickshaw driver sharply turned his vehicle to right and crashed into the road median. The auto turned turtle. Both driver and the passenger suffered minor injuries," said Golconda inspector K Chandra Sekhar Reddy.

21-year-old from Nampally drowns in Ukraine lake

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: In an unfortunate incident, a 21-year-old from the city, Jaspreet Bhatia, drowned in a lake in Ukraine on Saturday.



He had gone to a park with his friends where he decided to go for a swim in the park's lake. "Soon after he jumped in, he realised that the water was too deep for him to swim. He started struggling inside the water following which his friends sought help from the park's guards. The guards, however, informed them that they did not know how to swim," said the victim's cousin.

One of the victim's friends attempted to save the 21-year-old but he had already drowned by then. Local police came to the spot and retrieved the body and hour after the incident. Jaspreet's family, back home in Nampally, are now awaiting to receive his body. Seeking help from Telangana Rashtra Samithi (TRS) working president K Taraka Rama Rao, the victim's cousin tweeted: "Hi sir! My cousin drowned in Ukraine yesterday. We are awaiting his

Jaspreet had gone to Ukraine to pursue a two-month internship after completing a BBA course from Amity, Mumbai

body in Hyderabad but the process is taking a long time. Request you to please look into it and expedite the process. His name was Jaspreet Bhatia. Let me know what details you require. Thank you." In a separate tweet he cited closure of the embassy as the reason behind the delay in dispatching the body and sought help from union external affairs minister S Jaishankar.

The TRS working president's office soon got in touch with the family members of the deceased and have initiated the process to bring Jaspreet's body back home. "The TRS president has assured the family to coordinate with the Indian embassy and help us get the body back soon. The state government has also offered to bear ambulance expenses," the victim's cousin said.

Jaspreet had gone to Ukraine to pursue a two-month internship after completing a bachelor of business administration course from Mumbai's Amity University.

Lack of awareness keeping snake bite survival rate at less than 30%

Agriculture Labour The Most Susceptible

Amrita.Didya@timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: While the number of snake bite cases in the state remains high year after year, the survival rate of such patients (mostly agricultural labour) remains less than 30 per cent. A total of 1,256 snake bite cases have been recorded in the state this year until mid-July.

The monsoon is known to be the peak season for snake bites as the number of cases from each district increase. A low survival rate in several cases can also be attributed to administration of local treatment, which are mainly based on myths such as placing the patient's head on a rock, giving local herbs among others. Most complicated cases come in only eight hours after the incident.

A large number of cases reaching the Gandhi Hospital are from peripheral rural areas in which survival rates are said to be less than 25 to 30 per cent. Many such cases are krait or cobra bites. "Majority of the cases are agriculture workers who fall prey to snake bites as they do not take any safety precautions. The delay in medical attention is a major issue as anti-snake venom (ASV) is not available in all primary health centres (PHC). ASV needs to be stored in freezers and not all PHCs have them. By the time the patient comes to Gandhi, the venom spreads to the entire body. Indigenous methods such as rubbing metal on the body, scrubbing the fang-marks

AWARENESS THE NEED OF THE HOUR

While the incidents of snake bites has been well documented, the state government's measures to spread awareness on preventing such cases are yet to come about



WHAT'S DELAYING PROPER MEDICAL ATTENTION?

- Indigenous Treatments - Experts say that in several cases, victims are treated using local methods which are largely founded on superstitions such as using herbs, rubbing metals or 'miracle stones' on the bite-area
- Inability To Identify The Snake - Patients can rarely identify and give information about the snake and caregivers typically wait till signs of poisoning appear to identify the type of snake

HOW TO TACKLE THIS?

(In case of agriculture labourers) Wearing gumbots of knee-length is an effective method to prevent snake bites. This method needs to be popularised

— Dr P Shrawan Kumar | SUPERINTENDENT, GANDHI HOSPITAL

EDUCATE TO SPREAD AWARENESS

This is an environmental disease and should be taught to school going children, so that they go back and teach their parents. Basics to follow in a snake bite like not moving the part which has the bite, keeping it straight and transporting with minimal movement to avoid faster circulation of venom are things that need to be taught

— Dr Ashima Sharma | HOD EMERGENCY MEDICINE, NIMS

PUBLIC HEALTH CENTRES LACK ADEQUATE ANTI-VENOM

Although anti snake venom is being given at the community health centres and primary health centres level, the supply of ASV is not adequate to deal with the large number of cases. While each snake bite requires 10 vials of ASV, the supply at the PHC level is limited and often patients have to be redirected to tertiary centres. "While training of physicians at PHCS and paramedics as well as nurses in government residential schools has helped but ASV stock is not sufficient and refilling is still a challenge," says Mujtaba Hasan Askari, from the helping hand foundation

35-year-old man slips into lake, drowns

Hyderabad: A 35-year-old labourer-cum-fisherman died after he slipped and fell into Kokapeta lake while he was fishing along with six other friends. The victim, M Vishnu, a resident of Nalgonda district came to the city only three days ago along with his friends from Nalgonda district for fishing and was residing at temporary shelters near the Kokapeta lake.

On Sunday morning at around 7.30 am, Vishnu along with his friends were fishing, when he slipped and fell into the water and drowned. The body was recovered by 3pm. The body was shifted to Osmania General Hospital and a case of accidental death has been registered. **TNN**

Three girls go missing in Pahadisharif

Hyderabad: Three sisters from Pahadisharif went missing from home on Saturday, while ₹4000 cash was also found missing along with the clothes of the three.

The missing girls were identified as Huda Fatima, 20, Tasleem Fatima, 18, and Tehseen Fatima, 16, daughters of auto driver, Ghouse and his wife Rehana Begum who works at a diagnostic centre in Chandrayangutta.

On Saturday morning, the parents went to work but when the mother returned home in the evening, she found the main door locked from outside. Her daughters, cash and their clothes were missing. A case was registered and police are investigating. **TNN**



NEW PARK FOR FLUFFY PALS

Dog lovers enjoy the company of their fur friends at a meet-and-greet at the recently relocated dog park near Jalavihar Park on Sunday. The dog park was previously located near Jaipal Reddy ghat on Neclace Road

Constable arrested for abusing SC woman

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: A 36-year-old constable under suspension was arrested by Rachakonda police for allegedly outraging the modesty of a woman. The woman had a complaint last week. The accused was working as a constable in Madannapet police station.

According to cops, he had been suspended over a year ago after he took unauthorised leave. "He had outraged the modesty of a 52-year-old woman

who belongs to scheduled caste. The victim is known to the accused," said an officer from Vanasthalipuram police station. On August 7, when the victim was travelling towards her house after getting down from a bus, the accused approached her and harassed her. He is also alleged to have verbally abused the victim and misbehaved with her. A case was registered for outraging the modesty and relevant sections of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.

On Bakrid eve, price of goats hits the roof

Omer Bin Taher

Charminar: Customers in livestock markets in Old City were in a dilemma on Sunday. They were not sure whether to buy sacrificial animals or wait for fresh arrivals from other states. With floods in many states hampering supply, prices of sacrificial animals have gone up by 25-30%. While regular-priced sheep and goats were available, customers were not satisfied as they preferred sacrificial animals, which are healthy and free from diseases.

"We do not understand the logic behind rising livestock prices annually. Last year, I bought a pair of goats for ₹13,000, but this time the animals are being sold for ₹18,000-₹20,000," said Muqtar, a customer.

Traders Babanna and Ghouse said prices were fixed according to the weight and size of goats. Burly goats are picked up by customers for ₹18,000-₹20,000.

Civic body for green measures this Bakrid

Nabinder.Bommala @timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: Civic officials of Khairatabad zone plan to generate wealth from waste this Bakrid. GHMC officials of the zone where the Ziaguda slaughterhouse is situated, have tied up with a private plant to generate poultry feed out of animal waste. "With this, we will also be able to avoid transportation of waste to Jawaharnagar dumpyard and reduce air pollution," said GHMC zonal commissioner of Khairatabad, Musharraf Ali Faruqui.

GHMC has allotted ₹2.43 crore for Bakrid and 3.69 lakh plastic bags will be distributed to people to collect waste and hand it over to sanitation staff. "Of these, 10,000 bags are biodegradable plastic bags," said a top GHMC official. Waste will be disposed with the

help of 94 mini tippers and 50 earth movers. "25-tonne and 10-tonne capacity vehicles will also be pressed into service on Bakrid," the officer added.

In parts of the city, residents are partnering with NGOs to ensure that waste is disposed in a hygienic manner. "On the festival and on the following day, we will distribute 11,000 biodegradable bags. We are a team of 100 volunteers who will reach out to different locations, collect the animal waste and hand it over to civic officials," pointed out Feroz Baig, a resident of Banjara Hills.

Meanwhile, environmental experts have also urged proper disposal of animal waste. City-based expert Prof K Purushottam Reddy said, "In open areas, pits should be dug and the waste should be dumped."

PRIME LAND PARCEL FOR SALE IN "MULTI PURPOSE USE" ZONE NEAR HYDERABAD

Offering prime land parcel with existing structure on "as is where is" basis situated along NH-202, at Ghatkesar (near Hyderabad), Telangana

- Freehold with clear & marketable title
- Located within growth corridor of Outer Ring Road entitled for multipurpose use zone
- Land measuring approx. 25.4 Acres on independent plot survey No. 590, 591, 592, 600, Ghatkesar, Medchal-Malkajgiri district
- Built up area of approx. 13,457 sq. mtr of existing factory structure
- Current use of property is industrial & change of land use is permissible. Almost entire land is classified as 'Special Development zone' for residential, commercial, institutional use etc.

The last date of receiving sealed bids in prescribed bid format at HUL office, Andheri, Mumbai is by 3rd September, 2019

For further details please contact: CBRE South Asia Pvt. Ltd.
SANDEEP +91 99633 08811
 gsandeep.reddy@cbre.co.in
MANOJ +91 99664 82532
 barlapudi.manoj@cbre.com

CIN - U74140DL1999PTC100244

BENNETT UNIVERSITY
TIMES OF INDIA GROUP

3 Year LLB (Honours)

Approved by Bar Council of India

School of Law, Bennett University is established by Times of India Group to develop competent legal professionals based on the best practices of national and international law education.

Scholarships
based on Graduation,
DU LLB Entrance
Exam & LSAT score

- Winning Arguments. From Boardrooms to Courtrooms.**
- Mandatory internship with credits**
- Moot Court participation**
- Optional electives in teaching pedagogy/ research**
- Legal skills program for databases and project writing**
- Legal language lab**

Admission Scholarships for 3 year Program - 2019*

% of Scholarship (on First Year Tuition Fee)	50%	30%	20%	10%
Based on % Score or Equivalent in Graduation	75% & above	70% - < 75%	65% - < 70%	60% - < 65%
Based on LSAT India percentile	85+	80 - < 85	75 - < 80	70 - < 75
Based on DU LLB Entrance Exam 2019	240+	220 - < 240	200 - < 220	180 - < 200

Scan here to apply

*For more details, refer to the university website.

www.bennett.edu.in | Call: 9810 571 225 | Campus: Techzone II, Greater Noida

Roads in Yapral reduced to mud tracks, filled with pits and potholes

TOI CITIZEN REPORTER

GET IT ON Google Play

Download on the App Store

BE A SMART TOI CITIZEN REPORTER

Keep mobile phone's GPS on while clicking and sending pictures. Describe exactly where and when picture was taken, giving street names and other locators

More photos, videos on timesofindia.com



Instead of repairing roads, authorities seem to be digging up roads this rainy season. Roads that were in perfect condition a few months ago have been reduced to mud tracks with potholes in Yapral. These roads have also led to several accidents. I request authorities to look into the matter and do the needful. —Shankar M

Waste has been openly dumped next to an urban primary health centre and playground in Hussaini Alam, Tara Maidan. The area is frequented by children and patients. I request the concerned officials to kindly move the waste from the area. —Arshiya Sultana

Sewage had been flowing onto the road in SBH colony in Uppal for several days now. This is extremely unhygienic and can cause health issues for residents of the area. I request GHMC officials to take necessary action immediately. —Parboti Basfor



GARBAGE DUMPED



SEWAGE OVERFLOW

The new roads laid by GHMC at Nayapul in Hyderabad are in very bad condition. Pedestrians have no place to walk and bikes tend to skid on the road. I request GHMC officials to look into the matter seriously before it leads to a major accident. —Mohammed Siraj Khan



ROADS IN SHAMBLES

Telangana budget may not cross ₹2L cr due to fund crunch

Sribala Vadlapatla @timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: With the state government gearing up to present the full budget for the 2019-20 fiscal, the budget estimates may not cross ₹2 lakh crore. The vote-on-account budget was expected to cross ₹2 lakh crore, but was kept at ₹1.82 lakh crore. Major reasons for the downgrade were shortfall of fund flow to the tune of about ₹10,000 crore and huge expenditure gap of around ₹6,300 crore.

PENDING BILLS

Category	Amount (₹)
Irrigation	₹9000 cr
Mission Kakatiya	₹1200 cr
Bhagiratha	₹9000 cr
Rythu Bandhu	₹2000 cr
Arogya Sri	₹1300 cr
Roads & Buildings	₹6000 cr
Panchayat Raj	₹230 cr
KCR Kit	₹150 cr
Horticulture	₹200 cr

be less than the vote-on-account. ₹19,005 crore, a clear shortfall of about ₹6,310 crore.

According to a report submitted to the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG), finance expenditure stands at ₹23,565 crore, whereas the first three months' revenue was

₹19,005 crore, a clear shortfall of about ₹6,310 crore.

It was also estimated that the state would get ₹43,418 crore from the Centre in the form of loans, taxes and grants, but after the regular budget was introduced by the Union govern-

ment now, the fund flow would be to the tune of ₹32,632 crore. In the first quarter of the current financial year, the state had received only ₹3,622 crore from the Centre and it could majorly impact the budget provisions of the fledgling state.

The finance department has asked all departments to submit budget proposals and revised estimates by August 14. Pending bills in various departments amount to about ₹23,000 crore. When Telangana was formed in 2014, loan burden was about ₹69,000 crore, but now it was close to ₹1.82 lakh crore. An allocation of ₹9,000 crore was made for paying interest on loans. In the last three months, ₹30,000 crore was raised through various corporations, while ₹9,500 crore was garnered from bonds.

1,500 students to take part in 9th Harvard Model UN

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: With an aim to give Gen Z school students a comprehensive platform to gain insights into the workings of the United Nations, Harvard International Relations Council (IRC) and Worldview Education will co-host the 9th Annual Harvard Model UN (HMUN) India.

The conference, which will be held from August 15, will be spread over four days and over 1,500 students from India and other countries are expected to participate in this annual conference.

"The Harvard Model UN aims to instil a sense of belief and urgency in its delegates, about the challenges that the world and their individual countries are faced with today and the potential they hold to make a significant difference," said Jenna M Wong, Secretary-General, Harvard Model United Nations India 2019 adding that the conference will focus on the importance of collaboration.

MRM to protest on August 14 to condemn Pak-sponsored terror

Syed.Akbar@timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: Members of the Muslim Rashtriya Manch (MRM), a wing of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), will burn the effigy of Pakistan prime minister Imran Khan and Pakistan national flag across the country including Telangana and Andhra Pradesh on August 14 - Pakistan's Independence Day.

The protest has been planned to denounce Pakistan-sponsored terrorism in India, particularly in Jammu and Kashmir. The agitation has gained significance in the wake of bifurcation of Jammu and Kashmir into Union territories and abrogation of special status granted under Articles 370 and 35A of Constitution.

In Telangana, MRM activists will burn Pakistan's flag and Khan's effigy in Hyderabad and district headquarters towns. A similar protest has been planned in Chittoor district of Andhra Pradesh. On August 15, MRM activists will fan out all over Telangana and hoist the tricolour marking India's 72nd Independence Day. The national flag will be hoisted at about 700 locations in the state and about 8000 places across the

In Telangana, MRM activists will burn Pakistan's flag and prime minister Imran Khan's effigy in Hyderabad and district headquarters towns

country.

Chittoor, the native place of former chief minister and TDP president N Chandrababu Naidu, has been chosen for the Independence Day celebrations in AP. Chittoor has a considerable Muslim population and the TDP, which was in an alliance with BJP till last year, contested alone in the recent assembly elections. MRM leader Dr. Azmatullah is overseeing the arrangements in Chittoor district.

The BJP, which won four Lok Sabha seats in Telangana in the recent general elections, plans to widen its electoral and political base in the state ahead of municipal polls later this year. The party has also set its eyes on the 2024 general elections.

The national convener of MRM, Girish Juyal told TOI that MRM activists will unfurl the tricolour on August 15 to infuse patriotic feelings. Besides celebrating the Inde-

pendence Day on a large scale even in far-off areas, MRM has planned to take up a campaign in tribal areas involving Muslim youth. Juyal said the idea is to bridge the gap between different communities for national unity and integration. MRM Telangana convener MA Sattar said MRM patron Indresh Kumar has given the call to celebrate August 15 and organise protests on August 14. Shahid Akhtar, MRM national convener incharge of south India and Virag Pachpore, national convener incharge of Telangana and AP will supervise the MRM activities.

"We are committed to Hindu-Muslim unity. We will promote good will between communities through flag hoisting. Many problems can be sorted out if we understand and respect the sentiments of each other," he said, adding that the protest against Pakistan will be held at Afzalgunj and Musheerabad. Syed Fayazuddin, MRM co-convenor, Telangana, said local Muslim youths and students will participate in the protest on August 14. "It is a big event. We want to send a strong message to Pakistan that we will not tolerate terrorism and separatism," he said.

Mozamjahi market to return with a new avatar after facelift

Nabinder.Bommala @timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: The Mozamjahi market in Abids is getting a facelift with construction of underground ducts for cable wires, improved illumination, heritage signs, stone covers for the floor and furniture in the sitting arena.

The ducts have been laid and electricity connections to shops have been provided as well. As of Sunday, only the wires of CCTV cameras were visible. Once the renovation is completed, not even one wire will be visible at the monument.

Works pertaining to polis-

hing of stones of the monument is underway. The stone structures are being restored to its original grandeur and a verification revealed that artificial paints or colours were not being used. The flooring inside the monument as well as in the sitting arena will also be renovated. The stones which will be laid in the sitting arena have already been stocked near an eatery in the 83-year-old market.

Waterproofing on the terrace and rectification of sewage lines has been completed. On Sunday, the recently repaired clock was showing the correct time. "Restoration of the monument is being done by

preserving the culture of the city," said K Srinivasa Rao, director, GHMC Town Planning wing.

The principal secretary of Municipal Administration and Urban Development department (MAUD), Arvind Kumar instructed GHMC officials to ensure that the maximum number of eateries are accommodated in the market spread over 1.77 acres. "All the shops will have uniform sign boards. Once the restoration is completed, special colour illumination is also on the cards," said a GHMC official. "I expect high footfall once the renovation is completed," said an owner of an ice cream parlour.

If you don't wear director's hat again, I will produce the movie: KCR tells filmmaker K Vishwanath

Roushan.Ali@timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: Chief minister K Chandrasekhara Reddy on Sunday said he was willing to produce a movie if it's made by filmmaker K Vishwanath, who was conferred with the Dadasaheb Phalke Award in 2017. Vishwanath has made several movies in Telugu.

KCR went to the residence of the filmmaker on Sunday at Film Nagar. "I have watched every movie that you have made. I watched Shankarabharam for about 25 times. Whenever I have watched your film, I felt like meeting you personally. My desire has been fulfilled today," KCR said.

KCR added that there was a lot scope for the Telangana film industry to develop further in Hyderabad and added that the government will come out with a policy on the film industry.



Chief minister K Chandrasekhara Reddy with veteran filmmaker K Vishwanath at the latter's residence in Film Nagar on Sunday

"You have not made any film for the past 10 years. Nowadays, we don't get too many films that are message oriented. If you agree to make a film again, I am ready to take care of the production," KCR told Vishwanath.

While thanking KCR, Vishwanath said, "You visiting our house is our good fortune. When you called me up last night and said you would be visiting, I thought that somebody was mimicking your voice. But when I realised that you actually had spoken to me, I could not sleep till midnight."

Vishwanath further told KCR, "I have been watching your good work and appreciate your nature of working hard for the people. Once Tamil Nadu CMMGR had come to my house and now you have graced my house, for which I am happy."

When KCR enquired about his health, Vishwanath said, "My health is fine. But I have knee pain. Doctors say they will perform a replacement surgery, but I fear surgeries. Even in my films I never show hospital scenes. I will continue and manage like this."

MARK YOUR DIARY

- Exhibition** | Drawings and paintings of Late Sri Madipadaga Baram Charya will be open for public at Balram Art's Residency at Secunderabad from 11 am to 4 pm
- Play** | Thirukura Raja - a Kannada play will be presented at Ravindra Bharathi at 7 pm
- Music** | Veena Sammelanam, a musical event, will be presented at Ravindra Bharathi at 9 am
- Recital** | Kathak recital will be presented by Rajendra Gangani at Shilparamam at 5.30 pm
- Theatre festival** | Abhinaya National Theatre Festival will be held at Ravindra Bharathi at 6.30 pm
- Workshop** | Samahaara Production oriented theatre workshop will be held at Green Gables International School at 7 pm

Staging a play, dance, recital, organising an art show, hosting food festival, screening a film? Send us your event details at: toimetro@gmail.com

ALMANAC

12-08-2019 (MONDAY)

Ayanam : Dakshinayanam, Ruthuvu : Varsha, Masam : Shravana, Paksham : Shukla, Thithi : Dwadashi - 12-06, Nakshatram : Purvashadha - 26-52, Yogam : Vishkambam - 10-19, Karanam : Balava - 12-06, Varjyam : 11-12 to 12-56, Rahukalam : 07-34 to 09-10, Durmuhurtham : 12-46 to 13-37 and 15-19 to 16-10, Amrutha Kalam : 21-38 to 22-32, Important festivals : Bakrid

NAMAZ TIMINGS

- Fajar | 4.55 am (Tuesday) to 5.53 am
- Zohar | 12.31 pm to 4.39 pm
- Asar | 4.47 pm to 6.41 pm
- Maghrib | 6.49 pm to 7.53 pm
- Isha | 8.00 pm to 4.33 am

CHAA Y BISKOOT

Samples? Nada!

Anti-doping officials at the ongoing Hyderabad Open BWF Tournament faced a tricky situation on Friday. It is quite common for them to take random samples of players after they complete their matches. The dope team wanted to collect the sample of a Korean shuttler soon after her match. But the player said she was not in a position to give the urine sample. The officials waited for about an hour, but the player, even after drinking a lot of water, came out empty handed from the washroom. Once she walked out of the room, a group of players from South-East Asian countries began coming back from the courts after their matches. The officials found it difficult to trace her in the group. Finally, after two hours, and towards the end of the day, she succeeded in giving the urine sample. —Ratnakar Manne

Missing spark among Indian scientists

None needs an introduction to Michael Faraday, eminent British scientist. His pioneering work led to the discovery of electromagnetic induction, the principle behind the electric transformer and generator. He authored over 400 research pa-



EVERY RUPEE COUNTS: We'd rather have GHMC spend our tax rupees wisely because, as this photo clicked at Maithranivam in Ameerpeth shows, it looks like it's going down the drain, literally —JAC Gladson

pers. What most of us don't know is that Faraday, who came from a humble background, had just three years of formal education. Eminent Indian scientist professor CNR Rao, at a lecture recently, quipped, "With no proper education, Faraday could achieve so much. India should be full of Faradays." Rightly said sir, but sadly India has failed to produce even one Faraday in the recent past. Until we junk the cut/copy-paste job, our scientific pursuit will be on snooze mode. —R Dinesh Kumar

Red flag on the road

The heavy traffic on Banjara Hills Road 1 could be seen splitting midway recently as drivers tried to avoid hitting an obstruction in the middle of the road. On reaching the spot, commuters could see a man working on uncovering a manhole. As he faced the traffic head-on, the only defence he had was the helmet he was wearing. Commuters cursed the man for endangering himself and others during peak time. Some could not help

but wonder whether the man was a worker wearing the helmet for protection or because he was hoping to take away the manhole cover and while hiding his identity. —Uttara Varma

Even cattle have road sense

Being regulars on the city roads, buffaloes crossing busy stretches have become accustomed to traffic. Not only do they walk on the sides to avoid colliding with a vehicle, but also stop when honked at. Interestingly, a cattle owner accompanying a bunch of buffaloes was recently seen asking motorists to honk at the buffaloes to get some road space. Wonder when road sense will be added to the process of human evolution. —Amrita Didyala

All talk, no action

It is a known fact that places of worship, especially temples and dargahs, cause traffic congestion on roads. TRS working president and former municipal minister KT Rama Rao said that when he was minister, he had tried to resolve the issue by consulting all political party leaders. He revealed during a programme on Saturday that elected representatives of all the political parties including Congress, BJP, MIM and TDP agreed to cooperate with the government, but when it came to implementation, they ended up saying that the programme should begin in other areas not in their strongholds. Finally, nothing happened and the problem remains unresolved. —Koride Mahesh

Release of water from Nagarjuna Sagar dam to benefit farmers

Hyderabad: Bringing cheers to farmers, Telangana education minister G Jagadish Reddy and Andhra Pradesh irrigation minister Anil Kumar Yadav on Sunday formally released the water to the left canal from the Nagarjuna Sagar dam.

As a result, the agricultural activity is expected to pick up in full swing in the ayacut with nearly 11 lakh acres in the districts of Khammam, Suryapet and Nalgonda getting the water for irrigation. The farmers had been waiting for the release of water for a long time.

The water could be released due to the heavy inflow of flood waters in Krishna basin. This will enable farmers to ramp up agriculture activity for the ongoing kharif season. The minister also released water to Alimineti Madhava Reddy Project (AMRP) canal and AMRP Low Level Canal (LLC) by lifting the Akkampally gate at Ranga Reddy Gudem. TNN

1st Death Anniversary

Dr. SHASHI REKHA MURATEE
09.07.1954 - 11.08.2018
You left us with loving memories which we cherish forever. You are always in our hearts and we love you so very much. We miss you every day.

Deeply Loved & Missed by:
Vikrant-Annapurna, Vijay-Vinutha, Seema-Sadanand, Sornal-Sumeet,
Grand Children: Aditi, Virat, Sanvi, Daksha, Vrinda, Jatan
and all family members. Ph:888674485.

Two dead in industrial accident

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Visakhapatnam: Two contractual workers died while one another was injured in a fire accident at a thermal power plant belonging to Aurobindo Pharmaceuticals at Pylidibhemavaram in Srikakulam district on Sunday.

The police said that the incident took place when the three workers were cleaning up ash and other burnt waste at the plant when the waste suddenly flared up.

Srikakulam superintendent of police, RN Ammi Reddy said that the deceased have been identified as 28-year-old R Rahul, a resident of Vizianagaram district, and 38-year-old B Rajarao, a resident of Srikakulam district. The injured worker, identified as Y Sanayasi Rao has been admitted to a local hospital. Reports from various sources said that Rahul and Raja Rao were trying to open a valve after they noticed ash obstructing the exit of a pipeline.

As they tried to force open the obstruction, the waste crashed on them killing them instantly. The fly ash reportedly containing unburned carbon came in touch with oxygen, flaring up and killing the workers.

YSRC behind sand scarcity in AP, says TDP

Vijayawada: Taking on the YSRC over the issue of sand scarcity, former irrigation minister Devineni Uma Maheswara Rao alleged that the ruling party leaders are behind the exorbitant prices of sand in the state. He claimed that scrapping the free sand policy and delaying the new policy is in itself a conspiracy. Uma said YSRC leaders are looting people by hiking sand prices after creating artificial scarcity through policy paralysis.

"A tractor-load of sand costs about ₹6,500 now whereas it used to be available for only ₹1,500 earlier," he said. He went on to take the names of YSRC leaders including V Vijayasai Reddy, Sajjala Ramakrishna Reddy and YV Subba Reddy and claimed that they had held a meeting with cement manufacturers and threatened them to give the YSRC top brass ₹5 for every bag of cement they sell. **TNN**

Experts fault UCIL on uranium report on pollution in Kadapa

Say Corporation Cannot Ignore APPCB Conditions

U.Sudhakarreddy@timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: Retired scientists have found fault with Uranium Corporation of India's report on Kadapa pollution. They alleged that the sampling protocol was not followed while conducting tests in villages.

Former IICT scientist, Babu Rao Kalapala, told TOI: "Regarding the water quality data obtained from sampling groundwater from these monitoring bore wells (Barc has called them monitoring boreholes, MBH), it is very shocking that UCIL and Barc were not even aware of the sampling protocol, and collected samples from the stagnant vertical column of the bore well,

WRONG SAMPLING

► Scientists said it is shocking that UCIL and Barc were not even aware of the sampling protocol

► They collected samples from the stagnant vertical column of the bore well, said the scientists

► Barc produced a 35-page compilation of groundwater analysis data without written part of its observations on the data, said

using a sampler tied to a rope and lowering it into the bore well, that is not representative of the groundwater condition." UCIL had said that Barc tests didn't find any anomalies as alleged by the villagers and retired scientists.

"There are no pumps in the monitoring boreholes, it became

Tribals in Amrabad are scared: VHR

Hyderabad: AICC secretary V Hanumantha Rao on Sunday visited Amrabad Tiger Reserve area and Nallamalla forest, where tribal families interacted with them and said they were against uranium mining in the area. Rao inspected some of the wells from where tribal women were drawing water. "The tribals are scared. I request the CM to see uranium mining is not done there." **TNN**

evident that the very method of sampling was wrong. It is another matter that these wells have no significance in monitoring as they are not located properly. Barc produced a 35-page compilation of groundwater analysis data without any written part of its observations on the data, and the conclusions are drawn. A me-

re compilation of data does not qualify it as a study report. Making arbitrary statements like "no discernible change" or "no significant increase" based on faulty data," alleged Babu Rao.

He said, "When APPCB laid down clear conditions on the lining, UCIL is supposed to obtain modifications to the permission letter by producing their designs based on international standards and convincing the PCB that the proposed designs are superior to the conditions of the permission. They cannot ignore the conditions of APPCB or MoEF. Location of well for sampling and other aspects are ignored."

Kadapa MP YS Avinash Reddy has decided to write to UCIL, expressing serious concerns. A group of scientists had already taken up the issue alleging that chemical pollution is affecting several villages in Vemula Mandal, particularly near tailing pond of a uranium mine.

Amit Shah woos Madiga leaders, babus into party

U.Sudhakarreddy@timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: BJP leaders Amit Shah and JP Nadda are working on plans to attract a large section of Madigas into the party fold by wooing leaders and bureaucrats of the community.

BJP is eyeing influential IAS and IPS officials in Madiga community such as T Krishna Prasad, a DGP rank official, chairman of Telangana Road Safety Authority, Krishna Prasad was denied Telangana police chief post and has worked in Leather Industries Development Corporation of AP and got a base in the community.

Senior TDP leader Motkupalli Narasimhulu, who was promised a governor post by N Chandrababu Naidu but denied again, has already agreed to join BJP after Union minister for home G Kishan Reddy met him.

Another leader Manda Krishna Madiga has good ties with Kishan Reddy. BJP president JP Nadda and Union minister of home Amit Shah have already met some leaders who were keen on joining the party.



BJP is eyeing influential IAS and IPS officials in Madiga community such as T Krishna Prasad, a DGP rank official, who acquired 5,000 acres of land for the LIDCAP and established leather parks at 72 locations in United AP

In the Telugu states, the percentage of SCs, mostly Malas and Madigas, is around 18 crore.

In Telangana, there are around 45 lakh Madigas and 20 lakh Malas, whereas in AP, there are 60 lakh Malas and 55 lakh Madigas.

A BJP leader told TOI: "We are working on building the Dalit leadership for the party in Telangana. We are in touch with bureaucrats who can fill the gap."

T Krishna Prasad was LIDCAP head when he was AP Industrial Infrastructure Corporation chairperson from 2002 to 2004, where he had sent 14,354 Madiga youths, the master artisans, to Central Leather Research Institute in Chennai, and got them trained in leather technology. All of them came back and trained 10 each for 15 days in the same technology, and around 1.43 lakh were trained.

Krishna Prasad acquired 5,000 acres of land for the LIDCAP and established leather parks at 72 locations in United AP. The programme was then called Malupu. Krishna Prasad now revived Malupu programme and is conducting zonal committee meetings with intellectuals across the state so that the land for leather parks shall be allotted to the community. Krishna Prasad also adopted a village under another foundation called KP foundation and developed it.

BJP leadership realised his potential, and his connect with the community, and has decided to encourage him to join politics. Krishna Prasad still has eight months to go for his retirement. BJP also admitted G Vivek, a leader who had been in Congress and TRS, into the party. Vivek, the son of senior leader G Venkateswamy, belongs to Mala community.

Invite to TTDP chief to join us: BJP netas

Sribala.Vadlapatla@timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: To strengthen its base in Telangana, BJP has been inviting leaders from other parties to join its fold. It is reliably learnt that the saffron party has extended an invitation to TTDP president **L Ramana**.

Highly placed sources in BJP confirmed that an invite was sent to him few days ago. "It can become reality too, however, we cannot say whether he will join this month when many TTDP leaders are expected to join BJP in presence of party president Amit Shah on August 18," a top leader told TOI.

Ramana's BC background is also seen as a plus by BJP Party leaders. He is not resistant in joining BJP. Motkupalli Narasimulu, who left TDP before the assembly elections, also met BJP state president K Lakshman late on Saturday night. He is expected to join BJP at any time. Reportedly, sensing the alarming situation, party chief N Chandrababu Naidu said that next politbu meeting will be held in Hyderabad. He will conduct meetings with TTDP leaders once in a week.

BJP slams KTR and TRS

Hyderabad: BJP on Sunday responded to the criticism of TRS working president KT Rama Rao, who said that the situation in the country is different and religion and patriotism are intertwined. Senior leader Mallu Indrasena Reddy said that no one has forgotten the language of TRS in united Andhra Pradesh. "If TRS leaders speak on democratic values, then it is a mockery of those values." **TNN**

UPGRADE TO TOUCH

this independence day

@ 50%*

6056 SX TS Black 60 cm
MRP ₹ 24,995/- (Incl. of all taxes)
₹ **12,498/-**

Airflow 1000 m³/h
also available in stainless steel finish
LED LIGHT • ITALIAN MOTOR
LIFETIME WARRANTY

GLEN

For details call
7290082569, 9266655555

Helpline 9266655555
SHOP ONLINE www.glenindia.com

Water recedes, Godavari dists limp back to normalcy

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Rajahmundry: Water in the Godavari river has at last started to subside. The first warning was withdrawn at Sir Arthur Cotton Barrage at Dowlaswaram on Sunday and about nine lakh cusec of water was released.

The water level at Bhadrachalam has also started to recede and a water level of 34.9 feet has been recorded.

Transport links in villages in four Agency-merged mandals in East Godavari district were restored, as well as road connectivity to Chhattisgarh and Odisha. Water levels in six marooned villages in Devipatnam Mandal receded though remaining villages in the Mandal are still cut off.

Water in 40 'lanka' villages is steadily receding and is likely to go down completely in a couple of days.

In West Godavari district, a water level of 12.5 meter was recorded at Polavaram on Sunday morning. Water on the Kademma Bridge cleared and transportation on the bridge was restored. Water level on the Kothuru causeway, the only link to 20 villages in

Polavaram Mandal, has started significantly recede, as has water in 16 villages in the Mandal.

People, however, are alleging that the authorities are turning a blind eye to tribals and have not set up a control room as there is no transportation or communication facility in these marooned villages.

In Patha Polavaram village, the water level started to recede just as water in the ring bund constructed to protect the village from floods was almost one foot from the brink. Villagers said the ring bund might have been breached, flooding the village had the water level not receded.

Speaking to TOI, superintending engineer (irrigation), Krishna Rao said it would take two days for water to recede from the 'lanka' villages, once the discharge from the Cotton Barrage reaches five lakh cusec. Water will recede in three days in Devipatnam Mandal, he said. About 1,260 tmc of water has been released into the sea from the Godavari this season and another 1,060 tmc has been discharged into the sea in August, he added.

N Kanaka



While sudden showers lashed Visakhapatnam on Sunday, there is no water at Mudasarlova reservoir because of lack of rain

REGION WRAP

Holiday rush in Tirumala

Tirupati: On the first day of the annual festival of Pavithrotsavam, Lord Venkateswara temple witnessed long queues and the waiting time for darshan stretched to 24 hours on Sunday. As devotees continued to queue-up throughout the day, serpentine queues became the order at Vaikuntam Q complex, accommodation centres, laddu counters and every important pilgrim congregation point.

Details of drunk driving

Visakhapatnam: The city police will take stringent measures to curb drunk driving. Traffic cops said that the police will share details of people found driving drunk with their employers. Cops said that a few employees of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, NTPC, Simhadri and few other organisations were found driving drunk in June and July.

Will Centre probe KCR, TRS in graft cases, asks Dasoju

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: Congress has thrown a challenge at the BJP government at the Centre to order CBI investigation against chief minister K Chandrababu Naidu and other TRS leaders for their alleged involvement in ESI scam, Miyapur land scam, Nayeem gangster case, and corruption in irrigation projects.

All India Congress Committee spokesperson, Dasoju Sravan, said BJP should stop bluffing that it is fighting against TRS in Telangana, and prevail upon the Union government to order CBI investigation into these cases.

"Why is the BJP government not conducting fast-track investigation into the ESI and PF scams involving KCR despite CBI registering a case earlier? BJP leaders should convince the Modi government to order CBI probe into the cases of gangster Nayeem, Miyapur land scam, drug mafia, and irregularities in the irrigation projects,"

BJP state chief has no moral right to criticise TPCC president N Uttam Kumar Reddy. Uttam had served the IAF as a fighter pilot, and risked his life to protect the nation. Personal remarks against a retired soldier and questioning his abilities are regrettable

Dasoju Sravan | CONGRESS LEADER

Dasoju said. He also asked TRS leaders to clarify whether or not their party gave unconditional support to the BJP government on decisions such as demonetisation, GST, election of President and Vice President of India, deputy chairman of Rajya Sabha, Niti Aayog chairman, Triple Talaq Bill, RTI Amendment Bill, and Article 370.

He said, despite having friendship for political and per-

sonal gains with BJP, TRS failed to pressurise the Centre on approving the Bill for enhancing Muslim reservation to 12%, which was passed in the assembly in April 2017.

He said other promises made in the Andhra Pradesh State Reorganisation Act, like a steel factory at Bayyaram, railway coach factory at Kazipet, tribal university and national status for an irrigation project remained unfulfilled.

He alleged that both TRS and BJP were secret allies and are cheating people of Telangana, while causing huge loss to the state.

Stating that there was neither any scope nor hope of BJP emerging as a political force in Telangana, he said BJP candidates could not secure deposit in 103 out of 119 assembly seats in the state elections held in December 2018.

He said, despite such a humiliating performance, he said BJP leaders were making tall claims of emerging as an alternate to the ruling party.

KTR following dual standards, says Congress

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: Congress has said TRS working president KT Rama Rao is indulging in politics of dual standards. Referring to the speech delivered by KTR at an event at Telugu University on Saturday, AICC spokesperson Dasoju Sravan on Sunday said KTR has rightly pointed out that a particular section has got habituated of branding people as 'patriots' (deshbhakt) if they support them and others as 'traitors' (deshdrohi) if they oppose them. He asked KTR to introspect the narrative being pursued by his own party.

"Those joining TRS are being portrayed as well-wishers of Telangana, and those in opposition are being called betrayers. There was no change in the approach adopted by both TRS and the other group," Sravan said in a statement.

Srikanth Aluri | CONGRESS LEADER

Hyderabad: Congress on Sunday charged BJP leaders of trying to tarnish the image of one of the founding fathers of the modern India, the first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru. Stating that BJP is misleading the people of the country by attempting to misinterpret history and trying to get political mileage by circulating false propaganda on Jawaharlal Nehru, state Congress chief **N Uttam Kumar** said the BJP was trying to downplay the sacrifices of Mahatma Gandhi and Nehru. "It is unfortunate the BJP is undermining the contributions of Nehru. Whatever in-

BJP tarnishing Nehru's image only for political gains: Uttam

Roushan.Ali@timesgroup.com

Loyalists hope Sonia will revive party

Hyderabad: Congress Loyalists Forum leaders M Shashidhar Reddy, S Chandrasekhara, M Kodanda Reddy, G Niranjan and A Shyam Mohan said the rank and file of the party unanimously welcomed Sonia Gandhi as interim president of the grand old party. "In view of the prevailing circumstances in the country, we would like to request Sonia Gandhi to fully utilise the services of Priyanka Gandhi Vadra. Rahu Gandhi has already reiterated that he would continue to work as one of the party leaders to bring Congress back to power," former NDMA vice-chairman Shashidhar Reddy said. **TNN**

India, the first Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru. He had gone to jail for 10 years during freedom struggle, and the Nehru-family sacrificed everything including their lives for the sake of the country," Uttam said.

Telangana party leaders welcomed the move to make Sonia Gandhi the interim president of Congress. Uttam said, "Sonia Gandhi has come

forward to take the mantle of Congress whenever the party needed.. We are confident that under her capable leadership, the Congress will be revived and come to power at the Centre and in a majority of states. Her becoming the interim president is good news for Telangana, as both the people of Telangana and Sonia Gandhi herself have special place in their hearts for each other."

dia is today, it is because of the foundations laid by Jawaharlal Nehru. He had gone to jail for 10 years during freedom struggle, and the Nehru-family sacrificed everything including their lives for the sake of the country," Uttam said.

Telangana party leaders welcomed the move to make Sonia Gandhi the interim president of Congress. Uttam said, "Sonia Gandhi has come

No register, no vet at Andhra gaushala

Srikanth.Aluri@timesgroup.com

Vijayawada: Even as laboratory report is awaited to ascertain the cause of death of over 100 cows at Koturu Tadepalli gaushala, questions are being raised about the role of the cow shelter management that boasts of a 90-year-long legacy in saving and serving cows.

Looking into the cow deaths, revenue officials have sought various information from Sri Vijayawada Gausamrakshana Sangham but the management has not submitted any details so far. Apparently the management does not even maintain a register of records as to how many animals are sheltered in the facility, when they were brought by whom. Also, the shelter hasn't had a veterinary doctor for six

months now.

Vijayawada rural MRO, D Vanajakshi told TOI that the gaushala management said it had employed a retired veterinary doctor but he has not visited the shelter in six months, due to ill health. "However, when we inquired with him, he told us that he is in Varanasi on a pilgrimage," Vanajakshi said.

Gaushala management has so far evaded questions posed by the police and revenue department and has cited some reason or the other to not supply details of committee, account books regarding collection of donations and utilisation of the same. "We have given them time till Tuesday 11am to submit the account books, details of trust board members, when the elections were held to the board and by-laws of the trust," the MRO added.

Banks can disburse only 35% loan

From P 1

This means banks have been able to disburse just 35% of the targeted loan disbursement. By the end of last kharif season, banks had distributed Rs 19,671 crore (target Rs 25,000 crore) towards farm loans, achieving a success rate of 71%. Officials said 35 lakh farmers had availed themselves of the loans last time.

Experts said the government should have issued clear guidelines to banks on loan disbursement. "There are no clear-cut guidelines on how many members in one family can avail themselves of farm loans and how much can be waived towards loan waiver," an expert said.

Meanwhile, Rythu Samanvaya Samithi, a government wing with a network of farmers, said the guidelines would be issued soon.

Genco gets SIA exemption for securing land

Roushan.Ali@timesgroup.com

Hyderabad: The state government has exempted Telangana Power Generation Corporation (TSGenco) from getting a social impact assessment (SIA) study conducted for acquisition of about 50 acres of land for construction of a coal handling plant, conveyor belt and auxiliaries to feed the 600MW Kakatiya Thermal Power Plant (KTPP) stage-II in Jayashankar Bhupalapally.

The exemption was given in July as TSGenco is in urgent need of land as the 600MW KTPP stage-II unit, which was commissioned on March 24, 2016, and the unit, which is under commercial operation, has been facing difficulty in feeding coal to KTPP stage-II (1x600MW) from a single conveyor.



TSGenco is in urgent need of land as the 600MW KTPP stage-II unit, which was commissioned on March 24, 2016, and the unit has been facing difficulty in feeding coal to KTPP stage-II (1x600MW) from a single conveyor

construction of additional coal handling plant to feed the fuel required for (1x600MW) stage-II unit. However, the construction work was getting frequently obstructed by assignees on the ground that compensation for land lost by them was not paid, an official said.

Further, the acquisition of land under the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement (Land Acquisition) Act, 2013, involves conducting SIA by a

committee, appraisal of food security, provision to safeguard security. And, all these formalities might further delay the acquisition of land as the requisition of the land was made in 2006, and compensation was deposited in 2013.

In view of the delay, TSGenco requested the government to exempt the project from SIA so as to speed up the land acquisition process. "Keeping all this in view, the state government gave exemption from conducting SIA in tune with the provisions of the

Land Acquisition Act, 2013, in public interest," an official said.

However, exemption from SIA has not solved the problem for TSGenco. The revenue officials are in a Catch-22 situation in connection with giving compensation to people affected by land acquisition for construction of coal handling plant and other facilities. Revenue officials have found that those occupying the assigned parcels of land were not the original assignees and some others had encroached upon them.

The government has released ₹12 crore towards compensation to be paid to the project-affected people and officials have exuded confidence of putting in place the additional coal handling plant at the earliest.

With 33 more deaths, flood toll across country 174 in five days

72 Deaths In Kerala, Rahul Takes Stock

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Even as rain gods restrained their fury in several states across the country and flood waters receded on Sunday, reports of deaths kept trickling in, taking the total toll to 174 in a span of five days. As many as 33 deaths were reported on Sunday with Kerala accounting for 15, Gujarat 11 and Karnataka seven. Maharashtra reported no death in last 24 hours and its toll since August 7 stood at 30.

All the 11 deaths in Gujarat were reported from the Saurashtra region, taking the state death count to 33 in just two days. Bodies of all the 11—six labourers who were swept away in the strong currents of Falku river on Saturday evening and five fishermen who had drowned after their boats capsized in the rough Arabian Sea off Porbandar coast on Sunday—have been recovered. Twenty other fishermen, who had ventured into the sea along with those now dead, are missing.

In Kerala, death toll mounted to 72 with the recovery of 15 more bodies on Sunday. With rain losing intensity, search and rescue operations gathered pace but rescuers expressed fear about the 63 people, who were still missing in Wayanad and Malappuram, where two landslides had flattened hillslopes. Meanwhile, flights from the international airport in Kochi resumed on Sunday afternoon, two days after it was shut due to inundation of the runway area.

As many as 2.47 lakh people have been shifted to 1,639 relief camps across the state. Wayanad MP Rahul Gandhi visited the camps at Kavalappara. He would be visiting Kozhikode and Wayanad on Monday.

Union home minister Amit Shah with CM BS Yeddyurappa, conducted aerial survey of flood-affected areas in Belagavi, Almati dam in Vijayapura, Koyna dam in Maharashtra.



Home minister Amit Shah takes an aerial view of flood-affected areas in Karnataka on Sunday

19-year-old boxer swims 2.5km to reach Bengaluru venue, wins silver

Nishan Manohar Kadam's village in Belagavi, Mannur, was among the worst-hit in the floods. On August 7, the day the 19-year-old boxer had to catch a train to Bengaluru for the state-level championship, the water surrounding his house and village was right up to his head. The three roads to his place were all damaged or submerged and cordoned off by rescue workers. Nishan and his father lugged the boxing kit tightly wrapped in plastic and swam for 45 minutes, covering 2.5km, and reached the main road to join the Belagavi district team. Nishan won silver in his category.



45 minutes, covering 2.5km, and reached the main road to join the Belagavi district team. Nishan won silver in his category.

ple, who were still missing in Wayanad and Malappuram, where two landslides had flattened hillslopes. Meanwhile, flights from the international airport in Kochi resumed on Sunday afternoon, two days after it was shut due to inundation of the runway area.

As many as 2.47 lakh people have been shifted to 1,639 relief camps across the state.

Wayanad MP Rahul Gandhi visited the camps at Kavalappara. He would be visiting Kozhikode and Wayanad on Monday.

Union home minister Amit Shah with CM BS Yeddyurappa, conducted aerial survey of flood-affected areas in Belagavi, Almati dam in Vijayapura, Koyna dam in Maharashtra.

To check floods, Centre plans law to manage 13 river basins

Vishwa.Mohan
@timesgroup.com

New Delhi: In the backdrop of recurring problem of floods and drought in one or the other part of the country, the Centre has planned to manage rivers by adopting basin approach under a law which may help all inter-state and central agencies work in a coordinated manner.

The water resources ministry has prepared a draft legislation which seeks to manage all 13 river basins in India by setting up exclusive umbrella authorities for each of them. The inter-state river basins for which authorities are to be constituted include Ganga, Indus, Godavari, Mahanadi, Mahi, Narmada, Pennar, Cauvery, Krishna, Tapi, Subarnrekha, Brahmani-Baitarni and Brahmaputra-Barak-inter-state rivers of north-east.

Intent of bringing this bill was spelt out by Jal Shakti minister Gajendra Singh Shekawat while responding to a debate on the Inter-State River Water Disputes Bill, 2019 in Lok Sabha on July 31. Each of the 13 river authorities will have a two-tier system, comprising a governing council and an executive board. The Council will comprise CMs of all states.

Water levels receding but 35 villages in Sangli, Kolhapur still out of bounds

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Sangli/Kolhapur: As many as 35 villages in Sangli and Kolhapur still remained cut off on Sunday despite the rains easing up and the water levels receding at many places in both districts. The opening up of the national highway 4 (NH4) at the Panchaganga bridge in Kolhapur for vehicles carrying essential supplies was put off to Monday.

The Southern Command of the Indian Army on Sunday stepped up the rescue operations in the two districts by deploying 12 more teams of the Navy in flood-affected areas.

These rescue teams are equipped with rubber inflatable boats and other paraphernalia. Since the water level in Sangli and Kolhapur cities have gone down by five to six feet in the last 24 hours, the teams are mainly focusing on supplying relief material to the stranded people.

The Sangli district administration said that 17 villages in three tehsils — Walwa, Miraj and Palus — are still inaccessible by road as they are submerged under water. "Rescue agencies have been supplying relief material to these places in boats for the last five days. We are evacuating stranded villagers to relief camps. A team of veterinary doctors has been roped in to vaccinate cattle in the flood-affected areas," assistant collector Ashish Yerekar said TOI over the phone.



(Left) An Armyman carries a baby to a safer place in Sangli on Sunday; several women grateful to the Navy for having evacuated them tied rakhis on the hands of personnel ahead of Rakshabandhan

Essentials' supply to Kolhapur put off by a day

The approach roads on either side of the Panchaganga bridge, near the entrance to Kolhapur along National Highway 4 (NH4), continued to be inundated on Sunday. As a result, the district administration had to put off its plan to resume supply of essential commodities by another day. Though the administration brought in 15 tankers of petrol and diesel into the city late on Sunday evening, it was a risky endeavour. On Monday, the officials will reassess the situation. Earlier in the day, Kolhapur district superintendent of police Abhinav Deshmukh said the road will not reopen until it was completely cleared. He said the bridge was likely to be opened on Monday. If the water level did not recede adequately even by Monday, the police and the administration would start the supply of essential commodities by boats.

told TOI over the phone.

The flooding in Kolhapur city, with the water levels having reached as high as 10-12 feet just a few days ago, reduced drastically to up to 1 or 2 feet on Sunday. However, 18 villages in four talukas in the district — Hatkanangale, Shiror, Gaganbawda and Karver — are totally cut off with no relief from the administration in sight. The authorities

said rescue teams will attempt to reach these villages on Monday.

In a major relief to both Kolhapur and Sangli, the water discharge from the Koyna dam in Satara district was controlled while the release from the Almati dam in Karnataka was increased up to 5.40 lakh cusecs on Sunday. The Kolhapur Municipal Corporation (KMC) is planning to

resume the water supply to half of the city by Thursday.

In Kolhapur city, waters are receding in several areas such as Sita Colony, Siddharthnagar, Patankar high school, at the collectorate, Jadhavwadi and Kasba Bawda. However, Venus Chowk continued to be under 10ft-deep water.

Few roads in the city are open for traffic. The road from Kasba Bawda to the city was opened after the waters completely receded at Line Bazaar. In a major relief, a bridge from Kasba Bawda to Shiye and Shirori was opened on Sunday. However, a major road along Kasba Bawda leading up to the district court complex is still under water.

The water level of the Panchaganga river at the Rajaram barrage reduced considerably within 12 hours on Sunday.

Cong accuses govt of favouritism in granting funds

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Even as Rahul Gandhi toured Wayanad, his flood-affected parliamentary constituency, and oversaw relief and rehabilitation work, Congress on Sunday alleged the BJP government at the Centre was indulging in "favouritism" in distributing flood-relief funds among affected states.

Making a case for disbursement of funds in line with



Congress leader Rahul Gandhi interacts with flood-affected people in Wayanad on Sunday

the extent of damage faced by them, Congress spokesperson Jaiveer Shergill ac-

cused the government of partisanship and claimed that while Kerala, after the floods last year, had received Rs 3,000 crore package after facing damage

worth over Rs 10,000 crore, Uttar Pradesh, where there were no floods, was given Rs 200 crore for flood-relief measures in 2018-19. He also alleged that Assam got Rs 250 crore even though it too was affected by floods year after

year, and had demanded over Rs 3,000 crore for flood relief.

The Centre should release at least half of what the saffron party had spent on the Inter-State River Water Disputes Bill, 2019 in Lok Sabha on July 31. Each of the 13 river authorities will have a two-tier system, comprising a governing council and an executive board. The Council will comprise CMs of all states.

completed due to shortfall of funding from the Centre. Congress also demanded that the Centre declare the prevailing floods in all nine affected states as a 'national disaster', 'national calamity' or a 'calamity of severe nature'.

Kerala and Karnataka are facing a grim situation where death tolls due to floods and landslides climbed to 90, while over four lakh people were evacuated.

He also said the 2017 CAG report on schemes for flood control pointed to 17 states and Union Territories where flood management projects could not be

197 swine flu deaths in Maha this year, cases may increase

Umesh.Isalkar
@timesgroup.com

Pune: The number of people dying of swine flu in the state has gone up by five more casualties over the past two weeks, taking the toll to 197 this year.

As many as 2,066 people have tested positive for the contagion in the state so far this year and experts cautioned that the virus transmission might increase with the persistent rain triggering a drop in temperature. This is a conducive condition for the virus to grow and spread.

Subhash Salunkhe, head of the state's technical committee on communicable diseases, said, "The swine flu cases, in all likelihood, will increase over the next two weeks. We have already advised the health department to step up surveillance and be

prepared to tackle the virus transmission."

He said, "Cities that have witnessed active transmission of the virus will have to focus on screening and early treatment. Vaccination of high-risk individuals can also be beneficial. Free-of-cost vaccination against swine flu is on at hospitals run by the state government and civic bodies. The initiative should be strengthened."

"Depleting immunity among masses and co-circulation of other seasonal viruses, along with swine flu, are among the contributing factors. The wide fluctuation in day and night temperature is providing a fitting atmosphere for the virus to spread," an office bearer of the Indian Medical Association (IMA) said.

Full report on www.toi.in

Kashyap has been targeted before too

► From P 1

This is not the first time the filmmaker has been targeted by trolls. In May this year, he had tagged PM Narendra Modi in a tweet, congratulating him for his victory in the elections. He had also shared a screenshot of a man threatening his daughter and asked Modi.

"Dear @narendramodi sir. Congratulations on your victory and thank you for the message of inclusiveness. Sir please also tell us how do we deal with these followers of yours who celebrate your victory by threatening my daughter with messages like this for me being your dissenter," he wrote. "Anyway, I want to thank @MumbaiPolice @MahaCyber1 @Erijeshsingh for helping me. Thank you so much for the amazing support and starting the process. Thank you @Dev_Padnavis and thank you @narendramodi Sir. As a father I am more secure now," he wrote.

Unnao rape case: CBI to quiz SHO for delay

Pathikrit.Chakraborty
@timesgroup.com

Lucknow: UP police have come under the CBI scanner once again in the Unnao rape case. CBI is all set to question the SHO of the Makhi police station for delay in registering an FIR on the complaint of the rape survivor's mother against MLA and prime accused Kuldeep Singh Sengar's brother and his henchmen despite repeated police complaints.

The mother had sent complaints against the accused for threatening the family on July 7 and 11. However, the FIR was registered only on July 31, three days after the near-fatal accident involving the survivor and her lawyer made national headlines. Two of the survivor's aunts died in the crash.

On Saturday, CBI team questioned the Makhi police over the 35 complaints submitted by the survivor and her family over the last one year.

ITBP jawan among 3 held for raping minor

Ramashankar | TNN

Patna: Police on Sunday arrested Ravi Raj, an Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) constable, for his alleged involvement in the gang rape of a 14-year-old girl from Bihar's Saran district. Two others were earlier arrested in the case.

The survivor is under treatment at the Patna Medical College and Hospital (PMCH) and is out of danger now, said PMCH superintendent Dr Rajiv Ranjan Prasad.

Saran SP Har Kishore Rai said Ravi was friends with the girl and both lived in the same locality. Ravi is in Katihar where a battalion is stationed to guard the Indo-Nepal border. "We will send a team to Katihar to collect more information about the jawan," he said.

Man objects to 'sleazy' WhatsApp message, lynched

Harveer Dabas | TNN

Bijnor: Salim Ahmad, 20, paid with his life when he confronted a youth for sending him a sleazy video message on WhatsApp. The accused and his six cousins allegedly thrashed Salim to death in Muzaffargarh's Sherkot area on Saturday.

As per the complaint filed by Salim's father, Nizamuddin, his son was on his way back home after purchasing medicines for him when he got the inappropriate video clip on WhatsApp. "So, Salim confronted Moenuddin. A brawl ensued and Moenuddin's cousins joined him in beating my son." He said, "When passersby saw my son lying on the ground they informed me and took him to a private hospital where doctors declared him dead." After committing the crime, all accused fled from the scene.

SP Vishvajet Shrivastava said, "We've booked Moenuddin and six of his cousins. They have been booked for murder and under various sections of IPC. They will be arrested soon."

CBSE hikes exam fees for SC/ST pupils by 24 times

New Delhi: The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has increased the fees of Class 10 and 12 board examinations for SC and ST students from Rs 50 to ₹1,200, while the amount has been doubled for those from the general category, who will now have to pay ₹1,500.

The students appearing for the Class 10 board exams are registered for it when in Class 9, and those appearing for Class 12 are registered when in Class 11. The board notified the changes in the fees last week and has asked the schools who had already begun the registration process and charged students as per the old fee structure, to now collect the difference in amount.

According to the revised norms, the scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students will have to pay ₹1,200 for five subjects, while earlier they were supposed to pay Rs 50 for the same, a hike of 24 times. The general category students who were paying ₹750 earlier, will

now pay ₹1,500 for five subjects.

For appearing for an additional subject in Class 12 board examination, the SC and ST students who were earlier not supposed to pay any extra fee, will now have to pay ₹300. General category students will also have to pay ₹300 for an additional subject, instead of ₹150 earlier.

"100 per cent visually impaired students are exempted from paying CBSE examination fees. Class 12 are registered when in Class 11. The student, who fails to deposit the difference in CBSE examination fee before the last date, will not be registered and will not be allowed to appear in the 2019-20 examination," the official added. The migration fees which was ₹150 earlier, has also been increased to ₹350.

The students enrolled in CBSE schools abroad will have to pay ₹10,000 for five subjects for both Class 10 and 12. Earlier it was ₹5,000. For them, the fees for an additional subject in Class 12 has been fixed at ₹2,000, as against ₹1,000 earlier.

4.4 is TFR of literate Bihari women, 3.7 for illiterate

Low fertility states			High fertility states		
State	Overall TFR	Rural illiterates	State	Overall TFR	Urban graduates & above
Maha	1.7	1.3	UP	3	2.2
W Bengal	1.6	1.4	C'garh	2.4	2

► From P 1

The pattern tends to be more pronounced in high-fertility populations, say experts. However, in the 2017 data, this pattern held true even in states with lower fertility. For instance, in Bihar, a high fertility state, the TFR of women who have not completed primary schooling is 4.4 compared to 3.7 for illiterate women. Similarly, in Odisha with an overall low fertility rate of just 1.9, the TFR of illiterate women was 2 compared to a TFR of 3.6-3.5 among those with primary level schooling or below. At all-India level, the TFR for women with below primary education was 3.1 compared to 2.9 for illiterate women.

Dr KS James, director of the International Institute for Population Studies in Mumbai, explained that this inverted-J pattern in fertility is seen not only in education levels but also in income levels. "Usually there is an inverse relationship between education or income and fertility but it has been observed that fertility could go up with a slight increase in education or income level. But eventually, fertility declines with higher levels of education," said Dr James. "It could be because the number of illiterates in all states has been falling and so the sample size for illiterates might be small, leading to errors. At this stage, I wouldn't call it a trend. We need to see it for three or four years," said Prof Kulkarni.



Be the FIRST DEALER of SCHWING Stetter in India.




SCHWING Stetter India, a pioneer in manufacturing Concreting Equipment offers an opportunity to be a dealer of SCHWING Stetter in the Southern States of India. We invite you to be part of our New Dealership Network for Earthmoving and Road-making Machinery. We are fast expanding in to Non-concreting Products - Excavator, Motor Grader, Wheel Loader and other allied products. Our success so far is based on our commitment to provide World-class Service and Parts support for our state-of-the-art high reliability, high performance and fuel efficient Construction Machinery. We invite you to be our one of the First Dealers in a network that is planned to expand and cover every nook and corner of India. As a first step, we invite applications for appointment of dealership in the states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Telangana.



Please apply with your Company Profile within next 7 days to:

SCHWING Stetter (India) Private Ltd.
F-71 & F-72 Sipcot Industrial Park,
Irungattukottai,
Sriperumpudur Taluk,
Kancheepuram District,
Tamil Nadu - 602 117
Landline No : **044 7137 8661**
Email: Sezhian.m@schwingstetterindia.com





THE WHITSUNDAYS

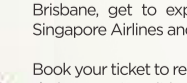



FLY TO BRISBANE AND CAIRNS WITH SINGAPORE AIRLINES & SILKAIR

ALL-IN RETURN FARES FROM

₹49,000* **₹81,000***

ECONOMY CLASS PREMIUM ECONOMY CLASS



From fine dining in Cairns to strolling on the Beaches of Brisbane, get to experience the best of Queensland with Singapore Airlines and SilkAir.

Book your ticket to redeem a S\$20 Changi Transit voucher during your transit in Singapore Changi Airport.

Book now at singaporeair.com

*Fare shown is per person on Singapore Airlines/SilkAir flights from Hyderabad to Brisbane/Cairns and includes all associated taxes and surcharges. Premium Economy Cabin is available only on selected flights from Delhi/Mumbai to Singapore and from Singapore to Brisbane. Promotional fares are on sale up to 31 August 2019, for outbound travel from 16 August 2019 till 20 August 2020. Black out dates apply. Fare shown is correct as on 10 July 2019. Actual prices may vary due to currency fluctuations and vary between cities in India. For travel within Australia, special fares are available with our partner airline - Virgin Australia. Pay with NetBanking when you book online at singaporeair.com or contact your travel agent or local Singapore Airlines/SilkAir office. Other conditions apply.

Jaish suicide squad in Valley for strike: Intel

Planning Attack Ahead Of I-Day: Officials

Aarti Tikoo Singh & Rohan Dua | TNN

Srinagar: A seven-member suicide squad of the banned Jaish-e-Muhammad has infiltrated into Jammu & Kashmir to carry out a massive terror attack on Eid or ahead of Independence Day, top intelligence sources told TOI on Sunday.

The sources said Pakistan's ISI had given the go-ahead to the group headed by Masood Azhar, designated a global terrorist, to cause as many casualties as they can without worrying about "collateral damage".

Security officials suspect Jaish-e-Muhammad will primarily target a mosque so that Pakistan is able to pin the blame on India. The group is also likely to attack civilian traffic and security installations along the highway in Anantnag district, they said.

Intelligence inputs about the likelihood of such an attack have come six days after Parliament passed a bill to nullify Article 370 and turn J&K and Ladakh into separate Union Territories.

Police sources said the Jaish suicide squad had pos-



Security personnel patrol a deserted street in Srinagar on Sunday

sibly entered the region south of Banihal and the Pir Panjal mountain range. "We suspect they sneaked into J&K from Rajouri or Poonch district," a top official said.

Azhar's brother Abdul Rauf, who is in charge of the group's terror operations, is believed to have plotted the suicide mission. He had planned and executed the 1999 hijacking of the Kathmandu-Delhi Indian Airlines flight IC 814.

Intelligence sources said Rauf met ISI officials in Rawalpindi to finalise the plan and returned to Bhalwalpur after sending the suicide squad to Jammu & Kashmir.

According to security ana-

lysts, Pakistan is desperate to draw international attention after its attempts to whip up a frenzy over the J&K developments were dismissed by the US and several Muslim countries. "Terror is the only effective strategy that they are left with now that India has concreted integration of J&K with the rest of the country," a counter-insurgency expert said.

Pakistan, he said, also wants to demonstrate to separatists in the Valley that it will continue to support terror and protests there. Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan tweeted against India on Sunday, comparing the BJP government with genocidal Nazis.

300 special phone booths set up to ease communication

► From P 1

Srinagar district magistrate Shahid Choudhary said he was conscious Eid was being celebrated under unusual circumstances but said efforts were being made to reduce inconveniences and ease facilities. "Had an elaborate meeting with imams for prayer arrangements," he said, underlining the efforts to ensure a peaceful Eid.

Intelligence reports suggest there could be some attempt by miscreants to create trouble on Monday soon after special Eid namaz but the authorities are looking to step up arrangements to contain the law and order situation, a senior police officer said.

J&K admin holds meeting with clerics

Srinagar: The J&K administration on Sunday held an elaborate meeting with imams and maulvis to finalise around 970 mosques where Eid prayers will be held on Monday. This was the first meeting between clerics and the government since reorganisation of J&K. Around 60 imams from 1,400 mosques of Srinagar and other districts attended the meeting which was chaired by Kashmir divisional commissioner Baseer Khan, IG Swamyam Pari and Srinagar deputy commissioner Shahid Choudhary at DC office. TNN

Meanwhile, the state government made special arrangements for people here to speak to relatives and friends in other parts of the country in the absence of any telephone or mobile service. According to the official spokesman, 300 special telephone booths are being established to help public to communicate with their kin.

Residents were expecting that landline phones may be restored in the Valley on the occasion of Eid but the authorities have not so far taken such a decision, sources said. State authorities ensured treasuries and banks remained functional. ATMs were functioning smoothly. It has been ensured that cash is replenished on regular basis. Importantly, salaries of all employees were being released.

Was hesitant while piloting J&K bill in RS as NDA didn't have majority: Shah

Leh may get smart-city tag

Dipak Dash | timesgroup.com



Home minister Amit Shah with actor Rajinikanth at a book-launch event to mark VP Venkaiah Naidu's two years in office, in Chennai on Sunday

Chennai: Union home minister Amit Shah on Sunday said he had apprehensions about how the Rajya Sabha would react to the Kashmir Reorganisation Bill, scrapping the special status to Jammu & Kashmir under Article 370 of the Constitution.

Speaking at the launch of a book on Venkaiah Naidu's two years in office as Vice President, Shah said, "While piloting the bill, there were apprehensions about how the Rajya Sabha will act when I take it there. I was hesitant as NDA did not have a majority in the Upper House." He said he had doubts even on the day when the bill was moved. "Still I decided we will take the bill first to Rajya Sabha and then Lok Sabha."

"I am confident that Jammu & Kashmir will progress on the path of development and prosperity," Shah, who was on his maiden visit to Tamil Nadu after becoming

the home minister, said. Actor Rajinikanth, who was also present at the event, said: "Modiji and Amit Shahji are like the Krishna-Arjun combination".

New Delhi: Leh, the headquarters of Ladakh Union Territory, could be the next city to get a Smart City tag and the Centre will soon roll out infrastructure and other urban development projects to bring quick transformation.

Sources said a team of housing and urban affairs ministry would visit the city in the next few weeks and prepare a plan. While launching the scheme, the government had announced that all state capitals and headquarters of Union Territories will get this tag.

Full report on www.toi.in

Tories & Labour slug it out over India's Kashmir move

Naomi Cantor

London: A war has broken out between the Tories and Labour over India's decision to revoke J&K's special status. On Sunday night, leader of the opposition Jeremy Corbyn blasted India's revocation of Article 370 in a tweet which read: "The situation in Kashmir is deeply disturbing... The rights of the Kashmiri people must be respected and UN resolutions implemented."

Corbyn's tweet followed a letter from British Pakistani Labour MP Yasmin Qureshi to UK PM Boris Johnson, calling on him to "strongly condemn the actions of the Indian government" and its "illegal and unconstitutional revocation of Article 370 to annex Kashmir".

Qureshi wrote on August 5 that the revocation of Article 350 "contravenes international law", "violates the UN resolution" and will "act only to inflame tensions and trigger major unrest". She said the "demotion of Kashmir" to being a "colony ruled by Delhi" would reinforce the view that



Kashmiri women shout slogans during a protest in Srinagar

"in Modi's India Muslims are second-class citizens".

Qureshi said she was concerned about Hindu "land-grabbing" and "the deliberate demographic transformation of the region from majority Muslim to majority Hindu". "The British government has a historic obligation to help mediate between Pakistan, India and Kashmir".

The Labour MP called on Johnson to "put principle" before Britain's trade relationship with India and speak up for Kashmiri people.

Bob Blackman, the Conservative MP, responded to

Qureshi in his own letter to the UK PM four days later. "Constitutional changes are an internal matter for India. There is a widely-respected convention that we do not interfere in the domestic affairs of a third country, especially a long-standing friend and ally like India," he said.

Johnson is yet to respond. Downing Street said in a statement that Johnson received a call from Pakistan PM Imran Khan on August 7. "The leaders discussed the situation in Kashmir and agreed on the importance of maintaining dialogue," a spokesperson said.

Foreign secretary Dominic Raab said: "We've expressed some of our concerns around the situation and called for calm, but also had a clear readout of the situation from the perspective of the Indian government."

Corbyn's tweet on Sunday garnered angry reactions from many PIOs. Kuldeep Shekawat, president of the Overseas Friends of BJP UK, tweeted: "This is a conspiracy against Indians. A Labour leader making baseless tweet."

AMU's Kashmiri students reject govt's Eid-day lunch invite

Anuja Jaiswal | TNN

Agra: Over 250 Kashmiri students studying at Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) have boycotted the lunch invite from the Centre on the occasion of Eid-ul-Zuha on Monday. The students from Valley also said that they would stay away from any kind of festivity on the campus.

In a statement issued on the eve of the festival, the Kashmiri students said that they were dismayed by the invite, which has political connotation and 'aimed at rubbing salts on their wounds.' "We take this as an opportunity to reject Delhi's authoritarianism and drama played in Parliament on August 5," reads the statement issued by the students.

Recently, J&K Governor Satya Pal Malik had sanctioned Rs 1 lakh each to the designated liaison officers for organising Eid festivities for students from the state who are studying outside and are unable to come home on the occasion amid security clampdown.

'United' in detention, spat separates Omar-Mehbooba

Saleem.Pandit | timesgroup.com

Srinagar: An argument between Omar Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti, who were in detention at Hari Niwas Palace, allegedly got so nasty last week that the two former J&K CMs could no longer be kept in the same place, officials have revealed.

"Both were accusing each other of getting BJP into J&K. At one point, Omar shouted at Mehbooba, taunting her and the late Mufti Mohammad Sayeed for aligning with BJP between 2015 and 2018," an official of the hospitality and protocol department said on condition



BLAME GAME: Mehbooba, Omar

of anonymity.

Mehbooba allegedly retaliated to Omar's barb with one of her own. "She reminded Omar that his father Farooq Abdullah had an alliance with BJP under Atal Behari Vajpayee. She told him, 'You were even junior minister for external affairs

in the Vajpayee government," the official said. She allegedly went on to blame Omar's grandfather Sheikh Abdullah for J&K's accession to India in 1947.

As the squabble continued, the administration decided it would be best to separate them, the official said. Omar was shifted to what he described as "a splendid hut" in Cheshmashahi, at the foot of Mahadev Peak. Mehbooba remains at Hari Niwas Palace.

A protocol officer said Mehbooba had asked for brown bread but it couldn't be provided as no such item was on the "jail menu".

Indian envoy returns as Pak refuses to review moves

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Indian high commissioner Ajay Bisaria returned from Islamabad late on Saturday after repeated calls by India for Pakistan to review the decision to downgrade ties went unheeded. While some other officials also returned the same day, the government said they were here on leave for the holiday season starting Monday and would be back in Islamabad soon.

Pakistan's new high commissioner to India Moin-ul-Haque, who was expected to arrive here this week, will also not be joining office any time soon.

Islamabad, in fact, looked to be raising the ante further on Sunday with PM Imran Khan drawing a parallel with the Nazis in the manner in



A woman walks past a bus used to block a road by security personnel in Srinagar on Sunday

which India had revoked special status of J&K.

"The curfew, crackdown and impending genocide of Kashmiris in IOK is unfolding

exactly according to RSS ideology inspired by Nazi ideology. Attempt is to change demography of Kashmir through ethnic cleansing.

Question is: Will the world watch and appease as they did Hitler at Munich?" tweeted Khan.

While India didn't official-

ly respond to Khan, sources here said this was another sign of Pakistan's desperation. "Islamabad is struggling to come to terms with the fact that the most major powers, including Russia, have said that Article 370-related developments were an internal matter of India. Downgrading of ties is a unilateral decision as the Indian government still wants diplomatic communication to remain open," a source said.

"I am afraid this RSS ideology of Hindu supremacy, like the Nazi Aryan supremacy, will not stop in IOK; instead it will lead to suppression of Muslims in India and eventually lead to targeting of Pakistan," Khan tweeted. "The Hindu supremacists' version of Hitler's Lebensraum," Khan said in another tweet.

Pick up a chit, wait for 4 hrs for a brief call to a loved one

Rohan Dua & Aarti Tikoo Singh | TNN

Srinagar: Fifty-five-year-old Mohammad Wahid waited four hours on Sunday for his turn to make a short ISD call to his son in Australia and tell him that he was safe. He insisted, probably half in jest, that his Australian accent got him to the phone faster than he had anticipated.

"Been here the last 10 days. The situation is chaotic, but they (the administration) are trying. Trying to keep everyone happy I wish they had allowed few more phones to be used. It's not enough," said Wahid, standing apart in his three-fourth pants and tee, accessorised with a fancy sling bag over his shoulder.

Wahid, who lives in Australia with his family is visiting his ancestral home near Chashmeshahi. He flew in from New South Wales just ahead of the lockdown in the Valley that set the stage for nullification of Article 370.

Like many others cut off from their near and dear ones for more than a week, Wahid visited the Budgam deputy commissioner's office after hearing that the administration had set up a "helpline cen-



TIME TO CONNECT: Locals try to call up family members living outside J&K at a helpline centre in Srinagar on Sunday

tre" with two mobile handsets each in every district. Anyone wanting to make a call first collects a numbered chit that serves as a waiting ticket. A roll call every few minutes either elicits a smile or a frown.

The average waiting period ranges between three and four hours, going by the experience of those who have queued up for the service in the past three days. The lucky ones get to make a call within 25 to 40 minutes. Sometimes, sensing a situation going out of hand, an official might walk in with a satellite phone to reduce the backlog.

At each helpline centre, TOI found young men who reach

there at the crack of the dawn to beat the long queues. If someone is unable to speak to a family member living abroad because of the time difference, officials take requests to ask those people to call back at a particular time.

In the past 48 hours, as many as 11,000 incoming calls have been received. Recorded messages have come from Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, the UK, Australia, US and Greece for family members living in places as far as Poonch, Rajouri and Baramulla. While the time allowed for a call is generally not more than a few minutes, elderly people get about 15 minutes.

'Forget Eid shopping, I just want to hear my ailing mom's voice'

Ishita Mishra & Prashant Jha | TNN

Dehradun: The curfew and internet suspension in Jammu & Kashmir has forced around 500 Kashmiri students to remain disconnected from their families this Eid-ul-Zuha. While some students are ill but cannot afford to go to the doctor, many are lending groceries to others who are running out of money. The students say that memories of this Eid will haunt them forever.

"Forget Eid shopping, I only ask from Allah to give me an opportunity to hear my ailing mother's voice on Eid. I am not able to contact my parents for the past nine days," said 22-year-old Tarique Ahmed Bhatt, who hails from Budgam.

Another student, Saqib Asadullah, 21, says the wedding of his cousin sister, scheduled on August 19, stands cancelled as no one in the family will be able to reach their Kupwara home. His would-be brother-in-law is in the Indian Army and is posted in Ranchi. He added,

"Even the groom says he will not be able to reach Kashmir. A marriage was taking place in our family after a long time. But everything got ruined."

Rayees Athar and Gulzar Ahmad Lone are worried about their brothers who left from Chandigarh for Srinagar last week but no one knows if they have reached.

"Neither the helpline nor the satellite phone is working. I only know that my brother has taken a flight from Chandigarh to Srinagar. But no one knows about his whereabouts," said Athar. For Kashmiri students, the horrors of the withdrawal of Article 370 started much before the world got to know about it.

"The other day, thousands of jawans surrounded our village. When they called off the Amarnath yatra, we wondered if genocide would take place," said Haroon Rashid. "We don't know if the revoking of article 370 is wrong or right but all I know is that Kashmiris will not forget this Eid," said Saqib Afzal Zabo.

Jaishankar in China to talk on key issues

Beijing: External affairs minister S Jaishankar arrived in Beijing on Sunday on a three-day visit to hold talks with Chinese leadership on a host of issues including finalisation of arrangements for President Xi Jinping's visit to India later this year for the second informal summit with PM Narendra Modi.

His official engagements will begin on Monday with a call on the Chinese leadership. It has not been officially announced yet about whom he would be meeting. He will also hold a bilateral meeting with foreign minister Wang Yi. The two ministers will also co-chair the second meeting of the High-Level Mechanism on Cultural and People-to-People Exchanges.

Jaishankar's visit comes days after Pakistan foreign minister Mahmood Qureshi travelled to Beijing to seek China's support for his country's attempts to take India's move to revoke special status to Kashmir to the UN Security Council. ¶¶

After Pak, India halts Samjhauta Express

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: Samjhauta Express has finally stopped from both the Indian and Pakistani ends. The Indian Railways on Sunday announced cancellation of the train that plied between Delhi and Attari carrying Pakistan-bound passengers. Pakistan on Thursday had announced suspending the bi-weekly train service connecting Lahore and Delhi.

"Consequent to Pakistan's decision to cancel Samjhauta Express running between Lahore and Attari, the link express train number running between Delhi and Attari also stands cancelled," Northern Railway spokesperson Deepak Kumar said. The railways runs the train on Sundays from Delhi to Attari and back, while Pakistan runs the train between Lahore and Attari.

Passengers needed to change trains at the Attari station. "So, running a train from here carrying passengers doesn't help when they can't get a train across the border," said an official. Officials said only two pas-

No military fix for J&K issue: Rouhani

The Kashmir dispute has no military solution and should be resolved diplomatically by India and Pakistan, Iranian president Hassan Rouhani said on Sunday. In a telephonic conversation with Pakistan PM Imran Khan, Rouhani said that the two countries should exercise restraint and stop the killing of innocent people in the Valley. ¶¶

sengers had booked their tickets.

Pakistan had decided to discontinue the service indefinitely as part of downgrading of its diplomatic ties with India in response to scrapping of special status to J&K.

Pakistani railway minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmad had said coaches of Samjhauta Express would now be used for passengers travelling on the occasion of Eid. "Till I am railway minister, Samjhauta Express train service will not operate," he had said.

Mumbaikars tweet to invite Kashmiris home for Eid

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Mumbai: On the eve of Eid, two Mumbaikars took to twitter to announce that they were throwing their doors open for Kashmiris who are stranded without money or are unable to connect with their families. Their tweets drew an instant, overwhelming reaction from people across the country lauding the gesture and offering assistance to Kashmiris.

Vaibhav Vishal tweeted from the handle @ofnosurna-mefame, "Kashmiri students from Mumbai on my TL... If you are waiting for monies from home, need some urgently, and are unable to connect with your folks, feel free to ping. I'm not super rich, but will do my best to help..." Among those who replied to

Kashmiri students from Mumbai on my TL... If you are waiting for monies from home, need some urgently, and are unable to connect with your folks, feel free to ping. I'm not super rich, but will do my best to help... ¶¶

Vaibhav Vishal

his tweet were singer Rekha Bhardwaj who said, "I am also there to help" and actor Vrajesh Hirjee who said, "I'd be glad to pitch in." ¶¶

Santhosh Nellayappan, replying to him, said, "Respect! Sane people are still around. My India is still alive. Am really happy." ¶¶

manity and miracles on seeing such stuff. Way to go. Jai Hind!"

Similarly, M K Raina, a fellow Kashmiri from the handle @rainamki said, "Those of my Muslim brothers and sisters who are held up in Mumbai and can't go to their homes in Kashmir for any reason, kindly come to my home and let us celebrate Eid together. Kindly DM me to note my address. I already have a Muslim family from Arizaal with me." ¶¶

Raina clarified that he was not the well known actor by the same name. Cartoonist Sudhir Dar, who is also of Kashmiri descent, replied, "Bravo, M.K. you're one in a million!"

In a chain reaction, these tweets evoked similar messages from Goa and Odisha offering monetary aid.

A WEEKLY PICK OF STIMULATING IDEAS AND OPINIONS THAT HAVE APPEARED IN OTHER MEDIA, ONLINE AND OFFLINE

Nature didn't want us to be always happy

Happiness is a global industry worth many billions of dollars. It is built on the assumption that happiness should be our normal state of mind, and anyone who is not in a permanent state of bliss needs healing. But this is a false assumption, says an article in *The Conversation*. "Happiness is a human construct, an abstract idea with no equivalent in actual human experience... sustained happiness has no biological basis," it says, adding, "Humans are not designed to be happy, or even content."

What were we designed for? On her part, Nature expects just two things of us: survival—somehow stay alive—and reproduction—leave behind someone to continue this project. But eternal bliss would derail it. "A state of contentment is discouraged by nature because it would lower our guard against possible threats to our survival."

The article says happiness is not even a real thing. It has "no neurological basis, cannot be found in the brain tissue." On the other hand, our executive and analytical abilities—which ensure survival—do have a neurological basis. They are housed in the large frontal lobe of the brain.

While we seek happiness, some experts say depression might be more useful. "Depression as an adaptation plays a useful role in times of adversity, by helping the depressed individual disengage from risky and hopeless situations in which he or she cannot win."

For more: *The Conversation*

1 million tonnes of chemical weapons litter ocean floor



When World War-II ended in 1945, Russians, Americans and the British didn't know how to dispose of their stocks of chemical weapons, such as sulphur mustard and nerve gas. All of them decided to dump them at sea. So, about a million tonnes of these weapons litter the ocean floor at depths of a few hundred metres to over a kilometre. Now, long years after the War, the bombs have become a concern as their corroded shells could leak lethal chemicals. Fish trawlers and deep sea drilling for oil and gas have also increased the risk of accidental exposure.

For more: *Hakai Magazine*

Making sure friends agree with your choice

When You Can't Agree On An Option, Steer The Argument Your Way By Introducing A Dud Alternative That Makes Your Choice Look Better

There's a long weekend coming and you want to visit Agra. Your friend is keen on Jaipur. How do you bring them round? If you play the either/or game, you won't win. Each time you say 'Agra', they will respond with 'Jaipur'. It's time to bring in a third 'decoy' option that makes Jaipur seem less attractive.

Most big stores and online retailers already do this to influence your choice. Say, you are at a burger place. They have their regular burger for Rs 70—which is what you came to have—burger and fries for Rs 110, and burger, fries and cola for Rs 120. Which one do you end up buying?

Many people happily opt for the most expensive burger-fries-cola combo believing they have got the best deal, but considered rationally, they have spent almost twice as much as they intended to.

Here's another example. You want a small city car, and have chosen a model. At the showroom, you learn it comes in three variants. The base variant meets all your needs, but the second variant has leather seats and tilt steering, and the top variant comes with a stereo as well for just Rs 5,000 more. You take the top variant.

Psychologists call this the 'decoy effect'. An article in BBC's *Worklife* series describes it as "The deliberate presentation of an additional, slightly less attractive option... (to push) you to pay out more money than you would have rationally chosen."

While marketers use the decoy effect to make you buy higher-priced products, it also works in other ways in our lives. Consider a boy who cannot make up his mind about dating an attractive girl, 'A', in his class. A new girl, 'B', joins them and the teacher makes her sit with A. B is not as good-looking as A, and the boy has no difficulty making up his mind now.

Research confirms this, says the article: "We tend to fancy someone more if they appear alongside a 'decoy' who is similar



GAME THE MENU: Experiments have shown that presenting people with a well-designed decoy option can shift opinion by as much as 40%

looking, but slightly less attractive." This effect works even when you are browsing profiles on dating sites. "Your perceptions of someone's attractiveness will depend on who came before or after."

It also influences voters' choice during elections, the outcome of job interviews, and if you have more than one job offer, the company you choose to work with.

How powerful is the decoy effect? "Experiments examining choices... have found the use of a well-designed decoy... can shift opinion... by as much as 40%—showing just how easily our decisions can be swayed by the way they are framed."

Why do we fall for decoy options so easily? It seems we do it to justify our choices. You wanted a burger but were tempted by the more expensive burger and fries—taking the burger-fries-cola combo made you feel smart because you seemingly got a bargain.

Whether you get decoyed or not depends on your thinking style, says the article. People who go by their gut feel get decoyed more easily than those who weigh the pros and cons of a choice. Hormones play a role, too. "Higher levels of testosterone, for instance, tend to make people more impulsive, which means they are more susceptible to the decoy effect." Since men have higher testosterone levels, they are possibly more susceptible to it.

Coming back to your long weekend plan, your ability to decoy your friend depends on how well you phrase the choices. A decoy must be similar to the option you are pushing. Suggesting Orchha will not help, but the hotel budget could be a clincher: if you can find a bargain at a luxury hotel in Agra, your friend might stop insisting on Jaipur. Unless, they are the cold, calculating type of decision-maker.

For more: *BBC*

Germs harm us, but they don't mean to

Mention of germs makes us reach for disinfectants and sanitisers, but are they the villains they are made out to be? An article in *Aeon* says they are not. Microbes have been around much longer than us. So, to think they somehow evolved with the sole purpose of making us sick and killing us is unreasonable.

Microbes make us sick while trying to survive. Usually, they are engaged in battle with other germs. So, infections mostly represent collateral damage.

Consider the bacterium *Streptococcus pneumoniae* that resides peacefully inside the nose and airway of every healthy person. Sometimes, though, it causes life-threatening diseases like pneumonia, meningitis and sepsis. Why?

The answer lies in its long evolutionary struggle against another bacterium, *Haemophilus influenzae*, which turns its



COLLATERAL DAMAGE: Microbes usually make us sick while they are busy battling other germs to stay alive

host animal's white blood cells against *Streptococcus pneumoniae*. To survive, *Streptococcus pneumoniae* has evolved a thick coat of complex sugar molecules that the white blood cells cannot pene-

trate. But if the host has low immunity, the bacterium's armour enables it to penetrate their respiratory system and cause a serious disease.

"Its virulence—its ability to cause disease—is not an adaptation against its host (humans). It is a side effect, a fluke. It kills through coincidence."

Similarly, *Escherichia coli*, a common gut bacterium, has evolved the ability to survive inside predatory amoebas and kill them from within. But this makes it dangerous to us and other animals at times.

The mistake we make is to position ourselves at the centre of the microbe universe and imagine that they evolved to attack us. The truth, probably, is that microbes become harmful by sheer coincidence. Considered in this light, many human diseases have nothing to do with humans at all.

For more: *Aeon*

INCREDIBLE FACT

723

Romance novels Barbara Cartland wrote in her 77-year career. In the 1980s, her output peaked at 23 titles a year.



Source: The New York Times

Japanese have forgotten how to fall in love and are losing interest in marriage



In Japan, women were expected to marry early, bear children and do all the housework, but education and jobs changed that. Most Japanese women work now, so they are financially independent and have many outlets to keep loneliness and boredom at bay. As for men, they were expected to be breadwinners, but after salaries stagnated in the 1990s and job security declined, raising a family became more stressful. Japanese work culture demands that men spend long hours in the office, so spending time with wife and kids is difficult. Consequently, both women and men in Japan are not keen on starting relationships and getting married. In 2018, the country had its lowest ever marriage and birth rates.

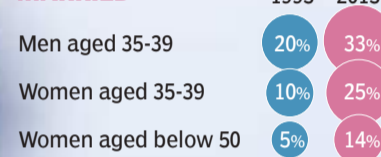
70%

Record number of Japanese women aged 15-64 now have jobs

NEVER BEEN KISSED

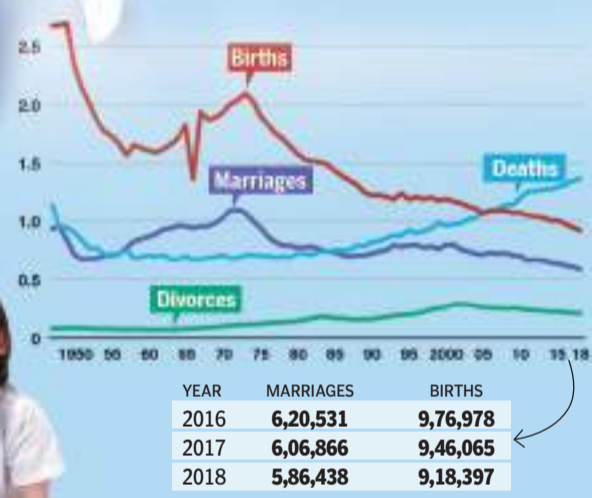
63% of men and 39% of women aged 25-34 say they have never been romantically attached. They don't know how to start a relationship

NEVER BEEN MARRIED



FEWER COUPLES AND BABIES

BIRTHS, DEATHS, MARRIAGES AND DIVORCES BY YEAR (in million)



Sources: The New York Times, Japan Times & Nippon.com

How rakhis, flags turn into tulsis, tomato plants

Ketaki.Desai@timesgroup.com

Every year as Independence Day rolls around, our streets are full of people selling plastic flags. And as celebrations die down, those same flags are thrown into landfills or burnt, adding to our mounting pollution problem. Nearly 50,000 tons of plastic flags are disposed every year, estimates Roshan Ray, founder of Seed Paper India.

His firm is one of a growing number of homegrown startups offering an innovative solution— they make paper out of seeds, and one can simply plant the flag to get a new tulsii or tomato sapling. Since chemical colouring slows down the seed germination process, organic colours are used. "For our flags, we use spinach, haldi and blueberry juice for the chakra," says Ray.

Kritika Saxena has been making paper from seeds like mixed wildflowers and tomato, and has sold 85,000 units of flags already this year. Saxena shared what she was trying to do on some WhatsApp groups, and word rapidly spread, so much so that this year she has barely been able to keep up with the orders coming in from across the country, from Hyderabad to Patna, Uttarakhand to Mumbai.

Her sustainable flags cost Rs 6 apiece. "It was important that these be affordable for middle class people like us. Products in the organic and sustainable space often tend to be expensive, but I didn't want to do that."

says the Delhi-resident.

It isn't just flags either; these companies make everything from rakhis to wedding cards, calendars to seed bombs (little balls made with seed and recycled cotton that one can toss into a garden or forest to let them sprout on its own).

For Divyanshu Asopa, the founder of 2ifools that specializes in plantable paper and has sold 200,000 flags this year, the realization of how much wastage their greeting card venture led to was behind the pivot to this sustainable alternative. They have been making seed paper products from 2014, and in that time have sold four million units. "This means we have prevented 800 trees from being cut, according to our calculations," he says. Even in terms of water wastage, this paper alternative is more sustainable, requiring one-tenth of the water that wood pulp paper does.

Made from waste cotton and recycled paper pulp, this paper requires handmade printing. "The paper is so textured that if you use it on a normal printer, the seeds come off. So, we do a manual printing process that is quite slow. We engage 10 specialised manual printers for this," says Asopa.

Wedding cards are a large segment of business, as are orders from corporates. "It took a lot of time to convince corporates to purchase this paper from us because they didn't see the utility of it," he says. They have since worked with Google India, Mercedes, Reliance and Colgate for corporate gifting gigs.



PAPER TO PLANT

- You fill a pot with soft soil and manure, moisten the paper and tear it into pieces and place it in the pot.
- Top it up with a thin layer of manure, and just spray water regularly to allow the seeds to germinate.
- Seed paper has an 80-90% germination rate.

Pocket translators make travel easy

Kantaro Komiya

Takehiko Fujita wouldn't be able to do his job selling eye drops and pain relievers without his pocket translator.

Instead of an app, language dictionary, or call-in translation service, the clerk in a Japanese drugstore uses Pocketalk, a 25,000 yen (Rs 17,000) device made by Sourcexnext that looks like an oval puck. The gadget translates phrases to and from 74 languages, helping Fujita communicate with customers from Sweden, Vietnam and other countries.

Tourists are flooding into Japan, with 31 million people visiting the archipelago in 2018, triple the number six years earlier, according to the Japan National Tourism Organization. Businesses are struggling with visitors looking to shop, eat and move around—a situation that will probably worsen during next year's Tokyo Olympics. Electronics maker Fujitsu and office supplier King Jim are challenging Pocketalk's 94% market share with their own products.



TRAVEL BOOM: Personal translation devices are a hit in Japan as the number of tourists visiting are on the rise

"I'm not worried anymore," said Fujita, who works at a Takeya store in Tokyo. He used to rely on Google Translate to talk to customers, but now he picks up the Pocketalk dangling from his neck to chat with people. "I can speak to people who, at first glance, come from foreign countries and might

not understand me."

While smartphone apps remain a popular translation tool, Pocketalk has carved out its own niche. Dedicated for just one purpose, the gadget has a sensitive microphone, and accesses machine translation and voice-recognition software. More than 500,000 Pocketalk units have been sold since it debuted in 2017.

Fujitsu has been marketing its own translator, called Arrows Hello. The 30,000 yen product, on sale since May, is different because it has a camera that also translates text. Demand is particularly high among retailers as well as the transportation sector, according to Hiroshi Tamura, general sales manager at Fujitsu Connected Technologies. The market for language translators may be larger "than what we expect," Tamura said.

"Now that Japan is a tourist destination, there's no excuse for businesses to say 'We don't understand foreigners,'" said Eiji Mori, chief analyst at market researcher BCN. "They need to grow revenue, so translators will keep growing." BLOOMBERG

Why men send pictures of their d***s

Shivali Best

Whether you're a man or a woman, it's likely you've received an unsolicited photo of a penis at one point or another.

These photos, commonly known as 'd*** pics' have become a widespread phenomenon, sparking researchers from the University of Pennsylvania to look into why men send them.

In the study, the researchers surveyed 1,087 men about whether they had sent any d*** pics, as well as their motivations behind sending them. The survey also included questions to rate their levels of various traits, including narcissism, exhibitionism, erotophilia-erophobia, and sexism.

The results revealed that men were mostly motivated to send genital images due to a "transactional mindset."

In their study, published in *The Journal of Sex Research*, the researchers, led by Flora Oswald, wrote: "We determined that the most frequently reported motivational category for sending geni-



BELOW THE BELT: Those who sent unsolicited d*** pics showed higher levels of narcissism and hostile sexism

tal images was a transactional mindset (i.e., motivated by hopes of receiving images in return), while the most commonly desired reaction from recipients was that of sexual excitement."

Delving deeper into the results, the

researchers also found key links between certain personality traits and d*** pics.

The researchers explained: "We determined that men who reported having sent unsolicited d*** pics demonstrated higher levels of narcissism and endorsed greater ambivalent and hostile sexism than their non-sending counterparts."

The team now hopes to study the phenomenon further to understand its role in modern society.

The study found that the d*** pic isn't a new phenomenon, having been seen in ancient Roman graffiti and public restrooms aline. According to the study, it has been used to "present both the male sex in general and a variety of traditionally masculine themes such as strength, power, and virility."

The researchers added: "The d*** pic lies at the intersection of the zeitgeists surrounding consent, gender, sexuality, and technology, and further research on the subject could provide insights into myriad contemporary topics such as online sexual harassment, online dating culture, and gender relations." DAILY MIRROR

SHORT CUTS

People prefer to lose jobs to robots over humans

Most people would rather be replaced by their job by a robot as opposed to a human being, a new study finds. Researchers asked 300 people to judge whether they would prefer an existing employee to be replaced by a robot or a human, *New Scientist* reports. In that scenario, 62% of people said they would prefer to have a human step in. But when asked to imagine losing their own job, 63% would rather their job was taken by a robot. The team found that people rated robots as less threatening to their self-identity. That may be because people don't feel they can or must compete with a robot in the same way as they might with another person.

GOLD THINNER THAN A FINGERNAIL CREATED



The world's thinnest version of gold has been created by researchers at the University of Leeds. The thickness of the metal is 0.47 nanometers or just two atoms thick. One million times thinner than a human fingernail, the material is regarded as two-dimensional, reports *Metro*. Researchers say it has widespread applications, from medical devices to electronic industries, including in water purification systems. Its green appearance underwater has led it to be described as gold nano-seaweed by scientists. It is ten times more efficient as a catalyst substrate than the nanoplastics that are currently used

Now, a book of tampons is a form of protest:

In most countries sanitary items are taxed as luxury products, and Germany is no different—sanitary products are taxed at 19 percent. Books, on the other hand, are taxed at seven percent. That's why a protest book from German start-up *The Female Company* is flying off the shelves. The tampon book contains 15 tampons under its cover, and costs €3.11 (Rs 248). The book also features stories about periods from biblical times to present day in order to break the taboo surrounding them.

**A thought for today**

Dams were synonymous with progress, and the rivers were to be conquered with the fervour of a pioneer wielding an axe

TIM PALMER

It's A Deluge

Heavy flooding across states calls for an urgent review of mitigation measures

Heavy rainfall over the past week has caused havoc in parts of Kerala, Karnataka and Maharashtra, forcing evacuation of lakhs of people. Landslides and floods have already claimed over 150 lives with the toll expected to rise further, as many people continue to be trapped and IMD has predicted more heavy rains. In Kerala – which had witnessed its worst floods in a century exactly a year ago – more than 60 people have perished and over 2 lakh have been shifted to relief camps. Massive destruction has also been caused by major landslides in Wayanad and Malappuram.

In Karnataka over 3 lakh people have been evacuated. Kodagu district bordering Kerala was facing drought-like conditions until May but is now deluged, in a fate shared with too many other districts. Death toll in this state has crossed 30 with northern Karnataka too being ravaged by heavy downpour and flooding. In Maharashtra, Kolhapur and Sangli districts have been the worst hit, with initial estimates being that cropping area of 1.5 lakh hectares has been washed out. Over 2 lakh people lost electricity supply in these two areas and NH-4 which connects Mumbai and Bengaluru via Kolhapur was forced shut. Over 4 lakh people have been evacuated in the state and over 30 have died.



The extreme rainfall and flooding situation this year – affecting Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat and other states – once again highlights the increasingly erratic nature of the monsoon amid changing weather patterns. This means rainfall estimates need to be rigorously revised and flood management mechanisms updated. It will require different measures in different regions. The interests of Karnataka, Kerala and Maharashtra definitely require an immediate end to the encroachment of the Western Ghats. The ecological degradation of the Ghats actually makes 6 states in the region vulnerable to landslides and flooding.

Similarly, there's also an urgent need to upgrade dam management in the region. Despite heavy rain warnings, why couldn't Maharashtra and Karnataka coordinate to release dam waters downstream as a pre-emptive measure? We need much more proactive and punctilious supervision of dam waters. In this regard, the Lok Sabha recently passed the Dam Safety Bill, 2019, which provides an institutional mechanism for inspection and maintenance to avert dam breaches. But India needs many more institutional responses to mitigate monsoon fury year after year, and save lives.

Healthy, Wealthy, Wise

Here's another reason to stop burning paddy stubble: happy seeders also boost farm returns

An international study which reveals that use of happy seeder machines developed at the Punjab Agriculture University can yield up to 20% higher returns than the common harmful practice of burning crop stubble must prompt central and state governments to aggressively promote their use. In many states, but mostly Punjab and Haryana, farmers burn crop stubble to quickly prepare the ground for the next sowing to save labour costs. Linked to a spike in air pollution in neighbouring cities, especially Delhi NCR, stubble burning is being discouraged and even penalised but many farmers are reluctant to change course.



They must be persuaded that subsidies funded by a Rs 1,151 crore central package for purchase of happy seeders that sow seeds without removing previous crop stubble and associated straw management systems are not just about mollifying cities. The study's findings of greater moisture retention in soil, reduced water requirement, improved soil quality, and greater resilience to climate stress translate into better yields and lower input costs – music to the kisan's ears. The problem is, a 2017 survey revealed that only 11% of farmers use happy seeders though 86% have seen it in action. Obviously the benefits need more publicisation, to convince more holdouts to purchase the equipment.

The findings on happy seeders also suggest that states should focus their promotion efforts on this particular technology, rather than varied options. Marketing must gain pace now so that more farms access happy seeders by the end of the kharif season in October-November and before rabi cropping when the burning intensifies. The stumbling block to taking agricultural knowhow from laboratory to field is an incompetent bureaucracy. Governments must ensure that findings on happy seeders reach farmers. They will then choose wisely.

In House matters

In Parliament bills are being passed and citizens are footing the bill

Sagarika.Ghose@timesgroup.com



The recently concluded budget session of Parliament went on. And on. During the two-month long session, citizens asked: when will the session end? The government replied, we're passing bills so continue to foot the bill. Even if matters are in-house, citizens should keep watch so that Parliament doesn't become entirely a divided House.

When the debate on the removal of Article 370 began PDP MPs MM Fayaz and Nazir Ahmad Laway ripped up the Constitution. Citizens wondered: was democracy itself being shredded? One of these MPs then tore his own clothes, to show the issue was close to the bone. Parliamentary proceedings ideally should not take the shirt off anyone's back. Some lost their shirts, others lost their temper. Veteran Ghulam Nabi Azad was in the middle of a furious speech when, after repeated interruptions, he bellowed: "Shut up!" For the opposition, it soon became a moment when it looked it might have to entirely shut shop.

Congress's Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury (who, whether he's arguing in English or Hindi, always sounds as if he's shouting in Bengali) became confused about the internal and external of India's Kashmir policy. After first asserting that J&K had always been an external matter, he then claimed that the word he had been looking for was, of course, 'internal'. By then he had already crossed the Line of Control.

The redoubtable Asaduddin Owaisi pronounced that marriage was a contract which had nothing to do with "janam janam ka saath". Many applauded so loudly that it was apparent Owaisi has an excellent future in marriage counselling. Feisty Mohua Moitra, with her spirited interventions, showed that she could be a brand ambassador for the Sundarbans tigress which is facing near-extinction.

The St Stephen's educated tones of Shashi Tharoor were heard, taking us through the history of Nehru, Patel and the Maharaja of Kashmir. But by then home minister Amit Shah had already revealed that he's the new Shah-en-Shah.

The MP from Ladakh, Jamyang Tsering Namgyal burst upon the scene. As he exulted on his new status as the Union's territory, the so far unknown MP's speech became almost as popular as Buddhist chants.

If voters are worried about our MPs bringing down the House, we only need to look to our not-so-friendly neighbour Pakistan, where during a parliamentary debate, senator Mushahid Ullah Khan called minister Fawad Chaudhary a "dog". When it comes to Parliament, perhaps India and Pakistan are indeed separated at birth.

Full Of Sound And Fury

Why Islamabad's histrionics on Kashmir have barely stirred the global community

Chidanand.Rajghatta@timesgroup.com



India's move to effect legislative and constitutional changes to mainstream the part of Jammu & Kashmir state it administers has driven Pakistan stir crazy on grounds that New Delhi is changing status quo of a disputed territory. This is something Islamabad itself has done periodically, including ceding parts under its occupation to a third party, China. Islamabad's histrionics have barely stirred the global community beyond expressing hopes that it will not exacerbate the matter. Even its all-weather patron China and the Muslim ummah it lives off have counselled restraint. The United States, despite being constrained by needing Pakistan for its drawdown in Afghanistan, has implicitly backed India's right to ring in internal changes that came sans external aggression. Russia has been more explicit in its support, validating changes "carried out within the framework of the Constitution of the Republic of India".

There are several reasons why the world has reacted to Islamabad's fury with a shrug – and a nod to India, despite New Delhi's lackadaisical presentation of its case in global forums. Pakistan is seen as revisionist state bent on changing status quo through aggression (four wars) and the use of terrorism that has fundamentally altered the dynamics in the Kashmir Valley. In a world that is seeing a resurgence of nationalism, there is little appetite to endorse separatist movements, least of all one underwritten by religious fundamentalism that has subverted more inclusive sentiment that went by the name Kashmiriyat.

Utterly parlous and barely able to govern itself amid multiple insurgencies on its western borders, Pakistan makes a poor case for Kashmir, particularly given its gratuitous use of terrorism that has affected not just India but the entire region, indeed the entire world. No one has forgotten where Osama bin Laden was finally found.

Few countries in the world have settled borders, not even great powers. China is tackling insurgencies with



methods that some scholars now believe India's current ruling dispensation may be tempted to follow. Russia is still dealing with insurrections on its border territories. Even the United Kingdom, nearly a century old now, is finding out that nation building is never complete.

The United States, 243 not out, annexed Texas (previously a part of Mexico) in 1845, something the deranged shooter in El Paso apparently forgot when he went on a bloody rampage to protest against the "Hispanic invasion". Invariably, big powers that offer a democratic playing field are able to defuse insurgencies. That integration has been constantly undermined by Pakistan with its use of religious extremism to fuel violence in the Valley.

For 72 years India has done a poor job of explaining its claims over Jammu & Kashmir, and for that matter the origins of the rump state of Pakistan, an alphabet soup entity that did not exist in history and made no coherent or geographical sense, and hence was mercifully stripped of its eastern wing that became Bangladesh. So confident were India's founding

In a world that is seeing a resurgence of nationalism, there is little appetite to endorse separatist movements, least of all one underwritten by religious fundamentalism

fathers of the state's accession to India (beyond the legalities) that they, as Pakistan correctly pointed out, took the matter to the United Nations.

What it fails to point out is that the principal Security Council resolution that flowed from this referral enjoins Pakistan to vacate the "Azad" Kashmir it occupied before any referendum could be contemplated. Even the UN now implicitly acknowledges the resolution is infructuous given the cartographic and demographic changes Pakistan has effected.

So why does Islamabad persist in pursuing the matter? Because Kashmir is a useful distraction from the more arduous task of governing Pakistan's restive population. A country that has

survived for 72 years despite claiming that Kashmir is its jugular vein has a military that uses the issue as an ATM to withdraw unlimited resources in the name of national security. Left to itself, without infusion of jihadism, the Valley would display the same kind of disaffection that roils many parts of India, a still imperfect Union that is a work in progress. Indeed, that has been the case sporadically over seven decades. Less so now.

Most Western strategists and scholars now understand this, although sections of Western media still need to be disabused of the clichés that pervade their commentary on the issue. Among the more repugnant headlines in recent days was one in the New York Times that spoke of 'Hindu-led India puts clamp on Muslim Kashmir'. Even allowing for exigencies of headline writing, it gratuitously overlooked the fact that Jammu & Kashmir is a composite entity with a syncretic tradition, as is India as a nation.

Are there aberrations that stain it? You bet. As much as in the United States, where on the same day, there was an instance of two white police officers on horseback in Texas leading a black man on a leash. One did not see the headline 'Racist White Christian-led US still treating Black men like slaves'.

All this does not mean the Modi government has done something right even within the framework of the Indian Constitution. As should happen in any constitutional democracy, the matter has been challenged in court. Meanwhile, the situation in Kashmir Valley (not beyond) will be fraught for several days, perhaps several months. In this time, Pakistan will ramp up its narrative with willful suppression of history.

India on its part needs to tamp down on any triumphalism, come out of self-congratulatory mode, and urgently send out delegations – all party parliamentary and civil society teams, not raging nationalists or Hindutva hotheads – to make its case calmly and logically. To acknowledge that there is disaffection in Kashmir Valley (and not beyond), and that what is happening, temporary curtailment of civil liberties notwithstanding, is part of a ceaseless effort to forge a more equitable Union.

'Companies can reduce their exposure to piracy attacks ... based on the mobilisation of Nigerian navy units to protect their ships'

Bertrand Monnet is an unusual academic. A professor at EDHEC Business School in France, he teaches students how to spot and nullify criminal risks in corporations. Regarded as an expert on piracy, Monnet has also travelled far and wide. He has met sea pirates of West Africa, members of Italian mafia and Japanese Yakuza to understand his own work better. In an email interview with Avijit Ghosh, he explains how the sea pirates operate in West Africa and more.

■ In April this year, five Indian sailors were taken hostage by sea pirates off Nigerian waters. They were released after spending a dreadful 69 days. Where are such pirates from?

The pirates operating in the Gulf of Guinea are mostly Nigerians, originating from three states in the south of the country: Delta, Rivers and Bayelsa. They belong to local communities of the Niger Delta. Most of them belong to the Ijaw community of the region.

■ What is the organisational structure of these gangs?

These groups are composed of 15 to 50 men. But they are not constantly together: they live in villages or towns of the region most of the time, and join their camps in the bush when they have a "job" – an attack to be committed offshore.

They spend a couple of days before the attack at the camp, leave from there

for the attack and then come back. After the payment of their salaries, most of them leave the camp as soon as possible in order not to be caught by the Nigerian security forces. When they abduct hostages offshore, a dozen pirates stay to guard them on a nearby little camp, really difficult to access in the creeks.

■ How well are they armed?

The equipment and weaponry of the pirates are variable. These are most of the time limited but still absolutely efficient. The typical equipment is composed of two to three wooden speedboats equipped with one or two 200 horsepower engines. Their weaponry is composed of AK-47 rifles, and less commonly, machine guns and rocket launchers.

■ In 2018, International Maritime Bureau's Piracy Reporting Centre recorded 201 incidents. How can this condition be minimised?

The oil and gas and shipping companies can reduce their exposure to piracy attacks by setting up efficient security measures, based on the mobilisation of Nigerian navy units to protect their ships, platforms and barges (which is legal and recommended in Nigeria). This is yet clearly insufficient to tackle piracy in the Gulf of Guinea. The only efficient and sustainable solution relies on tackling the roots of piracy: poverty and corruption, which motivate youths of local communities to involve themselves in this form of violent criminality.



■ Once a group is taken captive, how is the process of their release generally conducted?

When hostages are taken, several possibilities exist to release them. First, it is rarely possible that the security forces localise them and try to release them by military action, which is really dangerous for the hostages. Most of the time, the hostages are released after four to six weeks of negotiation between the pirates and specialised consultants hired by the companies. Once the agreement on the ransom is fixed, the ransom is paid by the company itself or, more commonly, by its insurance

company, if the victims are insured for abduction for ransom.

■ What precautions would you advise a company operating in pirate-infested seas?

At short term, the most efficient protection is to design and set up on-board security disposals managed by security consultants and mobilising Nigerian navy soldiers.

■ A 2010 paper estimated that the economic cost of maritime piracy was \$7-12 billion every year. Does that number hold true today?

These projections are interesting but impossible to confirm.

■ You were abducted by a Brazilian drug cartel in 2016. What did you learn from that incident?

Being abducted is a difficult experience. But there are as many situations as victims and abductors. I have not been kept as long as the Indian sailors. I have been kept about eight hours. I have been threatened to death and constantly pressured by my abductors, who belonged to the most dangerous mafia of Brazil, composed of 4,000 criminals. My life was spared by one of their chiefs.

Whatever the type of abduction, victims have to try and keep control during the detention, and, especially, after the release. I did not suffer from that, but post-traumatic syndromes can affect any victim of abduction, and turn a brief piracy attack into years-long disability for its victims.

dilbert

Banshi Mahajan

Generally, yoga is thought of as performing of asanas, physical postures, and to some extent, pranayama, breathing exercises. In the Bhagwad Gita, yoga is said to help one cultivate equanimity, evenness of mind. Krishna says, "Yogasthah kruna karmam sangam tyaktva dhananjaya, siddhya siddhyoh samo bhutva samatavam yoga uchyate" (2:48) – 'O Dhananjaya, perform your duties while engaged in the yoga of equipoise, leaving all attachments of success and failure and be even-minded. This stage of equanimity is called Yoga' – Samatavam yoga uchyate.

Make yourself stress-free with the yoga of equanimity. Being equipoised in opposite situations, namely, pleasure or pain, happiness or sorrow, like or dislike, profit or loss, praise or

condemnation, success or failure, friend or foe. One should learn to remain even and calm, though it is difficult to do so. With practice, awareness and faith in yoga, one can achieve it to a reasonable extent. First, we should have the strong desire to achieve it and staunch faith in this yoga of equanimity and its ability to make one stress-free.

The more one practises, the more one can be closer to equanimity of mind. As Krishna advised in the Gita (6:35), there are two methods to control the mind. To achieve equanimity, we can apply these two methods of practice, abhyasa and vairagya, that is, regular practice and dispassion.

The senses and its objects, which give rise to the feeling of heat and cold, pain and pleasure are transitory,

temporary and short-lived. Therefore, bear it and accept it (2:14). The circle of opposites revolve. Pain is followed by pleasure and pleasure is also time-bound and is followed by pain. We should accept this essential circle of life.

If we see the life of all great men in the history, we can also find so many sufferings in their life. So, everyone has to face one or other kind of pain in one's life; this is the way of life. So, we should accept the true and real fact of life and can reduce our miseries and stress by following this. Dispassion can help us in bringing forth the

quality of equanimity. We can discover all the situations of life, like residence, job, work, wealth, relationship, physical strength, name and fame and know that they are all temporary. Despite knowing this, we seek permanence.

Sacredspace

Gain Strength

May He who is the
Brahm of the Hindus,
the Ahura-Mazda of the
Zoroastrians, the Buddha of
Buddhists, the Jehovah of Jews,
the Father in Heaven of the
Christians, give strength to you
to carry out your noble idea.

Swami Vivekananda

Stress-Free With Equanimity And Equipoise

THE SPEAKING TREE

Another factor which can reduce our stress level is to continue to perform our actions and duties, without looking for the result and fruits. In such cases, there will be no grief if the outcome is not favourable. Also, because we have prepared our mind for the duty only, not for the result. When our mind is fixated on the result of actions and fruits of success or we anticipate failure, it will hamper our performance. If our aim is on the results, we cannot perform our duties well. When our mind will remain in the conflict of success and failure, then we will not be able to do justice to our assignment.

If our eye is not on the result of success and failure, we will be more even minded and equipoised. Our stress will be less or not more. We will be stress-free with the yoga of equanimity and equipoise.

Post your comments at speakingtree.in



MILEY CYRUS AND LIAM HEMSWORTH CALL IT QUITS JUST 7 MONTHS AFTER TYING THE KNOT

TIMES GLOBAL

THE TIMES OF INDIA, HYDERABAD | MONDAY, AUGUST 12, 2019

WHEN WE BUILD, LET US THINK THAT WE BUILD FOR EVER
—JOHN RUSKIN



JANE FONDA SAYS #METOO AND TIME'S UP MOVEMENTS MADE WOMEN REALISE SEXUAL ASSAULT NOT THEIR FAULT

Lanka's wartime defence secy in prez race

Gotabhaya, Brother Of Mahinda Rajapaksa, Headed Former President's Military Campaign Against LTTE

Colombo: Nandasena Gotabaya Rajapaksa, who was a live-wire in Sri Lanka's military campaign to end a long civil war but faces allegations of human rights violations, was nominated on Sunday as the opposition's candidate for the presidential election to be held later this year. Gotabaya, 70, a brother of former strongman President Mahinda Rajapaksa, was a powerful defence bureaucrat under his brother's government. He headed Rajapaksa's military campaign against the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) between 2006 and 2009.

Rajapaksa announced his brother's candidacy to cheering supporters at a rally in Colombo, the South Asian island nation's capital. Earlier at the rally, Rajapaksa was named leader of the Sri Lanka People's Front, under which Gotabaya will contest. "I thought of a man who is sought by the country's history to build a future," Rajapaksa told the gathering. "Whether I chose



Former president Mahinda Rajapaksa and his brother Gotabaya greet supporters during a party convention in Colombo on Sunday

or not, he has become your brother, whether I chose him or not, he has already won your hearts. I hand over my brother as a brother to you. He is no other, he is Gotabaya."

Gotabaya is a hero to many majority Sinhalese, who see him as a prospective strong leader, but is feared by minorities

and victims of human rights abuses. As secretary of defence ministry under his brother's rule, Gotabaya played a key role in ending the Tamil Tigers' campaign for an independent state for ethnic minority Tamils. But he was accused of using extralegal methods and cracking down on those who

criticised his style.

Gotabaya was accused of running abduction squads known as "white van" squads that whisked away rebel suspects and journalists deemed to be overly critical. Some of the abductees were released after torture, while others were never seen again. Gotabaya was also implicated in the killing of rebels and civilians who tried to surrender with white flags under a pre-arranged deal in the final days of the civil war. Ethnic Tamils say they handed over their children for investigations at the request of the military but did not see them again.

According to a UN report, some 45,000 Tamil civilians were killed in the last months of the war alone. After the war's end, Gotabaya also took up the extra role of city development in which he used the military to evict people from their homes for land acquisition.

In his speech on Sunday, Gotabaya said he has always strived to fulfill his duties to

his best and in doing so he has never been confined to laid-out norms. He will follow the same philosophy even as president, he said. "In fulfilling my duties for the country I have never allowed room for any foreign forces to interfere," he said. "Even in the future I will never allow anyone to lay hands on the country's sovereignty."

In his years at the defence ministry, Gotabaya was known to be a straight speaker on foreign relations.

The government quickly reacted to Gotabaya's candidacy, with finance minister Mangala Samaraweera tweeting, "Do (hash) Sri Lankans want to return to the isolation and darkness of the past?"

Sri Lanka must hold the presidential election between November 8 and December 8. Incumbent President Maithripala Sirisena's first term ends on January 8.

Gotabaya's candidacy will likely put Sirisena in a quandary in seeking a second term because the Sri Lanka

People's Front is an offshoot of the Sri Lanka Freedom Party, which Sirisena leads. Many Freedom Party members have sided with the Rajapaksa brothers. No other party has put forward a presidential candidate yet.

Gotabaya, a US citizen, and has said he has started the process to renounce his American citizenship because Sri Lankan law doesn't allow dual citizens to hold political office.

However, he has two court cases pending in Los Angeles filed by torture victims and a daughter of a top journalist killed in 2009. Gotabaya has denied the allegations, which his spokesman Milinda Rajapaksa says are politically motivated. It is unclear if those cases will affect his candidacy. Hours before the rally on Sunday, US acting assistant secretary of state for South and Central Asia Alice Wells met Rajapaksa at his residence. It was not immediately known whether Gotabaya's presidential candidacy was discussed. AP

Data analyst's position eligible for H-1B: Court

Lubna.Kably@timesgroup.com

ASTEM (science, technology, engineering, maths) student from India, who was undergoing her optional practical training with LexisNexis, can continue to work for her employer who had sponsored her for an H-1B visa.

A US district court has recently held that her H-1B visa application for the position of a data analyst was wrongly denied. Last September, the US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), after seeking additional evidence and documentation, had rejected the H-1B application filed by LexisNexis on behalf of Subhasree Chatterjee. The contention of this government agency was that the sponsoring employer had not shown that the position is a 'specialty occupation'.

The H-1B visa category applies to those who will perform services in a 'specialty occupation'. The Trump administration in its spring agenda (covered by TOI in its edition of May 24) reiterated its plan to revise the definition of 'specialty occupation' so as to obtain the "best and brightest workers". While there has been no such revision in the definition, USCIS has begun to take a closer look at whether the position to be taken up by the H-1B beneficiary will be a 'specialty occupation'. This has resulted in several lawsuits.

"For the last couple of cycles of the H-1B filings, we have seen this issue coming up and the trend is likely to continue. Further, it is now also an issue that comes up regularly, not just for initial H-1B appli-

cations, but also extensions and job transfer cases," Snehal Batra, managing attorney at NPZ Law Group, told TOI.

In the case dealt with by the US district court, Chatterjee held a Master of Science in business administration, with a focus on Business Analytics from the University of Cincinnati. She also held a Bachelor's degree in computer science and engineering from Kolkata University and prior to obtaining her Master's degree had worked for a few years in the field of data analytics.

Justice Emmet G Sullivan observed that: "The LexisNexis position was a distinct occupation which required a specialised course of study, notwithstanding the fact that the study included several specialised fields." As different types of degrees would allow a person to be employed as a data analyst, USCIS had held that a data analyst position would not be specialised.

Ashwin Sharma, Florida-based immigration attorney told TOI, "In a major victory for H-1B stakeholders, the court gave life to the mantra chanted by immigration attorneys that there is no requirement in the statute that only one type of degree should be accepted for a position to be treated as specialised." Chatterjee had had the specialised skills to perform these duties and the requisite educational requirements, the judge observed. The decision by USCIS was not "based on a consideration of the relevant factors" and was a "clear error of judgement", the court held. Full report on www.toi.in

UAE-backed separatists pull back after seizing Aden

Sana'a: Yemeni separatists backed by the UAE began withdrawing on Sunday from positions they seized from the internationally-recognised government in the southern city of Aden.

Both the southern separatists and the government forces are ostensibly allies in the Saudi-led military coalition that's been battling the Houthi rebels in northern Yemen since 2015. But a rift in the coalition was exposed during the four days of fighting for control of Aden, as the UAE-backed Southern Transitional Council wrested the city from government forces.

The UAE is the dominant force in Yemen's south and has been at odds with the government, which is largely based in Saudi Arabia. The two US-allied Gulf monarchies appear to have diverging interests in Yemen. Saudi Arabia views the Houthi rebels in Yemen's north as a national security threat. The UAE-backed separatists, who want to split with the north, have a rival agenda to President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi's government over the future of Yemen, but have been a key part of the coalition. Saudi Arabia had responded angrily to the takeover in Aden, calling for a cease-fire and ordering the separatists to pull back. AGENCIES

Epstein was left alone and not closely monitored before jail suicide: Officials

Katie Benner, Danielle Ivory and Richard A Ooppel Jr

Jeffrey Epstein, the financier who hanged himself in a federal jail in Manhattan, was supposed to have been checked by guards every 30 minutes, but that procedure was not being followed the night before he was found, a law-enforcement official with knowledge of his detention said.

In addition, the jail had transferred his cellmate and allowed Epstein to be housed alone in a cell just two weeks after he had been taken off suicide watch, a decision that also violated the jail's normal procedure, two officials said.

The disclosures about apparent failures in Epstein's detention at the Metropolitan Correctional Center deepened questions about his suicide and are likely to be the focus of inquiries by the US justice department and the FBI.

The federal Bureau of Prisons has already come under criticism for not keeping Epstein under a suicide watch after he had been found in his cell on July 23 with injuries that suggested that he had tried to kill himself. A person with knowledge of the probe said when the decision was made to remove Epstein from suicide watch, the jail informed the justice de-



Jeffrey Epstein

partment that Epstein would have a cellmate and that a guard "would look into his cell" every 30 minutes. But that was apparently not done, the person said. Law-enforcement officials, members of Congress and Epstein's accusers have all demanded answers about why Epstein was not being more closely monitored.

Epstein's suicide has also unleashed a torrent of unfounded conspiracy theories online, with people suggesting, without evidence, that Epstein was killed to keep him from incriminating others. New York mayor Bill de Blasio told reporters that it was "way too convenient" that Epstein could no longer incriminate others. Over the years, Epstein's social circle had included dozens of politicians, business executives, scientists, academics and other notables, including President Trump, former President Bill Clinton and UK's Prince Andrew. NYT NEWS SERVICE

Trump retweets posts linking Clinton & Epstein

Michael Crowley

Berkeley Heights: President Donald Trump used Twitter on Saturday to promote unfounded conspiracy theories about how Jeffrey Epstein, the financier accused of sex trafficking, died in a federal jail, even as the administration faced questions about why Epstein had not been more closely monitored.

Hours after Epstein was found to have hanged himself in his jail cell, Trump retweeted a post from comedian Terrence Williams linking the Clintons to the death. Epstein "had information on Bill Clinton & now he's dead," wrote Williams, a Trump supporter. In an accompanying two-minute video, Williams noted that "for some odd reason, people that have information on the Clintons end up dead."

There is no evidence to substantiate the claim, which derives from groundless speculation on the far right, dating to Bill Clinton's early days as president, that

multiple deaths can be traced to the Clintons and explained by their supposed efforts to cover up wrongdoing.

Responding to Trump's retweets, a spokesman for Bill Clinton wrote, "Ridiculous, and of course not true — and Donald Trump knows it." The spokesman added, "Has he triggered the 25th Amendment yet? The 25th Amendment contains a provision allowing for the removal of a president if he is unable to perform his duties, potentially in the event of mental instability. Trump also shared a tweet, from an unverified account, which claimed that recently unsealed documents involving accusations of Epstein's abuse had revealed that Clinton "took private trips to Jeffrey Epstein's 'pedophilia island'".

Documents unsealed on Friday include an acknowledgment from one of Epstein's accusers, Virginia Giuffre, that an earlier claim she made about Clinton visiting Epstein in the Caribbean was untrue. NYT NEWS SERVICE



Donald Trump

Ranjit Singh's statue in Pak vandalised

Lahore: A statue of Maharaja Ranjit Singh, who ruled over Punjab for close to 40 years in the early 19th century, was vandalised by two men in Pakistan's Lahore city on Saturday.

The nine-foot statue was unveiled at the Lahore Fort in June on the 180th death anniversary of Singh, the first Maharaja of the Sikh Empire.

Police have arrested two men and registered a case against them under the blasphemy laws. The two men were angry after India revoked the special status to J&K last week. The suspects belonged to Tehreek-Labbalk Pakistan of radical cleric Maulana Khadim Rizvi. The Walled City of Lahore Authority has expressed shock and vowed to repair the statue soon after Eid al-Adha. PTI

Americans protest on medals stand at Pan Am Games

Lima (Peru): Two Americans used their medal-winning moments at the Pan American Games to draw attention to social issues back home that they feel are spiraling out of control. During their medals ceremonies at the sports festival in Lima, fencer Race Imboden took a knee and hammer thrower Gwen Berry raised her fist. Both athletes could represent the US less than a year from now at the Tokyo Olympics.

"Racism, gun control, mistreatment of immigrants, and a president who spreads hate are at the top of a long list of America's problems," Imboden said in a tweet sent after his team's foil medals ceremony. "I chose to sacrifice my moment today at the top of the



US gold medalist fencer Race Imboden knelt at the national anthem stand on Friday at the Pan American Games in Lima, Peru, to protest racism, gun control, mistreatment of immigrants and President Trump

podium to call attention to issues that I believe need to be addressed." Berry raised her fist as national anthem was played to honour her win in the hammer throw. She called out injustice in America "and a president who's making it worse." "It's too important to not say something," Berry told USA Today.

Their actions will test the Pan Am Sports Organization and the US Olympic and Paralympic Committee's resolve to enforce rules that restrict political protests. The USOPC said on Sunday that its leadership is reviewing possible consequences. AP

UK town reports cases of sore eyes, vomiting

London: Police in England say they are responding to a "hazardous material incident" after people in a seaside town reported vomiting and sore eyes.

The Sussex Police force said officers were investigating symptoms reported by "a small number of people" in Worthing, in England's south coast.

The Worthing Fire Station tweeted that a section of the seafront had been cordoned off, and it advised residents to shut their windows and doors.

In 2017, a mysterious chemical haze left scores of people on the coast with streaming eyes, sore throats and breathing problems. An probe found that the most likely cause of that incident was emissions from a passing ship, lost cargo or a wreck in the English Channel. AP

AROUND THE WORLD



UKRAINE PROTESTS PUTIN'S TRIP TO CRIMEA: Russian President Vladimir Putin drives a motorbike during a bike show in Crimea's Sevastopol on Saturday. Ukraine's foreign ministry has protested against Putin's visit, calling it "a crude violation by the Russian side of state sovereignty and the territorial integrity of our state". Russia annexed Crimea from Ukraine in 2014, a move that most countries view as illegal

Versace apologises after tops imply HK & Macau are countries

Versace and its artistic director Donatella Versace apologised on Sunday after one of the firm's T-shirts was criticised on social media in China for identifying the autonomous territories of Hong Kong and Macau as countries. Versace said the shirts had been removed from sales channels on July 24 and destroyed. The apology came after a Chinese actress cut her ties with the firm, saying the clothing was suspected of harming China's sovereignty. The studio for Yang Mi, who had been a brand ambassador for Versace, said in a Weibo post that it had sent notice to Versace to terminate their contract.

Act of sabotage? Canada cable car cord severed

Police in Canada have launched an investigation into an incident where someone deliberately cut the cord of cable car gondola, felling the 2-km route, the media reported on Sunday. Almost all of the 30 cars attached to the cable crashed to the ground. No injuries were reported. The Sea-to-Sky gondola, which carries up to 240 passengers at a time on its 30 cars wasn't operating at the time of the incident on Saturday, CBC said. "We believe this was a deliberate act of vandalism," police said.

British PM's estranged wife reveals cancer diagnosis

Marina Wheeler has urged women to attend their cervical screenings after she was diagnosed with cervical cancer in May. The estranged wife of PM Boris Johnson revealed she underwent two operations and is now "cancer-free". She told Sunday Times that she wanted to share her story to motivate other women to book their cervical screenings. "I know they can save your life... I would urge other women to make the time and do the tests," she said.

What's on US school menus this fall? Trade mitigation



This fall, schools are expecting shipments of free food courtesy of Trump's trade disputes. The products are coming from the department of agriculture, which is giving away the \$1.2 billion in foods it's buying to help farmers hurt by trade negotiations

New York: School lunch menus already have Meatless Mondays and Taco Tuesdays. Now some may get Trade Mitigation Thursdays. This fall, US school cafeterias are expecting shipments of free food courtesy of President Trump's trade disputes. The products are coming from the United States department of agriculture (USDA), which is giving away the \$1.2 billion in foods it's buying to help farmers hurt by trade negotiations.

A Maryland district is awaiting a truckload of canned kidney beans — one of several "trade mitigation" items schools were offered. "We make our own chili soup, so we knew we had a use for that," said Barbara Harrah, a nutrition official for Montgomery County Public Schools.

All told, she said the district is getting \$70,000 worth of free products for the fall, including apples and oranges. Harrah, who has been with the district for 22 years, doesn't recall the USDA offering trade mitigation foods before.

That's resulting in an unusual bounty for the groups that get government foods, showing one way federal policies influence what people eat. According to the USDA, most food purchased as part of trade-relief efforts is going to programmes that help the need-

ers, who can face swings in supply and demand in any given year. But the agency is buying even more as a result of Trump's trade fight, which prompted other countries to take retaliatory actions that curb imports of American farm products.

That's resulting in an unusual bounty for the groups that get government foods, showing one way federal policies influence what people eat. According to the USDA, most food purchased as part of trade-relief efforts is going to programmes that help the need-

ers, who can face swings in supply and demand in any given year. But the agency is buying even more as a result of Trump's trade fight, which prompted other countries to take retaliatory actions that curb imports of American farm products.

That's resulting in an unusual bounty for the groups that get government foods, showing one way federal policies influence what people eat. According to the USDA, most food purchased as part of trade-relief efforts is going to programmes that help the need-

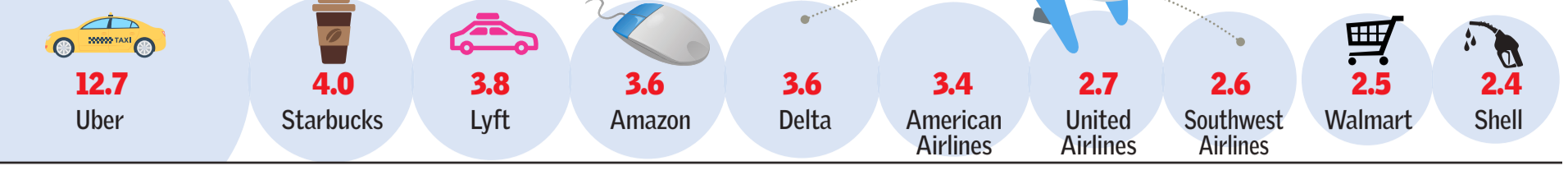
ers, who can face swings in supply and demand in any given year. But the agency is buying even more as a result of Trump's trade fight, which prompted other countries to take retaliatory actions that curb imports of American farm products.

That's resulting in an unusual bounty for the groups that get government foods, showing one way federal policies influence what people eat. According to the USDA, most food purchased as part of trade-relief efforts is going to programmes that help the need-

Uber, Lyft Winning Over US Corporate Travellers

The transfer of funds from firms to ride-hailing companies continued to grow in April-June as their apps gained traction among North American business travellers. Uber was the most frequently expensed vendor last quarter, according to a report. Fast-food chains were a popular choice too when dining with the corporate card. Amazon and Walmart expenses were most likely for technology items and services

Source: Bloomberg



Jet gets EoI from Agarwal's Volcan

Move For Grounded Airline Just Exploratory: Vedanta Chief's Family Trust

Times News Network
New Delhi: Mining and metal baron Anil Agarwal's family trust, Volcan Investments (VI), has submitted an expression of interest (EoI) to revive grounded Jet Airways. While confirming this, the trust pointed out that the move is "exploratory" in nature and that the "EoI is in no way linked to Vedanta".

Three international entities — including Panama-based fund Avantage Group and VI — had submitted their bids for Jet by the deadline set by the resolution professional (RP) handling the grounded airline's case at the National Company Law Tri-

WAITING FOR A LIFELINE

- The resolution professional has so far received claims for payment of about ₹24,000 crore from Jet Airways by different stakeholders
- It has accepted claims from 33 banks for ₹8,462 crore and is examining remaining payables sought by employees and other creditors
- The aviation ministry has given Jet's slots at Indian airports and international flying rights to other Indian airlines 'temporarily'
- SpiceJet and Vistara have taken some Boeing 737s of Jet in their fleets
- Indian airlines have added both domestic and international flights on slots and bilateral of Jet given temporarily to them

India had three full service carriers (FSCs) — Air India, Jet and Vistara — till April 17, and now there are only two. Air India itself faces an uncertain future with the government planning to start its divestment process.

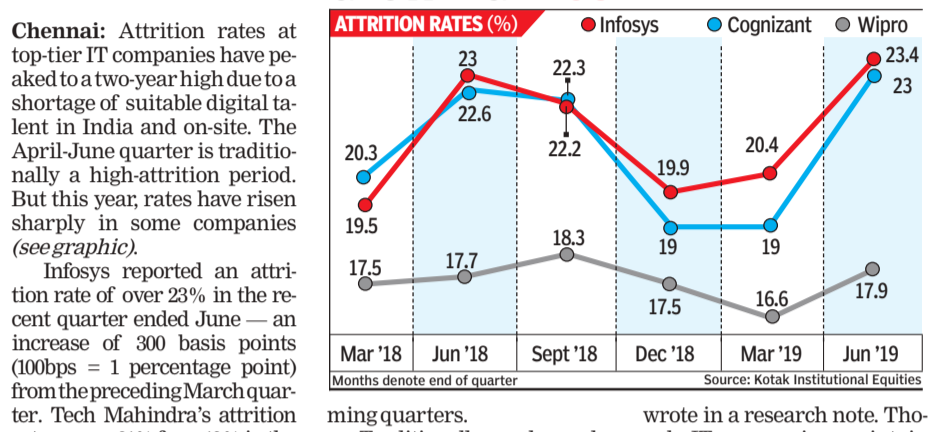
"India may no longer be the world's fastest growing aviation market, but it's a steadily growing one. A market of this size needs two FSCs that can fly passengers between India and other parts of the world like the Americas, Australia, Europe and Africa — non-stop. We really hope at least one of them, AI or Jet, gets a solid buyer. Otherwise we will continue to be a rich catchment area for medium to long-haul flights," said a senior airline official, who did not wish to be named.

IT cos see more churn amid battle for talent

Attrition Rates Hit 2-Yr Highs For Tech Giants

Sindhua Hariharan
@timesgroup.com

Chennai: Attrition rates at top-tier IT companies have peaked to a two-year high due to a shortage of suitable digital talent in India and on-site. The April-June quarter is traditionally a high-attrition period. But this year, rates have risen sharply in some companies (see graphic).



Infosys reported an attrition rate of over 23% in the recent quarter ended June — an increase of 300 basis points (100bps = 1 percentage point) from the preceding March quarter. Tech Mahindra's attrition rate was up 21% from 19% in the year-ago period. At mid-tier IT firm L&T Infotech, the attrition rate of 18.3% was over 3 percentage points higher than the 15% in April-June 2018.

"Historically, when business was relatively stable, we used to have attrition of 13-15%. But today, we see a lot of disruptions happening, a lot of new technologies coming into place, a lot of demand for skills," Infosys COO Pravin Rao said in the earnings call. Infosys said a large part of its attrition was at the lower level and also included involuntary attrition. It added that it is working to correct this in the coming quarters.

Traditionally, employees leave for higher studies or collect bonuses and exit in this quarter. But constraint in supply of the right talent in both Indian and US markets is also leading to a rising churn at IT companies, industry trackers told TOI. "We continue to focus on our workforce strategy and management, such as the announced retention programme to recognize and retain our best talent," Cognizant CFO Karen McLaughlin said.

"Attrition rates increased 20-400bps year-on-year in the quarter and are beyond the comfort range for many companies," Kawaljeet Saluja of Kotak Institutional Equities wrote in a research note. Though IT companies maintain that this attrition is not impacting project execution, Saluja said it is leading to an increased reliance on sub-contractors to fulfill demand.

Prabhudas Lillardner analyst Aniket Pande said the tightening of H-1B visa norms has led to a talent crunch in the US, and with lesser opportunities for Indian staff to go on-site, voluntary attrition among freshers is also up. Even as net hiring went up across the board in the April-June quarter and utilisation remained stable at an average 80%, finding the right talent for new-age digital projects has been a challenge for IT players.

Amazon bets on 3rd-party sellers

Doubles 2020 India Target To \$15-16Bn

Digbijay Mishra
@timesgroup.com

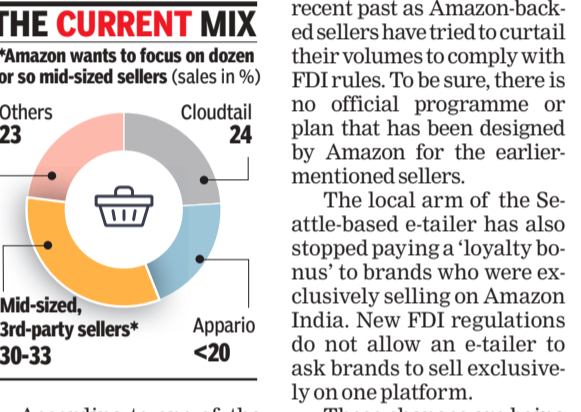
Bengaluru: Amazon India has made a slew of changes in the seller mix on the platform, reducing dependence on vendors in which it owns a stake — like Cloudfire and Appario — after the updated online marketplace policy was announced in December. The e-tailer is now focusing on around a dozen mid-sized, third-party sellers who drive 30-33% of its total sales in India, up from about 20% earlier, according to two sources familiar with the development.

Similar to its platinum seller programme, which ran into problems due to GST in 2017, these sellers on Amazon India include Green Mobile, Rocket Commerce, Primarc and Reddily, sources aware of the goings-on

Cloudtail and Appario were earlier doing more than 50% of the sales on Amazon India.

This comes as the Seattle-headquartered Amazon has set an aggressive target of clocking \$15-16 billion in gross sales for calendar 2020 in India, according to two sources. The e-tailing giant is said to have clocked about \$7 billion in gross sales in 2018.

The clarifications in the policy in February barred e-tailers from holding stake in seller entities and an earlier note mandated them to maintain a maximum limit of 25% of total sales coming from one seller — Amazon has been working on these changes to adapt under the new regime. It has reduced ownership in sellers like Cloudtail to 24% from 49%.



According to one of the sources, unlike in the US, the transition of small sellers independently moving large volumes while maintaining good shopping experience is yet to happen in India and that is why Amazon wants to rely on a few large merchants. "So, it becomes important for them to indirectly have this group of sellers, who would have Rs 20-30 crore of capital to invest," this person added.

The overall volume of sales by these sellers has gone up in the range of 6-10% in the recent past as Amazon-backed sellers have tried to curtail their volumes to comply with FDI rules. To be sure, there is no official programme or plan that has been designed by Amazon for the earlier-mentioned sellers.

The local arm of the Seattle-based e-tailer has also stopped paying a 'loyalty bonus' to brands who were exclusively selling on Amazon India. New FDI regulations do not allow an e-tailer to ask brands to sell exclusively on one platform.

These changes are being more rigorously implemented by Amazon after the heated debate that occurred during a meeting with commerce minister Piyush Goyal and e-tailers in June. The government had told foreign e-tailers like Amazon and Walmart-owned Flipkart to comply with new laws in spirit, an area where domestic e-tailers had complained against foreign e-tailers, accusing them of circumventing policy loopholes.

Amazon did not reply to specific queries sent by TOI.

PolicyBazaar to create 4k jobs in J&K, Ladakh in 1 yr

John Sarkar @timesgroup.com

New Delhi: EtechAces Marketing and Consulting, the operator of online insurance selling platform PolicyBazaar and lending marketplace PaisaBazaar, said it will create 4,000 jobs in the new Union territories — Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh — over 12 months.

Roughly 95% of the new jobs will be in the customer advisory function and the rest would be around corporate and tech functions with each seat costing around Rs 1 lakh, the company said. "I have studied in J&K for four years and know quality of education is quite good. There is need for employment in the Valley and we want to be part of this effort to generate jobs and livelihood for the locals. We understand that this would require a little more effort than usual. However, we, as a company, are very keen to put that in," said PolicyBazaar co-founder & CEO Yashish Dahiya.

95% ROLES IN ADVISORY BIZ

Dahiya studied at Sandeepa School in Jammu city for four years during his childhood. His father spent 16 years in J&K, serving in the army. Currently, PolicyBazaar, which is backed by investors like SoftBank, InfoEdge and Tiger Global, employs more than 11,000 people across its group ventures, including PaisaBazaar and DocPrime.

The advisory representatives that will be recruited by the company will be expected to advise and make sure that consumers have a great buying experience with proper understanding of the insurance products, that is, life, health, motor, travel, etc, that they choose to purchase.

PolicyBazaar is India's largest insurtech firm and has played a pivotal role in changing the way the country buys insurance. Growing at nearly 100% y-o-y, the company aims to underwrite Rs 7,000-crore premium, expanding its unique customer base to 8 million in FY20.

3 PSUs drag non-life insurers into red

Mayur Shetty
@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: Three public sector insurance companies have dragged down the non-life industry into a Rs 44-crore loss in FY19. National, Oriental Insurance and United India have together reported losses of Rs 4,200 crore, which is more than the collective profits of the remaining 23 companies. The three unlisted state-owned insurers were the last to announce their financial results. The government is eyeing a merger and a subsequent listing of these companies. However, due to their poor financial performance, they will require a capital infusion. The performance of the PSU insurers in FY19 is in sharp contrast to their financials in FY18.

In FY18, the four PSU insurers — including the listed New India Assurance — reported a combined net profit

Insurer	GWP	Underwriting Result	Profit After Tax
New India	28,017	-5,246	580
Oriental	13,812	-3,771	-634
National	15,431	-4,450	-1,696
United India	16,587	-5,024	-1,878
Private Sector Sub-Total	82,527	-2,864	3,584
Public Sector Sub-Total	73,846	-18,490	-3,628
Grand Total	1,56,373	-21,354	-44

All figs in ₹ cr, GWP: Gross Written Premium *Without specialised companies

of Rs 2,543 crore. This, taken with the private industry's profits of Rs 3,922 crore, translated into a Rs 6,341-crore profit for the industry in that year. In FY19, the four PSU insurers reported a combined loss of Rs 3,628 crore despite New India turning in a Rs 645-crore profit.

The private insurers have reported a net profit of Rs 3,584 crore — a drop of 8%. Industry

officials say that profits have declined partially because the industry did very well in crop insurance in the previous year, which was not the case in the year under review. Also, underwriting losses in property insurance have been very high, prompting the General Insurance Corporation to hike rates in some segments.

The reason for the poor performance of the PSU companies is their huge underwriting loss (see graphic), which is the excess of claims over premium. In India, most insurers do report underwriting losses but make up for it through investment income. This is because premium is required to be collected up front and companies earn interest or investment income on them. In FY19, only Bajaj Allianz, Universal Somp and SBI General reported underwriting profits of Rs 18 crore, Rs 43 crore and Rs 82 crore respectively.

ITC Infotech employees to get bot 'buddies'

Namrata Singh
@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: Driven by automation, ITC Infotech has undertaken a workplace transformation that could result in a culture change. The company has chalked out a plan to equip every employee with a digital bot — a software tool that performs tasks it is configured for. The initiative, which ITC Infotech is officially rolling out in September this year, will cover all 8,500 employees over a period of six months.

While most companies are undertaking automation and are deploying bots for specific functions catering to the workforce and customers, the difference here is that every employee at ITC Infotech will get a bot that will act like a "buddy" and execute mostly mundane tasks to meet the employee's requirements.

Bots, said ITC Infotech, can be designed to execute a variety of actions — from complex tasks such as understanding

ROLE OF DIGITAL ASSISTANT BOT PERSONAS

- Category planner in retail/ FMCG** | Will assist by automating data extraction and help with its analysis
- QA & testing engineer in IT services** | Can automate data extraction, running & executing test algorithms, and defect notifications
- Marketing analyst** | Will automate campaign planning and execution through predefined parameters and provide closed-loop feedback on campaign performance
- IT service engineer/ IT helpdesk engineer** | Can quickly resolve service requests related to access/privileges by mapping relevant authorisations and automating required actions
- Recruiter** | Will help deliver an enhanced experience to candidates by automating time-taking manual tasks such as extracting profiles, scheduling interviews, creating offer letters & updating databases

developer of robotic process automation software, is assisting ITC Infotech in developing these bot personas.

Milansheth, who is Automation Anywhere's executive VP for India, Middle East & Africa, said although several companies have deployed bots at work, no company has set a goal of equipping 100% of their employees with bot personas. "ITC Infotech will be the first to

be accessible online, searchable by key words. The chat bot will empower the database and help the employee with any query. This, said Sun Life Asia Service Centre, will be functional by December 2019.

Recently, Kotak Mahindra Bank launched an AI-powered voicebot, developed using millions of phone-banking conversations. Yes Bank, with the help of video analytics, AI and bots, develops personality reports. The app enables scheduling face-to-face/telephonic interviews, helping the bank to reach out to candidates at any place or time.

"We are convinced this is the future. The future workforce will want to perform activities that are creative. That cannot happen unless you empower them with the requisite technological tools," said Singh. In a phased manner, help desks and kiosks have been planned across ITC Infotech's campus in Bengaluru to help employees in leveraging the bots.

GSP-withdrawn goods' exports to US up 32%

New Delhi: Exports of Indian goods, which were enjoying benefits under the Generalised System of Preference (GSP) programme, to the US registered a growth of 32% in June, according to the Trade Promotion Council of India (TPCI). The US rolled back export benefits to over 1,900 Indian goods from June 5. These incentives were provided by America under GSP, its preferential tariff system.

Citing data from the United States International Trade Commission (USITC), the TPCI said the Indian exports of goods which were getting GSP benefits stood at \$657.4 million in June as compared to \$495.7 million in the year-ago period.

This is a very interesting trend as out of \$190-million value of GSP benefit claimed earlier, the growth has already covered \$162 million, month-on-month for June 2019 compared to last year, leaving a thin margin of \$28 million. The products which have shown increase in exports include plastics, rubber, base metals (aluminium), machines & equipment, transport equipment, hides & leather, pearls and precious stones. AGENCIES

India needs behavioural eco units today: Sunstein

Surojit Gupta @timesgroup.com

Cass Sunstein is a Harvard University professor and co-author of the book 'Nudge' with Nobel prize winner Robert Thaler. Sunstein, who is the founder-director of the programme on behavioural economics and public policy at Harvard Law School, has also served as administrator of the White House Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs and set up the nudge unit with the Obama administration.

In an interview to TOI, Sunstein talks about the benefits of behavioural economics and how India can achieve greater public policy outcomes. Excerpts:

How does behavioural economics work?
The basic idea is that sometimes private institutions like hospitals or banks can help people without forcing anyone to do anything. A simple example is a GPS device where people can find their way from one place to another without being threatened or without being promised money. If you are a government, sometimes help people with respect to health by giving them information. One example is calorie labels, which are a nudge — in the sense that people see the caloric content of hamburgers and cheeseburgers and cottage cheese, and if they want to have hamburgers and cheeseburgers they can. But they are nudged to maybe choose lettuce or salad.

How important is messaging in nudging people to do certain things or change behaviours in such a huge country?
It's important. I would prefer a term like communication, because messaging sounds a little

effects on economic outcomes and health and on safety. The hope is that in this country, which has such creativity and ingenuity, such history of problem-solving, we could easily see India being not one of the world's leaders but the world's leader in the use of behavioural science and nudging in the next two or three years.

people what steps they should take to reduce the risk is really important, and I would describe that as a communication challenge. In a country which has multiple languages and a large size, the difficulty of course is greater. But I think the way to think of the size is an opportunity more than an obstacle.

The Economic Survey talks about setting up of behavioural economics units. What would be your advice?
The best thing would be to do it yesterday; and if you can't do it yesterday, do it today; and if you can't do it today, do it tonight. Tomorrow is too late.

Does nudging help in compliance? For example, tax compliance?
That's one of the great success stories. The nudge that has been highly successful in many places is to inform delinquent taxpayers that most people in their community are paying their taxes. If that doesn't work, there are other things that can be done. I have a hunch that to give people clarity, that to obey the law with respect to taxes is a way of being a good citizen and being loyal to your country and to your deepest convictions — that can be very helpful.

For full interview, log on to www.timesofindia.com

Govt looks to address real estate woes

New Delhi: The government on Sunday said it will soon address issues affecting the real estate sector after industry bodies and homebuyers met finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman to flag their concerns regarding liquidity crunch, demand slowdown and stalled projects.

The FM held two separate meetings — first with the two apex realtors' industry bodies CREDAI and NAREDCO, and the second with homebuyer associations — to discuss issues concerning the real estate sector and steps needed to strengthen the industry. AGENCIES



ONE-ON-ONE
Cass Sunstein
PROFESSOR, HARVARD UNIVERSITY

BEST FUNDS TO BUY

Equity: Large Cap	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year
Axis Bluechip Fund	0.67	12.42	11.29
Sundaram Select Focus Fund	-2.09	10.23	8.71
Mirae Asset Large Cap Fund	-2.04	10.2	12.46

Equity: Mid Cap	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year
Axis Midcap Fund	-4.35	10.09	11.74
L&T Midcap Fund	-15.49	6.8	12.67
DSP Midcap Fund	-10.31	5.66	12.39

Equity: Multi Cap	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year
Axis Focused 25 Fund	-6.59	11.5	13.24
SBI Focused Equity Fund	-1.85	10.4	12.33
Parag Parikh Long Term Equity	-3.89	10.25	11.15

Equity: Tax Planning	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year
Mirae Asset Tax Saver Fund	-1.4	13.39	-
Axis Long Term Equity Fund	-2.97	9.57	12.98
Motilal Oswal Long Term Equity	-10.84	9.25	-

Hybrid: Equity-Oriented	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year
Principal Hybrid Equity Fund	-6.43	9.1	9.92
Mirae Asset Hybrid Equity Fund	0.86	9.09	-
HDFC Retirement Savings Fund	-2.28	8.87	-

Hybrid: Debt-Oriented	1 Year	3 Year	5 Year
ICICI Prudential	6.25	8.01	9.88
HDFC Retirement Savings Fund	4.4	6.72	-
Indiabulls Savings Income Fund	3.42	8.31	-

FUND RAISER**10.2%**

has been the increase in SIP inflows in equity mutual funds in the past one year, according to AMFI. Despite market volatility, SIP collections have stood above ₹8,000 crore for eight consecutive months.

Figures are % returns. 3-year and 5-year returns are annualised. Source: Value Research

Unfriend these money habits

Some habits can exact a heavy toll on your finances. We look at a few that you as an investor should give up right now

Preeti Kulkarni

It is said that we first make our habits, and then our habits make us. Save more, spend less and avoid unnecessary debt are a few good habits that can ensure a financially comfortable life. However, people, including the financially literate, pick up bad habits that ultimately disrupt their finances.

This week's story looks at five financial habits you need to 'unfriend' to ensure your finances are in fine fettle.

INVESTING IN STOCKS DIRECTLY WITHOUT RESEARCH

The sharp fall in the stock markets has shaken investors. Many stocks have fallen to their 52-week lows after the Budget. But several stocks had gone into a tail-

ing schemes across categories have not fallen as much as the top losers in BSE 100 in the past year (see table).

Small investors should not invest in stocks directly unless they can give time to research. Choosing mutual funds for investments will not cut the risk entirely, but it will certainly reduce it.

This simple rule is ignored by millions of investors. Hyderabad-based R.S. Babji (see picture) invests in stocks directly and equity funds. While his fund portfolio has delivered around 8% returns, he has lost almost ₹1 lakh in stocks.

BUYING TOO MANY STOCKS, FUNDS TO DIVERSIFY

Diversification spreads the risk thin across a basket of securities. But too

Hitesh Siroya 39, Pune

MONEY-UNFRIENDLY MOVE

Investing in too many mutual funds, leading to an unwieldy portfolio.

LESSON LEARNT

A cluttered portfolio is difficult to monitor, which prevents the investor from weeding out underperformers.



R.S. Babji 45, Hyderabad

MONEY-UNFRIENDLY MOVE

Investing randomly in stocks. He has gained ₹65,000 from his equity funds but lost over ₹1 lakh in stocks.

LESSON LEARNT

Investing through mutual fund route is a better idea if you do not have the time or expertise.



Kirti Patial 30, Mumbai

MONEY-UNFRIENDLY MOVE

Spent almost entire income and did not save anything.

LESSON LEARNT

Save regularly and build an emergency fund for unforeseen expenses.

**Befriend the right money habits****The carefree 20s**

Your goals may be closer than they appear

**MAKE FRIENDS WITH...**

- Adequate health cover for self, parents
- Contingency fund to cover 6-9 months' expenses
- Equity fund SIPs for medium- and long-term goals

REJECT REQUESTS FROM...

- Spendthrift friends and colleagues
- Instant personal loan offers and multiple credit cards
- Acquaintances selling 'savings' schemes with tax benefits

The mid 30s and 40s

Make hay while the sun shines during consolidation period

**MAKE FRIENDS WITH...**

- Monthly SIPs linked to financial goals
- A term insurance plan
- Review health cover for family every five years

REJECT REQUESTS FROM...

- Large mortgage and personal loans if EMIs exceed 40% of monthly salary
- Unfettered spending on lifestyle shopping and eating out
- Knee-jerk reactions to market movements

Unwinding in 50s

Retirement at the doorstep so start getting ready

**MAKE FRIENDS WITH...**

- Gradual shift from equities towards debt
- Clearing all outstanding loans
- Healthcare fund to take care of parents

REJECT REQUESTS FROM...

- Excessive focus on children's education which can impede retirement savings
- Health policies that have multiple restrictions

The golden 60s

Caution and distrust should be your abiding principles

**MAKE FRIENDS WITH...**

- Safe options like SCSS, Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana or bank FDs
- Small exposure to equity through funds

REJECT REQUESTS FROM...

- Opportunities offering great returns
- Promise of tax-free returns from insurance plans

**Benefit from the growth potential of midcaps.****Invesco India Midcap Fund**

(Mid Cap Fund - An open ended equity scheme predominantly investing in mid cap stocks)

sms 'Invest' to 56677
www.invescomutualfund.com**Suitable for investors who are seeking***

- capital appreciation over long-term
- investments predominantly in equity and equity-related instruments of Midcap companies

*Investors should consult their financial advisers if in doubt about whether the product is suitable for them.

Mutual Fund investments are subject to market risks, read all scheme related documents carefully.

RISK METER

Investors understand that their principal will be at moderately high risk

spin much earlier and for different reasons. DHFL, which was trading above ₹600 about a year ago, has lost almost 92%. On the other hand, mutual funds have not done so badly. Though equity funds will dip when markets fall, the diversification principle helps in cushioning the fall. Even the worst perform-

much of it can prove counter-productive. Modern portfolio theory says 15-20 stocks from different sectors reduces the portfolio risk. Adding more stocks does not reduce the risk further because market risk cannot be wiped out.

The situation is no different with mutual funds. While it is a good idea to

invest across categories, buying too many funds of the same category results in overlapping. Ideally, 6-8 equity funds focused on different segments give the portfolio all the diversification it needs. A well diversified equity fund portfolio will have 40% of the corpus in 1-2 large-cap funds, 30% in 1-2 multi-cap funds and 20% in 1-2 mid-cap funds. The balance 10% can be put in a small-cap fund.

Pune-based Hitesh Siroya (see picture) regularly invests in some of the best performing schemes. But since winners keep changing every year or so, his portfolio is now bursting at the seams with 30-odd funds. Siroya wants to get rid of some schemes but is not sure which ones to drop. Holding too many funds may not actually hurt returns, unless the schemes themselves are doing poorly. "It's only that a large number of funds are difficult to monitor and one may continue with underperforming schemes. This could hit returns in the long run," says Raj Khosla, Managing Director, MyMoneyMantra.

NOT SAVING FOR EMERGENCIES

Rising lifestyle expenses and proliferation of spending avenues can make people, especially the younger generation, oblivious to the basic necessities of life. A study by health insurer Cigna says one in two respondents in India plan to use their retirement savings to fund medical expenses in old age. Only 40% said they had purchased health insurance, pointing to the extent of unpreparedness.

For Mumbai resident Kirti Patial (see picture) reality hit home late. New clothes, eating out and travel cornered

over 75% of her income, leaving her with very little at the end of the month to save. She was forced to postpone an eye surgery because she had no savings.

Now, she has started two SIPs of ₹10,000 each in equity funds. However, she also needs to buy health insurance and build a kitty for emergencies.

The emergency fund should be equal to 6-8 months' household expenses. If living in a metro, look at a minimum health cover of ₹5 lakh. Top it up every five years. Those with dependents should buy a pure risk life cover of at least 10-15 times their annual income. It should be computed taking into account your income, lifestyle and liabilities.

BUYING INSURANCE ONLY TO SAVE TAX

Every year, millions of buyers pour crores of rupees into insurance plans they don't need. Most are lured by the "triple benefits" of tax deduction at the time of investment, life cover during the policy term and tax-free income on maturity. While traditional plans do provide tax benefits, they neither offer sufficient cover, nor give good returns. Ulips are better, but are plagued by problems like lack of transparency and liquidity.

The real objective of the plan, the insurance cover offered in case of death, is the last thing on the mind of the average insurance buyer. His primary focus is the tax deduction. This is what makes it easy for distributors to mis-sell. Raj Naik, a 63-year-old pensioner was sold a Ulip three years ago. When the bank executive saw his retirement benefits credited to his bank account, he immediate-

Mitali Palkar 39, Mumbai

MONEY-UNFRIENDLY MOVE

Quit a stable job to start direct marketing business.

LESSON LEARNT

Do not quit your job unless you can stomach risks and have assessed in detail the long-term viability of the business model.



Shrikar Dange 37, Thane

MONEY-UNFRIENDLY MOVE

Bought eight endowment plans that offer low cover.

LESSON LEARNT

A low-cost term plan is a better alternative to the endowment policies.



The six rules of ageing with dignity

It's time we found solutions to the problems the elderly face within our unique cultural context

Uma Shashikant

In India we still speak about old age homes as if they are punishments highlighting the neglect of children. The Indian system had a hierarchical structure in which the family elders were treated with deference. The aging patriarch was the head of the family and without his blessings, no major decision was taken. The joint family system offered its support and benefits. Caring for the aged was not a problem. But that was a long time ago.

Indian families have long gone nuclear. Hosting and caring for elderly parents comes with its set of problems, but we wrap it in a blanket of righteousness, romanticising the difficult choices as the best ones. Care of the elderly is a problem we have refused to solve satisfactorily, as we have mired it in emotional blackmail and a heavy dose of karmic consequences.

Since we dislike the American system of extreme independence for the elderly, we have to find solutions within our cultural context. Some of us in the late fifties have made up six rules for those times when we will age and become weak in our limbs.

First, we swear by our refusal to burden our children and rule out living with them. Finding the abode that keeps us



PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

safe and comfortable is important. Some have bought flats in retirement villas; some have booked houses with close friends in the same complex; some have moved into an independent house that is closer to where the children live. Settling down in a place that enables independent living, offers good everyday company and needs low ongoing maintenance and upkeep, is the first priority.

Second, the children are willing to help and support in ways that would not impact their lives. There is no guilt-tripping the children about not being at our side. If they are able to plan trips when

convenient to them, we will look forward to it and make the most of it, rather than judge them for not being at our service. If they chip in monetarily, we would accept that without pride coming in the way. We want to throw entitlement out of the window.

Third, we would not overdo the medical facility and healthcare needs. Being fit and healthy is a goal we will not take lightly. We will focus on healthy living. However, we would not spend on invasive "modern" healthcare that hospitalises us and keeps us on humiliating life-support equipment. We will accept

palliative care instead.

Fourth, we will seek purpose in our lives as long as we live. We will teach, write, work, serve, participate and volunteer in the community, engaging with younger people who might need these services. Active involvement in the world around us would provide us energy and enthusiasm.

Fifth, we will ensure our assets are put to use by us in our lifetimes, allocating money for ourselves first, before leaving an inheritance. There is no point regretting what we have at retirement and worrying if it is adequate. With a sensible investment plan and a realistic lifestyle choice that matches the money we have, we should do well.

Sixth, we will focus on giving rather than hoarding. As we age we realise there is so little that materials and things can do to our wellbeing. Into the 70s and 80s this feeling may only intensify. As we discover the joys of good company, great food, music and conversations, we will see that the best things that life has to offer do not need money or material. Charity must begin when that realisation sets in.

My adamant addition to that list: We will buy and use a sleek and stylish walking stick, so we don't fall.

The author is Chairperson of The Centre for Investment Education and Learning

DO YOU HAVE A QUERY?

Send us your personal finance questions at etwealth@timesgroup.com

**I will retire in two years and get around ₹2 crore in retirement benefits. Where should I invest to earn high but safe returns?**

As safety of capital is a priority after retirement, your investment needs to be mostly in conservative instruments. For immediate liquidity, emergency needs and to take care of short-term expenditure invest ₹30 lakh (15%) in FDs and ₹40 lakh (20%) in liquid funds. For the medium-term objective of earning relatively higher returns with low risk, invest ₹40 lakh (20%) in short-term debt funds and corporate bond funds, and ₹50 lakh (25%) in a hybrid conservative fund. Lastly, for the long-term goal of generating higher inflation-adjusted returns, invest ₹20 lakh in equity large-cap funds.

DINESH ROHIRA, Founder and CEO, 5nance.com

**I am 70. Can I claim tax deduction of up to ₹10,000 on interest from savings bank as well as ₹50,000 deduction for interest income from bank FDs?**

You are entitled to an aggregate deduction of ₹50,000 for both interest earned on FD as well as savings bank account. Under Section 80TTB, senior citizens residing in India are allowed a deduction of up to ₹50,000 in a given financial year for interest earned across fixed and recurring deposits, and savings accounts with banks, post office or co-operative societies.

ARCHIT GUPTA, CEO, ClearTax

**I am a retiree. I invested ₹30 lakh in bank FDs. These FDs are about to mature and I want to reinvest the corpus in safe schemes that deliver better returns than FDs. Please advise.**

Consider investing in corporate bond funds, and banking and PSU funds. While the former are required to invest only in the highest-rated debt instruments, the latter invest in debt issued by banks, PSUs and public financial institutions only. You may invest in UTI Corporate Bond Fund or ABSL Corporate Bond Fund in the corporate bond category, and Kotak Banking and PSU Debt Fund or Franklin India Banking and PSU Debt Fund in the banking and PSU category. If you can afford to lock-in your investment for a few years, consider investing a part of the surplus in fixed maturity plans as they also invest in AAA-rated instruments. RAHUL PARIKH, CEO, Bajaj Capital

Brought to you by

THE ECONOMIC TIMES
wealth
Simple ways of making money**COVER STORY****Are your goals at risk?**

Given the current market volatility, you would do well to protect your financial goals by creating a cushion

**Why gold bonds are worth a look**

Only investors who can hold the gold bonds till maturity should consider buying them

Health is wealth

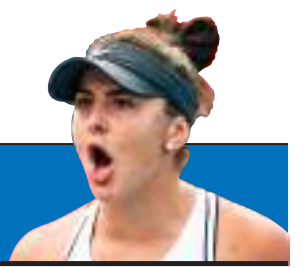
Investing in your health will go a long way in saving you money in your retirement phase

The Economic Times Wealth is available every Monday. To subscribe SMS ETWS to 58888 or ask your vendor for a copy



UNAI EMERY'S ARSENAL GET OFF TO GOOD START WITH 1-0 WIN OVER NEWCASTLE | 16

TEENAGER BIANCA ANDREESCU MAKES ROGERS CUP FINAL, TO FACE SERENA | 16



GALLERY



Suresh Raina posted this photo after his knee surgery in Amsterdam

Second knee surgery was a tough call: Raina

Amsterdam: Out-of-favour India batsman Suresh Raina, who underwent a second knee surgery here a couple of days ago, said it was a tough decision to make as he knew it would keep him out of action for a few months. The 32-year-old left-hander had a niggling knee problem since last season and will require at least six weeks of intense rehabilitation for recovery, which effectively rules him out of the better part of India's domestic season, starting later this month. "To be honest, a second knee surgery was a tough call to make because I knew it would put me off-action for a few months and I wasn't ready for it until a few weeks ago when the pain had gotten a bit much and I knew there was only one way out of this," Rain wrote in a post on his social media handle.

'Sharjeel will have to admit fixing involvement if he wants to play': Tainted opener Sharjeel Khan completed a 30-month ban for spot-fixing on Saturday but Pakistan Cricket Board has made it clear that he has to accept his wrongdoing and attend anti-corruption rehabilitation programme before resuming his career. Sharjeel was banned from all forms of cricket for five years in August 2017 for his role in the spot-fixing scandal that marred Pakistan Super League (PSL) earlier that year but the PCB's Anti-Corruption Tribunal had said half of his ban would remain suspended. A PCB official said Sharjeel could be allowed to resume playing as soon as September in the Quaid-e-Azam Trophy but he has to first admit his involvement in the spot-fixing and apologise for his actions.

Mohsin confirms running for Pakistan head coach's job: Former Pakistan batsman Mohsin Khan threw his hat into the ring for the national team head coach's job left vacant after the cricket board decided not to renew South African Mickey Arthur's contract. Mohsin, who has remained a chief selector and also the interim head coach of the national team, said at a function here that the PCB could easily find a capable person from the country to coach the national team.

Thailand women's team rewrites WR for most consecutive T20I wins: Unheralded Thailand women's cricket team has rewritten a world record by winning its 17th successive T20 International match — the most in this format. In the fifth match of an ongoing quadrangular series in the Netherlands, Thailand ripped through the host nation to bundle them out for 54, before running down the target in eight overs, with as many wickets in hand. Thailand broke the record previously held by the mighty Australia women, who picked up 16 consecutive victories between March 2014 and August 2015.

'We have got a fantastic team': After suffering a 251-run loss in the first Test match of the ongoing Ashes, Jos Buttler said that there are still four matches left and nothing really changes in the setup as the England team is "fantastic". "We're 1-111 down, but there are four matches to go. Test cricket is hard — you're playing against the best players in the world," Buttler was quoted as saying. "If you're not good enough for long enough, then you're not going to win the game. But we've got a fantastic team... nothing really changes. We come here with a lot of excitement and belief that we're a good enough side to win this Test."

Vinesh suffers defeat in final of Medved event in Belarus: Top Indian woman wrestler Vinesh Phogat lost to N Malisheva of Russia in the 53kg final of the Medved event in Minsk, Belarus, on Sunday. The 24-year-old Vinesh, the Asian Games and Commonwealth Games gold medallist, suffered a 0-10 (technical superiority) defeat against her Russian opponent in the summit clash. The loss meant that Vinesh failed to win her fourth consecutive gold. She had bagged the top honours at Grand Prix of Spain, Yasar Dogu International and Poland Open recently.

Indian boys settle for silver at Asian U-23 Cup: India on Sunday settled for a silver medal after suffering a 1-3 loss against Chinese Taipei in the final of the men's Asian U-23 Volleyball Championships Nay Pyi Taw. India put up a brave fight after losing the first two sets to secure the third set. However, blocking and reception errors in a hard-fought fourth set allowed Chinese Taipei to seal a comfortable 25-21, 25-20, 19-25, 25-23 win in the end. AGENCIES

ACTION TODAY

TENNIS: Cincinnati Open, 8.30 pm (Live on Sony ESPN)
KABADDI: PKL: Bengal vs Hyderabad, 7.30 pm; UP vs Bengaluru, 8.30 pm (Live on Star Sports 2)

Getty Images



MAJESTIC: Skipper Virat Kohli celebrates his century on Sunday

A KING'S SHOW AT QUEEN'S PARK

Kohli Scores 42nd ODI Ton To Help India Post 279/7 In Second ODI

Port-of-Spain: Virat Kohli led from the front with a fine century, his 42nd of the career, to guide India to 279 for seven against the West Indies in the second ODI of the three-match series against the West Indies here at the Queen's Park Oval on Sunday. Coming on to bat in the fourth ball of the innings, Kohli played aggressively and scored 120 off 125 balls to guide India's innings. He hit 14 boundaries and one six during his elegant knock. Besides Kohli, Shreyas Iyer (71 off 68) struck third half-century of his career and together with his skipper shared 125 runs for the fourth wicket to take India to a comfortable position. But it was far from rosy for India at the start as, after opting to bat, they lost Shikhar Dhawan in the third ball of the innings, caught plumb in front of the wicket by Sheldon Cottrell. Then came in skipper Kohli and in the company of Rohit Sharma (18) played fluently to stabilise the Indian innings. While Kohli looked in great nick from the onset, Rohit struggled to rotate the strike and played the second fiddle. Kohli played some delightful shots through the covers and off his pads to register his 55th ODI fifty with an outside edge past West Indies keeper Shai Hope off Carlos Brathwaite (3/53)

in the 15th over. But Rohit's struggle finally came to an end when he sliced a Roston Chase delivery to Nicholas Pooran, who took a fine catch at point while running backwards. The duo shared 74 runs for the second wicket off 90 balls. Rishabh Pant made 20 off 35 balls with the help of two boundaries before inexperience did him in. Bugged down by 12 dots off 14 balls, an inexperienced Pant went for an ugly slog across the line over midwicket off Brathwaite only to find his timbers disturbed as India were reduced to 101 for 3. Kohli and Iyer then played aggressively and milked the West Indian bowlers to keep the scoreboard ticking. The duo rotated the strike and found the fence when bad deliveries were on offer. But hot and humid conditions got the better of Kohli in the 42nd over as the Indian skipper played a tired-looking shot only to be caught by Kumar Roach at long-off off the bowling of Brathwaite. PTI

SCOREBOARD
INDIA: S Dhawan lbw b Cottrell 2, R Sharma c Pooran b Chase 18, V Kohli c Roach b Brathwaite 120, R Pant b Brathwaite 20, S Iyer b Holder 71, K Jadhav run out 16, R Jadeja not out 16, B Kumar c Roach b Brathwaite 1, M Shami not out 3; **Extras** (b1, nb2, w9) 12; **Total: (7 wkts) 279; FoW:** 1-2, 2-76, 3-101, 4-226, 5-250, 6-258, 7-262; **Bowling:** Cottrell 10-0-49-1, Roach 7-0-54-0, Holder 9-0-53-1, Thomas 4-0-32-0, Chase 10-1-37-1, Brathwaite 10-0-53-3. (Scoreboard incomplete)

'I am flexible batting at any number'

Port of Spain: Shreyas Iyer says he is "flexible" batting at any position as the Indian team management continues its search for a reliable No. 4 batsman. Iyer, who is part of the team touring the Caribbean islands, is in direct competition with the likes of K L Rahul and Rishabh Pant for a spot in India's middle-order.

"We have got no idea. It's totally the management's decision. I can't go and say that I want to bat at No. 4 and they would put me in that spot. It's not like that," Iyer said when asked about the problematic position. India could not find an answer to their No. 4 conundrum through the World Cup and the search will continue in the ODI series against West Indies.

"It's going to be a vacant spot and they are going to definitely try and give chances to all the players in that position. Currently, no one is convinced with that position," Iyer said. "Personally, I am not thinking about batting only at No. 4. I want to be someone who is very flexible batting at any number or if you go into any situation you should be able to grab that opportunity and make the best use of it." Iyer is coming into the team after an year and is eager to make the most of the opportunities. "I will try and make the best use of the opportunities given to me. I am eager to go out there and carry forward the momentum which I got from my India A matches. Looking forward to a good series finish." PTI

Ganguly hails record-breaking Virat

India captain Virat Kohli on Sunday notched up his 42nd ODI ton in the second one-day against the West Indies, and in the process surpassed Sourav Ganguly to become the second highest run-scorer for India in ODI cricket. Ganguly scored 11,221 runs in 297 innings while Kohli

took 229 innings to go past the former skipper. Soon after Kohli broke his record, Ganguly tweeted: "Virat Kohli another master class in one day cricket @imVkohli @BCCI .. what a player."

Thirty-year-old Kohli is now only behind Sachin Tendulkar, who has a whopping

18,426 runs to his name which he accumulated over 452 innings. Kohli is now the seventh highest run scorer in ODIs overall behind Jacques Kallis, Inzamam-Ul-Haq, Mahela Jayawardene, Sanath Jayasuriya, Ricky Ponting, Kumar Sangakkara and Tendulkar. During the course of his knock, Kohli also surpassed Javed Miandad's tally of 1,930 runs to become the highest run-scorer in ODIs against the West Indies. Kohli was 19 runs shy of the landmark when he came into bat and he overtook Miandad's tally of 1930 runs with a single in the fifth over bowled by Jason Holder. This was Kohli's 34th ODI against the West Indies while Miandad had accumulated his runs from 64 matches. AGENCIES

St Lucia Stars axed by Caribbean league

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

New Delhi: St Lucia Stars, a team owned by Indian-American businessman Jay Pandya, will not feature in the upcoming edition of the Caribbean Premier League (CPL) after the league organisers terminated its participation agreement with the Pandya-managed Royal Sports Club, LLC, over alleged outstanding payments to franchise players. The league's 2019 edition is scheduled to begin on September 4.

On August 7, the CPL announced severing of its ties with the Royal Sports Club, LLC, without elaborating on the reasons. However, the outstanding salaries to players was largely being seen as a trigger to pull the plug on the Pennsylvania-based company managing the Stars. "On August 7, 2019, the CPL Limited terminated the participation agreement between it and Royal Sports Club, LLC, the entity that operated the St Lucia Stars franchise. As a result of that termination, Royal Sports Club, LLC no longer has the right to operate a team to compete in the Caribbean Premier League tournament, and the St Lucia Stars will not be participating in the 2019 CPL, which begins on September 4, 2019," Peter Miller, CPL's Head of PR and Communications, said in a statement.

Miller also informed that the CPL Limited is in the "process of establishing and operating a new franchise to be based in St Lucia that will participate in the 2019 CPL". "More information about that new franchi-

se will follow in due course. CPL Limited will be making no further public comment at this time," the statement added. Philadelphia-based Pandya, who is also the chief executive officer (CEO) and owner of Global Sports Ventures, told a cricket website that he completely disagreed with CPL's decision. "We will be working to address any issues the CPL may have in an appropriate manner and forum," Pandya was quoted as saying by 'ESPNcricinfo'.

Stars had several prominent West Indian and international cricketers on its roster. The move to axe the Stars has thrown their future into jeopardy. Stars had never won the CPL title, with their best finish being third in the 2016 edition. They operated as St Lucia Zokus in the inaugural year, but changed their name to St Lucia Stars in 2017 only to endure a forgettable campaign, losing nine of their 10 matches.

Pandya has been facing legal and financial trouble in the US, according to several US media reports. According to these reports, his company allegedly didn't pay wages to its employees working at his food chain, Checkers and Rally's, in Indianapolis. The company shut down its operations at all seven of Rally's restaurants in Indianapolis without serving proper notice to its employees. Then, there were reports that the local lender to Pandya's company — First Franchise Capital Corp — filed \$20 million lawsuit against the fast-food franchise.

India U-19 team clinches tri-series

Mumbai: The India Under-19 team clinched the Under-19 Tri-Series on Sunday when it beat the Bangladesh Under-19 team by six wickets in the final at Hove. Chasing 262, the Indian Under-19 team were provided a sound start by openers Divyansh Saxena (55, 65b, 5x4) and Yasasvi Jaiswal (50, 72b, 6x4), who added 104 in 133 balls. Skipper Priyam Garg (73, 66b, 4x4, 2x6) and Dhruv Jurel (59 not out, 73b, 4x4, 1x6) then added 109 in 115 balls for the fourth wicket to take the team home. **Brief Scores:** Bangladesh U-19 261 in 50 overs (M Hasan Joy 109, Parvez Hossain Emon 60) lost to India U-19 264-4 in 48.4 overs (Divyansh Saxena 55, Priyam Garg 72 not out) by six wickets. TNN

Anand to skip World Cup in Russia

Prasad.RS@timesgroup.com

Chennai: Five-time world champion Viswanathan Anand will give the upcoming edition of World Cup, which is to be held in Khanty Mansiysk, Russia from September 9 to October 4, a miss. Anand had earned an automatic qualification for the tournament on the basis of his rating average for the last 12 months. Anand will instead be taking part in the FIDE Grand Swiss tournament which is scheduled to be held at Isle of Man from October 10 to 21. The tournament will have the current world champion Magnus Carlsen leading the field. "I just thought I would play the Swiss event instead," Anand told TOI.

PTF rules out shifting tie

Karachi: The Pakistan Tennis Federation (PTF) on Sunday ruled out shifting of the Davis Cup Asia/Oceania Group-1 tie against India to be played in Islamabad on September 14-15 to a neutral venue. PTF chief Saleem Saifullah said that the federation was making all the preparations to host the tie at the Islamabad Sports Complex. "We are sticking to our original programme of hosting the tie on September 14-15 and I don't see any problem or reason for the Indian team to feel

unsafe to come to Islamabad," Saifullah said. The escalating tension between the two countries in the aftermath of Indian government's scrapping of Article 370 which had accorded special status to Jammu and Kashmir has made the tie uncertain. The Indian tennis federation has said it will ask the International Tennis Federation to move the Davis Cup tie to a neutral venue. But Saifullah

said the Indian tennis team will be perfectly safe in Pakistan. "They will stay for four days in Islamabad which is a safe city. We have made top-level security arrangements for them at their hotel and at the venue. So what is the problem for them to play in Islamabad? If they want, we will not even have spectators for the tie," he said. Saifullah said the ITF has not yet contacted the PTF on shifting the tie to a neutral venue. He said the tie was very important for Pakistan in terms of promoting tennis. PTI

SOURABH OVERCOMES LOH ON WAY TO TITLE

Ashwini-Sikki Lose Women's Doubles Final

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: Sourabh Verma stuttered in the second game before recovering to clinch the Hyderabad Open BWF Tour Super-100 Tournament at the Gachibowli Indoor Stadium here on Sunday. However, top seeds Ashwini Ponnappa and Sikki Reddy were stunned by unseeded Korean duo of Baek Ha Na and Jung Kyung Eun in straight games 17-21, 17-21 in the women's doubles summit clash.



Sourabh Verma with his men's singles gold medal after winning the Hyderabad Open on Sunday

Seventh seed Verma dented Kean Yew Loh of Singapore 21-13, 14-21, 21-16 in the final to become the only Indian men's singles shuttler to win the BWF Tour title in the year 2019. Saina Nehwal was the only women's singles shuttler to claim the BWF Super-500 title when she triumphed in the Indonesia Masters earlier this year. Such has been the poor show by Indians so far that none of them were able to win a significant title in the first seven months of the season. Verma, however, looked in control despite losing his way during the second game. Playing an aggressive game with ease, Verma won the first game without breaking much sweat. Even in the second, Verma was leading 10-5 before Loh got his rhythm going. The Indian was casual in his approach and that allowed Loh to secure a few points. The Singapore shuttler erased the lead and from 14-13 he scored five successive points to dump

the Indian in the second game. Realising that he is playing according to the game plan of his opponent, Sourabh started playing the waiting game in the decider. He began on a positive note by winning the first two points and slowly started dictating the pace of the game. His rival caved in when Sourabh relied more on rallies. Three unforced errors gave Sourabh a 14-11 lead and thereafter, the Indian nudged ahead and clinched the contest in style with a surprise half smash. Happy with his performance, Sourabh said, "It's good to win the title at home. I was a bit relaxed after securing lead in the second game. Suddenly I started playing according to his plan. Then before the next game my coach told me to play more rallies and that helped." Asked to rate the victory, Sourabh said, "Every title is equally important and I enjoy

every victory in the same manner." The world No.44 is keen on improving his ranking. "My target is to win more, improve my ranking so that I will get a direct entry into super series tournaments. By playing qualifying rounds I am getting very little recovery time and then finding it tough in the main draw," Sourabh said. Top seed Yeo Jia Min of Singapore staged off a stiff challenge from second seed An Se Young of Korea 12-21, 21-17, 21-17. **Mixed doubles:** Hoo Pang Ron/Cheah Yee See (Mas) bt Adnan Maulana/Mychelle Crhistine Bando 16-21, 21-16, 21-13. **Men's doubles:** Muhammad Shohibul Fikri/Bagas Maulana (Ina) bt Na Sung Seung/Wang Chan (Kor) 21-18, 21-18. **Women's singles:** I-Yeo Jia Min (Sin) bt 2-An Se Young (Kor) 12-21, 21-17, 21-19. **Women's doubles:** Baek Ha Na/Jung Kyung Eun (Kor) bt I-Ashwini Ponnappa/Sikki Reddy 21-17, 21-17. **Mixed doubles:** Hoo Pang Ron/Cheah Yee See (Mas) bt Adnan Maulana/Mychelle Crhistine Bando 16-21, 21-16, 21-13.

Samiya wins Bulgarian junior meet

Indians Win Three Gold, One Silver And Two Bronze

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: Indian juniors ruled the roost clinching three gold, one silver and two bronze medals at the Bulgarian Junior International Championships in Pazardzhik on Sunday. City girls Samiya Imad Faroouqi won the girls singles gold with a 9-21, 21-12, 22-20 victory against Anastasiia Shapovalova of Russia in the final. Girls doubles pair of Tanisha Crasto and Aditi Bhatt and the mixed doubles combine of Edwin Joy and Shrutu Mishra have also finished on the top of the podium. The ever-improving girls' doubles pair of Tanisha Crasto and Aditi Bhatt were equally impressive in their final and stunned the Turkish top seeds Bengisu Ercecin and Zehra Erdem 21-15, 18-21, 21-18. Edwin Joy and Shrutu Mishra brought more delight for the Indian contingent with their effortless 21-14, 21-17 win over the British second seeds Brandon Zhi Hao Yap and Abbygael Harris. The only final result that did not go India's way was the boys' doubles one where the top-seeded British pair of William Jones and Brandon Zhi Hao inflicted a 21-19, 21-18 defeat on fourth seeds Ishan Bhatnagar and Vishnu Vardhan Goud Panjala. Other than these results, a couple of Indians bowed



Indian shuttlers with their medals in Bulgaria on Sunday

out in the semi-finals and had to settle for the bronze. In girls' singles, Anastasiia Shapovalova beat India's Malvika Bansod 21-13, 21-15 while in boys' singles, India's highly-talented junior World No. 15 Meiraba Luwang succumbed to a 19-21, 21-12, 18-21 defeat to the top seed and eventual champion Georgii Karpov. **Results (finals): Girls singles:** Samiya Imad Faruqi bt Anastasiia Shapovalova 9-21, 21-12, 22-20. **Girls doubles:** Tanisha Crasto/Aditi Bhatt bt Bengisu Ercecin/ Zehra Erdm 21-15, 18-21, 21-18. **Mixed:** Edwin Joy & Shrutu Mishra bt Brandon Zhi Hao/ Abbygael Harris 21-14; 21-17. **Boys doubles:** Ishan Bhatnagar/Vishnuvardhan lost to William Jones/Brandon Zhi Hao 19-21, 18-21.

CITY SPORT



St Joseph Public School dominated the AP & Telangana Region basketball tournament

St Joseph, Future Kids win

St Joseph Public School won the U-19 and 14 titles in the AP & Telangana Region Basketball tournament for boys. Future Kids School annexed the U-17 final.

Results: U-14 boys (final): St Joseph Public School (Malakpet) bt Loyola Public School (Guntur) 28-6. SFs: St Joseph Public School (Malakpet) bt Future Kids School (Hyd) 29-6; Loyola Public School (Guntur) bt Future Kids School (Rajamahendravaram) 39-16. U-17 (Final): Future Kids School (Hyd) bt Loyola Public School 45-20. SFs: Loyola Public School bt St Joseph Public School (King Koti) 44-33; Future Kids School (Hyd) bt St Joseph Public School (Habsiguda) 20-9. U-19 (final): St Joseph Public School (King Koti) bt Future Kids School (Hyd) 32-27. SFs: Future Kids School (Hyd) bt Abhyasa International School 34-12; St Joseph Public School (King Koti) bt Johnson Grammar School 44-25.

St Francis down St Pious

St Francis Degree College scored a comfortable 62-53 win over St Pious in the 1st GM Sampath Kumar Memorial Open Prize Money basketball tournament. Sudheshna (25) and Padma Priya (17) did the bulk of the scoring for St Francis, while Mounika (24) was the star player for St Pious.

Results: St Francis Degree College 62 (Sudheshna 25, Padma Priya 17, Vaishnavi 6) bt St Pious 53 (Mounika 24, Mrunalini 22, Shamita 11).

Army Public School in final

Army Public School (Bolarum) defeated Pallavi Model School 1-0 in the under-18 semifinals of the 9th Subramaniam Inter-School Football Tournament. In the final they will face Bhavans.

Results (SFs: U-15): St Michael's Blue 1 (Rohan) bt St Michael's Green 0; St Patrick's 2 (Malik 1, Peter 1) bt APS Bolarum 1 (Jathin). U-18: Army Public School, Bolarum 1 (Abhishek) bt Pallavi Model School 0; Bhavans 1 (Bhargav) bt Pallavi Model School. U-13: St Patrick's bt St Michael's Red via shootout; Army Public School w/o St Michael's.

Mathpal claims under-14 title

Parth Mathpal defeated Yashas 7-6 in the final to win the under-14 boys singles title in the Goldslam Sports 10th Junior Tennis Ranking Tournament at the Krishna Swamy Advanced Tennis Academy.

Results (Finals: U-10): Sujai Pothula bt Jagrat Raghav 6-3. Boys (U-10): Arimilli Nishit bt Devarakonda Abhimam 6-1. U-12: Murali Krishna Omni bt Srihith Komalla 7-4. U-14: Parth Mathpal bt Yashas 7-6. Girls (U-10): Shristi Allam bt Sriyuktika Kamini 6-1. U-12: Yalamanchili Bhavana bt Shristi Allam 7-6.

Surya, Pravalika triumph

Surya Alankanti and Pole Pravalika won the U-17 boys' and girls' titles in the 21st Telangana State Ranking Chess Tournament.

Results: U-17 boys: 1. Heshav Kovith (5 points), 2. Modith Aaroh Mutyalapati (5), 3. Anshul Laddha (4). Girls: 1. Sanvi Jagga (5), 2. Hamsika Yadlapalli (3), 3. K Nagra Preran (3). U-9 boys: 1. Karthikeya Nandan Asthwin (5), 2. Santosh Kumar A (4.5), 3. Kollipara Vihanai Sai Krishna (4). Girls: 1. Hritika Thota (4), 2. Pujitha Myanam (3.5), 3. Harika Yadlapalli (3). U-11 boys: 1. Abhinav Ram Bommakanti (4.5), 2. K Nithik (4), 3. Ishaan Das (4). Girls: 1.

Harshita Agrawal (5), 2. Amulya Bhagavatula (4), 3. Asma Maryam Begum (3.5). U-13 boys: 1. Aarush Vuppugandla (5), 2. Devansh Agarwal (4), 3. D Surya Dattu Surya (4). Girls: 1. Amrutha Bhagavatula (5), 2. R Rithika (3), 3. M Varshitha Reddy (3). U-15 boys: 1. Ravuri Sainath (5), 2. Janav Gupta (4), 3. M Brahmaliah (4). Girls: 1. Malkapuram Manogna (2), U-17 boys: 1. Surya Alankanti (3.5), 2. Viswa Alakanti (3.5), 3. M Sridhar (3). Girls: 1. Pole Pravalika (1).

Ankitha downs Dhruva

Ankitha Goud Palle defeated Dhruva Thota in the third round of the Telangana State Amateur Championship conducted by the Telangana State Chess Association at the LB Stadium here.

Results (Rd III): Dhruva T lost to Ankitha Goud 3; Abhiram Prasad 3 bt Atharva Shirish Kawthale 2; Sanketh Reddi 2 lost to Subba Raju 3; Kheerthi Ganta 3 bt SB Daliparthi 2; U Brahmanandam 2 lost to G Satyanarayana 3; Umesh Konduru 2.5 drew with Advay Koganti 2.5; Teerthaha Abhinav 3 bt Dhannush Netha 2; Goutham Akhil 2.5 drew with TV Raviteja 2.5; Vignesh Advathi 3 bt Viswa Alankanti 2; Nethra Chandupatta 3 bt Thirupathi Gandayadapa 2.

Hyderabad, RR crowned champions

Hyderabad boys and Ranga Reddy girls won the finals of the 6th Junior Inter-District Sepaktakraw Championship. Hyderabad defeated Medak 2-0 and Ranga Reddy overcame Nizamabad 2-1.

Results: Regu boys (final): Hyderabad bt Medak 2-0 (21-11, 21-7). SFs: Hyderabad bt Ranga Reddy 2-0 (21-16, 22-20); Medak bt Kamareddy 2-1 (17-21, 21-8). Girls (final): Ranga Reddy bt Nizamabad 2-1 (21-16, 16-21, 21-15). SFs: Ranga Reddy bt Kamareddy 2-0 (21-13, 21-13); Nizamabad bt Hyderabad 2-0 (21-15, 21-19).

Arjun, Suhaas excel

Adreddy Arjun and Aakula Suhaa won the silver and bronze medals at the National Under-9 Open Chess Championship in Ahmedabad. Arjun, training under GM RB Ramesh, unfortunately lost from a winning position in the 8th round against H Goutham Krishna after his clock flag had fallen down.

Satyanarayana emerges triumphant

Satyanarayana secured 5.5 points from six rounds to emerge triumphant in the open category of the 159th Brilliant Trophy Chess Tournament at the Brilliant High School, Dil-sukhnagar.

Results (Open category): 1. P Satyanarayana, 2. Chidvilas Sai, 3. A Sai Vikas. Boys (U-14): 1. Snehit Rao, 2. A Karthik. U-12: 1. N Sai Kiran, 2. DSV Karthikeya. U-10: 1. Keerthan, 2. R Dhruv Kumar. U-8: 1. Charan Battu, 2. D Parthiv. U-6: 1. P Jayanthi Sai. Girls (U-14): 1. Amruthavarshini, 2. N Sneha. U-12: 1. Anulekha, 2. Bhavishya. U-10: 1. Rida Anwar, 2. G Manvitha. U-8: 1. Snigdha Reddy, 2. Shreshtha. U-6: 1. V Harini, 2. Sai Jasreth.

Ahmed trounces Bhaskar

Mohammad Ahmed defeated Bhaskar 25-0, 25-4 in the third round of the 4th Ranade Memorial Carrom Tournament at the Maharashtra Mandal here.

Results (Rd III): Mohd Ahmed bt Bhaskar (MBNR) 25-0, 25-4; Mohd Osman bt Manish Kumar 25-1, 25-4; P Mahesh Kumar bt Krishna Prasad Sarma (TSRTC) 25-0, 25-0; DV Kishore Kumar bt Ramesh Kumar 25-11, 25-2; P Kiran Kumar (Kpky) bt Shiva Kumar (Alwal) 25-1, 25-0; Kalyan bt AV Suresh Kumar 13-25, 25-0, 25-7; MVSNV Prasad bt YSR Subramanyam 21-11, 25-13; U Naresh bt Ashwin Kumar (SBI) 14-25, 24-18, 22-32; Mohd Wassem (ACCA) bt P Sasi Kumar 25-10, 25-8; M Srinivas (MLK) bt M Venkateshwara Rao 19-0, 25-0; Shaik Rukh Khan bt Vikram Kumar 25-13, 23-14; Nandu Kumar bt R Ramesh 24-11, 25-4; PS Uday Kumar (AGAP) bt Chandrapal (SOI) 24-10, 9-22, 23-6; Aditya Sarepalli bt PS Deepak 22-8, 24-16; S Aditya bt Sunil Kumar 25-0, 25-7; MA Hakeem (BSNL) bt Mohd Masood 25-12, 25-10; Shiva Sailesh (MLK) bt Md Zafar (MM) 21-1, 22-0; RD Dinesh Babu (AGAP) bt Vinod Kumar (WGL) 25-0, 25-2; S Naveen bt V Umakanth 25-0, 25-0; L Karthik bt P Balwanth Rao 20-11, 18-4; Gopikrishna bt Vinod (Alwal) 25-16, 25-0; SK Jaffar (ACCA) bt Rajender (NZB) 25-11, 25-4; Narendar bt PVV Nagra Raju 25-0, 25-0; K Srinivas (IOCL) bt SUK Kumar (MLK) 25-5, 20-10.

Double for Varuni; Aman, Snehit win

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: Varuni Jaiswal clinched a double by winning the women's singles and Youth titles at the 17th AWASA & 2nd CenFlex State Ranking Table Tennis Tournament.

In the women's final, both players were locked 2-2 but Nikhat conceded the match due to a knee injury. In the Youth final, Varuni Jaiswal was made to sweat it out by B Raaga Niveditha before prevailing 4-3.

In the men's singles final, Aman Balgu got the better of SFR Snehit in a 4-2 victory. Snehit, however, won the Youth title by defeating Keshava Kannan 4-0.

Results: Cadet boys (QFs): Jatin Dev (SPHS) bt Arush (APG) 3-1 (10-12, 11-8, 11-2). Dhruv Sagar bt K Tarun (GSM) 3-0 (11-4, 11-5, 11-6); Shaurya Raj Saxena (AVSC) bt Tharun Mukesh (RTTA) 3-1 (10-12, 11-8, 11-4, 11-6); Smaran Mallojala (RTTA) bt Srihan (AWA) 3-1 (9-11, 11-8, 11-7, 11-5).

Sub Junior boys (SFs): Trishul Mehra (LBS) bt Karan Saptarshi (MLR) 4-1 (11-8, 11-4, 11-7, 11-8, 11-7); Jashan Sai (MLR) bt K Ishanth (SPHS) 4-1 (11-9, 9-11, 11-5, 11-7, 11-4).

Junior boys (final): B Varun Shanker (MLR) bt Sainath Reddy (MLR) 4-0 (11-2, 11-8, 11-7, 11-4). SFs: B Varun Shanker (MLR) bt Pranav Mallari (AWA) 4-0 (11-8, 11-3, 11-9, 11-3); Sainath Reddy (MLR) bt Kesavan Kannan (MLR) 4-2 (7-11, 11-4, 10-12, 11-9, 11-7, 11-3).

Youth boys (finals): SFR Snehit (GTTA) bt Kesavan Kannan (MLR) 4-0 (11-4, 11-7, 11-7, 11-4). SFs: SFR Snehit (GTTA) bt Sainath

Reddy (MLR) 4-2 (11-7, 9-11, 6-11, 11-9, 11-5, 11-9); Kesavan Kannan (MLR) bt Amaan Ur Rahman (AVSC) 4-2 (11-5, 11-13, 11-4, 11-6, 9-11, 12-10).

Men's singles (final): Aman Balgu (GRSCB) bt SFR Snehit (GTTA) 4-2 (11-8, 7-11, 11-8, 8-11, 11-9, 11-9). SFs: Aman Balgu (GRSCB) bt Piyush Agarwal (MLR) 4-2 (11-5, 11-5, 11-12, 12-14, 11-9, 11-9); SFR Snehit (GTTA) bt Mohd Ali (LBS) 4-1 (13-11, 12-10, 6-11, 11-11, 11-5).

Cadet girls (QFs): Shriya (AWA) bt Chaitra (APG) 3-0 (11-3, 11-0, 11-7); Y Shreya Saty- amurthy (GSM) bt Vatsala Tirunagari (HPS) 3-1 (11-5, 11-3, 7-11, 11-7); Pragnya Patra (VPG) bt Tejaswinee (AWA) 3-0 (11-3, 11-7, 11-3); P Jalani (VPG) bt Shrestha (APG) 3-0 (11-7, 12-15, 13-13).

Sub Junior (QFs): Merey (HVS) bt P Jalani (VPG) 3-2 (11-13, 11-8, 11-9, 8-11, 11-12); Palak G (GSM) bt Kaavya (AWA) 3-0 (11-7, 11-8, 11-8); Y Shreya Satyamurthy (GSM) bt Pragyansha Patra (VPG) 3-1 (2-11, 11-9, 11-6, 11-7); Ananya D (GSM) bt HS Nandini (VPG) 3-0 (11-7, 12-10, 11-7).

Junior (final): N Bhaavitha (GSM) bt Mer- cy (HVS) 4-1 (11-3, 4-11, 11-2, 11-8). SFs: Merey (HVS) bt Ananya D (GSM) 4-2 (4-11, 9-11, 11-9, 11-4, 11-6, 11-8); N Bhaavitha (GSM) bt K Ikshitha (AWA) 4-1 (11-13, 11-3, 11-8, 11-5, 11-4).

Youth (final): Varuni Jaiswal (GSM) bt B Raaga Niveditha (GTTA) 4-3 (8-11, 11-9, 11-13, 11-7, 11-5, 8-11, 11-7). SFs: B Raaga Niveditha (GTTA) bt G Pranthika (HVS) 4-2 (12-10, 6-11, 13-11, 11-9, 5-11, 11-9); Varuni Jaiswal (GSM) bt N Bhaavitha (GSM) 4-0 (11-9, 11-3, 11-7, 11-6).

Women's singles (final): Varuni Jaiswal (GSM) bt Nikhat Banu (RB) 2-2 (7-11, 11-9, 11-8, 10-12). SFs: Varuni Jaiswal (GSM) bt M Mounika (GSM) 4-3 (5-11, 11-4, 5-11, 13-15, 13-11, 11-9, 11-9); Nikhat Banu (RB) bt B Raaga Niveditha (GTTA) 4-2 (11-5, 10-12, 6-11, 11-6, 11-3, 11-4).

Ace Ace Ace wins

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: Ace Ace piloted by Akshay Kumar and trained by RH Sequeira won the Independence Plate, the feature event at the Hyderabad Monsoon races here on Sunday.

1. Race Review Plate (Div I) 1100M: Himan- u Touch (Rohit Kumar) 1, Joy Of Giving 2, Top Contender 3, Vijay's Empress 4. Won by: 2L, 1-1/4, Shd. T:127.79S. Rs 106; 20, 9, 43. SHP: Rs 25. THP: Rs 216. Fc: Rs 151. Q: Rs 380. Tanala: Rs 114(6) 9. Fav: Composure (S Sre- ekrant).

2. Sidlipet Plate 1400M: The Great Gatsby (Ashhad Asbar) 1, Star Of Tiara 2, Mahashakti 3, Excelsior 4. Won by: 3-1/2L, 1/4L, 1/2L. T:127.7S. Rs 17, 11, 9.7. SHP: Rs 25. THP: Rs 35. Fc: Rs 153. Q: Rs 89. Tanala: Rs 514 (57). Fav: Mahashakti (Laxman Singh).

3. Race Review Plate (Div II) 1100M: Pro- ud Warrior (Rohit Kumar) 1, Heaven Can Wait 2, Khan Sahib 3, Tamanna 4. Won by: Hd, 6L, 1/2L. T:107.20S. Rs 9; 6, 9.9. SHP: Rs 28. THP: Rs 22. Fc: Rs 55. Q: Rs 40. Tanala: Rs 182 (493). Fav: Proud Warrior (S Srekrant).

4. Independence Plate 1400M: Ace Ace (Akshay Kumar) 1, Starlight 2, Be Sure 3, Top Link 4. Won by: 5-1/4L, 2L, Hd. T:125.31S. Rs 10; 5, 8, 6. SHP: Rs 32. THP: Rs 23. Fc: Rs 96. Q: Rs 60. Tanala: Rs 230 (457). Fav: Ace Ace (RH Sequeira).

5. B Maridewash Rao Memorial Cup 1200M: Portius Pilate (Gaurav Singh) 1, Aon Aon Aon 2, Marinetti 3, La Mer 4. Won by: 3L, 1-1/2L, Shd. T:122.79S. Rs 3; 11, 9, 6. SHP: Rs 18. THP: Rs 43. Fc: Rs 216. Q: Rs 103. Tanala: Rs 313 (350). Fav: Marinetti (M Srinivas Reddy).

6. Stewards Cup 1600M: Liberate (Surya Prakash) 1, Midnight Dream 2, Nimble Mind 3, Big Brave 4. Won by: Hd, 1/4L, 2-1/2L. T:139.50S. Rs 18; 9, 6, 10. SHP: Rs 29. THP: Rs 22. Fc: Rs 142. Q: Rs 73. Tanala: Rs 345 (245). Fav: Big Brave (LVR Deshmukh).

7. Kohir Plate 1200M: Run Runner 1 (Afroz Khan) 1, Royal Dancer 2, Story Teller 3, Country's Gift 4. Won by: Kc, 1/2L, 1/2L. T:115.62S. Rs 29; 39, 8, 8. SHP: Rs 23. THP: Rs 3L. Fc: Rs 169. Q: Rs 613. Tanala: Rs 8879 (14). Fav: Rhine (A Vatsalya).

Jackpot: Rs 15798 (3). Consolation: Rs 431 (345). Mini Jackpot: Rs 26508 (2). 1st Treble: Rs 204 (257). 2nd Treble: Rs 5940 (10).

CHETAN WINS TITLE

Krishnaprasad.PV@timesgroup.com

Coimbatore: Team Akshara's Chetan Shivram (with brother and co-driver Dilip Sharan) held on to his slender four-seconds overnight lead to lift the title in the Rally of Coimbatore, Round 2 of the Champions Yacht Club-FMCSI Indian National Rally Championship, here on Sunday.

In the process, the duo Chetan and Dilip added a piece of history as they became the first two brothers team to claim the INRC Rally crown. Despite some of the big names like three-time APRC champion and favourite Gaurav Gill and Round 1 winner Dean Mascarenhas bowing out of contention on Day, it was never easy for the 40-year-old Chetan. Early in the day, the overnight second-placed Suhem Kabear too pulled out after the first stage as his car got stuck in the slush and lost six-odd minutes. However, JK Tyre driver Younus Ilyas (Harish Gowda), who finished runner-up, made the most of the opportunity as he changed gears to offer a stiff challenge to Chetan.

"Our strategy is to go flat-out in the first stage and increase the gap and then play it safe. It was unfortunate that Suhem bowed out early in the day. But it made things easy for us a bit before Younus nearly caught up with us in the final stages. We had gained nearly 23 seconds over Younus after the first stage, which allowed us to play it safe and emerge victorious," Chetan said after his triumph. Chetan and his younger brother, 29-year-



Team Akshara's Chetan Shivram and his brother Dilip Saran celebrate their win

old Dilip Sharan finished with a total time of 1:33:51.70s to win their first overall podium in the INRC. Younus Ilyas & Harish Gowda claimed the overall second position.

Results: INRC Overall: Chetan Shivram & Dilip Sharan - (1:33:51.700hr), 2. Younus Ilyas & Harish Gowda (1:33:56.300), 3. Fabisd Almer & Sanath G (1:34:54.400). INRC 2: Younus Ilyas & Harish Gowda (1:28:33.800), 3. Suhem Kabear & Shruptha Padival (1:28:33.800), 2. Dean Mascarenhas & Shruptha Padival (1:28:33.800), 3. Sulem Kabear & Jeeva Rathinam (1:40:17.000). INRC 3: Chetan Shivram & Dilip Sharan (1:33:51.700), 2. Fabisd Almer & Sanath G (1:34:54.400), 3. Aditya Thakur & Virender Kashyap (1:35:57.700). INRC 4: 1. Vaibhav Marate & Arjun SSB (1:38:27.000), 2. Manoj Mohanan & Francis Sachin (1:39:36.300), 3. Rakshit Iyer & Chandrashekar (1:40:17.000). FMCSI /SUV Challenger: 1. Lokes Gowda & Sudhindra B.G, 2. Gagan Karumbaiah & Thimmu Uddapanda, 3. Sanjay Agarwal & Smitha N.

Star Superior fancied for feature

Hyderabad: Star Superior, who won twice fluently during the Bangalore season, retains form as evidenced by his trails and should continue the winning streak in the Nizam's Gold Cup (Grade-ID) the star attraction of the races on Monday. First race at 1:55 p.m.

1. Medak Plate (Cat-III) (3-Y-0 & over-rated-up-to-40- to-65) 1600M: 1. Havelock Cruise 61.5, Prince Valiant 60.5, P Ajeeth 51.4, G. Liethom 60, Kiran N (8), 5. Private Empire 60, Sandesh (7), 6. Yogya 53 A Khan (6), 7. Royal Avenger 52.5, Ajit S (2), 8. Top Sprint 52.5, Kuni B (3).

1. Private Empire, 2. Havelock Cruise, 3. G. Liethom.

2. Divine Dreams Plate (Cat-II) (Maid-3-Y-0-only-terms) 1100M: 1. City Of Wisdom 56, Rohit K (11), 2. Dazzling King 56, Ajit S (8), 3. Dimension 56, Kuldeep (4), 4. Glendale 56, Umesh (5), 5. Golden Faraska 56, Sai Kumar (13), 6. Mehrzad 56, Prasad SG (5), 7. O'Brien 56, R Ajinkya (1), 8. Reno Star 56, Anel (9), 9. Secret Command 56, Rawal (4), 10. Star Envoy 56, Zevan (12), 11. Star Racer 56, Deepak (7), 12. Tapatio 56, Akshay (10), 13. Total Romantic

56, P Gaddam (2), 14. Tough And Go 56, Raffique Sk (3), 15. Vijays Maestro 56, Gopal S (6).

1. Star Envoy, 2. Tapatio, 3. Mehrzad.

3. K Bhagavandas Memorial Cup (Div-II) (Cat-II) (5-Y-0 & over-rated-up-to-40- to-65) 1600M: 1. Tootsie Roll 61, Jitendra (8), 2. Vijay's Empire 58, Ajit S (5), 3. Somerset 57.5, Umesh (6), 4. NRI Symbol 56, Kuldeep (2), 5. Bayr 55, Suraj (9), 6. Rose Eternal 55, Asbar (1), 7. Avantika 53.5, Sai Kumar (7), 8. Hummaaghar 53, A Khan (4), 9. Elysian 50.5, Nakhat S (3).

1. Bayrd, 2. Tootsie Roll, 3. Somerset.

4. Peddapalli Plate (Cat-III) (3-Y-0-only-rated-up-to-20-to-45) 1100M: 1. Versailles 60, Zevan (1), 2. Celestias 59, Asbar (3), 3. Top Sagar 59, Prakash (5), 4. Zamora 59, Suraj (9), 5. Kionia 58.5, A Khan (2), 6. Soviet Pride 57.5, Sandesh (4), 7. Estevo 57, Akshay (12), 8. Bay-watch Babe 56.5, Santosh (10), 9. Vashista 56, P Ajeeth (8), 10. Fabulous Gift 54.5, BR Kumar (10), 11. Speed Warrior 54, Nakhat S (6), 12. Bombastic 50.5, P Gaddam (7).

1. Zamora, 2. Soviet Pride, 3. Celestias.

5. K. Bhagavandas Memorial Cup (Div-I) (Cat-II) (5-Y-0 & over-rated-up-to-40- to-65) 1600M: 1. Doroteo 61.5, Koushik (3), 2. Rajneeti 58.5, Gopal S (9), 3. George Cross 57.5, Akshay (5), 4. Treasure Striker 56.5, Umesh (6), 5. Hope Is Eternal 55.5, P Ajeeth (4), 6. City Of Sails 55, Rohit K (10), 7. Vancuver 54, Jodha RS (1), 8. Euro Zone 52.5, Bopanna (7), 9. Rutliltan 52.5, Kuldeep (8), 10. Golden Hope 50, P Gaddam (2).

1. Doroteo, 2. Treasure Striker, 3. City Of Sails.

6. Nizam's Gold Cup (Grade-II) (4-Y-0-only & over-terms-Sweep Stakes) 2000M: 1. Star Superior 62, Suraj (1), 2. Big Sur 57, Sandesh (4), 3. MR Handsome 53.5, Kiran N (6), 4. Wave Rider 53.5, Akshay (2), 5. Rikki Tikki Taw 52, Umesh (3), 6. Like Wise 50.5, Nakhat S (5).

1. Star Superior, 2. Big Sur, 3. Wave Rider.

7. Machivellianism Plate (Cat-III) (5-Y-0 & over-rated-up-to-25) 1600M: 1. Symbol Of Star's (60), Akshay (1), 2. Cowboys De-light 59.5, Jitendra (9), 3. Halo's Princess 59, Jodha RS (8), 4. Recumbentibus 59, Kuldeep (7), 5. Limousine 58.5, A Khan (6), 6. Ultimate Risk 57.5, Kanal B (4), 7. Negress Princess 55.5, Sai Kumar (3), 8. Delmonico 52.5, P Ajeeth (2), 9. New Hope 50, Ajit S (5).

1. Delmonico, 2. Negress Princess, 3. Symbol Of Star's.

Day's Best: Star Superior & Zamora. Jackpot: 3, 4, 5, 6 & 7 Mini Jackpot: 4, 5, 6 & 7. 1st Treble: 2, 3 & 4. 2nd Treble: 5, 6 & 7. TNV

RAJIV SETHU POSTS TOP 10 FINISH

Zhuhai (China): IDEMITSU Honda Racing India team rider Rajiv Sethu recorded his best-ever top 10 finish, grabbing six points in the fifth round of FIM Asia Road Racing Championship 2019 (ARRC) at Zhuhai circuit here Sunday. Starting 14th, Rajiv dropped to 18th before recovering 8 positions in 9 laps to finish in Top 10 in an action packed AP 250 race 2.

This is his second top 10 finish in his 3 ARRC seasons, his first being in the Australian round race 1 earlier. Despite a decent 14th position on the grid, a bad start dragged Rajiv to 18th ending lap 1 itself. But learning from yesterday, Rajiv continued his assault on the time sheets immediately and recorded his best ever 1:54:055 lap time in lap 2 itself.

MUCHHANSI उत्तराखण्ड, युवा पेशेवर योजना (अर्थ एवं संस्था विभाग, देहरादून, उत्तराखण्ड)
कॉन्क- 9897223/555/सब.सं.2/2018-19 (TC-7) दि. 08.08.2019
अर्थ एवं संस्था विभाग, देहरादून, उत्तराखण्ड सरकार द्वारा दे (02) युवा पेशेवरों से 11 माह के लिए...
विभाग का अर्थ एवं संस्था विभाग, देहरादून, उत्तराखण्ड

GOVERNMENT POLYTECHNIC, PUNE. (An Autonomous Institute of Govt. of Maharashtra)
ADMISSION NOTIFICATION (2019-20)
Applications are invited for admission to "ADVANCED DIPLOMA IN AUTOMOTIVE MECHATRONICS", a skill-based and job oriented course in collaboration with Mercedes-Benz (India).
Duration: 1 Year full time, Eligibility: Diploma OR Degree in Engineering.
Date of Entrance Exam: Wednesday, 28 August 2019.
For application form and brochure visit website: www.gppuneamc.org
* Passed out students are employed in Mercedes Benz, Audi, Fiat, Volkswagen, Magnasteer, Jaguar, Bosch, Maruti, Tata Motors, Bajaj Auto etc.
* Scholarship as per Mercedes Norms
1. Three Male / Female Students. 2. One Female Student.

Indian Railway Catering & Tourism Corporation Ltd (A Government of India Enterprise-Mini Ratna Category-I)
South Central Zone
#9-1-129/1/302, 3rd Floor, Oxford Plaza, SD Road, Secunderabad - 500003
CIN: U74899DL1999GO110707
Notice Inviting E-Tender
GGM/SCZ invites the following E-Tenders:-
A. E-Tender No. IRCTC/SCZ/1/NIT/FFU-FP/2019/01 (under 2-packet system) for setting up of Food-Plaza at Nandyal Railway Station and Fast Food Units at Malakpet, Giddalur, Falaknuma, Chitor, Repalle, Gudivada, Balugaon, Tiltlagar, Barghar Road and Manatralayam Railway Stations.
Last Date & Time for on-line submission of E-Tender is 15:00hrs of 04/09/2019.
B. E-Tender No. IRCTC/SCZ/1/NIT/TSV/2019/01 (under 2 packet system) for award of Train Side Vending Services contracts at BZA-GNT-DHNE, B



ON TARGET: Marcus Rashford scores Manchester United's first goal from the spot on Sunday

Man United Put Four Past Lampard's Chelsea

Manchester: Marcus Rashford struck twice as Manchester United opened their Premier League account with a resounding 4-0 win over Frank Lampard's Chelsea at Old Trafford on Sunday. It was an awful start for the new Chelsea manager in his first league game on the bench for his old club as they struck the woodwork twice in the first half but paid for their defensive frailties.

Tammy Abraham crashed an early drive against the United bar but the hosts got in front with an 18th minute Rashford penalty after the England forward was pulled down by Kurt Zouma.

Chelsea went close to an equaliser when Emerson struck the post shortly before the break.

But the game turned decisively in Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's side's favour when, Anthony Martial bundled in a low cross from Andreas Pereira in the 65th. Two minutes later, Rashford timed his run to perfection to latch on to a long ball from Paul Pogba and beat goalkeeper Kepa Arrizabalaga. Substitute Daniel James then marked his United debut with the fourth.

Auba fires up Arsenal against Newcastle United

Newcastle: Steve Bruce's reign as Newcastle United manager began in disappointing fashion as Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang's second-half goal sealed a 1-0 victory for Arsenal at a subdued St James' Park on Sunday. After a largely forgettable first half, Arsenal eased to a comfortable three points thanks to Aubameyang's 58th minute strike. Newcastle handed £40 million record signing Joellinton a debut up front and he showed some flashes of intent in the first half but the hosts fizzled out after the break. AGENCIES

KANE HAILS ERIKSEN EFFECT

London: Harry Kane highlighted the impact of Christian Eriksen as Tottenham came from behind to beat Aston Villa 3-1 to open their Premier League campaign on Saturday. Eriksen started on the bench with his future at last season's Champions League finalists still uncertain.

The Dane has just one year left on

his contract at Spurs and could yet leave in the coming weeks with the transfer window across Europe still open until September 2.

However, Eriksen showed no lack of commitment as he sparked Tottenham's attack into life after being introduced 25 minutes from time by Maurizio Pochettino.

He played a part in debutant Tanguy Ndombele's equaliser before Kane struck twice in the final four

minutes to secure a vital three points. "I've played with him for five years now," said Kane. "We know the quality he has on the ball, his assists, his goals. He dictates the pace of the game and for me it's perfect. I can make my little movements off that."

Spurs travel to City next weekend and Kane is keen to not let the champions surge clear at the top of the table. "We have to keep up with them."

VAR DENIES WOLVES IN GOALLESS DRAW AT LEICESTER CITY

Leicester: Wolverhampton Wanderers had a goal by Leander Dendoncker ruled out by the Video Assistant Referee (VAR) in an entertaining 0-0 Premier League draw against Leicester City at the King Power Stadium.

Wolves thought they had scored six minutes into the second half when Dendoncker blasted in from close range but VAR deemed that the midfielder had headed the ball onto team mate Willy Boly's arm off a corner before taking the shot. That was shortly after Raul Jimenez produced the game's first shot on target but Wolves failed to get the breakthrough as the Mexico striker's right-footed effort was easily dealt with by Leicester goalkeeper Kasper Schmeichel. Leicester are at Chelsea on Aug. 18 while Wolves host Man United a day later.

TWO CHARGED OVER INCIDENT LINKED TO ARSENAL DUO

London: Two men will appear in court next month charged with a public order offence, police confirmed Sunday, in connection with two Arsenal footballers previously targeted in an attack.

Arsenal said Mesut Ozil and Sead Kolasinac would not play in Sunday's fixture at Newcastle due to "further security incidents".

Ozil and the Bosnia defender were targeted last month by masked and armed attackers who chased their car through London. The police said in a statement, "Fehat Ercan, 27, and Salaman Ekinci, 27, were charged on August 9." Reports suggested the men were arrested after becoming involved in an altercation with security staff outside Ozil's house.



SALAH COMFORTS FAN WHO RAN INTO LAMP POST CHASING HIS CAR

Liverpool: A young Liverpool fan's attempt to get a glimpse of his hero Mohamed Salah left him with a bloodied nose but the pain was quickly forgotten when the Egyptian striker showed his compassionate side by posing for photos. Louis Fowler, 11, crashed into a lamppost and fell to the ground after he and his younger brother Isaac ran beside Salah's car on Saturday.

U-17 stars ditch I-League clubs, join ISL teams

Anil.Dias@timesgroup.com

Mumbai: In what will be seen as a blow to I-League clubs, almost all of India's 2017 U-17 World Cup players have signed for Indian Super League (ISL) teams. While many of the players had already signed for ISL clubs last season, most of them were loaned out to Indian Arrows in the I-League.

Coached by Floyd Pinto, the team mainly comprised the U-17 stars in a move to aid their development and more importantly, give them game time. Come this year though, with a new batch of U-20 players coming in, the players will be back with their ISL clubs (barring Abhijit Sarkar, who Chennaiyin FC have sent on loan to East Bengal & Nongdamba Naorem, who is on loan to Mohun Bagan from Kerala Blasters).

The ongoing, off-field battle going on for league supremacy between the I-League and the ISL hasn't had any bearing on the youngsters, who find the cash-rich league more appealing. Central defender Anwar Ali, who signed for Mumbai City FC last season but was on loan to Indian Arrows, told TOI that he didn't hesitate for a second when the team from Mumbai approached him.

"I enjoyed my time playing for Indian Arrows because I knew all the players very well since we were part of the U-17 team. It was great playing in



NEW START: Prabhsukhan Gill

List of players

- **BFC:** Prabhsukhan Singh Gill, Suresh Singh Wangmim
- **Chennaiyin FC:** Abhijit Sarkar (on loan to East Bengal), Rahim Ali, Hendry Antony
- **Jamshedpur:** Jitendra Singh, Narender Gahlot, Aniket Jadhav, Amarjit Singh
- **Northeast:** Lalengmawia, Ninthoi (winger)
- **ATK:** Boris Singh, Komal Thatal
- **Kerala:** Rahul KP, Nongdamba Naorem (on loan to Mohun Bagan), Jeakson Singh
- **Mumbai:** Anwar Ali

the I-League, but we all spoke about how we wanted to play in the ISL because it's the big league. All the top players are playing in it, so to be competing with them will be great," Ali said.

Apart from the glamour, they've been offered big-money contracts too.

"A defender can be signed for anywhere between Rs 40-60 lakh for a three-year contract. The cost of wingers and strikers are much more, especially big-name players," said a source, referring to players such as U-17 captain Amarjit Singh, who has signed for Jamshedpur FC in a deal worth Rs 1 crore over three years and Komal Thatal, who signed for ATK soon after the World Cup.

It makes huge business sense from the club's perspective too. Mumbai City CEO In-dranil Das Blah says that while offering huge contracts to the

players shows their belief in them, it's always good to sign a promising youngster.

"We signed Anwar because we really liked the way he played. He's definitely going to get playing time. I can't reveal details of his contract, but if we would've waited for a couple of years to sign him, his asking price would be much higher. And once a youngster gets into the national team, his price could double," Blah said.

The Tata-owned Jamshedpur FC have signed the most U-17 stars, inking a deal with four players including Amarjit. The other three are Jitendra Singh, Narender Gahlot and Aniket Jadhav.

Reed holds off Ancer to seize PGA lead

New York: Patrick Reed, chasing his first victory since capturing last year's Masters, fired a four-under par 67 to seize a one-stroke lead after Saturday's third round of the US PGA Northern Trust tournament.

The 29-year-old American made five birdies against his first bogey of the week to stand on 14-under par 199 after 54 holes at Liberty National in Jersey City, New Jersey. "The biggest thing is continue to hit the ball as well as I've been hitting it and allow that to free up my putter," Reed said.

Mexico's Abraham Ancer, seeking his first PGA title, was second on 200 with Spain's Jon Rahm and American Brandt Snedeker on 201 and England's Justin Rose and Denny Willett and American Harold Varner another stroke adrift. Four-time major winner Rory McIlroy of Northern Ireland and South African Louis Oosthuizen, the 2010 British Open champion, shared eighth on 203. Reed hadn't managed a top-10 finish since last October in China until six weeks ago with a share of fifth in Detroit. AFP

Nadal to take on Medvedev for title

Montreal: Rafa Nadal will play Russia's Daniil Medvedev for the Rogers Cup title in Montreal after injured Frenchman Gael Monfils withdrew from his semifinal match with the Spanish top seed on Saturday.

Medvedev topped Karen Khachanov in an all-Russian semifinal before Monfils announced he was not in shape to face Nadal a couple of hours after injuring his left ankle in a quarterfinal win over Roberto Bautista Agut. Eighth seed Medvedev prevailed 6-1, 7-6(6) over Khachanov.

Serena survives scare
Toronto: Serena Williams withstood the determined challenge of Czech qualifier Marie Bouzkova Saturday, rallying for a 1-6, 6-3, 6-3 victory to reach the WTA Toronto final. Williams, seeded eighth in a tournament she has won three times, will take on home hope Bianca Andreescu in the championship match on Sunday.

Williams will be seeking her first title since she won her 23rd Grand Slam title at the 2017 Australian Open — and



Serena Williams in action

her first since the birth of her daughter Olympia on September 1 of that year.

Meanwhile 19-year-old Andreescu will be trying to become the first Canadian in 50 years to lift the trophy.

Bopanna-Shapovalov bow out of Rogers Cup

Montreal: India's Rohan Bopanna and his partner Denis Shapovalov crashed out of the ATP Montreal Masters after going down in straight sets in the semi-finals of the men's doubles event here.

The unseeded duo of Bopanna and Shapovalov lost 6-7 (3-7), 6-7 to the Dutch combination of Robin Haase and Wesley Koolhof in a hard-fought contest. AGENCIES

Griezmann opens Barcelona account

Messi unlikely to play La Liga opener: Valverde

Washington: Luis Suarez scored twice, Antoine Griezmann netted his first goal for Barcelona and the Lionel Messi-less Spanish side ripped Napoli 4-0 Saturday in its final La Liga season tuneup. Six days before Barcelona's opener against Atletico Bilbao, and with new talk swirling about a possible Neymar return to Camp Nou,



Griezmann (right) scored in the 4-0 win over Napoli

the Spanish club routed the same Italian side that fell 2-1 to Barca on Wednesday in Miami.

Messi did not make the US trip due to a calf injury but no Messi proved no problem for Barcelona. Coach Ernesto Valverde revealed that it is unlikely that Messi will feature in the club's La Liga opener against Athletic Bilbao. "He's in the recovery process and I don't know if he will be ready for the start of La Liga. It's looking difficult," Goal.com quoted Val-

verde as saying. A crowd of 60,043 at 110,000-seat Michigan Stadium in Ann Arbor, Michigan, was treated to an exquisite passing display by Barcelona, which netted four goals in 15 minutes to seal Napoli's fate.

Felix at the double as Atleti beat Juve

Stockholm: Record signing Joao Felix scored two first-half goals for Atletico Madrid as they secured a 2-1 win over Juventus at the Friends Arena. AGENCIES

Levonn, Akash, Siddhu shine

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

Hyderabad: Levonn Johnson's six-wicket haul set up Johnson Grammar School's nine-wicket win over Global Jr College in the HCA U-19 Inter-Colleges & Schools knockout tournament, here on Sunday.

Batting first, Global JC were skittled out for 82 in just 21.2 overs as medium-pace Johnson took six for 32. Johnson Grammar replied with 86 for one.

Y Akash bowled St Mary's JC (Basheerbagh) to a 60-run win over Little Flower JC. Off-spinner Akash took five for 26

LOCAL CRICKET

to bowl out Little Flower for 116. Earlier, St Mary's made a modest 176.

Siddu Nayak hit a century but his effort was in vain as Asian Grammar High School lost to St Anthony's JC by one wicket. Siddu scored 115 (86b; 15x4, 7x6) as Asian made 178 for one.

Brief scores: Global Jr College 82 in 21.2 overs (Mohd Ibrahim 31 no; Levonn Johnson 6/32) Lost to Johnson Grammar School (Nacharam) 86/1 in 22 overs (P Sathwik 48 no). Sultan Ulloom Jr College 225 in 32.3 overs (MA Jayanth 68, Mohd Altaf 59 no; N Karthik Anand 4/42, Khaja Pasha 3/34) bt Veda Degree College 73 in 14.2 overs (Muaz Abdussami 3/16, MA Jayanth 3/4). St Mary's Jr College (Basheerbagh) 176 in 46.4 overs (Zafar Ullah Khan 75, Ankit Kumar 30; R Vamsi 4/38, Shashi 3/21) bt Little Flower Jr College 116 in 24.1 overs (Y Akash 5/26). Asian Grammar High School 175 in 25 overs (Siddu Nayak 115; Rahul Reddy 4/34) lost to St Anthony's Jr College 178/9 in 38.5 overs (Rahul Reddy 40, Sai Nikhil 61 no; Abdul Aziz 4/53).

Fortune giants lose again

Sanjay.Chakhaiyer@timesgroup.com

Ahmedabad: Last year's runners-up, Gujarat Fortune giants, continued their losing streak in the Pro Kabaddi League Season 7 when they went down to Telugu Titans 24-30 in their second home game in Ahmedabad on Sunday. The hosts were earlier beaten by Tamil Thalaivas on Saturday.

It was sweet victory for the Titans who had lost all their earlier matches and had just played a tie against UP Yodha. After seven games, the Fortune giants have garnered 18 points, while the Titans have collected 10 points.

"Our raiders were not played up to their expectations, but we will ensure that we make a comeback in our next match," said Gujarat coach Neer Gulia after the match.

Earlier, Haryana Steel-

PKL 7 STANDINGS

TEAMS	M	W	L	D	P
Delhi	6	5	1	0	26
Bengaluru	6	4	2	0	21
Jaipur	5	4	1	0	20
Tamil	6	3	2	1	20
Gujarat	7	3	4	0	18
Mumbai	7	3	4	0	18
Bengal	5	3	2	0	17
Patna	7	3	4	0	16
Haryana	6	3	3	0	16
Puneri	6	2	4	0	11
UP	6	1	3	2	11
Telugu	7	1	5	1	10

ers edged past defending champions Bengaluru Bulls 33-30 in a battle of nerves in the first match of the evening. Haryana, playing after their last morale-boosting victory over Patna Pirates, proved that they were definitely the better side.

This also ended the three-match winning streak for Bengaluru. It was their second defeat of the season

after having lost their match against Gujarat Fortune giants in Hyderabad.

After trailing 6-15 in the first half, the Haryana side laboured hard to make it 16-17 at the halfway mark, which was indeed the turning point of the game. It was a fantastic comeback for Haryana as they inflicted an all-out on Bengaluru to bag three crucial points just before the half-time.

After the break, the Haryana players soon made it 17-all and it was an intense battle from thereon with both sides battling for each and every point.

"Even though there was huge point difference (trailing 6-15), our coach advised us to be patient. Thus, the players kept their focus intact and we eventually succeeded in upsetting Bengaluru," said Vikas Khandola, Haryana's star raider who bagged 12 points altogether; after the match.

Chennai Lions are UTT champions

New Delhi: Chennai Lions glided away to a one-sided victory over Dabang Delhi to clinch the Ultimate Table Tennis crown here on Sunday. In front of a packed house, the Sharath Kamal-spearheaded Lions demolished defending champions Dabang Delhi 8-1 to bring the league to a premature end.

Chennai cantered to the required 8 tie points in the first three matches itself, rendering the final two inconsequential. The Lions' foreign imports, Germany's Petrisa Solja and Portugal's Tiago Apolonia proved to be the stars of the grand finale, taming Bernadette Szocs 2-1 and Sathyan G 3-0 to take a formidable, and clearly unbeatable, lead.

Sharath and Petrisa then put a master class in the Mixed Doubles, collating the last 3 needed points with utmost ease to clinch the title. PTI

When Jammu Nationals had to be cut short

Archiman.Bhaduri@timesgroup.com

Kolkata: One hundred and nine players from 22 states were in Jammu for the National Under-25 chess championship on August 5, the day special status under Article 370 was withdrawn from Jammu & Kashmir and the state bifurcated into two Union Territories. The heightened security and uncertainty following the Centre's announcement forced the organisers to reduce the August 1-7 nine-round meet to a seven-round affair and make arrangements for the safe transportation of the players and parents out of Jammu by that evening only.

"We got information from local government sources on the night of August 4 about the possibility of section 144 of CrPC being imposed. Tourists had been evacuated the day before from Kashmir. But Jammu was okay till then," All J&K Chess Association president Atul Kumar Gupta told TOI from Jammu on Sunday.

Gupta also received calls from several players and parents on August 4 night informing him that police had come knocking at their hotel rooms asking them to leave Jammu as soon as possible. Tension and panic obviously gripped the players and parents.

Gupta had to act fast. He asked the

players to stay put at their hotel and got in touch with All India Chess Federation (AICF) secretary Bharat Singh Chauhan, seeking permission to cut short the tournament rather than cancelling it. "AICF also told me that safety of the participants is top priority and asked me to act accordingly," Gupta said.

The organisers initially thought of having two rounds on August 5 and one the next day. But with Section 144 being clamped in Jammu from 6 am that day, Gupta held a meeting with the rattled players and convinced them to play the seventh round in the morning, taking the AICF into confidence.

EaseMyTrip.com

GREAT Independence FEST
12-14 Aug. 2019

**73 Years of Freedom...
Hours of Incredible Travel Discounts!**

**Up to
₹10,073***
on Flight Booking

**Up to
₹10,073***
on Hotel Booking

**Up to
₹273***
on Bus Booking

Use Code EMT73

ICICI Bank Credit Cards Exclusive offer on ICICI Bank Credit Card

Brand Partners:

*T&C Apply Download EaseMyTrip App

Call for more details
011- 43131313, 43030303

care@easemytrip.com
www.EaseMyTrip.com

'Evaru is a thriller you will relate to, but you simply cannot guess its ending'



Adivi Sesh and Regina in a still from the movie

THE TWISTS AND TURNS IN THE STORY WILL BE BOTH ENGROSSING AND BEFUDDLING AT THE SAME TIME. WHEN PEOPLE WATCH THE FILM FOR THE SECOND TIME, THEY WILL BE ABLE TO CATCH THE DETAILS THEY MIGHT HAVE MISSED THE FIRST TIME

—Venkat Ramji, Director

Neeshita.Nyayapati@timesgroup.com

From the looks of it, *Evaru* seems to have all the makings of a classic whodunnit. The story revolves around a woman, played by Regina, who is on trial in a murder case. She claims to be a rape victim who acted in self defence. Adivi Sesh plays a corrupt cop who believes she's lying and wants to make money off whatever she's hiding. That's not all, there's a boy looking for his missing father. Is there a connection between the two seemingly disconnected cases? What if there is more to it than what meets the eye? Director Venkat Ramji says, "*Evaru* is all that and more."

The debutant assures that the film will definitely take the audience by surprise. "*Evaru* is an unpredictable thriller; it's like a dice you roll never knowing what number you're gonna get. The film wastes no time delving into the story and every few minutes, there's going to be a new revelation. You'll never predict where it goes," he proclaims.



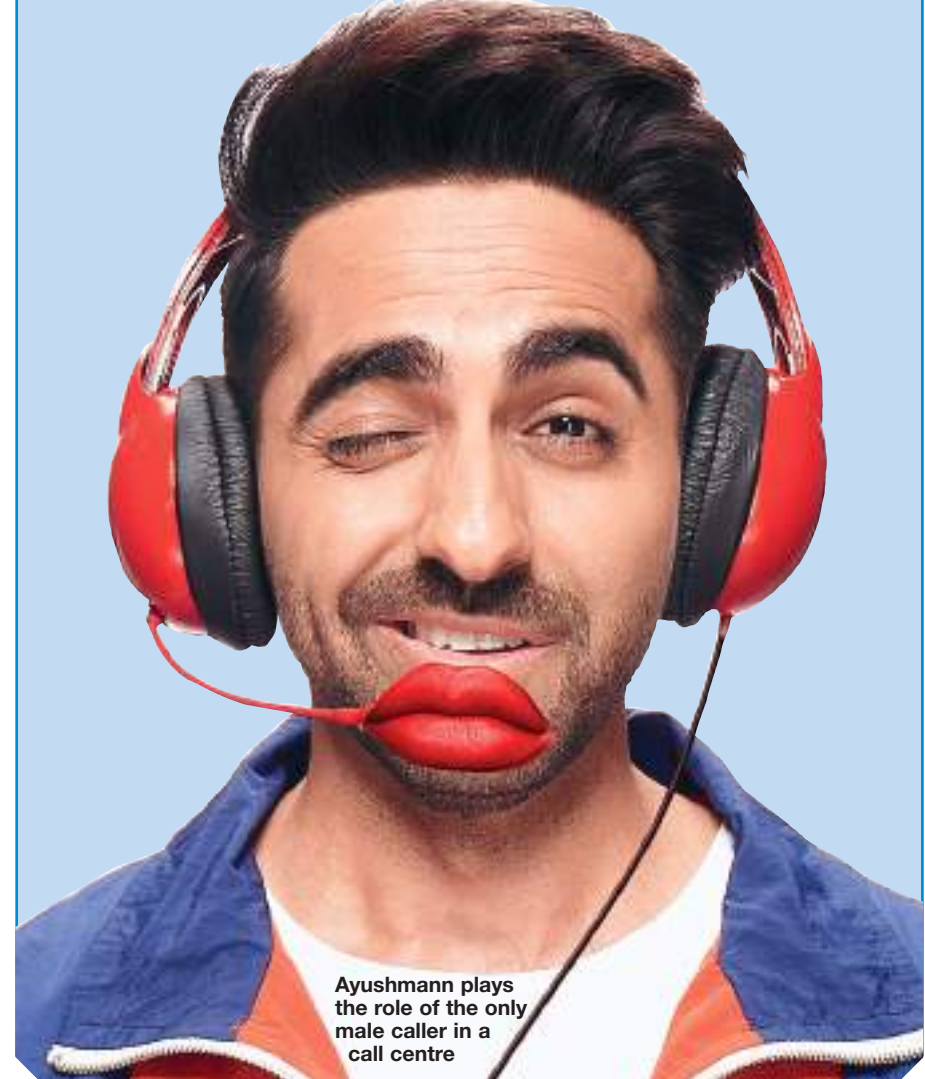
The filmmaker claims the audience will have to watch the film a second time to grasp it in its entirety. "The film will be an experience you wouldn't forget. The twists and turns in the story will be both engrossing and befuddling at the same time.

When people watch the film for the second time, they will be able to catch the details they might have missed the first time," quips Venkat.

The filmmaker assures there will be no loose ends in the film's plot. "Sesh and I spent a lot of time discussing the pros and cons of the film's intricacies even before we began shooting. He negated a lot of plot points I came up with and vice versa. But when I told him the climax, it blew his mind because he couldn't guess the ending at all," he says, adding, "We wanted to ensure the story is something this generation of audience can relate to but still not predict. We fleshed out all the characters to the T; we wrote exhaustive back stories, and then built scenarios wherein their lives intersect. Every character in the film will reflect everything this generation is about — they are all in pursuit of something, be it truth or success. And how it all comes together will blow your mind."

Produced by PVP under PVP Cinema, *Evaru* is releasing on Aug 15, 2019.

Ayushmann Khurrana is the new 'Dream Girl'



Ayushmann plays the role of the only male caller in a call centre

National Award-winning actor Ayushmann Khurrana, who is known for choosing diverse characters, is set to break the mould again — this time with the comic caper *Dream Girl*. Ever since its first look — showing Ayushmann draped in a saree — was released, there's been a lot of buzz around the film. And today, its trailer will be launched.

Written and directed by Raaj Shaandilyaa, the movie is a comedy of errors set against the backdrop of Mathura. Ayushmann will portray the titular character; the only male caller in a female friendship call centre. While everyone finds him unsuitable for the job, he shocks them with his beautiful voice, and transforms into the most popular female friendship caller — Pooja.

Be it the local policeman, a Haryana gujjar boy, or his girlfriend's brother, everybody loves Pooja and her mesmerising voice, which leads to a series of unusual, crazy situations. Nushrat Bharucha plays Ayushmann's love interest, making this their first on-screen outing together. Interestingly, Ayushmann has dubbed in female voice to portray Pooja convincingly. The actor, it seems, worked hard on his voice modulation.

The movie has an impressive ensemble cast, including Annu Kapoor, Vijay Raaz, Abhishek Banerjee, Manjot Singh, Nidhi Bisht, Rajesh Sharma and Raj Bhansali.

Dream Girl, produced by Shobha Kapoor and Ekta Kapoor's Balaji Telefilms, releases on September 13.

'Thrilled to team up with Balayya for the third time'

Suhas.Yellapantula@timesgroup.com

Sonal Chauhan, who is back in Tollywood after a gap of two years, says she's excited to team up with Nandamuri Balakrishna once again in his upcoming potboiler, titled *Ruler*. The actress, who previously teamed up with Balayya in films like *Legend* and *Dictator*, says she will be at her glamorous best in the upcoming cop-drama.

"It's a very glamorous role and I play this strong-headed workaholic who knows what she wants, and usually ends up having her way," shares Sonal, adding, "It's wonderful to team up with Balakrishna again. This is our third film together and there's always a lot to learn from him."

Balakrishna is said to be playing a dual role in the film that also stars Bhumika Chawla and Vedhika. While the Delhi girl is tight-lipped about the film, she promises it will have the "Balakrishna brand of entertainment."

She says, "It will naturally have everything you'd expect from a Balakrishna film — action, romance, drama and most importantly, lots of entertainment. I'm flying to

I PLAY A WORKAHOLIC WHO ALWAYS GETS WHAT SHE WANTS. IT'S A VERY GLAMOROUS ROLE. FILLED WITH ACTION, DRAMA AND LOADS OF COMEDY, THE FILM WILL BE A TREAT FOR THE AUDIENCE

Bangkok tonight for the next schedule of the film and I can't wait to start shooting."

Sonal, who recently featured in Hindi films like *Paltan* and *Jack and Dil* is excited to be back in Tollywood.

"I did not necessarily take a break from Telugu films as it has been reported, I got busy with work in Hindi. It's exciting to be back in the Telugu film industry. I look forward to doing more films here soon," she says, signing off.

Prathamesh Bandekar



Sonal Chauhan

KIRTI KULHARI

'I've been through that phase of being unsure of how I look'

Rachana.Dubey@timesgroup.com

As women, trying to find their feet in their respective industries on their own terms, Nithya Menen and Kirti Kulhari have come a long way. Nithya has had her share of well-crafted characters in Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam and Kannada films, while Kirti has played pivotal parts in films like *Pink* and *Uri: The Surgical Strike*. The two ladies will be seen sharing screen space with Akshay Kumar, Sonakshi Sinha, Vidya Balan and Taapsee Pannu in the upcoming *Mission Mangal*. The actresses spoke about this ambitious project, finding work on their own terms and why it's not

important to force-fit oneself in any one notion of beauty. Excerpts:

With eight acclaimed actors leading the cast of *Mission Mangal*, was it difficult to find your space in the narrative?

Kirti: Once upon a time, there were films like *Jaani Dushman* (1979), which had so many big names in the lead. When I am offered a film with multiple actors in the key cast, I feel relieved that I don't have to do much; there's not much riding on me (laughs!).

Nithya: To me, a film like that sounds like it that has many strong characters. This is not even a point of consideration for me. A good story demands actors to work together and make it believable. This is not about any one of us. I don't ever think in



Kirti Kulhari and Nithya Menen

WHILE WE CONTINUE TO MAKE STEREOTYPICAL MULTI-STARRERS, FILMS WITH A HEFTY CAST THAT DON'T PLAY BY THOSE RULES ARE ALSO ON THE RISE. WE HAVE TAKEN A LONG TIME TO BE OKAY WITH SO MANY OF US WORKING TOGETHER IN A FILM WITH EQUALLY PROMINENT ROLES

— Kirti Kulhari

NITHYA MENEN

'An actor's physicality does not define their acting prowess'

terms of how many people I am sharing the lead space with. With the narration that I heard for *Mission Mangal*, it was obvious that it was a story of a mission that a team of scientists accomplished together. So, there was ample for each one of us.

Kirti: On a serious note, it's really good that such stories are being told. It was the story that attracted me to the film. I'm glad that with films like *Uri: The Surgical Strike* and *Mission Mangal*, stories behind landmark events are reaching far and wide. People will know how we achieved something that was considered nearly impossible. Films like these educate and entertain without becoming overbearing. When I was approached for it, apart from the narration, I was amazed with the names that had come on board. The treatment was light and fun. When you hear the word mission, you tend

to think it's a serious film, but this is a slice-of-life movie. And with Akshay Kumar in the cast, it turned out to be more fun than I had imagined.

Nithya: This isn't a run-of-the-mill kind of a film. It's a space film, something that hasn't been attempted before. It was an interesting premise for me. It's my first Hindi film, and I wanted to make sure that I am in the right team. I've been offered Hindi films before but the approach and the reasoning Balki and director Jagan Shakti had for casting me seemed right to me. They were familiar with my work and I was specifically needed for this part. After a point, the language and the industry I was stepping into didn't matter. I looked at it the way I would see any other film that I give a nod to.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6

COMPETING WITH EACH OTHER, ESPECIALLY WHEN WE ARE ALL PLAYING EQUALLY IMPORTANT CHARACTERS, DOESN'T WORK. IT'S A WRONG NOTION THAT ANY OF US WOULD HAVE TRIED TO SHOW ONE-UPMANSHIP. WE WORKED TOGETHER TO BRING OUT THE BEST IN EACH OTHER

— Nithya Menen

'I SPENT 9 YEARS DOCUMENTING MACHLI'S LIFE, THIS FILM IS MY WAY OF PROTECTING OUR TIGERS'

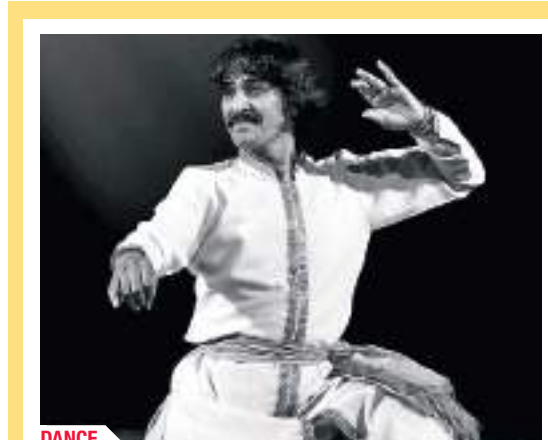


PAGE 4



THE WORLD'S MOST FAMOUS TIGER

EVENTS



DANCE Shilparamam: Near Cyber Towers, Hitec City Main Road, Madhapur... 'Prayaas' — a Kathak performance by Pt Rajendra Gangani, August 12, 5.30 pm

ART Goethe-Zentrum: Plot No 20, Road No 3, North H Block, Journalist Colony, Banjara Hills... 'Perspectives: Public Spaces' — an exhibition of photographs taken by economically disadvantaged children from Kushbow Vidya Niketan, till August 12, 6 pm

Alliance Française: Plot No 4, Aurora Colony, Road No 3, Banjara Hills... 'The Quieter Zone' — an art exhibition by Sabita Lakshmanan, till August 15, 9.30 am

Dhi Artspace: Plot No 7-1-54/2/C, Sri Gurukrupa, Dharam Karan Road, Ameerpet... 'A Journey through Impermanence' — an art exhibition by Poorvash Patel and Maksud Ali Mondal, till August 20, 11 am

Kalakraiti Art Gallery: Plot No 468, Road No 10, Banjara Hills... 'Like the Air I Breathe' — an exhibition of paintings by Bakula Nayak on vintage paper based upon the idea of love, how it makes one a better person and how much more of it is needed in this world, till September 2, 6.30 pm

MUSIC & DANCE Saptaragini: Plot No 21, Road No 8, Banjara Hills... 'A Classical musical concert by Prince Rama Varma, August 13, 6.30 pm

Ravindra Bharathi: Lakkidkapur Road, near State Assembly, Saifabad... 'Jhankaar' — Sangitanjali Foundation presents a unique dance ballet 'Atithidevohvaha' where acts by famous Chhau artists from Purulia, Malkambh artistes from Pune, Kathakali and Mohini dancers from Kerala, Manipuri dancers from Manipur and Lavni from Nagpur will perform live, August 14, 7 pm

Shilparamam: Madhapur... A Bharatanatyam recital by Divya Shivanarayana and the students of Diksookhi Nattalyaya, August 15, 5.30 pm

A Bharatanatyam recital by Veena Gangadhar and Tejaswini Sandeep, August 17, 5.30 pm

THEATRE Lamakaan: Off Road No 1, opposite GVK One, Banjara Hills... 'Jab Sheher Hamara Sota Hai' — presented by Kissago and directed by Jay Jha, the play is a well-knitted plot of many lives and many small stories leading to one. Two youngsters from rival gangs fall in love and the everlasting tension between the gangs lead to a tragedy. Will they ever set aside their differences or will there always be such tragedies? August 15, 8 pm

Kabaddi, the Game of Partition — the play is a period drama set in the bloodiest time in Indian history. It is a testament to the masses who were made to participate in one of the biggest political gambles ever. The essence of the play thrives on just one question — did independence really set us free? August 23, 8 pm

SCREENING Nritya - Forum for Performing Arts: Plot No 8-2-269/62, behind Lumbini Jewell Mall, Road No 2, Banjara Hills... Learn about chakras and their asanas in a special 'Chakra beej asans' workshop conducted by Dhyan Foundation on August 18 from 9 am to 10 am.

Sushurma Kriyayog Meditation given by Sri Sri Sri Bhoganaatha Siddhartha on his pujyasyri Athmanandamayi Ammagaru as a new age kriya yoga for spiritual growth, health, mental peace, contentment, eternal bliss and overall wellbeing. Please join for practice and initiation on August 18 from 11 am to 1 pm. For details, contact Chalapathe Rao on 9899240434

Nalanda - The World Wisdom Centre at Times House, The Times Of India, Road No. 3, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad-34. You may call: 23254000/23254500 or visit: www.nalandalawisdomcentre.org

IF IT ISN'T HERE, IT ISN'T HAPPENING To get listed here, write to: Events, Hyderabad Times, Times House, Road No. 3, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad-34 Fax: 23254300. Email: tims.hyderabadtimes@timesgroup.com

Learn about chakras and their asanas in a special 'Chakra beej asans' workshop conducted by Dhyan Foundation on August 18 from 9 am to 10 am. For details contact 9703333642/9392935341 or visit www.dhyanfoundation.com

Meher and Sarabjit's life takes a new turn in Choti Sarardaarni

Colors' 'Choti Sarardaarni' has kept the viewers hooked with its dramatic twists and turns every Monday to Friday at 7.30pm. A story that started with Meher Dhillon's (Nimrit Kaur) journey into motherhood and rebuilding of her life following a series of unfortunate events, is now set to have a huge plot twist.

The show's current track had Meher going missing even as Sarabjit (Avinesh Rekhi) and his family were being welcomed for their engagement. Realising that her daughter has gone missing, Kulwant (Anita Ra) and everyone in the house go looking for her. However, Meher reaches the ceremony in the nick of time and the celebrations commence. The drama intensifies in tonight's episode as Meher and Sarabjit find themselves in the centre of a life-threatening situation. Sarabjit, who had left Meher's house after the ceremony, returns for some work, only to find fire emanating from her room. He immediately rushes in to save her without giving a thought about his own safety. He breaks the door open and pulls Meher out of the room engulfed in flames. The incident ignites a spark between Sarabjit and Meher as he gives her a new lease of life.



Avinesh Rekhi and Nimrit Kaur in Choti Sarardaarni

CINEMA

TELEGU MANMADHUJU 2 (U/A) ★★½ 58888 Code: man Nagarguna, Relu Preet A playboy is constantly pressurised by his aged mother and sisters to get married. Due to his commitment phobia, he hires a woman to pretend to be his fiancée and ditch him on their wedding day.

ASIAN M CUBE 10.30AM, 1.30, 4.30, 7.30, 7.45, 10.40PM; ASIAN CINESQUARE 10.20AM, 1.40, 4.40, 7.25, 7.40, 10.25, 10.40PM; ARJUN 11.30AM, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30PM; ASIAN GPR 10.35AM, 1.35, 4.40, 7.40, 10.40PM; AMB CINEMAS 10.15AM, 10.30, 1.15, 1.30, 4.15, 4.30, 7.15, 7.35, 10.15, 10.40PM; AMBA 11.30AM, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30PM; BRAMARAMBA 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; BR HITECH 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; BVK MULTIPLEX 10.30AM, 1.25, 4.20, 7.30, 10.45PM; BIG CINEMAS 10.30AM, 1.30, 4.30, 7.30, 7.50, 10.30PM; CINEPOLIS (Malkajigiri) 10.00AM, 11.00, 1.35, 4.10, 4.35, 7.45, 10.20, 11.00PM; CINEPOLIS (Kukatpally) 10.00AM, 1.15, 4.30, 7.45, 11.00PM; CINEPOLIS (Attapur) 10.00AM, 12.15, 3.30, 5.45, 7.50, 10.00, 11.00PM; CINEPOLIS SUDHA 10.00AM, 10.35, 1.40, 4.45, 6.55, 7.50, 10.00, 10.55PM; CINEPLANET MULTIPLEX 10.30AM, 1.30, 4.30, 7.30, 10.30PM; GANESH (Shamshabad) 11.15, 2.15, 6.00, 9.00PM; INOX GSM MALL 10.40AM, 11.40, 2.10, 3.10, 8.40, 9.30, 10.10PM; INOX GVK MALL 10.00, 11.00, 1.15, 1.45, 4.05, 4.30, 7.00, 7.45, 10.10, 11.00PM; JYOTHI (IDA Bolaram) 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; KALYANI 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; KRISHNA CINEMA 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; MUKUND 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; JYOTHI (RC Puram) 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; LAKSHMIKALIA (Mooapaleti) 11.15, 2.30, 6.15, 9.30PM; PLATINUM MOVIE 10.00AM, 1.00, 4.00, 5.30, 7.00, 10.00, 11.00PM; PRASADS LARGE SCREEN 8.45AM; PVR INORBIT MALL 10.00AM, 10.50, 1.15, 4.30, 5.00, 7.05, 7.45, 10.20, 11.00PM; RADHIKA 10.35AM, 1.35, 4.35, 7.40, 10.40PM; PRATAP 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; SHIVAGANGA 11.15AM, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM; SRI LAKSHMI KALAMANDIR 11.30AM, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30PM; MANJU 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; MEHANA 11.15AM, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM; MIRAJ SHALINI SHIVANI 10.00, 10.30, 1.40, 4.50, 8.00, 11.00PM; MUKTA 8.20 AMARAKRISHNA 11.30AM, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30PM; NAGENDRA 12.00, 3.00, 7.00, 10.40PM; PRASADS MULTIPLEX 11.45AM, 11.45, 5.00, 6.45, 7.15, 8.00, 10.15, 10.45, 11.00PM; PVR FORUM MALL 10.00AM, 10.50, 1.15, 2.05, 4.30, 4.55, 7.00, 7.45, 10.00, 11.00PM; PVR CENTRAL 12.15, 1.15, 2.00, 3.30, 8.45, 10.00, 11.00PM; PVR CENTRIS 11.00AM, 10.40, 1.15, 4.30, 7.05, 7.45, 11.00PM; PVR IRIRUM MANZIL 10.00AM, 11.45AM, 12.40, 3.00, 6.15, 7.15, 9.20, 10.30PM; PVR MUSARAMBAGH 12.15, 1.20, 3.30, 4.30, 6.45, 10.00PM; PVR NEXT GALLERIA MALL 10.00, 11.00, 1.15, 2.35, 4.30, 7.15, 10.00, 11.00PM; PVR PRESTON PRIME 12.00PM, 1.00, 3.50, 7.10, 10.20PM; PVR RK 10.00AM, 10.20, 1.00, 4.05, 7.40, 11.00PM; RAGHAVENDRA 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; RAJVALAKSHMI 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; RANGA 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; SAIRAGAN 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; SENAISON SUN-SHINE 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; SHA 11.15AM, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM; SANTI 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; S2 MALLAPUR SRIRAMA 11.30AM, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30PM; SREERAMANA 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; SRIRAMULU 11.00AM, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30PM; SRIKRISHNA (Uppal) 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; SRIPREMA 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; SVR SHIVASHAKTHI 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; SWAPNA (Katand) 11.15AM, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM; TALKIE TOWN 11.00AM, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM; TIVOLI CINEMA 10.40AM, 1.40, 4.40, 7.45, 10.45PM; VIJETHA 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; VIMAL 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; VLS SRIDEVI 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; VYJAYANTH 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; TALLURI THEATRES 12.00, 10.00, 10.30PM; SREERAMAN 11.15, 2.15PM. KATHANAM (U/A) ★½ 58888 Code: kat Anasuya Bharadwaj, Srinivas Avasarala A police officer investigating mysterious deaths realises the connection between them and the story a filmmaker writes. As he delves deeper he uncovers a long-buried secret leading to these murders. BVK MULTIPLEX 1.55, 4.45PM; ANJALI 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; BIG CINEMAS 7.20PM; CINEPOLIS (Malkajigiri) 2.15, 8.15PM; CINEPLANET 1.40PM; INOX (Banjara Hills) 11.00AM, 8.05PM; DEVI 11.00, 2.00, 5.45, 9.15PM; LAKSHMIKALIA (Mooapaleti) 9.45PM; INOX MP MALL 12.30, 10.20PM; TIVOLI CINEMA 2.35PM; RAGHAVENDRA 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; PVR CENTRAL 1.55, 10.20PM; PVR RK 8.05PM; PVR NEXT GALLERIA MALL 12.00, 4.40PM; PVR IRIRUM MANZIL 4.20, 7.40PM; PRASADS 12.00, 10.30PM; SREERAMAN 11.15, 2.14PM.

ASIAN M CUBE 10.30AM, 1.30, 4.30, 7.30, 7.45, 10.40PM; ASIAN CINESQUARE 10.20AM, 1.40, 4.40, 7.25, 7.40, 10.25, 10.40PM; ARJUN 11.30AM, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30PM; ASIAN GPR 10.35AM, 1.35, 4.40, 7.40, 10.40PM; AMB CINEMAS 10.15AM, 10.30, 1.15, 1.30, 4.15, 4.30, 7.15, 7.35, 10.15, 10.40PM; AMBA 11.30AM, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30PM; BRAMARAMBA 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; BR HITECH 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; BVK MULTIPLEX 10.30AM, 1.25, 4.20, 7.30, 10.45PM; BIG CINEMAS 10.30AM, 1.30, 4.30, 7.30, 7.50, 10.30PM; CINEPOLIS (Malkajigiri) 10.00AM, 11.00, 1.35, 4.10, 4.35, 7.45, 10.20, 11.00PM; CINEPOLIS (Kukatpally) 10.00AM, 1.15, 4.30, 7.45, 11.00PM; CINEPOLIS (Attapur) 10.00AM, 12.15, 3.30, 5.45, 7.50, 10.00, 11.00PM; CINEPOLIS SUDHA 10.00AM, 10.35, 1.40, 4.45, 6.55, 7.50, 10.00, 10.55PM; CINEPLANET MULTIPLEX 10.30AM, 1.30, 4.30, 7.30, 10.30PM; GANESH (Shamshabad) 11.15, 2.15, 6.00, 9.00PM; INOX GSM MALL 10.40AM, 11.40, 2.10, 3.10, 8.40, 9.30, 10.10PM; INOX GVK MALL 10.00, 11.00, 1.15, 1.45, 4.05, 4.30, 7.00, 7.45, 10.10, 11.00PM; JYOTHI (IDA Bolaram) 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; KALYANI 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; KRISHNA CINEMA 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; MUKUND 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; JYOTHI (RC Puram) 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; LAKSHMIKALIA (Mooapaleti) 11.15, 2.30, 6.15, 9.30PM; PLATINUM MOVIE 10.00AM, 1.00, 4.00, 5.30, 7.00, 10.00, 11.00PM; PRASADS LARGE SCREEN 8.45AM; PVR INORBIT MALL 10.00AM, 10.50, 1.15, 4.30, 5.00, 7.05, 7.45, 10.20, 11.00PM; RADHIKA 10.35AM, 1.35, 4.35, 7.40, 10.40PM; PRATAP 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; SHIVAGANGA 11.15AM, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM; SRI LAKSHMI KALAMANDIR 11.30AM, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30PM; MANJU 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; MEHANA 11.15AM, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM; MIRAJ SHALINI SHIVANI 10.00, 10.30, 1.40, 4.50, 8.00, 11.00PM; MUKTA 8.20 AMARAKRISHNA 11.30AM, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30PM; NAGENDRA 12.00, 3.00, 7.00, 10.40PM; PRASADS MULTIPLEX 11.45AM, 11.45, 5.00, 6.45, 7.15, 8.00, 10.15, 10.45, 11.00PM; PVR FORUM MALL 10.00AM, 10.50, 1.15, 2.05, 4.30, 4.55, 7.00, 7.45, 10.00, 11.00PM; PVR CENTRAL 12.15, 1.15, 2.00, 3.30, 8.45, 10.00, 11.00PM; PVR CENTRIS 11.00AM, 10.40, 1.15, 4.30, 7.05, 7.45, 11.00PM; PVR IRIRUM MANZIL 10.00AM, 11.45AM, 12.40, 3.00, 6.15, 7.15, 9.20, 10.30PM; PVR MUSARAMBAGH 12.15, 1.20, 3.30, 4.30, 6.45, 10.00PM; PVR NEXT GALLERIA MALL 10.00, 11.00, 1.15, 2.35, 4.30, 7.15, 10.00, 11.00PM; PVR PRESTON PRIME 12.00PM, 1.00, 3.50, 7.10, 10.20PM; PVR RK 10.00AM, 10.20, 1.00, 4.05, 7.40, 11.00PM; RAGHAVENDRA 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; RAJVALAKSHMI 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; RANGA 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; SAIRAGAN 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; SENAISON SUN-SHINE 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; SHA 11.15AM, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM; SANTI 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; S2 MALLAPUR SRIRAMA 11.30AM, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30PM; SREERAMANA 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; SRIRAMULU 11.00AM, 2.30, 6.30, 9.30PM; SRIKRISHNA (Uppal) 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; SRIPREMA 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; SVR SHIVASHAKTHI 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; SWAPNA (Katand) 11.15AM, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM; TALKIE TOWN 11.00AM, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM; TIVOLI CINEMA 10.40AM, 1.40, 4.40, 7.45, 10.45PM; VIJETHA 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; VIMAL 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; VLS SRIDEVI 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; VYJAYANTH 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; TALLURI THEATRES 12.00, 10.00, 10.30PM; SREERAMAN 11.15, 2.14PM.



RAKSHASUDU (TELEGU)

centred upon Duryodhana, a Kaurava King, played by Darshan. KONARK 6.00, 9.15PM; RAGHAVENDRA 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; SRIMAVYU 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; SAPNA (Abids) 11.30, 2.30PM; SREERAMANA 6.15, 9.15PM; VISHNU 11.15, 2.15PM; SWAPNA (Katand) 9.00PM.

RAKSHASUDU (U/A) ★★½ 58888 Code: rak Bellamkonda Sai Sreenivas, Anupama Parameswaran A serial killer is on the loose, kidnapping and killing teen school girls with a vengeance. A young cop sets to solve the mystery, even if his superior refuses to take him seriously.

AMB CINEMAS 10.40AM, 1.40, 4.40, 7.40, 10.50PM; ASIAN CINESQUARE 10.30AM, 1.30, 7.45, 10.45PM; ASIAN M CUBE 1.20PM, 7.20, 10.20PM; ASIAN GPR 10.30AM, 7.45, 10.45PM; AARADHANA 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; BHUJANGA 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; BVK MULTIPLEX 11.00AM, 4.45, 7.00PM; CINEMA 10.40AM, 1.40, 4.40PM; CINEPOLIS (Malkajigiri) 10.10AM, 4.10, 10.10PM; CINEPOLIS SUDHA 1.05PM, 5.05PM; CINEPLANET MULTIPLEX 10.35AM, 1.45, 7.40, 10.40PM; GOKUL 11.55AM, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM; INDIRA 12.00PM, 3.00, 7.00, 10.00PM; INOX GSM MALL 12.25PM, 3.45, 6.10, 9.40PM; INOX MP MALL 1.40PM, 9.50PM; MALLIKARJUNA 11.55AM, 2.30, 6.15, 9.30PM; MIRAJ SHALINI SHIVANI 1.10PM, 7.30, 10.30PM; LAKSHMIKALIA (Mooapaleti) 11.30AM, 2.45, 6.15, 9.45PM; PLATINUM MOVIE 2.30PM, 8.20PM; PRASADS MULTIPLEX 2.15PM, 5.00, 7.45PM; PVR FORUM MALL 10.15AM, 1.45, 3.50, 10.40PM; PVR ICN 4.30, 7.45, 10.00PM; PVR CENTRAL 11.20AM, 1.05, 7.20PM; PVR IRIRUM MANZIL 10.00PM, 4.45, 11.00PM; PVR MUSARAMBAGH 4.10, 7.45PM; PVR NEXT GALLERIA MALL 10.20AM, 1.20, 7.40, 10.50PM; PVR PRESTON PRIME 4.05PM, 7.20, 10.30PM; PVR RK 1.35PM, 7.50PM; PRASANTH 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; RAJADHANI 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; RINORBIT MALL 10.30AM, 4.50, 10.40PM; RADHIKA 10.45AM, 4.25, 7.20PM; SHA 11.30AM, 6.15PM; SHIVA 11.00AM, 6.15PM; SANDHYA 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; S2 MALLAPUR 10.25AM, 4.35, 7.40, 10.52PM; SRISAIRAM 11.55AM, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM; SRINIVASA (Uppal) 11.00AM, 2.00, 6.00, 9.00PM; SWAPNA (Katand) 11.15AM, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM; TALKIE TOWN 11.15AM, 2.15, 6.15, 9.15PM; TIVOLI CINEMA 11.30AM, 1.50, 7.40PM.

ISMART SHANKAR (A) ★★½ 58888 Code: ism Ram Pothineni, Satya Dev, Nabha Natesh, Nidhi Agerval Shankar is a rowdy who gets into trouble and is out to settle scores with people who have wronged him. But what happens when a chip is inserted into his brain, affecting his memories?

BVK MULTIPLEX 1.45PM, 10.15PM; PVR FORUM MALL 10.15PM; PVR NEXT GALLERIA MALL 1.45PM; SUDARSHAN 11.00AM, 2.15, 5.45, 9.15PM.

JABARIYA JODI (U/A) ★★½ 58888 Code: jab Sidharth Malhotra, Parineeti Chopra, Aparshakti Khurana Abhij Singh (Sidharth Malhotra) runs a syndicate of kidnapping greedy goons who demand dowry in Bihar's Madhopur. He then defiantly marries them off to the girl, calling it a 'surprise party'. But when his childhood sweetheart Babli (Parineeti Chopra) re-enters his life, he must choose between love and his long-term ambitions.

AMB CINEMAS 10.20AM, 4.15, 10.00PM; ASIAN CINESQUARE 1.35PM, 10.30PM; ASIAN M CUBE 10.30AM, 4.20, 10.35PM; BIG CINEMAS 11.00AM, 4.20, 10.00PM; CINEPOLIS (Malkajigiri) 11.30AM, 5.10, 10.30PM; CINEPOLIS (Kukatpally) 10.40PM; CINEPOLIS (Attapur) 11.30AM, 4.10, 10.10PM; CINEPOLIS SUDHA 10.25AM, 4.00, 10.30PM; CINEPLANET MULTIPLEX 4.50PM, 10.45PM; INOX GSM MALL 12.00PM, 3.05, 9.30PM; INOX (Banjara Hills) 10.10AM, 12.05, 5.15, 10.40PM; INOX MP MALL 10.55AM, 2.10, 7.50, 10.40PM; METRO 11.30AM, 2.30, 6.00, 9.00PM; MIRAJ SHALINI SHIVANI 11.00AM, 1.50, 4.20, 10.40PM; PRASADS MULTIPLEX 2.45PM, 5.30, 8.15, 11.00PM; PRIYA 12.00PM, 3.00, 6.30, 9.30PM; PVR FORUM MALL 10.45AM, 1.15, 4.30, 7.35, 10.40PM; PVR ICN 4.20, 7.30, 10.40PM; PVR NEXT GALLERIA MALL 10.15AM, 1.30, 4.35, 7.35, 10.40PM; PVR RK 10.30AM, 4.45, 11.00PM; PLATINUM MOVIE TIME 9.00AM, 2.55, 5.40, 8.25, 11.10PM; PVR INORBIT MALL 10.55AM, 4.40, 7.45, 10.50PM; RIMAKRISHNA 11.30AM, 2.30, 6.00, 9.15PM; SENSATION IN SOMNIA 12.00, 3.00, 7.00, 10.00PM; SRISAIRAJA 11.30AM, 2.30, 6.00, 9.00PM; RADHIKA 1.55PM, 10.20PM; TALKIE TOWN 2.30PM, 9.30PM; TIVOLI CINEMA 11.00AM, 4.45, 7.30, 10.40PM.

CHICKEN CURRY LAW (A) ★½ 58888 Code: ckl Ashutosh Rana, Natalia Janoszek, Nivedita Bhattacharya When a foreign national is raped by an influential minister's son, she attempts to seek justice, but it only leads to an agonising and infuriating series of events.

CINEPOLIS (Attapur) 2.45PM; PLATINUM MOVIE 12.00PM. FAST & FURIOUS: HOBBS & SHAW (A) ★★½ (Dubbed in Hindi) 58888 Code: fas Dwayne Johnson, Jason Statham, Idris Elba A terrorist who is genetically enhanced is on a mission to weaponise a deadly virus. Hobbs (Johnson) and Shaw (Statham) must overcome their dislike for each other to take on the

powerful enemy. TARAKARAMA 11.15AM, 2.15, 6.00, 9.00PM; SANTOSH (Abids) 11.30AM, 2.30, 6.00, 9.15PM. HYDERABAD NAWABS 2 (U/A) ★★½ 58888 Code: hyd Ali Reza, Farah Khan, Aziz Nasser, Gullu Dada When six families find themselves without a home after their illegal building is razed down by municipal authorities, they decide to take revenge against the realtors who sold them their flats. CINEPOLIS SUDHA 8.05PM; SAPNA (Abids) 6.00, 9.15PM.

ENGLISH DORA AND THE LAST CITY OF GOLD (U) ★★½ 58888 Code: dor Isabella Moner, Eva Longoria, Eugenio Derbez Dora (Moner) may have spent most of her time exploring the jungle and living an adventurous life, but nothing comes close to preparing her for high school, her journey to rediscover a lost civilisation and save her parents from trouble.

AMB CINEMAS 2.05PM, 7.10PM; BIG CINEMAS 7.40PM; CINEPOLIS (Malkajigiri) 2.45PM, 8.10PM; CINEPOLIS (Attapur) 12.00PM, 8.15PM; INOX GSM MALL 3.25, 7.05PM; INOX MP MALL 3.00, 7.40PM; PRASADS MULTIPLEX 3.20PM, 8.45PM; PVR FORUM MALL 2.00PM, 8.00PM; PVR ICN 5.15PM; PVR ICN 5.15PM; PVR CENTRAL 2.30PM, 8.20PM, 9.30PM; PVR IRIRUM MANZIL 1.20PM, 7.15PM; PVR MUSARAMBAGH 4.45PM, 10.15PM; PVR NEXT GALLERIA MALL 5.50PM, 10.30PM; PVR PRESTON PRIME 7.00PM; PVR RK 11.05PM; PLATINUM MOVIE TIME 10.00AM, 3.00, 8.00PM; PVR INORBIT MALL 4.35PM, 10.40PM; S2 MALLAPUR 8.00PM; TIVOLI CINEMA 5.00PM.

SCARY STORIES TO TELL IN THE DARK (U/A) ★★ 58888 Code: sca Zoe Margaret Colletti, Michael Garza, Gabriel Rush, Dean Norris, Gil Bellows A group of teenagers discovers a book in a haunted house with scary stories written about them in real-time. CINEPOLIS (Attapur) 10.40PM; INOX GVK MALL 10.50PM; PVR FORUM MALL 11.15AM, 1.20, 10.50PM; PVR ICN 10.30PM; PVR CENTRAL 4.35PM, 10.50PM; PVR NEXT GALLERIA MALL 2.10PM, 8.20PM; PVR INORBIT MALL 2.00PM, 8.10PM.

An evening of soulful melodies with Lucky Ali

The veteran musician enthralled a 1000-odd crowd with a lively set replete with timeless hits in a concert in Hyderabad recently

Pics: Sravan Vanaparthi

Lucky Ali during the performance

... AND THE FANS KEPT THE ENERGY FLOWING FROM THE STANDS

Though a lot of people brought posters with messages for Lucky imprinted on them to the gig, this particular one (see right), by a fan Arvind, stood out for being the quirkiest



Arvind

Sravan.Vanaparthi@timesgroup.com

Long before singer, song writer and composer Lucky Ali took to the stage at Shilpakala Vedika for a concert on Saturday, the auditorium was already buzzing with a 1000-odd crowd. Fans of the 60-year-old artiste had come all prepared with banners and posters and were cheering his name waiting for him to come on stage and do what he does best — serenade fans with soulful songs.

"I was suffering from depression in school when a friend suggested one of Lucky's albums. And it changed my life. Till date, I love his songs. So much so that during a recent expedition to Antarctica, it was only his music that I listened to," said Sai, a specially-abled fan in the audience,

when asked to share his love for the *Dekha Hai Aise Bhi* hitmaker.

Soon after, Lucky, accompanied by his entourage of musicians, arrived on the stage to a rapturous applause. "It's always so good to see you all. Thank you for so much for coming," said the singer before breaking into some of his greatest hits — *Oh Sanam*, *Anjaani Raho Mein*, *Kitni Haseen Zindagi* and *Na Tum Jano Na Hum*, to name a few.

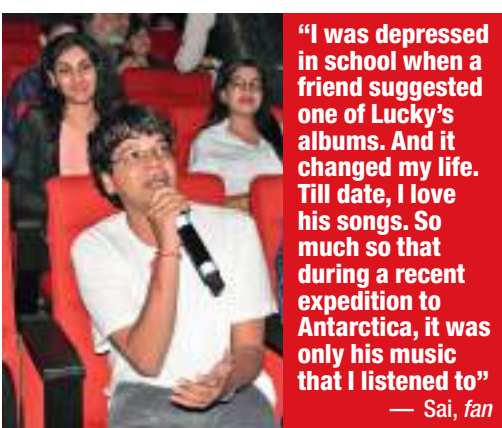
Lucky ended the gig with the song *Safarnama*. But prior to that he explained the gist of the number and said, "Everybody suffers and struggles in life and I hope each one of us reach where we want to be. All I want for my people and my country is happiness." Before taking a bow at the end, the *Sunoh* hitmaker also announced that he will be cutting a new album soon and the crowd acknowledged it with great enthusiasm.

EVERYBODY SUFFERS AND STRUGGLES IN LIFE AND I HOPE EACH ONE OF US REACH WHERE WE WANT TO BE. ALL I WANT FOR MY PEOPLE AND MY COUNTRY IS HAPPINESS

— Lucky Ali



Subash



"I was depressed in school when a friend suggested one of Lucky's albums. And it changed my life. Till date, I love his songs. So much so that during a recent expedition to Antarctica, it was only his music that I listened to"

— Sai, fan



Annada Prasanna



Manoj

Prabhas has the most amazing heart: Shraddha

Actor Shraddha Kapoor, who plays the female lead in the upcoming action-thriller *Saaho*, says her co-star Prabhas has "the most amazing heart". "Prabhas is a huge superstar but he has the most amazing heart. I and my team were in awe of that. We had a blast shooting for the film," Shraddha said.

Talking about her experience of shooting in Hyderabad, the actor said the city is like her "second home". "I will not be able to describe the experience in words. Actually, the whole team welcomed me as a part of their family. We shot this film within two years. And during this time, Hyderabad actually became my second home. I would look forward to going to the set every day. I would love to go there again and again because of the amount of love that I have received from the film's crew. They have been so kind to me. I felt so much at home there."

— Agencies



Prabhas and Shraddha Kapoor

Bonding over fashion and wine



Ishani, Dhriti and Sohini

Shilpa Reddy

Meghna

Anam Mirza



SNAPSHOTS FROM A CHIC GET-TOGETHER

AGREES

THE NATION WANTS TO SAVE

ONLY **4** DAYS LEFT

MAHA SAVINGS

₹63 (Max 2kg)

BUY 2 GET 1 FREE*

₹252 (MRP ₹333)

₹395

₹899

₹199+

AASHIRVAAD ATTA 1kg FREE*

SHOP FOR ₹4500+ & GET UPTO ₹2000 CASHBACK*

₹50 (Max 2kg)

₹48 (Max 2kg)

₹1/unit

₹199+

AASHIRVAAD ATTA 1kg FREE*

OVER 200 PRODUCTS BUY 1 GET 1 FREE*

OVER 100 PRODUCTS BUY 2 GET 1 FREE*

OVER 250 PRODUCTS UPTO 70% OFF

OVER 500 PRODUCTS UPTO 50% OFF

10% CASHBACK*

ICICI Bank Credit & Debit Cards

₹159

Chicken Premium Whole Skin Off

₹200/kg

₹65 (Max 2kg)

₹88 (On purchase of 2)

SAVE ₹50

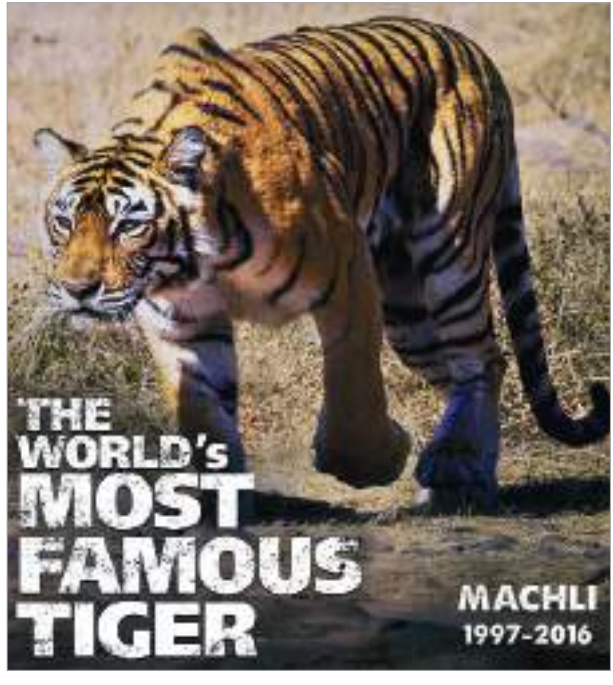
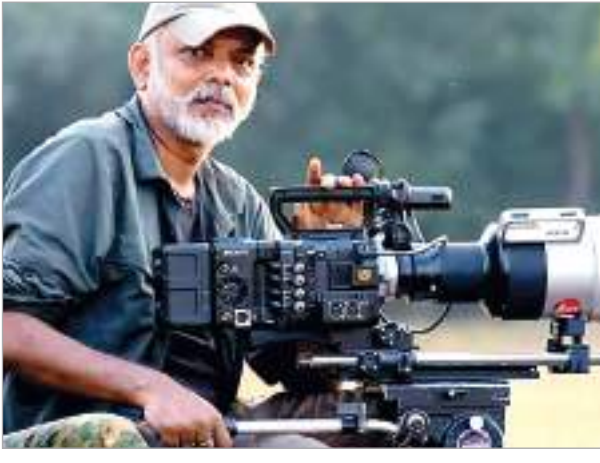
₹225

THIS YEAR'S MAHA SAVINGS ARE HAPPENING @ SPENCER'S

Musheerabad | Attapur | Malkagiri | L.B. Nagar | Bowenpally | Ameerpet | Madeenaguda | Hafeezpet | Errum Manzil

'I spent 9 years documenting Machli's life, this film is my way of protecting our tigers'

says Nallamuthu who won his fifth National Film Award for his documentary *The World's Most Famous Tiger* which chronicles the life and times of the Queen of Ranthambore



Richa.Shukla@timesgroup.com

Machli, the legendary tiger queen of Ranthambore National Park of Rajasthan, who won millions of hearts across the globe, is still making news. A film, which was made on the tigress, has won the Best Environment Film award at the recently concluded 66th National Film Awards.

MANY FILMS HAVE BEEN MADE ABOUT MACHLI, BUT MY FILM FOCUSES ON HER AFTER SHE PASSED HER PRIME, WHEN SHE NO LONGER HAD THE STRENGTH TO PROTECT HER TERRITORY

- S Nallamuthu

filmmaker spent nine years in the sanctuary to make this documentary. What made Nallamuthu document Machli's life? He says, "Machli taught us an important lesson that protecting a single tiger can create a forest. I must confess that once you've spent years with tigers, you cannot look at them as mere animals. They are living breathing creatures with unique features and personality traits. I first observed it when I went to Ranthambore

in 2007 and found local guides discussing about individual tigers as if they were part of their family. Machli was the most famous one among them." Nallamuthu began filming Machli in 2007 when she was just 11 years old, rearing her last litter of cubs. The filmmaker says, "She was the most beloved tiger and in her own way responsible for turning the spotlight on tiger conservation. Many films have been made about her but my film focuses on her after she passed her prime, when she no longer had the strength to protect her territory and had to move from one territory to another for survival." The most difficult and saddest part for Nallamuthu was to capture her last moments. "Being a filmmaker, this was my work, but a long association with Machli made me very emotional. I met her almost five days before she passed away. From forest officials to locals, everybody knew that she was about to die. From sunrise to sunset I was there to capture every single moment. She had become frail with no energy in her body to even walk. Everybody including me was quite emotional when we saw her taking her last breath in August 2016."



Abhishek Shah's *Hellaro* won the National Award for the Best Feature Film

'Elated that Gujarati cinema will now be recognised nationwide'

Abhimanyu.Mishra@timesgroup.com

Abhishek Shah's office smells of happiness. His team members are waiting for the *dholi* to arrive. And they have all the reasons to celebrate as Abhishek's directorial debut, Gujarati film *Hellaro*, has won the National Award for The Best Feature Film and Special Jury Award in the 66th National Film Awards. This is the first time that a Gujarati film has got the National Award for the Best Feature Film.



Mayur Bhatt

What was the first reaction when you came to know about the award?
As soon as we came to know that the awards were being declared, we all gathered to watch the live streaming of the session. To be honest, we were disheartened when the Best Gujarati Film award was given to *Reva* and the Best Film on Social Issues was given to *Padman* as our film is also based on a social issue. We had not imagined that we would go on to win The Best Feature Film. It was an overwhelming feeling.

You have worked as a casting director in many Gujarati films. From there to directing a film and then winning the National Award, how's the journey been?
My journey in films started with Abhishek Jain (director of Gujarati films *Kevi Rite Jaish* and *Bey Yaar*) as a

casting director. Because I had directed a lot of plays earlier, directing a film was not something that happened by chance. As a unit, we have always wanted to make a film with a soul and a strong storyline. The Gujarati film industry is hardly recognised at the national level. So, I wanted to show that there is some good work happening here. **Backing a film which is not commercial in nature is always challenging. How did you manage to fulfil this project?**
It was really difficult to find a producer to begin with. We faced a lot of rejection. But I always knew this is what I wanted to make and I was always honest and open in my approach. We shot the film 3km from the last Indian village (close to Pakistan border) in Kutch. Shooting in the middle of a desert at 45 degrees was tough. But we all braved the tough conditions because we believed in this film. **So, what does this award mean to you and the Gujarati film industry?**
It is a huge personal achievement. Till now, 12 Gujarati films have won the National Award for Best Gujarati Film category and Ketan Mehta's *Bhav Ni Bhavai* won The Best Film for National Integration award. But it's much more than a personal achievement. I feel happy that now Gujarati cinema will be recognised nationwide. I have had people calling me saying, 'Abhishek tumne itihash rach diya'. At the same time, it's quite humbling.

BENNETT UNIVERSITY
TIMES OF INDIA GROUP
ENGINEERING | MANAGEMENT | MEDIA | LAW
presents
SUDOKU CHALLENGE
Level: Easy
[Sudoku grid]
How To Play
Fill in the grid so that every horizontal row, every vertical column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9, without repeating the numbers in the same row, column or box. You can't change the digits already given in the grid. Every puzzle has one solution.

LOOP THE LOOP
Rules
■ Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A).
■ Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by the dotted lines in Fig B).
■ Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines.
■ You can't draw lines around zeroes.
■ Each puzzle has just one unique solution.
How to begin: Example (Fig A) - Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B).

LEISURE
TIMES HITORI
[Sudoku grid]
How To Play
1. A number may appear just once in each row or column.
2. Darkened cells must never be adjacent in a row or column.
3. Unmarked cells must create a single continuous area, undivided by darkened cells.
4. Every time you darken a cell, you can automatically circle its vertical and horizontal neighbours, which means they cannot be eliminated.
5. Any cell "sandwiched" between neighbours of the same value can be circled. (e.g. [6][4][6])
6. A "triple" is a special case of sandwich. Circle the centre cells, and darken the ends. (e.g. [6][6][6])

FINOLEX FORTUNE
[Astrology chart]
ARIES March 20 - April 18 Use your head and proceed with caution when dealing with people who can influence your future. Focus on your attributes and how you can get ahead and take better care of your needs. Confrontations could get the better of you if you don't look at the situation objectively.
TAURUS April 19 - May 19 Emotional matters are likely to pop up. Deal with any such issues before they manifest into something that is difficult to control. Protect your health and peace of mind and proceed with caution. Things could get chaotic if you don't prioritise matters of the heart.
GEMINI May 20 - June 20 Don't back down as you are very close to reaching your targets. Try and offer suggestions to people, but don't give financial assistance. Stop fretting about the little things and focus on what is really bothering you.
CANCER June 21 - July 21 Don't expect everyone to agree with you. Sticking to facts and being honest in your assessment of any situation will be necessary if you don't want to be blamed for interference and improper guidance.
LEO July 22 - August 21 You can get ahead if you don't procrastinate when it comes to making an improvement regarding your surroundings or the people you are dealing with on a daily basis. The alignment of planets will help you make some personal and profes-

GARFIELD
[Comic strip panels]

ANIMAL CRACKERS
[Comic strip panels]

MUTT & JEFF
[Comic strip panels]

BEAU PEEP
[Comic strip panels]

BIG NATE
[Comic strip panels]

HEALTH CAPSULE
MILK THISTLE IS A FLOWER FROM THE RAGWEED FAMILY. IT IS KNOWN FOR ITS SYLMARIN CONTENT. SYLMARIN IS AN ANTI-OXIDANT AND AN ANTI-INFLAMMATORY COMPOUND THAT IS USED TO PROTECT AND HEAL LIVER CONDITIONS, SUCH AS ALCOHOL-RELATED FATTY LIVER DISEASE, AS WELL AS HEPATITIS AND LIVER DAMAGE FROM TOXINS. IT'S AVAILABLE IN CAPSULE, TINCTURE OR TEA.
WHAT'ZIT?
Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.
MEAL EAT MEAL
SOLUTION: MEAL EAT MEAL
BETTER HALF
[Comic strip panels]

B.C.
[Comic strip panels]

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN
[Comic strip panels]

MINDBENDER
A rope ladder hangs down the side of a ship. The rungs on the ladder are one foot apart. At low tide the water just covers the bottom rung of the ladder. At high tide, the water level has risen by three feet. How many rungs will be covered by then?
SCRAMBLE
Words: Eared, sleep, kissed, handed
Answer: Addresses are given to us to conceal our whereabouts - Saki
SPELLATHON
Today's Ratings:
10-average | 12-good | 14-outstanding
[Word puzzle grid]

Miley & Liam call it quits after less than a year of marriage



WORLD RAP

Miley and Kaitlynn Carter (inset) were seen lounging on a yacht in Lake Como, Italy



Miley Cyrus and Liam Hemsworth got married in December last year

Miley Cyrus and Liam Hemsworth separated after less than a year of marriage. A representative for the singer said that the pair's decision was best for both of them while they focus on "themselves and career", reports a Hollywood website. Miley and Liam, who starred in *The Last Song*, have been an on-and-off couple for more than a decade. The representative also added that the pair will remain "dedicated parents to all of their animals they share". Just as the news of her separation broke, Miley was spotted kissing Kaitlynn Carter, who recently split from husband and reality TV star Brody Jenner, on a boat in Italy. On Friday, Carter shared a picture from their Lake Como getaway, with the caption, "Rock the boat, don't rock the boat baby. (sic)" Agencies



Priyanka Chopra

'I'm not really fond of war, but I am patriotic'

Said Priyanka Chopra responding to a Pakistani woman who accused her of encouraging an Indo-Pak nuclear war

Actor Priyanka Chopra, who was attending a premier beauty and fashion event in Los Angeles, was yelled at by a Pakistani woman accusing her of "encouraging nuclear war against Pakistan". The audience member questioned PC's role as a United Nations Goodwill ambassador in the light of her February 26 tweet where Priyanka congratulated the Indian Air Force after Indian fighter jets attacked the Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM)'s terrorist camp at Balakot. "As a Goodwill Ambassador, you are encouraging nuclear war against Pakistan," the woman said. Priyanka responded, "I have many, many friends from Pakistan and I am from India. War is not something I'm really fond of but I am patriotic, so I'm sorry if I hurt sentiments to people who do love me and have loved me." "But I think that all of us have a, sort of, middle ground that we all have to walk. Just like you probably do as well. The way that you came at me right now... girl, don't yell. We're all here for love," she added. PTI

Release of *The Hunt* cancelled following gun violence uproar

Release of *The Hunt*, a satirical thriller about a group of Americans who are captured to be hunted and killed for sport, was cancelled by a movie studio, following criticism by US President Donald Trump and a recent series of mass shootings. The Comcast Corp division had held back on marketing the film, slated for release on September 27, after the shootings in El Paso, Texas, and Dayton, Ohio, last week. It gave no reason for the cancellation. "We stand by our filmmakers and will continue to distribute films in partnership with bold and visionary creators, like those associated with this satirical social thriller, but we understand that now is not the right time to release this film," the movie studio said in a statement. Earlier, Trump took to Twitter to criticise "liberal Hollywood" and an unnamed film with a pending release. "The movie coming out is made in order to inflame and cause chaos," Trump tweeted. Trailers released online for the film depicted a group of wealthy villains orchestrating the open-field hunting of several Americans held against their will. Reuters



The trailer of *The Hunt*, which featured heavy use of firearms, was criticised in the aftermath of US mass shootings

Jameela asks celebrities to stop airbrushing their pics

British actor Jameela Jamil recently urged celebrities and influencers to discontinue the practice of airbrushing or retouching their pictures. She wrote on Twitter, "I know it's hard because we are perpetually scrutinised and criticised in this industry, but I'm begging other influencers, actors, and models to join me in not allowing airbrushing." She continued, "We have to stop setting standards for others that we ourselves don't even meet."

Jameela also shared a picture on Instagram, showing her un-airbrushed backfat. Along with the picture, Jameela wrote, "Finally able to insist my image, even on billboards isn't ever airbrushed." In July last year, Chrissy Teigen also shared a video showing her stretch marks where she said, "I guess these just aren't gonna go away. This is my body." ANI

Jameela Jamil >>



FASHION

Silky, sultry leopard-print is the trend that refuses to die



JENNIFER LOPEZ

VICTORIA BECKHAM

You've seen it on Instagram, the racks of your favorite department store and your morning commute. The silky, sultry leopard-print is everywhere these days and has become a seemingly tailor-made wardrobe staple for *Hot Girl Summer* rapper Megan Thee Stallion's seasonal mantra of unabashed self-confidence. Its initial popularity was driven by influencers in New York and Los Angeles who had ascribed little-black-dress status to the skirt. The skirt even inspired an anthropomorphic Instagram account, @leopardmidiskirt, which features photographs of women doing activities like balancing a beer can on their butt or taking a bathroom selfie while wearing the skirt. 'SUITS ALL BODY TYPES' Teale Talbot, the founder of an online retailer, believes that the skirt's appeal can be pinned down to its "versatility": It's sexy, but not too sexy for work, and looks good on everyone. "It suits all body shapes, and because it's made from silk and drapes just beautifully," says Talbot. 'LUXURY MARKET IS LOOKING TO CAPITALISE ON THE TREND' For New York Fashion Week in February 2018, fashion designers Tom Ford, Diane von Furstenberg and Victoria Beckham all pulled together a menagerie of leopard-print apparel. Sarah Tam, the chief merchant officer at an online rental fashion portal, remembers the animal-print trend percolating in December 2017 and going into "full force" by February. Marshal Cohen, the chief industry adviser for a market research firm, hasn't seen leopard print at the forefront of fashion in over a decade, but he said that currently "the luxury market is looking for a way to capitalise on animal print and make it more their own." He adds that when luxury puts a trend on the runway and in-stores, it's something that the lower end of the market can copy quickly. "Adding the element of silk keeps it on the higher end for the consumer," Cohen says, adding, "That's the thing you won't see a lot of the lower-end market run towards, and that's how they separate themselves these days." That also fits in with the history of leopard print, says Emma McClendon, the associate curator of costume at the Museum at Fashion Institute of Technology, New York. The print, she said, has long represented "a connection between power, wealth and a certain type of ostentatious showiness." — Ilana Kaplan/ New York Times



KIM KARDASHIAN WEST

'THE HISTORY OF LEOPARD PRINT CAN BE TRACED BACK TO THE ROBE A LA FRANÇAISE FROM THE 18TH CENTURY'

McClendon, the associate curator of costume at the Museum at FIT, New York, believes the history of leopard print can be traced back to the robe a la française from the 18th century, which featured an elaborate brocade of leopard print motif along with florals. But she also noted two key moments from the 20th century — in 1962, when Jackie Kennedy was photographed with John F Kennedy sporting a leopard-print coat from Oleg Cassini, and upon the release of *The Graduate*, in 1967, when Mrs Robinson (Anne Bancroft) donned a leopard-print lingerie set which "positioned leopard print as not only powerful but extremely sexual as well." "When we're talking about a body, particularly a female body, sheathed in leopard print, that is something that immediately can bring up a strong reaction with people along the axes of power, sex and taste," McClendon said. Maybe we should be calling it "cat-girl summer."



The craze is said to have begun in 1962 when Jacqueline Kennedy wore a coat made from real leopard skin pelts designed by Oleg Cassini for her to wear to an official engagement with her husband, President John F Kennedy



LILY ALDRIDGE

TYRA BANKS

DEMI LOVATO

'Actors' physicality does not define their acting prowess'

...CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

The camaraderie, between Sonakshi Sinha, Vidya Balan, Taapsee Pannu and the two of you was visible on the day of the trailer launch. With so many talented women and cool women as part of the cast, was it like a house on fire? People often have this reservation about so many actresses getting along and working together...

Kirti: We didn't have to stage that camaraderie; it exists between us. And can someone explain how do men get along? I think they have more issues than women do when it comes to getting along with each other. I've done *Pink* and some other projects, and so I am used to hanging out with other women. Akshay spoils all of us equally on the set with his *ghar ka khaana*. We could shamelessly ask him to bring things. The atmosphere on the set was warm; why is that hard to buy? With someone like Nithya on the set, we got so many insights into how the South film industry functions. The things she (Nithya) stands for in the South and the kind of films she eventually does, is what I am trying to do here. She's fought for so many things to finally be able to do things on her own terms. Also, when we got the script, we all knew what each one was doing in the film. So, we just got down to work and passionately did what our parts required. None of us was bothered about what the other was trying to do with their part. At the end of the day, we had to be the characters and do what is needed for them to feel real. That is what people will eventually remember when they see the film.

Nithya: I was making my debut in Bollywood, and I felt it was wonderful being on a set like this. It was very different and far more professional than a set down South. Also, I have never done a film with so many women in the past. All the women in the cast were good to me. They didn't let me feel like an outsider in their world. In a way, I was a debutante, but I was treated at par with all of them. They respected and acknowledged my work. We appreciated each other for pulling off a scene well or for anything else one of us did. A film is bigger than any of us. We've collectively tried to do something, which could not have been marred by personal rivalries. Thankfully, we were all on the same page. Competing with each other, especially when we are all playing equally important characters, doesn't work. It's a wrong notion that any of us would have tried to show one-upmanship. We worked together to bring out the best in each other, displaying our strengths to the fullest.

It's taken the industry quite long to start making ensemble films without giving into stereotypes. Why do you think films have only now started playing to an actor's strengths more than his or her face value?

Kirti: For decades, the film industries in the South and here have functioned on the star system. People have thronged to cinemas to catch a particular star's film and that has driven a lot of things. But things are gradually changing. While we continue to make stereotypical multi-starrers, films with a hefty cast that don't play by those rules are also on the rise. We have taken a long time to be okay with so many of us working together in a film with equally prominent roles. Hollywood has had such films for decades. Today's generation is far more secure in that sense. Also, it takes a lot of security for an actor at an indi-



Kirti Kulhari (L) says that it was nice to have Nithya Menen on board because "we got so many insights into how the South film industry functions"

Prathamesh Bandekar

vidual level to decide to share screen space with another buddy, who is as famous as him or her.

Nithya: Things are changing right now because of the exposure that the audience has to international content. It's more accessible to us than it ever was. That has made people sit up and take note of everything from performances and stories, to the technical aspects of a film. The film industry in India is playing catch-up, which is beneficial for everyone. Newer platforms have made people realise that you don't need a face to sell a good story; you need the right mix of actors who may or may not be stars. That is gradually rubbing off on the rest of the industries. The film industry has certain expectations of how a leading lady should look, and you both don't really fit into that conventional box. What are your thoughts?

Kirti: At the outset, I was doing ad films. I had the options of going completely commercial or taking off on the path that I am on today. It was a given that I might go the commercial route but somewhere along the way, I started understanding myself better. I wised up and adhered to the fact that I was gravitating to some very different kind of work. I've been through that phase of being unsure of how I look. In such phases, people around you often advise you, to the point of not even letting a pimple pass by without a comment. At one point, I wasn't happy with the way I looked. I had issues with it. Today, things are

different but getting here has been a journey of understanding what can keep me sane. For the sake of a character, I will do anything, even go bald if need be. But at a personal level, I want to be an individual who doesn't look or sound like every other walking-talking person in the industry. It takes something to be the person you are. The day you become okay with who you are, it's magical how people outside will also be okay with you. I've experienced it to say it with authority. Today, I don't feel the need to fit into a certain mould of beauty. Beauty lies in the eyes of

the beholder; but you need to believe that first when you see yourself in the mirror.

Nithya: I wish I could trim my curls a bit, but the industry likes it this way so I let it be. But it's right that there is a lot of emphasis on how an actress looks. I've had to deal with that. There is a lot of criticism and backlash and undue negative commentary that comes your way when you don't fit into the typical definition of beauty. You have to be sure of what you are and why you do things. It's impossible for me to go against my heart and do something, ever. I'd rather

brave the comments than try to force-fit myself into any notion beauty because it's never a constant. The notion changes all the time; how much can you change yourself? Mental and physical health is important. I don't feel the need to change or nit-pick on small things about myself and get affected by it. I believe in being healthy and never doing anything where I need to go against myself, whatever the repercussions are.

Actresses are often subjected to body-shaming, and as women, what's your defence mechanism? Does an actor's physical appearance limit the kind of work that comes their way?

Nithya: Physical appearances can limit you as an actor and there's no point in sugar-coating that. It impacts the roles that come your way. Yes, I completely understand that as an actor people want to see you looking fit and they find it difficult to accept you otherwise. It's a visual medium and it has its demands and limitations and we all have to play by that. But people who make incessant negative remarks about an actor's look need to consider the fact that we, too, are human. While my fans don't increase or reduce with a change in my contour, there's always talk about how I need to look a certain way. Despite the troubles and trolling that I have faced, I've never felt the need to attempt size zero to fit into a film. People assume that weight is a result of eating without exercising. Trust me, no actor is lazy. An actor's physicality does not define their acting prowess.

Despite the criticism, how do you manage to stay positive? Would you like to elaborate on that...

Nithya: 'Nasty comments or the pressures will lead you nowhere. It's not easy to talk like I am talking today. We've all been through our phases of being hurt, feeling insecure and pained with what is spoken about us. While dealing with insecurities of this profession, I've always looked at the bigger picture. Sometimes, I've allowed myself to cry and get over it. Sometimes, people have a narrow perspective. I can deal with a lot of negativity also because my life goes beyond films. My work doesn't consume me. If films were at the centre of my life, things would have been harder. I've never tried to be a part of films; it's happened organically.

Kirti: No one can lie or pretend here. You have to be secure and grounded to be able to see the bigger picture. It's important to find yourself and not compromise on that, which even my co-actresses have done. I just remind myself of what I want from life and figure a route to get there.

WE DIDN'T HAVE TO STAGE THE CAMARADERIE — IT EXISTS BETWEEN US. AND CAN SOMEONE EXPLAIN HOW DO MEN GET ALONG? THE ATMOSPHERE ON THE SET WAS WARM; WHY IS THAT HARD TO BUY?

— Kirti



Here's why John read the Quran for *Batla House*



Trust John Abraham to leave no stone unturned in order to get into the skin of his character: His role of police officer Sanjay Kumar in *Batla House*, is inspired by DCP Sanjeev Kumar Yadav (then ACP, Special Cell, Delhi Police), who was involved in the controversial Batla House encounter of 2008. Both John and director Nikkhil Advani spent a considerable amount of time with the police officer to understand his body language and mannerisms.

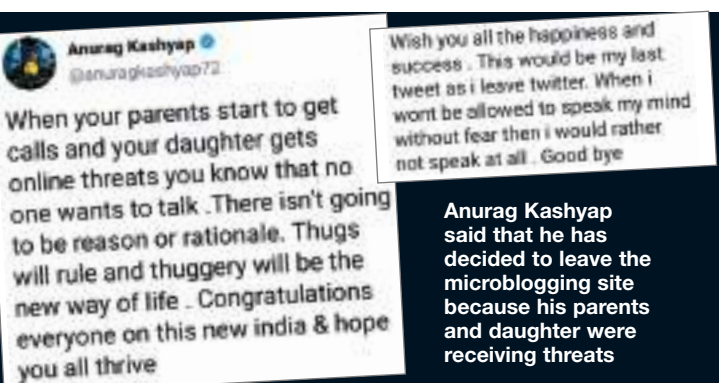
Quran thoroughly to understand the guys he was having conversations with, as they would often quote verses from the holy book. It helped him to understand their beliefs during interrogations.

John adds, "For this film, I have read the Quran and have learnt a few verses, too. When you are talking to a certain character, you need to understand what his thought process is." The actor continues, "You have to be well-read to have a point of view. I am aware of a lot of things, but I think some of us have a skewed view of everything. We interpret things the way we want to and as per our convenience."

— Neha.Maheshwri @timesgroup.com



Director Anurag Kashyap quits Twitter, cites threat to family



Anurag Kashyap deleted his Twitter account on Saturday, citing concern for his family.

Before he quit the microblogging site, the filmmaker put out tweets explaining the reason behind his move. The screenshots of his last tweets include the mention of threat calls being made to his parents and daughter. The post read, "When your parents start to get calls and your daughter gets online threats, you know that no one wants to talk. There isn't going to be reason or rationale."

In another tweet shared a few moments later, he announced that this would be his last tweet. "Wish you all the happiness and success. This would be my last tweet as I leave Twitter," it read. ANI

www.jeep-india.com

ADVENTURES LIKE YOU NEVER IMAGINED. AT AN EMI YOU WON'T BELIEVE.

Get more from your adventures with an EMI of just ₹29,999/- and additional benefits*

EMI ₹29,999[^]

7.69% RATE OF INTEREST AND EXCHANGE BENEFITS OF ₹50,000*

COMPASS

RANGE STARTS AT ₹15.60 LAKH*

Jeep